

Entertainment



BILLIE ROWE'S NOTEBOOK

DON'T DRY UP OR SMOKE OUT THE BLACK PRESS

N'ROCHELLE, NY — Hi Boss!! The African-American community is beginning to shake the shackles of legal and illegal substances that have captured and weakened its collective mind and body. In doing so the blame is seemingly being directed toward a most innocent victim - the African-American owned newspaper — Let's remember that it's advertising that provides a newspaper with revenue and pays the bills. While the attention being paid to the tobacco and alcohol ads on its pages is not totally unfair, it may be misdirected. The question to ask is where are the ads for food, supermarkets, cars, airline companies, department stores, hotels, tires and other products and services that are purchased with the \$275

-to-350 billion that African-Americans pour into the business community. The ad dollars from record companies, African-American owned hair care products and other beauty and health aids would be enough to offset cigarette and liquor ads should the newspapers decide to turn them down. What happened to those highly publicized deals signed by Operation PUSH and the NAACP, whereby major corporations promised, among other things, to advertise in African-American media. The only time many of them grace the pages of the Black Press is during the Martin Luther King, Jr. B'day celebration and African-American History month. Check out these ads. Are they out for business, or just to tell

African-Americans how good they are to the community? The battle to rid the community of harmful elements is a positive one, but in doing so the one vehicle that has continued to lead the charge - the African-American owned newspaper, should not be destroyed. Instead the demand should be that multinational corporations and African-American owned companies divest some of their T.V., magazine and radio dollars and direct same towards newspapers. If tobacco and alcohol pull out and there is nothing to take their place, these beacons of hope could go out of business, and wouldn't it be awful if the final blow was done by our own trying to do good.

OUT BUT NOT DOWN:-

Yes, Ruth Brown has chosen not to re-sign with B'way's "Black and Blue," but it's due more to a hectic schedule than anything else. She'll star in a made-for-TV movie about Harlem's famed Sylvia's Restaurant. Set for CBS, Ossie Davis and Roscoe Lee Brown will also star in the Maurice Hines screenplay. She's been handed the keys to the cities of Memphis, TN and Birmingham, AL, as she tours the nation with Seagram's Gin "A Taste of the Blues" concerts. This summer she's scheduled to hit the road with "Blues Divas" "Etta James, Coco Taylor, Nell Carter, Lavern Baker and Erma Thomas...The New School did itself proud when it voted to bestow its 4th annual Beacon of Jazz award on Cab Calloway. The joint will surely jump on May 5th, if just a few of the promised

musicians show. So far Cecil Bridgewater and Donald Byrd, trumpet, Bernard Purdie, drums, Arnie Lawrence, alto sax, Reggie Workman and Milt Hinton, bass, Al Casey, guitar, and Junior Mance, Jaki Byard and Red Richards, piano, have said they'll be there...Africans from around the world are calling on their American counterparts to join them as they attempt to clear their reputations. The first annual Nigerian Achievement award in celebration of Nigerian Recognition Day is the first salvo as they counter the negative press they feel they have received. Set for Columbia U. on May 5, a host of Nigerian and African-Americans have been invited to participate...Haitians and bros. and sisters from sub-Saharan Africa are also calling on the American connection to help them as they protest the FDA's rule against their donating blood due to the AIDS fear. Protesters feel that the report puts all people in the same boat and paints an unfair picture of the populations affected.

THE SOUND OF SILENCE:—Commer Cotrell, president Pro-Line Corp., saved Bishop College from the auction block and not one word of celebration has been sounded to salute the brother. Yet some company decides to hand out a couple of grand and the newspapers are full of the announcement...Robin Givins is happy to rearrange her schedule in order to tackle the femme lead in "Rage of Harlem." Set to shoot in Cincinnati, OH, the flick is a modern day "Porgy and Bess"...Fresh from his



Denzel Washington

Oscar win Denzel Washington is in No. Carolina filming "Love Field" with Michelle Pfeiffer. Rumor has it that it's about an interracial love story set in the 60s...The Van Peebles, (father) Melvin and (son) Mario, will team up for "Panthers." Based on the up-scheduled novel by the elder Van Peebles, the younger blood will direct and star in his dad's screenplay. Facts from the project come from Melvin's meetings with Huey Newton and Bobby Seale, an interview with Malcolm X and research on the ambush of H. Rap Brown...Lionel Hampton is happy to ket everyone know that he's behind Jo Thompson's return to show business. She's Albert Dunmore's widow and will sing to benefit the NAACP scholarship started in his name on June 15th at Carnegie Hall...The Williamsbridge Reunion is well on its way to reality. Set for April 27th at the Eastwood Manor in the Bronx, organizers William Johnson, Dorothy Ridley Barboza, Harold Bradford, Thelma Royal D'Archangeau, Stanley Ford, Edith Goodman, Al Harper, Cornelia Harper Harris, Edna

Mangrum, June Meadows and Ernestine Seaborn expect a full house.

END NOTES:—The formation of white student unions springing up on college campuses across the country is cause for deep concern by college officials. They foresee clashes between the newly formed groups and students of color and liberal whites...Michael Peters produced and staged Phylicia Rashad & Company's Las Vegas Hilton show. The lady and crew were so good that they were rebooked on the spot. Peters was responsible for Michael Jackson's successful "Beat It" video in the mid-80s...According to Atlantic City talent bookers, rocker Tina Turner has the perfect profile for their rooms, as her age appeal ranges from 20 years old to those in their 50s...Rev. Ralph Abernathy will always be remembered as a leader in the fight for equality and justice. The last none months



Ralph Abernathy

were filled with controversy surrounding his book which set the world of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. against him. STAY LOOSE. It's been the Hite of Nancy's fancy to typesit for Billy Rowe, Syndicated Columnist.

FOR ALL OCCASIONS
Plants & Gifts

SPECIALIZING IN:
Non-Flammable Helium
Balloon Arrangements
Balloon Printing
Conventions & Trade Shows

BIRTHDAYS • WEDDINGS •
GET WELL • SHOWERS •
JUST BECAUSE •

NO DELIVERY CHARGE

24 HOUR DELIVERY SERVICE

254-1464

2217 Rainbow Blvd.
Las Vegas, NV 89117

MasterCard VISA
DISCOVER AMERICAN EXPRESS

FAST CASH

AAL-JAYS
PAWN SHOP

NO PAYMENTS FOR 4 MONTHS
WE LOAN THE MOST!

LOANS FROM \$1.00 TO \$100,000.00

Jewelry*Guns*Stereos*
VCRs*TVs*Tools*
Computers*Cameras & More

642-1133
1618 Las Vegas Blvd. No.
North Las Vegas at Owens
North of The Strip
Nevada's Largest
DIVISION OF CAMEL, INC.

JEWELRY • GUNS
ANYTHING OF VALUE

ESTIMATES BY PHONE
MONDAY - SAT
9:00 AM - 6:00 PM
SUNDAY 10 - 1

CASH LOANS
7 DAYS A WEEK

PLENTY
OF
FREE PARKING

Keep Hope Alive
STOP THE VIOLENCE

3790 S. Paradise Rd., Suite 100
Las Vegas, NV 89109
Office: (702) 796-7777
Pager: 381-9404
Res: (702) 453-3855

WANDA POTTER
REALTOR®

Americana **Better**
Group, REALTORS® **Homes**
and Gardens®

"Independently Owned and Operated"

Call Wanda
for all of your Real Estate needs