

Entertainment

BILLIE ROWE'S NOTEBOOK

NCAA INITIATES 'GLASTNOST' POLICY ON MINORITY HIRING

N'ROCHELLE, N.Y. — Hi Boss. The Natl. Collegiate Athletic Assoc. (N.C.A.A.) has started a program to enhance opportunities for African-Americans in coaching and sports administration. Although the suspicion has always been that career pickings in college sports was slim for minorities, the actual facts are quite dismal: Charles Harris, Arizona State Univ., and Gene Smith, Eastern Michigan State Univ., are the only African-American athletic directors in the 105-members Div. A'—A. Except for those representing African-American college athletic

conferences there are no Black commissioners. There are but three African-American Football coaches in Div. 1-A: Cleve Bryant, Ohio University, Francis Peay, Northwestern Univ., and Wayne Nunnely, Univ. of Nevada at Las Vegas. Basketball is the winner with 25 of us as head coaches out of 275 predominantly white institutions in Div. 1. The effort has been met with mixed opinions. Arizona's Harris, "I think it's a positive step. Anytime you have the endorsement of a group like the N.C.A.A. it acknowledges that something needs to be done."



Arthur A. Schomburg (1874-1938), a Puerto Rican of African descent, dedicated his life to the documentation of black history and culture. His extensive collection of art, books, and manuscripts was acquired by the Carnegie Corporation for the New York Public Library, and formed the core collection of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture. Photo credit: Schomburg Center, NYPL; James Latimer Allen

While Bryant called it "window dressing." The N.C.A.A. has no power to see that the hiring of Blacks gets done. It can't catch cheaters, so how can it force an institution to hire Black coaches and administrators? Change will come only if college presidents step forward and say that more qualified Blacks will be hired." Wilford S. Bailey, N.C.A.A. pres., almost agrees with Bryant on the lack of power that his organization has to change hiring practices. Collecting data and pointing to ways to increase opportunities for African-Americans is all the group can do. "The N.C.A.A. can't do an awful lot. The institutions have to get away from the buddy system and use an Affirmative Action plan. They have to change awareness and understanding," he admitted.

The Natl. Assoc. of Collegiate Directors of Athletics is also looking into ways to increase minority participation in sports. According to its president Carl Miller, athletic director at the Univ. of the Pacific, "There is no question what we need to do. We haven't done enough and can't do enough to improve the situation. We have to find the best Black talent and move forward." Since I don't follow sports, the opinions of our readers would be appreciated. Send comments to Billy Rowe, 455 Main Street, Suite 103-105, New Rochelle, N.Y. 10801.

DESK NOTES: — Martha

THE POINTER SISTERS HEADLINE CAESARS PALACE OCTOBER 14-19

The Pointer Sisters bring their incendiary hit songs and sassy performance style back to the Circus Maximus Showroom at Caesars Palace October 14-19, in cocktail shows which also feature comedienne Ellen DeGeneres.

Cop." Unwilling to rest on their collective laurels, the group boasts a recent R&B hit, "Mercury Rising," and "Be There," from the new movie "Beverly Hills Cop II." Ellen DeGeneres, who in



The Pointer Sisters

Ruth, Anita and June Pointer grew up singing together in the West Oakland (Calif.) Church of God, when their father, the presiding minister, helped develop the girls' musical skills. Though sheltered in a religious environment, they were unable to resist the appeal of popular music at the time, and launched a pop music career that would produce a non-stop succession of hit songs.

Their first two albums, recorded when sister Bonnie was a member of the group, went gold. A country single, "Fairy Tale," won the trio the first of several Grammy awards, and resulted in the Pointer Sisters becoming the first black females ever to appear on the stage at the Grand Ole Opry.

In 1978, the sisters joined forces with producer Richard Perry to record hit singles, "Fire," "He's So Shy" and "Slow Hand." The triple-platinum LP "Breakout" stepped up the momentum with "Jump" and "I'm So Excited." Then came chart-topper "Neutron Dance," from the soundtrack of the hit feature film "Beverly Hills

1984 was crowned The Funniest Person in America by Showtime cable Tv system, began her career doing standup comedy in "places that looked like redone 7-11's. In fact," she says, "I think they were." Now her professional credits include most of the major comedy clubs in the U.S., along with appearances on TV's "Tonight Show," a nationally syndicated segment of "PM Magazine" and various cable programs.

Winning critical plaudits for her wacky observational comedy, DeGeneres has been praised for humor that is intelligent, well-written and unoffensive. Asked why she avoids using sex or drugs in her onstage act, she explained, "My father, who is very religious, used to come and see me perform all the time. I didn't want to offend him, and I found out that I didn't have to."

Instead, DeGeneres turns to wacky animal jokes (Look out, SPCA!), conversations with God (Why do fleas exist?) and skits like "The Stupidest Game Show in the World."

MARJORIE'S World Variety Show Extravaganza

IS COMING TO LAS VEGAS
OCTOBER 17, 1987
TWO SHOWS ONLY
9:00 AND 11:30 P.M.
AT THE

NEW TOWN Las Vegas, Nev. LAVERN

603 W. JACKSON

STARRING
THE DYNAMIC BLUES MAN
OF PEACE, LOVE AND HAPPINESS

CHARLES BURNETT

THE SOUL STIRING SOUNDS OF

THERESA HAGGERTY

AND THE

PROVATIVE SOUNDS OF THE NEW RECORDING STAR

BARBARA HASTINGS

ALSO INCLUDED

Marjories's World Dancers and Fashion Show



AND SO MUCH MORE
COME AND JOIN THE FUN
SATURDAY OCTOBER 17, 1987
TICKET COST \$5.00 PER SHOW

FOR FURTHER
INFORMATION

PLEASE CALL
(702) 647-3995

See ROWE, Page 9