

# BOBBY BROWN RETURNS TO THE MUSIC SCENE

Sentinel-Voice

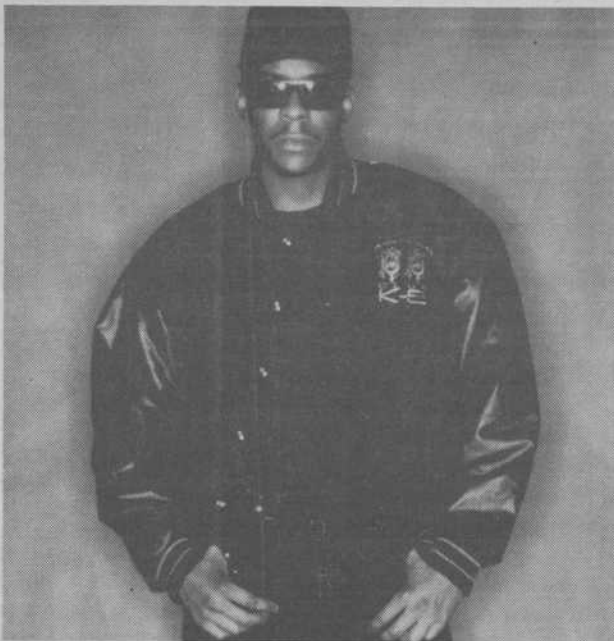
For Bobby Brown, the past five years have been one incredible journey. 1988's Don't Be Cruel, only his second MCA LP, has sold more than 8 million copies worldwide to date, establishing the young singer, songwriter, producer and electrifying stage performer as a pop star of international proportions. And now, with his name and image clearly etched on pop music's honor roll, Bobby Brown prepares for what he calls "The Next Phase."

Bobby, his long-anticipated new MCA album, re-teams Brown primarily with New Jack Swing wunderkind Teddy Riley (who co-produced Michael Jackson's multi-platinum LP Dangerous)—with whom Bobby wrote and produced Brown's Don't Be Cruel smash single, "My Prerogative"—and the production team of L.A. and Babyface, who wrote and produced most of the Don't Be Cruel LP.

Bobby is 14 dynamic new cuts, including the instant hit first single, "Humpin' Around." Among the other gems: "Get Away," a song about the gossip and tabloid fodder that is a by-product of being a celebrity; "Something In Common," a duet with none other than Brown's new wife, superstar Whitney Houston; the quintessential New Jack groove, "Two Can Play That Game," and its slow jam counterparts, sultry New Jack ballads "Lovin' You Down" and "One More Night."

There are some surprises: "Good Enough" is an ol'fashioned good-time soul sway, the kind of mid-tempo sing-along destined to become an R&B classic. Meanwhile, "College Girl," a tantalizing sexy ballad, and mellow, almost-jazzy "Storm Away" both supply the clearest examples of Brown's growth as a writer and producer. Closing out the album is the heart-warming "I'm Your Friend," written and produced by contemporary gospel star BeBe Winans, which features Bobby in a duet with newcomer Debra Winans. At the center of the project is a new Bobby Brown. Having vocally matured in the years since Don't Be Cruel, he sounds better than ever. But stardom hasn't dulled Bobby's street-edge, which is reflected in the attitude of the music and production.

"I had some things I wanted to say," says Bobby, commenting on the album's often lyrically



BOBBY BROWN

introspective stance, "But we wanted to keep it funky. That's why there aren't many ballads this time; we stayed on the dance floor."

Of the LP's creative process, Bobby says, "Teddy and I took it day by day. It was a team effort. He'd come up with something, I'd come up with something—just follow it through and see what happened. And L.A. and Face were great about making room for my input. It made the album more of *me*, what I felt."

Bobby's live performances—exhibitions of boundless energy and relentless stage prowess—prompted critics to dub him the "Brown Bomber," and often compared his rollicking performances to those of James Brown,

Jackie Wilson and Michael Jackson. As a dancer, Bobby is practically an innovator; his powerful street style, combined with a certain amount of B-Boy savvy, has served to create an exciting, kinetic genre that can only be referred to as the Bobby Brown. Indeed, Bobby took his unique trend-setting fusion of singing, dancing and rapping to a new level and effortlessly became Hip Hop's first full service entertainer.

Brown has taken the time to set himself as a businessman. In 1990, he relocated himself and family to Atlanta, Georgia, and promptly established Bosstown, a state-of-the-art recording studio used by a variety of chart-topping artists and

home for artists which Bobby will be producing himself.

Tentative plans call for an international tour to begin in late '92 or early '93, and Bobby can't wait. "I love it! There's something about being in front of a crowd that just hypes me up and

makes me want to be the center of attention." Brown also plans to pursue his budding interest in acting ("If the right role comes up") and continue to develop as a songwriter and producer of new talent.

"I've been working on this

album on and off for two years, and it's great to be back," says Brown. "I'm ready to show the world what Bobby Brown is made of..." Indeed. As Bobby himself would say, "Looks like it's gonna be another one of those funky ones."

## Kimberly's Entertainment News



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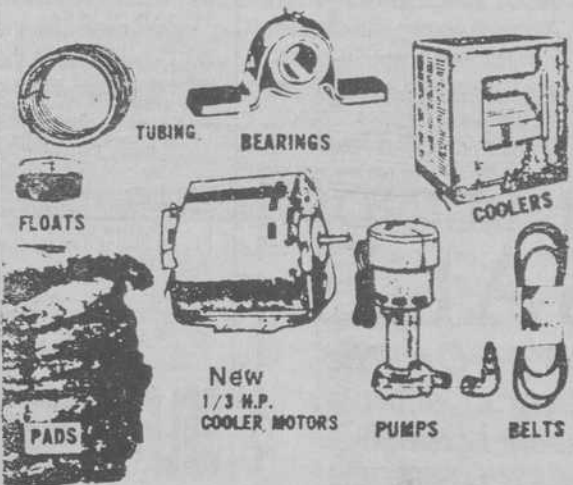
MICHAEL BIVENS was THROWING DOWN with a SERIOUS BIRTHDAY PARTY this August 10, 1992 in New York at the SO VERY PLUSH, COUNTRY NIGHT CLUB. Everybody who is anybody was in the PARTY HOUSE. The word in New York was, "ARE YOU GOING TO THE PARTY! Obviously, everyone knows who's party, THE PARTY, REPRESENTS! THE BIV' MAN is a new and improved 24 year old. The party also celebrated the coming out of his new record company, "BIV 10 RECORDS!" The 10 stands for the number MICHAEL always wears when he

plays basketball. HOOP, HOOP, MICHAEL!!

I told you I would give you the scoop on the recent WHITNEY HOUSTON and BOBBY BROWN wedding so sit back and relax. According to my HIP HOP sources, there were five security check points the wedding guest had to come through before they were allowed on the wedding grounds. BOBBY BROWN's publicist and my good sister girl-friend wasn't able to penetrate those LARGE SECURITY GATES because someone made a TREMENDOUS BOO-BOO, and left the P.R. GIRLFRIEND off the wedding list.

BOBBY BROWN reportedly went OFFTTTTTTTTTTTT!!!! An estimated \$100,000 was spent by a well known tabloid to purchase the WHITNEY & BOBBY wedding photos. "DOES THAT MEAN WE WILL SEE THEIR WEDDING PHOTO IN JET?" SPIKE LEE recently held a "BLACK MEDIA DAY", just for African American press, for a first time screening of his up-and-coming movie MALCOLM X. Well, until we get BACK IN THE BLACK, LET THE "X" BE WITH YOU AND LET ME ENTERTAIN YOU.

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