

# Entertainment

## Unity Theater Holds Auditions

Unity Theater, in conjunction with Nucleus Associates, L.D.C., is holding auditions for "Alice, You're In Wonderland", a contemporary adaptation of Lewis Carroll's book. The story, music, and lyrics for the production are by Ron Stevenson; it will be directed by Terry Jackson.

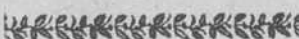
The production requires three male jazz-tap dancers, one female jazz-tap dancer, two male actors 45-55 years old, one female actress 45-55 years old and two breakdancers, as well as singers, actors, actresses, dancers and rappers for the chorus. Light and sound technicians are also needed.

Submission of resume' and portfolio is optional.

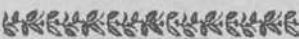
Auditions will be held every Saturday at Heritage Hall, 950 W. Owens Avenue, located in the Nucleus Shopping Plaza, beginning April 19, from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM.

For further information, call 367-4247.

The presentation is an O.S.O.D. Production; O.S.O.D is a non-profit organization.



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## BILLIE ROWE'S NOTEBOOK

### Black Mayors Not Gambling With Future

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. — In an atmosphere of togetherness the Black mayors of the nation gathered on this eastern gambler's turf to map an agenda that would not be a gamble with the hopes and aspirations of their constituents. They seem to have come to the "dice capital of the Atlantic Seaboard with a deep rooted pride in past accomplishments. In open forum they uttered words of high purpose for future improvements and progress while showing visible disdain against prej-

udice, the key to racial antagonism. The agenda for the 12th annual mayor's confab was pulled together by a magnetic theme: "Self-Reliance in our Nation's Cities: Building Public-Private Partnerships." Solutions were sought and offered through seven workshops covering every topic and item from "Successful bond issues in an uncertain time" to "The attack on cities: Preserving fiscal responsibility." Then there were awards to people like Sec'y William Brock, the history making first Black, Lieutenant Gov. Lawrence Douglas Wilder of Virginia, William "Sonny" Walker, NAB's vice pres., Thomas D. Walker, mgr. public affairs, Chevron USA, Mayor Charles Ross, Lincolntonville, S.C., Betty Lou Dotson, director office Civil Rights and Barbara Proctor the Chicago adv. executive. Mayor Marion Barry, Jr., president of the National Conference of Black Mayors, Inc., received the "Richard G. Hatcher Outstanding Mayor's Award."

The Mayors' most coveted honor went to "The Greatest," Muhammad Ali, as the centerpiece of the Conference's annual "Tribute to a Black American." The special ceremony in the Circus Maximus Theatre was perhaps the most heart racing event of the four days. There were words from Joe Black, Marvelous Marvin Hagler, Mayor Andrew Young and Rev. Jesse Jackson. Also some funny and serious moments of entertainment from Dick Gregory. But the greatest and most heart touching words were haltingly nudged into our ears by Muhammad himself. He made so much sense simplifying how and why he became a Muslim

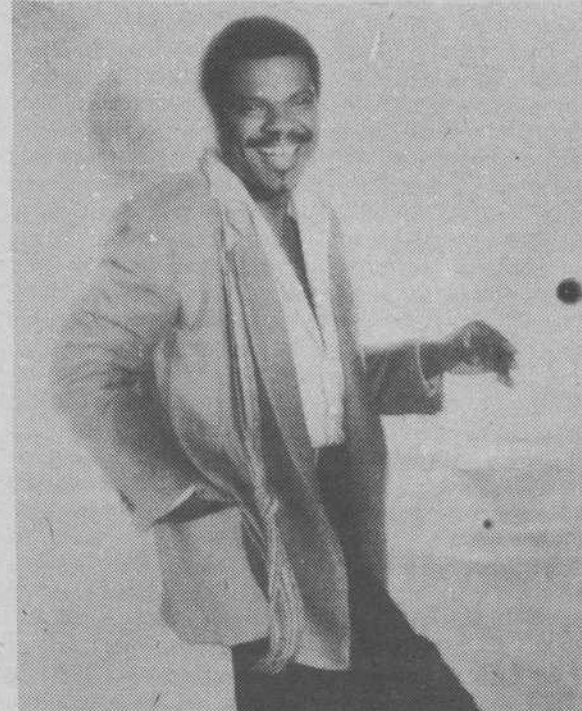
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## Billy Preston — He's Not Content to Rest on His Laurels!

While many entertainers are content to sit back and bask in their glory, others are always working on one new project or another. Billy Preston is indeed in the latter category.

album also due out in the fall and you can be sure that Billy Preston is as he puts it "still covering new turf."

Preston will be moving to New York in the fall in conjunction with the series and



BILLY PRESTON

Preston, best known for his collaboration with the Beatles during the birth of the Apple label, writing "You Are So Beautiful" so beautifully sung by Joe Cocker, and of course his own hits — "Will It Go Round In Circles," "That's The Way God Planned It" and "Nothing From Nothing," is breaking new ground again.

For starters try a new television series called "Night Life" with Preston as co-host and music coordinator. David Brenner will share the hosting honors with Billy. "Night Life" with Preston as co-host and music coordinator. David Brenner will share the hosting honors with Billy. "Night Life" will air in the fall and will be affiliated with Motown Records. Add to that a new

album and leave his home in Amsterdam behind for a short while. Preston known as "the fifth Beatle" can certainly tell a few fun stories about the fab four. In 1962 Preston was working with Little Richard with The Beatles as an opening act. "I couldn't play with them although I was asked because I didn't think Little Richard would be too pleased about it," says Preston. He adds, "George used to stand in the wings and watch me on the organ." Always one to stay in touch, Preston saw Harrison several months ago.

Preston relaxes by riding horses and at one time owned nine of his own. His mother is a musician and his sister, Rodena, used to babysit young Preston. He'd sit on her lap while she played piano.

Preston calls himself "A Minister of Music" and names "That's The Way God Planned It" as his favorite song.

He always looks forward to returning to Las Vegas and mentions he'll be performing in Saudi Arabia and Spain following his current engagement with Don Rickles at the Sahara.

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