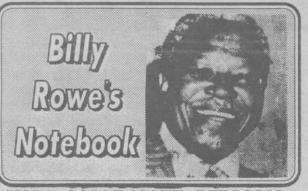
Entertainment



MISS COLLEGIATE AFRICAN-AMERICAN PAGEANT GROWS

N'YORK CITY — The fifth year of the "Miss Collegiate African-American Pageant" captured the attention of 34 intelligent and lovely participants sponsored by a like number of colleges. The event was covered by our own Nancy Hite who was a quest of Frank Mercado, president and founder of the event. The college participants were winner Tiffany Williams,

Grambling State Univ., Kim Curnell, Benedict college, Michelle Herrington, Bethune-Cookman College, La Vonne Murdock, Bowie State Univ., Detrice Smith, Central State Univ., Terrir Thrift, Cheney State Univ., Trecia Wilhite, Clark Atlanta Univ., Shawn Stokes, Delaware State . Univ., Alisa Robinson, Kentucky State Univ., Melanie Bratcher, Langston Univ., Ramona Wilson,

Smith, Morehouse College, Lori Seales, Morgan State Univ., Christa Prioleau, Morris College, Ellen Reid, Norfolk State Univ., Sharron Jenkins, North Carolina A&T State Univ., and Terrie Rowland, North Carolina Central. Also Jolie McKeel, Prarie View A&M Univ., Stacev McJunkins, Rust College, Lynn Lofton, St. Augustine's College, Princess Whitaker, Shaw Univ., Rhonda Mathews, Southern Univ., at Baton Rouge, Ava Allen, Southern Univ., at New Orleans, Tanya Bayne-Bay, Stillman College, Carole Ward, Talladega College, Darlene Jones, Texas Southern Univ., Kimberly Draper, Tuskegee Univ., Teresa Jones Univ., of Maryland, Wanda Vance, Voorhees College, Andriene Basedan, Wilberforce Univ., and Susan Reine, Xavier Univ

Lincoln Univ., (PA), Adrianne

WHAT'S NEW:—The Black Americans Achievement's recent edition: "Madam C.J. Walker: Entrepreneur" is a triple delight: enjoyment, educational and inspiring. Written by greatgreat-grandaughter A'Lelia Perry Bundles, it's calling on Bill Duke, Oprah Winfrey, Robin Givins, Quincy Jcnes and Bill Cosby among other to read it, option it and shoot it for the big silver or the little tube. It's the perfect appetizer for Alex Haley's ex-

pected tomb on the same subject...Bill "Mr. do it," Cosby, led the charge which paid tribute to the late Sarah Vaughn. He was joined by a host of longtime admirers of "Sassy." High on that list were Billy Eckstine, Roberta Flack, Dizzy Gillespie, James Moody, Buster Willams and Frank Wess. This highlight of the annual Festival in the Big Apple sounded off in Carnegie Hall..In August the likes of Ray "You Got The Right One Baby" Charles, will mount the stage that will accommodate the talents of Lou Rawls, Dave Brubeck, Michel Camilo, Benny Green. BB King and Etta James will warmed the stage at Fort Adams State Park, Newport, RI...The most unexpected news of the year!! "U.S. Representative William H. Gray, III, will relinquish his power House majority seat, Democratic Whip, to replace the retired Chistopher Edley as president of the United Negro College Fund. Adog fight is expected over a successor for his political power position.

NOTE TO THE EDITOR:—
According to the Overview in the UNICEF media kit announcing the Day of the African Child: "Not all of Africa's children are on the knife-edge of survival. Under-five mortality has been reduced by 42% since the 1960s. During the same period, aver-

age life expectancy has risen to 53 years, an increase of 12 years. Not all of Africa's children are illiterate. Primary school enrollments rose dramatically during the 1970s and averaged almost 90% for boys and 69% for girls by 1980. These figures are low when compared with data from the industrialized world, but progress should be measured against the past. It has taken Africa just three decades to raise health, literacy and other standards to levels which industrialized civilization took more than a century to achieve. The big picture for Africa is one of progress and, in some cases, dramatic gains produced by national commitments to a wide range of basic health and other services for children. African nations were among the first to ratify the Convention on the Rights of the Child last year, and they have followed up with the African Chapter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child. Africa's leaders were universally supportive of the 1990 World Summit for Children, and they have reinforced the Summit Declaration and Plan of Action by Declaring an African Decade for Child Survival, Protection and Development. The practical expression of these long standing concerns can be seen in: Immunization programs in every country to fight disease, including tuberculosis, measles, diphtheria, whooping cough, tetanus and polio. Nutrition programs for infants, small children and pregnant women to offset the incidents of low birth weight and to provide nutritional supplements including vitamin A to combat nutritional blindness; iron to curb anemia: and iodine to prevent goiter (an abnormal enlargement

of the thyroid gland), cretinism (a congenital condition assóciated with the thyroid deficiency marked by arrested physical development, goiter and mental retardation), and other impairments. Programs to control diarrheal disease by providing access of safe drinking water and sanitation facilities, and to treat diarrheal dehydration. Policies that support basic education and ensure equal access to schooling for girls as well as boys. The frequency of natural and man-made disasters has impeded progress in these areas in many countries. 29 of the world's least developed countries are in Africa, where these people generally lack the resources to cushion violent fluctuation in their fortunes. The economic crisis of the 1980's. accompanied by the crippling external debts and structural adjustments programs, forced deep cuts in social spending with all too predictable results. Prolonged military conflicts have complicated the picture for many countries. War-related famine affected some 20 million Africans in 1990 alone. For Africa's children-rural and urban, male and female-the future is a mixed bag: a future with uncertainties as well as opportunities. Obstacles to the development of Africa's children span the full range of social services. But in country after country, hunger, illiteracy and ill health have vielded when the political commitment of Africa's leaders to the needs of their children have been strong. Progress has not been as swift as nations would want, but there is evidence that it is finding its mark."...STAY LOOSE...Billy Rowe is a syndicated columnist.





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