

Personalities

Memories Are Made Of This

Sammy Davis Jr. says his endorsement of president Nixon in the 1972 presidential campaign has caused him great pain and that he is very disappointed in the President's social programs.

Davis, who was photographed hugging the President at the 1972 Republican convention in Miami Beach, said he was strongly criticized by blacks and liberals for his endorsement.

"Everybody jumped on my back and I had to deal with it alone. Only my wife and a few close friends know what happened. It was like open heart surgery with no Novocaine or anesthesia of any kind," he said by telephone from a Reno, Nev., night club where he is appearing.

"I'm not disappointed that I endorsed him," Davis, a Democrat, said in a weekend interview. "But I'm sorry there haven't been more things done for the poor whites, the blacks and the disenfranchised. "I thought if I could be there I could be of some assistance to generate some goodness in terms of keeping him informed. Because if you have people around you who only give you one point of view, you need someone else to give the other viewpoint," he said.