

# BILLY ROWE'S NOTEBOOK

Eyewitness veracious reports were critical of Yankee's strongman Reggie Jackson who blew an opportunity to hit a big blow for a large group of Harlem youngsters. The central figure of a day, created for him by Lionel Hampton, the swagger of swat almost blew his audience when he was more than an hour late. On hitting the scene, insult was almost added to injury when, he hesitated shaking the extended hand of the vibe king until he was told who he. In a quickly thawed atmosphere, the hero of the '77 World Series got down to basics. Allegedly that was adding salt to the wounds when he talked the talk that the ultimate hope of the hopeless is to drive a Rolls thru the ghetto. If there's a defense for the super diamond dandy, he said he wasn't too well briefed on the Harlem deal nor properly made aware that he was booked for the run. Perhaps under different circumstances he would have been sweet as CANDY . . . Many of the same press persons who twice told this Reggie saga, were just as shocked when 'Soul Queen' Aretha Franklin marred her magnificent Carnegie Hall performance with a burlesque tribute to the immortal Josephine Baker. They said her ill-designed costume, white feathered hat and cloak, silver dickey and baggy leotards, was grotesque, in bad taste and an ill-conceived way to eulogize the internationally beloved superstar.

WRITE FROM THE SCENE---The George and Shirley Rhodes split with Sammy Davis, Jr., was short lived, but created turbulent reaction in friendly theatrical circles. Well what else would you expect after a 22-yr "love affair?" So look for George on the music podium when you see "Mr. D" in "Stop The World." . . . Talented Millie Jackson's twang of the sailor perked a lot of ears within the Rainbow Rm. That's exactly where the beauty of Freda Payne turned a lot of eyes whose ears were opened to her entertaining repertoire of rock, jazz and soul. If you haven't made it yet, forget it, she just concluded her session there . . . O. J. Simpson promises he will not run through the Waldorf and will stay put for the entire proceedings of the Vth. annual Black Athlete Hall O' Fame. Sweetwater Clifton, Frank Robinson, Joe Namath and Pele are among the supers to be inducted into the Hall. "Bud" will show it all via a 90-minute syndicated telecast . . . Althea Gibson, the '57 Wimbledon singles and doubles champion, the first black to accomplish this, isn't doing that well from tee to green. She failed to shot her way out of the bunch during Nancy Lopez's domination of the recent LPGAs "Golden Lights" ball wackin' at Wykagyl. Blacks are only allowed to play this N'Rochelle layout on special occasions like tournaments or caddy's day. The former tennis great says she plans to stick to the tour despite the fact she hardly makes enough dough to "get out of town."

Jean-Baptiste Illinois Jacquet is preparing some special sounds to lay on the "Man" when he performs with Count Basie during the White House very own Jazz Festival June 18th. President and Mrs. Carter personally selected Mr. B. and Mr. J. for this official salute to this American culture . . . Atlantic City's black citizens are said to be pressing Public Works Commish. Pierre Hollingsworth to resign the presidency of the local NAACP. The feeling is that because of the gambling the problems of housing, jobs and other civil rights issues will escalate and a fella with two hats will have a problem as to where to hang which . . . Don't be fooled because pretty Ebony office mgr. Joyce Thurston has to drop fifty-cents to ride the cross 49th. St. bus when John Sebastian is driving. He's trying to find ways to give her all of them back, and with interest. . . . The Harlem Institute of Fashion has started a national drive for garments created and executed by black fashion designers, milliners, tailors and other crafts. Selections will go into the Black Fashion Museum being started thru a \$20,000 federal grant to HIF from the National Endowment for the Arts. According to Lois Alexander, founder-director, the Museum will open in late '79 . . . The first day of July has been selected by

Gamma Phi Delta Sorority, Inc., Beta Eta Theta Chapter to honor Dr. Charles West at a "This is Your Life" banquet in Las Vegas. "Buck" left Detroit too many years ago to "Go West Young Man" to make another fortune through medicine and real estate. When we had to stay on the other side of the track, his places were the only decent spot a body could find bed and board.

