

# Entertainment

## BILLIE ROWE'S NOTEBOOK

### PROTEST TO WEAR A BLOOD RED RIBBON

**N'YORK CITY:**—Black Resources and Issues Now Inc. is calling on those with human rights concern to wear a blood red ribbon June 16, 1988. The gesture will join them in marking the 12th anniversary of the June 1976 shameful slaughter of more than 1000 unarmed native Africans in their mandatory homeland of Soweto, South Africa. Most of them were students. All of them had dared to stand in protest against the denial of the human dignity of statehood in a land where their roots are embedded and their an-

cestral blood saturates the soil foundation of its rich heritage. In the words of Dorothy Gordon, project organizer, the objective of this organization is "to network with others to persuade our government to prevail upon the government of South Africa to cease the cruel inhumane treatment of those of aboriginal status." Edna Beach is founder of this organization. Barbara Oliver is prez and its three veeps, in order named, are Deputy Police Comm. Billie Holiday, Corien Davis and Calvin Bass.

**SO LONG:**—Pioneers are point people. They are blessed with courageous



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daring and do and a rare knack to search, discover and explore uncharted peaks and valleys leaving visible paths for others to safely pursue their dreams. In these basic respects Sammy Davis Sr. and Lloyd Dickens were a match. They found immortality in what they did for others. In life's arena both lived a good span of years. However to their international circle of friends their living was too short. "Big" Sam and "Money Man" Lloyd lived through times which we seniors look back on and call the good years. When a nickle was as strong in the marketplace as its buffalo symbol. With the Will Mastin Trio, "Big Sam" gave his talented son the spurs to ride to world class success as its greatest entertainer. Their time, Lloyd and Sam senior, was the right time. They were pioneers who mapped paths leading to success for friends and countless others they never knew. Whenever "Mr. D" inspires an audience to a standing ovation the echoes will be pleasing to S.D. Sr. in his hereafter. When political matchmakers gather they will wish that Lloyd was still about with his deep pockets and sage advice.

**MARQUEE NEWS PLUS:**—Saint Peters Church's "Jazz Ministry" has set aside an evening in October for a swinging evening. Lionel Hampton will be its centerpiece. He will be the recipient of the newly created "Duke Ellington Shepherd of the Night Flock" award. Hamp's ork and a parcel of jazz greats are expected to make a command appearance . . . The dual nite Cab Calloway celebration at Carnegie Hall had even the abutted 7th Ave. jumpin'. In a sense it was yesterday embracing today with Benny Carter, Honi Coles, Jonah Jones, Doc Cheatham, The Nicholas Brothers, Panama Francis, Milt Hinton and a chip off the old block, Chris Calloway sequeing into and out of the spotlights. They were just a few of the great musical luminaries who turned out to honor the legend of "Minnie The Moocher." Is there room enough hereabouts for two Copelands. If not, who's this new kid on the skillet, Gary Copeland, cooking up

the palate testers out Long Island way. His 25-centers are promoting his cullery magic throughout the posh zip code areas. . . Bill London, the FBI retiree was honored by his peers to round out May. It could not happen to a more devoted time giver to the betterment of kids on all the blocks. . . Veteran performer Joe Attles had to face up to the saddest moment of his life. Remembered as the understudy for Cab Calloway's Sportin' Life, "Porgy & Bess," he decided to nix the Apple and move to Charleston, S.C. to take care of his 100-yr old mother. Fate stepped in before he boarded the train and took her to that promised hereafter . . . Get well cards are in order for Buddy Tate, Sy Oliver and Clark Terry . . . Mario Van Peebles's coin dropper informed these ears that the exciting young star of TeeVee and the flicks mail has quadrupled since being named among the ten sex symbols . . . George Wein is pleased with the reaction to the announcement of on sale tickets for the '88 Jazz Festival . . . Looks like "For The Love of Louie" will be the opener with Whoopi Goldberg hostess of the event . . . Musically speaking Bettye Scott has again diverted her attention to the second annual Jazz Festival in honor of Fletcher Henderson in his home town of Cuthbert, Georgia. June 4th is the wound off date and Lionel Hampton will be the top attraction . . . Perhaps as an opening act just prior to the Moscow summit talks between Prez Ron Reagan and the Soviet Premier Mikhail Gorbachev, Pepsi-Cola unleashed Michael Jackson on 150,000,000 Russian TeeVee viewers.

**NEWS & VIEWS:** — Arch bishop Desmond TuTu stayed away from a scheduled appearance at Tulane University when a student pulled his coat at the last minute that the institution had failed to divest in corporations doing business with South Africa . . . An overnight protest "Study-In" ended when Harvard's Law School dean agreed to meet some of the demands of a mixed group of students. The basic agreement, "The recruitment of women and minorities for the school's faculty. Robert Wilkins, prexy of the Black Law

## SAHARA SHOWMAN, PRINCE SPENCER TO RECEIVE STAR!

Prince Spencer, currently appearing with Redd Foxx at the Sahara Hotel's Congo Room, will be getting a 'star' on Hollywood's Walk of Fame. The presentation is to be made on July 14 and will be awarded as a tribute to the legendary Four Step

and heads of state throughout the world.

Although the Step Brothers are not actively performing together, Prince Spencer continues to live life to the fullest through his stage appearances and business ventures as president of Redd



Prince Spencer

Brothers. The hoofing quartet consisting of Prince Spencer, Al Williams, Rufus "Flash" McDonald and Maceo Anderson were known as "America's greatest dance team" and were responsible for leading the way for black artists in the entertainment industry. The Step Brothers have shared the stage and screen with many showbiz greats and were dance favorites of kings, queens, presidents

Foxx Productions.

Thanks to the American Association for the Ancient Arts, who in their quest to obtain stars on the Walk of Fame for many legendary dancers have helped to keep their memory and the art form alive, the fabulous Step Brothers will now receive the recognition they deserve for their contribution to the entertainment world and as forerunners in the breaking down of racial barriers in the industry.

Students Ass'n, inspired the "study-in" protest . . . North Carolina AT&T U is among the nine institutions selected to receive funding for new space-engineering research. NASA will provide \$500,000 this year and up to \$1 million annually over the next 4 years to each of the centers. . . That good college news is a tip reminder that two of our most prominent historically Black institutions of higher learning are talking merger . . . Corporate Vice Prez Phil Davis, Gen.

Foods USA and Senior V.P. Darwin Davis, Equitable, were the sparks which ignited interest in the recent Arthur Ashe's "Evening of Sports Chic." . . . Joseph Argrette didn't mince words accepting The Contractor of the Year Award of the W'chester Minority Contractors Assn, Inc. He used his spotlight to tongue-lash the bias bearers of government contracts in the heavy construction industry. Lee A. Arcl . . . ch'm CEO, Org. Publishing

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