"TAKE YOUR DAUGHTERS T



IN THE SECRETARY'S SEAT - During the first "Take Our Daughters to Work" event, Yafhette Isom, 15 (seated at the secretary's desk), and Nia Shaw, 13, discuss the day's activities with HHS Secretary Donna E. Shalala, whom they "shadowed" all day, and Avis LaVelle (L), assistant secretarydesingnate for public affairs. The two Washington students were among nearly 3,000 young women who gained work experience in HHS offices across the country. (HHS photo by Chris Smith)

Nearly 3,000 of the more than a half million young girls who participated in the first "Take Our Daughters to Work" educational campaign were hosted by the Department of Health and

the Washington, D.C. - Metropolitan area offices.

HHS Secretary Donna E. Shalala, kick-off speaker in Washington for the national campaign sponsored by the Ms. Human Services, 300 of them in Foundation for Women, also spoke to the "daughters" gathered at HHS' Hubert H. Humphrey Building.

Two of the young women from Washington, Nia Shaw, 13, Field School, and Yafhette Isom, 15, Banneker High School,

all day.

They attended her morning senior staff meeting, went with her to Capitol Hill to testify before a Senate Committee, met the President and Mrs. Clinton when they visited the White House with Secretary Shalala for the announcement of a new drug policy director, and joined her in other activities.

By 2 p.m., Nia, who wants to be a sports writer, and Yafhette, a 10th grader planning to become a pediatrician, weren't sure they could keep a work pace such as the secretary's, but she assured them they would be able

Secretary Shalala agreed with Marie Wilson, president of the Ms. Foundation for Women, that the event was a huge suc-

The day-long activity for girls ages 9 through 15 was designed to "focus national attention on girls as full participants in the future workforce and to make them visible, valued and heard."

Research information suggests that girls too often emerge from adolescence with a poor self-image, low self-esteem, relatively low expectations from life and much less confidence in themselves and their abilities

Schools that officially participated in the "daughters" activities at HHS were Brent Elementary, Jefferson Junior High, Amidon Elementary, Eastern Senior High, Leckie Elementary and Bell Multi-Cultural Senior

Students from other schools were brought by parents or other individuals and HHS employees.

At the end of a day of sharing in the workplace experiences. hearing inspirational talks and information about job/career opportunities, the young women were presented HHS "Take Our Daughters to Work" certificates.

Annual African Americ

San Diego, CA.. "Movin in the Spirit—Sisters Transforming the World" the Third annual African American Women's Conference will be held on June 24-27, 1993 at the Mission Valley Marriott Hotel. This is the original conference and it is not affiliated with the African Ameri-

can Women's Conference on Tour. The conference brochure will be mailed early in May and was available at the Kick-off luncheon at the Red Lion Hotel, on May 8.

This year's highlight's include an all star celebrity panel discussion on African American

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Women in media, with actresses Halle Berry (Queen), Dawn Lewis (Hangin' with Mr. Cooper), JoMarie Payton (Family Matters), and Lynn Whitfield (The Josephine Baker Story). Producers/directors Romell Foster-Owens, Donna Guillaume, and

Helaine Head; writers Karen Raper and Unetta Boone (who write for "ROC"). Followed by late night comedy, "Live and in Living Chocolate," with Phyllis

Yvonne Stickney. Thursday through Friday features, Lenora Fulani, Chairperson of the New Alliance Party, will discuss politics and economics. The issues

of education, art, heritage, and history will be focused on by Barbara Sizemore, Alice Coltrane, Eraka Rouzorondu, Iyanla Vanzant, and Julia Hare, Noted

African American women writers Sherley Anne Williams, BeBe Moore Campbell, and J. California Cooper will share their ideas

and their books.

"The San Diego Conference has come a long way," states Trish Weir, who has organized the conference for the past three years. "We are very pleased that so many women from across the United States and Canada have come together to participate. It is a necessary event; for women of color, our challenges are greater and we don't often get times to share our concerns and bond in friendship and sisterhood. That's where the term

year over 3,000 African American women participated in this (See Conference, Page 21)

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