

"Ronald Reagan And Black America"

Will President Reagan Deal Blacks In ...Or Out?

Edwin Meese III, Counselor to the President and the man closest to Ronald Reagan, talks candidly to Tony Brown about the president, his politics and subjects ranging from closing Black colleges to the quality of the professional Black leadership on this edition of "Tony Brown's Journal: Ronald Reagan and Black America."

Because of the lack of support that Blacks gave Ronald Reagan in the election, Tony Brown in his opening comments asks: "Will a turned-off Reagan Administration deal Blacks out with punitive measures because it has the political freedom to do so or will Reagan use his massive landslide victory to exploit the awesome coming-apart of the Democratic coalition to permanently expand the base of the GOP by building bridges to Blacks?"

Meese, who holds Cabinet rank, gave a broad-ranging and authoritative preview of the new administration's opening moves and longer-range objectives on matters dealing with the nation's Blacks.

"I guess what does disturb me," Meese candidly admitted, "is that I think there are those people who are fomenting Black hysteria in others to preserve their own positions in their communities and their positions of so-called leadership."

Included in the program also are Dr. Thomas Sowell, economist and senior fellow at Stanford University's Hoover Institution, and Rev. Hosea Williams, a once powerful civil rights leader and follower of Martin Luther King, whose political base has been revitalized because of his endorsement of Ronald Reagan.

Dr. Sowell is the most prominent Black policy maker affiliated with the Reagan administration and has drawn criticism from some professional Black civil rights leaders because of his disagreement with such favored solutions as busing and the minimum wage. He answers a charge by an NAACP official that he will play the traditional role of the "house nigger" in the Reagan administration by accusing the NAACP of being more

Tony Brown's Journal

Nationally Syndicated Commercial Television Series

committed to White Liberals than to the Black community.

Rev. Williams, accused by many of completely "destroying everything Dr. King stood for" by his support of Ronald Reagan, explains that he, although a Democrat, could not let his party exploit him and "sit by and see Jimmy Carter elected again. It would have been a betrayal of my country and my people." About "Jimmy Car-

ter's Black clique," Rev. Williams says: "They went and told Carter what they wanted him to hear. They didn't tell him what Black America wanted him to hear."

Scenes are shown of the now famous "Fairmont Hotel Conference," held in San Francisco shortly after President Reagan was elected. This gathering of independent and Republican Blacks challenged the orthodox solutions of the Democratic Party and the

professional Black leaders. Dr. Henry Lucas, who organized the conference along with the Institute for Contemporary Studies, and Dr. Sowell said the exposure of new Black leaders was essential to keep Reagan from doing business with the "old crowd." That would have been disastrous for him."

At the conference, Meese made it abundantly clear that new Black ideas from a variety of Blacks was a priority of the new administration and the Carter administration "zealot's" destruction of Black colleges must be stopped. He also defended the budget cutting, but said it will not be done on "the backs of the poor." Along the way, Meese effectively buried the suggestion that President Reagan is a racist.

The series is sponsored by Pepsi Cola Company and can be seen in the Charlotte area on Sunday, February 15, on Channel 3 at 11:30 p.m.

Watson To Play At Performance Place

Doc Watson, "the greatest flat-picker that ever lived," will appear in concert at Spirit Square's NCNB Performance Place on February 7, for two shows - 7:30 and 10 p.m.

Tickets are on sale now. For more information or ticket reservations, call the Spirit Square Box Office at 704-376-8883.

Doc Watson was born in 1923 in western North Carolina to the Blue Ridge mountain heritage of gospel, blues, bluegrass, old-timey music and ballads. He has drawn of that heritage and studied the masters until he has become to many a master himself at American folk music.

Blind since birth, his musical education came from home. Doc's first real music instrument was a harmonica and he received a new one each Christmas. But he was not satisfied with just one instrument. He rigged up the sliding door of his father's woodshed with steel wire so that he could play tunes by moving the door and picking the sire. He soon moved on from woodshed doors to a homemade banjo and then to a real guitar.

As the 60s folk music gave way to a rock resurgence, Doc continued to play HIS music and audiences found him. When it came time for the country music revival of the

early 70s, Doc was there again and a new generation of guitarists looked to him for leadership. To many he is American folk music.

Doc will be joined by Charlie Miller, guitarist. He has played with Doc both in the studio and on tour. As opening act, two young North Carolina folk artists will perform as part of the evening program. Phil and Gaye Johnson are also mountain musicians from Tryon, N.C.

Spirit Square is funded in part by grants from the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Arts & Science Council, the North Carolina Arts Council, the City of Charlotte, Mecklenburg County, the State of North Carolina and the National Endowment for the Arts.

"The White Shadow"

A big lie or a small one can get you in big trouble as Coach Reeves finds out when he tries to get out of jury duty and one of his players faces a "shotgun" wedding, on "The White Shadow," Monday, February 9, at 8 p.m. on WBTB, Channel 3.

Falahey, the player, tells a lie to skip practice so he can be with his girlfriend. Later, she informs him that she's pregnant and he is the father. Coach Reeves ducks out on his jury duty by claiming his old knee injury is acting up. The ruse gets him out on medical grounds, but the lie comes back to haunt him.

Free Recital

A free recital by tenor saxophonist James Houlik will be given Wednesday, February 11, at 1 p.m. in Rowe Recital Hall at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

Houlik will perform a composition by UNCC faculty member Thomas Turner, along with several earlier works. Turner's composition, called "Fantasy for Tenor Saxophone and Piano," was recently played by Houlik at New York's Lincoln Center on the birthday of the saxophone's inventor. Turner's work received its Canadian premiere last spring at the St. Lawrence Center in Toronto.

Houlik is professor of saxophone at the North Carolina School of the Arts where he also serves as director of special programs in music. He will be accompanied by pianist Scott Schillin, assistant dean and professor of piano at the North Carolina School of the Arts.

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Lauch Henry helped find the missing ingredient to educate minority engineers. Money.

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The fund is a non-profit organization attempting to increase the number of Blacks, Puerto Ricans, Chicanos, Mexican-Americans and American Indians enrolled in engineering schools. These under represented minorities constitute a rich untapped resource to help fill the growing need for engineers. A need that is expected to continue through the mid-1980's.

IBM's social leave program enabled Dr. Henry to take a year's leave to assist the fund. And IBM continued to pay him his full salary.

The National Fund for Minority Engineering Students is a very worthwhile program. We think so. Lauchland Henry thinks so. But most important of all, lots of minority engineering students enrolled at colleges and universities all over the country think so.

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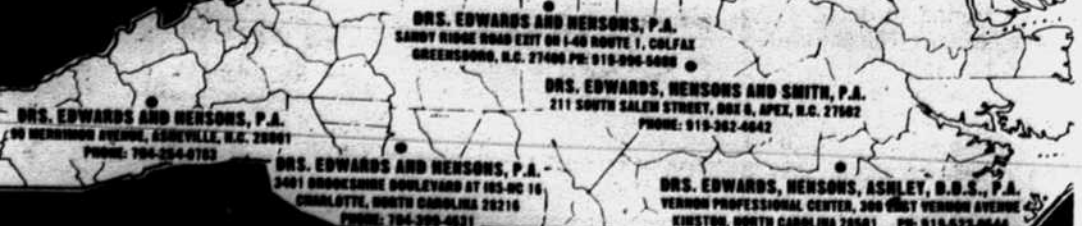
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