The Floaters

Celebenit

(Continued from Page 4)

B. he was more than just a successful doctor. He was more than just another crusading publisher and owner of the Amsterdam News. He was more than just another Black leader of his people, and was certainly more than just another Black American who amassed a fortune in spite of the handicaps which the American dream places on the Black Man.

Q. What do you know about Stephen Biko of South Africa. His death was such a tragedy. I had never heard of him.

Jimmy Tarver
Miami, Florida

A. Stephen Biko was a young and popular fighter for equality in South Africa. His style and approach was very much like King's. The Black Consciousness Movement was founded by him as well as the legend "ONE AZANIA, ONE NATION." Azania is the black nationalist name for South Africa. He had been arrested several times before his death. The press was forbidden to report or quote his activities. Before his detention he was confined to his home with the right to see one visitor at a time. Only a fortunate few had his ear, so how could he be heard.

Convention Calendar

NOVEMBER 6-13 — NATIONAL COUNCIL OF NEGRO WOMEN, Washington, D.C., Ms. Dorothy I. Height, National President.

NOVEMBER 13-15 — "The Big Show Expo" By Beauty Trade Magazine, Chicago, Ill., Mrs. Bernice Calvin, National President.

NOVEMBER 17-20 — NATIONAL ALLIANCE OF BLACK SCHOOL EDUCATORS, Chicago, Illinois, Dr. Deborah Patridge Wolfe, National President.

NOVEMBER 25-27 — Holidays, Incorporated, Greensboro, N.C. Mrs. Lois H. Byers, President.

DECEMBER 27-30— KAPPA ALPHA PSI FRATERNITY, Denver, Colorado, Hiliary H. Holloway, Grand Polemarch.

DECEMBER 26-30 — OMEGA PSI PHI FRATERNITY, New Orleans, Louisiana, Dr. Edward Braynon, Grand Basileus.....

In DAWN Spotlight

Female coach makes good

The late Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. gave a sermon once, the subject of which was greatness; telling of how disciples, James and John had requested of the Lord to place one of them on the left and right hands of His throne.

Dr. King went on to say that Jesus answered them by saying that He could not give them greatness. True greatness comes not by favoritism, but rather by fitness. He who is great among you shall be your servant. By the use of this definition, Miss Loren A. Cook is truly outstanding.

While there have been many who have graduated and gone on to teach in college, few have done it in such a short time as Miss Cook. Since graduating from the District of Columbia Teachers College in 1976 — since consolidated into the University of the District of Columbia — with a bachelor of science degree in physical education, Miss Cook has gone on to teach physical education at her alma mater.

Since having become a faculty member of the new University of the District of Columbia, she has been named assistant coach for the women's volleyball and basketball teams.

While a student of the Teachers College, Miss Cook was always willing to serve in athletic events and physical education activities — as statistician to the men's basketball team, president of the Gyros' Club (for physical education majors and minors), and student director of intramurals.

Her services, while a student, won the praise and accolades of not only the students when the Student Government Association recognized her for "Outstanding Service" and when her graduating class named her an "Outstanding Senior," but also the faculty of the Division of Health and Physical Education when it named her, "Outstanding Major."

Although she was actively involved, she did not neglect her studies, for she was named to the Dean's List.

At the age of 25, and the second of four children of Mr. and Mrs. Julius Cook, the recognition of the value of education runs through her family. Her parents and older brother, Dwayne were educated at Howard University. Presently, Miss Cook is studying for her master's degree from Howard.

The unexpected call, from Dr. Samuel E. Barnes, chairman of the Division of Health and Physical Education, to teach on the college level, and more significantly, at her Alma Mater, came as a "complete surprise," she says.

Strikingly beautiful and standing five-foot seven inches, Miss Cook is still unable to believe that all that has happened to her thus far, has. A colleague and former instructor of Miss Cook, Mrs. Andre' Davis, assistant professor of education and psychology, says, "Loren always impressed me, she was organized, prepared, wrote well and possessed all the social graces."

Dr. Wendell P. Russell, former president of the District of Columbia Teachers College and Federal City College, states that, "She knows how to deal with people.

This view of Miss Cook is shared by many, for at the All-College Sports Banquet of the Teachers College, held in April, she received honors from the College Cheerleaders, Men's and Women's Volleyball Teams, along with being presented a "Distinguished Service Citation" by the College and the University of the District of Columbia board of trustees — an award previously never given.

