

Entertainment



BILLIE ROWE'S NOTEBOOK

LEE "SPIKED" ENROUTE TO OSCAR NOMINATIONS

N'YORK CITY — Vincent Camby of the N'York Times gave the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences the back of his "Write Hand." His editorial temperature was seemingly lifted by the exclusion of Spike Lee's "Do the Right Thing," which in both our minds, should have received Oscar nominations for Rose Perez's acting and two for Spike Lee, "Best Director" and "Best Picture." In Camby's "write" words, "The Academy members are specialists who go their own ways. They are remarkably tolerant towards human frailties yet their patience threshold is not high. They don't tolerate big mouths, especially those of outsiders. "Do the Right



Spike Lee

Thing" would have been a shoo-in as a nominee." Camby wrote, for "Best Picture" and "Best Director," however, outsider Lee was dubbed among the big mouths. "One of the most aggressively talented young film makers to appear in years. However, he's Black in an industry dominated by white males." When "Oscar" time comes only the lily whites get the full treatment of nominations in directing, screen play writing, camera work, costume design, and etc. categories. African-Americans have been

relegated to the, and seldom, acting and sometimes music categories. When you pass "Best Actor" in which Morgan Freeman has been nominated for his work in "Driving Miss Daisy," and Denzel Washington's nomination for "Best Supporting Actor in "Glory," the civil war saga in historic natural Black face, which strange as it may seem was not nominated in the "Best Picture" category, the field goes dry. Camby in bold letters wrote that it is possible that the members of the academy work on some sort of quota system. Perhaps that's the reason that "Glory," which highlighted the heroics of African-Americans in the Civil War is regarded by film critics as the most startling omission in Oscar's "Best Picture" category history.

HOT FLASHES: — The hon. Marcella Maxwell, former chr., NYC's Human Rights Commission, has seemingly abandoned her thrust to fill the U.S. UN's Ambassador's seat... Eddie Murphy has reasons to sing all the way to the bank. The mega star received \$6.8 million for re-signing an exclusive contract in '87. Eight million to star in "Coming To America," a writers fee of \$200,000 and \$500,000 from the producer's package. Well, like they always say, "you're worth what you can draw at the boxoffice"... Goody, goody, another August Wilson play is headed to B'way. His "Piano Lesson," directed by that genius of his profession, Lloyd Richards. The production has been collecting raves throughout the hinterlands... The Tuskegee Airmen have at long last been nominated for a position in the National Aviation Hall of Fame... March winds will blow some good for James Brown. It's the month Georgia State Judge Gayle

has ruled the "Godfather of Soul" eligible for a work release program. He has been incarcerated for over a year... Napoleon Holmes whose N'Rochelle's Palace Entertainment Complex is fit for Kings and Queens, has been awarded the Westchester Guardians "Achievement Award"... The Reagan Supreme Court is about to be tested again. The Dept. of Justice has asked the high court to overturn the FCC's long in-place



Denzel Washington

policy to grant minorities and women preferential treatment in awarding broadcast licenses... "Pleasingly" plump ladies nationwide are keeping a check on a DeeCee \$3.5 million legal action lodged against WTTG-TV by Walter Hudson Ventures after the station refused his commercials because his models, Jill Horowitz and Debra McConnell, were too fat. Once thought to be the heaviest human in the world at 1400 pounds, Walter shaved off 900 lbs through a Dick Gregory crash diet.

NEWS & VIEWS: — Lena Horne's daughter, Gale Lumet Buckley, is researching facts to author a book about "Tan Yanks" of U.S. War... Meanwhile, everyone is talking about how great Lena's grey locks look. It seems to add more brilliance to her already glistening aura... Nancy Hite eyed "Beyond the Call of Duty" at the Natl. Black Theatre and says that solid performances were turned in by Leon Pinkney and George Lee Miles and that Jamal Joseph's work is a good tool for exposing some aspects of the post Vietnam War experience. However, when she viewed it, the technical dept. was off the mark. The minutes of darkness between scenes was much too long and the lighting was not up

