Showtime

Big Joe Turner, dies of heart attack

Blues and jazz singer Big Joe Turner, the original performer of the rock classic "Shake, Rattle and Roll" who also appeared with Count Basie and Duke Ellington in a career that spanned five decades, died last Sunday. He was 74-years-old.

Turner had been ill for the past two months and died at Daniel Freeman Hospital of a heart attack, a hospital spokesman said. Turner also suffered kidney failure and complications from a stroke two years ago.

Perhaps best known for "Shake, Rattle and Roll," a song that later became a hit record for Bill Haley and the Comets in the early days of the rock era and is now a rock 'n' roll classic. Turner followed this up with another rhythm and blues classic, "Flip, Flop and Fly."

The rotund blues great was born Joseph Vernon Turner in Kansas City, Mo. in 1911 and started his career in the 1930's.

Growing up in one of the most prolific jazz environments in the country, Kansas City, Turner was greatly influenced by jazz greats Count Basie, Lester Young, Ben Webster, Pete Johnson, Jo Jones and Mary Lou Williams. Kansas City's jazz pedigree is so rich that Turner appeared alongside many other greats in the film "Last of the Blue Devils," a retrospective with early Kansas City as a hotbed of jazz activity.

Big Joe Turner

"Big Joe" stood out as a survivor of the great improvisational tradition following a long line of great jazz vocalists including Blind Lemon Jefferson, Big Bill Broonzy and Jimmy Rushing. Turner remained a relatively local talent in Kansas City until 1938 when his performance at Carnegie Hall placed him on the jazz map.

His "Spirituals to Swing" recording paved the way for him to emerge as a vital blues interpreter. Along the way Turner recorded with pianists Pete Johnson, Art Tatum and Joe Sullivan.

The late 1940's saw Turner, along with most other jazz musicians, drop out of favor with the populace. When however, the rhythm and blues vogue of the fifties was established, Turner came one of the movement's most successful artists. He became one of the few jazz veterans to survive a period of neglect only to be newly discovered by a younger generation.

Mary Katherine Aldin, a friend of Turner's and host of a local blues radio show, in California said he was the most recorded blues artist in history, with nearly 200 albums to his credit. He had been nominated for several Grammy's most recently this year for "Have No Fear, Big Joe Turner is Here."

An inexhaustible performer, Turner appeared at such famed jazz and blues venues as the Apollo Theatre in Harlem. He was a regular at the Newport and Monterey Jazz Festivals. His last club appearance was at Tramps in New York about two months ago, Aldin said.

The 400-pound performer who did everything in an enormous way, said "When I can't sing any more I don't want to be here."

Big Joe Turner is survived by his wife, Virginia.

The Temptations and the Four Tops at the Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall for two razzling shows, Saturday, Dec. 7.

The X-Men of Baltimore, have been working for two years now creating their unique contemporary rock fusion sound.

Laurence Hurst, synthesizer and vocalist with Ben Watson, guitarist, Nick Abato, guitarist and Christ Ciatti, drummer unite the core of the original songs and music. They have produced a demo of some songs that is aired on local (98 Rock and WCVT 98.6) and national radio stations. The group has been seeking a production company to record their material.

Members of the world renowed group Wham! has also reviewed their material and has helped with supportive comments and suggestions. "It's really nice when people like Wham take the time to offer support and show a real concern about our music," said Laurence Hurst. "I was quite fortunate to stay with 'Pepsi' the group's female vocalist while in London this summer. We shared a lot in common and had time to share and talked much about our music ideas."

The X-Men are planning many projects to promote and produce their original music and have a large body of work scheduled including tours, recording and a video which is already in progress. But their main goal now is to get into the door "then we will keep inside," says Hurst.

New members Scott Kruse, keyboard and Les McKen on bass have brought new influences to the group. Les McKen originally from Trinidad and formerly with the Mighty Invaders has roots deeply in reggae.

The X-Men will be performing Friday and Saturday, Dec. 6 and 7 at the Marble Bar, 306 W. Franklin St. and a New Year's Eve Bash at 4012 Roland Ave. For more information call 727-6994 or 528-9122. These guys are not to be missed!

