ENTERTAINMENT/ LIFESTYLE

Show biz scenes

James Brown loses money, good time

COLUMBIA, S.C. — Singer James Brown has been forced to give up $600 in cash and 20 days of good behavior credit at a state prison where he is serving a six-year sentence, a prison spokesman said.

An Institutional Adjustment Committee of four staff members at Stevenson Correctional Institution imposed the penalties on Brown Thursday after he was caught with more than $40,000 in cash and checks in his cell, the spokesman said.

Officials said it has not been determined how the singer obtained the money, but an investigation is continuing.

Prison officials took $600 of the cash for the Inmate Welfare Fund, and the Internal Revenue Service kept checks totaling $40,600 to be applied against an $11 million lien agaist the singer, a Corrections Department spokesman said.

The spokesman said the penalty that probably would hurt Brown most was the loss of the 20 days of good time built up since December 1988, when he was sent to prison for aggravated assault and failing to stop for police.

Inmates accumulate the "good time," subtracted from their sentences, at the rate of 20 days for each month spent behind bars, officials explained.

The corrections regulations forbidding inmates to have large amounts of cash is intended to benefit both the prisoners and the prison administration, the spokesman said.

"If they have money, inmates can gamble with it, there is room for loan sharking, they can buy things they shouldn't have. Money is power and it presents problems. If a guy has it on him, he could be subject to assault or being robbed. It works for the protection of the inmates and alleviates problems for the administration.

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Three rappers arrested on sex charge

BLOOMINGTON, Minn. — One member of the rap music group L.L. Cool J. and two assistants were jailed Thursday, facing charges of criminal sexual conduct.

Police said the three men assaulted a 15-year-old girl early Thursday, following a concert at the Met Sports Center in Bloomington.

Those arrested include one security guard, one electrical technician and one performer — but not lead singer L.L. Cool J.

Police said the girl and a companion, a 16-year-old girl, had back stage passes and were invited to ride in a limousine to the hotel where the group was staying.

Police said the 16-year-old girl left the room but the other girl was restrained and later attacked. The girl later called police.

The alleged incident happened about 2 a.m.

Authorities said formal charges were expected to be filed later in the day. The group played a one-night stand at the Met Center.

'Marijuana martyr' back to prison

ROANOKE, Va. — The man who once made **Rolling Stone** and **Playboy** magazines as Virginia's "marijuana martyr" is going back to prison on a new drug conviction.

Roger Trenton Davis, 44, was sentenced to three years in prison in Roanoke Tuesday for possession of six ounces of marijuana with intent to distribute.

Davis told the court he is being unfairly singled out because of who he is and because he is black. He also denied that the drug found in his basement was his.

Davis achieved some measure of national fame 15 years ago when a Wythe County jury sentenced him to 40 years in prison for possession of nine ounces of marijuana.

Rolling Stone and Playboy magazines listed him at the time as one of several marijuana martyrs serving excessive sentences for using pot.

To all those who have chosen to light a candle rather than curse the darkness, we salute you.

PHILIP MORRIS

PHILIP MORRIS

Spike gets the 'Pit'

NEW YORK — They gave out the "Golden Pit" awards recently for ethnic stereotyping and four movies, two TV shows, two shock radio programs, a commercial and a greeting card company won.

The examples ranged from a St. Patrick's Day card showing a drunken bishop vomiting into a toilet, to the movies "License to Kill" for making the heavies Hispanics, and "Mississippi Burning" for depicting blacks as helpless.

Spike Lee's movie, "Do the Right Thing," won a "Platinum Pit" because it "does little to promote understanding and harmony between blacks and whites and advocates the use of violence in resolving conflicts."

The 10 annual winners are chosen from hundreds of entries submitted to the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations, made up of 66 religious, racial and ethnic groups around the country.

"We want the producers of this material to be more sensitive," said Honorary Chairman William Fugazy. "In their quest to entertain, they often contribute to negative stereotyping.

"We're not trying to ban humor, we just want them to know that sometimes, they hurt people — and that's the pits," said the New York limousine tycoon who is also active in the Italian Anti-Defamation League.

