

# Entertainment

## BILLIE ROWE'S NOTEBOOK

### THE INS AND OUTS OF GREEN POWER

**N'YORK CITY:** — In the name of progress African Americans through their organizations present countless events to raise funds necessary to fuel the struggle for equality. These events run the cost gamut from \$10. to \$1,000 per person. Supporters may be shocked to discover that close to half of the money raised remains with the hotel, restaurant or caterer. Not to mention the off the top fees paid to professional fund raisers. One typical upward mobility organization presented its annual affair last year which grossed in excess of \$85,000. After expenses, the group's net was under half the gross intake. Expenditures included \$6000 for gratuities, \$500 printing cost, plus big postage \$\$\$.

Over \$2000 for an award plus an additional near grand for gifts for the dais guests and \$500 for flowers. More than a thousand dollars were for incidentals and another tidy bundle in complementary tickets. While the \$40-thousand raised for the organization's scholarship giveaway is commendable, the means raises the question at what cost to the African-American com-

munity. How much of that expense money found its way into the hands of Black folk? Was the florist, photographer, printer, or award designer an Afro-American? As it stands now our organizations add too much green power to the "guns" of the oppressors as we seek funds to beat down bias and smother racism. There is an urgent need for some elegant banquet facilities in our community. Then some of the millions we squander, in search of pomp and ceremony, which is always missing, will remain where it's needed to do the most good. The housing situation is out of control and ambitious developers are eyeing areas once left to die. The solution is simple. In addition to scholarship funds, organizations would do well to combine and establish a community building fund. It would be wonderful to ride through places in Detroit, N'York City, Chicago, St. Louis, Miami and Atlanta, Cleveland and California and see the run-down built up, see the once vacant, alive with restaurants, hotels, malls and housing owned and operated by organizations that are now making fat cat hotel chains richer as we get poorer.

According to the Dr. Andrew Brimmer Co., African Americans spent more than \$203 billion in '86. Think how much of it stayed in our own community. It's said money talks, but to us its goodbye is heard more than its hello. With the kind of bread the astute Gov. talked about, organizations should have no problem raising the financing to build affordable housing and with it the kind of business environment that is conducive to a prosperous self controlled community. The gauntlet of self determination, freedom's strongest weapon, is waiting to be picked up. Don't just stand there, do something. Like the keeper of this corner said: "Beware of those who are always willing to party you, but are not willing to make you a partner."

**STAR GAZING:** — Rosetta LeNoire hopes that the new knee she will have put in place this month will eliminate the pain. The actress - producer - director - teacher and founder of AMAS Rep. Theatre, is scheduled to undergo surgery at N'York Hosp. The expected ten days stay will give her just enough time to get write on a new play. After several seasons with the now-cancelled "Gimme A Break," as Nell Carter's mama, she is all but set for another upscheduled sitcom. The producers want her bad enough to hold the spot until she is healthy... Manhattan Boro Prexy David Dinkins' host of supporters will gather way downtown to celebrate his 60th b'day on the Esplanade at Battery Park... The Queens-based Black Spectrum Theatre Co., has arrived. Some 18,000 folks have participated in programs at their year old theatre in Roy Wilkins Park... According to Alwyn B. Taylor, director general of the African Center for Monetary Studies, Canadians now give \$950 million in government aid to Sub-Sahara Africa. The U.S. contribution for the same period was just \$739 million. That's \$233 millions less than its contribution in '86. The banks of 45 African nations paid for the study... Daily News scribe Bryan Burwell's Joe Louis writehand applause was on the money. However, it was off facts about my boss being 74 summers. Not yet Bryan.

Bill Gallo's piece on the golden ann'y of the immortal champion winning the title was also memory refreshing. Wish the entire nation had done more to remind the generation about his boxing and character greatness.

**EASY WAY OUT:** — Plea bargain got some white students off very light who participated in that Univ. of Mass. at Amherst, racial brawl during World Series time last yr. The three white students who participated were sentenced to a year's probation and 50 hours of community service. They must also receive booze-awareness and racial sensitivity training. 3 other white students and the Blacks involved are to be dealt with later this summer. Students at schools in the City University of New York system, CUNY, will be able to register to vote when they sign-in for classes... Whitney Houston's next step could be across the silver screen. Clive Davis, prez. of her record label, has inked a two year deal with Tri-star pictures. Houston's praise agent should be made aware that the Black press includes more folks than those from radio, TeeVee and slick magazines. Her thank you party at 20/20 ignored too many news persons who were on her write side when she was plain old, instead of THE Whitney Houston... It isn't news to me, that the Writer's Guild of America West study discovered that H'wood has a bias in favor of white males who are under 40. The organization could have saved much loot and moonths of probing by checking out females and minorities and over 40 members. The Guild solution is tired as well. It has issued its usual "Call for a vigorous effort to challenge and change the practice of the film and TV industry. Fat chance!... Marlon Jackson has inked a solo deal with Capitol Records. That leaves Tito, Jackie and Randy to mind the family biz... "Porgy and Bess" is headed down under. The sights and sounds of Catfish Row are part of the Sept. scheduled Spileto Melbourne Fest... The joint Howard University and University of Texas, at Austin, Schools of Communications Conference on Minorities and Communications examined ways

## Margaret Crosby: 1987 Johnson Products Gentle-Treatment Model Search Winner

CHICAGO, IL (June 1987) — Winning the Grand Prize in the Gentle-Treatment® Model Search Contest is the ultimate dream for any aspiring black model. When 19-year-old Margaret Crosby recently captured the title in Chicago during the Fifth Annual Johnson Products Co., Inc. Gentle-Treatment® Model Search, she walked

family of friends getting together to celebrate the beauty of black women."

Using the theme "Here's to Hair," the Chicago-based Johnson Products which is a manufacturer of black hair care and cosmetic products including the Gentle-Treatment® line, chose the occasion of the Fifth Model Search final judging to



Margaret Crosby

away with a treasure chest of prizes including a one-year modeling contract with the company. She also walked away enlightened about the black beauty industry and encouraged by her new family of friends.

"Arriving in Chicago, I decided that regardless of the contest's outcome, I was already a winner by virtue of being one of the seven finalists," reflects the young San Francisco college student. "All the activities I participated in during my week's stay in the city as well as the various people I met overshadowed any thoughts about this contest being a typical beauty competition. It was more like a

to include Blacks in the mainstream. H'cum these educators never, ours also, fashion conferences on how to strengthen the minority media since all of us will never be employed by the majority electronic or print media. As you guess, it's the Hite of Nancy's fancy to typesite for Billy Rowe syndicated columnist.

enhance the natural beauty of the seven finalists while enlightening their minds with some black history. The finalists began their week of activities participating in a special one-day seminar on personal grooming, beauty and etiquette. During the rest of the week, they spent time touring Chicago; attending plays; making an appearance at a fashion show; having a complete beauty makeover; receiving model coaching from some top black models; being in a fashion shoot; participating in a role model workshop with young girls; and learning the history of African art and the history of black hair care products.

The fun-filled week culminated on the evening of the final judging when the Johnson Products family of friends came together to watch as Margaret Crosby stepped into her new role as the Fifth Gentle-Treatment® Model Search Grand Prize Winner. In a stage presentation co-hosted by Ken Page, Broadway star of "Ain't Misbehavin'" and

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