



Auction Results

RAISING FUNDS BY RAISING HANDS®

THE INDIANAPOLIS STAR



Seven-time Grammy Award winner Gladys Knight performed before about 900 people at the Third Annual United Negro College Fund Indianapolis Masked Ball. / Submitted by Universal Music

Ball rakes in big bucks for United Negro College Fund

BY Cathy Kinghtlinger

The third time's a charm, especially when you have the "Empress of Soul" on your side.

And seven-time Grammy Award winner **Gladys Knight** (above) was there for the organizers of the Third Annual United Negro College Fund Indianapolis Masked Ball on Saturday.

Knight gave a hit performance at the glittery event, which grossed more than \$500,000, drew a sell-out crowd of more than 900 and turned into the most successful in the ball's three-year history.

A live auction with **David Goodman**, a Chicago auctioneer who performs magic illusions, brought in more than \$150,000 with the help of some of Indy's leaders, said **Andrea L. Neely**, UNCF area development director for Indiana. U.S. District Court Judge **Tanya Walton Pratt**, for example, picked up one of two luxury trips for eight to Tuscany for \$12,500.

"People were just amazed at how much we raised!" Neely said.

Along with Knight's show and the auction, guests -- who were dressed in elaborate masks and black-tie attire -- had a gourmet dinner and socialized well into the night.

Radio One's **Amos Brown III** and WTHR's **Andrea Morehead**, who were both on the ball's planning committee, served as emcees.

And Pratt and Indianapolis dentist **Jeanette Sabir-Holloway** were honored. Pratt was acknowledged as a UNCF distinguished alum, and Sabir-Holloway was recognized for her efforts to increase the diversity of the student body at the Indiana University School of Dentistry.

Also among the crowd Saturday was **Michael L. Lomax**, president and CEO of the United Negro College Fund; U.S. Rep. **Andre Carson**, D-Indianapolis; Lt. Gov. **Becky Skillman**; Indianapolis Mayor **Greg Ballard** and his wife, **Winnie**; **Angela Braly**, WellPoint CEO; **Derica Rice**, executive vice president and CFO of Eli Lilly and Co.; **James D. Mervilde**, superintendent of Washington Township Schools; **William Mays**, CEO of Mays Chemical Co.; and **Marvin White**, CFO of St. Vincent Health.