Irate fans complain about Rose Royce no-show at Palace

By Ida Peters

Irate Rose Royce fans have been calling the AFRO since Monday complaining about the cancellation of the Christmas show at the Hollywood Palace.

One indignant reader said he purchased his $6.50 tickets at Jet Set Record Shop. Christmas night he went out to the Palace on Baltimore National Pike with his friends. The place was packed. They sat and waited for Rose Royce. It was estimated that about 2200 persons showed up. They waited and waited.

Finally our reader tells us that an announcer came out and said that Rose Royce had been detained but that ticket holders could come back the next day, Monday, between 8 - 11 p.m. and get their money back.

When he went back to seek his refund about 8:45 p.m. Monday night someone called the police. County police from the Woodlawn Station arrived with K-9 Dogs and 10 police cars.

John Stratigakos, owner of the Palace, in a police report said he had made every effort to locate the promoter of the concert. A Neil Anderson had rented his facility and he had the money.

Finally a large sign was posted on the window telling the crowd to go back where they had purchased their tickets in order to get a refund.

What really burned up our readers was the fact that they had been told to return to the Palace for refunds and when they did they were treated like criminals.

Two people who failed to leave the scene were arrested. They were a 19 - year - old girl and a 39 - year - old male. Woodlawn police would not release their names.

Philippe Wynne was originally scheduled to play the Hollywood Palace Christmas night. No explanation has been given to the AFRO as to why his concert was cancelled.

In last Tuesday's AFRO, columnist Fred Douglass mentioned the fact that promoters felt they would make more money with Rose Royce.

At AFRO presstime efforts to reach Norman Whitfield, in California, agents for Rose Royce or John Stratigakos, owner of the Hollywood Palace for statements were unsuccessful.

What Baltimore needs in 1978 is more responsible promoters. This dog - eat - dog kind of business must stop. People are getting tired of putting out hard - earned cold cash for concerts and then being hassled about refunds when the acts don't show.

Rumors have it that Rose Royce is touring in Florida and wasn't going to show anyway.

More Happenings

The 6th Annual "Party With The Stars" is at Capital Center, Saturday, Dec. 31 featuring Pattie LaBelle, The Jimmy Castor Bunch, The Bar-Kays, Mother's Finest and Slave.

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The Baltimore Urban League Guild will be sponsoring a special performance of the Arena Players in "Picnic" on Friday, Jan. 6, 8:30 p.m. at the New Arena Playhouse.

The Guild is an auxiliary organization which promotes, encourages, assists and engages in cultural, civic and social activities that publicize and further the goals of the Urban League.

In the past, monies raised by the Guild have been used in the League's scholarship programs and in some instances, to send disadvantaged children to camp. In addition, contributions are made to other non-profit organizations such as the Annie Mae Hunter Home for the Blind.

A New Experience will hold a series of dramatic workshops for all ages. The students will be grouped accordingly: children's workshop ages 7-14, teen and adult ages 15 and over, and senior citizens 62 and older.

These introductory workshops will be conducted by Mrs. Fatima Ball who holds a degree in theater arts and will offer an introduction to informal drama, creative drama and pantomime.

All workshops will run 6 weeks and will be held at 1429-31 McCulloh Street.

Happy New Year!

And. . .if you're looking for an elegant place to party New Year's Eve, join The Magnificents at the Holiday Inn (Downtown) for dinner, dancing, fashion show and breakfast.

—

Singer Pearl Bailey, who was reported ready to enroll as a freshman at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. to become a school teacher — a lifetime ambition and at a school where she has an honorary degree, has opted instead for Los Angeles' Pierce College, with the same ambition.

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The Bethesda Country Club outside Washington in Maryland has agreed to open its admission procedures since it was in danger of losing its preferential tax status because of alleged discrimination against black and Jewish membership. And The Buffalo, N.Y. Yacht Club has opened its membership to Jews, blacks and women, thus ending a threat that it might be evicted from the city-owned property that it occupies virtually rent-free.

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Tenor sax great Buddy Tate and his trio start a six-week engagement at Crawdaddy, the New Orleans restaurant in the Roosevelt Hotel on Jan. 3. With him are Jim Roberts on piano and Ronnie Cole on drums. They play from 6:30 each evening to 11:30 p.m.

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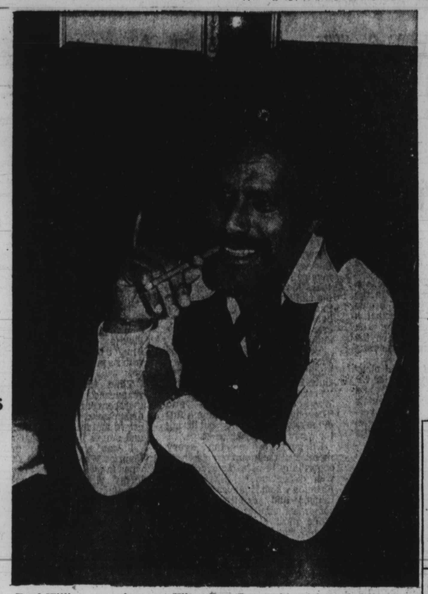
Alex Haley and David Wolper, author and producer, respectively, of the history-making TV program, "Roots," were honored by the American Civil Liberties Union of Southern California at its annual Bill of Rights dinner on Dec. 10 at the Los Angeles Hilton. Warner Bross. President Frank Wells presented the Annual Civil Liberties Award to Wolper, and Congressman Ronald Dellums made the presentation to Haley.



Fred Williamson relaxes at Hilton Raw Bar on his visit to Baltimore to launch his new movie "Mr. Mean."

