

Entertainment

BILL LANE

HOLLYWOOD

SONNY KNIGHT, was his name when he was highly active on the music scene, back in the days when he had a hit record out called "Confidential," "If You Want This Love" and one called "Dedicated To You," which was used for several years by the late deejay Alan Freed as a radio theme signature. His real name, however, is Joseph C. Smith, plain Joe Smith. He uses his real name as author of a big new book titled "The Day The Music Died." Published by Grove

Press, the book is a great one. It is a novel, but it is based on the early days of rock 'n roll as an outgrowth of "race," "soul" and rhythm and blues. And Smith should know about it, for he and his piano and group did concert tours with many top names — Fats Domino, James Brown, the Beach Boys, the Everly Brothers, Aretha Franklin, B.B. King, Ray Stevens, the Isley Brothers, Erik Clapton and Dinah Washington. His nifty piano and organ See LANE, page 7

Crisantha Warren In State Teen Pageant

Crisantha Warren, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Willis Warren of North Las Vegas, has been selected to compete in the Miss Nevada Teen Pageant in Reno



Crisantha Warren on August 8.

The pageant is the official statewide finals for the national Miss Teen Pageant which is to be held in November. Contestants from across the state who will compete in the finals must have at least a B average in school and are requested to participate in the volunteer in service program of the pageant.

Ohio Contestants Rap Pageant

Two Ohio contestants among the 36 young women vying for the title of "Miss Black America" have alleged that the pageant promoter, J. Morris Anderson of Philadelphia "ripped off" the contestants and made many unkept promises.

According to Veronica Lewis, 20, from Columbus and Denise McGough, 20, of Toledo, the pageant contestants and their relatives paid \$500 each for a trip to Jamaica, where the pageant was originally scheduled to be held, but did not get their money back when the pageant was rescheduled to take place in Stroudsburg, Pa. at the last moment. "None of the girls was wealthy and none of them could afford to lose that kind of money," said Veronica.



Veronica Lewis

On a local-cable television program over station Qube in Columbus, Veronica and Denise charged that contestants were lodged

See OHIO, page 7

BILLIE ROWE'S NOTEBOOK

WHAT A CAST!!

SO WHERE ARE THE SPONSORS???

N'YORK CITY: — To recreate an 1822 abortive slave rebellion, Wpbt-2, south Florida's Public B'cast System TV, assembled the greatest cast to ever collectively cast shadows across the paths of the same kleig lights. "Denmark Vesey's Rebellion," the first of Wpbt's planned anthology series, "A House Divided," was produced to present the history of slavery in America from the human perspective. According to a voice from the south Florida outlet, "Denmark Vesey's Rebellion" provides a clear and unique insight into the agonizing complexity of the enslavement of one man by another. The program illuminates issues that are as relevant today as they were more than-150-yrs ago. His act, to turn away from his own freedom, to risk certain death to free the slaves, was motivated by the same inflexible challenge to the human spirit which brought victory in defeat out of Little Rock, Selma, Birmingham and all those other hate-aching deltas of the badlands wherein freedom was a captive.

The heritage of slavery is shared by millions throughout the world. Here at home, more than a century after the war to "abolish" it, popular imagination has been rejuvenated, and from "Roots" has grown the fruits of public fancy. Before the Reagan Adm.'s cutting axe was unscrupulously unsheathed on America, research development, and piloting of "A House Divided," was substantially funded by the Nat'l Endowment for the Humanities. At this writing Dale Riehl is beating the financial bushes to set the first of the 8 TV dramas, "Denmark Vesey's Rebellion," on the tube. Gulf & Western, the blue chip corp of many firm hats, has more than a passing interest, but is yet to lower the go flag. "Heaven To Betsy," as the bedimpled Virginia Brooker would say, a yes is only three letters. Never again will they have the opportunity to buy such a cast so cheaply and reap such great rewards.

Directed by Stan Lathan, the 90-minute dramatic special is headed by Yaphet Kotto in the title role. He's aided and abetted by, among others, Antonio Fargas, Bernie Casey, Cleavon Little, Brock Peters and superb new playwright, turned actor, Samm-

See ROWE, page 7

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