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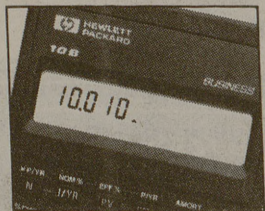
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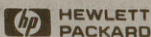
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THE BATTALION

NAACP, Farrakhan meet DEA plane crashes

Black leaders affirm solidarity at church service

WASHINGTON (AP) — Fired NAACP leader Benjamin Chavis Jr. affirmed solidarity with Nation of Islam leader Louis Farrakhan at a rousing Sunday service of the breakaway African-American Catholic church.

Chavis also denounced as "a crime against humanity" the Clinton administration's policy of intercepting Haitian and Cuban refugees at sea to prevent them from reaching the United States.

"We must say to our sisters and brothers in Cuba and Haiti we stand with you" and work for policy changes, he said.

"You can take away my job, you can take away anything, but I am not going to forsake Mr. Farrakhan as my brother," Chavis said. The Chavis-brokered alliance with Farrakhan was one of the issues involved in his dismissal eight days ago as executive director of the National Association for Advancement of Colored People.

Chavis, an ordained Protestant minister in the United Church of Christ, preached the main sermon and received a footstamping, drum-beating ovation from more than 1,000 worshippers at the recently opened Capitol Hill Imani Tem-

ple of the African-American Catholic congregation.

The church's Archbishop George Augustus Stallings Jr. praised Chavis as a freedom fighter who shook up the oldest U.S. civil rights organization. Stallings was excommunicated from the Roman Catholic Church after founding the congregation five years ago and declaring that Jesus was black.

NAACP board members who fired Chavis last week "have lost touch with the average African-American on the street" and deferred to wealthy New York and Los Angeles interests, Stallings said.

Chavis returned the compliment, calling the archbishop "one whom the pope himself could not hold down. If the pope were wise he would ... meet with Archbishop Stallings, a brother who is trying to restore the Catholic church to its authentic roots."

Chavis asked God's "forgiveness for the board of the NAACP" and asked the congregation to "pray for them. They made the wrong decision."

He also asked prayers for former NAACP employee Mary E. Stancel, whose sex discrimination claim he settled with

\$332,400 in NAACP funds without board clearance, precipitating his dismissal.

"Once the truth comes out," Chavis said, "you will know there was no sex harassment, no sex discrimination. It was an employment dispute."

Chavis said despite the \$30 billion federal anti-crime bill passed by Congress last week, "crime will not stop in our community until you and I stop it" through greater unity among African-Americans, their churches and organizations.

"Black on black crime has a solution and that solution must be a black solution," he said, stepping up his campaign for a black leadership summit on such issues.

The campaign will "focus like a laser on economic development of the African-American community," as well as moral and spiritual needs and grassroots unity, he said. Interim NAACP leaders have indicated they might cooperate with Chavis on a summit.

"Until we change the way we live with each other, as sisters and brothers, we are not going to be able to stop this self-destruction ... Forces out there want us to kill each other," Chavis said.

Bleak outlook for five missing

WASHINGTON (AP) — A Drug Enforcement Administration plane crashed in the jungles of Peru and five U.S. agents were missing, a spokesman said Sunday.

DEA officials had not yet reached the site of Saturday's crash to confirm if there were any survivors, but "it does look bleak from the air," said DEA spokesman Bill Ruzzamenti.

The missing agents were assigned to "Operation Snowcap," a program aimed at stemming cocaine traffic from Peru and Bolivia.

The twin-engine DEA transport plane was traveling from Santa Lucia when it lost contact with air traffic control, a DEA statement said.

DEA aircraft and Peruvian military officials were searching the area around Puerto Pizana in the foothills of the Andes mountains about 285 miles northeast of Lima. They spotted wreckage of what was believed to be the downed plane on Sunday, the DEA statement said.

Rescue teams were working through the dense jungle, but Ruzzamenti said they might not get to the crash site until Monday.

The five DEA agents included two pilots and three agents assigned to the anti-cocaine program, Ruzzamenti said. Their names were not being released pending notification of relatives.

The anti-cocaine program was begun in 1987 to allow DEA agents to help law enforcement officials combat cocaine traffic in Peru and Bolivia. About 10 DEA agents are assigned to Peru and another 12 are assigned to Bolivia, the DEA statement said.

Peru is the source of more than 60 percent of the world's coca, from which cocaine is manufactured.

DEA Administrator Thomas Constantine said in a statement, "Cocaine users in the United States and the greedy drug lords like the Cali cartel in Colombia are the reason that DEA agents put their lives on the line every day."

"Our prayers go out to our agents and their families during this trying time," Constantine said.

THE CASE OF LITTLE SWIFTY.

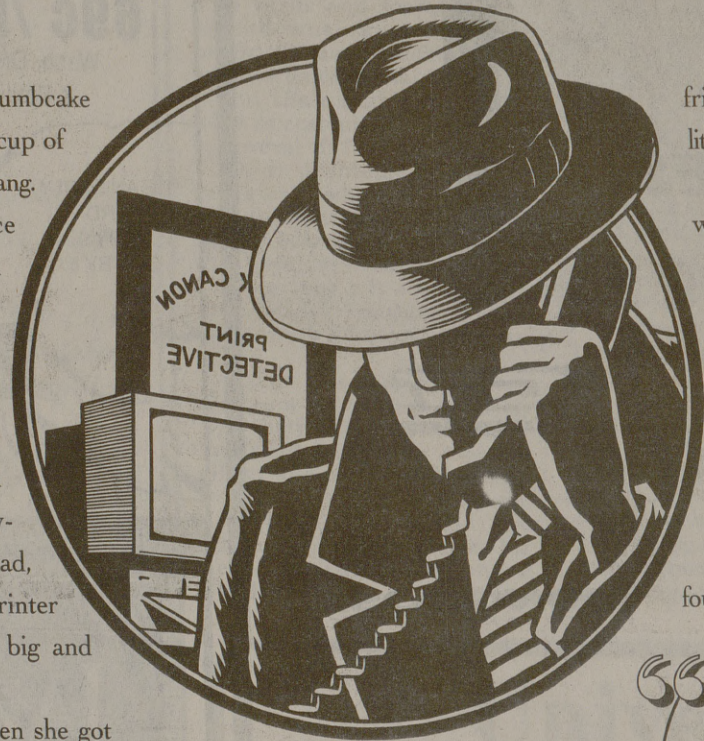
[A.K.A. THE BJ-200e]

