

# Celebrity Roundup

By Ida M. Peters

Q.-I am writing regarding information in Celebrity Roundup for November, 1987. In *Census: People Who Died (1970-79)* obtained from Jet Magazine, 1979. Jackie (Moms) Mabley's real name was "Doretta" not Loretta. I also checked with the Chicago Public Library. Please make the correction in your next publication.

LA DONNA R. EMERY  
Chicago, Ill.

A.-*The Afro-American Newspapers* (founded 1892) *Morgue* lists Moms Mabley's real name as Loretta Mary Aiken. Clarice Taylor who put together a documentary tribute to the late comic idol now playing at the Astor Place Theatre in NYC also lists Moms' name as Loretta Mary Aiken. Clarice Taylor in published articles says she researched information about Moms from every living source which included Moms' third daughter, born while her mother was working.

When Loretta Mary Aiken ran away at 14 with the comedy team of Butterbeans and Suzie her family insisted she change her name. She took the name of her then boyfriend, comedian Jack Mabley.

In her official bio published in the 1978 Directory, she lies a little about her age saying she was born March 19, 1897. She was probably born in 1894 because her death notice says she was 81 when she died May 23, 1985.

Q.-I am a devoted fan of Michael Jackson and I have deep respect, admiration and love for him. It burns me up when so many lies are written about him and his ideas are publicized with ridicule. Do you know if he will tour the U.S. this year?

K. O.  
Chicago, Ill.

A.-Michael Jackson's manager in some newspapers and magazines has stated that this (Japan, Australia and other international territories) is Michael's last concert tour; "his first solo and his last one" before maybe some videos, television specials and movies. Of course we don't know Michael Jackson's master plan.

Q.-Please settle a bet for us. How many

children does Diana Ross have?

ALLAN CUMMINGS  
Denver, Col.

A.-Diana Ross, 43 and her second husband Arne Naess, Jr., a wealthy shipping tycoon, welcomed their first child in October, 1987. She has three daughters, Rhonda, 15; Tracee, 14 and Chudney, 11 by her former husband, Robert Silberstein, who was her press agent and to whom she was married from 1971 to 1976.

Q.-Please run a picture of Pebbles and tell me more about her. I think I went to high school with her and I dig her new single "Girlfriend."

J. L. M.  
San Francisco, Calif.

A.-Pebbles, 23, an Oakland, Calif. native, was born Perri McKissack and has a new single, "Girlfriend," written and produced by L.A. Reid and



Diana Ross



Pebbles



James Earl Jones



Sylvia Robinson

All letters should be addressed to DAWN Magazine, 628 N. Eutaw St., Baltimore, Md. 21201. All questions are welcome, but while Dawn cannot provide individual answers, questions of general interest will be used in this column.

Babyface the team behind The Whispers' "Rock Steady." She did "Love/Hate" on the "Beverly Hills Cop II" soundtrack LP.

Q.-James Earl Jones is starring in "Fences" on Broadway. He won a Tony this year as the best dramatic actor in American Theatre. Where was he born; how old is he? Is he married?

GREG CARROLL  
San Francisco, Calif.

A.-James Earl Jones was born Jan. 17, 1931 in Tate County, Miss. He's 57 and he married his second wife, Cecilia Hart, in 1982.

Q.-Who was the black actress who had the role of Reba on the Thanksgiving special "Highway To Heaven?" She played a mother in prison who was upset because she could not visit and touch her children and her older daughter refused to talk to her.

A.P.  
Baltimore, Md.

A.-She is Beatrice (Bebe) Drake Massey of Los Angeles, Calif., daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Carl (Bea) Drake of Oakland, Calif. Father was one of Golden Bears at Morgan State University in Baltimore and mother a Golden member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

Q.-Is Sylvia Robinson, who headed All Platinum Records and Sugar Hill Records, who produced "Rapper's Delight," the mega-hit, and who launched the Sugar Hill Gang and Grandmaster Flash And The Furious Five, the same Sylvia who made history in the 1950's with Mickey (Mickey And Sylvia)?

JOI MERRITT  
Philadelphia, Pa.

A.-Yes, Sylvia Robinson was part of the duo, Mickey and Sylvia and she wrote their 1950's hit "Love Is Strange." The song was re-recorded by Peaches And Herb and Paul McCartney, and the original Mickey And Sylvia version is heard on the soundtrack LP to "Dirty Dancing."