

OBSERVATIONS

FROM THE SIDELINES
by Kathryn Hall Bogle



ator for this year's telethon. Hartzog expressed satisfaction over the

amount of money raised (over

\$20,000) in support of the United Negro College Fund. "I am

pleased," Hartzog said, "that in

spite of the depressed economy and the gift-giving holiday season, the

number of contributors actually in-

creased. Donations were smaller but

public awareness and participation were better this time. That's a good

sign that more people are wanting to help the Negro Colleges and stu-

Hartzog wanted to publicly thank the 200 volunteers who helped put

the telethon over through hosting special parties, answering tele-

phones and spreading of the word:

"A Mind is a Terrible Thing to

Rosemary Anderson chaired the

individual parties held around town. Among those who were hosts were:

Margie Keller, Ron DeAngelo, Ver-

na and Art Shepherd, Mae Rose,

Mary Avery, Gail Washington, Robbie Bowles, Dr. Barbara Wil-

liams, Prince Hall Masons and Gen-

Fraternal organizations moved

into the spotlight to report for the

support lent by their group such as:

Oklahoma Ambassadors through

Gloria Brown; Kappa Alpha Psi,

the 33rd degree Masons of Prince Hall through Wm. B. Odum, Jr.;

Black Women's Network through Myrtle Carr; The Links, Inc., through Johnnie Stokes and Geri

Christian; Alpha Kappa Alpha Sor-

ority through Dr. Barbara Williams;

the Eastern Star and the Grand

Chapter of Prince Hall Masons

through Thomas Brown and Helen

Waste."

eva's Lounge.

Northwest Afrikan American Ballet

THEATRE curtains parted on Sunday evening, December 19 for the premiere public performance of the Northwest Afrikan American Ballet as presented by Bruce Smith. An expectant crowd of light-hearted well wishers filling the small auditorium on the Cascade campus of "Third Annual Lou Rawls Parade of Stars" put on by the Budweiser Corporation to benefit the United Negro College Fund.

Dr. Ernest Hartzog, campaign chairman for the Oregon Campaign, was assisted by Bernard Richardson, who acted as coordin-

well wishers filling the small auditorium on the Cascade campus of the Portland Community College had predicted a rewarding evening. They were not disappointed.

The presentation showed its pro-

fessional class right from the opening number. Costuming was pleasing—showing a variety of Afrikan garments in style and usage—colors were fresh and clear and were combined attractively. Some of the tiedye work was done by the cast. The drums spoke. Authoritative in every way, the drummers were headed by Bruce Smith himself.

Afrikan villagers presented a glimpse of their domestic life, the women depicting it through the ancient rituals of sowing, cultivation and harvest. Six little girls from The Talking Drum furnished the sweetness and innocence of childhood ast play in music of the flute and in dance. Ruby Burns led the accomplished and artful cast of beautiful female dancer.

A bit of Afrikan mysticism was permitted to show itself when two shrouded and hooded male dancers entertained at an interlude. Applause for individual dancers and for effective drumming came frequently but the finale brought the audience to standing with cheers and calls as the drummers and dancers worked themselves into a fast, rhythmic, controlled frenzy fed by the audience who loved the pride the ambience and the ecstasy.

Say Hello to Broadway, Bruce.

ANY in the audience hurried away after the curtain came down on the Afrikan American Ballet to join parties set up for the telethon on Channel 12/KPTV—the

through Addie Jean Haynes; the Multnomah Women's Club; New Hope Baptist Church through the Rev. Devers and Hughes Memorial Church. Tektronix headed the list for size of gift from the business sector.

Working in front and behind the

Riley; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority

Working in front and behind the scenes were many individuals who are frequently connected with good causes for the public benefit. Among them were: Gwen Gamble, Commissioner Charles Jordan, Rick Forester, Ken Boodle, and of course, John Stelges, Gene Brendler of KPTV—and Budweiser Corporation.

OW an open secret can be told.
Bruce Smith, producer and director of the Afrikan American Bal-

let, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Cleophus Smith who were among the audience at the premiere. Many predict a glowing future for Bruce and congratulated the parents on their talented son.

In the Smith party at the premiere were their friends Harold and Lloyd Gaskin and an augmented section of the large Gaskin clan. Harold accompanied his two lovely daughters, Joyce and Kathleen, home in Portland for the holidays. Both young women are living in New York City. Joyce is a struggling young actress and is in sight of her goal on Broadway-or, off-Broadway-whichever materializes to her satisfaction. Kathleen Gaskin, 11 years in the Big Apple, combines her artistic interest in the dance with a practical business attachment. Kathleen holds a

buyer position with a clothing boutique in Greenwich Village.

Two other beautiful young ladies with Harold were his granddaughters. Natasha and Nadja. The charming matron with Harold was Roberta Blackburn, pleased as anything to be with her granddaughters and her great-granddaughters.

SUNDAY, December 26, promises to be a busy day—or evening. At least three major affairs

are scheduled that evening. The AKAs are having their annual holiday dance out at the Airport Holiday Inn. Kwanza begins at runrise of the 26th according to the BEC. City Lights presents a variety show at the Old Town Saloon on N.W. 6th Ave. Cora Smith and Gene Diamond with Aries are collaborating. Time is 8:00 p.m. Invitations are out to the Les Femmes Debu tantes and Cavaliers Cotillion on th 26th, at the Jantzen Beach Re Lion.

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