

Entertainment

BILLIE ROWE'S NOTEBOOK

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The provocative people, exhibiting immaculate taste in day thru nite apparel and impeccable manners, descended on the core city and gave meaningful stats to the number one Afro-American political event in the world, the 15th annual Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Legislative Weekend. Such lovely ladies and elegant gentlemen are usually rare to places other than the South of France, Paris in the spring, Miami, Nassau or the Virgin Islands ducking the snips and snows of winter. I have never seen Geraldine Daniels, the indefatigable legislator, the natty Luther "Red" Randolph, the indomitable Dorothy Height, the poised

Lloyd Dickens, the progressive M/M Jim Cuffee, home after months in Liberia, the ingenious Dr. Gloria E.A. Toote, the historic former mayor of Atlanta, The Hon. Maynard Jackson, the inventive Bruce Lewellyn, Dean Sayles, the effective party planner, the charismatic Harvey and Jackie Russell and so many other eye level personalities, look better. And I loved the looks of Barbara Jacquet and Alma Rangel who are walking ads for today's beauty care products. Most of the males oped for black-tie to dine while the ladies added a glow and glitter with sequins that dazzled the orbes. Many aged, and coming of age, were resplendent in skirts and dresses which caressed

each curve of their lithe bodies. All were sights for healthy eyes and made this gender happy it's male.

THE WRITE SAY — Bill Richardson, NYC: "It's difficult to give an opinion since the storm delayed my getting here earlier. However if the event is similar to last year's, my belief is it will leave a lot to be desired. I don't think we deal with enough issues. My thoughts are the workshops should cover more and broader issues. This is my 15th year attending and the CBCF still seems to be more social than professional." Caroline Jones, NYC exec V.P. creative director Mingo-Jones Adv.: "In years past the CBCF weekend has been accused of being a wasted social event. I can honestly say that the group is about taking care of business of Blacks. I was a part of Congressman Charles Rangel's hearing on Drug

Abuse and its effects on high school students and the drop out rate. The subject held the audience attention for more than three hours. That gave me first hand knowledge that there are members of the Black Caucus trying to do the important things. I am beginning to understand this." Bill Blakely, East Orange, N.J.: "The CBCF weekend is an excellent gathering of Black folks interested in doing things for people. Economic development and jobs are a must and the Caucus ability to keep the political pressure on the 'in party' is the best way to insure that democracy is shared." Jewel Jackson McCabe, NYC, pres. nat'l Coalition 100-Black Women: "The CBCF has totally come of age. There is a sophistication that exists today and an understanding of networking. The workshops are substantive and well defined. Its important statement about South Africa is proof that we can combine important issues with fellowship as we come together once a year to make a political statement about unity and where we should direct our energy in building a better future."

Naylor Fitzhugh, Pepsi Cola W'chester: "Amen to that. It brings back to mind the words of Mayor Andy Young to the Black MBAs in 1980 that 'Our leadership in the 40's came from the colleges. In the 50's, from the Black lawyers, in the 60's from the ministers, the 70's the politicians and in the 80's it has got to come from our business people.' I am glad to see so many of them at the Caucus weekend."

Sylvia Porter, NYC: The CBCF event is very interesting. I have always enjoyed being a part of it because it brings together so many knowledgeable people from various backgrounds and professions to share their expertise with others. I always leave with an added wealth of new knowledge. Plus renewed hope that tomorrow will offer more open doors than yesterday."

"This Bud's for You" also meant a \$125,000 matching grant to give the CBCF a mortgage burning privilege should it, or another corporation, come up with a like amount . . . STAY LOOSE . . . Billy Rowe is a syndicated columnist.

M & M Products Company Sponsors Syndicated Gospel Radio Program

ATLANTA -- A black owned hair care products company has launched an autumn campaign to cultivate interest in the "new music" of black people across America.

Contemporary gospel music is in vogue in the nation's black community, with hundreds of performers having come on scene in the past year. Like the stars of heavy rock music, the "new music" performers are young, spirited and innovative.

The Atlanta hair care products company is M & M Products, a multi-national manufacturer which was begun twelve years ago on an investment of \$500. Two young black pharmacists stirred their first product, an oil sheen and conditioner, with a pool cue in a 55 gallon drum. Today the pharmacists, Cornell McBride and Therman McKenzie, sell four lines of products in the USA, Europe, England, Africa, Canada and the Caribbean.

"Inspirations Across America" is broadcasted in 50 cities and hosted by Burke Johnson, a 30 year veteran in radio. Johnson

said the program is a first, with no company having produced a syndicated radio show focusing on the inspirational side of black music. He emphasized that listeners of gospel comprise one of the largest segments of ethnic product users among radio listeners.

M & M Products, the nation's 11 largest black owned company, manufacturers four brands -- Sta-So-Fro, Sof N' Free, Curly Perm and Moxie.

Creative spirit behind the new show is Al Anderson, a black marketing executive who lives in Atlanta. Anderson said he created the program after noticing that a number of young performers had begun recording contemporary gospel.

"Every radio I heard seemed to be playing gospel as much as rock, and I realized suddenly that we were in a new wave of music," Anderson declared. "The difference is that gospel has far more history, and it's part of the fabric of the black experience," he said.

"We're finding satisfaction in doing something which has meaning for people and also adds to their faith and heritage," he concluded.

Silver Celebration Plans Continue at UNLV

LAS VEGAS -- Plans are continuing for the Tark's "SILVER CELEBRATION," Las Vegas's event to honor their beloved basketball coach Jerry Tarkanian.

Tarkanian, who will celebrate his 25th season as a collegiate head coach this year, will be honored on Sunday, Nov. 10 at a gala celebration in which all Las Vegas can become a part of their coach's professional milestone.

The event, "Tark's Silver Celebration," will be held on November 10th at the Thomas and Mack Center. Comedian Dave Swan will serve as a master of ceremonies for an evening of entertainment featuring Don Rickles and a host of Las Vegas' favorite entertainers.

Also featured will be the nationally acclaimed UNLV Jazz Ensemble under the

direction of Frank Gagliardi.

Many surprises are planned for the evening and the community is invited to come and help celebrate the occasion, and show their support and admiration for Las Vegas' premier citizen.

Tickets are priced from \$7 seats, to \$35 for floor seating which includes cocktails and hors d'oeuvres.

Tarkanian, who is the nation's winningest active collegiate basketball coach, is also the three-time consecutive PCAA Coach-of-the-Year. He has guided the Runnin' Rebel basketball team to twelve consecutive winning seasons, and in his 24 years of collegiate coaching he has become one of the premier coaches in college basketball.

For additional information call the UNLV Ticket Office at 739-FANS.

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