

"Parade Of Stars" Sets Record

Preliminary results from the "Lou Rawls Parade of Stars" telethon, which benefits the United Negro College Fund (UNCF), indicate that \$12.2 million in cash and pledges was raised during the seven-hour, nationwide telecast on Jan. 7. The record amount represents an increase of nearly 11 percent over the previous year, and brings the "Parade of Stars" 15-year total to more than \$132 million in cash and pledged donations.

Proceeds from the star-studded telecast are used to fund scholarships and expand educational opportunities at the 41 private, historically Black colleges and universities represented by the College Fund. More than 54,000 students are enrolled at UNCF colleges.



Singer Lou Rawls (right), host of the "Lou Rawls Parade of Stars" telethon, presents the 15th annual event.

William H. Gray III, president of the College Fund, said he was grateful for the public's support of

the telethon.

"I am pleased that this year's telethon was so well received, and grateful to those thousands of people and organizations who gave their support to ensure that disadvantaged students have an opportunity to get a college education and prepare themselves to become tomorrow's leaders," Gray said.

Joining host Lou Rawls for the fund-raising special, coming from Hollywood and New York City, were co-hosts Gladys Knight, Marilyn McCoo and Alex Trebek. Star performers on the "Parade of Stars" included Anita Baker, BeBe & CeCe Winans, Boyz II Men, Luther Vandross, Patti LaBelle, Ray Charles, Whoopi Goldberg, Jon Secada, Andrea Crouch and Daryl Hall.

Its 1995 And We're Still Alive: The Caravan Rolls On

BY PROF. MCKINLEY BURT

Year 2000, the turn-of-the-century is soon at hand. I can remember that as kids this seemed an impossible, unachievable mile stone along the path to some supermaturity in life. While youth may generally seem to ignore its mortality, there are days when it looks into the Time-ravaged face of some elder--and quickly turns away lest it be contagious.

Who was it that wrote of a "dream deferred", who wrote "I run in the race of who I am and what I will be"? I was trying to think, the other day, of the names of all the "single, female" school teachers at John Marshall elementary school (a requirement of the St. Louis School system as late as 1935. It was not that difficult. On the first floor we had Miss Crenshaw, Miss Brown, Miss Dobson and Mrs Hoard. On the third floor, among others there was Miss Hunt, Miss Clay and Miss Williams.

As a rule when I am reflecting on this scheme of things, it is the identity of the occupants of the rooms on the "second floor" which escapes me at first. So the order of my memory mode is 1, 3, 2 -- not 1, 2, 3. It may be minutes or even an hour before the faces and names in that second tier of

cubicles coalesce into specific identities; after all, I am recalling patterns and events of almost 70 years ago. An you might well ask how is this apparently trivial exercise in mnemonics (memory) important to the scheme of things in these trying times?

Well, let me count you the ways. For one thing, when you teach over a long span of years, under formal and informal circumstances, have students of varying ages and stages of preparation and are respectively aided or encumbered by a standard curriculum or a lack of it -- then over such span of time you will discover that you have developed such organized techniques of tutoring and instruction that match and correlate with a mode of learning and comprehension that seems intrinsic to human-kind. Some great, natural teachers are seen to never have endowed themselves with a recognition of such innate natural ability, but I have always wondered about them, seeking some commonality beneficial to pedagogy.

Indwelling upon these thoughts in recent years, I'm convinced that I was about the way humans organize their thoughts -- in the way I developed certain modes and paradigms, beginning in the 1960's when I developed the "mirror permutation

mode" to demonstrate how the Africans used "base 2" for their computations. The National Science Foundation awarded a prize to my project (The Dalles, Oregon) but neither they nor anyone else realized that what I was really into was logic build around those rooms and tiers of cubicles of John Marshall Elementary School.

In that demonstration in The Dalles, I used dolls and doll houses to show the kids that using the powers of numbers to say, a base like "2" -- is the same as asking how many ways may N actors enter a "house" with two (binary) doors". My particular demonstration used two to the fifth power or 32, which, given the choice of an upper or lower case display, yields 64 possible digits, letters or operation symbols. The years of refining and developing this system -- for youngsters as young as Montessori age and Head Start -- tells me now that I was onto the basic method by which humans acquire store and recall knowledge. Now, I'm reaching worldwide.

As I study the new computers, I see a whole universe of new applications. Math can be fun if you take away the fear -- if you made the machine it can do nothing that you can't do. Right, Miss Brown?

Relief Fund Established For City Of Kobe

The Japan-America Society of Oregon in cooperation with U.S. Bank has established an

Earthquake Relief Fund to assist the people of Kobe in the aftermath of the earthquake that dev-

astated their community on January 17, 1995. Contributions made to the fund will be sent to the City of Kobe to assist them as they begin to rebuild their community after this terrible tragedy.