Bakke Case

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Scott and Plessy v Ferguson. Differences in the areas of employment, education, and other facets of life will again be legalized to the detriment of the majority of American people and the benefit of the ruling few.

The American people must respond by focusing on three immediate demands:

1. That the Bakke decision be overturned.

2. That special admissions and other essential services for minority students be maintained, implemented, and expanded.

3. That affirmative action programs in employment be maintained, implemented, and expanded.

In fact, however, Allan Bakke had been denied admission to thirteen other medical schools and would not have gained admission to Davis even if the 16 of 100 seats had not been reserved for economically and educationally disadvantaged candidates.

Regardless of this, the university's affirmative action program was cited as the cause of the denial of admissions to Mr. Bakke. When the highest court of California ruled in Bakke's favor, the case was appealed to the Supreme Court of the United States. The Bakke case permits us to look at the realities of life in the United States in its larger social and economic context.

Implications Of Bakke

Bakke, in its most general sense, represents a resurgence of overt institutional racism and white male sexism in America. Such catchwords as quotas and reverse discrimination, are giant smokescreens for a continuation of exploitation and domination by the ruling few.

The questions that require an answer are what are the sources of Bakke, the forces he represents, and how will America be affected by the outcome of this decision.

It should be clear that Bakke symbolizes a more general attack on the rights of the majority of American people. To understand Bakke, this phenomena must be comprehended. The context in which this attack is becoming more evident is one absent of mass organization and struggle that was characteristic of the Sixties, and a general economic depression. Such contentions that are made by Bakke would only be possible when these conditions exist.

A decade after the antiwar movement, civil rights struggles and fights for affirmative action, progressives are in eclipse. Bakke represents a new activist campaign. Leading the campaign are such spokespersons for the ruling class as Jessie Helms, U.S. Senator; Dorothy Waldvogel, housewife; Ronald Reagan, and Larry McDonald, U.S. House of Representatives.

Their cry may be based on anti-abortion, anti-homosexual, anti-equal rights amendment, anti-liberal democrat, pro-nuclear family, or anti-quotas, but their plan is to rationalize sexism, racism, and an irrational economic system. Allan Bakke is simply a manifestation of this more general process.

The majority of the American peoples (minorities and women) must be educated to the fact that this is a frontal attack on their living standards primarily in the areas of education, employment and housing. As usual, such attacks are justified in constitutional terms.

Louis Gossett Jr., remembered for his role of Fiddler in "Roots" is the national spokesman for Muntu, the new national fashion symbol jewelry (around the neck).

Lou Gossett in new role

Louis Gossett Jr., remembered for his role of Fiddler in the television blockbuster, "Roots" is on a national tour promoting a new black symbol, "Muntu," fashion jewelry that features a black silhouette of the United States inscribed on the continent of Africa.

Gossett, the national spokesman for this new national symbol, is traveling to major cities to introduce this new fashion jewelry that is available in pendants, chokers, pin-tacs and bracelets. He has made special presentations of "Muntu" jewelry to prominent members of the black community throughout the country.

"Muntu" is a Swahili word for soul and symbolizes a black American whose "Roots" are from Africa.

"It is designed to give black people a unified identity," says Gossett.

He points out that the message from the men, women and children who wear it is: "I am black, I am an American, I am of African ancestry, And I am proud of them all."

DEBBIE ALLEN

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thinking about a night club act — that's where you have to do it all."

She said this as if she were not only ready to take on the continual challenge that life is to her but the world as well. She is a very sensitive person, and as she puts it "draws from everything around her."

She also had some thoughts about blacks in theatre. "We need more black writers, more Alex Haleys — that man worked a miracle. The main problem for blacks in theatre is the lack of material by black playwrights, we need to get away from the television and read more."

Working opposite Uggams must be a challenge for one who by comparison is relatively young to the business. Of this Debbie says, "Leslie is encouraging, I feel great working opposite her and she is one of the most giving people I've ever met. Richard is great too."

New York City is home for Debbie and her husband Win Wilford who is the director of publicity for CBS Records. "I'm anxious to get home and be a wife and spend some time in my kitchen," she said.

Having lost none of her poise despite the many questions I had been asking, Debbie sat erect and looking more serious than ever said, "Take advantage of all theatrical situations where they exist—whether they are in community theatre or the church.

"Study as much as possible, and go with your own strength."