Cases

Case 91: I have two children, ages 7 and 12. I am asking for help to make Christmas a good one for them. I would appreciate any small toys or clothes you could give me, but my major concern is that they have a decent meal.

— —

Case 92: I have recently lost my social service benefits because I have a part-time job. I am finding it almost impossible to make it without both the part-time job and the aid from social service. I have two children and I raise them alone. I hope you can help me make their Christmas happy.

— —

Case 93: I am a grandmother raising two grandchildren and one child of my own. The little money I get from my check goes toward the rent. I would like some warm clothes and toys for the children for Christmas as well as some things for a nice dinner. The children are 13, 6 and 3 years old. I would appreciate anything at all.

— —

Case 94: I am writing to ask for help for me and my son. I am in the process of getting social services but as of yet we receive nothing. I am a diabetic and I am raising my son alone because his mother has a drug addiction. We hope you can help us with a food basket this Christmas.

— —

Case 95: I am the mother of five children, ages 10, 8, 6, 2 and 10 months. Two of my children are asthmatics. We have just moved into a new house and so things are very hard for us right now. It took all we had to move. I am unemployed but I do receive assistance. I hope you can help me to give my children a happy Christmas by donating clothes for them a food basket.

— —

Have no heat

Case 96: I have a family of three girls and i boys and we don't even have any heat in our home. My children are in need of warm winter clothing and food. We do receive food stamps but we are never able to make them last an entire month. Please give us any assistance possible.

— —

Case 97: I am trying to help my granddaughter with her two year old son. She has just separated from her husband and she is having a hard time paying her bills and rent. And now with Christmas right around the corner, I don't know how she is going to do it. Her son is in need of warm clothing. We are hoping you can help them.

— —

Children need shoes

Case 98: I am the mother of 7 children, ages 13, 11, 9, 8, 6, 4, and 2½. They all need warm shoes for the winter. Raising them alone is very hard, especially during the holidays. I have very little money and I am unable to give them a nice dinner. But I think of all the things that they need. I would like to see them get shoes for the winter.

— —

Case 99: I am a 35-year-old single parent of three and I am the guardian of my 13 year old brother. We only have the monthly income I receive from social service to depend on. This income doesn't even cover all of my bills. I am hoping that you can help me to make Christmas feel a little more like a holiday for my children. They are in need of warm clothes. We would appreciate a food basket. The children are 13, 9, 8, and 4.

— —

Case 90: I am the 36-year-old single parent of three boys. We need your help this Christmas if this is going to be a happy holiday season at all for us. Things have not been the same since my father died 2 months ago. I know Christmas for the boys (ages 10, 6, 2) will be especially bad. My father always made sure that they got at least one small toy a piece and a nice Christmas dinner. My income will not allow me to do those things for them.

Inmate pleas for family

Case 91: I am incarcerated at the Maryland Correctional Training Center. I read your ad in the paper and decided to write you a letter on behalf of my mother, she is very ill. She has blood clots in various parts of her body. She and my father have been separated for 7 years now. Her only source of income is what she receives from social services and that is rapidly shrinking. She is raising my 15-year-old sister and my two brothers also live with her. They are 18 and 21 but they are both in school. I hope you will be able to help them with a Christmas basket.

— —

Case 92: I am the mother of 4 children ages, 9, 6, 3, and 6 months. I am incarcerated in Jessup, Md so they are with their father who is having a very hard time providing for them alone on his income. I wish I could be with them for the holidays but I cannot. Unless you help, they won't even have a real Christmas dinner. Their father and I would also like to see them each get a toy and some warm clothes.

— —

Case 93: I am asking for help for me and my two grandchildren. We live alone and there is only one source of income and that does not help very much. We can barely afford necessary things. But I really would like for the children to have a little something extra for Christmas, at least a good dinner.

— —

Case 94: I am 15 years old and I am writing to you because my father lost his job. Will you please send us a Christmas basket. There are six of us, five children ages 15, 12, 11, 8 and 5 and my father. We hope you can help us.

