ON THE POLITICAL SCENE

ACTING — AS M.C. for the Mfume fundraiser, Attorney Edward Smith calls both elected officials and candidates to the stage at Martin's West.

Congressman Mfume is joined by his two sons.

(L-R) Congressman Mfume, Governor Douglas Wilder and Lt. Gov. Melvin Steinberg pose for cameras at the successful fundraiser that swelled Mfume's campaign chest by $400,000.

Political fundraisers take the spotlight

By Helen Glover Cook
AFRO Staff Writer

Due to proceeds gained from a Monday evening fundraiser,which drew an estimated 1,200 supporters, the campaign chest of Congressman Kweisi Mfume was increased by a considerable margin.

The $40-a-ticket campaign kick-off and reception was hosted jointly by Governor William Donald Schaefer, Mayor Kurt L. Schmoke, Rev. Jesse Jackson, Bishop H.H. Brookins, and the Honorable Mary Pat Clarke.

Offering his unconditional support for Congressman Mfume, keynote speaker, Governor Douglass Wilder, of the Commonwealth of Virginia, said, "People ask why there is a need to raise funds for an unopposed candidate.

"When you hear of an election upset in which a candidate expected to win an election is defeated then the need for campaign funds becomes clear."

When questioned about his ability to draw the support of so many influential politicians, both local and national, Mfume said, "Through the party networking system each candidate receives a tremendous amount of support from its members."

Although Jesse Jackson and Gov. Schaefer did not appear at the fundraiser, the turnout of elected officials and candidates, who in some cases are running for the first time lent credence to the dedication of that network and their desire to link their campaigns with those of the reception's hosts.

A partial listing of the more than 100 of those campaigners included: Lt. Gov. Melvin Steinberg, Senators; Larry Young, Clarence Blount and Troy Brailey, Delegates; Elijah Cummings, Samuel Parham, Ralph Hughes and Howard "Pete" Rawlings, City Council members; Agnes Welch and Lawrence Bell, Judges; Hollender, Rambo and Themelis.

Also present among those seeking office were Salima Marriott, Judge Paul A. Smith, Rodney Orange and Lisa Williams.

Delegate Rawlings

By Helen Glover Cook
AFRO Staff Writer

As part of his re-election bid to serve in the Maryland House of Delegates for "four more years" ,Delegate Howard "Pete" Rawlings (D-40) held a fundraiser/reception Tuesday June 26, at the Community College of Baltimore-Harbor Campus Bard Building.

Surrounded by a photo display highlighting the candidate's political career, business and industry leaders along with political incumbents and hopefuls gathered as advocates for the Rawlings campaign.

Some of those attending included, attorney George Russell, William Adams, Daniel Henson, Kathy Pugh, Nathaniel Oaks, Michael Gaines, Belva Scott, Elijah Cummings, Paul Smith and Robert Embry.

This campaign, Del. Rawlings is running on a ticket lead by Del. Ralph Hughes who is running for the 40th district Senate seat along with Salima Siler Marriott and Lisa Williams who hope to win a seat in the Maryland House of Delegates.

In the last election, Rawlings ran on a ticket with incumbent Senator, Troy Brailey and Delegates, Ralph Hughes and Tony Fulton.

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

Moveable Feast Inc.

"Moveable Feast," a non profit organization founded in 1989, which delivers nutritionally sound, well-balanced meals to homebound adults and children diagnosed with AIDS, or to dependent children whose adult caretaker is diagnosed with AIDS, is celebrating its first anniversary, with a reception and awards ceremony on Sunday, July 1 from 12 noon to 2 p.m. Event will be held at Government House, 1129 North Calvert St. For more information, call 466-5728.

Sojourner-Douglass College

On July 7, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Mandela conference room at Sojourner Douglass College, located at 500 N. Caroline St., the Freedom School and Sojourner Douglass College will present Ra Un Nefer Amen I, the leading Black author, publisher, lecturer and teacher of African spiritual history, culture and development. This event is free and open to the public. Call 265-5369.

New Era Education Inc.

