

Entertainment

BILLIE ROWE'S NOTEBOOK

N'YORK CITY: — Winning the Pulitzer Prize by "A Soldier's Play" was expected by Norman Jewison, or perhaps he's just psychic. In selling the Negro Ensemble Off-B'way hit's movie rights to Warner Bros, he added a clause spelling out a \$50,000 bonus for the playwright, Charles Fuller, should it win the coveted Prize. Well, it did and he's that happy and the four other studios which turned down the opportunity to buy the award winning production are chewing-out subordinates ... In legit circles they are talking about "A Gypsy Girl," a new musical which did a benefit turn at the State U. in the upper end of N'York. The book and lyrics are out of the genius of Lofton Mitchell. Additional lyrics were penned by Deanna Flix France all to music by Susan Peters. Lofton, who has been quiet too long, is probably best remembered for "Bubbling Brown Sugar," despite the fact that he's one of the best playwrights around ...

Those who were fortunate enough to have eyes and ears on the Harrah Lake Tahoe scene are still counting their blessings. Sammy Davis, Jr., and Count Basie filled the spotlighted stage to give what critics termed a performance deserving of a place among the "seven wonders of the world." Writing about "Mr. D., is a reminder that Paramount Pic. has picked up Hanna-Barbera's animated musical, "Heidi's Song" for release come Xmas. It will feature his voice with that of film-tv star Lorne Green and 16 songs by Sammy Cahn and Burton Lane.

THE SOAPBOX: — Black promoters are knocking hard on Don King's door hoping for an audience to get a piece of the Holmes/Cooney payvee pie. "Open the Door Richard." ... The Congressional Black Caucus has sent out its same these dates notice to announce its 12th annual legislative wk'end in mid-Sept. ...

The happiest black republican, Art Fletcher, was a dias guest at the annual Interracial Council for Business Opportunity and played the audience like a politician running for office. The Faulkland-British situation knocked him out of a major monied deal, but did nothing to his moral ... Marquee watchers got as much laughter out of LaWanda Page's billing at the Warner Theatre in DeeCee as stage oglers inside. The show was billed thusly: "Aunt Ester and Her Watch-It-Sucker" revue. You remember LaWanda — she was Redd Foxx's main antagonist when he ruled the ear/eye waves as the top "mister" of "Sanford & Son." ... Speaking about that is a reminder that NBC-TV's winter lineup gives black viewers no reel reason to fall in line with its new season ... It's too bad they don't have more TV Movies lined-up like "The Neighborhood." This Christine Belford, Ron Masak, Howard Rollins starrer was marvelous. It was the kind of message that television should send more often. It is hard to believe that

Paramount, the studio responsible, could make such a meaningful film and release a thing like "White Dog." I hope it's true that the showing "Dog" got in Paris is its first and last.

THE NEWSBEAT: — As expected, Richard Pryor has been selected to star in the film version of "The Autobiography of Malcolm X." Sidney Lumet, Lena Horne's former son-in-law, will direct for Warner Bros. The screenplay writing chore has been handed to David Mamet and Marvin Worth will produce. Originally he was to team with Rudy Langlais, but the two did not come to terms. Worth, who purchased the rights about 10-ys ago has taken this long because at first he ran into strong opposition from the Black Muslims. By the way, there is allegedly a clause in his rights deal which allows him to bar the use of consultants. That includes Alex Haley, who authored the piece and Betty Shabazz, spouse of the late revered activist ... That astute business person, Ruth Clark, whose cup is filled to the brim with top em-

ployables, is back in the Apple after a trip to the coast looking for space to spread her wings. She got back just in time to buy ten tickets to send that number of kids to the annual Cadet Revue at Madison Sq. Garden ... "Master Harold ... and the Boys," written by South African Athol Fugard, is on B'way after having drained critical adjectives with its opening in New Haven at the Yale Repertory Theatre. It will be most interesting to see how the folks on the write aisles treat it on the big street ... After the City Center here the Alvin Alley American Dance Theatre will take on audiences in Hawaii, Japan, Hong Kong, Italy, Greece, Israel and Cannes. The budget of the Alley Troupe runs about

\$4,500,000 with an umbrella which covers three major outlets, a senior COMPANY, THE REPERTORY CO. AND THE AMERICAN DANCE CENTER WORKSHOP, which is affiliated with the school and performs only in NYC.

WRITE-ON-END: — Mary Wilson, formerly of the Supremes, was heard to good ear-advantage during a benefit performance for Alvin Alley American Dance Theatre ... Earth, Wind & Fire have notched a first, as the black group, to win the Crystal Globe Award. It wasn't easy; they had to generate sales in excess of 5,000,000 copies outside the U.S. ... RCA

See ROWE, Page 15

24 HR. POKER!
LOW LIMIT GAMES

HOLIDAY CASINO
 Between the Sands and Flamingo Hotels

DON'T MISS A SINGLE ISSUE!
 Subscribe To The Las Vegas Sentinel

Published and Mailed to you every Friday

Mail to:
 Las Vegas Sentinel
 2450 Industrial Road
 Las Vegas, Nev. 89102

Name _____
 Address _____
 City _____ State _____ Zip _____
 My check for \$ _____ is enclosed

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

☆☆ PEOPLE'S CHOICE ☆☆

☆☆ 805 W. Owens Ave. ☆☆

☆☆ EVERY SUNDAY ☆☆

☆☆ 9 p.m. until ☆☆

☆☆ JAZZ AND JAM ☆☆

☆☆ Featuring LITTLE JOE ☆☆

☆☆ And His WRECKING CREW ☆☆

☆☆ Henry P. Miller, M.C. ☆☆

☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆☆

IRENE CARA DEFENDS "SISTER, SISTER"



Irene Cara, one of the stars of "Sister, Sister," an NBC World Premiere movie which aired Monday night (June 7th), has characterized a move to get advertisers to withdraw sponsorship as a "thoughtless attack that is dangerous to the arts, and to people who have something to say about human beings."

Ms. Cara, in an interview on the National Black Network, said that "the movie is about individuals, not about any particular group, and is about a conflict within a family that could happen to anyone."

The Rev. Donald Wildmon, chairman of the Coalition for Better

Television, had urged advertisers to withdraw sponsorship of the movie. "Sister, Sister," written and co-produced by Maya Angelou, has a predominantly black cast.

One of the characters, played by Dick Williams, is a black minister who commits adultery, steals from the church and divorces his wife.

The National Black Network called the Rev. Wildmon for a comment on Ms. Cara's views. Said Wildmon, "The movie is a vicious stereotyping of Christian characters, and especially of black ministers. In fact, the movie is a double-dose of stereotyping."