At a mid-Manhattan press conference, he took the nine gilded and one silvered peach pits dangling from blue ribbons and one by one placed them around the necks of styrofoam heads bearing the winners' names.

When he got to "Mississippi Burning," he said the movie played down "the role of blacks in Mississippi and portrayed them as helpless during the civil rights struggle."

NBC-TV's "Golden Girls" won a pit for Estelle Getty's Sicilian-born character, Sofia Petrillo.

"She makes frequent cracks of the primitiveness and criminality of Sicilians," Fugazy said.

The TV commercial for Lee Myles, an automobile transmission repair company, won its second "Golden Pit" award for repeated use of a character "speaking in a stereotypical Chinese-American accent."

LIFESTYLE

Social Notes

Conference in England

Drs. Clarence A. and Jacqueline B. Faulcon were delegates to the Presidential Congress on Arts and Communications sponsored by the International Biographical Centre of Cambridge, England, and the American Biographical Institute of Raleigh, N.C., held recently in Washington, D.C.

Dr. Jacqueline B. Faulcon had been invited to perform a vocal recital. She sang works by the classical masters, and selections from the opera "Maritana" by Wallace in five languages.

Accompanying her at the piano was her husband, Dr. Clarence A. Faulcon, II, professor of music and former department chair of the music department at Morgan State University.

Dr. Faulcon was one of five international women panelists selected as outstanding women of achievement who addressed a plenary session of delegates representing six continents and over 60 countries.

Greetings from Governor Castle, Senator Roth, Rep. Roy, David Fleming of the Grand Opera House, Douglas Fair of the Wilmington Music School were presented to Dr. Kay and the delegates.

The grand gala on Saturday evening featured greetings from around the world from all six continents, the International Choir and a mini recital by Dr. Faulcon highlighting "Perhaps Love," "God Bless America," and the adopted congress' anthem, "He's Got The Whole World In His Hand."

Dr. Ernest Kay, Director General of the International Biographical Centre made a special presentation at the end of the evening. Dr. Jacqueline B. Faulcon was awarded two certificates and the coveted Gold Medal of Congress by unanimous acclaim.

Dr. Faulcon is a choral music teacher at Skyline Middle School, an artist faculty member of the Wilmington Music School.

Eastern Regional Jack&Jill

Baltimore Chapter of Jack and Jill of America was hostess to 46 chapters comprising the Eastern Region recently.

Moms, dads and children in chapters from Virginia to Massachusetts, sampled Baltimore's many cultural activities. At the Hyatt children attended the Zoomobile parked outside the hotel's a pizza party, Amazing Josini, Umjola African storyteller, Crayola contest, disco and worship service with Theresa Galloway as coordinator.

Theme of the conference was "Strengthening the Black Family: Economically, Educationally and Emotionally." Banquet speaker was Dr. George McKenna, Superintendant for Englewood, Calif. School District. He talked about his ABC movie "The George McKenna Story" which was aired in Baltimore this summer. His role was played by Denzel Washington.

Dr. Gretchen Styles is president of the Baltimore chapter; Gladys Bragg was convention chair; Miriam Hutchins, co-chair; Erica Frye Cryor, treasurer.

Newly elected regional officers are Sandearl Brown, Rockaway, N.J., president; Bernadine Rice, Reston, Va., secretary - treasurer; Anne Sumpter, Montgomery County, Pa., Foundation - Member - at - Large and Nellie Thornton, Mount Vernon, N.Y. National Officer.

Peggy Drayton, vice - president Jack and Jill was in charge of registration; Irene Fourqurean, chair of hospitality; Elmeretta Shelton, courtesy;

Donette Green, souvenirs and vendors; Roberta Scott, memorial service; Joyce Brooks, Beverly Brown and Carolyn Wainwright, Fashion co-chairs; Dr. Maxine Wood, program souvenir book; Miriam Hutchins, banquet chair and with Cherylann Cragway, workshop speakers.

Father's activities included a trip to Laurel Raceway, golf at Forest Park and a tour of Baltimore handled by Paul Scott, Gregory Styles and Dr. Guy Bragg.

Mothers were treated to a fashion show with clothes from Pauline Brooks, Anne Shervington Davis and Edith Gibson.

