

# Nader again refuses Democrats' request to quit

WASHINGTON (AP) - Ralph Nader had a testy meeting Tuesday with Black members of Congress and rejected their request that he quit the presidential race. At the same time, Arizona Democrats prepared to challenge Nader's qualifications to appear on that state's ballot as an independent candidate.

The developments reflect Democrats' increasing frustration with Nader and his potential to woo liberal votes away from John Kerry, the presumptive Democratic presidential nominee.

Shouts could be heard from inside the meeting in the basement of the U.S. Capitol with more than a dozen Congressional Black Caucus

members, including Nader's voice, in what proved to be a rancorous session. One female shouted, "You can't win," to which Nader shot back an inaudible response.

Some lawmakers stormed out of the meeting for a House vote and didn't return.

"It became abundantly clear to us that this was about Ralph Nader and we were sorely disappointed," caucus chairman Elijah Cummings, D-Md., said afterward. "If nothing else we believe we've had an impact on his conscience. Now we pray he'll synchronize his conscience with his conduct."

Nader dismissed the shouting as an "exciting exchange" between two sides



Independent presidential candidate Ralph Nader, left, and Congressional Black Caucus Chairman Elijah Cummings, D-Md., meet the press before the start of their meeting, Tuesday in Washington. The CBC wants Nader to quit.

with the same goal — the defeat of President Bush — but with different strategies for achieving it.

Separately, Democrats in Arizona were expected Wednesday to formally challenge Nader's qualifications to appear on the ballot. Democratic National Committee spokesman Jano Cabrera said the challenge would focus on

the validity of thousands of signatures Nader's supporters submitted to Arizona officials.

Cabrera stressed that the state party had not requested DNC resources and that any decision to challenge Nader's ballot access rests with state officials. But he said the national party stands behind the effort in principle.

A spokeswoman for the Arizona Democratic Party would only say that a challenge would be filed Wednesday.

Democrats have complained that Nader's candidacy would siphon votes from Kerry and they have actively sought to discourage voters from supporting him. But this would be the first time any state party has used formal means to try to remove Nader from a ballot.

"We have never been moved by Nader's repeated assertions that it was Al Gore and not he who was at fault for the outcome of the 2000 election and apparently the Arizona Democrats seem unconvinced by his explanation as well," Cabrera said.

Nader said any challenge in Arizona has "a lot of mischief potential" because "there are very partisan Democrats" in the Arizona secretary of state's office.

"If this becomes a pattern of harassment in other states, we will ask John Kerry to disown and disapprove of

these antidemocratic tactics," Nader said.

Kerry campaign officials could not immediately be reached for comment.

Nader is not yet on any state ballot. He has been endorsed by the national Reform Party, which has ballot lines in seven states, including the battlegrounds of Florida and Michigan. He also is seeking the endorsement of the Green Party, which has secured ballot access in 22 states and the District of Columbia.

Nader's campaign submitted more than 22,000 signatures to Arizona election officials June 9 — far more than the 14,694 valid signatures required by state law to compete against President Bush and Kerry in Arizona.

That same day, Arizona Democratic Chairman Jim Pederson promised to examine the filing to determine whether the signatures are valid, if the petition drive was conducted properly and if the financing was reported accurately.

## Campbell

(Continued from Page 3)

lation he sponsored.

One required milk and bread to be labeled with expiration dates. The other required textbooks in Arizona schools to include the achievements and contributions of Blacks and other minority groups.

He also was proud of the role he played in getting two community colleges, South Mountain and GateWay, built in Phoenix.

A former football standout at Phoenix Tech High School and Phoenix College, Campbell went to work at Central Arizona Light and Power Co. (which later became APS) as a night janitor while completing a degree in physical education at Arizona-State Teachers College, now Arizona State University.

Unable to get a job teaching, he continued working as a janitor after graduation. When APS decided to use contract laborers for janitorial services, Campbell protested.

Instead of losing his job, he was promoted to meter reader, which gave him the opportunity to discuss issues with other residents of his neighborhood. Campbell retired from APS as the company's community affairs representative in 1988 and began focusing all of his energy on publishing the Arizona Informant, which he purchased in 1969.

The paper has become one of the largest weeklies in Arizona. Campbell often recalled when they bought the newspaper how mainstream newspapers wrote only about Blacks getting into trouble.

Campbell's mission was to tell the good news about his community, especially to show high school sports heroes and valedictorians succeeding.

The Informant built its reputation by focusing on local people doing real things, Campbell told The Republic in 1998.