New Era Education Inc., a child development center for children ages 2-6 years is sponsoring a Cultural Festival on Saturday, July 7 from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. at the Westside Skill Center, Athol and Edmondson Ave. The festival will feature live entertainment, baked goods, food, games, arts and crafts. In the event of rain, the festival will be held July 14. Call 233-5100.

The Kawaida Community Project

The Kawaida Community Project announces the next TAIFA Community Forum, Saturday, July 7 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Location will be Enoch Pratt Library, Pennsylvania Avenue Branch, 1531 West North Ave. Call 728-5509.

Liberty Family Resource Center

Interested in helping your children cope with divorce or separation? Would you like to share your thoughts and feelings with other single parents? Join a discussion group for single and divorced parents at the Liberty Family Resource Center, 8737-B Liberty Road. This six-week program will begin Wednesday, July 11 at 7 p.m.

Bring your family to see the exciting film Treasure Island at the Resource Center on Thursday, July 12 at 3 and 7 p.m. Not only is there no charge to see the movie, but there will also be free popcorn and drinks. Subsequent films will be Seventh Voyage of Sinbad on July 19, Gulliver's Travels on July 26 and Tom Sawyer on August 2. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Call 887-0600.

Original Sandtown Committee

The Original Sandtown Committee will sponsor its first annual Crab Feast on Saturday, July 28 from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m. at The Palladium, 2900 Liberty Heights Ave. For more information, call 669-1121.

Ajax Is Here
To Support The 1990
Afro Clean Block Campaign

Ajax Cleaning Products Are "Stronger Than Dirt"
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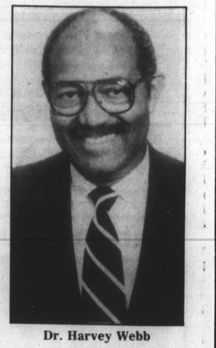


Dr. Harvey Webb

Columbia MD appointed

Dr. Harvey Webb, Jr. of Columbia, MD, has been appointed a registered representative for the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the U.S. in the Baltimore-Washington Metropolitan area, Agency manager Clarence Wright announced recently.

Dr. Webb has served the needs of the Baltimore community for the past twenty - two years.

He began in 1968, by identifying and addressing the comprehensive health care needs of the Baltimore community through his involvement with Provident Hospital.

More recently, he was director of the Constant Care Community Health Center in West Baltimore.

The Afro-American Section B

METRO PROFILE

■ Lifestyle B2
■ Area Entertainment B7

Saturday, June 30, 1990

The Mandelas visit to the United States

Some Baltimoreans were included in the D.C. meetings

ATLANTA: With his wife, Winnie, by his side, Nelson Mandela holds up the Martin Luther King Jr. Human Rights Award he was presented during a civil rights tribute at Big Bethel A.M.E. Church.

By Helen Glover Cook
AFRO Staff Writer

Although they spoke Xhosa, Zulu, Tswana, Venda, Sotho, Afrikaans and English there was no misunderstanding of the purpose that brought them to the Sunday afternoon meeting, in Washington, D. C..

For the first time in 27 years, African National Congress members would be able to see and hear in person the man that had led the struggle against apartheid for over a generation — Nelson Mandela.

The unified body of South African exiles, many of whom had traveled from the temporary homes they had made in cities throughout the U.S., stood anxiously in the hot June Sun outside of the Madison Hotel for four hours, waiting to personally receive instruction from their leader.

The exiles were scheduled for a 2:30 meeting but the Mandelas did not arrive from New York until 4:35, throwing the entire itinerary into a logistical nightmare.

Upon their arrival, Mandela first received a host of dignitaries and met with members of the Black Press, while Winnie spoke briefly at the Metropolitan A.M.E. Church across the street from the hotel.

State Department officers responsible for the security arrangements of the visit surrounded the Madison, blocking entry to all visitors until the Mandelas had safely entered the hotel.

The entire length of Fifteenth St. was lined with a special detachment of D. C. police officers who contained the throngs of people trying to catch a glimpse of the living martyr.

