

# Entertainment

## BILLIE ROWE'S NOTEBOOK



### Edna Mae Robinson: "The Truth And Nothing But the Truth."

N'ROCHELLE, N.Y.: HI BOSS!! Edna Mae Robinson has decided that she will "tell it exactly like it was" in her pending book detailing her life and times with the original "Sugar Ray." Even a long distance call from her L.A. based son recommending that she hold back information and omit a few high profile names, so as not to curl any toes, failed to sway her. Ebony mag.'s December issue may offer a sneak preview of what's in store, as it will feature an article on the former Mrs. Robinson... George W. Haley, bro. of author Alex, has been nominated by Prez. Bush to the Postal Rate Commission. If confirmed by the Senate the Morehouse College grad and lawyer will serve as its Chairperson... Former NYPD Police Commissioner Ben Ward is gathering no moss since retiring. The ink is probably still wet on a contract with the William Morris Agency to represent him on the lecture circuit, for tv appearances, etc. On Monday, Nov. 27, Ward will be feted at a testimonial at NYC's Sheraton Centre & Towers. Proceeds from the event will

benefit "Finest Care," the NYPD's child care center... We've always known it, but Gov. and Mrs. George Deukmejian have made it official. Quincy Jones is a California State Treasure and he has the award to prove it.



Quincy Jones

He and eight others were duly honored during a gala at the Beverly Hilton Hotel. "I'll Be Good To You," is the first single from Jones' "Back On The Block" LP. Longtime friend and former bandmate Ray Charles and Chaka Khan are featured on the cut... "Sarafina" will kick-off its national tour in New Haven, Ct., from Jan. 30th. to Feb. 4th. Then its five or six weeks in DeeCee followed by stops in Baltimore, Atlanta, Miami, Philly and beyond. The same that played B'way's Cort Theatre for 17

months will return from So. African to reprise their roles... Although "A Dry White Season" producer Paula Weinstein claimed that the anti-apartheid film would not play So. African just the opposite has happened. The film is being viewed at several theatres throughout the country... It has received good reviews in the English-speaking So. African press... Red Foxx, who has had his share of bad luck lately, is now being sued by his former agent, Jaki Baskow, for \$50Gs in commission.



Redd Foxx

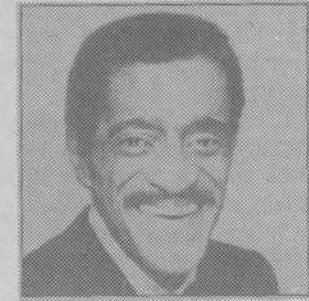
Baskow claims that she is due the money because she got Foxx his role in Eddie Murphy's "Harlem Nights." Foxx lawyers has entered a general denial to the suit... When Dorothy Donegan called off her show at the Highlights in Jazz club due to a cataract problem, folks singer Odetta filled in with Bessie's Blues, a tribute to Bessie Smith.

FILM WORKS:--Fred Williamson is a busy man these days. Through his PoBoy Productions has deals with 21th Century Films, Emerald Films and an acting only deal with Rome-based L'Imagine. He will star in

write produce and direct "Critical Action which will co-star Lee Majors and Henry Silva, then her star in produce and direct "Soda Cracker" with Maud Adams and Bo Svenson. His acting only chores are "Delta Force Commando II" with Glenn Ford and "Black Cobra III."... The Mississippi NAACP is calling for the integration of all fraternities and sororities, including the African-American ones. This stems from the incident whereby two white students were stripped, painted with racial slurs and dropped on the doorstep of historically African American Rust College.

