

STARDUST ENTERTAINMENT

BILLY ROWE'S

notebook

WRITE ON PEOPLE

NEW YORK CITY---Dr. Berkley G. Burrell, prez of the National Business League, is taking the next step in the drive to create the help and atmosphere conducive to a healthy Black business community. Through the 1st annual Booker T. Washington Memorial Dinner he will set in motion the building of "The Booket T. Washington Foundation." The idea was born in 1967 in the waning years of "riots" and civil disturbances in the ghettos of major inner cities to emphasis the thirst and thrust for total freedom. In the pangs of a lagging economy, and the effects of "the last hired-first fired" axiom, the goals and the needs of the foundation was never more prevalent. Its purpose, as charter outlined, is to encourage and assist minorities to enter and maintain themselves in business. The elimination of discrimination in affording business opportunities through education, skills and techniques and establishing other organizations to assist in planning and financing these allied projects. The B. T. W. Foundation thrust will be hi'lited in DeeCee April 5th thru an appropriate salute to Dr. H. Naylor Fitzhugh, the pioneer super-marketeer and professor whose wisdom and counsel has aided so many for so little personal gain. The two-fold purpose of this event makes it hard for any of us to turn down.

The FCCommission has denied a petition by the Puerto Rican Media Action and Educational Council against the Educational B'casting Corp., license of noncommercial educational station WNET-TV, Newark, N. J. With studios in Manhattan, it is better known to its huddle of habitation as Channel-13 over whose eye-cycles "Black Journal" is viewed. The Commish's dissenting statement came from the Hon. Benjamin L. Hooks. In the opening paragraph of his 7-page opinion he wrote: "WNET, the radiant jewel in the Public Television's crown, is unquestionable a media symbol of sophistication and urbanity whose programs I, along with millions of other Americans of every race persuasion, and background, have watched and frequently enjoyed. WNET does not, however, serve the public interest and I cannot put an approving imprimatur on its licenseeship by dismissing the instant complaint." Further along in his dissent, the FCC's only Black member stated that the station in question had glaring deficiencies and it has failed to live up to the purpose for which it was conceived and licensed.

Jack Saunders, prexy Phila Trib; Moses Newson, Afro; William Rasberry, DeeCee Post spent most of a wk in "Fun City" matching "4th Estate" knowledge with some 50 jurors to select this yr's Pulitzer Prize in 11 journalism categories. They were historically invited by William J. McGill, prexy of Columbia U where the selections session took place. Winners will be announced in May, and none of the first Blacks to ever serve will scoop-leak the findings...Patricia Hearst made the national headlines via the print and electronic media just in time to call attention to Ed Bullins' new off-B'way play, "The Taking of Miss Janie." Bullins, who has written over 30 plays, had originally dedicated this opus to the news-heiress but her taking... "Raisin", the '74 Tony winner has established another record on B'way. At press time it has exceeded the run of "Show Boat," 572 performances, on the incandescent St... Super pianist Errol Garner is recovering from pneumonia as an out-patient, Northwestern Memorial Hosp, Chgo. Soon as the Dr. gives the word he will jet-go home to Calif, to sun it all out of his system. He was struck during a successful beginning fling at Mr. Kelly's and looked forward to engagement on the Lucas Tanner teevee.