The exiles were ushered into the hotel in groups of 50, by State Department officers at 7:15 that evening. They were led up a winding staircase, to a plush meeting room, complete with chandeliers and velvet upholstered chairs.

Chief ANC representative to the United Nations, Ms. Lindwe Mabuza, the ANC Treasurer General and an ANC Second Vice-President, sat behind a dais that faced the audience. Two other seats were alternately occupied by other ANC members responsible for planning the North American leg of Mandela's 45 day world tour.

The Treasurer General conducted the meeting emphasizing the necessity for collecting funds for the mobilization of exiles into South Africa, the upkeep of the schools operated by the ANC ,and money to meet the general needs of the movement and its people.

After the Treasurer began his solicitation for ANC funds, an expectant silence filled the room of approximately 100 people. An ANC aide whispered to the Treasurer who hurriedly announced to the gathering that Deputy President Mandela was about to address the group.

Amid shouts of Amandla, God Bless Africa and the tears of those who had waited so long for the moment, a regally majestic Nelson Mandela was ushered into the room, flanked on all sides by State Department officers.

Mandela said,"I have long waited for this moment. Although my release is a step toward a democratic South Africa, such a government is yet not a reality. Until it is we must have money to continue the struggle against apartheid."

Mandela stood to address the exiles looking exausted but determined to save his last strength for the people whose dedication and work had supported the struggle since its inception.

Mandela urged the group to fight for stricter sanctions against the apartheid government and the opposition of the right-wing alliances formed by South African White supremists who feel that President de Klerk has made too many concessions to Mandela and the ANC. ANC.

Mankekolo Ngcobo ,leader of the Baltimore exile community said, "Nelson Mandela's address lasted only twenty minutes but his impression upon the assembly will last a lifetime. His presence let us see beyond the myth of the man, to the flesh and blood man we revere.

The Treasurer said, "When I began my role in the struggle I was in the bush (referring to the sacrifices made by himself and other guerrilla freedom fighters who chose to leave South Africa to train in camps located in the hinterlands/bush of many frontline states) for many years.

"We had no time or resources for the completion of my education. Each day we have hundreds of children who come to us from South Africa.

"They have only the clothes they wear. They must have food, medicine, and education." (after the 1960 Sharpville massacre the ANC founded a school at its exile headquarters in Lusaka, Zambia to meet the needs of the thousands of children who fled South Africa)."

The Treasurer continued saying," The ANC is not a government but we take the responsibility of meeting the needs of our people just as a government does. We educate care for our sick and elderly and therefore we must have money to continue these efforts."

Once again a message was whispered to the Treasurer. This time Winnie Mandela would speak to the ANC members.

Most of the two hours that Mrs. Mandela spent at the meeting was spent observing the leadership conduct the meeting. She spoke briefly about the need for tighter sanctions and more money for the ANC.

The meeting adjourned with the singing of God Bless Africa.

By Helen Glover Cook
AFRO Staff Writer

Sunday evening I got my wish—to see and touch the man who represented the embodiment of the South African freedom struggle—Nelson Mandela.

The day started with a telephone call to the Baltimore leader of the South African exile community, Mankekolo Ngcobo. I was assigned to accompany her and a diverse group of ANC members to a 2:30 meeting with Nelson Mandela at the Madison Hotel in Washington, D.C.

After several false starts ,the three car entourage of South African exiles and their families were off to D. C.. The lead car in which Mankekolo and her daughter, Ntokozo were riding was driven by a couple from Syracuse N.Y., and of course they got lost, twice!

Tempers flared as 2 p.m. approached and we found ourselves in Virginia, a considerable distance from downtown, D.C.. A small insurrection occurred in which the driver from Syracuse was assailed with an array of unflattering adjectives.

I rode with Gary and Baba Whistler, an interracial couple who had met and married in Botswana where Gary was a Peace Corps volunteer in the 70's. Gary is now a teacher at Dunbar High School.

Baba is a longtime exile and ANC member.

