

SISTERS From Page 10

with producer Richard Perry to record his singles like "Fire," "He's So Shy" and "Slow Hand." Their triple-platinum album "Breakout" stepped up the momentum with "Jump," "I'm So Excited" and "Neutron Dance."

The group boasts a recent rhythm and blues hit, "Mercury Rising," from newest album "Hot Together," and "Be There," from the feature film "Beverly Hills Cop II." They are working on concepts from an LP to be released in 1988.

Actor/comedian Byron Allen has been busy since his stint as a genial host for TV's "Real People." A touring stand-up comedian with performers like Lionel Richie, Kenny Rogers, Smokey Robinson, Al Jarreau and many more, Allen has made people laugh in venues as varied as Carnegie Hall in New York and the Comedy Store in Los Angeles, the Kennedy Center in Washington and the Opryland Hotel in Nashville.

One of the few comedians to play Disneyland, Allen is equally at home in front of college students, corporate executives and families. He avoids offensive material, focusing instead on funny real-life situations.

"Mothers say the funniest things," says Allen. "This smells sour. Here, taste it."

At 18, he was one of the youngest comedians ever featured on "The Tonight Show." The appearance won him a huge ovation, a curtain call from host Johnny Carson and an offer from TV producer George Schlatter to cohost "Real People." Allen was a regular on the show for five years, juggling his studies at USC while doing TV assignments across the United States.

"Real People" was a training ground in more ways than one," says Allen. "It taught me the fear of God. I can't believe I'm still alive to say I rode a Brahma bull!"

At Caesars Palace, The Pointer Sisters and Byron Allen perform nightly at 8:30 and 11:30. For reservations phone 702/731-7333 or 800/445-4544.

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LAS VEGAS TALENT SEGMENT OF 'STAR-ATHON '88' CEREBRAL PALSYPALSY TELETHON TO AIR FROM IMPERIAL PALACE JAN. 23 & 24

The Ninth Annual Star-Athon '88 (A Weekend with the Stars) Cerebral Palsy Telethon taped their Las Vegas talent segment in the Imperial Theatre of the Imperial Palace Hotel & Casino Thanksgiving weekend. On January 23 & 24, 1988, this segment will air on Fox Broadcasting (KVVU-TV 5 locally) nationally along with "live" segments from the West Coast in addition to local segments throughout the country.

During the taping of the Las Vegas talent segment at the Imperial Palace, audiences were treated to the talents of Lou Rawls, Maureen Murphy, The Treniers, Charlie Charles, the cast of "Ain't Misbehavin'," The Pdragons, Mario & Daniel, Anthony Gatto, Moe Bandy, Michael Pasternak and cast members from the Imperial Palace's two-time, award-winning show, "Legends In

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From Page 7

cludes "that the inability of black men to support a family . . . is the driving force behind the rise of female-headed households."

Male joblessness, and its effect on young mothers finding "marriageable" men capable of supporting a family has led to children being raised in single-parent, poverty-stricken and often welfare dependent households. This development, coupled with poor education, inadequate housing, declining services, and other factors, has spawned the type of pathologies that ravage inner city neighborhoods.

A bitter irony not lost on Prof. Wilson is that the situation in the inner cities began to deteriorate when "the most sweeping anti-discrimination legislation and programs had been enacted and implemented" and at a time when blacks were capturing power in urban political machines. But the social mobility offered by the civil rights legislation of the 1960s allowed upper and middle-class blacks to move out of the ghettos into the newly integrated society, leaving behind the poor and ill-trained, who have become increasingly alienated and isolated from mainstream society. Paradoxically, this new mobility was at least partly responsible for the decline

Concert." Robert Guillaume, star of the hit television series, "Benson," was the host for the star-studded event.

At the time of the taping, E. Edward Crispell, general manager of the Imperial Palace, presented a check to Guillaume for Cerebral Palsy on behalf of the staff and management of the hotel in the amount of \$10,000.

Last year the "Star-Athon" telethon was broadcast "live" on over 90 television stations coast-to-coast and raised more than \$18 million to fund research and community services relating to the disabling condition that affects 700,000 Americans now and affects some 6,000 more newborn babies each year.

in inner city schools, housing, and religious institutions. Black hotels, first-class restaurants, theater, and retail stores virtually disappeared along with their clientele.

Prof. Wilson resists solutions to these and other problems that are race-specific, presumably because they have not worked in the past. Interpreting the basic problem as one of poverty and not race, he insists on an agenda of full employment and industrial/economic policies that will address the needs of this nation's disadvantaged, and a fundamental shift in the government's approach to the underclass that will require "the support and commitment of a broad constituency."

It is a sound and rational approach, first posited by the late Bayard Rustin over two decades ago. It was Rustin who realized that after blacks achieved equality under law, the next phase of the civil rights struggle would entail forging broad-based coalitions of community, civic, labor, and religious groups to press for economic equality and social justice. Given the political climate at the time, Rustin's strategy was rejected by many in the movement. Prof. Wilson's insightful and scholarly work on the economic origins of the problem is an invaluable starting point for reevaluating strategies too easily dismissed in the past and for formulating solutions that will ease the suffering and social isolation of what threatens to be a permanent underclass.



Shown left to right, E. Edward Crispell, general manager of the Imperial Palace Hotel & Casino; Robert Guillaume, UCP telethon host for the Las Vegas talent segment; Tammy Townsend, 5, the UCP Las Vegas poster child, and songstar Lou Rawls.

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