FEEL THE SPIRIT!

TRACY CHAPMAN
"Chapman makes rich, haunting music that deserves black radio attention." - Nelson George / BILLBOARD
"...one of the year's most promising debuts." - Jon Pareles / THE NEW YORK TIMES
"Her music has a compassion that captures the fiery life force I associate with, as Essence might say, today's black woman." - THE VILLAGE VOICE

The fiery spirit of a new sensation
"FAST CAR" from the debut Tracy Chapman LP.

GOSPEL AT COLONUS
"A major triumph!" - AMSTERDAM NEWS
"A roof-raising celebration." - THE NEW YORKER
"A sunburst of joy that seems to touch the secret heart of civilization itself...One of the most marvelous shows of the decade." - NEWSWEEK
"Truly the one musical that can't be missed." - GQ MAGAZINE

The joyous spirit of Broadway's latest musical sensation. A new digital original cast recording.

INSPIRED MUSIC...ON ELEKTRA SUPERIOR-QUALITY CASSETTES, COMPACT DISCS AND RECORDS
From a Proud Alumnus

A TRIBUTE TO

FROM A PROUD ALUMNUS

A
nd so it all began in 1966...
That is, my professional career in the music business. That was the year my friends Cannonball Adderley, Nancy Wilson and Lou Rawls endorsed me to become the regional promotional director for Capitol Records in Atlanta.

In retrospect, it almost didn't happen because the Atlanta branch manager thought that I might feel that my position would only require me to promote and satisfy these three Capitol artists. That theory was later disproved in spades after my tenure in Atlanta more than quadrupled airplay and sales for the label's product in that region.

When I was later promoted and transferred to the home office here in Los Angeles, there was no turning back. My career path in the music industry was set on a course which would ultimately lead me from the legendary Capitol tower in Hollywood to a building just around the corner where I now publish this magazine.

So I will always consider Capitol Records as my alma mater because it opened the door to the industry and gave me the opportunity to not only hold a position in promotion and a&r, but to manage one of their labels. And that initial vote of professional confidence in no small measure allowed me to dream the dream that became Black Radio Exclusive some 13 years ago.

As I look now at the opportunities that Capitol and its associated labels have offered to Blacks in this industry, I'd like to take this opportunity to salute Bhaskar Menon, Joe Smith, Bruce Lundvall and other decision-makers in the company for their continued efforts to spotlight and promote super talents such as Step Johnson (a co-chair of BRE Conference '88), Gerry Griffith, Hank Talbert, Varnell Johnson, Black Johnson, Wayne Edwards, Ray Tisdale and other outstanding members of the CEMA family.

Capitol and its associated labels have indeed made their mark on the Black music scene with zest and vigor. I wish them much continued success as they assemble here in Los Angeles for the historic meeting of CEMA '88!
HE'S CROSSED THE LINE.

"INTRODUCING THE HARDLINE ACCORDING TO TERENCE TRENT D'ARBY."
PLATINUM. ON COLUMBIA RECORDS, CASSETTES AND COMPACT DISCS.
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**TOP 5 SINGLES**

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<td>GET OUT OF MY DREAMS</td>
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<td>WHERE DO BROKEN HEARTS GO</td>
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<td>PEBBLES</td>
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**SINGLE OF THE WEEK**

**RUN-D.M.C.**

**RUN'S HOUSE/BEATS TO THE RHYME**

Run-D.M.C. reassert their primacy in the Rap world with this strong one-two punch from the group's first LP in over two years, Tougher Than Leather. Boldly accepting the challenge of a whole new crop of angry young rhyymers, the Kings Of Rap are already well on their way to the top of the charts with the hard hitting cut "Run's House." The second song, "Beats To The Rhyme" is an edgy down tempo groove that takes Public Enemy's hard approach up another level! The Run-D.M.C/Davy D production puts Rap's heavyweight champs back where they belong among the world's top entertainers...
IMPORTANT RECORDS

SINGLES

BIZ MARKIE—VAPORS—COLD CHILLIN’—All of Biz’s unbelievers will only catch the “vapors” of this artist’s rise to prominence in the Rap world. Falling into the pocket of the slow JB groove with style and finesse, the cut should be a serious consideration for immediate action on Black radio. Biz and large living new Rap producer/writer Big Daddy Kane have their biggest hit yet!

TRACIE SPENCER—SYMPTOMS OF TRUE LOVE—CAPITOL—Twelve year old Tracie has a charismatic cuteness that doesn’t come across as being affected plus a finely tuned technique and vocal sensitivity that made her a big winner on TV’s Star Search. Pumped up by Ron “Have Mercy” Kersey in the production department, it’s seeing serious add action.

GREGORY ABBOTT—I’LL PROVE IT TO YOU—COLUMBIA—Gregory Abbott’s double platinum debut album Shake You Down is proof enough of this artist’s commercial viability as he croons his way into the ladies’ hearts with this romantic ballad. Another big add for this week.

ALBUMS

AL B. SURE!—IN EFFECT MODE—WARNER BROS.—On this artist’s all-out smash debut LP, executive producers Andre Harrell of Uptown Enterprises and Benny Medina from Warners make “sure” Top 5 single, “Nite And Day” is only the introductory piece in this fresh, colorful collection. Kyle West does the actual production work with Al, with the two taking exclusive songwriting and performance credits.

GARY TAYLOR—COMPASSION—VIRGIN—The London-based label is offering some seriously competitive talent for American Black airwaves. Solo vocalist Taylor hit hard with the cool, mature R&B title composition, but it keeps getting better with the cover of the sweet Emotions tune “Don’t Ask My Neighbor.” “Tease Me” is an imminently hitbound ballad, and should see album cut action.

JOHNNY KEMP—SECRETS OF FLYING—COLUMBIA—Here’s Kemp’s second album on Columbia featuring the quickly added single “Just Got Paid.” Check out the medley of Marvin Gaye’s “Inner City Blues” and “Mercy, Mercy Me.” Kashif takes executive production credit on the project.
have you ever been plagued by the telltale symptoms of true love? If you have, 12-year-old Tracie Spencer may just have the cure.

"Symptoms of True Love" is the Capitol Records recording artist's first single from her self-titled debut LP. This pre-teen singer may not be an authority in the true love and romance department ("I don't have a boyfriend," said Spencer, "and I'm not looking!), but her powerhouse vocals—set to a driving backdrop of danceable pop/soul rhythms—have enough depth and sweet maturity to convince you that the talented Tracie knows what she's singing about. Remember how you believed a pubescent Michael Jackson when he exclaimed, "I Want You Back!" Listen to "Symptoms of True Love" and see if the believability factor isn't just as strong.

Unlike most child singers, Spencer's voice contains exactly-the-right-amount of sophistication. Only on one of her LP's tracks, "Hide and Seek" (another forthcoming single) does she sound like the sweet, precocious native of Waterloo, Iowa, that she really is.

David Berman, Capitol Records Industries president, said: "We've been careful not to exploit the whole aspect of Tracie's age. She's amazing—she just happens to be 12 years old. The point is, people listen to the music and see that she's just plain great." Berman added that Capitol is "fully committed" to Spencer as an artist.

"It's not by accident that we had her perform at the NARM convention. Clearly, if she can do what she does on this LP now, this is just the beginning." Echoing those sentiments is Jeremy Hammond, Capitol's vice president, international marketing, who originally was the product manager for young Spencer.

He observed that Capitol is putting together an overall game plan that will "focus on Tracie's singing, her artistry. We don't want to overstate the age factor—although we aren't overlooking it. We want to make sure that Tracie isn't perceived as riding on the coattails of other teen vocalists such as Tiffany, Debbie Gibson or Shanice Wilson."

According to Hammond, the thrust of Capitol's campaign took shape after the video for her debut single: "The video presents her in a colorful, vibrant, very natural way. She has a great deal to offer...and we want to make sure that people pick up on that aspect."

He noted that response from Capitol's international affiliates "has been excellent. The LP is being released worldwide and we will be taking Tracie on a promotional tour to Europe in June."

"Aside from Europe," Hammond said, "we've had a very positive reaction from Japan, so we expect Tracie to be big there, too!" Vocal talent aside, Spencer has the kind of teen-model look—pretty, fresh and fun-loving—that should win her a legion of young fans. With five older siblings ranging in age from 18 to 22, Tracie picked up the musical baton from her father, Marvin Spencer. He once sang with The Cavaliers, a group that frequently toured with soul legend Jackie Wilson.

 Says Marvin Spencer: "I was very good at ad-libbing when I was on the road and so is Tracie. She seems to pick up everything so easily. She's just a natural."

 It was her father who initially sent demo tapes to her now-manager Stan Plessner two years ago. In November '86, Plessner sent a video of Spencer to "Star Search" and the young singer won in the junior competition division that December.

"Star Search" got a lot of people to notice my talent," said the articulate youngster. "It gave me exposure and we received a number of phone calls from different record companies. My manager talked to them and we got to meet them all." After meeting with Capitol execs in March '87 and auditioning for them, Spencer had a recording contract in hand by July. "We went with Capitol," said Marvin Spencer, "because they agreed to just let Tracie be herself and remain youthful as long as she can."

When it comes to honing her vocal craft, Spencer says she does it by listening to the LP's of her two favorite singers: "Whitney Houston and Billie Holiday. I just lock myself into my room and listen to their records for hours." (She may be young, but she's got good taste!)

As the co-executive producer of Spencer's debut LP, Wayne Edwards (vice-president, A&R, Black music) notes that his biggest challenge was finding material that would be appropriate for the young singer: "I began a massive song search with her manager (also the co-executive producer on the project) to find material that would not be risqué in any way."

"I knew that Tracie was a great singer the first time I heard her 'live' when she performed for executives here last year. We just had to give her the right songs—songs she could sing comfortably that would fit her style."

Several producers were brought into the project, and "one of the most amazing aspects of this LP," says Edwards, "was that Tracie worked so well with each producer—she's just a natural. Apart from her obvious talent, I found working with her to be a real joy. She's truly one of the nicest, sweetest artists I've ever dealt with."

"Symptoms of True Love," produced by Ron "Have Mercy" Kersey, is Continued on page 40

BY CAMILLE CONNOLLY & DAVID NATHAN

BLACK RADIO EXCLUSIVE

May 6, 1988
“I want to be known as an all-around entertainer.”
WGCI’s Winning Formula

“Nice guys finish first.”
A highly improbable notion in the fiercely competitive radio arena in the “Windy City,” but that is nonetheless the self-professed motto of Marv Dyson, president and general manager of WGCI, the station now flying the “Number One” banner in Chicago.

For the last three Arbitron ratings books, WGCI has dominated the market—consistently racking up impressive numbers. In the latest book, however, urban contemporary-formatted GCI pulled in a remarkable 9.2, while its major urban competitor, WBMX, bit the dust with its 4.3 share.

Even more significantly, WGCI tied its 9.2 hold on the market with WGN, a station with a variety/talk/MOR format. Quite an achievement, but the “bottom line” is still the bottom line. By all accounts, these numbers could well translate to over $20 million in advertising revenues.

The winning formula? Dyson cites a combination of spending big bucks, using innovative advertising and taking calculated risks in hiring as the key elements of his success in burying the competition and garnering the number one spot.

And if being ‘nice’ counts, so do WGCI’s on-air cash giveaways. Item: WGCI gave away nearly $100,000 during a five-week period earlier this year.

“We cashed in on what I call the ‘greed factor,’” Dyson told BRE in a telephone interview this week. He went on to explain that human nature being what it is, people love to compete for cash prizes.

With an initial investment of $500,000, Dyson said the GCI urban outlet spent a whopping $300,000 on television advertising alone for WGCI’s “Free Money Birthday Campaign,” which was concentrated on the station’s popular morning show hosted by Doug Banks. (Dyson also pointed out that some $90,000 was spent to produce the TV spots.)

