

NO 'STOP JACKSON' MOVE PLANNED, SAY DEMOCRATS AT CAPITOL HILL UNITY FEST

By Chester A. Higgins, Sr.
NNPA News Editor

A small but powerful group of national insider-Democrats broke bread last week with Democratic Presidential candidate Jesse L. Jackson in Washington, D.C.

The breakfast meeting, called by Jackson to reportedly "raise the comfort level" of the Democratic establishment toward his candidacy, and billed by others as "a get acquainted" affair, was viewed as a success by the attendees. For following the one-and-one half hour closed door (to the media) breakfast at the Jefferson Hotel, a consensus emerged: despite alarmed rumors over Jackson's phenomenal primary and caucus wins, there will be no "stop Jackson" movement launched by establishment Democrats.

If Jackson wins the most popular votes, accumulates the most delegates, fair and square, the Democratic Party, all things considered, will award him its prize plum: nomination to carry the Party's banner in the fall elections against GOP hopeful (now it seems) George Bush. Insider Clifford L. Alexander, Jr., secretary of the Army (a Black first) in the Jimmy Carter Administration, told NNPA: "It was a very excellent breakfast. Jackson spoke with clarity and energy on a number of topics, showing why he is doing as well as he is doing."

Clark Clifford, a secretary of defense under Lyndon B. Johnson, and an advisor to eight presidents, declared the occasion was "historic" and expressed pleasure over "this personal association"

Adolph Coors Company Named "Corporation of the Year"

On Tuesday, April 5 Adolph Coors Company received special recognition as "Corporation of the Year" by the Virginia Regional Minority Supplier Development Council.

It received that recognition based on Coors' "sincere commitment to doing business with minority business entrepreneurs."

Adolph Coors Company leads the brewing industry with the appointment of nearly 20 Hispanic and Black-owned distributorships. The company has invested approximately \$32 million in minority-owned fi-

ancial institutions, spent nearly \$40 million with Black and Hispanic vendors and is a recognized leader in hiring and promoting minorities and women at Coors.

Following the address, Peter Coors presented a check for \$100,000 to Marcial E. Robiou, vice president and general manager, Business Consortium Fund (BCF). The BCF is a loan fund that provides working capital to minority businesses. It was created to help overcome the difficulty many minority businesses experience in obtaining working capital through traditional lending sources.

with Jackson but stopped short of making an endorsement.

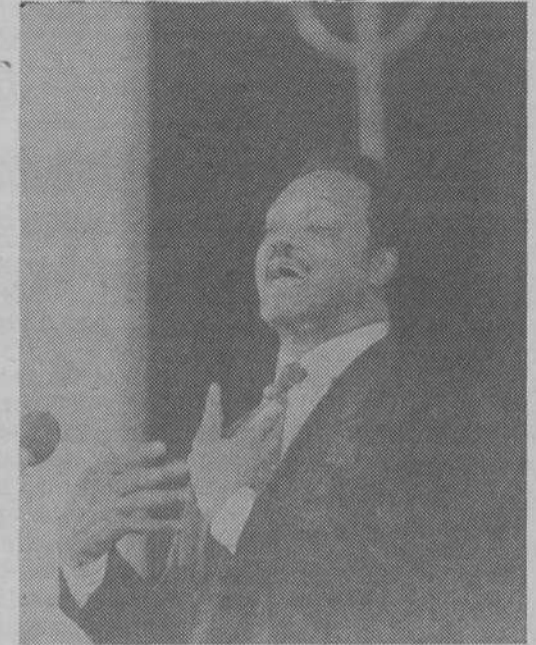
Jackson, who has won or come in second in an astonishing 27 of 32 Democratic primaries or caucuses (nearly two-thirds of the contests to be held) and riding high on his startling win over Mass. Gov. Michael Dukakis in Michigan, was reportedly causing consternation among the powers-that-be in his party.

A "Stop Jesse" movement was perking underneath, according to rumors. Apoplectic White Democratic power brokers, indeed, were exhorting Dukakis to shape up, get his act together and put more fire and passion in his pitch, or else a search for a stronger "White Hope" would begin.

Among others attending

the breakfast were: Reps. Mickey Leland (TX); Walter Fauntroy (D.C.); William Gray, III (PA); Willie Brown, Speaker of the California State Assembly, and National Chairman of the Jackson Campaign; John White, former chairman of the Democratic National Committee; Bert Lance, a Carter administration Budget Director and a Jackson adviser; Edward Bennett Williams, influential Washington, D.C. lawyer, and Jim Hightower, Texas Agriculture Commissioner. Several sources told NNPA that "this meeting was supposed to be limited to not more than 10 people." Attendees varied in number from 35 to 50, "according to who was observing. They (insiders) realized this is a serious situation. And everyone wanted to come," NNPA

Campaign Update: Dukakis Overtakes Jackson in Colorado and Wisconsin



EASTER SERMON - The Rev. Jesse Jackson delivers a sermon at Easter Sunday services at the First Baptist Church in Denver.

Michael Dukakis overtook Jesse Jackson by a narrow margin in the controversial caucuses Monday night and then won the Wisconsin primary on Tuesday. However, the wins were not overwhelming, although they were enough to slide him past Jackson in the number of delegates.

Jackson, campaigning in Arizona, said, "I feel good."

After 40 contests, I've come in No. 1 or No. 2 in 30 of them. I'm proud of that." He now leads by 300,000 votes in the popular vote contest, but now trails Dukakis by 40 delegates to the Democratic National Convention.

The next big contest will be in New York, where a large number of delegates are up for grabs.

VOTE

was informed. Some insiders were irritated by some of the questions, especially those about Jackson's relations with Muslim Minister Farrakhan. Some of the K Street lawyers just did not ask the questions one should of a presidential candidate. They were apparently still in a state of shock."

Willie Brown, reportedly was nettled by a reporter's questions after the meeting. "Did you come here for acceptance?" Washington Post columnist Mary McGrory reported, quoting a scribe in her column, and adding "Brown angrily asserted: 'What are you talking about? We came here to close this thing out and get votes. Dukakis was here Monday, did you ask him if he came here for acceptance? We didn't solicit anybody's support. We didn't pass the plate.'" John White endorsed Jackson, but several others

stopped just short of doing so. Alexander said he was "leaning" in that direction. He was one of those Jackson asked to be seated at his table. Others at Jackson's were: Clark Clifford, Ann Lewis, a Jackson consultant and a former executive director of the Americans for Democratic Action, and freshman Iowa Sen. Tom Harkin, described by several Black attendees as "a very good" lawmaker.

Alexander summed up the affair: "I think the meeting ended on this note: If Jackson is the nominee he will receive broad Party support." He added, "But whether he gets it or not, he has immeasurably increased chances of the Democrats winning the presidency. He has energized people, brought them together; talked about gut issues and stood with the people on the farms and at the factory gates."



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