THE RELIABLE SOURCE
Amy Argetsinger and Roxanne Roberts

Time Warner's Parsons: No Designs on D.C.

It's good to be a pal of Barack Obama these days — except of course, for all those new BFFs who think you've got the White House on speed-dial.

"I only have one BFF — my wife," said Richard Parsons, chairman of Time Warner and a member of Obama's economic advisory team. "I have a number of friends who have hit me up for inaugural tickets, that's for sure."

The K Street Republican believed since the Iowa caucuses that Obama would win, but said the election left many of his colleagues — especially African Americans — in shock: "They really, honestly didn't think it could happen. That's when I realized something seismic had happened."

Parsons came to D.C. on Saturday to make a little history of his own: an interview for the HistoryMakers project, which has compiled the largest collection of African American biographies in the world. The look of his life and career, conducted by Soledad O'Brien, was taped for broadcast on PBS. In the standing-room-only audience at George Washington University:

Colin Powell, Vernon Jordan, BET's Debra Lee — all quite pleased about the election results.

At a reception before the taping, the word "excited" popped up a lot: Powell noted that there are a lot of delighted people in this country right now. Not just this country, countered Jordan: "I was just in London, and Brits were saying, 'We won. We won.' Washington is going to be an interesting town again," offered Lee: "It's been a little deal for the last eight years."

"There is this unbridled optimism," said emcee Juan Williams. "It's as if there's been a coup and everyone is dancing, like at the end of 'The Wizard of Oz'." He's calling it "national political irrational exuberance."

Parsons is keeping his exuberance in check. He said he's "most likely" come down for the inauguration, but not move to work for the administration. "Highly unlikely," he said with a grin. "I'm a New Yorker."

DOONESBURY By Garry Trudeau

Wanda Sykes.

Hey, Isn't That...?

Laura Bush at Oyamel restaurant Saturday night. The first lady and five girlfriends (all in dressy casual) sat in a back room, shared a variety of traditional Mexican antojitos — little dishes, like tapas.

First nibbler Laura Bush.

DOONESBURY

Will a Compliment Turn Into the Inaugural Gown?

Kai Milla, like everyone in the fashion business, has her eyes on And did we mention Oprah's a big fan, too?