— —

Case 95: I am the mother of three children ages 6, 5, and 4, all boys. I was recently laid off from my job and I will not be able to provide a nice Christmas dinner for my boys. If you can help me with some toys or clothes for them I would certainly appreciate it.

— —

Case 96: I am writing on behalf of a young lady who is in need of your help. She is 18 years-old and has a newborn baby girl. She doesn't have any furniture for the baby and also she needs baby clothes.

— —

Case 97: I hope and pray that you will be able to help me and my four grandchildren. I only receive $85 a month worth of food stamps and this is never enough. I also receive a check from social service and I admit it does help but after I pay bills, I can barely do anything for them. Please donate a food basket so I can be sure that they will have a good Christmas dinner.

— —

Case 98: I am a single parent with a 12-year-old son. I am also unemployed and things look very bleak for us. We were wondering if you could help us by perhaps donating some clothes for my son and a food basket for Christmas.

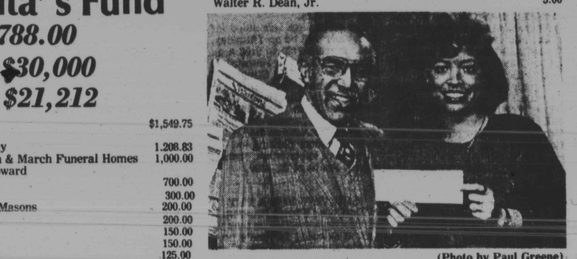
— —

Case 99: Please send us a food basket. There are 7 of us in my family. We can't even afford a Christmas Tree this year. My health is very poor and my son just recently lost his job.