After Mankekolo made a call to Washington and found that the Mandelas' plane from N.Y. had not arrived the group assumed a more positive attitude. Perhaps our desire to see the Mandelas would be fulfilled, but not before the lead car would be lost again as they traveled to National Airport to receive the Mandelas — without us.

When we reached D. C. we were subjected to standing for hours in the Sun as we waited for word of the Mandelas arrival. After their limousine brought them to the Madison, we waited once again. This time for information on the exile meeting and what time it would take place, if at all.

When the rumor spread that the exiles would be gathering at the corner of 15th and M Sts. a rush was on to see who would be the among the lucky ones to see the Mandelas.

Looking around to see who could be found among the exiles I had traveled with, I could find only two. After a quick decision ,we decided to go for it. Miraculously Tamara, Segadime Montjane and I were escorted into the lobby of the Madison Hotel, by a State Department officer directed to limit the entry of exiles to 50. I was number 2.

Upstairs the group passed through a metal detector, but was held up because Harry Belafonte was exiting it from the opposite side. We started through again, winding up in a plush meeting room where ANC executives sat, conducting a meeting followed by a question and answer session. After ten minutes the Treasurer General announced that Nelson Mandela would be addressing the audience.

Amid shouts and cheers, Mandela took a seat and began to speak. He asked for financial support for the ANC and stressed the need for the continuation of sanctions against South Africa and let the exiles know that the struggle is not yet won. They must continue until there is a Democratic non-racial South Africa.

As he exited several audience members rushed to the front to get a closer more personal look at the ANC leader; some of them were close enough to touch him, a fact that did not make the State Department officers too happy. With my camera in hand I was among them.

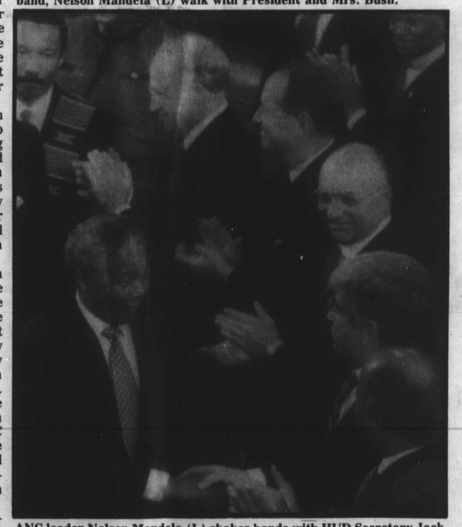
After his exit the Treasurer assumed the chairmanship of the meeting for another 20 minutes before Ms. Winnie Mandela arrived. She spoke briefly about the importance of the struggle and then she turned the meeting over to the ANC executives.

Once the exiles started asking questions, she patiently answered them.She was very informed on all aspects of the ANC and recent developments in South Africa.

The meeting adjourned with the singing of God Bless Africa. People from all walks of life whom I assume have had no formal musical training brought tears to my eyes and those of several others present with the harmony of their voices. It was the most beautiful sounding chorus I have ever heard.

As Mrs. Mandela prepared to leave I was able to ask for and receive her autographed. The inscription "To Helen, much love, winnie Mandela - 26/6/90," will always be one of the most cherished possessions.

WASHINGTON: Winnie Mandela (second from left) raises her fist in the air to the crowd on the South Lawn of the White House as she and her husband, Nelson Mandela (L) walk with President and Mrs. Bush.



ANC leader Nelson Mandela (L) shakes hands with HUD Secretary Jack Kemp upon arriving at the Capitol to address a joint meeting of Congress. Other Cabinet members shown are (top-bottom) Defense Secretary Dick Cheney, Attorney General Dick Thornburgh, Agriculture Secretary Clayton Yeutter and Health and Human Services Secretary Louis Sullivan.

Mayor Maynard Jackson (C) and Coretta Scott King, widow of slain civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., joins Nelson Mandela in holding up clenched fists during the playing of the anthem of Mandela's African National Congress upon Mandela's arrival June 27 where he was greeted with a hero's welcome.