

# Entertainment

## BILLIE ROWE'S NOTEBOOK

### Spotlight Promise in '86 Not Plight!

N'YORK CITY — Smack dab in the midst of another N'Year my heart stands on tiptoe to salute those who have refused to allow their dreams to elude them. It is also familiar with the physical and mental agony of those who were caught in '85's cycle of tragedy, anger and defeat. Then there were the brave. Those who stood up to the squalor and deterioration of the neglected areas of our cities in a never ending battle to turn them

into oases of hope. They are the ones who spotlight our promise, rather than our plight. It is to those that this initial '86 column is dedicated. Let's go for it, well aware that no person is better than another — some are just better off! However, if the covenant with democracy is made to be kept, "Equal Opportunity for all," even that score can be matched. All we need do is to prepare ourselves, and in the words of the gospel song, let nobody turn us around.

HAPPY N'YR. — How we see each other could be the

most important determination to carry us through '86, God willing. It must start with more respect for self and each other. We must stop trying to be what we are not as we concentrate on what we are: "A GREAT PEOPLE, with a GREAT PRESENT and headed towards a GREAT FUTURE.

Too many times I have seen Comm. Whilhelmina Holliday Haynes seated at some obscure table. Our first female Deputy Police Comm., she deserves anybody's dais. The same holds true for any of the Black publishers, and some of our top newsguys and dolls who are not treated as well protocol wise as those Blacks who earn their paychecks on

white media payrolls and spend very little time among us. However they do get the treatment when they do chance it. To come out of '86 better than we are coming into it, we must stop pushing down and start pushing or pulling up . . . Draw a line between the achievers and the deceivers . . .

Remember that Self makes Help a stronger word, and that when you help somebody you also help yourself. It's just another way of making it a year of contributions rather than conditions. Then too, it's a great way of really remembering that the only way you can be used is to be Useful . . . Let us Separate the Givers from the Takers . . .

Teach your children to think and not just believe for in their total generation the wars of the world will be for the mind . . . It may be wise to toss in the fact that humanity is the meanest force on earth with the power to change everything that's good as well as what it believes is bad . . . Let us face the future with the stimulus of peace and love on earth in the name of God the Father . . . HAPPY NEW YEAR 1986.

WRITE NEWS — The NNPA will tee off its first annual Charlie Armstrong Golf Tournament during its Midwinter Workshop in Freeport, The Bahamas in Jan. Coors Beer is sponsoring and all members and guests are urged to bring their clubs. The trophies will be out of sight and well worth the trek from tee to green . . . We had to read it in the papers that Columbia TV is contemplating an all-Black, they spelled it with a tiny "b," soap opera, titled, you guessed it, "Heart and Soul." Ain't that cute? They say the nets rejected it as not ready for prime time so the syndicated deal. Ralph Andrews is the producer working in cahoots with O.J. Simpson, the legendary gridiron super turned tube commentator. Shooting is scheduled for April with an "affirmative action" behind the scenes complement of talent filling every necessary category . . . The South B'Way regional Troupe has pulled "The Gingham Dog" from its downtown Knight Center, Miami schedule. Our lady, Vinnette Carroll, has

### Pointer Sisters Topline At Caesars Palace



LAS VEGAS, Nev. — The Pointer Sisters will hit center stage in the Circus Maximus Showroom with ventriloquist Ronn Lucas from Jan. 8 through 13.

Ruth, Anita and June Pointer have been touring almost non-stop for more than a year, bringing audiences the beat-heavy music and sassy lyrics that have proven them winners in showroom excitement. They earned two Grammy Awards within the past year and continue to stoke audiences with favorites like "Dare Me," "Jump (For My Love)," "Neutron Dance" and "I'm So Excited."

They have been evolving in

their career since it began, climaxed by the popularity of the single "Dare Me" from their new "Contact" album. They started with the rich, rolling rhythms of gospel songs in their youth, went to the '40s sound that set the country on its ear and first made them famous, graduating to the famous beat-heavy pop-rock of their current hits.

Ronn Lucas, who was recently voted the 1985 Ventriloquist of the Year by the American Society of Ventriloquists, was named the previous year's Gold Cabaret Entertainer of the Year.

tagged the move racism. The charge has been denied by producer Allan Mark Wayne explaining that the move was one of economy in the face of a possible \$20,000 excess overrun . . . No such problems for "UpTown," the Allen Spivak/Larry Magid musical, conceived, staged and choreographed by Maurice Hines. It has set hinterland type users on an adjective hunt to satisfy their raving, B'way can hardly await its coming since, allegedly, it's hotter than hades with exceptional singing and dancing, and a chorus line the street hasn't seen the likes of since a patron drought closed the Cotton Club . . . A pal got on the pen and tipped me that "Black and Blue" has set the French applauding and filling the 3000 seat Chatelet which had to add a Satdee matinee to handle the overflow. The critics say it's the most satisfactory Black musical to arrive in Paris

since "Harlem 1930." Among the top liners are Ruth Brown, Linda Hopkins, Ralph Brown and Jimmy Slyde. Choreography is out of the genius of Henry LeTang . . . Stevie Wonder nixed a White House invite to accept the key and a citation from Detroit for his public service video, "Don't Drive Drunk."

WRITE INTO '86 — Under my last eye surveillance thirty-two academics had received awards under the Fulbright Scholar Program to travel, consult, lecture and conduct research in several of the major West Indian and free African countries. The program accounted for 870 such Awards for the '85-86 period, an increase of one hundred dollars. Every time my ears attempt to keep pace with an embracable arrangement racing across the ivories I will think about George Rhodes. When I think

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