“At about 7:15 in the morning on Doug’s show,” Dyson said, “we would call out a birthday, and the 25th caller with that particular birthday would win a minimum of $5,000.” Each week, the morning prize money kitty was sweetened by kicking in another $5,000. An additional $45,000 was given away in other dayparts during the campaign.

In putting together a team to conquer the Chicago market, Dyson hired as program director industry veteran Sonny Taylor—a man who was admittedly pronounced “washed-up” by many decision-makers in radio.

“I took a chance on Sonny because I wanted a seasoned pro,” explained Dyson. “I didn’t want some young whippersnapper coming in telling me how to run my station. Sonny had a consistent track record and I felt he was the man for the job.”

During Dyson’s nine-and-a-half year tenure at WGCI, the station always had “decent ratings,” he said, “but Sonny proved we could do better.”

Taylor likewise acknowledged Dyson’s contribution to the station’s ratings success, describing the GM as “very focused and an expert TV producer (in the radio ad campaign) who knows how to assemble the pieces of a puzzle.”

Dyson was also generous in his praise of other members of the winning WGCI team, characterizing music director Barbara Prieto as having “very good ears.” And it certainly doesn’t hurt to have as your afternoon man the widely publicized “Fly Jock,” Tom Joyner, who remains number one in the market despite his double airshifts at GCI and KKDA in Dallas. Marco Spoon ably holds down the fort during drive time.

Yvonne Daniels—the midday air personality and the first Black female deejay in major market radio—is a particular source of pride for Dyson.

“I grew up listening to Yvonne,” he recalled, “and now I’m on top of the world as her boss at a number-one station. I guess you could say I’m just a local boy who made good.”

Yes, Marv, nice guys do finish first.

Sonny Taylor and Barbara Prieto

ARBitron Ratings

The following information represents the latest ARBitron ratings for average quarter hour shares, metro survey area, Monday through Sunday, 6 a.m. - Midnight, for the Winter ’88 rating period. The Fall ’87 rating period is also shown as a point of comparison.

This information is reprinted directly from the period and categories designated from the ARBitron Ratings Service with their permission. Reprinting of this must have the specific approval of ARB.

The following information represents ratings from urban, black and some contemporary formatted stations. More markets detailed next week.

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<td>GCI outdistances the urban pack and scores a major market across-the-board win.</td>
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| DETROIT, MI |          |
| WILB | 8.6 | 8.5 |
| WIZZ | 2.1 | 1.5 |
| WQBH | 1.0 | 1.2 |
| WCHB | 1.1 | .9 |
| Despite the ever-so-slight slippage, James Alexander and company continue their dominance of the Motor City market. |

| LOS ANGELES, CA |          |
| KILH | 1.8 | 2.3 |
| KDRC | 1.5 | 1.7 |
| KACE | .9 | 1.0 |
| KGJF | .5 | .7 |
| The Cliff Winston-led ‘Wonder-land’ boogies way out front this book. Slight gains by all urban outlets as L.A. awaits a re-enactment of the ‘Memphis Miracle’ at KACE. |

| NEW YORK, NY |          |
| WBLS | 4.1 | 4.6 |
| WRKS | 4.6 | 4.0 |
| WNJR | .3 | .5 |
| The see-saw continues between the two urban giants in the ‘Big Apple.’ Congratulations, B.K., but don’t ‘KISS’ off Tony Gray. |

| PHILADELPHIA, PA |          |
| WUSL | 7.8 | 7.1 |
| WDAS-FM | 3.9 | 3.6 |
| While Dave Allan’s book drops a few ratings points, there’s no ‘Power’ shortage in Philly as Power 99 maintains its dominance of the urban market. |
Mottola Named President, CBS Records Division

NEW YORK: Tommy Mottola has been named president of the CBS Records Division, the U.S. record company of CBS Records Inc. The announcement was made by Walter Yetnikoff, president and CEO of CBS Records Inc.

Mottola, founder and president of Champion Entertainment, is best known as one of the top personal managers in the music industry, having guided the careers of groups such as Dr. Buzzard's Original Savannah Band, Hall & Oates and Kid Creole and the Coconuts.

"We are extremely fortunate to be able to bring an executive of Tommy Mottola's experience and professionalism into this company," Yetnikoff said. "Tommy has always been known as a visionary, and as a hands-on manager—someone who gets personally involved in promotion, in sales, in repertoire. That attention to the basics of our business, and that vision, are just what CBS Records needs as we move into this new phase in our company's history."

"This is the greatest challenge of my career, and I'm very grateful to Walter Yetnikoff for giving me this opportunity," Mottola said. "CBS Records has a tradition like no other company in this industry. Working with all the talented people here, we can build on that tradition to make the best even better."

Muddy Waters Scholarship and Exhibit Announced

CHICAGO: Willie Dixon, founder of Blues Heaven Foundation, Inc., announced the committee that will select the recipient of the first Muddy Waters Scholarship. "This group represents various aspects of the Blues," says Dixon, "and we hope that this scholarship will be an educational catalyst expanding the awareness of the Blues."

Blues Heaven Foundation was formed to assist in the preservation and documentation of Blues music.

The scholarship applications were made available to any full-time college student in the Chicago area who is studying music, arts management, Afro-American history, journalism or a related field, this year. The scholarship recipient will be announced on May 1, 1988. Dixon will make the official presentation in June.

In a related matter, in Clarksdale, Mississippi, the Blues group ZZ Top announced their intention to spearhead a drive to raise money for a Muddy Waters exhibit at the Delta Blues Museum in that city. The drive was officially launched April 21, when they presented the museum with the "Muddy-Wood instrument," a solid body electric guitar fashioned out of a piece of cypress salvaged from the cabin in which Muddy was raised.

Harris Heads Black Promo at WB

BURBANK: The appointment of Ray Harris as VP/Black Music Promotion at Warner Bros. was recently confirmed by an announcement made by Ernie Singleton, Sr. VP/Black Music Marketing & Promotion.

Harris, a record industry veteran whose career has included senior posts at RCA and most recently, the presidency of Solar Records, joins Warner Bros. from Avant Garde Management. The firm's clients have included Morris Day, Klymaxx and George Howard, among others.

In his announcement, Singleton characterized his promo head as "an individual of integrity, enthusiasm, and wide-ranging expertise," adding that Harris' "exceptional talents and vision make him the ideal choice for this demanding and rewarding post."
We are pleased to salute in this issue the CEMA (Capitol/EMI-Manhattan/Angel) convention which is bringing more than 500 label executives and sales and promotion personnel from across the country to Los Angeles this weekend for its first convention in 11 years. Established in 1984, CEMA is the distribution and sales arm for CAPITOL INDUSTRIES-EMI, Inc.'s three record companies as well as its distributed labels.

The theme chosen for this historic event, "BREAKING SOUND BARRIERS," dynamically reflects the significant changes which have taken place within CAPITOL INDUSTRIES-EMI, Inc., as the company positions itself to make a critical leap into the next decade. Toward this end, each of the company's labels has undergone reorganizational changes designed to enhance their individual and collective roles in "defining what popular music will be and establishing the artists that will lead that course."

The cover story on Capitol's young "Star Find," Tracie Spencer, illustrates that the CEMA companies are well on the way to achieving that objective.

A MESSAGE TO BLACK RADIO

As we hold the first Capitol-EMI/Manhattan sales convention this week, the key role played by the black music sector of our companies becomes quite evident.

The charts, the sales and the enthusiasm surrounding the revitalized presence of the music in our plans have made the past year dynamite for both of our labels.

We are firmly dedicated to expanding our position in the black world and chasing after those artists and people who will contribute to our growth.
VOICES FROM CEMA

STEP JOHNSON
VP/GM, BLACK MUSIC
CAPITOL

As this is the first time that the CEMA companies have gathered together in more than a decade, it is a very special—and much anticipated—occasion for all of us. In view of the significant corporate changes that have taken place within CEMA, the timing is perfect for us to set the stage for a very successful and profitable year and transition into the next decade.

WAYNE EDWARDS
VP/A&R, BLACK MUSIC
CAPITOL

I think it's a very exciting time to have a convention because it's a new Capitol and a new era for the CEMA companies. There's a real sense of camaraderie here—a real family spirit—so I am looking forward to getting together with those from whom we've been separated only by distance. We're ushering in a new musical direction with new talent and a creative energy which enhances what Capitol is all about. Our goal over the next decade is to be recognized by the artistic community as a truly music-oriented company.

GERRY GRIFFITH
SR. VP/A&R
EMI-MANHATTAN

EMI-Manhattan comes to the CEMA Convention after a spectacular year at Black Radio. Varnell Johnson and his dedicated promotion team have been instrumental in breaking new ground with acts spanning the musical genres from go-go to jazz and re-establishing the careers of well-known artists. I'm also excited about projects we're now preparing to launch—artists that were initially brought to Manhattan in the early days. In all, we're enthusiastic about our artists, our music—and being a tough contender in a difficult game. The convention gives us the opportunity to share our success with our colleagues and friends—making our rise to the top all the more gratifying.

VARNELL JOHNSON
VP/MARKETING & PROMOTION
EMI-MANHATTAN

Since this is the first time that we've had a convention with full participation at every level—including international—we have an unprecedented opportunity to exchange ideas and philosophies with other departments and companies in our organization. Throughout my years at Manhattan—and now our joint company EMI-Manhattan—I have been privileged to be a part of the great inroads made by our staff throughout the period of transition in structure and personnel. We have been able to promote and market innovative musical concepts, while achieving success with our artists across the board. We are building careers, building futures 'from the sound up' and are now well positioned to become an industry leader.
S'WONDERFUL!

Rick James (3rd, l) dropped by his new label, Reprise/Warner Brothers, to personally deliver the master lacquer of his debut LP, Wonderful. (L-r): Rich Fitzgerald, vp/dir. of promo, Reprise; Ernie Singleton, WB sr. vp Black music marketing/promo; WB pres. Lenny Waronker; WB vp/a&r Michael Osti; and WB vp Black music a&r Benny Medina.

NAUGHTY BUT NICE

In New York to film the video for “Naughty Girls,” RCA’s Samantha Fox made a new friend at WBLS, PD B.K. Kirkland (l). Pictured with them is Snooky Jones, eastern regional mgr. of r&b promo at RCA.

BRE-FLICKS

SIGN, JESSE, SIGN

Presidential candidate Jesse Jackson took time out from his campaign to sign an autograph for Strong City Records rap artist Busy Bee (l). Busy Bee attended a recent Jackson press conference in New York.

JUST BETWEEN THEM

Atlantic Records recording artist Gerald Albright, whose Just Between Us LP is bulleting up the R&B charts, is shown being congratulated for his great performance at New York’s Bottom Line by Atlantic chairman Ahmet M. Ertegun.

SAY IT WITH SOUL

Arista recording artist Jermaine Stewart (r), whose “Say It Again” single is super-hot, is shown with Solar Records’ Micki Free at the Soul Train Awards After Party at the Huntington House in Santa Monica.

DOING IT FOR HUMANITY

Former CBS Records Division president Al Teller (l) posed for photographers after being honored as the 1988 Humanitarian of the Year at the 13th Annual dinner of the T.J. Martell Foundation for Leukemia, Cancer & Aids Research. Shown with him (l-r): Deniece Williams; Brad Westering (Williams’ husband and manager); and Jennifer Teller.
MICHAEL'S "BAD" HOMECOMING

Michael Jackson almost came home this week as he brought his super-"BAD" concert tour to the Rosemont Theatre in a nearby Chicago suburb. At this venue, Michael was approximately 60 miles from his native Gary, Ind.—and 10 miles from the Guys & Gals night club where the Jackson 5 used to appear regularly on Sunday nights for well over a year.

Hosting those Sunday night shows were Motown's Ben Sheats and former radio jock Stevi'o. Without a doubt, the experience gained performing at Guys & Gals prepared Michael and his brothers for their fabulous careers.

