

# Budweiser Brings Richness Of Africa's Culture To Life On Canvass

By Loretta Manago  
Post Staff Writer

For 11 years Budweiser has brought the richness of Africa's culture to life on canvas with its special heritage series, "The Great Kings & Queens of Africa."

From Thursday, January 9, through Saturday, January 11, the 20 original paintings depicting great kings and queens of Africa will be on display at various locations throughout the city. Bealer Wholesale and the Afro-American Cultural Center are sponsoring the Budweiser exhibit.

This special exhibit will not only give viewers the opportunity to see extraordinary works of art, it will also provide a biographical sketch of each queen and king portrayed.

According to Bill Fox, a sales representative at Bealer Wholesale, the great kings and queens exhibit is being brought to Charlotte as a community service effort.

"Around this time of the year I'm contacted by churches, schools and civic organizations who are interested in getting information about the prints," began Fox.

Fox also commented that had he not scheduled the exhibit for this week, it would have been another year before the exhibit would have been available again. "The last time



Bill Fox  
.....Bealer's sales representative

the exhibit was here was five years ago."

On Thursday, January 9, the exhibit will have its debut at the Entertainment Place at Spirit Square from 5-9 p.m. From 1-4 p.m. on Friday, January 10, the exhibit will be on display at Biddle Hall, Johnson C. Smith University. The exhibit will close Saturday, January 11, with an all-day showing

at Eastland Mall.

During those three days, persons both familiar and unfamiliar with the great kings and queens of Africa will become familiar and reacquainted with those African rulers who made great contributions to their country. For example, Shaka, king of the Zulus, was the first to group regiments by age and to train his men to use standardized weapons and special tactics. Over the years Shaka's troops earned such a reputation that many enemies would flee at the sight of them. Queen Hatshepsut is considered the greatest female ruler of all time. She was the first woman in recorded history to challenge the theory of male domination.

This king and queen, along with Queen of Sheba, Hannibal and Cleopatra were all portrayed by accomplished black American artists such as Dean Mitchell, Leo Dillon Higgins Bona and Dorothy Carter.

During the same time that the "Great Kings & Queens of Africa" will be on exhibit, Bealer Wholesale and the NAACP will be sponsoring a Health Mobile.

Volunteers from the American Red Cross the Black Nurses' Association, the Black Medical Association and the Local Association of Sickle Cell Disease will be on hand to test individuals for sickle cell anemia, hypertension and general health care.

In addition to testing on health care, volunteers will be scheduling blood donations, soliciting memberships for the NAACP and registering voters. The health mobile will be at Outlet Square from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. and in front of Spirit Square from 5-9 p.m. on Thursday, January 9.

From 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday, January 10, the health mobile will be downtown on the Square. And on Saturday, January 11, the health mobile will be at K Mart on Freedom Dr. from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. All of the screening tests are free and open to the public. Individuals 17 and under must have written consent from their parent or guardian.

## Lawson Is Banquet Speaker

Businessman Danny Lawson, founder and president of Lawson National Distributing Company, the fastest growing and only black-owned company to supply and service public transit vehicles nationwide, will speak to Urban League supporters at the 1986 Annual Equal Opportunity Day Banquet on Friday, January 24.

Lawson has gained national prominence as a dynamic, inspirational speaker to groups from coast to coast. He carries the message of Black Entrepreneurship to such groups as business organizations, educational institutions and the church, emphasizing the need to transform political empowerment to economic empowerment as we reach the 21st century. His thought-provoking ideas on American Black Business have earned him exposure from such national publications as Black Enterprise, Ebony, Essence, Money and USA Today.

Lawson has garnered numerous awards from every facet of his multi-faceted life, professionally

and personally. He is a former professional football player, whose high school and college performances in sports and academics helped pave the way toward success in pro sports and business. His strong spiritual and religious roots and his dedication to civic responsibility are an integral part of his life.

The community is invited to hear Danny Lawson on Friday, January 24, at the Adam's Mark Hotel.

A press conference will be held where Danny Lawson will be present for the media on Thursday, January 19, at 10 a.m. at the administrative offices of the Charlotte-Mecklenburg Urban League, 401 E. Second Street.

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