

# Entertainment

## BILLIE ROWE'S NOTEBOOK

THEY APPEAR ONCE OR TWICE AND THEN?

N'YORK CITY — We're continually upset over the one-shot (sometimes two) appearances of some of our greatest performers who do so well on stage, screen or TV but never appear again — as if their supreme talent is only worthy of one or two opportunities on the top rung. We're thinking here of such performers as LaVar Burton of "Roots" and his recent appearance in "The Dummy," but still not getting the many parts that one not of his hue would get, based on his talent. And award-winning Melba Moore, whose "Innocent Black" didn't even get a real chance on Broadway after the "main critics" couldn't understand the message A. Marcus Hemphill was getting across in his "heaven-sent comedy." In fact, this whole cast was brilliant.

Or take the case of Leslie Uggams in "Backstairs At The White House," the NBC mini-series shown on four successive Mondays, where she played so well a White House maid, as did Olivia Cole as her mother. And you can recall the co-starring role of newcomer Ernest Harden, Jr. with Bette Davis on CBS-TV's "White Mama." When will we see him again in a top role? Just to continue this name-dropping, we'd like to see more of other actors and actresses with proven track records — like Brock Peters, Roscoe Lee Brown, Diahane Carroll, Ken Page, Ernestine Jackson, Roselind Cash, Ron O'Neal, Raymond St. Jacques — just to name a few. Why not?

A WRITE BEEF — Some columnists should stop giving the "Bad Mouth" to Toni Morrison's new novel "Tar Baby." The "nappy-headed" hair style he often refers to is the highly-regarded "Dreadlocks" worn by the Rastas of Jamaica, West Indies. If he had taken the time to read just the excerpt in Essence, he would have discovered

See ROWE, page 7



ENCORE PERFORMANCE — Vinnie Carroll's "When Hell Freezes Over, I'll Skate" returns on GREAT PERFORMANCES in a special encore telecast Monday, August 17, at 8:00 p.m. on TV-10, the Public Broadcasting Service. The hour-long production premiered last June on GREAT PERFORMANCES and was video taped before a live audience at New York City's Ed Sullivan Theatre. THE NEW YORK TIMES said in its review of the Vinnie Carroll musical, "So infectious in fact is the spirit of the show that long before the audience was invited to participate in beating out the rhythm, it had already done so — it ought to run forever." GREAT PERFORMANCES is a presentation of WNET/THIRTEEN, New York, and is made possible by a grant from EXXON with additional support from local public television stations.

## BILL LANE

## HOLLYWOOD

THE Commodores' newest record album is now moving out on the market, and from the sounds of things it should be another winner for the winning group of talented musicians-singers from Tuskegee, Alabama. The album, titled "In The Pocket," has a raft of good, solid rockers, plus two typical soul C/W ballads by Lionel Richie, the country-western black balladeer who makes Charlie Pride come up short.

Richie, whose creative talents have been making much singular news of late, has been ever busy. He's been writing solo hits for Kenny Rogers, producing albums singularly, composing the soundtrack music for the movie "Endless Love," starring Brooke Shields, and numerous other things creative he's

been doing that have nothing to do with the other group of Commodores. Needless to say, all of this has created a sideline of non-artistic temperament. Ego confusion, some call it.

For the "Endless Love" film the title song will come out on a single record, with Richie and Diana Ross duetting it, on Motown, the same label issuing the new Commodores album and the single, "Lady, You Bring Me Up."

Plans were shaping for the Commodores, with Lionel Richie, to go on another concert tour comes August, with first stops in the Bahamas and other points South, with September being taken up a bit by the tour. News has been in the streets lately, however, that Richie would not be with the

See LANE, page 12

LISTEN TO  
**KCEP**  
**88.1**  
ON YOUR FM DIAL

WE ARE PLAYING THESE July 31-Aug. 6, 1981

- SINGLES**
- ENDLESS LOVE - DIANA ROSS & LIONEL RICHIE
  - MOVE EVERYTHING YOU GOT - L.S. MOVEMENT
  - HEAVEN (YOU ARE TO ME) - FIVE SPECIAL
  - ARE YOU SINGLE - AURRA
  - I'VE BEEN WATCHING YOU - MIDNIGHT STAR
  - IF THIS WORLD WERE MINE - VICTORIA SOSA
  - HIGH ON THE BOOGIE - STARGARD
  - LOVE LIGHT - YUTAKA
  - JUST ONE MOMENT AWAY - MANHATTANS
  - LET'S NOT FALL IN LOVE AGAIN - PHYLLIS HYMAN
  - MICHAEL HENDERSON
  - STAY THE NIGHT - LA TOYA JACKSON
  - HERE I AM - DYNASTY
  - LET YOUR BODY GO - THE PLAYERS ASSOCIATION
  - I'LL DO ANYTHING FOR YOU - DENROY MORGAN
  - SHAKE YOUR BODY - GANGSTERS
  - YOU WERE RIGHT GIRL - NATALIE COLE
  - DO IT NOW - S.O.S. BAND
  - I'LL BE AROUND - JAH MALLA
  - CAN YOU DIG THE FUNK - SOLAR SOURCE
  - GET UP (ROCK YOUR BODY) - 202 MACHINE

- ALBUMS**
- 1. KNIGHTS OF THE SOUND TABLE - CAMEO
  - 2. IT MUST BE MAGIC - TEENA MARIE
  - 3. STREET SONGS - STACY LATTISAW
  - 4. WITH YOU - STACY LATTISAW
  - 5. NIGHT CLUBIN' - GRACE JONES
  - 6. HIGH ENERGY
  - 7. IT'S WINNING TIME - KLIQUE
  - 8. WHAT'CHA GONNA DO FOR ME - CHAKA KAHN
  - 9. FOUR PLAY - DENNIS BROWN
  - 10. LET THE MUSIC PLAY - DAZZ BAND
  - 11. DEBARGES
  - 12. A WOMEN NEEDS LOVE LIKE YOU DO - RAY PARKER JR. & RAYDIO
  - 13. CAMERON'S IN LOVE - RAFAEL CAMERON
  - 14. STEPHANIE - STEPHANIE MILLS
  - 15. BUSTIN LOOSE - ROBERTA FLACK
  - 16. NON-STOP - JAMES BROWN
  - 17. NO TIME FOR MASQUERADING - MIGHTY FIRE
  - 18. DEE DEE - DEE DEE SHARP GAMBLE
  - 19. WORKING ON YOU - LAMONT DOZIER
  - 20. LIVE IN NEW ORLEANS - MAZE
  - 21. I NEVER HAD IT SO GOOD - ARCHIE BELL
  - 22. FUTURE FLIGHT
  - 23. PROTRAITS - SIDE EFFECT
  - 24. TURN UP THE MUSIC - MASS PRODUCTION
  - 25. SIGNIFICANT GAINS - GREG PHILLINGAINES
  - 26. ZINGARA
  - 27. IN THE POCKET - COMMODORES
  - 28. TASTY JAM - FATBACK BAND
  - 29. I'M IN LOVE - EVELYN KING
  - 30. I KINDA LIKE ME - GLORIA GAYNOR

READ THE LAS VEGAS SENTINEL

**WIN FREE DRAWING**

**THE De Lorean SUPER SPORTS CAR**  
OR \$25,000.00 CASH

**SEE IT NOW AND WIN IT!**

**Lady Luck Casino**  
COME IN AND FILL OUT AN ENTRY FORM TODAY!  
3RD AND OGDEN DOWNTOWN LAS VEGAS