And there was no greater evidence of what a fantastic solo entertainer the former J-5 lead singer has become than the show itself. It reminded this reporter of the legendary EW&F shows of the '70s. The sixteen persons on stage did a phenomenal job—and Chicago Radio had just one word to describe the concert: "Fabulous!" If a jock did not attend (for whatever reason), he or she was totally out of step and his/her program was a bore. My thanks to Epic's Clifford Russell for the tickets and the experience.

CHICAGO BEAT...

The ratings are out in the Windy City and this time, WGCI has clearly established itself as the number one radio station in Chicago with a whopping 9.2! The ongoing war between WBKM and WGCI seems to be a thing of the past with the consistent success of WGCI. Congratulations to the staff and management.

As part of its celebration, WGCI held a Power Party at a North Side night club. In town for the event were Suave', Hindsight and Pebbles.

The only disappointment in what was otherwise a great show was the turnout. Just where were all those GCI listeners? (Maybe they can get a few pointers from BMX whose Sunday parties are very popular...). The morning crew of the Doug Banks Show did attend, but they had to leave early due to their early airlift.

All three acts were received very enthusiastically by the audience. Pebbles, of course, was the hit of the show as she appeared in her hot red dress. There's something about that color on a sexy body...

While in town, Capitol's Mike Horton took advantage of Suave's visit to do promotional work in support of the LP. Along with Howard Geiger, they visited retail and wholesale record dealers and area radio stations.

Unfortunately, MCA's Chuck Arrington had to cancel local promotion visits scheduled for Pebbles due to illness. But that didn't stop Doug Banks from seeing the "Mercedes Girl." After talking to Pebbles on the phone and wrangling an invitation to have a cup of coffee at her hotel, Doug left his show and went to the hotel to keep his coffee date. Just to make sure everybody believed him, he called in from the hotel.

Dear Doug, when Jody Watley reads this, she'll really be mad at you. I think you should call Jody and explain your actions on the air. Some fun you are...

Speaking of Doug Banks on the serious side, his mother is seriously ill in Detroit. I'm sure he would appreciate it if all of you would say a prayer for her. Drop him a card or give him a call. Doug, I am here for you just as you were there for me.

MOTOWN—MTV PALACE GALA

By Camille Connolly

Motown may have a new regime, but Stevie Wonder is still the record company's reigning king. Motown Industries recently rolled out the red carpet at the Palace in Hollywood for the world premiere screening of the MTV Stevie Wonder special featuring his latest LP, Characters.

The Palace was palmed, lacquered, and lit to capture all the art deco elegance of Hollywood in its heyday. And although His Majesty (Stevie) was across the globe touring in Japan, a 15-foot projection of his face beamed on a grand screen—and amplifiers booming out the songwriter's tunes—made you feel somehow that Wonder was there.

Well, Stevie may have been holding court in the Orient, but radio programers from across the country, Motown executives and various artists were there to celebrate, dance, dine, drink and contribute to the lively conversational din.

Between snatches of the MTV special screening (telecast on April 27th), BRE caught up with some of the many Motown revelers.

Motown recording artist Rockwell, of "Somebody's Watching Me" fame commented: "Motown is changing, getting ready for the 90's and I'm glad to be a part of it. "But," he quipped, "I guess I had no choice, being (literally) born into the family business."

And business it was as five levels of heavy-duty power partying, depending on your level of consciousness (or semi-conscousness), took place. The Palace had three-pack-to-capacity bars brimming with drinks, but Motown showed class and conscience by picking up the entire house tab and displaying prominently placards reminding guests to "Please Drive Safely."

BRE also talked with former "Different Strokes" actor Todd Bridges, a young man who handled controversial questions from a pack of reporters with professionalism and quiet reflection.

"I'm here to celebrate Stevie Wonder and Motown," he said, adding, "One thing I try to do is support my people."

Sharing Todd's admiration for the Wonder-man by his presence was a very relaxed and happy-go-lucky Howard Hewett, who is hot now with back-to-back hit LPs. Hewett credits Stevie with showing him the importance of being unique. "I used to try to sound like Stevie with a little bit of Donny Hathaway thrown in—until I realized, one day I want someone to say they want to sound like me."

Other celebrities at the event included Brownmark, Prince's former guitarist, Royal Badness, and Georgio, who gets my "Sex Appeal" vote for the best ripped torso in the record business.

Stevie's images played out 'til the evening's end and even a vividly-decorated cake bore his likeness. All I can say is, if his MTV special is as hot and entertaining as the party Motown threw to celebrate it, Stevie may emerge as the MTV star of the year.

By Jerome Simmons

May 6, 1988

BLACK RADIO EXCLUSIVE
By Clyde Wayne MacMillian

IN NEW YORK: I often notice that the news media constantly covers all the negative elements that surround rap artists—some of it is justified and some of it is not. However, it is the responsibility of the media to accurately report those happenings in the community that are of interest to their readership. That obviously was not the case here on the eve of the New York democratic primary when some of the top names in the rap industry donated their talents for a benefit for our presidential candidate Jesse Jackson at the world famous Apollo Theatre. This was a positive contribution that rappers were making and I have neither read nor heard one iota of coverage of such a newsworthy event by any of the city’s media. I dare say that if someone had been shot it would have made front page headlines.

Mr. Jackson was so inspiring that I too got caught up in the frenzy like the rest of my homeboys and screamed as frantically as the hip hoppers: “Run Jesse Run! Win Jesse Win!”

The show was one that will be remembered for a long time. Public Enemy’s scene stealer, Flavor Flav, was up to his usual antics: running through the crowd, grabbing his crotch and shouting obscenities—which, to my surprise, his fans loved. Whodini’s “Freaks Come Out At Night” and “One Love” were sheer delights as the three male dancers “snaked” and “cabbage patched” all over the stage. Eric B. & Rakim rocked the house before a backdrop of the two in a pose holding money. Eric B. provided the raps for “I Need Money,” “My Melody” and “Follow The Leader” while Rakim dj’d on an altar-like platform.

LL Cool J proved that he will be a rap star for a long time as he plunged into “Cut Creator,” “I Need Love” and “Jack The Rapper.” As he removed his jacket revealing a well-built frame and flexing his honey-colored muscles the females went wild! LL’s “Jack The Ripper” is a direct dis to Kool Moe Dee, who was sitting near the front of the stage, so midway through the tune Kool stood up in the aisle, turned his back to LL, snapped his fingers and made his exit through the maddening crowd (surrounded by two gorgeous female fatales). That scenario continues: The LL Cool J vs. Kool Moe Dee saga.

Brian Holland, Lamont Dozier and Eddie Holland were inducted into the Songwriters Hall of Fame last Monday. The trio, who became famous for the songs they wrote for Motown stars like Diana Ross and The Supremes, performed “How Sweet It Is To Be Loved By You” at the induction banquet. Holland-Dozier-Holland shared the spotlight with Supremes member Mary Wilson.

The next evening they were honored at a party hosted by the dapper and debonair Bill Warner at the very chic B. Smith’s. It was a dual celebration to honor the songwriting team and to introduce their new discovery, Cassandra. Cassandra is a beautiful and shapely multi-talented vocalist from New Jersey who has been singing professionally for the last ten years. Holland-Dozier-Holland has produced her as yet-untitled LP that is due for a mid-summer release. “The tracks are a mixture of R&B and Third World rhythms with pop overtones mixed into a beautiful blend,” says Brian. The LP, co-written by Cassandra and Brian Holland, features Gerald Albright on horns, Layton Amor on keyboards and Frankie Blue on guitar. The tune, “Kilimanjaro,” was written by Richard Davis.

Eric B. raps to the crowd during the Rush Artist Management fundraiser for Jesse Jackson. Photo by Charles S. Tillman.

The Jesse Jackson for President benefit was sponsored by Russell Simmons and Rush Artists Management. It starred such artists as LL Cool J, Public Enemy, Whodini, Eric B. & Rakim, Jazzy Jeff & Fresh Prince, E.P.M.D. and was hosted by Fred Buggs of WBL. Celebrities in attendance in addition to Mr. Jackson and his wife, Jacqueline, were actress Margot Kidder of “Superman” fame, TV music host Kasey Kasem, Congressman Floyd Flake, B-More recording artist Jimmy Holland, Jive/RCA super rapper Kool Moe Dee, Urban Rock’s Dismaster Crew, and DJ Red Alert of WRKS.

It was indeed an evening of fun and delight. The crowd ranged from elected officials to yuppies, from wannabe black to the hip-hop crowd to the Harlem posse B-boys who ride in Cherokee and Samurai jeeps. It was an evening of love, of togetherness, of “Black is gettin’ even more beautiful.” No one can instill that “I Am Somebody” spiritual pride in an audience more than Jesse Jackson as he preached to the sold-out house the importance of their vote.

Julie Brown of MTV is all smiles for BRE cameras at the recent New York Holland-Dozier-Holland/Cassandra party. Photo by Charles S. Tillman.

Julie Brown of MTV, Bobby Rivers of VH-1, Charles Warfield and B. K. Kirkland of WBLS, Chuck Lennon from KISS, Don Thomas of Big Red News, LaVern Taylor of CBS Records, Nelson George of Billboard, and Cynthia Sivak of United States were all special guests of the evening. I absolutely fell in love with Julie Brown as she worked the dance floor like a hungry tigeress in a Safari jungle. However, Cassandra also knows how to be a star; her looks and talent, backed by one of the world’s greatest songwriting teams, Holland-Dozier-Holland, should take her all the way to the top.

Next week the East Coast scene brings to you a real like rags-to-riches story. I will be interviewing an artist who once lived in the New York shelters but is now riding on the crest of stardom. I will also be chatting with The Dazz Band. If you have information for this column, please call me at (718) 919-0533 or you may write to BRE, Post Office Box 023750, Brooklyn, New York 11202.

Cassandra and host Bill Warner greet guests at the recent tribute held at the Chic B. Smith’s. Photo by Charles S. Tillman.
### Southeast

**Earl Boston**

WFXM-FM  
Macon, GA  

Jermaine Stewart, "Say It Again"—Getting great telephone response and the 12" remix is phenomenal. Definitely young adult demos.

Tony, Toni, Tone, "Little Walter"—Theme song for many high schools in the area. A song to watch. Good, recognizable message.

Dazz Band, "Anticipation"—Glad they're back with this fresh, new cut. Generating hot telephone response from the female, adult listeners.

Jazzy Jeff & The Fresh Prince, "Parents Just Don't Understand"—Unique rap, unique video! It seems to fill the generation gap.

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**Tony Wright**

WJIZ  
Albany, GA  

Brothers Johnson, "Kick It To The Curb"—Great return effort by the Brothers. Should do well.

Teddy Pendergrass, "Joy"—A joy to have the Teddy Bear back. Great telephone response.

Hall & Oates, "Everything Your Heart..."—Great crossover tune for Urban radio. This one should rocket to the top of the charts.

Prince, "Alphabet Street"—What more do I have to say? Number one all the way.

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**Tony Brown**

WBLX  
Mobile, AL  


Tony, Toni, Tone, "Little Walter"—Good dance song that's generating lots of requests. One to watch.

Temptations, "Do You Wanna Go With Me"—An excellent ballad. At mid-day, the ladies are burning the request lines up. 18-40 female demographics.

Keith Sweat, "Something Just Ain't Right"—It sounds great. Good mid-tempo smoker. Will certainly follow 'I Want Her' to the top of the charts.

### Mid-Atlantic

**J. J. Starr**

WOL  
Washington, DC  

Kool Moe Dee, "Wild Wild West"—It's just fresh, period! My listeners love it. Teen demos.

Vinnie D, "55 Dollar Motel"—A local song that's generating lots of telephone requests.

D. J. Kool, "The Music Ain't Loud Enough"—This song is hot. Check out the mix and cut. Also heavily requested by teen demos.

School Daze Soundtrack, "Be Alone Tonight"—A real smooth ballad that should do very well in the marketplace.

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**K. J. Holiday**

WJZY  
Salisbury, MD  

Teddy Pendergrass, "Joy"—This song was so hot that I almost played it with the cover on. Instant phones out the box. Listeners were very excited and glad to have Teddy back. Should be a number one song. All demos.