I had just polished off a crumbeak doughnut and a steamin' cup of Joe when the phone rang.

A woman's voice spoke, "Is this Nick Canon, Print Detective?" I answered in the affirmative.

She told me she had a lot on her mind and even more on her desktop. A phone, a computer, a keyboard, a monitor, a mouse pad, a scanner, and a personal printer that in her words, "was as big and slow as a dinosaur."

"Not good," I said. Then she got real serious, "I run a fast-paced small business. I'm looking for a printer that matches that description and I don't



friend of mine, Little Swifty." Her eyes lit up as we walked over to the BJ-200e.

"It's so sleek, so compact", she whispered. I hit the print sample button. Her eyes lit up again, and she continued to whisper, "It's so fast, and the output so crisp and clean." I didn't want to name drop, but I told her a couple of pros

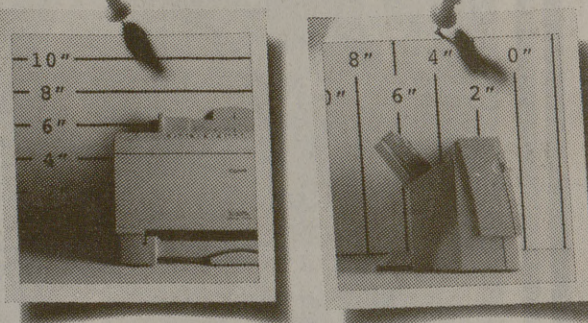
over at PC Digest

found the BJ-200e to be "20% faster than its closest

competitor, and offering the best quality." The only thing left was the price, and before she could even ask I told her, "It's a steal."

Yep. She was happy all right. Come to think of it, so was I. As we parted I wrote down a number she could call if she had more questions, 1-800-848-4123. And then, I looked in her big beautiful eyes and told her what I tell everyone, "Before you buy a printer, investigate."

"There are hundreds of printers in the naked city," I said. She turned around, "Nick?" I nodded and said, "Let me introduce you to a



CHARACTER PROFILE: NAME: Canon BJ-200e HEIGHT: 6.8" WIDTH: 13.7" DEPTH 7.6" (Or about the size of a common toaster.)

have time to deal with a lot of hype. From the tone of her voice, I could tell she was running out of room and running out of patience. So I asked,

"Let me introduce you to a



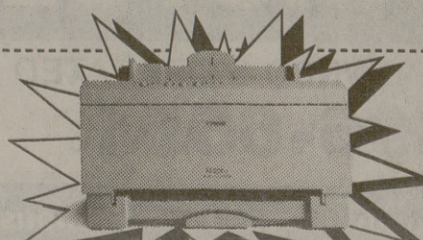
THE BJ-200e PERSONAL PRINTER.

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• EPA Energy Star Compliant, So It Saves On Energy Costs

• Backed By A 2-Year Limited Warranty With "InstantExchange" Program

Canon



Panetta hints of changes in White House

WASHINGTON (AP) — For White House staff nervous about a possible shakeup, Leon Panetta's message is not reassuring: "There is no job security here."

Six weeks into his job, President Clinton's new chief of staff has established himself as the power center, chief negotiator and strict disciplinarian for the White House that in the past has veered from being free-wheeling to chaotic.

"You can't have an operation work well for the president unless it is well-managed and has a discipline to it," Panetta said. "It just doesn't work."

Long-rumored personnel changes are likely, Panetta said. The most probable targets are believed to be in the areas of scheduling, communications and political affairs.

"If there's a better way to structure this, I can't be hesitant about doing that if I think it provides the best operation for the president," Panetta said.

It was Panetta who dealt with the House over changes in Clinton's crime bill. He also has staked out a role for himself in Clinton's foreign policy operation.

"I wanted to be directly involved in foreign policy issues as one of the principals because I think the president needs to have a chief of staff who's covering all the bases," Panetta said in an interview in his spacious West Wing office.

All memos going into the Oval Office have to be routed through Panetta, even when they're signed by such senior aides as Mack McLarty and George Stephanopoulos. Clinton's outside political advisers also have had their easy access restricted.

"We had a lot of kind of counselors to the president, advisers to the president," Panetta said in an interview. "What I've tried to do is establish much clearer responsibilities for those advisers."

Panetta also got assurance he wouldn't be second-guessed by Vice President Al Gore or Hillary Rodham Clinton, two other powerful figures.

"Every chief of staff has the relationship to deal with and frankly, from the very beginning, I asked for the clear line of authority not only from the president but from the first lady and the vice president, and got the assurance," Panetta said.

"They all need to be involved. They all have important roles. Whatever policies I try to implement, I have to coordinate with them as well."

Panetta inherited a White House staff overseen by McLarty, a man whose genteel Southern ways earned him the nickname "Mack the Nice." Panetta, though, is a different breed.

He said the White House is making an attitude change, switching from a campaign mode to a governing mode where Clinton has the opportunity to be presidential rather than racing around like a campaign date.

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