GRITS AND GRAVEY---Mrs. Jean Young, wife of U.N. Amb. Andrew Young, has been named to the chair of the recently established U.S. National Commission on the International Year of the Child. It was established through an executive order of the president and is composed of 25-citizen members and two members of each house of Congress . . . Chgo's Mayor Michael Bilandic issued a proclamation and Atlanta's Mayor Maynard Jackson, Jr., came to the windy city to keynote the dinner honoring Rev. Andrew Robert Leak, Sr. whose achievements have cut way across denominational lines. As the city's leading minister and undertaker, his civic and business involvements could fill a book . . . Director Geoffery Holder and choreographer George Faison are preparing a second edition of "The Wiz" for hinterland eyes. The original is one of the major theatrical hits on B'way and is easing on down to a record run on the illuminated lane . . . Astute Barbara Harris and ABC-Records are no longer sharing the same ball of wax . . . Hillery Johnson has resigned his veep spot with Atlantic Records. He's starting his own thing, Hil-has resigned his veep spot with Atlantic Records. He's starting his own thing, Hil-Tic Records. Atlantic will distribute to show that the ties haven't really been snapped . . . Miriam Makeba will make her first appearance in the U.S. in 4 yrs. at Madison Sw.'s Felt Forum for the benefit of the South African children who were forced to flee the tyranny of that white ruled country . . . STAY LOOSE.

## "The Informer"

"The Informer", an expressionist evocation of rebellion-torn Ireland, is based on Liam O'Flaherty's novel of the Dublin slums. After turning in his best friend for a \$20.00 reward, the huge and animal-like Gypo Nolan embarks on an incredible drunken binge in an attempt to soothe his remorseful nerves. One of the most forceful and memorable of the early "talking" pictures, "The Informer" won most of the critical awards of the time including the New York Times 10 Best Films of the Year and an "Oscar" for Victor McLaglan as Best Actor.

Peter Bogdonovitch states that "it would be instructive to run Ford's films about the U.S. in historical chronology because he has told the American saga in human terms and made it come alive." "The Three Godfathers", co-produced by Merian C. Cooper and starring John Wayne, Ward Bond and Pedro Armendariz, captures the leathery dry-humored romance and sentiment of the traditional "good" bad-guy. The explicit allegory tells the story of three outlaws who risk their freedom to rescue a newborn baby from the ravages of the desert.

Ford's heroes are frequently quixotic, entangled in lost causes and fighting losing battles against the flow of history. John Wayne, an Irish prizefighter in "The Quiet Man", is such a hero. After accidentally killing a man in the ring, Wayne leaves America and returns to his native Ireland to find peace. The meadows, tilled fields and running streams are as effective as Ford's Monument Valley westerns in creating a setting for a story of Irish pride, love and brawling. Maureen O'Hara, Ward Bond and Victor McLaglan also star.

"Directed by John Ford", scheduled June 18-21 in the Clark County Library Auditorium, reveals Ford's own special vision of man and American life. The films show it best . . . see for yourself.

## BLACK CAUCUS

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 19 COLUMN 3 workers and professionals in racial and cultural sensitivity.

The bill has been referred to the Committee on Interstate and Foreign Commerce for legislative action. It is inexcusable that America's mental health delivery system has not adequately responded to the realities of minority mental illness.

I cannot emphasize strongly enough the urgent need for a national commitment to improve our current system and to eliminate institutional indifference which has pervaded America's societal structure and impaired the mental health of not only minorities but of all Americans.

## NAACP

The NAACP door-to-door Voter Registration Campaign caravan will roll Thursday (June 15). A team of deputy registrars will depart NAACP headquarters at 6:00 p.m. to canvass "H" Street door to door from Carey Avenue to Bonanza Blvd. Areas also scheduled to be covered on Thursday between the hours of six and ten p.m. are the Marble Manor and Madison Terrace housing complexes. Listen to your favorite radio station for daily schedule of registration caravan.

Residents are urged to alert neighbors that the NAACP Registrars are on their way and to please be prepared to give a minute or two of their time to become registered to vote.

The NAACP Registration slogan is "Although the cost of freedom is always high - it costs nothing to register and to vote to protect the freedom gained thus far."

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