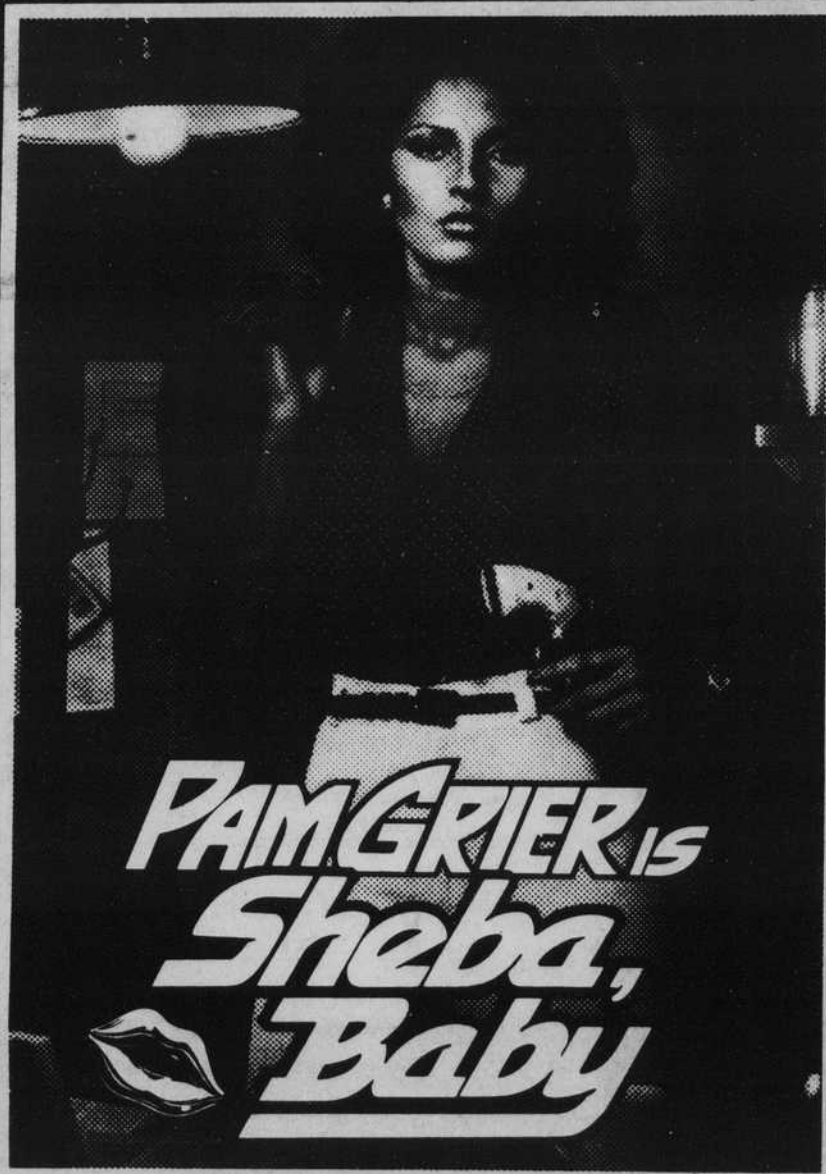
Lovely Carol Cass got lots of respect at Dangerfield's and the Playboy Club in Great Gorge for her singing style... Herb Douglas has quietly resigned his chairmanship of the "Black Hall of Fame" which did its 2nd-anny thing in Las Vegas last wk... Joe Louis the immortal heavy-weight and his Martha are in N'York on biz...

Evelyn Holt, a now Virgin Islands resident, had to forego her stateside visit. Her father is seriously ill... Lloyd Jones, retired Colonel and the Nat'l Bank of W'chester's black veepee, is the first elected prez -of Black Men of New Rochelle... The Mills Bros opened a fling at the Riviera, Las Vegas, with the voice excitement for old... The FC-Commish has issued "brownie points" to the B'casting industry finding that the employment of women and minorities has risen in numbers and percentages. The hike was 3.5% over '73, but down from the 5% of '72... A number of sombodies "eye-love" "The Jeffersons." Last wk the Black sit-comedy clobbered the Barbara Strisand offering and the long running "McCloud." It's neck and neck with "Kojak" for 3rd choice in the living rooms across the teevee nation. "Good Times" mashed "Mash" out of focus rate number 2 in its Tuesday slot... The courts ruled that Tony Williams, a former member, cannot use the name, "The Platters," it belongs to the 5 Platters Inc. headed by Buck Ram as prez... The ear-quality music of Cy Oliver is afloat in the posh Rainbow Room at a 10 buck min... The B'way prod., "We Interrupt This Program," has Dick Anthony Williams in the role originally assumed by Melvin Van Peebles... The "Wiz" has taken off and was SRO again last wk doing more than 3G's better than it did the previous wk... STAY LOOSE.

50 YRS. IN SHOW BIZ



MILLS HONORED-The Mills Brothers celebrated their 50th anniversary in show business at the Riviera Hotel. Don Rickles paid tribute to the trio at the end of one of his shows. The brothers started their professional career in Ohio in 1925. They first started to sing in their father's barber shop in Piqua, Ohio, in the early 1920s. They are currently co-headlining at the Riviera with Rickles.



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