Mrs. Santa's Fund

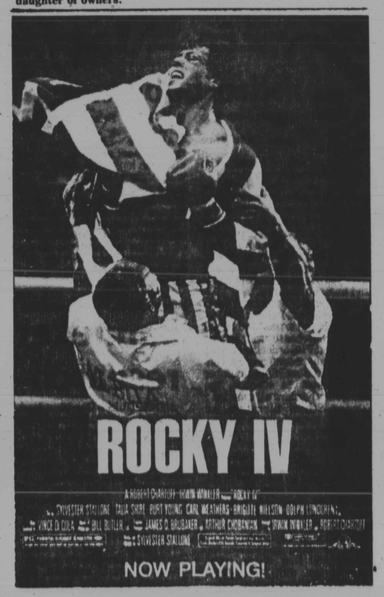
$8,788.00
Goal $30,000
Need $21,212

Softball Marathon	$1,549.75
Estate of	
Miss Elinor Cornelia Dimmy	1,208.83
Mr. & Mrs. William C. March & March Funeral Homes	1,000.00
In Memory of Mrs. Peggy Howard	
Maceo T. Howard	700.00
Myra Grand Chapter, O.E.S.	300.00
Most Worshipful Prince Hall Masons	200.00
S.A.T. Foods	200.00
Mrs. Beatrice Howard Hall	150.00
Avalon Social Club, Inc	150.00
William & Minnie Shorter	125.00
Mr. & Mrs. Milton D. Bell	100.000
New Jockey Club	100.00
Wo-Be-Wo	100.00
Samuel Survey & Co., Inc.	100.00
Mrs. Bernice Hawkins Shorter	100.00
Mr. & Mrs. John Myers	100.00
Herbert Alston, Jr.	100.00
Rev. James L. Moore	100.00
The Lawyers' Wives	100.00
The Charmettes	100.00
United Bowling Club	100.00
Ms. Gertie Hudson	100.00
Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. Alpha Zeta Chapter	100.00
JNNRL Neighborhood Assoc.	100.00
Ms. Jeanette L. Johnson	100.00
Mr. & Mrs. James Franklin	75.00
Mrs. Inez Cox	75.00
Dr. & Mrs. Benjamin Quarles	50.00
John Scott Jr.	50.00
The Baltimore & Washington Club	50.00
Mr. & Mrs. Henry Hall	50.00
We Moms	50.00
A Group of Friends	50.00
William & Catherine Blackmon	50.00
In Memory of	
Mrs. Jennie Carrington	50.00
Mr. & Mrs. Julius Taylor	50.00
Ingleside Hercules, Inc.	50.00
Mr. & Mrs. James T. Perry	50.00
Jerusalem Court No. 1	
Daughters of Isis	50.00
Frank Johnson Jr.	40.00
Ms. Julia Medley	40.00
Bernard & Alma Reed	35.00
Flair Studio	
Mrs. Willa Bland	35.00
Mrs. Frances L. Murphy, II	30.00
Mrs. Vivian S. Bennett	25.00
Rudolph Typewriter Co.	25.00
Allen H. Vessells	25.00
Ms. Llewellyn H. Walker	25.00
Ms. Elizabeth A. Edmonds	25.00
Mr. & Mrs. Elmer S. Patterson	25.00
Mr. & Mrs. Robert W. McDaniel	25.00
Mr. & Mrs. William R. Bowie, Jr.	25.00
Ms. Sandra E. East	25.00
Ms. Helen G. Scotland	25.00
Ms. R. Eleanor Scotland	25.00
James White	25.00
Mrs. Inez Taylor	25.00
Mr. & Mrs. Paul W. Moore, Sr.	25.00
Mr. & Mrs. Clifton A. Turner Sr.	25.00
Mrs. Marie E. Murphy	25.00
Mrs. Ruby Mills Taylor	25.00
Harry & Calatha Marshall	25.00
Law Offices of	
Rochlin & Setteman, P.A.	25.00
Mrs. Gertrude Winston	25.00
Lake Ashburton Neighborhood Assoc.	25.00
Mohogany, Inc. (50/50 Raffle)	22.00
Mohogany, Inc.	20.00
Mrs. Louise Kerr Hines	20.00
Mr. & Mrs. Rodman O. Harris	20.00
Ms. June B. Thorne	20.00
The Pals	20.00
Walter & Geraldine Dorsey	15.00
William G. Contee Jr.	15.00
Mrs. Sarah S. Rayne	15.00
Ms. Emma L. Davis	15.00
Ms. Thelma F. Johnson	10.00
Ms. Fannie B. Poulson	10.00
Arvel & Pauline Owens	10.00
Mr. & Mrs. Samuel Billups Jr.	10.00
Ms. Angie L. McClain	10.00
Ms. Vivian M. Bailey	10.00
Ms. Marjorie A. Jennings	10.00
Ms. Marguerite E. East	10.00
Rudy's Grocery	10.00
Mrs. Shawan D. Gregory	10.00
Howard M. Contee	10.00
Charles Kelly	10.00
Edward Woodford	5.00
Walter R. Dean, Jr.	5.00



(Photo by Paul Greene)

Mr. and Mrs. William C. March, owners of March Funeral Home donate $1,000 to the Mrs. Santa Fund. Making the presentation to AFRO President John H. Mruphy, III, is Ms. Annette March, daughter of owners.



CUBA: 24 years after the embargo

By Janice McKnight,
Legislative Correspondent
for Senator
Arlen Specter of Pennsylvania
Special to the AFRO-AMERICAN

Part One

In 1964, Field Enterprises Educational Corporation, publisher of The World Book Encyclopedia stated in recording the history of Cuba, that "Cuba a communist satellite state (of The Soviet Union) became the center of a world crisis in October 1962."

They went on to say that Fidel Castro, a "Cuban dictator" immediately turned his country into a tightly controlled communist country.

Amidst the summer heat of '85 grew mounting tension and key policy decisions aimed at addressing what some U.S. political analyst have argued as the expansion of communism coupled with terrorism in the Western Hemisphere.

Before the American people, President Reagan declared that America was under siege by international terrorists and that the United States was going to get tough.

Outlined in his policy statement were those nations America officially recognized as "terrorist states," which posed a threat to national security. Appearing as a most-unfavored nation was Cuba, an island which lies 90 miles off the coast of Florida.

Twenty Four years have passed since the United States under the leadership of President John F. Kennedy, imposed a trade embargo on the island of Cuba. On January 3, 1961 the U.S. severed diplomatic and consular relations with the country and as we review the current political climate between the two nations the air remains stagnate.