Narada, "Divine Emotion"—I've been waiting for this super-producer to come out with something. This is a good, danceable tune.

Morris Day, "Daydreaming"—Glad to see this superstar back with Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis. The single is just as cool and smooth as the artist.

Tony, Toni, Tone, "Little Walter"—Fresh-sounding song with an excellent message that will have listeners chanting the chorus line: "Hey, Little Walter..." Should reach the top ten.

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**Mike Archie**

WHUR  
Washington, DC  

Teddy Pendergrass, "Joy"—A strong effort from Pendergrass. Can't wait to hear the LP.

Johnny Kemp, "Just Got Paid"—Strong rhythm tracks. It'll start your toe tapping without your even knowing it.

By All Means, "I Surrender To Your Love"—Good music. Medium-mild groove in the vain of Maze.

Suave, "My Girl"—Once added, the song immediately takes off. Draws phones.
A PASSIONATE RETURN

NORMAN CONNORS:

Master drummer/producer Norman Connors has been away from the recording scene for almost six years now. But the man who first brought the likes of Phyllis Hyman, Michael Henderson, Jean Carne and Glenn Jones to widespread public attention via his mid-'70s recordings for Arista and Buddah, is back in action—with a hit album, Passion, his first for Capitol. "I haven't really been away!" he points out.

A recording hiatus:

"A lot of people tell me they're glad I'm back but I don't feel as if I went anywhere. I did stop recording (in 1982) but it was a choice to take time off for the creative juices to flow again."

Getting a deal:

"Actually, three companies wanted to take the product but I opted for Capitol for a couple of reasons: the executives at the label made me feel really special, plus they were real fans of my music. That always makes a big difference. We also talked about me producing some of their acts—like Angela Bofill, which I'm currently doing."

The music on Passion:

"I have two featured vocalists on the album—Spencer Harrison and Gabrielle Goodman who duet on "Heaven In Your Eyes" and do several solos including versions of the EWF tune, "That's The Way Of The World" and Minnie Riperton's hit, "Lovin' You." We'd been doing the EWF song at the end of my show for a while. We always got such a great response that I knew it was a definite to record. With "Lovin' You," I was just waiting for the right voice and Gabrielle was the singer who I knew could do it justice."

Future production plans:

"I'm doing at least six tracks for the first Angela Bofill LP for Capitol and what we're doing is taking her back to the kind of music she made on her very first two albums back in the mid-'70s. Then I will most likely be doing some tracks on Be Be & Ce Ce Winans, which is definitely something different for me. I don't see any musical conflict just as long as the lyrics reflect the message they want to deliver."

EVELYN "CHAMPAGNE" KING:

SHE'S READY TO "FLIRT"!

Evelyn "Champagne" King, EMI-Manhattan recording artist, is rocking the airways with her debut LP for the label, Flirt. Philadelphia-based King, who scored her first hit at the tender age of 16 with the 1977 disco-powered "Shame," has earned international acclaim on the strength of several dancefloor classics. But dance music represents only one facet of the multi-talented singer.

Her Image:

"I never liked being called a 'disco queen'. They always try to put me in that category, but there's more to me than that. I've always cut ballads to give people a different taste of what I'm about. I always tell people: Don't just go by the singles; you have to go buy my LPs to see what I'm about."

Her New LP:

"I'm happy with the LP because it shows a lot of growth. Plus, I was happy when I recorded it and that makes a big difference. My personnel life is great. I recently became a mommy and that is an experience that has made me stronger as a person. It's all a growth process. Music I did in the past, I'm proud of it, but I've still got a lot more to accomplish. I think this LP puts that message across."

Moving to EMI-Manhattan:

"It's not that I was unhappy at my former label. I was just ready to make a move. I wanted to do something different, because my sound is different and I'm different. And it's not just about choosing a new label; they choose you, too. This company likes me as a person. They're enthusiastic about my music. All of that matters if you're going to succeed in this business."

Her Star Status In Europe:

"It can be tough trying to get appreciated in your own hometown, but I've always had a big following in Europe. For one thing, I've toured more over there. European audiences, they don't get into criticism of you and your music as much. They're just into the music. They don't care about anything else! And I like that..."
KEITH FRYE: CAPITOL-IZING ON THE HITS

By Bill Quinn

For more than a quarter century, Keith Frye, Capitol Records' southern national promotions director, has groomed and developed artists. "That means," the 49-year-old executive patiently explains, "as far as our breaking artists' recording careers are concerned, the buck stops here."

Frye's responsibilities on behalf of his charges—especially those just emerging—include everything from making sure they wear the right clothes and have correct hairstyles to recommending singing and/or dancing lessons for them, if necessary. He is ultimately involved in every live performance, personal appearance and media exposure each one has.

And how many artists does that include? "Sometimes as many as three new ones every quarter year," Frye says.

Not surprisingly, then, his staff of five is kept on the move. "They attend press conferences, performances, TV and radio interviews and observe what happens. Then, they return and write up reports on how well the artist came off. On the basis of these reports, I know what remedies, if any, to apply."

In addition to shadowing his artists' every move, he must keep himself and his product on the mercurial minds—and shelves—of record retailers and radio station program directors. He must also stay abreast of trends in radio and in the hardware and software ends of the business, as well as the ever-volatile world of consumer preferences and perfections. "It might surprise a lot of people to know," Frye says, "that, in this job, you have to be much more of a market analyst than a record jockey."

Frye's long but direct route to his present post began in his St. Louis high school. It was there that he met Luther ("'If Loving You Is Wrong, I Don't Wanna Be Right") Ingram. He became the balladeer's personal manager in the early '60s. From there, he began producing The Montclairs, When that group's single, "Make Up For Lost Time," became a hit, Frye caught the eye of Don Eason, then national promo director at ABC-Paramount. The year was 1972 and, at that time, the label's stable included such soon-to-be-stars as Lamont Dozier and Rufus, with Chaka Khan.

"I owe a lot to Don," says Frye, who, with that job, moved to Atlanta. "He took the first chance on me making it in the industry."

Others Frye recalls as instrumental in his career include Otis Smith, then Paramount's V.P. for Black Music, and Robert B.Q., the PD at St. Louis' KATZ Radio. "B.Q. believed in me early on, too, when I was trying to move the Montclairs. He was extremely helpful in my selling product in that area."

Doug Eason, Don's brother, was V.P. at KATZ at the point. He is another of those whom Frye thanks for early assistance in his climb up the corporate ladder.

In 1973, Frye went over to Mercury Records, also in Atlanta, for a two-year stint as regional promo director. There, his charges included the flamboyant Joe Tex and the dynamic Ohio Players. Next, he moved to Bang Records, where, as national promotions director he helped launch Brick and Peabo Bryson.

From 1975-80, he was southern national promotions director for PolyGram. There, too, with both resurgent and breaking artists on his hands, he was instrumental in forging more hits: Peaches and Herb returned with "Reunited," while Isaac Hayes went gold with "Don't Let Go." And Millie Jackson, The Fatback Band and Ray, Goodman and Brown were beginning to roll in earnest.

To those who might think that Frye's jobs have consisted mainly in gilding lilies, he says: "True enough, these artists are famous now, but, when we first started handling them, many were new and essentially unknown."

In 1980, Frye went over to A&M's Atlanta office. A host of knowns and unknowns made that label home at the time, including: Jeffrey Osborne, Janet Jackson, Sting, Herb Alpert, Sergio Mendez, Vesta Williams, Atlantic Starr, Jesse Johnson and The Brothers Johnson, among them.

A year ago, Capitol's Atlanta office pulled Frye into his present post. For Frye and Capitol, it's been an ideal marriage. "Being able to do national promotions from the southern region is definitely an asset. In the past, these things have always taken place in L.A. or New York. And with Step Johnson's assistance and direction, the job is where it ought to be: at the heart of the music industry. Step's the kind of boss anybody would love."

And Step Johnson, Capitol's V.P. and G.M. for Black Music, says of Frye: "My promotion team wouldn't be complete without Keith; he's the best in the business. As a matter of fact, he's my 'American Express Man'—I never leave home without him."

With Frye, the record business is all in the family. His wife Martha Thomas Frye, is regional director of promotion for MCA Records (also based, fortunately, in Atlanta). "When I'm not busy," says Frye, "she is. But we share a competitive spirit that fuels the energy in each of us."

As far as Frye is concerned, life—and the recording business—just keep getting better all the time"
WHATEVER HAPPENED TO...?

THE MARVELETES

"Motown's first successful female group..."

By Spider Harrison

For Gladys Horton, Katherine Anderson and Wanda Rogers, these three original members of the Marvelettes, it all started in Inkster, Michigan. Later came Juanita Coward and the late Georgeanna Tillman, both of whom left the group in the early '60s.

One day while they were all attending Inkster High School, they heard an announcement on the school's PA system about a talent show; interested students were invited to participate. Gladys Horton auditioned girls from school at her home and named the ones selected The Casingyettes. Though they didn't win the talent show, they still got a chance to meet with Motown president Berry Gordy. He thought they were marvelous. Hence, the name change to The Marvelettes.

The first hit for The Marvelettes "Please Mr. Postman," came in 1961. Lead singer Gladys Horton was only 15 years old. She had and still has that dynamite blues-tinged voice with the gospel roots. A foster child who was never adopted, she was brought to Michigan at the age of nine months from Caimsville, Florida. Her grandparents were from the island of Trinidad and her mother was born in Canada. "My father was from Georgia," she says. "I never knew either of my parents. I discovered my roots only when I became part of the Motown family. It was Motown that showed me so much about myself."

All the other group members were born and raised in the Detroit area. The girls had all known each other since junior high, but never really did a lot of hanging out together until they discovered they could do something together successfully.

The Marvelettes had 18 successful hits with Motown from 1961 to 1968. One, written by Horton was "Playboy," a Top Five smash in 1962. "'Playboy' showed that I had some writing abilities," she says. She's still writing today.

When "Playboy" was written, she says, she was trying to orchestrate the same structure as "Please Mr. Postman." And it worked. Her voice was also heard leading "Beechwood 4-5789" and "Too Many Fish in the Sea." "Don't Mess With Bill" was led by Wanda Rogers, wife of Bobby Rogers of The Miracles.

I always wanted to know about that telephone number, "Beechwood 4-5789," I told Horton. "The song was written by Marvin Gaye and William Stevenson," she replied. "The idea was just to be real commercial with a title that would grab the listeners."

But, was that a real telephone number? "I remember a promoter in Atlantic City mentioning that a lady in the area had the same telephone number and her telephone never stopped ringing," Horton says. "People remember telephone numbers and that was a great hook."

The Marvelettes weren't contacted for the "Motown 25" television special. However, there were film clips of the group and they were acknowledged. At the time, Gladys was performing on her own in the Detroit area.

Recently, in a bookstore in West L.A., she ran into Diana Ross. They embraced and had a good conversation. "Diana was getting ready to open in Las Vegas," Horton said. "She invited me up to the show and gave me her address...Yes, we had a happy meeting. The happiness came naturally, because that's how it was."

About the Gordy family: "Berry's sister, Mrs. Edwards, was our chaperone. She went out on the road with us. His brother, Robert; sister, Gwen...they put in a lot of work. The Gordy family got behind their brother. That, along with the groups they were signing...he couldn't miss."

Horton also has great memories of the company parties and picnics, especially that big annual Christmas party where everyone would exchange gifts, and "the wonderful building at 2648 West Grand Boulevard." It's now the Motown Museum, managed by Mrs. Edwards.

"As long as you showed interest and were putting your best foot forward," Horton fondly remembers, Motown never failed to release your albums. And each group at that time had lots of albums. I remember everybody was there to rehearse and always on time. There was a lot of cooperation."

Being with Motown, Horton reflects, meant that all the artists at the beginning had lots of security, because someone in the roster was always number one.

Today, Gladys said she regrets leaving the group. "We had a discussion and I had decided to spend more time with my child. Being an orphan myself, I wanted a family life. I wish I would've combined the two lives, mother and singer. I gave it up too soon, too fast."