The workshop on "Strengthening the Family Economically had as speaker Jacqueline Finney Brown, a Certified Medical Health Counselor and Gregory Jones, Investment Broker from Shearson, Lehman, Hutton from New York.

Teenager Jack and Jills toured Morgan State University, the Science Center, Amax, Blacks in Wax, Wide World and attended a disco. The 12 and under group went to Fort McKenry, Blacks In Wax and Wild World.

Elks get into the 'slide' rage

Photo by Ricardo Gray

THE ELECTRIC SLIDE is the rage on the dance floor these days, and just in case you think it is only danced by the young set — take a good look at this line which really got in the groove during the Elks Charity Ball last Thursday night at the Convention Center, one of the highlights of the Elks National Convention.

Fashion designing duo from Md.

Fashion designing as a fulltime profession takes hard work and dedication, and when you have a physical handicap also, it is even more remarkable when one succeeds, over such tremendous odds.

But the designing duo. "Lady Joyce and Sir Ralston" are the winners of the Eastern Maryland Division for Women's Wear (evening and casual) in a recent competition.

They now move up to compete in the national competition which will be held in New York.

Lady Joyce and Sir Ralston got together while both were attending Jackie Britt's Boutique back in 1980, which was a sewing school at the time.

Lady Joyce owes her interest in design to her grandmother, who taught her how to sew as an exercise for her hands. Because of these exercises, she started to make doll clothing, and moved on from there.

She was born with Authroryposis Multi Plexe Congenital Disease, a defect of the bones, and is confined to a wheelchair.

Sir Ralston says he enjoyed fashion while in high school, and after graduation, registered at Jacqueline's boutique to enhance his abilities in the designer field.

So, they have a start and it is expected that the world will soon hear about this dedicated couple, who are rapidly becoming known designers in the fashion world.

(Photo by William E. Mack)

Lady Joyce and Sir Ralston, participants in the Coast to Coast Designers Contest.

(William E. Mack photo)

Two of the winning designs created by the Designing Duo, which were worn by models at the Maryland competition held in Baltimore.

TWILAH SAYS...

By Twilah Scarborough

I have seen it happen time and time again. Anytime any African-American is picked for a position without the usual credentials, the headline and stories blare such words as, "unproven," "inexperienced," or "first-time ever."

The most recent to come to mind is that of Stu Jackson who is the newly named coach of the New York Knicks basketball team.

Even before Stu was officially named to the post, he was doomed by the sports-writers who wrote such phrases as "the inexperienced Jackson" or "Jackson, who has never coached professionally."

The story could have read just as interestingly without adding all of the innuendos that Jackson was a beginner and giving people the impression that he didn't know what he was doing.

And many times when there is a failure, there is that usual hue and cry that the person was not qualified in the first place to hold the position simply because he/she was set up in the first place for failure.

In this racist society which extends from everyday life to the news media, the potential African-American is constantly questioned.

There is an organization in Queens, New York that monitors the news media and keeps files on stories and television clips that are not favorable towards African-Americans.

Maybe this is something that should be done on a nationwide basis — getting the churches and the general community involved in this type of effort.

And incidentally, that Queens effort grew from the church which speaks well of one church getting involved in a community effort.

Since the 1960s when streets were simmering from the ashes of the riots, the media has become somewhat complacent.

Many have ceased to bring in and promote African-Americans in huge numbers and simply because they feel that there is no one closely watching their efforts towards the African-American community.

There is a general feeling that they (the media) do not have the right to tell our story in an adequate manner and in most cases tell our story at all.

Many of the headline writers are white and, for the most part, all of the important decisions in the media are made by whites.

So it is no wonder that African-Americans are doomed before they even get started. In many instances, we are not given a chance.

Remember — when we were brought up colored, then we became Negroes and some where doing our times and growing up, we were classed as Black and still survived.

This interesting and breath-taking article really sent chills up and down my system.

I read and read this article in other sources, and I thought I would share this article with you. To me this information is a winner.

Now what are your reactions? What do you think? This information was picked up by me by way of the New Jersey connection of VIP Ernie Johnston, Jr.

FOR YOUR TOMORROWS

How is it you never have time to do it right?
But, you always have time to do it over?

LOVE YA!!!