—Nathaniel Oaks

(Continued from Page A1)

able to run for office until at least 1992.

Mary Ellen Barbera, an assistant attorney general, said that Oaks will not be eligible to register to vote until he completes the term of his probation.

"Under our election laws, one has to be a registered voter to run for office," she said. "Once one has been convicted of a crime of moral turpitude, he is disqualified as a registered voter."

Had Oaks succeeded in his appeal, he would have been immediately eligible to register to vote and put himself up as a candidate again.

Oaks could not be reached for comment.

The former delegate failed in his argument before the Court of Special Appeals that the state's election laws are vague and therefore unconstitutional.

Although he pointed to a 1987 report by the Governor's Commission to Review the Election Laws to back up that contention, the court said his charges were unspecific.

"Oaks does not articulate any reasons, other than the (commission's) report, as to why the vagueness and ambiguousness should be accepted by this Court," the judges wrote.

He also failed in his contention that the trial court erred in allowing a state investigator to testify as an accounting expert and that the circuit judge gave improper instruction to the jury.

But the Court of Special Appeals ruled in favor of Oaks's argument that he could not have committed perjury or failure to file a campaign report.

The court held that the campaign report that convicted Oaks on those charges was not required to be filed by the officeholder, but by his campaign committee, the "Friends of Nat Oaks."

The report was signed by Oaks and campaign treasurer Ronald Dillard, but not by the campaign chairman, who was required to sign the document.

The court decided that the report could not be held against Oaks because he was not an official in his own campaign committee and a report from him was not required.

VIOLENT DEATHS

According to the American Journal of Psychiatry researchers conducting a seven year follow-up study of 118 juveniles (97 males and 21 females) who were jailed during the late 1970's found that of the subjects, six males and one female had died before their 25th birthdays, making the mortality rate of the group 58 times the national death rate and 76 times the violent death rate of individuals 15 to 24 years of age in the general population.

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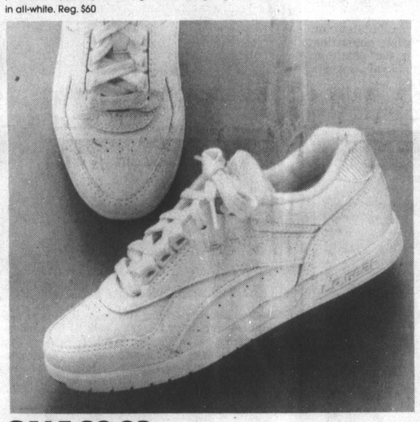

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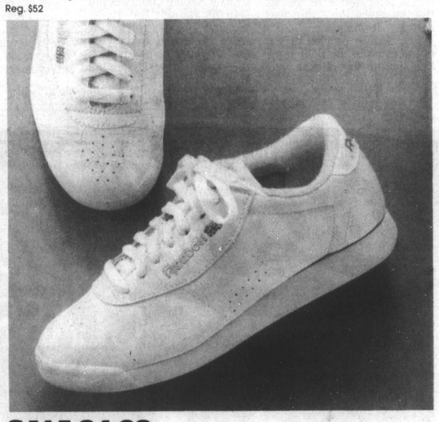

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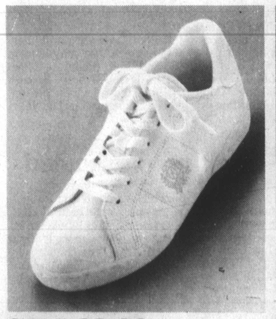

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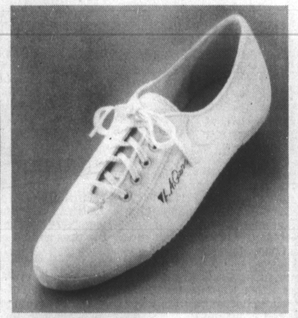

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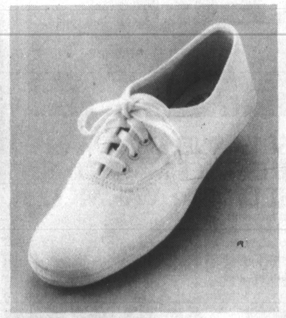

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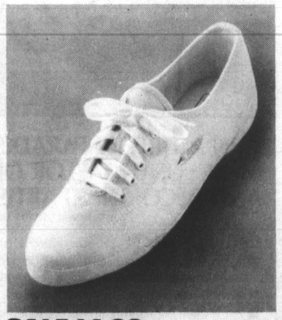

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$10 off the Tempo from Keds. A bright new silhouette for casual wear. Available in your choice of white, black, light blue or pink. Reg. $25

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METRO PROFILE

■ Lifestyle B2
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Saturday, May 19, 1990

MR. ENTERTAINMENT

The legacy of Sammy Davis, Jr. 1925-1990

The singing voice was instantly recognized and admired by millions of people around the world. And so was the appearance of the man himself, whether he performed on stage, screen or television. There was something special and personal about his presence, a special something which commanded both attention and respect.

