

BILLIE ROWE'S NOTEBOOK

CHARLESTON, S.C. — General of the Army Douglas MacArthur once said, "Old Soldiers never die, they just fade away." In the case of Colonel John Silvera, USAR-Ret., neither is the case. Actually, and in the files of the Department of Defense, he is very much alive, and a case he started, personal not legal, nineteen years ago, refused to fade away. In this year of our Lord 1982 it has come out of the computers very much in his, and any others of similar experience, favor. The landmark Department of the Army memo was issued 17 June 1982. It finally credited him with the 40-months of service in the segregated N.J. State Militia which, during its 8 years of existence, 1932-1940, had no Federally recognized standing in the National Guard structure. When he served in the N.J. militia it was Battalion Sergeant John Silvera. In case memory fails you, or you are too young to be aware, prior to World War II the Armed Forces were segregated. As a result the Federally recognized New Jersey National Guard Units did not enlist nor commission "Negroes." In 1930 the Jersey legislature provided for the organization and equipment of a "Colored" battalion which became part of the State Militia. This is what John and other blacks served in, but until now, received no Federal military credit for.

The memorandum from the Adjutant General: Subject: Silvera, John D. — SSN — 124-01-8425, is on Department of the Army letterhead, office of the Assistant Secretary. It reads as follows:

"Under the authority of 10 U.S.C. 1552 and paragraph 19e (1), Army Regulation 15-185, and after assuring compliance with the provisions of such regulation, the decision of the Army Board of Correction of Military Records is hereby announced, and it is directed:

That all of the Department of the Army records of John D. Silvera be corrected in such a manner to show that, as far as the Department is concerned and solely of the purpose of granting him additional retirement credits, the periods of service in the First Separate Battalion, New Jersey State Militia, from 1 November 1931 to 31 October 1934 and from 4 February 1935 to 13 January 1936 were performed in a federally recognized unit." The document was signed by John W. Matthews, Executive secretary — Board for Correction of Military Records.

WRITE FOLKS: — Sunday July 11th was a great and unusual day for Afro-American Tee to green pros. Calvin Peete captured the Milwaukee Open for the second time. The \$45,000 first prize will insure his winning over \$100-grand on the links again this yr. While he was stroking away at

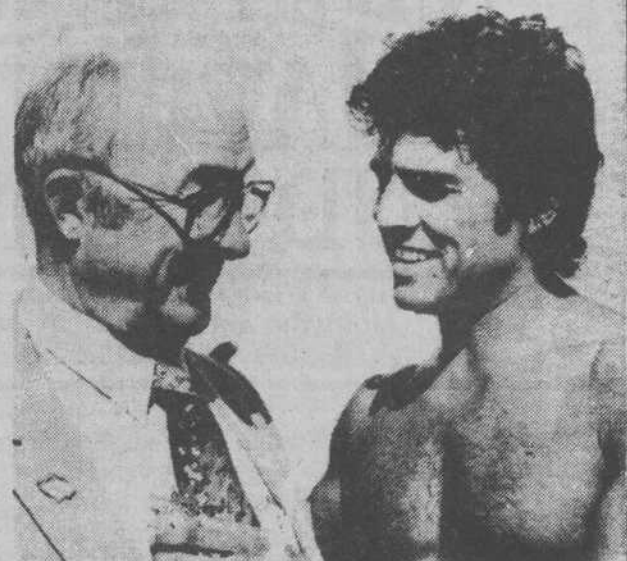
home, Jim Thorpe won the Canadian PGA in a sudden death play-off against Dave Barr. And at home, the old vet.,



Charlie Sifford, was playing well enough to pocket \$3,572 for sixth place among the Seniors in Portland, Ore. . . . Hollywood's Jeff Azlo, whose company is producing "Toy" starring Richard Pryor and Jackie Gleason, is beating the photographer's bushes for early shots of Richard's comic mentors like Willie Best, Flip Wilson, Mantan Morland, Stepin Fetchit, the late Pigmeat Markham and Jackie "Moms" Mabley. Gordon Anderson, the Harlem lensman who has shot many of them has supplied some unusual takes for him . . . Bill Cosby's lovely wife, Camille, is about to trade in her housewife role for a corporate wife's title. She has joined forces with Mary Waller to form Entertainment Accounting Services. Both have been involved in the comic's financial matters for several years. The new office will be headquartered in Santa Monica Billy Rowe is a syndicated columnist.

Constable

Democrat



Eric Estrada says,

"That's my man. Re-elect Lou Tabat, Constable, North Las Vegas."

Club Rouge



Mr. Edd presents

ROSE ROYCE



• Live and In-Person & Straight From SOLID GOLD •

Singing Their Hit Singles, Their Platinum & Their Gold Albums
CAR WASH! I WANNA GET NEXT TO YOU!
WISHING ON A STAR! OOH BOY!
Golden Touch! I'm Going Down!
Their New Smash! "STILL IN LOVE"

Thurs., Sept. 2nd • Fri., Sept. 3rd • Sat., Sept. 4th
 1st Show 11:00 p.m. 2nd Show 2:30 a.m.
 Admission \$12.50 (Includes 2 Free Drinks)

Ticket Locations:

ODYSSEY RECORDS — HAIR UNLIMITED
 BARBARA McNAIR'S ARTISTRY IN HAIR
 NELLIS AFB REC CENTER — CLUB ROUGE

For Reservations and Information Call 647-1900

Moulin Rouge Hotel
 900 West Bonanza Road
 Las Vegas, Nevada