Horton loves today's music. "People always say music of the 50s and 60s was great...and it was. But times have changed, you know what I mean? It's always good to remember, but music has to move forward. You haven't heard from The Marvelettes in awhile, but my mind is into what's happening now, the 80's."

It's been said that great talent always rises to the top, and Horton is the cream of the crop. On April 17, at Carlos and Charlie's, she had her first Hollywood showcase. Odds are, she will have a new record deal real soon, too.
The Orban Programmable Mic Processor

New Products/New Ideas

The folks at Orban have an addition to their now famous "Blue Chip" line: The new 787A Programmable Mic Processor. It's a three-band parametric equalizer with full notch filtering capability, as well as a compressor with adjustable release time. The noise and compressor gates attenuate control room noise up to 25 dB, and prevent noise rush-ups during pauses. The depressor cleans up excessive sibilance.

In the past, we have not used processing on the announcer's microphone because every announcer's voice is different and requires varied settings. Leaving equalization up to the announcer would be disastrous. Orban fixed that problem by making this processor programmable. There are 32 memory registers to store all control setups for instant recall. With the push of a button at the beginning of an airshift the DJ can have a mic tailored to his or her voice. The presets can also be used to optimize the live mic from a newsroom, or remote location to the DJ mic.

Orban has also addressed the problem of untrained hands changing the controls with a security lockout code preventing unauthorized tampering.

If you would like more information on the Orban 727A, call them at (415) 957-1067.

Finally, a Wireless Headset!

How many times have you rushed into the studio while your song is fading and hung yourself on a headset cord that is caught under your chair? Well, my friend, Koss has answered your prayers...the wireless headset for DJ's is here. The Koss JKC-200 System gives you complete freedom of movement without cord interference. The stereo signal is transmitted using an infrared system like the one in your TV remote control. The receiver is a photo-diode on the top of the headband. One transmitter can power several pairs of stereophones, making this a must for team shows and in the recording studio.

NRSC Proposes Second Standard to Improve AM Radio Reception

Las Vegas: The National Radio Systems Committee (NRSC) proposed a second voluntary national standard (NRSC-2) for AM radio transmission. The standard enables AM broadcasters to further control interference to their signals for better audience reception, and complements the first NRSC standard which was introduced in 1987.

NRSC-2 is known as an "RF Mask" and parallel with this is the development of a new technology to monitor AM splatter. This new monitor permits economical and accurate measurement of undesired AM interference and can be used in conjunction with the RF Mask. (NAB Newsletter)

FM-2, A new broadcast band?

In other news, there's talk of opening up another broadcast band using the frequencies now encompassing UHF-TV channels 32, 33, and 34. The new band would be called High-Definition Radio, or HDR. The first license considerations will be given to the daytime AM stations. The benefits of using this band are great, but many problems must be worked out before final approval. The idea of this proposal is to free up the crowded AM radio band. Digital transmission is not being considered, but I feel that it should be. I'll keep my ear to the tracks and keep you informed on any new developments in this area.

ESS MERCHANDISING

ENTERTAINMENT SUPPORT SYSTEMS

• Serving the needs of the Entertainment Industry
• Contact James G. Knapp at 213-469-4121 for Details

T-SHIRTS • JACKETS • HATS • PLAQUES • TROPHIES • PREMIUM INCENTIVES • BAGS • PENS • NOVELTIES

May 6, 1988
Registration/Rates

Registration Rates

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<tr>
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<td>Spouse accompanying registrant (before April 30)</td>
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<tr>
<td>College student with ID (before April 30)</td>
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<td>Black Radio Music Awards Show, Universal Amphitheatre, Friday, May 27 (Tickets not included in registration)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Extra Ticket, Banquet Awards Show, Registry Ballroom, Saturday, May 28 (One ticket included in registration)</td>
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Hotel Rates

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<tr>
<td>Sheraton Universal Hotel</td>
<td>$105 single or double per night</td>
<td>(818) 980-1212</td>
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<tr>
<td>The Registry</td>
<td>$117 single or double per night</td>
<td>(818) 506-2500</td>
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## Conference Schedule

**Tuesday 5/24**
- Company meetings
- Celebrity Golf Tournament
- New Talent Jam
  - Miller Sound Express

**Wednesday 5/25**
- Company meetings
- Seminars:
  - Programming & Sales, Working Together
  - Production Techniques
  - Artist Development, Broadening The Base of Black Artists
  - Promoting Radio on TV
- Starstream Budweiser Showdown Pre-Party
- Starstream Budweiser Showdown

**Thursday 5/26**
- Seminars:
  - Jazz, Fusion Into Multiple Formats
  - Radio And Rap, More or Less
  - To Report Or Not To Report
  - Sales, Marketing & Promotion, The Total Picture
- Luncheon
- Jazz Jam with Miller Sound Express
- Party

**Friday 5/27**
- Seminars:
  - Black Music, Who's Got The Power?
  - Plenary Session, Issue Awareness and Ownership
- Luncheon
- Reception
- BRE Black Music Show (Amphitheater)
  - sponsored by Coca-Cola & Coors

**Saturday 5/28**
- Keynote Address
- Lunch/Show
  - Performance by The Dazz Band
  - Networking
  - Awards Reception
  - sponsored by WB
  - 12th Annual Awards Dinner Show
  - sponsored by Miller Beer

**Sunday 5/29**
- Winners Brunch
- Millers Sound Express Concert (Robinson Park)

---

**Conference '88 Chairmen**
- RECORD INDUSTRY
- Warner Bros. Records

**Organizers**
- RAY BOYD
  - Program Manager
  - WVEE-FM (V-103)
  - Atlanta, GA

- ERNIE SINGLETON
  - Vice President
  - Black Music Marketing & Promotion
  - Warner Bros. Records

**Sponsors**
- Coca-Cola
- Coors
- Miller Sound Express
Stevie Wonder’s “Characters” MTV Special

Well, all I can say is Motown went all out on an invitation only affair to celebrate Stevie Wonder’s “Characters” MTV Special (set to air April 27th, 7pm Pacific/10pm Eastern). The show’s special guest stars were: Jody Watley, Salt-N-Pepa, Stevie Ray Vaughan, Georgia and Brownmark.

The lavish affair was held at the Palace in Hollywood. It was an evening that will be long remembered by many Program Directors and Music Directors across the country, all of whom had airfare and hotel accommodations paid for by Motown. Certainly the highlight of the evening for me was all the hugs and kisses I received from my favorite radio guys. There were indeed stars in my eyes!

Among those attending the “Characters” event were: Chris Barry, WDQY/Washington, DC; Mr. and Mrs. Phillip David March, WJY/Louisville, KY; Elroy Smith, WILD/Boston, Mass.; Matt Morton, WXOK/Baton Rouge, LA; A. B. Welch, KQXL/Baton Rouge, LA; Tony Scott, WEBS/Atlanta, GA; Leo Jackson, WEDR/Miami, Florida; Joe Bullard, WAMB/Tallahassee, FL; Tony Brown, WBLX/Mobile, AL; Nes Rodrigues, K-

Chris Barry

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Aundrae Russell

Aundrae Russell

Don “Early” Allen, PD/WMYK

Midwest to do morning drive at KMJM. According to management, “Don adds that extra energy K94 needs to keep climbing to the top of the market!”

Starmagic Radio Introduces “Producers Corner”

Starmagic Radio of Teaneck, NJ and their nationally acclaimed award winning show, “Weekend Dance Party,” offers a new programming feature, “Producers Corner.” This feature provides the listeners with an entertaining behind-the-scenes overview of their favorite records.

“The producer is finally gaining long overdue recognition for the success of the finished product,” noted program hosts B.J. Stone and Stacy Love.

Starmagic’s upcoming line-up of talented producers include: Full Force, Paul Laurence, Kashif, Jellybean, Keith...
Diamond, Nile Rodgers, L.A. Reid & Babyface and more to follow...Stay tuned.

Power Benefit Raises $13,000!!!

On April 4th, the 2nd annual POWER 99FM Benefit Concert raised nearly $13,000 for the homeless. The concert, held at Valley Forge Music Fair again this year, featured two of the top acts in the country, the Whispers and Levert.

All monies were donated to three local charities: The Homeless Families Initiative, The Tribune Charities and The Committee for Dignity and Fairness for the Homeless.

Tickets were sold at POWER 99FM studios for two days only in late March. "We were thrilled with the turnout," said PD Dave Allan. "The Whispers had already sold out two shows at Valley Forge before these tickets even went on sale. That made our show tougher to sell. But the house was still full despite that."

In the first four months of 1988, POWER 99FM has already raised nearly $25,000 for local charities (a February benefit starring Lisa Lisa and Cult Jam raised $9,000).

King "Flirts" With KJLH Staff

On a recent promotional tour, EMI/Manhattan artist Evelyn King visited KJLH in Los Angeles in support of her "Flirt" LP. Shown L-r: Joyce Ford, asst. p.d. KJLH; Evelyn King; Cliff Winston, p.d./KJLH; and Joan Scott, West Coast Promo, EMI-Manhattan.

B. J. Stone, Star Magic

Service Requests

WBMS, Wilmington, NC, needs service from all Independent Labels, Rap Music and Gospel Record Labels

WBMS 310 Davis Street
Wilmington, NC 28401
919-763-4633
Attn: Raul Brewster, PD

Stacy Love, Starmagic Radio

May 6, 1988
WXKO/AM 1150
MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN MIDDLE GEORGIA

Roderick Horton, Music Director and Air Personality. Assists in Advertising Sales and Promotions. (Dollie Horton’s younger son.)

WXKO is the Macon Market’s Contemporary Adult special music station. WXKO has a sound and image no listener would hesitate to identify with. The station combines Contemporary Adult Black R&B music with the best in Traditional Gospel to attract a captive and enthusiastic audience.

LISTENER APPEAL:
The primary audience of WXKO is comprised of young adults between 18 and 54; a significant segment of the audience attends or is affiliated with Fort Valley State College, a predominantly Black university.

THE DOUG PORTER SHOW:
This weekly/year-round program features the head football coach of the Fort Valley State College Wildcats conducting live interviews. During football season, these interviews cover the Wildcats football action; other programs during the year spotlight athletics at the college. Porter is also athletic director at Fort Valley State College.

TO THE POINT:
On this weekly/year-round show, listeners are invited to call in with live, on-air comments and questions, to get “To the Point” on what’s going on in the community, area or nation. Issues are discussed in depth and callers are encouraged to react over the air and make suggestions. This very lively and “live” program promotes community awareness and activism.

WXKO CASH GIVEAWAY:
This promotion has been conducted for the past six years with listeners...
registering their names in boxes located throughout Middle Georgia businesses. Qualifying names are pulled each hour during the broadcast day. That listener has eleven minutes and fifty seconds to call in and qualify to win $1,150.00. This promotion is designed to attract the general listening audience during spring and summer seasons.

Located in Peach County, Georgia, on U.S. Highway 341, North, Fort Bailey is in the center of Georgia, 85 miles south of Atlanta and 150 miles north of the Georgia/Florida border.

WXKO Radio covers a 19 county “Heart of Georgia” area including the Macon Metro Area that has a population of 273,700.

ABOUT THE OWNER:
Dollie Horton is an outstanding graduate of Fort Valley State College, an institution steeped in Black history and tradition and one that is known for the notable accomplishments of its graduates in many diverse career fields. Horton has served Ft. Valley State with distinction for over 15 years in many different capacities.

In 1982, she embarked on a new and rewarding career in the broadcast industry and is presently owner and operator of WXKO Radio. Through Horton’s superb programming and management, her station has consistently provided Peach County and Middle Georgia with excellent community services in the field of radio broadcasting, music and news reporting.

“My short-range goal is to add the FM that we have already applied for, as soon as possible. In the future, my long-range goal is to increase our broadcast investment portfolio by owning additional radio stations,” stated Horton.

