

## Bill Cosby Becomes "Ghost Dad"

Bill Cosby is starring in a new film released last week, titled "Ghost Dad." A Universal Pictures Release, the film is a SAH Enterprises, Inc. Production, filmed and directed by Sidney Poitier, and also starring Kimberly Russell, Denice Nicholas and Ian Bannen. The musical score is by Henry Mancini.

In "Ghost Dad," Bill Cosby stars as Elliott Hopper, a single parent whose encounter with the supernatural teaches him that it's never too late to get in touch with your kids.

"He's a parent who is so busy obtaining his business goal that he misses giving love and the human touch and getting to know his children," Cosby explains.

"The film is also about a fellow whose life card is called before he's ready to go. And I think that very few people in life go when they are ready. You leave an awful lot of things unfinished."

When asked what specifically attracted him to this role, Cosby replied, "All the facets of comedy that I love to do were in this script—physical, facial, verbal and vocal."

"Ghost Dad" reunites Cosby with Sidney Poitier who previously collaborated on the films "Uptown Saturday Night," "Let's Do It Again" and "A Piece of the Action."

Cosby was born on July 12, 1937 in Philadelphia. While a college student by day and bartender by night, Cosby realized his humor never failed to get a great response from customers. Just short of earning his



Bill Cosby and Sidney Poitier

degree, he was prompted to pursue a career in comedy.

Cosby was performing in a comedy club in Pittsburgh 24 years ago when Carl Reiner caught his act and was impressed enough with his home grown style to introduce him to TV producer Sheldon Leonard. The rest is history; he signed with Robert Culp for the "I Spy" series and went on to win three Emmy Awards.

Cosby, a multimedia phenomenon, has also released 26 albums to date that have gone gold and performs approximately 100 sold out concerts a year.

Furthermore, Cosby has shattered records in the publishing world with his books *Fatherhood*, the fastest selling hardcover book of all time; *Time Flies*, also on the top of the New York Times best-seller list and his current best-selling book *Love and Marriage*, which covers everything

from childhood romances and teenage crushes to the rewards of marriage.

In television, he hosted the original "The Bill Cosby Show" in 1971 on NBC-TV, and in 1976 he began another variety show called "Cos," this time for ABC-TV. In addition, Cosby has filmed numerous television specials, starred on NBC-TV's "Children's Theater" and PBS-TV's "The Electric Company" and written, directed and produced two educational TV shows. His production company also turned out two animated specials featuring his lovable gallery of childhood pals. Cosby later hosted "Picture Pages" on Captain Kangaroo's "Wake Up" program on CBS.

He is currently the star of the hit NBC series "The Cosby Show," the highest rated sit-com in television history. The show is now in its sixth successful season.

## ROWE

From Page 10

\$2G's. It's \$200 for general admission, \$300 if you wish to sit at a gold table and \$500 to be seated at a platinum. The dough is earmarked for the Jack the Rapper Back to the Community Foundation and Thurgood Marshall Scholarship Fund. It couldn't happen to a nicer guy or two greater ideas...Comer J. Cottrell, pres. of Pro-Line Corp., who came to the financial rescue of Dallas-based Bishop College by purchasing same is attempting to unite it and Paul Quinn College in Waco, Tx. The move is to save that institution also. The sentiment is that the relocation of Paul Quinn College from

Waco to the campus of the former Bishop College could be beneficial to both the school and Dallas. Although only a possibility at the moment, one must hope it becomes a reality.

**YE GADDS!!!**—On the eve of world class freedom activist Nelson Mandela's descent on America, the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture declared June 19, 1990, Natl. Watermelon Day! In this book that is an instant insult, as it resuscitates one of the oldest stereotypes in America. We here don't know whether we should laugh, cry, or march on the Dept. of Agriculture. Perhaps our Congress people - Charles Rangel, Major Owens, Donald Payne, Augustus Hawkins, Ronald Dellums, Julian Dixon, Mervyn M. Dymally, Walter E.

Fauntroy, John Lewis, Charles Hayes, Gus Savage, Cardiss Collins, Kweise Mfume, George Crockett, Michael Espy, William Clay, Floyd Flake, Alen Wheat, Edolphus Towns, Louis Stokes, Harold Ford, Craig Washington and Bill Gray, also maybe New York Senators Daniel P. Moynihan and Alfonse M. D'Amato will do something about this insensitivity and disregard by the Dept. There is certainly a better way to add to the immortalization of democracy that brings alive old memories in a new time and a new march of freedom and dignity all over the world. Gee some people are dumb and have no idea how to use their power. Watermelon Day, bah!!!...STAY LOOSE...Billy Rowe is a syndicated columnist.

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