

## STATE and NATIONAL

# Mandela invites minority journalists for meeting in Washington

By EVELYN TOLIVER  
Staff Writer

While many of you were preparing for finals and packing up your bags to soak of the rest of the summer, I was in a hotel room in Washington D.C. typing my brains out. Oh, I realize this sounds boring to you and you probably even feel sorry for me. But please don't. Because while you were cracking those books, I was fielding questions to South African leader Nelson Mandela and hugging his wife Winnie.

Yes, I was part of the selected few who were afforded the opportunity to meet with Mandela. On Sunday, shortly after his arrival, he spoke to minority journalists, minority-owned newspapers, radio, and television stations. In fact, a photo opportunity was made available to all minority members of the press during the question and answer session.

In the session Mandela said "you must keep the pressure on the government to intensify economic sanctions." He said he sees the masses of people and the progressive press as the key to compelling government and state legislators to see South African sanctions as primary importance. He also talked about his relationship with Chief Buthelezi, commenting "you must not believe everything that you hear across the wires, and you must not form an opinion over what you read in the mass media it is usually far from what is really happening."

Mandela then spoke on the media's reaction to his relationship with Kadafi, Arafat, and Castro. "I do not care what the media thinks about my relationship with these men, and I feel that I explained my position on Koppel and I need not reiterate it again."

This comment solicited rousing applause from the audience, and opened the door for questions about his health. Once again, he replied with light humor. "My present position is that my health is good and that if you should arrange a ball, I would be most happy to show you the things I can do." With this, he concluded the session and was off to another meeting.

However, once again I was in the right place at the right time. As I was taking the elevator down to go to my hotel room, there in front of my eyes smiling was Winnie Mandela and a host of secret service men. Unfortunately, I did not have my camera available to take a picture of this beautiful woman. But she must have seen the sadness in my eyes, because at that point she grabbed me and gave me a hug. What a wonderful feeling to know that this woman, as celebrated as she is, could take a moment from her time and give me a warm hug!

But enough information on Day One, because Day Two was just as exciting.

Monday I had the opportunity to sit in on a press conference with Mr. Mandela. Once again, he reiterated his stance on the U.S. facilitating the dis-

mantling of apartheid by intensifying sanctions, and helping to assist the ANC by offering financial assistance. However, President Bush made no commitments to continue U.S. sanctions.

Mandela said "when a government bans political organizations and prohibits any political activity, no matter how peaceful and non-violent, then the people have no alternative but to resort to violence." Bush urged Mandela to go beyond the violent struggle during negotiations and end it outright, but Mandela made no commitments.

However, during the course of discussions he seemed to soften, and said the ANC would consider ending violence once the government removes all obstacles.

After the press conference, the Mandela retired to their suite for private time before their meeting with the AFL-CIO. While they were sleeping, I was spending time with an exiled South African who is also one of the ANC delegates traveling with Mr. Mandela.

Patford Shuma is an exiled South African who is presently living in Canada attending Bishop University. Shuma is one of the thousands of South Africans who cannot return home, unless he wants to live in constant fear of the government jailing or killing him. Patford fled South Africa in the middle of the night in 1976.

Shuma hopes to one day be able to go back to South Africa, but until that day he will continue to work for the ANC

outside of the country. Shuma said "with the freeing of Nelson Mandela and the talks between the ANC and De Klerk, I may see South Africa sooner than I ever dreamed." But until that day Patford will have to wait, and watch, and hope that Mandela's visit to the U.S. will be successful in dismantling apartheid.

On to Day Three. Mandela addressed the Joint Session of the Houses of Congress. He is still going at full speed. In fact, he woke up this morning and decided to take a three-mile walk. By the time he finished, members of the press were sweating and in need of water. It was an amazing site to see this 71-year-old man outwalk 20- and 30-year-old healthy individuals.

After that, the Mandelas ate breakfast with the Congressional Black Caucus before he addressed the Joint Session of Congress. In his speech, Mandela spoke of the need for democracy in his country, and the need for the U.S. to intensify sanctions against South Africa.

Mandela said "to deny any person their human rights is to challenge their very humanity. To impose on them a wretched life of hunger and deprivation is to dehumanize them. But such has been the terrible fate of all black persons in our country under the system of apartheid."