"The preacher says, 'I saved 10 souls last week.' I say, 'Prove it,' and he can't," Campbell said at the time. "I want a story on someone who says, 'I helped 10 people to eat last week, and here they are, here are their names.'"

Now the governor, attorney general and mayor of Phoenix all have it on their desks and Campbell's mission endures on the front page, his son said.

Campbell loved to tell jokes — sometimes a bit corny. But more often, his wit and humor was evident as he recounted stories like when the editor of the Arizona Gazette called him and asked how his newspaper could find more information about events in the Black community. "Read my newspaper," exclaimed Campbell as he encouraged him to subscribe.

A few days later a subscription check arrived addressed to the 'Black Informant', however, it was \$5 less than the yearly rate. The senior Campbell replied with note highlighting the shortage — but addressed to the "White Gazette."

Arné Williams writes for the Arizona Informant.

## KCEP

(Continued from Page 7)

Ray J (brother of songstress, Brandy), close friends of Raz B might also grace the stage. Also performing will be the group "Ideal." Comprised of brothers Maverick and Swab, cousin PZ and childhood friend 3-Danti, their self-titled debut CD topped gold status and produced charted hits like "Get Gone," "Creep Inn" and "Whatever." Winners of the 2003 Talent Show Vegas Heat, a dance troupe that performs on skates, will perform.

Arissa Hill, of MTV's "The Real World," will co-host the show

Judges from the entertainment industry include: actor/producer Mel Jackson; Lee Bailey of Radioscope; Sijuan King Summers of Don King Production, Inc; Scott Gallo-way of UrbanNetwork Magazine and Shainte Paige, former vice president of Motown Record. Paulette De Suzia, of "From A Whisper To A Scream," is an alternate judge.

Local event and produc-

tion consultant Paula Jackson of P.J. Productions is co-producer and director. Responsible for bringing Raz B on board, Jackson's company offers a wide range of services including but not limited to product marketing and research, production management, sponsorship development and much more. P.J. Productions will tape the event.

Bringing the flair of fashion for the first time to the KCEP Talent Show will be coordinators Rick Thornton,

father of Raz B, and Victoria Crockham, nicknamed "Secret," of Urban Decay Cosmetics. Assistant coordinators for the event are Michael Donaldson and Crystal Ball. Jubilee's Beauty Gallery will furnish the stylist for the fashion segment.

There will be four featured fashion showcases, with models from the national talent agency John Robert Powers along with several local models.

Call KCEP at 648-0140 for information.

## Press

(Continued from Page 4)

to anything. "We have some Negroes like that," he said.

Then, there's the blended Negro. "That's the Negro who looks too Black to be White and whose thinking is too White to be Black," he says.

Then there's the inert Negro. "That's the Negro that's laying around in the way. Won't do nothing at all."

Then you have the disconnected Negro. "That's the Negro who don't know nothing about their history, don't care anything about it. They have more concern about their 401 K than the KKK," he says.

And then, finally, there's the go-to-safe Negro. "Every time you look up you have the same Negro over and over again, the Negro in politics, the Negro in education." This is the Black person they always turn out when they need somebody to interfere with you. "That's my variety six pack of Negroes."

These Black people are often misled, thinking African-Americans are free. But, the perceived freedom is not real, says Todd.

"You're free to eat at hotels you can't buy. You're free to eat at restaurants you can't buy. You're free to elect politicians who don't represent you. You're free to put your money into banks that won't give you loans. There's something

about us. We like counterfeits. We like fakes."

A prime example of false freedom has been exhibited during wartime, Todd says. And he noted that Blacks have fought in every war.

"Black Soldiers coming home from World War I were lynched in uniform after they had served their country," Todd recalled. "My mind goes back to World War II when Black soldiers were lynched in uniform and when America segregated Black and White blood even though Dr. Charles Drew (an African-American) developed a process to preserve blood plasma..."

Todd urged NNPA, a federation of more than 200 newspapers, to keep fighting for justice.

He said, "So, we come here this morning, 385 years after the first Blacks came here, 147 years after the Dred Scott decision, 141 years after the Emancipation Proclamation, 139 years after the 13th Amendment, 136 years after the 14th Amendment, 134 years after the 15th Amendment, 50 years after Brown and 49 years after the Montgomery Boycott and we're still not free."

He pressed, "We're still not there yet. You, with your power, must step up to the plate. If you don't step up to the plate, Black Press, like you did during slavery and during lynching and during segregation, we are doomed."