Fort Valley, Georgia 31030
Phone: (912) 825-5547
Ownership: Valmedia Inc.
President-Owner-GM & PD/Dollie Horton
Traffic Director: Roderick Horton
Sales Department: Dollie Horton
Roderick Horton
Maurice Myers
Syria Spear
Receptionist: Debbie Johnson

On-Air Personalities
6am—10am
Dollie Horton with the Gospel
10am—1pm
Brother Joe (Joseph Willis)
1pm—5pm
Romance Rod (Roderick Horton)
5pm—Sign Off
Big Al (Alfred G. Horton)
4:30pm—Sign Off
Super Jack II (Wendell Harrell) Saturdays

SUNDAY/All Day Gospel
6am—3pm
Brother Joe (Joseph Willis)
3pm—Sign Off
Brother Ike (Matthew Daniel Jr.)
### NORTHEAST

**WAMC**
- **106.5 FM**, 1301 Chestnut St., Schenectady, NY 12308
- **Billboard Report**
- **Exclusive**
- **PO Box 122452**
- **Seattle, WA 98112**
- **206-329-7800**

### WEST

#### Power 99FM
- **103.9 FM**, 3810 N. Quality St., Philadelphia, PA 19132
- **Billboard Report**
- **Exclusive**
- **PO Box 122452**
- **Seattle, WA 98112**
- **206-329-7800**

### OHIO VALLEY

**WBCS**
- **104.5 FM**, 1533 W. Main St., Cincinnati, OH 45202
- **Billboard Report**
- **Exclusive**
- **PO Box 122452**
- **Seattle, WA 98112**
- **206-329-7800**

### OHIO

**WXAN**
- **92.5 FM**, 1521 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, OH 44103
- **Billboard Report**
- **Exclusive**
- **PO Box 122452**
- **Seattle, WA 98112**
- **206-329-7800**

### OHIO

**WHDQ**
- **100.5 FM**, 3777 E. Broad St., Columbus, OH 43209
- **Billboard Report**
- **Exclusive**
- **PO Box 122452**
- **Seattle, WA 98112**
- **206-329-7800**

### REGIONS

**KTSW**
- **91.5 FM**, 1200 W. 12th St., Dallas, TX 75207
- **Billboard Report**
- **Exclusive**
- **PO Box 122452**
- **Seattle, WA 98112**
- **206-329-7800**

### LOCALS

**KCDW**
- **106.3 FM**, 21750 N. White Rd., South St. Paul, MN 55075
- **Billboard Report**
- **Exclusive**
- **PO Box 122452**
- **Seattle, WA 98112**
- **206-329-7800**

### RADIO REPORT

The following report reflects new adds to the stations listed from the cut off for reports on Tuesdays. These reports reflect changes for that week.

Complete playlist information is on file at the offices of Black Radio Exclusives. For more information, please phone (213) 465-7262.
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<td>PRINCE, Alphabet St., Paisley Park/ WB</td>
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<td>GREGORY ABBOTT, I'll Prove It To You, Columbia</td>
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<td>MICHAEL JACKSON, Dirty Diana, Epic</td>
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<tr>
<td>BROTHERS JOHNSON, Kick It To The Curb, A&amp;M</td>
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<td>RUN DMC, Run's House, Profile</td>
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<td>GEORGE MICHAEL, One More Try, Columbia</td>
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<td>MORRIS DAY, Day Dreamin', Warner Bros.</td>
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<td>NU SHOOZ, Should I Say Yes, Atlantic</td>
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<tr>
<td>JODY WATLEY, Most Of All, MCA</td>
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<td>HERBIE HANCOCK, Vibe Alive, Columbia</td>
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<td>JAMES BROWN, I Got You (I Feel Real), A&amp;M</td>
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<td>STACY LATTISAW, Let Me Take... Motown</td>
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<td>EARTH WIND &amp; FIRE, Evil Roy, Columbia</td>
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<td>TAMARA &amp; THE SEEN, Blueberry Gossip, A&amp;M</td>
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<td>TEDDY PENDERGRAS, Joy, Asylum</td>
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<td>JETS, Make It Real, MCA</td>
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<td>PAUL JACKSON, JR., I Came To Play, Atlantic</td>
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<td>DAZZ, Anticipation, RCA</td>
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<td>DEELE, Shoot 'Em Up Movies, Solar</td>
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<td>STEVIE WONDER/M. JACKSON, Get It, Motown</td>
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<td>BY ALL MEANS, I Surrender To Your Love, Island</td>
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<td>TONY TONI TONE, Little Walter, Wing/Polygram</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### The Jackson Limousine Service

For Your Comfort and Satisfaction

**213-734-9955**

“Free Champagne With Every Trip”

FOR BUSINESS OR PLEASURE – 24 HOURS • TV • BAR

WHITE, BLACK & "HOT" COLORS

Cadillac And Stretch Limousines
MOTHERS & DAUGHTERS

A MOTHER’S DAY ’88 TRIBUTE

ELIZABETH KNIGHT is the proud mother of soul music legend GLADYS KNIGHT, along with being the seamstress/stylist for Gladys Knight & the Pips. Shown with them is Gladys’ daughter KENYA NEWMAN, who manages the day-to-day business of her mother’s group. Just call them three generations of womanhood who are as committed to family unity as they are to taking care of musical business.

Kenya Newman,
Gladys Knight and
Elizabeth Knight

CISSY HOUSTON is not only the mother of WHITNEY HOUSTON, one of the record world’s reigning superstars. This former member of The Sweet Inspirations is also Whitney’s spiritual/musical inspiration, and a phenomenal singer in her own right. Those who witnessed the two of them wailing their way through a gospel selection on this year’s “American Music Awards” still describe it as the emotional highlight of that telecast.

Janet, Rebbie,
LaToya and
Kathreen Jackson

KATHRENE JACKSON is the quiet but mighty matriarch of the Jackson family, the first family of popular music. Pictured with her are her daughters JANET, REBBIE and LATOYA JACKSON, all of whom are making their mark—and making strides—in a music business that is fiercely competitive and ever-changing. The Jackson daughters have all credited the calm stability and grace of their mother with giving them a solid foundation.
BOBBY McFERRIN: One Man Band

By Bill Quinn

Five-time Grammy-winner Bobby McFerrin is a one man band. And his ax—a thousand instruments in one—is his voice.

Of late, “the band” has been extremely busy. McFerrin’s 1986 solo album, "Spontaneous Inventions," was definitely one of the signals that started something big for the multi-talented performer. Since its release, he’s been heard literally around the world doing the Cosby Show theme; singing the 501 Blues for Levi, Strauss & Company; teaching kids the “Alphabet Song” on Sesame Street, and vocalizing on the 1986 Grammy-winning “Round Midnight” soundtrack.

Those, and many other accomplishments over the last few years, mark this singer-dancer as one of the hottest artists on the horizon.

Not surprisingly, McFerrin, whose parents, Robert and Sara McFerrin, were both classical music singers, was himself interested in a career in music from the beginning. He studied music theory at the age of six. In high school, the piano became his main instrument and he formed a quartet that played imitations of Sergio Mendez and Henry Mancini tunes.

Later, seeing Miles Davis’ band live in concert, he was inspired to attempt spontaneous solo vocal concerts himself—especially after hearing Davis’ pianist at the time, Keith Jarrett.

For several years, after studying music at Sacramento State University and Ceritos College, he worked as the house pianist with the Ice Follies and a succession of lounge bands, singing occasionally.

In 1975, he and his wife, Debbie, moved first to New Orleans and finally settled in San Francisco, where they reside today.

Legendary Jazz vocalist Jon Hendricks invited McFerrin to join his group in 1979. That same year, as a result of hearing McFerrin, Bill Cosby got the singer booked into the Las Vegas circuit and the 1980 Playboy Jazz Festival, as well.

Bobby McFerrin, his 1982 debut album, featuring a duet with singer Phoebe Snow, leveraged him into European and U.S. tours in consort with such Jazz greats as Dizzy Gillespie, Herbie Hancock and George Benson. His performances were met with raves everywhere.

For some time, McFerrin had been entertaining the notion of doing solo vocal concerts exclusively. In Ashland, Oregon, in 1983, he gave it a try. Afterward, he knew he’d found his format forever. His second album, not long after, was recorded live and a cap-

Continued on page 39
This week's hottest story, and perhaps the most important Rap event of the year to date, is the release of the Warner Brothers label soundtrack for the controversial, smash motion picture release "Colors." Though many of the criticisms raised about this film are clearly valid points that must be discussed, there seems to be no question about the record's smokin' contents. Warner has, come hot 'Cold Chillin' artists especially rising Rap superstar Big Daddy Kane, who offers the amazingly intense up-tempo jam "Raw." Kane is now writing a total of four Rap LPs for the exploding Rap label, one of which comes from new newcomer Kool "G" Rap. The soundtrack cut, "Butcher Shop," will appear on Kool's upcoming Poison LP. Daddy Kane's soon to be released debut LP is breathlessly awaited in Hip Hop circles and will be entitled Long Live The Kane. Roxanne Shante throws down her most jammin' track yet with the Marley Marl-produced bite of the groove from "It Takes Two." The soul style, up-tempo dance jam is called "Go On Girl" and will surely make both radio and Rap's history books. Shante is also poised to bust out the recent Marley Marl production of her collaboration with funk pioneer Richard James, another Big Daddy Kane predecessor project. "Lucy's Rap" will be the LP's first single release.

M.C. Shan's "A Mind Is A Terrible Thing To Waste" is another Cold Chillin' standout. In other Cold Chillin' news from Alonzo Brown's office, Biz Markie's LP Goin' Off, has reached #25 on Billboard's Black chart with virtually no airplay...Long live the power of Rap! Programmers, perk up your ears and don't be left in the dust, the stoopid fresh cut "Vapors" is sweeping America whether you're on the tip or not. L.A.'s power station KDAL is pumpin' it to the max! The other big scoop from "Colors" is the prominence of L.A. rhymes, and ex-song member Ice-T's brutally real assessment of contemporary urban America on the movie's title track. This one may bust the bubble of the total East Coast hegemony in the world of Rap. Also included in the soundtrack is the Eric B. and Rakim's seven minute mix of "Paid In Full," a classic Hip Hop masterpiece in itself! Salt-N-Pepa's "Let The Rhythm Run" is another force to be dealt with as well with its loose, freaky, funk-and-soul stylings.

Away from the silver screen, yet no less notable, is the new Run-D.M.C. LP Tougher Than Leather's debut single "Run's House." Backed with "Beats To The Rhyme," the song is BRE's Single Of The Week, a further testimony to Rap's continuing infiltration of mainstream America. Check out the review on page 6..

Mentioned in passing last week, and worthy of further exploration, is Tommy Boy's ultra-fresh new artist De La Soul. The song "Plug Tunin'" is a definite milestone for Hip Hop, boasting a unique and often wild style that, coupled with the tune's strong danceability, should make it an immediate pick for all of Black radio. Already taking off at WBLS, KISS-FM (NYC), WZAK, WUSL, Houston's Majic 102 and more, more, more...the other blast in TB's double barrel assault on the airwaves is Stetsasonic's "Sally" backed with another monster mix called "DBC Let The Music Play." This release will put the self-produced posse over the top...Another KDAL pick is the Fresh Sound's release of Epee's "Alright, Alright" which has been named "Sally's My Thing." Rappon with a style and eloquence rivaling Rap super hero Rakim. Don't miss out on this "new school" prodigy.

The Uptown/MCA group Finesses And Synquish has a new cut called "Soul Sisters" that takes a bite out of Labelle's classic hit "Lady Marmalade." Joining Salt-N-Pepa, J.J. Fadd, and Roxanne in the fast talkin' female MC genre, the duo should be watched...Speaking of female MC's J.J. Fadd, the group's founding members Fatima Shaheed and Juanita Lee have departed to form their own group called Two Badd. The two stopped by BRE's offices recently with some undeniably fresh new cuts to be released on the hot new Sleeping Bag label. "Two Badd" and "Runnin' Drag" will both be featured on the team's upcoming album. Two Badd rocked L.A.'s prestigious venue, The Palace, Sunday night turning out the usually mellow SoCal audience with authority. Sharp dance steps and smooth talkin' kept the crowd barking for more. On the fresh tip, Horace Taylor of General Tee Management has a crew of three female MC's who call themselves DV5. The name alone is pretty deep, but we're also sure you'll hear the hard-up tempo jammy "DVS In Effect (Boy)" on the streets by this summer.