His name is Sammy Davis, Jr. and he was, without question, the most complete entertainer of his time.

In the complex and competitive world of entertainment, his talents had successfully encompassed just about every facet: actor, singer, dancer, author, comedian and movie producer.

His tireless efforts to aid the underprivileged and ease turbulent racial tensions — which he deliberately refused to have publicized — were boundless.

Close friends were aware that he had never turned down a benefit for a good cause. They estimate that he appeared at about 60 benefits a year. He did it without fanfare.

He did it because he remembered the difficulties and hardships he had to overcome. He did it to share his joy in living with those who were less fortunate.

Sammy overcame the grind of hard times and discrimination with pride, pluck and the determination to attain a healthy and hardy life style. The story of his personal struggle has been captured in his critically acclaimed and best-selling autobiography, "Yes, I Can."

Sammy had maintained his extraordinary success for more than three decades because he was a genius, because of his illimitable energy and because he was simply an old pro who learned the tricks of his trade well.

He began as a determined, wide - eyed kid out of Harlem working with his father and uncle, Will Mastin, in dingy, low paying clubs. During those years the young hoofer - singer - mimic was inspired by the late Bill Robinson.

Success came to the uncle, father and son team — The Will Mastin Trio — on a highly successful cross - country nightclub tour after Sammy spent two years in the Army (1943 - 1945).

This culminated in 1946 with an opening night performance at Slapsy Maxie's in Los Angeles which is still remembered by those who attended as an electrifying evening of entertainment.

When his father and uncle decided to retire, Sammy had to become an entertainer in his own right.

He was making the big time in a big way — he was requested and gave three Royal Command performances in London, when fate struck a harsh blow. While driving from a Las Vegas club date to Hollywood, he was involved in an auto accident. He was badly injured causing the loss of his left eye.

To someone with less spirit it might have meant the end of a show business career. Not Sammy. As soon as he recovered, he went on to show the world.

His opening night performance at Hollywood's famous Circo's was SRO (standing room only) with every major star in attendance. The night was a tumultuous triumph for Davis.

He had recorded over 30 LP albums. His many singles have sold more than 15,000,000 copies and six of these continue to sell because they are simply standards.

His first big international hit record was "Hey There" from the boffo Broadway show, "Pajama Game." Other records etched with the unmistakable Sammy Davis style are "What Kind Of Fool Am I?," "Gonna Build a Mountain," "Black Magic," "Shelter of Your Arms," "Don't Blame the Children" and "I Gotta Be Me," and "Candy Man."

In the field of acting, Davis, along with his friend Sidney Poitier, was instrumental in breaking down the traditional taboos against the Black performer in major motion pictures and on television shows.

Davis first appeared in films in "Anna Lucasta" as a non-singing sailor. This was followed by nine other pictures.

He starred in "Salt and Pepper" with Peter Lawford and "Sweet Charity" with Shirley MacLaine. Under his own film company, Tracemark Productions, he starred in the sequel to "Salt and Pepper," "One More Time." He had also starred in the Thomas-Spelling movie - for - television called "The Pigeon."

He produced "The Trackers," an ABC Movie of the Week, with his long time friend Aaron Spelling.

At the height of his film and night club success, Davis gambled at making it big on Broadway. Despite a lot of advice to avoid the precarious pitfalls of Broadway, he decided to give it his all.

The first musical was "Mr. Wonderful." It was a success in the full meaning of the word. However, the second, "Golden Boy," was an even larger success.

Perhaps his real home, though, was the place where it all began, in the nightclubs. This is where the real power and essence of the man came through.

Moving into the field of entrepreneur, Davis agreed to rejuvenate the world - famous Cocoanut Grove nightclub at the Hotel Ambassador in Los Angeles.

Sammy became the first Black man to ever own a Las Vegas hotel. He was a part owner in the remodeled Tropicana Hotel. In his ever expanding and energetic career, he formed Alto Records, named after his wife, Altovise.