...And now a word

By Jesse H. Walker

NEW YORK — Melba Moore is currently rehearsing for the lead female role in the black revival of the 1953 musical, "Kismet." The new show, entitled "Timbuktu!," and with Eartha Kitt and William Marshall, opened in Philadelphia on Dec. 19, will be in Washington, D.C. on Jan 7 and in NYC on Feb. 13. Geoffrey Holder is directing.

—

The once popular Cleo Supper Club, across from Lincoln Center closed suddenly. Founder Howard Sanders is in St. Marteens, Dutch Antilles with his Cleo club down there, featuring Joyce Bryant as the main attraction. In NYC, Mabel Mercer had just returned for an engagement until Jan. 7 when the sudden closing surprised everyone.

Viewers of "Sesame Street" will see Big Bird and his Muppet and human pals from the street make their first airplane journey when the popular educational series pays an unusual visit to the Garden Island of Kauai in Hawaii for five programs to be aired on consecutive days beginning Monday, January 16. It will mark new adventures and learning experiences in a multicultural society against back drops of the Pacific coast and mountains.

WNBC-TV's Melba Tolliver turned down that plum assignment as co-anchor with Tony Guida on Channel 4's two-hour "News Center 4" telecast, something almost unheard of. She prefers doing what she's doing, a segment called "Melba and Company," featuring daily five minute film profiles and a Sunday morning public affairs series.

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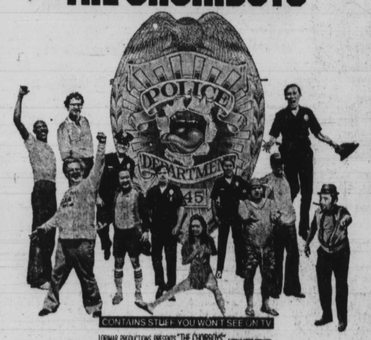

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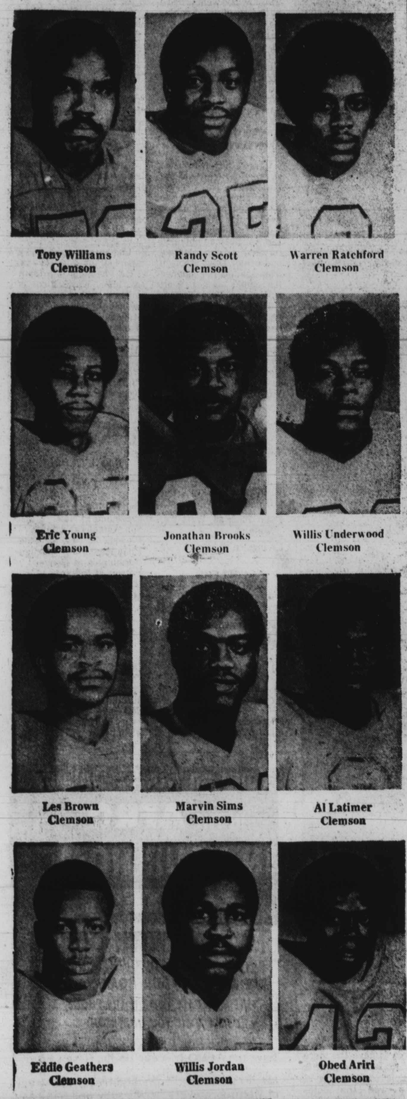
Clemson Tigers

The Tigers meet Pittsburgh Friday night in the Gator Bowl at Jacksonville



Tony Williams, Clemson · Randy Scott, Clemson · Warren Ratchford, Clemson · Eric Young, Clemson · Jonathan Brooks, Clemson · Willis Underwood, Clemson · Les Brown, Clemson · Marvin Sims, Clemson · Al Latimer, Clemson · Eddie Geathers, Clemson · Willis Jordan, Clemson · Obed Ariri, Clemson · Bubba Brown, Clemson · Jerry Butler, Clemson · Anthony King, Clemson

This week's AFRO Sports Bonus covers, in part, two of the upcoming college football bowl games: On the left side of the page pictures of some members of the Clemson University squad are shown, and on the right side and across the bottom, are some players of the University of Arkansas contingent.

Clemson tangles with Pittsburgh (which did not respond to AFRO queries) on Dec. 30 (Friday) at Jacksonville's (Fla.) Gator Bowl.

Arkansas battles University of Oklahoma in the Orange Bowl at Miami on Jan. 2 (Monday).

Both are night games.

The Clemson Tigers finished their season with a record of 8-2-1; Pittsburgh's Panthers were 8-1-1.

The Razorbacks of Arkansas were 10-1 at season's end, as were the Sooners of Oklahoma . . . LACY.

Arkansas

The Razorbacks take on Oklahoma January 2nd in the Orange Bowl, Miami

Kelvin Bostic, Arkansas · George Stewart, Arkansas · Mike Forrest, Arkansas · Howard Sampson, Arkansas · Robert Tillman, Arkansas · Larry White, Arkansas, inj. · Roland Sales, Arkansas RB · Hugh Jernagin, Arkansas DB · William Hampton, Arkansas LB · Jerry Saxton, Arkansas DE · O. C. Jackson, Arkansas CB · Reggie Freeman, Arkansas NG · Vaughn Lusby, Arkansas CB · Cornelius Smith, Arkansas DE · Pat Martin, Arkansas CB · Charles Clay, Arkansas TE · Trent Bryant, Arkansas RB · Bobby Duckworth, Arkansas WR · Ben Cowins, Arkansas RB · Barnabas White, Arkansas RB · Muskie Harris, Arkansas S · Gary Stiggers, Arkansas WR

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