As a journalist, i've often pondered over the question of what are the existing conditions of the people in Cuba? Recently I travelled as a member of an eleven-member delegation of Black, Latino, and Caribbean journalists to this country on a ten day fact-finding mission. Under the guides of the National Alliance of Third World Journalists we examined the social, political, industrial, agricultural, educational and cultural climate of this part of the world.

Foreign debt crisis seen as 'common problem among Third World Countries. . .

Established in 1944 with its operation beginning in 1947, the IMF is an intergovernmental lending institution designed to maintain funds contributed and aid used by member nations. With the U.S. as the major backer, the organizations mission is to promote world development and aid members with temporary balance of payment problems.

According to Bob Russell, Congressional liaison for the IMF, currently $12,767,400,000 is owed by the members in the Western Hemisphere. This region again, is comprised by Latin American and Caribbean countries. Cuba is not a member of this institution.

In his opening remarks to the conference Castro called for a regional moratorium. "To solve the foreign debt crisis in the Third World, these countries have to declare a moratorium," he stated.

Reflecting on the poverty levels, food availability and economic growth, in Bolivia, Argentina, El Salvador and Venezuela, he said that there is no way the Third World could pay back thier loans that are tagged with high yielding interest rates and preconditions developed by lenders as negotiating criterion. These bargaining chips he said are unreasonable and are used to undermine the development of the Third world.

Understanding the "capitalist system" and the exploitation of these countries by multi-national corporations, Castro strongly argued that the debt has been paid "over and over again." The IMF and creditor banks he said should wipe the slate clean by writing off the monies owed.

But to the contrary, Brazilian journalists, speaking on behalf of their country said that this formula was not in line with their country's policies. Brazil and its leadership, they contended wanted to keep the doors of trade and friendly relations with the U.S. open. By issuing a moratorium, they said, any hope that they had of overcoming the debt problem would be lost.

In their latest report the IMF calculates that the debt level of Brazil stands at $4,205,400,000, which is the largest loan outstanding of the 22 members of this region.

According to Antonio C. Lemgruber, executive director for international operations of Boavista Bank in Brazil, in 1983 and 1984 the debt levels were computed at $9.6 billion and $10.8 billion, with high levels of nominal interest rates.

Giving his economic forecast for Brazil, Antonia Blanco, head of the North American Policy Division of the Cuban Government said that Brazil will pay the debt while creating a "system of depression."

Affirming this prediction was Central Bank president Fernao Bracher's statement on October 24 in the Brasilia Domestic Service (a new agency). Bracher said that Brazil would negotiate the foreign debt "with or without IMF approval." These meetings, he said would be held with the advisory committee of the creditor banks in New York in late November.

The issue of developing equitable solutions to the debt crisis is far more critical for Mexico. Devastated by an earthquake which has left thousands of men, women and children dead or missing, the debt levels stagger at $2,703,300,000. Mexican economists estimate that before this travesty has ended the financial needs of redeveloping this developing nation will sore to astronomical figures.

Castro made several analogies to Mexico's outcome, upon receipt of a news wire reporting the earthquake, during the conference. He said that while some will mourn the loss of this country there will be others who will prey like "vultures" to further their economic gains and political domination.

In his closing remarks, Castro said it is important that the Third World speak as a united front on the issue of solving the debt crisis to demand a workable solution for all people. "In the event that the governments of the Third World Nations do not provide a solution the people will," he stated.

In part 2 of "Cuba: Twenty-Four Years Under The Embargo," the national health systems of the country will be discussed. Cuba considers itself a pioneer nation in preventive medicine and life expectancy.

WESTERN HEMISPHERE DEBTOR NATIONS OF THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

COUNTRY	DEBT
ARGENTINA	1,868,800,000
BARBADOS	43,600,000
BABIS	8,400,000
BOLIVIA	55,100,000
BRAZIL	4,205,400,000
CHILE	928,100,000
COSTA RICA	172,200,000
DOMINICA	9,600,000
DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	226,000,000
ECUADOR	264,000,000
EL SALVADOR	91,400,000
GRENADA	3,300,000
GUATEMALA	126,700,000
GUINNEA	71,800,000
HAITI	79,600,000
HONDURAS	127,800,000
JAMAICA	638,500,000
MEXICO	2,703,300,000
PANAMA	276,500,000
PERU	639,400,000
ST. LUCIA	900,000
ST. VINCENT	500,000
URUGUAY	226,800,000

This listing of these countries located in the Western Hemisphere and their current debt levels owed to the International Monetary Fund were provided by Bob Russell, Congressional Liaison of the IMF.