He also spoke of the great figures in American history such as Thomas Jefferson, George Washington, Marcus

Garvey, Frederick Douglas, Sojourner Truth, W.E.B. DuBois, and Martin Luther King Jr., all of whom acted to guarantee the people life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

During the 35-minute speech the audience of diplomats, congressmen, celebrities, and special guests stood up 20 times to applaud him. Yet several congressmen stayed away, most notably Jessie Helms (R-N.C.) who said "I think it would be hypocritical of me to go and applaud this man."

However, Mandela's speech to the Joint Session marked the third time in history that a private citizen had been afforded the opportunity to speak to Congress.

After this meeting, Mandela departed the U.S. Capitol en route to a "Drive By" of Freedom Plaza, where a crowd of 20,000 lined the streets to get a glimpse of the leader from South Africa. Mandela arrived at the Madison Hotel to enjoy some private time before meeting with the Washington Post. Then it was on to a reception, and the delivery of his policy address at the Washington Convention Center.

I moved on to the convention center, since the press was required to be in place at 5:00 p.m. Once inside the door you could see the electricity surrounding the upcoming event. The caterers were busy setting the food out for the patrons, who paid \$2500 per ticket to

hobnob with the Mandelas.

But outside the door there was a different story. People from miles around were lined around the entire building waiting to enter and also hoping to sneak a peak at the celebrities such as Reverend Jessie Jackson, Mayor Marion Barry, and Harry Belafonte. Some people waited six hours before they were finally allowed in to see the show. But everyone who waited agreed it was well worth the effort.

Then the show began, and the introduction of the special guest. Mayor Marion Barry despite his personal troubles with the law, received a 3 minute standing ovation. But the highlight came when the Mandelas arrived on stage to a 5-minute standing ovation.

Throughout the evening, Mandela reiterated his call to stop apartheid by intensifying U.S. sanctions. The audience responded favorably by giving a standing ovation 19 times during his 15-minute speech. Afterward, the Mandelas retired to a suite at the Madison Hotel.

I must say it has been a glorious three days here in Washington and I feel blessed to have had the opportunity to be in the presence of such a unique individual. But, as glorious and exciting as it's been, I can only hope that the remainder of the Mandelas' trip will be successful so that men and women like Patford can finally return home.

from page 1

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The resolution also pointed to the University's voluntary testing program as a reason why mandatory testing was unnecessary. More than 90 percent of UNC's 600 athletes participate in the program.

"It wasn't a pro-drug stance," Hildebolt said. "It was pro-responsibility and pro-freedom. I think if we maintain our strong voluntary program, then that is something to be much prouder of rather than a mandatory program."

UNC fencer Rayan Parikh said he thought many people wanted to see drug testing remain voluntary because the idea works at UNC and the athletes performance is reflective of that.

"Voluntary testing takes care of invasion of rights. It cuts through the red

tape," Parikh said.

The Board of Governors endorsed the mandatory drug testing policy last August on the Spangler's recommendation. A prototype policy, created by a committee of lawyers, athletic directors and student affairs officers, was released in March, and Spangler asked all UNC system schools to adopt a mandatory program before fall semester.

The prototype calls for pre-season and random, regular-season testing. All athletes would have to sign a pledge to take part; refusing a test would result in

### Police

management.

"There was a big gap before between some top administrators and officers, and that gap has gotten even wider," Edwards said.

Porreca refused to comment on the meeting, saying it was a personnel issue. But he added, "There's nothing that can't be solved, if people let you." Lt. Lonnie Sexton, who walked out of the meeting, disagreed with Porreca.

the athlete being barred from playing for the rest of the year.

A first violation would result in a meeting between the athlete, head coach and Student Health workers, while after a third violation, the athlete would be dropped permanently from the team and would lose his or her scholarship.

The UNC-CH version considered by the Board of Trustees was identical to the prototype, except that it would suspend athletes from the team but would not revoke their financial aid after a second offense.

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Chef Giovanni interrupts to add that his Gamberi Creole, which is created with fresh clams, shrimp, prosciutto, sauteed with onion, green peppers and mushrooms over a bed of rice, is delicious as well as the best value in town at only \$10.95!

Chef Chan disagrees! He favors the Seafood Basket which has lobster meat, large shrimp, scallops & king crab meat. This dish is served with crispy vegetables in a unique potato basket and Chef Chan insists it is the freshest seafood dish ever created!

Whose dish is best is debatable, but the fact that these are the best Italian & Chinese Chefs in town is certain!

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