

Entertainment

BILLIE ROWE'S NOTEBOOK

Suggested Memorial For Congressman Mickey Leland

NYC:--It is no longer the case of what Congressman Mickey Leland can do for his country, but what his nation can, and should do for this noble representative whose dedication to human needs was as big as the state which seated him in that August body, the Congress of the United States of America. A worldwide "Feed The Hungry" Foundation would be a lasting and fitting memorial to commemorate the dedicated plans for which he and his colleagues paid the full measure of their personal devotions on a mercy flight to stem the tide of hunger and death in a nation where mercy is not on speaking terms with greed

and inhumanity. His was not a junket, or trip seeking the winning margin at election time. It was just to extend a helping hand with a heart in it. Perhaps "Harlem's" Congressional Representative, the Hon. Charles Rangel, whose head and heart is always in tune with the vibes of the people, will suggest that the "African American Congressional Caucus," and its Caucasian consents establish such a foundation that would involve all nations in a human trust against the pain of empty stomachs and emaciated babies dying before experiencing the full measures of their God given lives.

"THE GOOD THE BAD THE

UGLY" is all a mix in this story. In some quarters it's viewed by many as a swift kick in the lower extremities of the back. As the Alumni Association of the Southern University System members congregated for the annual confab in St. Louis there were no inklings this could be their finale. However it could very well be. As they gathered to forge an educational path into the new country a Federal Court released an order eliminating the State of Louisiana coordinating educational boards. The decree erased the three higher education systems and replaced them with a single body. Southern, the nation's only African American College System, is fit to fight the court order. It is said to have begun to mobilize funds and supporters to take the full legal route leading to the Supreme Court of the United States. Arnett D. James, first vice president of the Alumni

group, terms this is sweeping reorganization of higher education in Louisiana's history. He pointed out that the pending change "Makes the victims of segregation bear the greatest burden of the desegregation process." Discarding the separate system the state contends that the move will encourage students to attend integrated colleges.

MARQUEE NOTES:--Mary Wilson, remember her, an original Supreme, has gone legal with the Gordy company. That's the successor to Motown which was sold to MCA for big dollars. Ms. Wilson contends that the Supremes' catalogue, as part of that deal went for some \$10-million. Her suit seeks an accounting and 50% of the group's name value and an additional sum for punitive damages... Miller Lite has brewed up some sound bosses for its '89 Detroit Montreux Jazz Fest. Adding marquee magnets are Sonny Rollins, Professor Max Roach, Diane Schuur and the world Saxophone Quartet...

The talk is around again about a B'way depiction of life and times of the legendary Josephine Baker. Perhaps the new book out, "Jazz Cleopatra," which is about the legendary African American who captured Europe and all of the continent from her theatrical stronghold in Paris, could be the reason. Golly "Mr. Charlie" how perfect Lena Horne would be in a B'way presentation of the theatrical prowess of queen Josephine Baker of Florence Mills. La Horne is the one talent with the perfect flare and flavor to do either one resurfaced glory... Starting in October the B'way Criterion will go big-time in a large and talented manner. Ben Vereen, Chita Rivera, Neil Carter, Sarah Vaughn and 4-Girls-4 will all exhibit their talents from its stage... "Only in America," the comedy Berry Brown plans to cut his directorial tooth on, sounds like a Don King sermon. Berry did several flick chores for Spike Lee including his "Do The Right Thing."

PERSONALITIES:--Ruth Roper, mom of the lovely and talented TeeVee star Robin Givens is establishing a scholarship that will educate and bring pride to disadvantage youngsters. No, they

In Focus by Alice Wilson

AIN'T MISBEHAVIN'

The new revised "Fats" Waller Musical is currently running at the Sands Hotel Henri's Celebrity Theater. Closing date is August 28, so you have just enough time to see this sassy musical. The cast consists of five multi-talented artists that sing and dance. You catch the fever and find yourself tapping

popularity was the 20s and 30s, his songs are still recognizable.

The case (who for sure was not even born at that time) does a great job of depicting the songs and era. It's a fabulous show, a great evening of entertainment.

THE IMPERIALS

Left "Ain't Misbehavin'" show and wandered to the Winners Circle Cabaret



The Imperials

your feet or humming along to the late great "Fats" Waller songs. Amazing how many songs he wrote that became memorable tunes. Although his era of great

where that popular group "The Imperials" was performing. This group just gets better with time.

will not ask Mike Tyson to do a benefit. Speaking about "Iron Mike," Don King Productions produced that TeeVee character building of the devastating heavyweight champion... Behind the historic reunion of the descendants of the Captain Cuffee descendants in Boston, Jim Cuffee took off for Paris for the Confab of the International Mayors. He's their business advisor... Those whose word kicked around and out William "Cool hand Luke" Lucas' nomination to head the Civil Rights division of the Justice Dept., should have read his story in the October '86 issue of the Detroit Monthly. He read like some kind of a guy. One who almost made history as the nation's initial African-American Governor... Harry Belafonte is slanted to

receive this year's Kennedy Center Honors. The Heart-throb singer/actor director/producer will be joined by actresses Mary Martin and Claudette Colbert, dancer Alexandra Danilova and composer William Schuman. As usual the groups will have dinner with the Prez. and first lady followed by a gala performance at the Kennedy Center... Internationally known alto saxophonist-educator Jackie McLean has been designated an officer of arts and letter by the French government. McLean is chairman of the African-American Music Dept. at the Univ. of Hartford's Hartt School of Music. He's credited with developing one of the world's first degree programs in African-American Music... STAY LOOSE--Billy Rowe is a syndicated columnist.

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