Castro seems 'no way' loans with high interest can be paid by developing countries

Responding to President Reagan's United Nations speech, Fidel Castro stated during an interview on the National Radio of Angola that "He (President Reagan) did not say a single word about the awful crisis the world is undergoing; the economic crisis; and the huge debt of the Third World countries."

Labelling the foreign debt crisis as a "common problem" affecting the Third World countries, Castro said that unequal trade and the deterioration of cash crops and the value of other good produced to compete in the trade markets, is the direct cause that has mustered the call for a new international economic order.

This call for an economic change to solve the debt dilemma was the key issue of a three day conference from September, 16-18 in Havanna, which I attended.

Sponsored by Prensa Latina (The Latin Press), the official communications organ of Cuba, the conference engaged journalists from each of the Latin American countries and sections of the Caribbean in discussions and debates on solving the financial crisis of the region.

There has been much debate over how should a debtor nation in the Third World repay their loans to creditor banks and the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Tony Brown's Commentary

AIDS cases may help

In the December issue of **Penthouse** magazine, two "how to" articles are conspicuously placed between layouts of titillating women.

One, authored by this writer, is called "How To Solve The Race Problem" and, judging from the letters I've received, it has hit a bullseye. It also introduces a new audience to **Penthouse**.

The other has a much broader appeal. Called "The AIDS Cover-Up," it could have been entitled "How To Avoid AIDS." Gary Hull makes a compelling case that little ol' Vitamin C may be the key to controlling and preventing AIDS.

AIDS is an acronym for the incurable disease that kills its victims, mostly homosexual men, within five years. A virus, called HTLV-III for short, attacks white blood cells and destroys the body's defenses against infection and disease.

About 73 percent of the cases are homosexual men and a growing number are bisexual men who spread the deadly disease to women by engaging in anal intercourse. Null also points out that "90-100 percent of gay men with AIDS used poppers" (nitrate inhalants).

They also are heavy users of other drugs: cocaine, amphetamines, barbiturates, heroin, etc. Another factor, Null explains, in gay men acquiring AIDS is the use of petrochemical-based lubricants in anal intercourse. These lubricants weaken the immune system because "larger molecules can be absorbed through the rectum than through other areas of the body."

Chances are, you are not a homosexual or a drug user. However, you should keep in mind that the AIDS virus has moved into the heterosexual community and is seen among non-drug users, mostly blood-transfusion recipients who were contaminated by donated blood.

There is also evidence that the virus originated among animals and has succeeded in 'jumping the species barrier" into human hosts who have no resistance to the disease. And speaking of resistance, Null says, "A person must already have an immune deficiency to contract AIDS."

Severe malnutrition, he says, may account for the high incidence among Haitians, in the Third World where most people live in Belle Glade, Florida where 70 percent use the same bathroom and children walk barefoot on the discarded needles of drug addicts.

"Everyone of us is a potential victim of a disease of the immune system whether it's an annoying cold or a fatal cancer," says Gary Null. And to build the defenses of AIDS victims, Null details the Vitamin C therapy program of Dr. Robert Cathcart.

Garlic is one of the natural remedies used by Dr. Cathcart to cleanse the system of parasites which attack the immune system. About 70 percent of gay men have these intestinal parasites which are present in semen and get into their blood via breaks in the rectal wall.

For the rest of us who have the normal count of parasites from processed foods and environmental conditions, garlic is also helpful for prevention. As is a good multiple vitamin supplement which has plenty of antioxidants to fight free radical damage.