In keeping with Sammy's pace-setting record of firsts, there has been a Professional Golfers' Association (P.G.A.) Tournament named The Sammy Davis, Jr. Greater Hartford Open.

This Tournament marks the first time in the history of P.G.A. that a sanctioned tournament has been named for a Black man. All the proceeds from this August event go to help underprivileged children in the Hartford, Connecticut area.

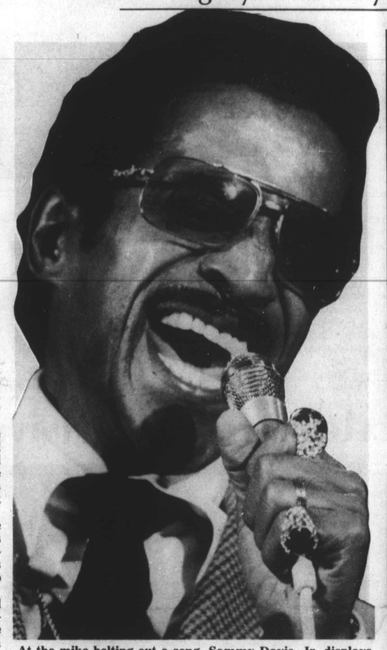
Ex-President Richard Nixon requested that he attend the funeral of the beloved American gospel singer, Mahalia Jackson, as his personal emissary. Davis was also appointed by the President in July, 1971 as a member of the National Advisory Council on Economic Opportunity.

Along with his benefits in this country, Sammy went to Viet Nam in 1972, where he not only performed, but spent 10 days talking to enlisted men to allow him to report his findings directly to the President, and of the 20 recommendations he made, over half became a reality.

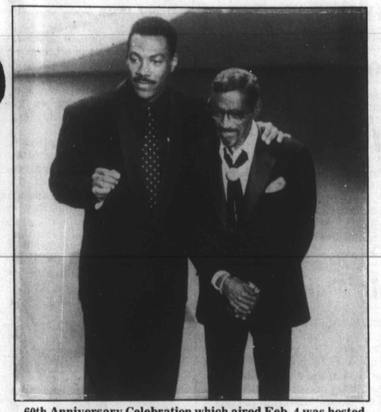
Plaques, trophies and awards presented to him fill an entire room in Sammy's Beverly Hills home. There are about 500 of them and they include: The Achievement Freedom Award; the Spingarm Medal of the NAACP (highest award to an American Negro), and the Alan Bernstein Award for cancer research.

Other groups to single out his efforts are the Phi Sigma Delta journalist fraternity, the American Legion, The Friars Club and The Boys' Club of Bridgeport.

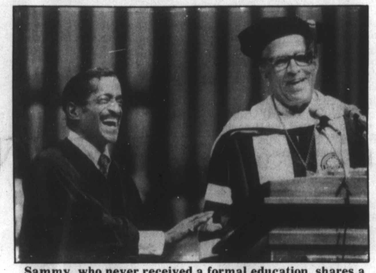
He was a legend in the world of show business — there will never be another like him.



At the mike belting out a song, Sammy Davis, Jr. displays some of the jewelry for which he became famous.



60th Anniversary Celebration which aired Feb. 4 was hosted by Eddie Murphy. Sammy was saluted for 60 years in show business.

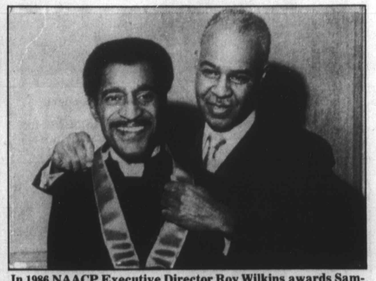


Sammy, who never received a formal education, shares a laugh with Morehouse College President Hugh M. Gloster as he is given an honorary degree of Doctor of Music in 1987. Davis was recognized for his many achievements in show business and for his generosity off stage as well.

"Rat Pack" members who roamed Hollywood, Las Vegas and made movies together included Davis and (L to R) Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin, Peter Lawford and Joey Bishop.

A man of limitless talents, Davis performed a show-stopping musical number in the 60's film "Sweet Charity."

Davis was married three times. His second to Swedish actress May Britt (left) in 1961 was considered "controversial." They divored in 1968. He married his third and present wife Altovise Gore (right), a former dancer, in 1970.



In 1986 NAACP Executive Director Roy Wilkins awards Sammy Davis, Jr. with the organization's most coveted prize, the Spingarn Medal.