

# Tony Brown Continued From Front Page

## Neil Kelly Names Project Manager

A product of Wayne State University in Detroit, MI, (undergraduate/grad school), Brown does believe that he has had an impact on the communications industry despite denying himself role model status. "I think that, in terms of white controlled media industry, I'm the best kept secret they've ever had. I threaten them and I know that I threaten them because I seek to be independent and I seek to persuade other Blacks to

be independent of them. I think that they are very threatened by this. It's kind of a funny thing, if you know what I mean, because they don't want you in, but they don't like you if you don't care if you're not in. I think that's the impact

that I've had. There is really no place in their minds for me. They can't make a case that I'm incompetent and they can't make a case that I'm too far out in left field. So, it's sorta like, if we just ignore this guy, what he is might not exist. When I started out, I didn't have the option of working within the establishment, thank God, so I had to develop alternatives. The fact that I had to develop alternatives gives me more independence.

In his career, Brown has produced, directed, and financed a feature length film, "The White Girl", that dealt harshly with drugs and their devastation of young people. He is an advocate

of economic self-sufficiency as a strategy for success. When questioned about what advice he would give to all the people aspiring to be the next Tony Brown, he laughed and suggested that it would be a bad idea.

"I wouldn't aspire to be Tony Brown", he said. "I would aspire to be myself because each of us has such genius within us and it really bothers me that people want to be other people. I don't think that's what people should be. I can admire you and the things you've accomplished, but I don't want to be you. I want to make me a little better. I think that as Blacks, we need to get admiration and inspiration in focus."

Any other advice for Black people in general? "Let go the anger you have for the white man. That monkey has been on our backs for a long time and it's time to let go."

Brown was the dinner speaker at the Association of Black Journalist meeting hosted by the local chapter.



John H. Frazier, of Neil Kelly designers/Remodlers, was recently named to the position of Project Manager for the firm. John has served the company as Production assistant for the past two years. Neil Kelly Company is a residential and commercial remodeling contractor which has been in business in Portland since 1947.

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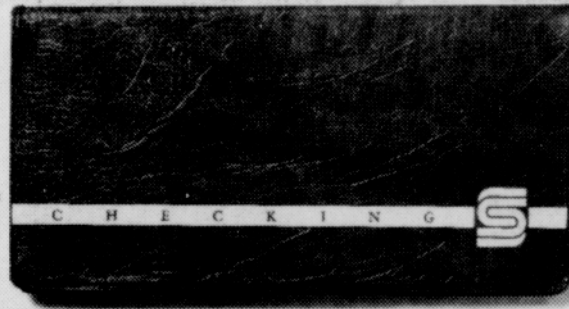
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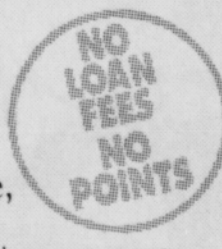
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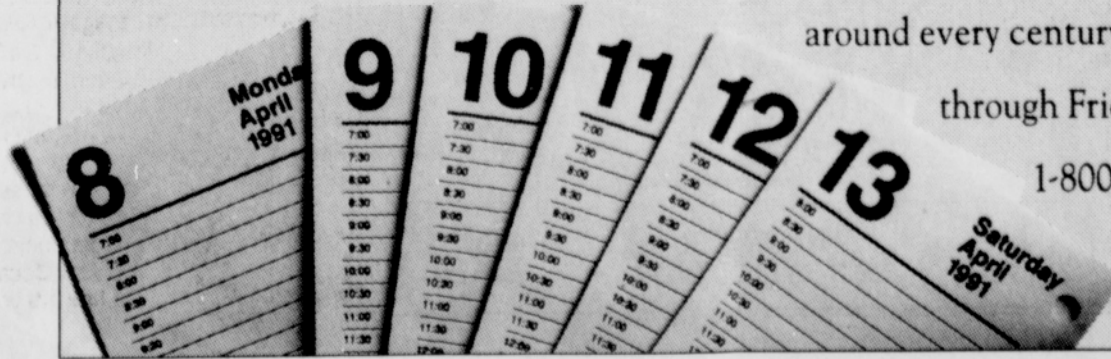
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