

Entertainment

BILLIE ROWE'S NOTEBOOK



Fertile Soil Needed To Continue Political Growth

NEW ROCHELLE, NY:-- HI BOSS!! Now you must be feelin' fine and dandy, since you've forgotten to use your cane on a number of occasions...With all the excitement over the pending inaugurations of Doug Wilder and David Dinkins as the first African-Americans to serve



David Dinkins

as the elected Gov. of Virginia and Mayor of N'York City, respectively, our private conversation reflects a concern of yours that both men left positions that were filled by whites. Wouldn't it have been great if a bro or sis had replaced Wilder as Lt. Gov. or Dinkins as Manhattan Borough Prez? Cities like

Hartford, Ct., Atlanta, Ga., and Newark, NJ, are examples of how the baton of political power can effectively be passed on. Even in Detroit, Mich., where Mayor Coleman Young seemingly has an unyielding lock on the head office, the fact that the bros keep challenging him is a good sign that when he does exit another African-American will probably assume the position. This is one of the many continuing challenges for African-Americans on the Political front. A fertile environment must be maintained so that bros sisters on the lower rungs of the political ladder are properly nurtured and ready to climb up as others assume higher office or retire from public life. This will guarantee that African-American political power will continue to grow with each generation...The appointment of Lee Brown, Ph.D., as N'York City's top cop will insure the Department's growth in a positive and sen-

sitive light. It all started with a man called Rowe in 1951. The appointment should signal to all that Mayor Dinkins is his own man, as he was under a lot of pressure to go in the other direction.

WEDDING BELLS AND SNOW FLAKES:-- Harlem's Adam Clayton Powell State Office Bldg. was the site of the candlelight nuptials of la Joyce Johnson and William Terrell Eller. The snow delayed the bridge a bit, as her limo got wedged between a multi-car fender bender and rush hour traffic. However, guests were entertained by the Ross Carnegie Combo and the delicious munchies provided by G.I.S. Harlem, Inc., the caterers. The couple left the bad weather behind them for a 15 day cruise on the Mexican Riviera... In connection with their Jan. 15th benefit celebration at Avery Fisher Hall, The Boys Choir of



Bobby Short

Harlem and Bobby Short, of long piano fame, are scheduled to do a musical tribute to the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., on the "Today" show... Mollie Moon, prez. of the Urban League Guild, has a big gleam in her eye as she teases friends about the surprises she has in store for the 1990 Beaux Arts Ball... A crowd of 2000 attended Barry Harris' "The Breeze Song" concert in honor of Nica "The Jazz Baroness" De Koenigswarter in the grand ballroom of the Manhattan Center As a youngster she required her love for jazz by visiting Jimmy Monroe's Swing Club in Paris. However she is remembered for her to-the-end support of Charlie Parker and Thelonius Monk. Detractors claim that she was involved with both, but supporters say that her actions were stirred out of her love for the music and her respect and admiration for the artists. Tappers Tina Pratt, C.

Scoby Stroman and "Black and Blue's" Jimmy Slyde, whose leather pants keep falling off, performed. Coleridge T. Perkinson conducted the 40 piece jazz band. Some of the attendees including Chinkie Grimes, Joe Seneca, Tommy Flanagan and Cobi Narita, founder of the Universal Jazz Coalition.

BOOK BEAT:-- Bandleader Andy Kirk's page turner, "20 Years on The Road" has been published by the University of Michigan press. The 92 year-old saxophonist recounts how, when her and the late Hatti McDaniels were members of George Holder's Denver City band, that McDaniels used to sing, play percussion and act out every part in a number of Paul Lawrence Dunbar's poems, which was a real crowd pleaser. Kirk's band alumni included Charlie Parker, Mary Lou Williams, Lester Young, Howard McGee and Fats Navarro... The powers that beat the Associated Actors and Artists of America (4A's) will pay tribute to Frederick O'Neal in Mid-Jan. at Sardi's. O'Neal is a former pres. of the 4A's and actor's Equity... A broken leg kept Denzel Washington from attending the Apollo Theatre opening of "Glory", the civil war epic.



The Soldiers of "Glory"

The success of this flick should open the doors for the others to tell of the African-American contributions to America's declared and undeclared wars...PBS' "South Africa Now" did a spot detailing how the S'Africans are advertising for East Germans to relocate there. They're wanted not only for thier technical skills, but because of their "pure Aryan stock." The clip also showed 250 E. Germans who had accepted the invite deplaning in Capetown... Lawyer Conrad Harper has been nominated as president of The Association of the Bar of the City of New York. If elected, he will be the first African-American. The 49 year old holds a B.A. in history from Howard U. and is a member of the Phi Beta Kappa honor society. He received his law degree from Harvard...The election of African-American to these unprecedented offices and positions have all kinds of coattails. One of them being the spotlight it puts on African-American colleges and universities, because that's where many received their degrees...Everyone in Baltimore is talking about "Miss Ever's Boys", a play at the Center Stage. It's based on the Tuskegee Study of Untreated syphilis in Negro (their word not ours) Male.

END NOTES:--Bill Cosby continues to expand his behind-the-scenes t.v. involvement. In addition to part ownership of his show and "A Different World," he's again teamed with "Cosby" and "Different" producers Marcy Carsey and Tom Wermer to bring "Grand" to the small screen. The show centers around the lives of three

Pennsylvania families. "Grand" is scheduled to make a mid-Jan. debut on the NBC network...Spike Lee and Alice Coltrane, widow of jazz great John, still have mutual respect for one another even though Coltrane withdrew her consent for the



Spike Lee

use of her spouse's "Love Supreme" as the title of Lee's newest flick. Those close to the project say she objected to some of the film's profanity. However, Coltrane's tune, "A Love Supreme", will remain on the film's soundtrack. Scheduled to open in late summer or fall of 1990, the movie's new title is "Mo' Better Blues..." Rain Pryor, Richard's daughter, and Danny Glover may star in "Blackbird Fly." That's if Glover signs on the dotted line. The story evolves around the life of a girl who gets beaten and molested by her father. Since Glover portrayed a similar kind of guy in "The Color Purple" he may be having second thoughts about "Blackbird." Rain, who is now a regular on ABC's "Head of The Class," is also planning to record a L.P...As usual it's the Hite of Nancy's fancy to typesit for syndicated columnist Billy Rowe.

The Pointer Sisters New Year's Eve Sparklers At Caesars Palace

The Pointer Sister -- Anita. June and Ruth -- bring their trademark high-energy music to the Caesars Palace Circus Maximus Showroom Dec. 27 -- Jan. 1, starring in performances with comedian Byron Allen.

Popular recording and touring artists, The Pointers are working on their 17th career album. The LP will be released on the Motown

label.

For more than a decade the sibling trio has stroked audiences with hot sounds and sassy rhythms that have defined their own unique style. Such Top 10 hits as "Jump (For My Love)," "I'm So Excited," "Fire," and "Mercury Rising" have become favorites on the Circus Maximus stage.

More recently, they have

added motion to the movies. Steamy dance tune "Shut Up and Dance" was featured in "Action Jackson." The Pointers' music was also showcased in "Beverly Hills Cop," "Beverly Hills Cop II" and "Caddyshack II."

During their New Year's Eve holiday engagement, a special Dec. 31 multi-course gourmet dinner show has

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