

Entertainment



Billy Rowe's Notebook

RIGHTS BILL MURDERED UNDER A BUSH QUOTA

N'YORK, NY:— In his letter to the editor of The Wall Street Journal, titled "Quota-Free America Is A Costly Illusion," William B. Allen, Commissioner, U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, refutes an earlier editorial page essay by a former Commission staffer, and we quote: "Neal Devins left the staff of the Commission on Civil Rights not long after I joined in 1987. He had been a highly valued employee whose intelligence was missed. He was also very clearly devoted to the goal of ultimate clarity, fairness and universality in our civil-rights laws. In his Oct. 19 editorial-page essay for you on the 1990 Civil Rights Act, however, Mr. Devins provides a faulty analysis. The error involved may cost the U.S. dearly, particularly as it is widely shared by conservatives and the administration. Indeed, now that the president has vetoed the proposal on the grounds suggested, I believe a consequence will be to make civil-rights fairness more remote than ever. The reason for my conclusion, and Mr. Devins' error, is straightforward: The impression has been created that, once the 1990 Civil Rights Act has been vetoed, the U.S. will escape from a quota regime. The reality is that we already live under a quota regime, the 1989 Supreme Court rulings notwithstanding. The administration proposed to codify the 1971 proximate legal cause for the quota regime we have lived with since. Last spring's Supreme Court defense of FCC quotas should make that clear to every intelligence. Yet, what do we hear more often than that conserva-

tives are protecting us from quotas in resisting the 1990 act? It is far worse for America to create the illusion we are quota-free than it would be to dare the folly of quotas and leave our fellow citizens to react. Now, we have no chance to react; we destroy our country little by little, justifying quotas while disguising them under righteous rhetoric."

NEWS MEMOS:— What else is new? Arsenio Hall, this generation's favorite talk show host is out of favor with his alleged manager. Attorney Robert Wachs has instituted a \$25.5 million legal action against the young late nite star. The high priced mouth piece, the legal one, alleges Arsenio terminated his contract last August. However, he failed to compensate him based on their contractual

agreement. He's asking \$2 million based salary on the comic talk host picture deal with Paramount. Also \$500,000 annually as executive producer of the syndicated Arsenio Hall teevee show. From that the mouth piece's cut was \$3 million with a bankable amount in the neighborhood of \$10 million for '90. Sounds like a tough nut to crack since according to the attorney, Hall made all this possible through an oral agreement to pay his mgr. 50% of any profits garnered from the show...What took them so long. The Golden State Theatre, a 100 yr. old landmark, is scheduled to be razed having been gutted due to a fire. It was the site of the initial screening of D.W. Griffith's controversial "Birth of A Nation" in 1915. It was then titled "The Clansman"...They got us again. Another meeting about us but not held in our area. It's a national Black Music and Entertainment seminar that is scheduled for May 16 thru 17 at Gotham's Sheraton Center. WBLS-FM, ASCAP, the American Association of Musicians and Composers and Bob Lee Ent., are co-sponsors. Body Sculpt of New York, a non-profit anti-drug program,



Arsenio Hall

will receive a portion of the proceeds... "Whitney Houston and Jack-the-Rapper an item? Of course it's a joke though it headlined the Mello Yellow... However, it's not a joke that Sidney Poitier has inked an exclusive triple year production and development contract with Columbia Pictures. No stranger on the Columbia lots, in '80 he turned out the Richard Pryor/Gene Wilder comedy "Stir Crazy," which he directed and produced. Under this new agreement he's inked in for four pictures a year. According to this corner's coin dropper, Sidney said he expects to put his first two productions together immediately.

B'WAY HEAT:— Once is not enough seeing for "Once On this Island." This spotlight extravagance is an exuberant delight. It brought to the stage of the Booth Theatre a fresh appearance to entertain and capture the imagination of the most jaded theatregoer. This new musical, out of the genius of Lynn Ahrens, is as refreshing as spring rain that grows on you leaving one pleased there is no intermission. The music by Stephen Flaherty is ear embracing and blessed with understanding lyrics. It's a backdrop for a well paced production which is brought alive and believable by a well selected cast. Go see it, you'll enjoy cast members Jerry Dixon, Andrea Frierson, Sheila Gibbs, La Chanze, Kecia Lewis-Evans, Gerry McIntyre, Afi McClendon, Milton Craig Nealy, Nikki Rene, Eric Riley and Ellis E. Williams....The street of incandescent glare is in full swing with "Buddy...The Buddy Holly Story", at the Shubert, "Those Were The Days," at the Edison, "Six Degrees of Separation," at the Vivian Beaumont, "Shadowlands," the Brooks Atkinson, "Shogun," yes, like the TV mini-series sans Richard Chamberlain, at the Marquis, and the all time favorite "Fiddler On The Roof" at the Gershwin. all are waiting critical and public approval...Uptown the Natl. Black Theatre, Inc. opened Harlem's new Natl. Black Institute of Communication Through Theatre Arts. Barbara Ann Teer's dream is now a reality. More next issue...Should Sen. Jesse Helms fail to defeat former Charlotte Mayor Harvey Gantt by a landslide, it's not only a defeat for the old political warhorse, but a lickin' for the old ways of the south. By the way, Gantt's great showing was that he was able to raise as many dollars as the perpetual Senator....STAY LOOSE....Billy Rowe is a syndicated columnist.

AWARD WINNING UNIVERSITY JAZZ ENSEMBLE TO PERFORM ON NOV. 11

LAS VEGAS—The award winning University Jazz Ensemble will perform at 2 p.m., Sunday, Nov. 11 in the Judy Bayley Theatre at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. The fol-

lowing week the Ensemble will be recording a compact disc for Seabreeze Records who will be distributing for the group, announced Frank Gagliardi, director of the band.

ready has several albums to its credit, including: "Live in Europe, Live in Japan, Live Behind the Iron Curtain, and Live in South America," but this will be their first compact disc.

composed and arranged by Bob Florence and "Hello Beautiful," by Matt Cattingub.

Last spring, the group won first-place honors in national competition beating out jazz groups from Princeton University, the University of Southern California at Santa Cruz, the University of Southern California, Saint Joseph's University and others.

"If we can raise the funds, we will defend our national title in St. Louis next May," says Gagliardi. The ensemble has won several awards. Some of the first place awards. (See AWARD, Page 11)

NOTICE NAACP MEMBERS

Please take notice of the following general membership meetings of the Las Vegas Branch, NAACP, and of the election of officers.

1. SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1990, 3:00 P.M. ELECTION OF THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE.
2. SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 1990, 3:00 P.M. REPORT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE NOMINATIONS BY PETITIONS AND THE ELECTION SUPERVISORY COMMITTEE.
3. SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9, 1990, ELECTION OF OFFICERS—POLES OPEN FROM 11:00 A.M. UNTIL 4:00 P.M.

Members in good standing thirty (30) days prior to these meetings and the election are qualified to participate, vote and hold office.

Both the October and November meetings as well as the December Biennial Election will be held at the NAACP Branch Office, 940 W. Owens Ave., Las Vegas, NV 89106

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