

CORETTA SCOTT KING GREETES FILMMAKER RICHARD ATTENBOROUGH AT CONGRESSIONAL BLACK CAUCUS

Coretta Scott King congratulates filmmaker Richard Attenborough after he received a standing ovation at the Congressional Black Caucus' special screening of his upcoming feature "Cry Freedom" in Washington, D.C. last week.

played by Denzel Washington with Kevin Kline as the white newspaper editor Donald Woods, who was declared a banned person in his South African homeland because of his association with Biko. The film chronicles their enlightening friendship, Biko's



"Cry Freedom" is the true story of slain South African black activist Stephen Biko, untimely death and Woods' narrow escape from South Africa.

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amount of attention, his popularity was only exceeded by the senior senator from Delaware — Joe Biden.

Forced to withdraw his candidacy for the Democratic presidential nomination due

to charges of plagiarism, Biden was lampooned in Washington newspapers and served as the butt of numerous jokes and wisecracks. ("Have you heard Biden's latest speech? Four-score and seven years ago, our fore-fathers...")

Biden's plight, however, did receive some sympathy from certain quarters. One of the first people to offer Biden solace was the Democratic nomination front runner the Reverend Jesse L. Jackson.

During the taping of a local news interview, Jackson said, "Joe Biden is young, bright and resilient. We haven't heard the last of Joe Biden."

Pressed to analyze the role the news media played in the disintegration of the Biden campaign, Jackson sidestepped the issue saying, "It is not my job to judge the media."

Robinson remembered "Missing: Blacks in the Front Office," a workshop

hosted by Rep. John Conyers, Jr. (D-Michigan) produced one of the liveliest discussions during the Legislative Weekend.

Joe Peters, a sports consultant with the United Black Fund, criticized Harry Edwards, special assistant to Baseball Commissioner Peter Ueberroth, for undermining efforts by Black groups to organize an all-star baseball game in tribute of the late Jackie Robinson.

Robinson broke baseball's color barrier with the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947.

Reading from a correspondence he had received from Edwards, Peter shook his head with disgust as he read Edwards' letter: "Baseball has no moral... or political stake in organizing such a game." Peters said the "once militant" Edwards, who organized a Black boycott of the 1968 Olympics, has undergone a "complete 180 degree turn."

Peters called for Edwards' ouster and renewed attempts to organize an annual game to honor Robinson. Proceeds would be donated to various charities.

The Reverend Willie T. Barrow, national president of Operation PUSH, refrained from criticizing Edwards saying that Black organizations must work together to bring about fairness and job parity in sports. All too often, Barrow lamented, Black organizations work independently on a mutual problem or goal — only to see their splintered efforts result in little or no gains.

BLACKS AND EDUCATION

"We need to declare war on opponents of education, all of us must be engaged in the challenge. We have to fight the opportunists, profiteers and racketeers who prey on our schools, so that when we appropriate funds, there is not enough to help our students," Rep. Major Owens (D-NY) said in stressing the importance of education for Black America.

According to the Black Congressional Caucus, the future of Black children lies in the fields of science and technology. Fauntroy said, "We have to teach our children that being smart is nothing to be ashamed of."

Members of the caucus called for more dollars from the Reagan administration for education, and a decrease in spending for defense. They also urged individuals and private businesses to support historically Black colleges and universities.

DEMOCRATIC DERBY

On the final day of the

caucus, some 2,500 spectators were treated to a discussion of presidential issues by four Democratic nomination hopefuls, Rep. Richard A. Gephardt (D-Mo.), Mass. Gov. Michael Dukakis, Rep. Patricia Schroeder (D-Colo.), and the Rev. Jesse L. Jackson.

Skipping the forum were Sens. Paul Simon (of Illinois) and Albert Gore (Tenn.) along with former Arizona Gov. Bruce Babbitt.

Jackson, encouraged by chants of "Win, Jesse, Win," scored the first points of the forum by criticizing the three no-shows. "We had five or six (debates) in Iowa the last few weeks... Everybody showed up every time. There is a message about those who came (to the caucus event) and those who did not."

The four candidates were in agreement that the Reagan administration has spent an inordinate amount of time on defense, while ignoring education and human rights.

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portant, he needs to be a man, but he cannot help thinking and feeling like a boy.

Young men who have children before they are ready are young men in trouble. We have always used that term to describe young mothers, but it is time we recognized that young fathers or potential fathers are at risk as well.

We need to let our young men know that too-early parenthood can hurt them and disrupt their lives. We must stop addressing our message about teen pregnancy to young women alone. It is time we talked to our young men about what this problem means to them.

You can help get this message across to young men in your community. A series of posters now available from the Children's Defense Fund carries a strong message specially addressed to the personal concerns of teenage young men. For more information about CDF's poster series for male teens, write CDF-Media, 122 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20001.

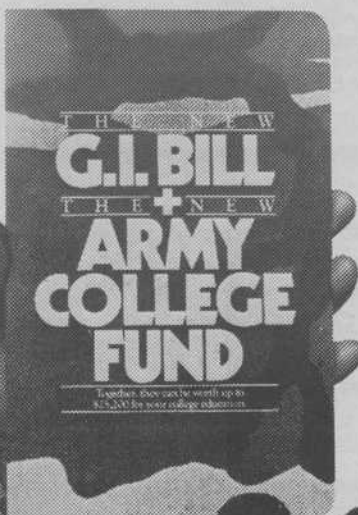
Marian Wright Edelman is president of the Children's Defense Fund, a national voice for children.

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