

Entertainment

Billy Rowe's Notebook



THE LATE SULLIVAN SHOWCASED BLACK ARTISTS WAY BACK IN 1949

NEW YORK CITY:—Last week we began reprinting the Late Ed Sullivan's column about the opportunities for African-Americans artists in television. This week we continue with Ed bringing these artists into the public eye. And we quote. "In 'discovering,' or re-discovering the judge, whose real name is Dewey Markham, I feel a particular glow of delight. I'd seen him last in 1941, and used him as a television pioneer in 1949! In '41, just before we became involved in WW-II, when things were at a low ebb for Harlem performers, because of the decline of vaudeville and such spots as the Cotton Club, I went to Broadway producer Lee Shubert and asked him to bankroll a "Negro" show on Broadway. Frankly, I told him things were tough for my uptown friends and said that he could do a fine thing for "Negro" performers and musicians if we created a showcase for them on Broadway, Mr. Shubert, a fine warm-hearted human being, gave me an okay with his heart, and "Harlem

Cavalcade" was born. In preparing it, I relied heavily on the "savvy" of Noble Sissle, a good friend.

PERFORMERS SCORE ON T.V.:—Day after day and night after night, we went to theatres and nite clubs to view acts. We missed out on Lena Horne, who apologized for just having signed an M.G.M. contract. We also just missed out on Katherine Dunham. But we hit pay dirt when I first saw the great comic, Tim Moore and signed him pronto. Lee Shubert to this day, says that Moore is one of the finest American comics ever seen on a Broadway stage. At the Apollo theatre during a matinee I saw Judge Pigmeat. He was bopping a witness in stage court with a bladder and convulsing the audience, but Judge Pigmeat was bluer than a Miami sky, and we just didn't have time to clean up his material. Eight years later, when I started my Sunday hour variety show for CBS-TV, I bethought myself for the Judge I'd seen eight years earlier. Back I went to Apollo,

and my the most curious of confidence, the Judge had that very week returned to the stage, after an accident which hospitalized him with two broken ankles. The accident had happened at the Apollo, months earlier. In one scene, as the blackout to a comedy bit, wires lifted the Judge into the air and sailed him out of sight. The wires broke and when the big fellow landed, both his ankles were shattered." (To be continued.)

NEWS NOTES:—Conell Univ. Prof. William B. Branch, who lives in New Rochell, N.Y., across the street from Ossie Davis, has penned Black Thunder: An Anthology of Contemporary African Drama. Nine post Civil Rights era plays including the works of Ed Bullins, August Wilson, and George C. Wolfe, among others, have been printed. Although the three Mets got off by the skin of their teeth, inside sources say Gooden's wife, who was very silent throughout the ordeal, is very upset. Black press sportswriters all over the country are saying that modern day sports figures who openly admitted no knowledge about such sports-world trailblazers as Joe Louis, Jackie Robinson, Jack Johnson, Joe Black, Fitz Pollard, Buddy Young, Levi Jackson, Paul Robeson, Roy Campenalla, Oscar Robinson and Walt Fraizer to name a few, are paying for that ignorance. Because had they read about; visited with, or called any of these elder statement of the sports whirl, or those who knew them, they may

have been able to avoid the traps laid for them. Those close to Mike Tyson, say he can too read. They claim that his poor score on those prison tests are because some people don't score well on standardized test. Don King, and not Mike Tyson, is the target. The establishment would like nothing better than to get the champ away from King, as those that handle the Heavyweight champion, control boxing. It's time, once again, to come to King's aid. Ruth Roper is all set to publish her first book. When it debuts in Sept. it will send shock waves, as it's a guide to help prepare young adults for the future. Jazz drummer Willie Jones passed away. Jones, who worked with Thelonius Monk and Lester Young, used to arrange an annual memorial for Young which featured the musician's son Dr. Lester Young, a principal in Brooklyn. A memorial is planned for Jones at St. Peter's church. He also played with Shara McLawler and her husband, violinist Richard Otto. this month McLawler will celebrate 40 years in Jazz and 10 Years at (See Billy Rowe, Page 21)

SENTINEL-VOICE TOP 10 SINGLES

- 1.) JUMP - Kriss Kross
- 2.) SAVE THE BEST FOR LAST - Vanessa Williams
- 3.) GOODBYE - Tevin Campbell
- 4.) WHY ME BABY (Remix) - Keith Sweat with LL Cool J
- 5.) MY LOVIN' - En Vogue
- 6.) WE GOT A LOVE THANG - Ce Ce Penniston
- 7.) MONEY DON'T MATTER TONIGHT - Prince
- 8.) WHITE MEN CAN'T JUMP - Riff
- 9.) COME TALK TO ME - Jodeci
- 10.) LIVE AND LEARN - Joe Public

STILL #1: Jump

PICK HIT OF THE WEEK: Come Talk To Me

FURTHERMORE: Kriss Kross is still the number one song and it doesn't look like they'll be going anywhere for awhile; In the meantime, **Joe Public** finally makes an appearance with **Live and Learn**; **Jodeci** has another Top 10 slow jam with **Come Talk To Me**.

TOP 5 SONGS FOR 1992-(Jan.-

Apr.): 1. Remember The Time 2. Ain't Too Proud To Beg 3. Save The Best For Last 4. The Rush 5. Keep It Comin'

P2THE-E-A-C-E; WW

Top 20 listing compiled by Willie-Will, Mobile D.J.,

W.W. Mobile Entertainment Service 594-7594



BLACK WRITER RECALLS MILITARY'S CONTRIBUTION TO INTEGRATION



AUTHOR CLIFTON L. TAULBERT

New York— Recalling that the military often enabled young black and white men and women to achieve a form of integration that had eluded them in civilian life, author Clifton L. Taulbert said that the experience meant a lot to him.

"In the military, blacks and whites were yelled at equally," Taulbert writes in this Sunday's issue of PARADE magazine in an adaption from his forthcoming book, "The Last Train North." "We were all there together. Northern blacks who viewed their Southern cousins with suspicion, as well as white guys who found themselves using the same johns as blacks for the first time."

"But the memory that I'll always carry with me is the one I think summed it all up best," Taulbert added. "The time I helped benefit the life of at least one family in Maine as a result of having a blood type needed by an older white lady. Her husband later called to thank me and added quietly, "I didn't realize that you all had the same blood as us."



Darvez Scroggins

BEING BLACK IN America



James Davis

Being Black in America airs Saturdays at 11:00 a.m. to 12 noon on KLV AM 1230. Darvez Scroggins and James Davis host this program which deals with many issues concerning African Americans. Issues as they relate to economics, morality, and society in general.

"Being Black In America" is directed primarily but not exclusively for the African American community. We intend to educate all races on what it is to be black in this country. Our format is designed to enlist the most controversial responses from the public as possible. In order to get the listening audience to respond, we must concern ourselves with the issues which most concern them, and we feel we have done just that.

With the majority of our sponsors being black owned and operated businesses, we would also hope to promote the image of spending as many dollars as possible in the black community. We must support our black businesses if we are to survive in the business world.

Thank You for all of your support.

Signed: Producer/Director James G. Davis

Magic For
All Occasions
WITH MAGICIAN
**ROGER
WIMBUSH**

Make Your Next
Event a Magical One
(702) 598-5180

