

# Entertainment

## BILLIE ROWE'S NOTEBOOK

**George Burns Headlines Caesars Palace With 'Gimme A Break!' Star Nell Carter Oct. 2-10**

**N'YORK CITY** — Afro-Americans can come to but one conclusion based on the uncivil rights acts of President Roland Reagan, and that is the standard bearer of the Elephant Party does indeed forget. In a speechful mood before the National Urgan League, after his initial successful lease taking on the White House in '80, he made a solemn promise. In his core remarks the newly elected Commander in Chief told the gathering: "I WILL NEVER ERODE THE CIVIL RIGHTS GAINS MADE BY BLACK AMERICANS." If what has happened during the first term of his administration, which continues to mount as he moves deeper into a "lame duck" second term, his words were more solecistic than solemn. Somebody should turn-up his hearing aid and remind him that pachyderms are not supposed to forget and that a president is only as good as his word.

**WRITE ON IT** — According to figures "write" out of the Dept. of Defense publication, in fiscal '84 \$2.1 billion was awarded for research and development to top non-profit defense contractors. Colleges, universities and non-profit organizations accounted for this 12 percent of the \$18 billion awarded to 2,033 business, educational, non-profit, and government organizations receiving contracts above \$25,000. The Booker T. Washington Foundation, now under the guidance of Chuck Williams, with retired GE biz exec. Dr. Fred Black giving him an assist, in consort with Ohio State U. were the only Black beneficiaries recognized on the list of 499 top receivers of the Defense Dept.'s largess. Wow! Our schools could surely use some of those millions. As much as we're researched and evaluated they could sure do a job, and do it better . . .

**EDGES**, the unique org. of Black corporate executives is also the fastest growing. It voted in 8-new members mid'yr. Lumel Dawson, Nassau County Commish Human Rights, lead the group in . . . The Allen

McMillin salute to news guy Jesse Walker was timely, yet overdue. No journalist has given more or accepted less. The happy surprise was Honi Coles AT&T'ing it from L.A. where he's on the road with "My One and Only," and Nipsey Russell's late last minute stop in to add an additional spark to the exchanges of old friends breaking egg-rolls at the China Song. Heard that about 3-ayem charming Ina and Lee Archer had to pour Jesse out of an entertainment lively Showman's swanky new pub on Harlem's Frederick Douglass Blvd.

**WRITE NEWSWORTHY** — Dr. Gloria E.A. Toote is back from rest and relaxation in Atlantic City acting like she's about to accept a position in the Reagan Administration. He could surely use the astute attorney who has his best interest at heart and not at risk . . . Chris Bennett, NNPA's prexy has set a double agenda to conclude his second and final term in office. No. 1: establish the org's own hdq. in DeeCee. No. 2: broaden the financial reach of the Black Press, circulation and advertising, to be able to embrace some of the many Afro-American journalist who because of lack of opportunities for advancement are leaving the so termed "White Press." Of the approximately 50,000 newsroom jobs in the nation, minority journalists holds about 3,000. That's according to a study by the Institute for Journalism Education. It also discovered that minorities are leaving the profession at three times the rate of whites . . . Stan Scott, the Philip Morris veep corp. affairs, put his action where his judgement is, not his politics. He's a syndicated columnist.

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Lovable comedian George Burns takes centerstage at Caesars Palace in cocktail shows with "Gimme A Break" star Nell Carter October 2 through 10 (dark 10/8).

A television star since the beginning of the classic "Burns and Allen Show" in 1950, Burns premiered Sept. 18 as host/comedy commentator for a new weekly series for CBS — "The George Burns Comedy Week." The half-hour segments will feature such entertainers as Carrie Fisher, Harvey Korman, Laraine Newman, Howard Hesseman, Valerie Perrine, Don Rickles and many more.

The 89-year-old star of radio, television and motion pictures maintains an active stage career while continuing to tape new segments for the series. And he has just completed a new book. Dear George "Advice and Answers From America's Expert on Everything From A to B" is scheduled for official release October 2.

Nell Carter is making her debut in the Caesars Palace showroom, part of a blossoming stage career that began in Birmingham, Ala.

Word is that the big silver and the tubes are both talking big dollars about the Rev. Jesse Jackson yet to be published autobiography . . . Brown and Williamson has pulled out of the Jazz Festival. In Pittsburgh the powerful Mellon Bank and Citiparks latched onto George Wein for the fourth annual event in steel city. Home town musical legend Art Blakey will be the honor centerpiece of the event. Bobby Short and his long piano will be among the attractions . . . **STAY LOOSE** . . . Billy Rowe is a syndicated columnist.

coffee shops and grew to include major roles on Broadway. There, she portrayed Susie Moon in "Dude," and appeared in "Jesus Christ Superstar" and "Bury the Dead."

Carter's feature films include "Hair," "Back Roads" with Sally Field and "Quartet" with Alan Bates.

Now starring in "Gimme A

Break," she performed for TV cameras at Caesars Palace this summer when "Circus of the Stars" was taped before a live audience. The versatile singer/actress/dancer put a team of tiny dogs through their paces for the annual special scheduled to air Dec. 8 on CBS.

George Burns and Nell

Carter will perform Oct. 2 through 10 (dark 10/8) in cocktail shows nightly at 10 p.m., except Saturday, Oct. 5, when shows are scheduled at 8:30 and 11:30 p.m. For reservations phone the Caesars Palace Circus Maximus Showroom 702/731-7333 or 800/454-4544 (outside Nevada, within the U.S.).

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