to par. As well as the inability to see clearly when not sitting in the first few rows. However, since the company's new state of the art theatre is under construction the tech. problems are temporary... The astute Rev. Dr. Wyatt Lee Walker will probably have to unlist his phone. In its "Black History Month" edition the W'Chester Gannett newspaper referred to the yacht-loving sky pilot as a millionaire... Mixed emotions and pride of friendship were bedfellows a Saturday ago during a memorial service to recall the ever ready charm and grace of the late Mary Morehead Richardson. She was a rare human being who always extended a helping hand with her heart in it.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR: From Sadaharo Oh, who hit 868 home runs while playing with the Tokyo Giants making him the worldwide home run king. His letter describes some of the activities of his World

Children's Baseball Fair (WCBF). "As someone who benefited greatly from baseball over a 22-year career with the Tokyo Giants, I believe it is my duty to give something back to the game and to the millions of boys and girls in the 96 countries currently playing 'America's national pastime.' To that end, I'd like to introduce an exciting new project, the World Children's Baseball Fair. The WCBF is a charitable foundation which is dedicated to promoting international goodwill and fellowship among the world's children through an expanded celebration of baseball. I have already received support from Henry "Hank" Aaron, Johnny Bench, Tommy John as well as other sports and entertainment personalities in Japan and the United States for this worldwide project which will extend into the 21st century. On April 2, 1990, Henry Aaron, Tommy John and I will be in Los Angeles to brief the media and potential cor-

porate sponsors about the upcoming WCBF activities. I hope you will be able to join Henry, Tommy and I, as well as other celebrities from the entertainment and sports worlds, at the Riviera Country Club for a morning of golf. In addition, I will present full plans for the first World Children's Baseball Fair which will be held in Los Angeles July 30-August 5 at UCLA. That week-long celebration of baseball and international goodwill will bring together approximately 300 children, age 9-14, for clinics and games as well as other fun activities. We have also planned a celebrity baseball game to be held at UCLA's Jackie Robinson Stadium on Wednesday, August 1. I sincerely hope that you will be able to join us at the Riviera Country Club on April 2, and that you will consider participating in the first World Children's Baseball Fair, July 30-August 5... STAY LOOSE... Billy Rowe is a syndicated columnist.

Janet Jackson's 'Escapade Bumps Paula Abdul From Top

The Paula Abdul-Janet Jackson battle continues to dominate the pop music charts, with Jackson finally winning a round after challenging for weeks.

Jackson's victory came on the pop singles list, where her "Escapade" moved up from No. 2 to end the three-week reign of Abdul's "Opposites Attract" (now No. 3). "Escapade" also made a strong gain - from No. 7 to No. 2 - on the Black singles chart and should take over the No. 1 spot next week from the current leader, "Where Do We Go From Here" by Stacy Lattisaw and Johnny Gill.

But Abdul remained firmly in control on the pop LP list, where her "Forever Your Girl" had no trouble fighting off Jackson's "Rhythm Nation 1814" (still No. 2) for a sixth week as champ. "Forever" also notched a fourth week as No. 1 on the compact disc chart.

It appears that those two albums will have few challengers in weeks to



Janet Jackson

come, because this week's Top 20 rankings were virtually unchanged from last week's.

Bill Cosby, Phylicia Rashad, Keshia Knight-Pulliam, Arsenio Hall, Eddie Murphy, Janet Jackson Vie for People's Choice Awards

LOS ANGELES — Bill Cosby just might walk off with his ninth and tenth People's Choice Awards Sunday, March 11, when the 16th Annual Awards Show is broadcast live on CBS from Universal Pictures studios, 9 to 11 p.m. est-PST).

Cosby has won three previous awards as Favorite Male Television performer and is up again for the award with Ted Danson and Tom Selleck. He has another award as Favorite Male Performer in a New Television Series; three as Favorite All-Around Male Entertainer (he is up again with Tom Cruise, Arsenio Hall and Eddie Murphy); and one as All-Time Favorite Television Star.

