

# Entertainment



## BILLIE ROWE'S NOTEBOOK

### WHY NOW SEN. PAUL SIMON?

**N'ROCHELLE:** - Where was ILL. Sen. Paul Simon when the Education Dept.'s Office of Civil Rights (O.C.R.) needed him? To this scribe it seems a little silly that he's now threatening to shut it down if its new head (pending an almost certain Senate approval), Michael L. Williams, fails to turn it around in a hurry. Hope that the lawmaker's anger is not a forerunner of a desire to eliminate the office, which he said he would do if Williams fails to live up to his pledges to clean up O.R.C.'s sloppy

act. During his conformation hearing he promised to study the recent growth of racial harassment on college campuses; to investigate charges that some colleges keep non documented quotas to limit the acceptance rate of Asian-Americans. On the low college attendance of African-American males, Williams said that while colleges could do more, the "key" is to bolster the elementary and secondary education that they receive. On the need to attract more non-white males to math and

science careers, we quote: "If we are to properly prepare our students for the high-technology challenges of the future, minorities and women cannot be unlawfully under-represented in our math and science classes. However, the former employee of the Departments of Justice and Treasury offered no specific plan on how he will accomplish any of his promises.

According to a February memo sent to Charles E.M. Kolb, deputy under Sec'y of Education for planning, budget and evaluation, from William L. Smith, acting head of O.C.R., Williams has his work cut out for him. Apparently O.C.R. is so low on cash that it has had to suspend some of its enforcement responsibilities. Namely, travelling to conduct compliance reviews following the "corrective plans" they had established at institutions found doing the wrong thing. Former O.C.R. staffers and civil rights activists say that

reviews are the meat and potatoes of the O.C.R. Smith said the budget problems are due to a 48% increase in its workload since '88, the year the Civil Rights Restoration Act took effect and reversed the effects of a 1984 Supreme Court decision. The act says that Fed. anti-bias laws apply to entice educational institutions and not just programs receiving Fed. money. Last year O.C.R. conducted 240 compliance reviews, this year they expect to handle 18 to 25. While he has requested additional funds from the Education Department, the Department has not said yes or no, nor has the Dept. requested additional funds from the White House Office of Management and Budget. Any extra money for O.C.R. would have to come from someplace else in the Education Dept., said Smith. Wondah if Williams can make deaf ears hear?

**CURTAIN CALLS:** - Dancers Jimmy Slyde, Bunny Briggs and Ralph Brown,

who is very ill, have cleaned out their dressing rooms and said good-bye to fellow "Black and Blue" cast members...Band leader Andy Kirk celebrated his 92nd B'day on the last Monday in May. Kirk, who recorded "Until the Real Thing Comes Along" has been married to his Mary for 62 years...A double vision problem kept Billy Rowe from attending St. Claire Bourne Sr.'s 80th B'day bash in the Rotunda of the Brooklyn Botanical Gardens. However, the doctor has assured him that he'll be healed in time to catch Jo Thompson's June 15th performance at Carnegie Hall to raise funds for the NAACP Al Dunmore Journalism Scholarship and the 15th Jackie Robinson Foundation "An Afternoon of Jazz" in Norwalk, Ct., on June 24th...Jack E. Robinson, president of the Martha's Vineyard Racquet & Fitness Club, writes that they've added an 18 hole miniature golf putting green, increased parking spaces and year

round operation will soon be possible...This year's Dance Africa, the 13th, featured an impeccable performance by Dinizulu and his African Dancers, Drummers and Singers. Forces of Nature turned it out with their combination of African and Native American Culture featuring the Thunderbird American Indian Dancers. However, the crowd at the Brooklyn Academy of Music was disappointed that the Natl. Ballet of Zaire was unable to make it...The Natl. Dance Co. of Senegal rocked Symphony Space on the N'York leg of their U.S. and Caribbean tour...Friends from far and near were in W'Chester to comfort Richard, Gen. Mgr. of JFK Intl. Airport, and Mercedes Rowe upon hearing of the death of their daughter Patricia Rowe-Anderson who was residing in Raleigh, N.C. at the time of her death. Additional survivors include husband Calvin Anderson, three children, a step-son and a

See ROWE, Page 11

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