The LAS VEGAS SENTINEL-VOICE



KIMBERLY AND BARRY GORDY

I'M IN THE HOUSE! Yes LAS VEGAS I'm back from my Atlanta, BLACK PEAL CITY, trip that took me to the 1993 JACK THE RAPPER MUSIC INDUSTRY CONFERENCE. I have to admit, it was something else. I've been to many music industry conferences, but I have to say that JACK has the most well attended and most celebrity filled FAMILY AFFAIR that I have ever witnessed. Some of the celebrities that were in the JACK THE RAPPER HOUSE included: 2 PAC, SNOOP DOGGY DOG, KID & PLAY, FRESH PRINCE, BOYZ 2 MEN, PATTI LABELLE, BOBBY BROWN, KOOL MOE DEE, BIG DADDY KANE and many others. There was also those BIG music industry ICONS who attended this year's FAMILY AFFAIR. They included: BARRY GORDY, DICK GRIFFEY, AL BELL, GERALD BUSBY, and EDDIE PUGH (AND THE LIST GOES ON). For those of you who are not familiar with JACK THE RAPPER & THE CONFERENCE that takes place once a year, and always in Atlanta Georgia (BECAUSE ATLANTA IF THE FIRST PLACE AN ALL BLACK RADIO STATION ORIGINATED); this conference is the annual nucleus meeting place for black radio owners, personalities, and radio staff and their African American Celebrity Artists to network and build good air time relations. Yes, there is a definite educational process that goes along with the entertainment music industry. It kills me when people THINK they know something about this music industry and the radio industry and have never WORKED, NETWORKED, OR HAVE A DEGREE in the field. PLEASE BABY, BABY, PLEASE! It's really FUNNY!!!

The conference was ALL OF THAT, AND A LITTLE WACK. Musical rappers came from all over to express themselves in front of the record label's executive best in hopes of receiving a record deal. SNOOP DOGGY DOG and LUKE SKYWALKER were the cripps and bloods of the conference. They had a continuous rival going on that resulted in tables being thrown, bottles being busted, and fist fights taking place. The ultimate was the gun shots that could be heard in the hotel lobby. The battle was on to see who could OUT GANGSTER the other one at the conference. I was amazed, but also puzzled by all the CRAZY ENERGY. I feel that all these politicians who preach about correcting the gang situation should attend such conventions like JACK THE RAPPER. Again, people can only really speak on things their knowledgeable on. Then we have those people who speak just to speak or get voted into office. ANYHOWS, I felt like I was experiencing first hand the consciousness of the so called GANGSTER (WHO IS MY BROTHER). Issues were entertained at the seminars like: WHY THE RAPPERS MIGHT USE GUNS IN THEIR VIDEOS, AND WHY VIOLENCE IS A MARKETING NECESSARY EVIL. Like them or not, they, the most acclaimed rappers, told it like it is. No, I didn't grow up in the ghetto, and at the rapper some rappers presented that as a minus factor that makes one less African. YES, IT'S DEEP, BUT VERY REAL!! I think anyone who is conscience about the future of African Americans should attend such a conference like JACK THE RAPPER, so that they might know and try to understand what our children are admiring, following and listening to everyday. On a positive note: I was so surprised and flattered when BARRY GORDY told me that he enjoys and reads my column every week in the JACK THE RAPPER MAGAZINE. We never really know who is watching, do we? Also, pride filled me up when I witnessed KCEP'S 88.1 FM DARNELL BROWN receiving the O.C. WHITE AWARD at the award ceremony hosted by SINBAD. DARNELL did us good Las Vegas. When he approached the stage and gave his thank you speech, he brought greetings from the Las Vegas community, The Black Chamber of Commerce, and the Black Panther Party and the NAACP. You have to remember that the audience was full of your top celebrities and record executives, and KCEP'S DARNELL put us on the map as being a major market for Black radio. SNAP! SNAP! L.C. CONNER really needs to be commended for launching KCEP 88.1 FM into a national zone. We have to remember that we all benefit because people from the TOP entertainment industry know who we are here in Las Vegas.

Now, let's get to some of the gossip that took place at the JACK THE RAPPER FAMILY AFFAIR. POETIC JUSTICE' 2 PAC was

rumored as being arrested for duplicating the conference credentials that able people to attend the activities. WELL, I GUESS HE WILL FIND OUT THE TRUE JUSTICE SYSTEM. The elevators in the hotel where the conference was held was consistently packed full of people trying to get to the hotel lobby. It was so funny when the elevator I was finally able to board stopped on another awaiting floor full of people, and director JOHN SINGLETOWN was standing there screaming, "I HAVE TO COMMANDEER THIS ELEVATOR! I HAVE TO COMMANDEER THIS ELEVATOR!" The elevator doors closed and no one responded, but one individual replied, "You're not directing S_ _ here!" I guess JOHN had to wait (ALMOST AN HOUR) like the rest of us to get an elevator. WHOOT THERE IT IS! There was so much that took place at the JACK THE RAPPER CONFERENCE that I don't have enough room to go into it, but listen tomy KIMBERLY'S ENTERTAINMENT NEWS ALL THE WAY LIVE RADIO SHOW on Friday's at 3:30 p.m. on KCEP 88.1 FM, and I will give you more SCOOP. Until we get BACK IN THE BLACK, remember Let Me Entertain You!"

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