Additionally, his show, "The Cosby Show," winner of five previous awards for Favorite Television Comedy Series, is in the running again with "Cheers" and "Roseanne." It also won earlier awards for Favorite Television Show.

Phylicia Rashad, playing Cosby's wife, is in contention with Roseanne Barr and Candice Bergen for Favorite Female Television Performer. She possesses one previous award for this category and also won an award for Favorite Female Performer in

when "The Cosby Show" premiered in 1985. Keshia Knight-Pulliam, playing Cosby's youngest daughter on his show, is in the race with Neil Patrick Harris and Fred Savage for Favorite Young Television Performer. She won the award in 1988.

Eddie Murphy is up for Favorite Motion Picture Actor with Tom Cruise, Mel Gibson



Eddie Murphy

a New Television Series and Dustin Hoffman. For Favorite All-Around Male Entertainer, an award he won in 1985, Murphy is at the starting gate with Bill Cosby, Tom Cruise and Arsenio Hall. Murphy was named Favorite Motion Picture Comedy Actor in 1989.

Vying for Favorite Late Talk Show Host, a new



Arsenio Hall

category, is Arsenio Hall, Johnny Carson and David Letterman. Hall also is a candidate for Favorite All-Around Male Entertainer with rivals mentioned above.

Singer Janet Jackson may waltz away with an award for Favorite Female Musical Performer. Also holding dance cards are Paula Abdul, Debbie Gibson and Madonna.

Rap singer Bobby Brown, who just grabbed a Grammy for Best Rock n Roll Album, is up for Favorite Male Musical Performer as are Billy Joel and Richard Marx.

The People's Choice Award is noted for being the only major entertainment award actually determined by the public, the result of an extensive special poll conducted by the Gallup Organization.

KCEP Goes Back Down Memory Lane

In an effort to provide more variety and lend additional credence to the phrase "Strong Songs," KCEP-FM features a three-hour mix of the best oldies from the 60s, 70s and 80s on "Back Down Memory Lane," airing every Sunday from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. The show, hosted by KCEP veteran David Lee, came about in response to audience demand.

"KCEP has always provided the entire Las Vegas Community with musical variety since day one. "Back Down Memory Lane" is simply a continuation of that commitment," said Program Director Louis Conner, Jr. "But

what about their core audience of 18-24? Does this mean that KCEP is getting ready to change its focus or format?" Conner explained that the addition of oldies only serves to help solidify the connection of classic R & B with modern soul music.

"If you look at the R&B chart, you'll notice a lot of artists doing covers (remakes of hits previously recorded by other artists). We decided to attempt to educate as well as entertain our audience so we came up with "Back Down Memory Lane," he said. "It's a natural extension," he continued. "Take Rap, for example. The majority of hip-hop almost



David Lee

exclusively features samples (copied sound-bites of previously recorded songs) of classic oldies, James Brown, the O'Jays, Temptations, all of them."

Conner wants to make KCEP-FM88 totally responsive to its audience. As he puts it, "It's not a job, it's our commitment."

CCCC Concert Benefits Music Scholarship Fund

A black-tie, fund-raising concert benefiting the Joe Williams Music Scholarship Fund at Clark County Community College will be given at 7 p.m. March 16 in the main lobby of the CCCC's Cheyenne campus.

Featured in this second annual event will be the jazz

vocal talents of Marlana Shaw and her trio and the Four Freshmen with the 19-piece CCCC Jazz Band.

The music scholarship fund at CCCC was established a year ago, with the generous help of international singing star Joe Williams. As the program

grew, additional donations were given to the fund in memory of Bob Barclay, musician, teacher and friend of the college.

The Joe Williams Music Scholarship Fund has already helped dozens of music students this past year.

YOUR BEST DEAL!

A Craig Townes A Duane Spears A Jim Weaver A Ghino Barmore

FLETCHER JONES CHEVROLET/GEO ISUZU 444 South Decatur 870-9444

Come in today and meet our friendly sales staff and take advantage of our great prices, large selection and prompt service after the sale.

Monday thru Saturday 8am to 10pm
Service Dept. now open Saturdays till noon