DVS

Chub Rock produces the Ultimate III's new one, "I Want You Back"...Urban Rock Records gives us a killer pair of cuts with The Dismasters "Small Time Hustler" and Brooklynite Freak L's Vandy C.-produced effort "Slammin'". Rap Report's rolling informant Raven T writes and performs the Dismaster's selection under the production wing of Hip Hop icon Chuck Chill Out. An impressive round of releases from New York based Urban Rock!

From Miami comes the Straight Up Records release "Cruisin' Yard Style" by J.D. Ranks 10. Honed in the Jamaican toasting style, the song is one of the best Island style offerings this year and can seriously rock sophisticated dance floors. Nice!...Miami home girl Antoinette And Hurby's Machine throw down "Hit Em With This," new on the Sound Check/Next Plateau label. Definitely look into this one!

(The New) Kooley "C"s "Let Yourself Go" on Beware Records is a smokin' up-tempo electro jam with Miami-style overtones...Also from Beware, are you ready for "Skate-Rap"? Duo tone Rap team Skate-master Tate and his Concrete Crew prove that southern California skate culture has its share of toasting talent. The boisterous team's homage to soft drink stimulus, "Jolt," is a hilariously raucous rocker, while the cut "502" is an intensely danceable lament...Toddy Tee and Mix Master Spade take David Bowie's "Fame" groove up to another level and into the Rap dimension on "Gangster Boogie" from L.A.-based JDC Records...Also from L.A., via the UCLA campus, comes the '96 Style with a cool cut called "Schoolhouse Rock" on GIG Records. The rap trio opened for Public Enemy in a recent Black Awareness Week concert at the college campus. Please send comments about Rap Report to BRE care of me, Duff Anthony Marlowe...in closing, Rap Report recommends that every Hip Hopper check out the wonderful photos of Lisa Bonet in the current issue of Rolling Stone Magazine. What that has to do with Rap we'll let you figure out, but definitely check it out...serious, dude...word...and out...

May 6, 1988

BLACK RADIO EXCLUSIVE

35
PEOPLE ARE SAYING A LOT ABOUT TONY! TONI! TONÉ!

LIES

This is the greatest female group I've ever heard.
—PAM WELLS - KACE

TRUTH

It's really an all male group.

When Wing serviced the cassette I carted the record up.
—CARL CONNORS - WFXA

Truth is Carl never received an advance cassette.

I take my brim off to Tony! Toni! Toné!
—FRENCHÉ BE - WOIM

Frenché takes his brim off to no one.

I reported the airplay of Tony! Toni! Toné! to all the trades.
—JAMES ALEXANDER - WJLB

WJLB does not report to any trades.

The phones haven't stopped ringing for Tony! Toni! Toné!
—MIKE STRAFFORD - KJMJ

Actually the phones are for Tony Toné.

Producers: Denzil Foster
Thomas McElroy
For 2-Tuff-E-Nuff Productions

Executive Producers: Ed Eckstine
David Lombard
Delos, Inc.
Carlos Stanfield

Management: PolyGram Records

TRUTH IS TONY! TONI! TONÉ!
IS SIMPLY A MUST PLAY.

YOU WANT IT FRESH:
"LITTLE WALTER"
THE FIRST 7", 12" and VIDEO FROM THE FORTHCOMING LP: "WHO?"
835 549-1244
ON YOUR DESK NOW!

PolyGram Records
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In the Mix

For all you Anita Pointer fans, BRE was informed that RCA will be releasing a new single, "More Than A Memory," an excellent single from her solo debut LP titled Love For What It Is. As a matter of fact, it happens to be my favorite on the LP, and once it's released, I'm sure radio will have the same reaction. This great track was produced by Preston Glass.

Co-Writers are Alan Glass and Ron Broomfield (alias Eugene Wilde).

Bloom will also do all the programming of the studio's Fairlight Series III which Klymaxx will be using on several cuts...At Galaxy Sound Studio Sheena Easton was recently in putting the finishing touches on some traks for her next LP with two of the hottest producers to emerge this year, LA Reid and Babyface. She was working on a ballad for NBC's "Miami Vice," in which she plays opposite Don Johnson and Phillip Michael Thomas. Engineering the project was Jon Gass and assistant Spencer Chrislu.

Also, Galaxy Sound Studios is a recent recipient of the Ampex Golden Reel Award given by the Ampex Magnetic Tape Division. The award was won due in part to Solar Records recording artist The Whispers who recorded their hit LP Just Gets Better With Time at Galaxy. The album was certified platinum by the RIAA...Ready Or Not? That's right. Ready or Not is a newly formed production company and recording facility located at 250 West 57th Street Suite 1527 N.Y. Currently in production is Nina, who is mixing her new album entitled 2 Funky 4 U with her producers Sweets/R.O.N. (the Jam & Lewis of NYC), Executive Producer Ron Johnson III says this LP is one serious funk/dance project. Susan D. is also completing her dance debut "Can't We Stay Together" with her producer Calvin Best. Johnson has stated that he would like to welcome their newest engineer/mixer Ronnie G. from the club Ipanema.

In Los Angeles, Total Trak Productions is currently working in the Muzic Trak Studios recording traks for the recently signed Fresh/Sleeping Bag records artist 2 Badd (formerly of J.J. Fadd). The ladies' names are Fatimah Shaheed (a.k.a. OG), Juanita Lee (a.k.a. Crazy) and Barbara Lee (a.k.a. Arabian). The very first single from their debut LP is self titled. Producers are Courtney Branch and Tracy Kendrick. Branch and Kendrick are also cutting tunes for B.B. King and Desiree Coleman, who records for MCA...In The Mix News: Strong City Records has signed an exclusive distribution deal with MCA's reactivated Uni label. Strong City will be releasing six LPs per year from its roster of artists which include Busy Bee, Don Baron and Ice Cream T. The label owner is Rocky Bucano and Jazzy Jay. The new address is 759 Allerton Ave. Bronx, New York, 10467. They can also be reached by calling (212) 519-6018.

The word is out that "Star-search" winner and former Island recording artist Durell Coleman has signed with Capitol and has recently finished his debut LP for the label. No release date is set and the first single is not yet titled, but stay in the mix for further details and developments. Epic recording group Tease is back with a new LP that is "blazin!" Derek and Thomas Organ, with Kipper Jones and Jay Shanklin are some very remarkable musicians and vocalists. This album is sensational and everyone should take a listen. One of the LP's stronger cuts is "Remember." Vocalist Kipper Jones definitely brought it down with his performance, one that undoubtedly will make anyone who hears it want to cry. A very, very sweet ballad. The current single, "I Can't Stand The Rain," has earned a spot on just about every radio station around the country and is working its way up the charts with resounding speed. Check the remake of "Bad Reputation," it'll blow you away...Till next week, Keep It In The Mix.

Gang Starr was the winner in the rap music category of the Boston Music Awards, held recently at Boston's Wang Center. The rap trio is pictured with producer Beatmaster Jay at Downtown Recorders listening to final mixes of their second 12" "Believe Datt" and "Bust a Move Boy." (L-r): Rapper Keithy E, dj Mike Dee, producer Beatmaster Jay, and rapper Damo Dee-Ski.

Two Badd

"Twice The Love" has been confirmed as the title cut for the new George Benson Warner Brothers LP. Preston Glass produced and co-wrote this tune along with his brother Alan Glass, plus "Everlasting Love" and "Hit And Run," two more tunes on the LP...MCA recording group Kylmaxx is working on traks for its upcoming LP at the TMF Studios in Toluca Lake. The TMF staff production team of Ron Bloom and Rickey Delena are working on the project along with other producers.

Tease

May 6, 1988
MUSIC REVIEWS

By Duff Marlowe

TAMARA AND THE SEEN—BLUEBERRY GOSSIP—A&M—Returning from an extended recording hiatus with another hard set of Jesse Johnson-produced cuts, Tamara is ready to rock the charts again. Keep your eye on this blazing funkier, it’s got all the elements for success on both sides of the format fence!

MILLIE JACKSON—SOMETHING YOU CAN FEEL—JIVE—Millie lets it all hang out and throws down a monster, produced and written by the magical team of Marc Gordon along with Gerald and Eddie Levert. This powerful slam jam plays it loose and funky with the driving mid-tempo pace. Now that’s funky!

JULIO IGLESIAS featuring STEVIE WONDER—MY LOVE—COLUMBIA— Stevie wrote this duet performed with Latin casanova Iglesias. A straight ahead ballad with some Latin overtones, it’s aimed at mainstream female demographics in both Pop and Black modes.

SHIBELI—YOU—WB RECORDS—Indie artist Shibeli lays down a mellow ballad with solid songwriting and arrangements. The cut’s major league sound makes it of interest to programmers.

CHAD—FAST MUSIC, LOVE & PROMISES—RCA—Chad and Howard King collaborate in writing and producing this flashy up-beat dance party.

NEW RECORD RELEASES
FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 19

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<td></td>
<td>FINESE &amp; SYQUIRS, Soul Sisters</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>Female Rappers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCA</td>
<td>CHAD, Fast Music, Love &amp;</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>3rd Single</td>
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<tr>
<td>RCA</td>
<td>MILLIE JACKSON, Something He Can</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>New Single/Album</td>
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<tr>
<td>JIVE/RCA</td>
<td>TAMARA &amp; THE SEEN, Blueberry Gossip</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>M/F</td>
<td>Back On The Scene</td>
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<tr>
<td>A&amp;M</td>
<td>STOCK ATKIN/WATERMA, Pack Jammin’</td>
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<td></td>
<td>M/F</td>
<td>Party Music</td>
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<tr>
<td>ATLANTIC</td>
<td>BOSE, Eighth Wonder</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>Dance Music</td>
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<tr>
<td>POLYGRAM</td>
<td>THE REDDINGS, The Reddings</td>
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<td>A</td>
<td>R. Brookins Produces</td>
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<tr>
<td>WING: POLYGRAM</td>
<td>TONY TONY TONE, Who’</td>
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<td>A</td>
<td>Denzil Foster, T. McIntyre</td>
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<td>WARNER BROS.</td>
<td>AL B. SURET, Nine &amp; Day</td>
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<td>A</td>
<td>He Writes &amp; Produces</td>
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<td></td>
<td>BIZ MARRIE, Vapors</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>S</td>
<td>Rap Ballad</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INDIES:</td>
<td>CORINA, Leave It All Behind</td>
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<td>F</td>
<td>Disco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CUTTING</td>
<td>TIERA, I Want You Back</td>
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<td></td>
<td>M</td>
<td>Remake Of Jackson Hit</td>
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<tr>
<td>SATellite</td>
<td>GARY TAYLOR, Compassion</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>A</td>
<td>Self Produced</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VIRGIN</td>
<td>GENERAL JOHNSON, General Johnson</td>
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<td></td>
<td>M/F</td>
<td>Newcomers</td>
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<td>SURFSIDE</td>
<td>BARDEUX, When We Kiss</td>
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<td>M</td>
<td>Rap</td>
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JAZZ Continued from page 34

peless. It was received with much critical acclaim and—even more importantly—catapulted him into demand on many fronts: he sang lead in an arrangement of Bach’s “Magnificat”; appeared on Garrison Keillor’s “A Prairie Home Companion”; and collaborated on projects with, among others, Joe Zawinul, The Manhattan Trans-fer and Robin Williams. He’s been on numerous TV shows and, in the last few years, done concerts, concerts, concerts...

