

Entertainment

BILLIE ROWE'S NOTEBOOK

Were Michael Jackson's Grammy Chances Sabotaged?

N'YORK CITY:—The question is being asked, "Who sabotaged Michael Jackson's chance of winning Grammys in categories in which he was nominated?" This assessment is not to diminish the talents of any of those whose names were extracted from the envelopes in place of his. However in this scribe's opinion, in sound and choreography, he is head and shoulders above those who were worthy of nomination in the same classifications. His all around ability in that mode is unmatched in a world in which his unique talents dominate. In his case the results leave the selection processes suspect. However the megastar seemed noway phased by the snub. So before the sound and sight of a standing ovation had died in acceptance of his electrifying live performance of the "Bad" "Man in the Mirror" he was ready to do it again, and then some, for the United Negro College Fund as a groovein for his concert effort in the Apple. So outwardly the award snub didn't seem to bother the world class entertainer not one iota. Directly after, by an evening, he unleashed his bril-



Michael Jackson

liantly conceived laser beamed show on stage and "screen" of Madison Square Garden. The private concert to benefit The United Negro College Fund was "wonder'ful" in the eyes and ears of an army of youthful adorers having the time of their lives. Whatever your age you owe it to yourself to see this youthful phenomenon at work in his brilliantly conceived laser beam world of sound and human movements. Pepsi-Cola Company's president, Roger A. Enrico, personally invited a number of top drawer folks who were more admirers of this young genius than fans. In that classification were Jackie and Deputy police Commissioner Billy Hayes, M/M Harvey Russell, M/M Benjamin Hooks, NAACP's nat'l leaders, Manhattan Borough Pres. David Dinkins, entrepreneur Percy Sutton, Dean Sayles, GF USA Vice President Phil Davis and Son, M/M Yves (Harriet) Michel and Hazel Dukes, state NAACP topper. This Michael Jackson/Pepsi beau geste reportedly netted UNCF \$600,000.

On the eve of the Grammy Award, in a black tie setting within the Pierre Hotel, Quincy Jones and Herbie Hancock introduced their winning selections for Sony's '88 "Innovators Awards." In the victory spotlight were Al B. Sure, vocalist, producer, arrangeer and instrumentalists Harrison-

Blanchard. The program was created for Sony by the Mingo-Jones ad agency.

ALL NEWS: —Michael Jackson left the Grammy stage empty handed, but full hearted. The fully packed audience awarded him a standing, minutes long, ovation. It was the full measure of their love for him personally and his extraordinary talents. . . . "In The Heat of The Night," starring Howard Rollins and Carroll O. Conner, tops this late season's network offering. It resuscitated memories of Hollywood whenever so often actors like Sidney Poitier and Rod Steiger, who won an Oscar for his co-lead role in the big screen introduction of "Heat," would bring an important message in their bags of make believe. In that vein, Mario Van Peebles whose TeeVee's "Sonny Spoon" is on the cathode tube's hit parade, has hooked in with his financial and entertainment poppa, Melvin, for a father and son effort to produce "Identity Crisis." All the old cliches come into play here like "chip off the old block," "like father like son" and "The bark doesn't fall far from the tree." So father will direct this action/adventure flick scripted by the son. . . . Controversy about Spike Lee's "School Daze" has upped the film from 8th to 6th slot on Variety's top-50-grossing film list. Its total in

Unity Theater Presents "The Colored Museum"

Nucleus Associates, L.D.C. in conjunction with Unity Theater presents "Colored Museum" by George C. Wolfe through arrangement with the International Copyright Union.

There will be two shows only, Friday and Saturday, March 18 and 19, at 950 W. Owens Avenue, inside Heritage Hall, located in the Nucleus Plaza Shopping Center.

The presentations will begin at 8:00 PM each night and admission is \$5.00.

boxoffice at this writing is \$2,169,064. The Sidney Poitier starred in "Shoot to Kill" is second on that list with a todate take of \$3,926,695. "Action Jackson," in which Carl Weathers assumes the top role, is comfortable in the fourth spot. Its gross at this scribbling was \$3,359,626. And those are all millions ladies and gents. The success of this parcel of Afro-American star dominated films on the big silver market at the same time expelled the media myth that they would not succeed all so bunched on the film market day and date. Guess folks are just looking for good entertainment and not the color of the performers' pigment nor racial background. And that's how it should be! . . . Ruth Givens went to Japan to see the fight, not to share the honeymoon scene with daughter Robin and heavyweight champ Mike (The Eliminator) Tyson.

ABOUT PRIDE AND PREJUDICE:—The National Institute Against Prejudice and Violence became the initial mixed organization to publicly act against the media pegged swelling tide of racism. Founded by the Hon. Harry R. Hughes, former governor of Maryland, the institute is chaired by former three term U.S. Senator Birch E. Bayh, Jr. of Indiana. The organization summoned its nationwide affiliates to N'York City for a two days "Northeast Regional Conference" to deal with the major facets of prejudice and violence. N'York's Gov. Mario Cuomo was the keynote speaker. Mayor Ed Koch brought greetings from the city. N'York City's historic Police Commissioner Benjamin Ward outlined his department's approach to the problem. It was the first in the nation to establish an Anti-Bias Unit. He is also an NIAPV board member. Edward Brooke, former U.S. Senator, the nation's only modern age Black to hold that position, NAACP's Benjamin Hooks, Harry Belafonte, Arthur J. Goldberg,

former Associate Justice, U.S. Supreme Court, Maurice Ferre, former mayor Miami, John E. Jacobs, nat'l Urban League prez, Le Xuan Khoa, exec director Indo-China Resource Action Center and Rabbi Benjamin Z. Kreitman are among the distinguished advisory board members.

personalities:—It's that time again; the Jackie Robinson annual Awards Dinner is right around the weeks. As usual the feast will be at the Waldorf and this yr's chairpersons are Mets owner Fred Wilpon and Bill Cosby, the traditional emcee, who will make the important announcements and into the celebs. . . . Lionel Hampton will probably make the preacher lay his bible down when he performs his "King David Suite" at the Mariners' Temple Baptist Church. . . . Ray Charles, Ben Vereen and the Four Tops are set for a benefit performance at the Judge Baker Children's Center in April. Last yr. Bill Cosby raised \$500,000 for the center's capital campaign. This year an award has been established in the name of his spouse, Camille Cosby. Mr. TeeVee certainly has a lovely and helpful way to share his wealth. And that's a great way to spend it. Well after all, Brink's trucks never follow a hearse to the cemetery. Remember that, you rich hoarders! . . . Phylicia Rashad, Billy Preston and Mary Wilson used their talents to benefit the Boston Children's service needs. . . . Morris Brown College has a slew of faculty and staff positions wide open. If you are interested don't be a "fool," apply before April one. . . . Goody goody. The Congress has voted 315-98 to broaden the scope of teh anti-bias laws to stem the tide of discrimination within educational institutions using Federal funds and hiding behind the bias walls of teh '84 Supreme Court Grove City College decision. . . . STAY LOOSE. . . . BILLY ROWE IS A SYNDICATED COLUMNIST.



Ms. C.L.'s Black Pearl Fashions

Carlean LeFear

We would like to thank our friends and customers for helping us to stay open in our community.

Carlean, Dorthea & Patricia
Infant Wear to Ladies sizes 1 to 26

SALES! SALES! SALES!

HOURS:

10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday thru Wednesday
10 a.m. to 9 p.m. Thursday thru Saturday

Ms. C.L.'s Black Pearl Fashions
900 W. Owens
Nucleus Shopping Plaza
646-1377

GREATER VOTES, GREATER POWER