

Entertainment

BILLIE ROWE'S NOTEBOOK

N'YORK CITY IS JESSE JACKSON'S TOWN!

N'YORK CITY:—New York City is Jesse Jackson's town and there's no doubt about it. It is difficult to discover in memory a moment when there was a more exciting voting time hereabouts when expectations mounted to a greater human peak to give one the feeling that he or she could really be all one wanted to be. In capturing the big city the "Country Preacher" extended our political borders but kept them so very reachable. His victory will keep the doors of political power ajar for Borough President David Dinkins, Basil Paterson, Percy Sutton, Councilman Wendell Foster and any others of their persuasion with a desire to make a run for the executive chamber of City Hall. Rev. Jesse Jackson is democracy's "goal" at the end of the RAINBOW THE KING! Through what it termed, "An unprecedented

poll of young Americans: What they think about their lives, country and leaders," Rolling Stone mag discovered: "The public figures whom they still revere above all others is a Black Baptist preacher from Georgia who was murdered 20 years ago, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The second most admired hero is Senator Robert F. Kennedy who was assassinated in '68." According to the survey both stood for the values that this generation still believes in: Peace and justice, tolerance and equality . . . NYPD Deputy Police Commish Billie Holiday has upped the warning flag to alert the gullible that "Network is just another pyramid scheme to con the easy buck seekers . . . A whitey led campaign is picking up interest in Daytona Beach, Fla., to erect a Jackie Robinson monument in city view. The motivation is to point-up that city's contribution to the success of

teh noble experiment which changed the face of baseball and gained it total acceptance as "America's pastime."

WHAT'S WHAT?—Sammy Davis, Jr. and Frank Sinatra attracted SRO crowds each of the 4 shows of memory resuscitation on the boards of the Big Apple's flagship theatre, Radio City Music Hall. With a \$75 top price the duo grossed \$1,577,360. The grand idea is now on hiatus until Sept. Then Liza Minnelli will fill the dean Martin void for 13 fall dates. This proving that they're not superstitious which is athirteen letter word . . . Edna Mae Robinson, ex-spouse of teh original "Sugar Man," chalked up the thrill of her glamorous existence. She met, exchanged hand shakes and had her program autographed by The Most Reverend Desmond M. Tutu, Archbishop of Capetown, SA. The Nobel Prize laureate was here acting for The Right Reverend Paul Moore, Jr., Bishop of New York for the Ordination of a Priest. He ordained John Godfrey Hartnett to the sacred Order of Priests

in Christ's Holy Catholic Church. The impressive ceremony was held in The Church of the Heavenly Rest, East 90th St. in Manhattan before packed pews . . . Panama Francis, just home from a working sojourn in Paris dropped a coin to express his jubilation about this corner's attention to the growing neglect of Afro-American musicians along the banquet circuit. Chalk up another sadness for the ole gang. Vivinne Melville, the essence of the glamour generation has checked out of this sad world . . . That cocktails and lunch gathering of the girls at Betty Jackson's W'chester mance was a male shutout. The food must have been out of sight since Irene Copeland was the hostess of the pre "Mother's Day bash . . . Now we know that Muhammad Ali is sick. Why else would he go public in defense of former Kentucky Gov. A.B. "Happy" Chandler. The former baseball Czar's use of the racial epithet, "Nigger," is unpardonable . . . Rosetta LeNoire, founder of AMAS Repertory Theatre, is the centerpiece of a unique 20-50-75 gala benefit. The dual purpose event was designed to salute her 50th ann'y in show biz and her 75th b'day . . . On the other side of teh coin Dr. Margaret Baker Green was just inducted into the Hunter College Hall of Fame. The happening added to the institution's annual luncheon . . . Film star Mayor Clint Eastwood is producer-director of a film depicting the life and music of the legendary musician Charlie "Yardbird" Parker.

The late alto sax'sation was considered the greatest jazzman of his time. Forest Whitaker has been handed the name role. Originally Richard Pryor was designed for same, however the idea was abandoned as not acceptable with "Bird's" aficionados or producer-director Eastwood. Dizzy Gillespie association with Parker will be represented in the flick. He will also share a consultant chair with "Bird's" live-in lady, Chan Richardson. Her unpublished autobio inspired this interracial love story of "Bird" and his music.

AUTHENTIC BUT NOT GUARANTEED:—The Tuskegee Airmen Inc's 17th annual nat'l convention has

'Reading Rainbow' Returned April 11 for Sixth Season New 1988 Shows Premiere in August

MINNEAPOLIS—This April millions of American schoolchildren have a new reason to celebrate the return of a new season to the land. Along with the longer, warmer, friendlier days of springtime, they also can cheer the happy return of the *Reading Rainbow* public television show.

and a great way to open up new worlds of learning and imagination—that's our basic message on *Reading Rainbow*," says Burton. "It's a message that beginning readers need to hear every day, and that's why I am so thrilled that the new season is starting two months earlier than before.



READING RAINBOW host LeVar Burton develops a case of "puppy love" in "Best Friends," one of the first shows of the new *READING RAINBOW* season. In this episode, viewers will learn how seeing-eye dogs are trained to act as eyes for the blind. *READING RAINBOW* returned April 11 for its sixth season as one of America's favorite children's TV shows. Designed to get children excited about the world of books and reading, *READING RAINBOW* is seen on almost all of the public television stations nationwide. Check local TV listings for exact dates and times.

For the first time ever, *Reading Rainbow* is launching its new season during the schoolyear. The April date was when the new season premiered on most of America's public TV stations; shows newly-produced for 1988 premiere in August. Emmy nominated actor, LeVar Burton also returned as the show's host. Alternately known to his young audience as "Mr. Reading Rainbow" and "Lt. Geordi La Forge" on the commercial TV series, *Star Trek: The Next Generation*, Burton has emerged as a kind of congenial pied piper of reading motivation for the country's 5- to 8-year old beginning readers who are the series' target audience.

It gives us two more months in which we can reinforce that message to our viewers."

As one of the nation's most lauded children's TV shows—a Corporation for Public Broadcasting independent panel called the series "near perfect children's television"—*Reading Rainbow* has developed a devout following among children. Last year's show was seen by 7 million children weekly. And that was primarily through word of mouth recommendation; a situation that *Reading Rainbow* hopes will change this year as classroom teachers become more aware of the series.

"Now that we will be on during the schoolyear, pri-

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"Reading is fun, exciting

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