At this point, however, McFerrin no longer wants to be known only as a jazz singer. “To be so-labelled is limiting,” says McFerrin. “I like to think of myself as one who has simply been infused with a lot of music.” Indeed, his music runs the gamut of genres, these days. And there’s nothing predictable or categorical about his performances these days, either. Many times, he begins one without a clear-cut idea of how it’s going to end. He just flows with the ideas as they come to his head. He calls his performances “thinking out loud.”

His aim, he says, is to “get mature audiences to be child-like and spontaneous again for a little while.”

To that end, he encourages their participation—singing and clapping and anything else appropriate—in the action. “If I can get my audiences to stop thinking about their pains—even for a little while,” he says, “then I feel like I’ve been successful at what I do.”

Bobby McFerrin—the one man band—is truly painless medicine.

May 6, 1988
African singer Miriam Makeba is back with a new album, Sangoma, and an autobiography, "Makeba: My Story."

Some attribute Makeba's remarkable comeback to Paul Simon, who took her and trumpeter/ex-husband Hugh Masekela on his Graceland tour. Others, with more sober minds, credit the escalation of the national liberation movement in South Africa, itself.

Makeba's life has been one of extreme peaks and valleys. And, her autobiography documents her ups and downs accordingly. As a vocalist, Makeba has enthralled millions from Cape Town to Nova Scotia. As a woman, her struggles to find love and selfhood speak to women worldwide. As an indigenous South African, she has always used her voice as a weapon in the struggle against apartheid.

Makeba's book documents how Harry Belafonte "discovered" her in London and brought the cream of the show business crop to check out her opening date at the Village Vanguard in New York. Says Makeba, "I cannot believe who Big Brother (Harry Belafonte) has sitting with him and his wife: Sidney Poitier, Duke Ellington, Diahann Carroll, Nina Simone and Miles Davis. I have admired these people for years. They are great artists. And now they have come to see me."

"Makeba: My Story" discusses her relationship with mentors such as Belafonte; husbands, musical great Masekela and Pan-Africanist Kwame Ture (Stokeley Carmichael); protectors, such as African statesman Sekou Toure; and loyal fans, including president John F. Kennedy.

The 55 year-old vocalist also had a profound impact on popular recording artists in the United States. The question of whether Aretha Franklin did or didn't perform in South Africa has plagued the anti-apartheid movement for years. Makeba's book clarifies the issue.

Says Makeba: "I am asked by...the Reverend Jesse Jackson, to come to New York for the founding of his new organization, People United to Save Humanity—PUSH. The American singer Aretha Franklin, whom I admire, is coordinating the guest list. After the Operation PUSH ceremony, she invites us to a birthday party she is throwing for herself at the Americana hotel.

"I wish her a happy birthday, and she says, 'Miriam, I need your advice. I've been asked to go to South Africa.'"

"In an instant, my mask of sociability drops. When it comes to this subject, I am always very honest. The authorities back home to gain status and boost their image by bringing international stars to perform in the clubs—clubs that are for whites only. The UN has finally applied limited sanctions against South Africa, and one of these forbids artists from performing there...

"I tell her, 'Aretha, you are the Queen—the Queen of Soul. You have a big name, and you are loved everywhere. I don't think you need a concert in South Africa. Whether you know it or not, you'd be helping the people who oppress our brothers and sisters. No artist can go to South Africa without getting dirty herself. It's true what they say, you can't roll around with pigs and not end up covered with mud."

"Aretha understands. She tells her managers to turn down the offer."

There are faults with Makeba's work. James Hall, who assisted her, seems to have rushed to get the book out. For example, many personalities in the book are referred to only by their last names. It appears that Hall didn't kill himself researching this assignment.

Reverend Allan Boesak, president of the World Alliance of Reform Churches, captures the feeling that most black South Africans have about Makeba: "Miriam Makeba is a superb artist, an unforgettable voice, and a regal representative of her people. We call her 'Mama Africa.' Her life story is as compelling as Africa itself. Its hopes, joys, pain, suffering, but above all, its love. This is a book to read and read and read. And long after, you will still hear the music..."

Norman Richmond is president of the Black Music Association/Toronto Chapter. His radio program can be heard on CKLN-FM 88.1 every Thursday at 8 p.m.

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**BOOK REVIEW**

By Norman (Otis) Richmond

**MAKEBA**

**MY STORY**

BY MIRIAM MAKEBA

with JAMES HALL

NAL Books, 249 pages, $26.95

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Some attribute Makeba's remarkable comeback to Paul Simon, who took her and trumpeter/ex-husband Hugh Masekela on his Graceland tour. Others, with more sober minds, credit the escalation of the national liberation movement in South Africa, itself.

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**TRACIE SPENCER**

Cont’d from page 8

picking up strong response at key radio stations across the country. Hank Talbert, Capitol's vice-president, promotion, Black music, is heartened by the initial reaction: "It's actually been fantastic. I have no question that we can go all the way with this single.

"Radio has jumped right on it," he said, "and I'm confident that once people hear the LP, they'll realize that we have a very special talent in Tracie. The LP's biggest selling point, according to Talbert, is that it is "multi-formatted. We have cuts for Quiet Storm, CHR, Adult Contemporary and, of course, Urban Contemporary."

Recently Capitol execs held a listening party in L.A. featuring Spencer's debut LP and video which showed her singing a gospel-flavored version of the John Lennon plea-for-peace classic, "Imagine." Ironically, Lennon once described "Imagine" as a "child's song" that he deliberately wrote in a manner that children would have no trouble understanding.

"Stan (Plessner) thought doing the remake would be an excellent idea, and so did Capitol Records," said Spencer. Also shown at the party was a video of Spencer doing some cute 'Cabbage Patching' and other daff dance moves.

"I love to dance," Spencer said enthusiastically. "And I can't wait to perform my songs live on stage." Although she is an excellent athlete (and plays point guard position on the girls' basketball team back home), it is clearly a career in music, not athletics, that the young lady envisions for her future.

"I always want to do exactly what I'm doing now," said Spencer, confidently. "I want to be known as an all-around entertainer."

From "Star Search" to an exciting "Star Find!" for Capitol Records, Tracie Spencer is well on her way to fulfilling that goal!
Who will win the 6th Annual Budweiser Showdown is anyone's guess.

But the guesswork ends and the excitement begins at the Budweiser Showdown national finals, May 25th, 1988 at the Registry Hotel in Hollywood, California.

Celebrity hosts Jayne Kennedy-Overton and Michael Winslow will be on hand to add to the excitement.

So to the many talented performers from all across the country who've made it to the finals...
GRAPcVEINE

PHYLLIS HYMAN and BARRY MANILOW are proving, for the second time around, that they’re a great pair. Their duet, “Black and Blue,” the third single from Maniow’s Swing Street LP, is getting strong airplay on stations with a fusion/“Quiet Storm” format. Maniow’s the one who produced one of Hyman’s signature hits: “Somewhere In My Lifetime.”

GEORGE MICHAEL’s first solo North American tour kicks off on August 6 at Washington, D.C.’s Capitol Center. You can imagine the kind of SRO crowds he’ll be attracting, if the quadruple platinum status of his Faith LP is any indication—a status that Michael has always largely attributed to black radio’s support of the LP.

Westwood One will be involved in the George Michael tour by announcing tour dates, doing local radio promotions in conjunction with concert promoters and conducting exclusive interviews with him. On the TV front, MTV will broadcast a half-hour special called “George Michael—Music, Money, Love, Faith” on April 30; included in the program will be rare, behind-the-scenes looks at the “Faith” tour.

PRINCE has been spending a lot of time rehearsing at his Minneapolis studio, we hear. Don’t be surprised if the Purple One decides to follow the May 10 release of his new LP Lovesexy with a national tour, tentatively set to start in Minneapolis in June. (And it’s rumored that EARTH, WIND & FIRE will have nothing on Mr. Lovesexy when it comes to staging an elaborate show.)

A Paisley Park rep has said that any tour would include the same back-up band from Prince’s European/“Sign O’ the Times” tour of last year—which should come as great news to all the fans that CAT, Prince’s resident go-go dancer, has accumulated in her post-“Star Search” fame.

DICK SHAPIRO, a concert promoter with Jam Productions, has already submitted a bid for the nothing’s-been-confirmed-yet Prince tour. (Just speculating: could the acclaim that MICHAEL JACKSON has been getting for his current tour have anything to do with Prince’s decision to hit the road so soon after last year’s tour? There’s nothing wrong with a little healthy competition, folks!)

TRACEY ROSS, that other “Star Search” winner we all know and love, will be marching up the aisle this June with restaurateur BRAD JOHNSON. Johnson’s that same super-fine fellow the tabloids said WHITNEY HOUSTON was singing love songs to last year.

MARY WILSON’s “Dreamgirl; My Life As A Supreme” will be a film soon, thanks to Lorimar, the company that acquired the film rights to Wilson’s titillating tell-all. Speaking of which, one of Ms Wilson’s bras, along with those worn by THE POINTER SISTERS, will be on display at Frederick’s of Hollywood Bra Museum until May 31. (Don’t you just love this kind of information?)

DIANA ROSS is apparently still so bugged at Wilson for writing that blog that she’s admitted that she didn’t attend THE SUPREMES’ induction into the Rock ‘n Roll Hall of Fame this year because of it. Said Ross (to reporters at the recent Grammy’s): “When someone just slaps you and slaps you, aren’t you supposed to be angry?”

A reliable source has informed us that Lady Ross is being signed to MCA Records. How’s that for an exciting move?

TINA TURNER, meanwhile, is mulling over requests from Disney to acquire the rights to do a film on her life. The studio has already acquired the rights to books on her life, including “The Tina Turner Story,” “Tina” and “I, Tina.” Turner would not star in the movie, but would act as creative consultant.

ICE-T recently gave a fascinating interview to PATRICK GOLDSTEIN of the Los Angeles Times. In it, he admitted that he makes less money as a rap star than he did as a teenaged L.A. gang member, and that being involved in that kind of criminal activity can be “more addictive than any drug.” On the other hand, Ice-T feels “richer as a person,” now that he’s abandoned those dead-end pursuits in favor of record business fame.

MICHAEL JACKSON, according to the rap artist, has done too much himself to promote gang activity by his use of gang member-types in his “Beat It” and “Bad” videos. Agree with him or not, Ice-T is shaping up as one of L.A.’s most credible rap spokespersons.

ARIES (March 20-April 19)
That career opportunity will mean much more stress. Decide carefully if it’s worth it.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
Accent this week is on listening more than you talk. Co-workers may not be as trustworthy as you think.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
Your competitive urge gives you the guts to get things accomplished. Go with your hunches and proceed forward.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
A great idea to advance your career may come your way. Keep it confidential until you’re ready to launch all plans.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
You’ve been worried about your financial resources. Look forward to a raise in salary or progress at work.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
Money may go out as fast as it comes in. Pay off all major debts before making any more frivolous buys.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
Now is the time for firm negotiation and action in financial matters. Take a deep breath.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
Don’t indulge in any temper tantrums at work. You will only succeed in alienating potential allies.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
Trouble may arise when a business associate tries to ruin a new deal. Proceed with reason, not anger.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 20)
An associate is trying to egg you on in all the right directions. Give that free advice some thought.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 18)
Let “caution in all things” be your motto. Otherwise, a tangled web of misunderstanding is in store.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 19)
You’ve been looking forward to a joint project that may not materialize. Focus on an independent route.

BIRTHDAYS
Philip Bailey, EW&F 5/8
Dave Prater, Sam & Dave 5/9
Travis Garner, KCOH 5/10
Terri Avery 5/11
Joe Lewis 5/13
Stevie Wonder 5/13
ROGER'S
GOT A BRAND
NEW HIT!

From the man who
took "I Want To Be
Your Man" to #1.

ROGER

"PAPA'S
GOT A BRAND
NEW BAG"
Produced By: JESSE JOHNSON FOR JWJ PRODUCTIONS
Management: AMERICAN ARTISTS
Executive Producer: JOHN McCLAIN