It is times like these that make us remember the reason the Japan-America Society of Oregon was established almost 90 years ago. The Society then, as it is today, was built upon the bond of friendship that has united the United States with Japan for many years. It is a bond that continues to transcend even the political and economic aspects of our relationship today and it is with this in mind that we invite the people of Oregon to join us in expressing our condolences and our support to the people of Kobe. Contributions can be made at any U.S. Bank Branch or mailed to: **JASO/Kobe Relief Fund; U.S. Bank; Account Number: 1155800731; P.O. Box 4386, Portland, OR 97208.**

Safer Driving, Vehicles Reduce Deaths

New laws and safer vehicles have helped reduce traffic deaths in Oregon over the past decade, but it doesn't mean drivers should forget about basic safe-driving practices, according to Ed Marges of the Oregon Department of Motor Vehicles.

"During the four years prior to passage of the mandatory seat belt law in 1990, there were nearly 2,500 traffic fatalities in the state," Marges said. "But from 1991 to 1994, that total dropped to just under 2,000."

Oregon's seat belt law has played a large role in reducing fatalities, but other safety advancements have also been helpful, Marges said.

"We think several things have been happening over the past couple

years," he said. "Cars are designed to be safer with such features as dual airbags, anti-lock brakes and safer body construction. Our highway engineers are also finding ways to make highways and roads safer to drive on."

But, he cautions, driving a vehicle with safety features does not mean forgetting basic safe driving practices.

"My fear is that drivers will rely too much on the new technology and not enough on their good driving practices to avoid accidents," Marges says. "They may try to push the safety limits of the vehicle too far. But people need to keep in mind that they still need to buckle up, obey the posted speed and drive defensively."

Host Families Needed For Exchange Students

ASSE International Student Exchange Programs (ASSE) is seeking local HOST Families for boys and girls from Scandinavia, France, Italy, Spain, Portugal, Germany, Holland, Britain, Poland, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Switzerland, Mexico, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Brazil, Canada, and the Newly Independent States of the former Soviet Union, 15 to 18 years of age, coming to this area for the upcoming high school year. These personable and academically select exchanges students speak English, are bright, curious, and anxious to learn about this country through living as part of a family, attending high school, and sharing their own culture and language with their newly adopted Host Family.

Did You Know?

BY ROBERT N. TAYLOR

...that White House birthday cards are sent free to people age 80 or more. Send requests at least four weeks in advance. For more information: White House Greetings Office, Room 39, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW Washington, D.C. 20500.

...that this week's healthy food tip is "chili peppers." The capsaicin in these hot peppers works to combat cancer-causing agent in food. Hot peppers may also help prevent blood clots.

...that men today do not produce as much sperm as their grandfathers. According to studies done in Britain and the United States, today's man produces 50 percent less sperm than men did prior to World War II. One possible explanation is the increased number of pesticides and other toxic chemicals in our food and water.

...that average life expectancy in America has reached an all-time high: 75.8 years. White females have the longest life spans: 79.8 years. Black females place second with an average life expectancy of 73.8 years. White males are third: 73.2 years and black males place last with an average life expectancy of only 65 years. The report was released by the National Center for Health Statistics.

...that if you are interested in ways to enhance your personal income and build family wealth, you may want to subscribe to a new financial newsletter targeting African-Americans. To receive a free sample copy of "Better Life News", simply call 1800-748-1821 and leave your name and address. If you live in the Washington, D.C. area call 202-686-4775.

...that this week's favorite quote comes from motivational speaker Carl Mays: "Winners control their destiny. Winners take a stand. Winners make things happen. Winners say 'I can!'"

NAACP To Rehire Staff

In an apparent first step of financial recovery, the national headquarters of the NAACP in Baltimore, Md. says it plans to rehire most of the staff which it was forced to layoff late last year.

Fake Mover Suspected In Business Thefts

Portland Police are investigating a burglary where a man posing as a moving company employee attempted to steal computer equipment from a Southwest Portland business. Detectives believe the suspect may have also been involved in similar thefts in Washington County.

The incident occurred on 12-17-94 at an office building in the 2000 block of SW 4th Ave. Employees from Rose City moving company were in the process of loading equipment in the business.

An employee in the business found an individual wearing a moving company shirt with some computer equipment in a stairway. This stairway was not being used by the moving company.

After being contacted by the businessman, the suspect left the building, leaving the equipment behind. Employees of the moving com-

pany observed the suspect leaving and advised that he was not a company employee.

It is believed that the suspect may have gained possession of a moving company shirt to allow him access into businesses where the moving company was doing legitimate work.

Investigators at the Washington County Sheriff's are investigating similar thefts in their jurisdiction. In those cases, checks were stolen from employees and later forged. In those cases a similar suspect in a moving company shirt was seen in the area at the time of the thefts.

A suspect has been identified in the burglary incident. It is believed that additional thefts may have occurred, and anyone with information or questions can contact Central Precinct Detective Brian Grose at 823-0097.

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