I personally use Life Extension Mix. You name it, this powdered or tablet formula has it (write Life Extension Center, 2835 Hollywood Boulevard, Hollywood, Florida 33020 or call 1-800-327-6110)

Another technique in building your immune system against virus is a detoxification — fasting and or cleaning out your colon. The world's expert on this subject is Robert Gray and his $3.50 book ("The Colon Health Handbook") is a million dollar value (Robert Gray, Box 2868, Oakland, California 94618-0068). He also sells the cleansing tablets and bulking compound (415-652-4975).

Now look at your fingernails. If you see white spots, you've probably got a zinc deficiency. And if you're a man, you may have or be on your way to prostate trouble. About 90 percent of a man's zinc is stored in his prostate.

Men who lose zinc through ejaculation and alcohol deplete the body of this strong antioxidant immune protector. Of course, zinc, along with selenium and coenzyme Q10 and host of helpers are in the Life Extension Mix.

One good benefit of the AIDS epidemic is the new consciousness about our health.

Tony Brown's Journal can be seen on public television in Washington on Sunday, Channel 32 at 8 p.m., Friday, Channel 26 at 11:30 p.m., and Sunday, Channel 31 at 5 p.m.

Just Thinking

About Motown, NASA's top man

By Al Sweeney

And how was your Thanksgiving?

It seemed to me, maybe because aensitivity that develops in the winter of one's life, Thanksgiving, 1985 became more meaningful in the traditional sense.

Those persons with families moved heaven earth and the airlines to return home to spend Turkey Day with their grandparents, parents or relatives.

Unlike any other season of the year, it inspires persons without living family survivors to accept invitations to mingle around with old friends around the festive board.

For me, I elbowed my way through the airport traveling crowds to spend Thanksgiving Day with old professional and college buddies and their families.

Russ Jackson, retired managing editor of the Michigan Chronicle, whose professional wanderings has taken him to many places and allowed him to rub shoulders with the personalities of the world. Like most newshounds, he is one of those "know-it-alls" because life on a news copy desk makes you one.

Ted Jefferson, recently retired from the Chicago School System and a college classmate, has been the public education system of this nation degenerate into a state of disaster.

Along with a retired UAW executive Jimmie Raye who once worked at Ford Motors and several other individuals members of the senior citizens set all certified by their red, white and blue Medicare cards devoured hostess Earline Jackson's holiday fare.

One of the racial traits of the brothers and sisters when their innards are jammed is that they follow one of two alternatives: first, get sleepy; second, if the setting is not conducive to snoozing, they are stimulated by wine or some other liquid high-proof spirits to gab.

These post dinner discussions in the comfortable dens can become heated. No single person dominates and all have strong opinions.

In Motown, where Berry Gordy's record label catupulated many entertainers into prominence, including the "Supremes" and "Temptations," the voters returned Coleman Young to city hall.

One of the veteran black mayors of a big city is no longer, I learned, the overwhelming favorite of the black electorate. He won the last election 60 percent of the vote, Coleman called it a "mandate."

His critics, cite the fact that an unknown young black auditor, Thomas Barrow, a nephew of the legendary Joe Louis, polled 40 percnt grassroots protest vote.

Canny Mayor Young has a partnership in "power structure" of Detroit to redevelop the inner city.

As in most towns, such as the District of Columbia, Cleveland, Los Angeles, Baltimore, Atlanta, the redevelopment projects of the inner cities means the reversal of the white flight to suburbia.

The construction of modern prefabricated office buildings and the modern cosmetic of expensive condominiums.

All of this in the name of progress is at the expense of Blacks trapped in the depreciated housing of the city.

Because of the economic struggles of the various ethic groups of the Detroit area racial discord runs high.

Suburban Dearborn, long a bastion of racial bigotry has successfully prohibited Blacks from housing recently a thinly racially veiled political referendum was to keep non-residents from utilizing the town's recreational facilities.

It was so blatantly racially inspired that Dearborn's mayor and safety officials pleaded with Dearborn voters to reject the petition. The bigots won.

However, it was Pyrhic victory. Next to Ford's Dearborn world corporate headquarters, the town's biggest income producers, is Metro-Detroit's most fashionable shopping mall.