EMBARRASSMENT is what the administration, faculty and Student Government Association at the Univ. of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, are facing after there were scattered boos and the waving of a confederate flag when Gov. Guy Hunt crowned homecoming queen Kimberly Ashely. Ashely won after African-American students orchestrated a write-in campaign, because there were no sisters among the 10 finalists. Everyone expect the students involved in this ugly incident have issued statements deploring this action... Xmas will come early for the United Negro College Fund. On Friday, Dec. 22nd, singing and video sensation Bobby Brown will present a "Celebration" concert at Madison Sq. Garden in honor of the 10th. Anniversary of the "Lou Rawls Parade of Stars" telethon. Sheena Easton will join Brown in this event... Eddie Murphy also has a highly publicized commitment to helping UNCF in conjunction with the

opening of "Harlem Night."... Funds from the Nov. H'Wood tribute to Sammy



Sammy Davis, Jr.

Davis, Jr., also went to UNCF. This is no surprise, because during the 60s to 70s Davis was one of the single largest contributors to this cause. His work continues... Jack "The Rapper" Gibson and family have reason to be proud. His 14-year-old grandson, Nekea, became the first African-American to win any age group during the Junior Olympic National Diving Championship in Texas. He was also the first brother or sister diver to represent the U.S. on an international level at the World Age Group Championship in Madrid, Spain. Although he finished sixth he was the highest ranking U.S. diver in the international platform event. We see an Olympic appearance in his future hopefully 1992 or 1996...

END NOTES:--Bob Marley's widow, Rita, and their 11 children, are not the only ones contesting the handling of the late reggae king's estate. The Wailers, Marley's back-up band, have entered the fray over the \$8(U.S.) million estate. The band claims that their signatures on an agreement limiting their share of the

royalties to 26.6% were obtained under duress and are null and void... As predicted Jackie Mason's "Chicken Soup" has been cancelled. Guess his words about Dave "the Mayor of N.Y." Dinkins caused viewers to turn him off... It's unlikely that the United States will rejoin UNESCO (United Nations Education, Scientific and Cultural Org.). The pull out occurred amidst complaints about the politicization and mismanagement of the agency's programs... Vallery Kountze, a sister, it taking Republic Home Video to new heights She's the prez... August Wilson's "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom" has been named best Production of a Play by the Denver, Colo., Drama Critics Circle... It's ironic that Lerner and Loew's "Camelot," a musical about high ideals, will be performed by four So. African theatre groups. Trust Bank, one of the country's leading financial institutions is the underwriter... Word is that Janet Jackson is thinking about hitting the concert circuit come spring... Meanwhile, sister LaToya is touring Mexico and has been booked into Bally's Las Vegas for Feb... WE DID IT!! JOHN DANIELS--MAYOR, NEW HAVEN, CT... DAVID DINKINS--MAYOR, NY, NY... NORM RICE--MAYOR, SEATTLE, WA... ALICE ROKER--TOWN CLERK, YORKTOWN, NY... MICHAEL WHITE--MAYOR, CLEVELAND, OH... DOUG WILDER--GOVERNOR, VIRGINIA... COLEMAN YOUNG--MAYOR, DETROIT, MI... As usual it's the Hite of Nancy's fancy to typesite for syndicated columnist Billy Rowe.

### Falana Debuts At Don Laughlin's Riverside

Lola Falana, a name that has stood out in the world of entertainment for over 30 years, will make her Laughlin, Nevada debut at Don Laughlin's Riverside Resort Hotel and Casino over the Thanksgiving weekend, November 23rd, 24th and 25th.

Ms. Falana made her triumphet showbiz return last June, in Henri's Celebrity Theatre at the Sands, after a debilitating attack by multiple sclerosis in

1987. After a two year absence from the stage her return was one of the most inspirational ever witnessed at the Las Vegas hotel.

Don Usherson, columnist and reviewer for the Las Vegas Review-Journal wrote, "She started off a little tentative but by midway was off and running like a musical thoroughbred heading for the wire."

Ms. Falana will bring her to the stage of Don's Celebrity the experience of

appearing on Broadway, cabarets around the world, and of course Las Vegas and Atlantic City. She is one of the most dynamic performers ever to grace a stage anywhere.

When M.S. struck her while performing in Florida, everyone conceded that her career was finished. That she would never be able to dance again, let alone sing. But they did not know the determination built into the

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