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DN 6/6

Media Women

(Continued from Page 17)

But she has one thing in common with many young black women in media. She has been working steadily and thoroughly to do her work better than that of her competitors. She took an FCC license test at age 15 and became a third class engineer. With the support of her parents and brothers, Robin's future was sealed. And there's little time to look back.

Juggling her busy schedule, she still finds time to keep in touch with her viewers through community service. A graduate of Lindenwood College in St. Charles, Missouri with double majors in communications and psychology, she is active on local boards.

Robin currently serves on the St. Louis Police Community Relations Board, served as president of All Saints Episcopal Church Girls Youth Guild, was a founding member of B.A.D. (Blacks Against Dope, a sub-division of ths Narcotics Service Council), is a member of the Advertising Women of St. Louis, and serves on the board of directors of Grace Hill Settlement House, an appointment given by now retired Episcopal Bishop of Eastern Missouri, the Rt. Rev. George L. Cadigan.

If that's not enough, Robin is known by her friends for always finding out about the newest happenings in town, playing the guitar, theatre-going, riding horseback, swimming and doing macrame.

SUSANN AKERS

In a recent news interview, a writer commented, "Newsmen who do a lot of interviewing over the years tend to look back at people who impressed them most — perhaps only two or three such people. Lou Gehrig, the great New York Yankee baseball player of the '20's and '30's, was one of mine. Seth Parker of that era's radio fame was another. Susann Akers is another."

SUSANN AKERS
KTTV Channel 11
Los Angeles, Calif.

The Susann Akers described above is a unique personality. She has a special way of making people feel special when she talks to them. She has held a series of jobs where she traveled for such companies as Johnsons Wax and the Southern California Gas Company giving out consumer news and information. And she has been a key element wherever she has worked because Susann Akers does her homework. Wherever she has given a talk or made a presentation, she has fulfilled a basic desire. That is to communicate, particularly with minority women, how to make better use of all the consumer products on the market.

Ms. Akers lifted herself up from an Oklahoma upbringing by her bootstraps. One of seven children, she left Oklahoma for California in 1961 and won her degree at California State University at Los Angeles in home economics.

Presently on the air at TV station KTTV Channel 11, she writes and reports a news feature segment for daytime news called, "Beat The System." The feature airs Monday through Friday on the station's "Eleventh Hour Report," and is designed to help consumers get the most value for their dollar. She is a frequent guest on the station's noontime matinee. These noon appearances revolve around a series of live food presentations Susann developed on the theme, "A Culinary Salute to the Bicentennial."

In addition to her TV work, she has produced and moderated a mid-morning talk show on radio called, "Woman's World."

Among her off-air activities, Susann enjoys meeting new people, reading, horseback riding, and "doing whatever comes naturally." She is also active with church and community groups and affiliates with the professional group, Home Economists In Business (HEIB).

Susan takes the ups and downs of broadcasting in stride. An editor quotes Susann, "My field is a broad one, but most of all it is the fun of meeting people." While she is having fun, her co-workers agree that her personality and dedication will continue to support and advance her media career.

ROSEMARIE GULLEY
WLS-TV 7
Chicago, Ill.

ROSEMARIE GULLEY

Rosemarie Gulley of WLS TV News and Channel 7's "FeminineFranchise" series was characterized by a Chicago newspaper writer as "a feisty reporter prone to such statements as, "I never for a minute believed that the meek shall inherit the earth . . .". Which is one description of the work and approach to life of the outspoken, no-nonsense-tolerated, but still very vivacious news and community-involved ABC newsperson.

Rosemarie is also known nationally through the ABC network syndication of her local news spots that are beamed to affiliate stations around the country. Her work is considered tops because she is familiar with her territory and adds that shrewd understanding of what is the heart of her subject.

Being in one of the country's major media markets does not scare Rosemarie. If she has moments of frustration and disappointment, it never shows on the air. She tackles the tough stories with the same zest that she brings to coverage of softer news.

Ms. Gulley joined the on-air reporting staff of WLS-TV in January, 1973 after working as WLS Radio general assignment reporter since June, 1972.

Born and reared in Louisville, Kentucky, Ms. Gulley earned her B.A. degree in sociology at Roosevelt University in Chicago. She became a member of the Independent Voters of Illinois in 1965, took a full-time job as IVI secretary soon after and was appointed executive director of the organization in 1969.

As a single resident on Chicago's South Side, Rosemarie has found that organization is the best way to combine her hectic career with participation in community service. She lectures and aids fund raising groups from several colleges and supports community organizations and civic groups.

(To Be Continued in July DAWN)