Some 40 percent of its customers are blacks from urban Detroit. In reaction to the bigots' "you-can't-use-our-swimming, -park-or-other playground-facilities-because-you-are-Black Detroiters," the activist civil rights reacted.

Some 30 years after Rosa Parks ignited a bus boycott in Montgomery, Ala., the black Detroiters led by its ministers launched a shopping boycott.

The white entrepreurs got the message and begged the boycotters to hold off while they reversed the referendum of the bigots with litigation.

A temporary truce was established but many blacks shoppers remain away from the mall.

Meanwhile, a very interesting human story evolked. Charles Diggs, the former congressman whose litigation problems wrecked his political career, is putting his life back together.

He opened a second string of mortuary homes in his hometown, during the holiday. A son of one of the founders of the most successful funeral homes of the nation, "The House of Diggs," which was virtually destroyed, with his misfortunes.

With an establishment in Fort Washington, MD. and his Detroit outlet, the final chapters of the Diggs Story is heartwarming.

As I write this, I note in headlines of the papers and a hot item on the newscasts involves the indictment of NASA's James Beggs.

Without going into the intricacies of the multi-million dollar wheeling dealing of military contractors, I have nothing but good feelings about Beggs, a former federal associate.

As Undersecretary of the Department of Transportation under John Volpe, he carried out to the letter and spirit of the former Massachusetts governoring model equal employment opportunity program. No agency has matched Volpe efforts.

Beggs, a superior administrator, worked hand-in-hand with Volpe in establishing the mass transit, air traffic control system, and the upgrading of railroads.

And as administrator of NASA, enjoying its finest hours with its space program, Beggs utilized the first black astronoaut, a woman and other minorities in the showcasing its activities.

While others spoke rhetoric about equal opportunity, Beggs is a quiet administrator who practices fairness with no fanfare.

Racial progress is accomplished by the commitment of white persons in leadership roles such as Administrator Beggs.

I can safely predict that his current problem will evaporate with complete exoneration.

A believer in human rights, committed to equal rights, a promoter of travel among the stars, how can he miss?

Commentary

Church dissidents and judge in unholy mission against religion

By Alexander R. Jones

Norfolk Circuit Court Judge Alfred Whitehurst, working in concert with dissidents from the New Calvary Baptist Church, has delivered a serious blow to religious freedom in this country. On July 9, during a controversial meeting forced by this unholy judge-dissident union, the Rev. Dr. Milton Reid was voted out as pastor of New Calvary Baptist Church.

Fortunately, as Judge Whitehurst and the ill-intentioned dissidents soon discovered, a church is more than a building: it is the people united by a common belief. Within hours after the vote, nearly 300 active parishioners left the four walls of New Calvary to remain with their pastor, Dr. Reid.

Dr. Reid and his followers have since formed the Gideon's Missionary Baptist Fellowship. This young church is growing, happy, and making plans for the future. Their spirit of unity is stronger than ever despite the real obstacles they face.

Meanwhile New Calvary sits without a pastor, its church school closed, its services to the community reduced, its base of financial support severely crippled.

And it never had to happen. Whatever problems New Calvary had should have, and could have been resolved with simple communication.

Judge Alfred Whitehurst committed a colossal crime against the U.S. Constitution when he intervened in the internal affairs of this church. Like a legal god on high, he set aside traditional Baptist religious practice and replaced it with his authoritative court orders. By so doing, he impeded the free exercise of religion by the members of New Calvary!

Most importantly, he set precedents that can hereafter be used against any church in this country by any malcontent or vested interest who seek to destroy a church or its pastor.

Whenever church dissidents are allowed to use the court system to conduct their personal vendettas and evil campaigns, religious freedom suffers. More than anyone else, Judge Whitehurst should have known this. Fortunately, Dr. Reid has appealed to the U.S. Supreme Court for relief from Judge Whitehurst's blunders. Let us hope he is successful.

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The Black Press believes that America can best lead the world away from racial and national antagonism when it accords to every person, regardless of race, color, or creed full human and legal rights.

Hating no person, fearing no person, The Black Press strives to help every person in the firm belief that all are hurt as long as anyone is held back.