

Cash Box/R&B News Report

R & B INGREDIENTS—Sly & The Family Stone should soon be filling the airwaves again. Sly is in the process of completing a new LP, and from what we hear the Epic album has some heavy R & B material . . . A forthcoming **Donny Hathaway** LP entitled, "Extensions Of A Man" is a commendable and extensive work from the talented Donny. Black poetess Nikki Giovanni has written the lines notes. The album contains elements of Rock, Jazz, R & B, C & W and Rock . . . **Choose, Inc.**, NYC, a tax deductible charity organization dedicated to assisting the blind, has announced that a concert is being held April 25th at Philharmonic Hall in NYC. The "Out Of Sight Night" concert is featuring **Al Hibbler**, **Ray Charles**, **Stevie Wonder** and friends. These performers are getting together to help Choose help capable blind people become part of society. The proceeds of the concert are to be contributed to Choose. Further information may be obtained by contacting Choose at 11 East 17th Street, NYC, or tickets may be obtained at Philharmonic Hall at Lincoln Center . . . "I'll Make It Worth Your While" a current release on **Ronn Records** by **Little Johnny Taylor** is beginning to happen in many markets . . . **Sampson & Delilah** (Polydor) have a solid single, "You Bring The Tears" . . . Another in the soul bag is the new **Z.Z. Hill**, "A Man Needs A Woman". The single is zooming up in sales . . . **Nikki Giovanni** and **Ron Delsener** are presenting an all Gospel concert, June 21st at Philharmonic Hall. The concert will include the New York Community Choir under the direction of **Benny Diggs**. Special guest artists are **Wilson Pickett** and **Melba Moore** . . . **Henry Nash** (Queen Booking Corp.) deserves plenty of praise for the package shows he has assembled for presentations at New York prisons. Nash has received many letters from the inmates, thanking him of the efforts he has put into getting acts to go out to the prisons. don drossell



Pictured with singer-composer **Jim Weatherly** (center) at recent taping of "The Midnight Special," are **Gladys Knight** and the **Pips**, whose recording of Weatherly's "Neither One Of Us" held the number one spot in Cashbox and the number two slot in Billboard (April 7, issues). The single number one in all three trades' R&B charts, is over 1,750,000 sold and is approaching Platinum.

Weatherly himself, who records for RCA, has a second album currently in release entitled "A Gentler Time."



The **Jackson Sisters**, five talented singers, ranging in age from eleven to sixteen, have been signed to a longterm recording pact with **Prophecy Records**, distributed by **Columbia Records**, according to **Hal Landers** and **Bobby Roberts**, level toppers. The girls' (the family's name is really Jackson, incidentally) first single release is "More Than Just Friends," written by **Warren Sams** who has been responsible for hits by **Jerry Butler** and **Luther Ingram**.

Bobby Roberts (left) and **Hal Landers** (right) are pictured here with left to right **Pat**, **Lynn**, **Gennie**, **Rae** and **Jackie Jackson**.

"THE BANANA SONG"

B/W

"When You're Around"

A Smash Hit Novelty

B/W

A Smash Hit Ballad

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DISTRIBUTORS WANTED

Sister Sledge Phila. Soul Group Signed To Atlantic

NEW YORK — Henry Allen, Vice President, Promotion for Atlantic Records announced this week that the highly sought-after Philadelphia soul group, **Sister Sledge**, had been signed to a long-term, exclusive recording contract with Atlantic Records.

Brought to the label by R&B director of artist and repertoire **LeBaron Taylor**, **Sister Sledge** is comprised of four talented sisters, **Kathy**, age 13; **Kim**, age 15; **Joan**, age 16; and **Debra**, age 18. Each lady is a phenomenally talented singer, with each able to handle lead vocal chores for the group.

Sister Sledge's first single, "The Weatherman," composed by **Phil Hurtt** and **Anthony Bell**, who also arranged and conducted, will be released this week. The record was also produced by **Taylor**, **Hurtt** and **Bell**, as well.

Additionally, **Sister Sledge** is an uncommonly well-experienced performing unit. Well known in Philadelphia, they have had numerous appearances in the area including dates with such personalities as **Lou Rawls**, **Timmy Rogers**, **Dakota Staton**, **Arthur and Red Prysock**, **Al Green** and many others. They also have various television performances to their credit including the Philadelphia Theatre of Living Arts, and the **Ed Hurst** and **Steel Pier Shows**.

Now in the studios recording material for their first album, **Sister Sledge** will be supported with an extensive national advertising publicity and promotional campaign from Atlantic.



Atlantic Record's, Grammy Award winner, **Donny Hathaway** who is dividing his time between Chicago and New York caught a recent performance of the **Negro Ensemble Company's** production of "The River Niger." Backstage **Donny** congratulates the cast. Shown (left to right) **Douglas Turner Ward**, **Frances Foster**, **Grenna Whitaker**, **Donny Hathaway** and **Roxie Roker**.

'Peace & Love Festival' O'Jays Headline 25 City Tour

NEW YORK — Philadelphia International Gold record winning group, the **O'Jays**, are scheduled to headline **Teddy Powel's** mammoth **Peace and Love Festival '73**. The **O'Jays**, who most recently earned Gold status with their popular "Love Train" single will lead the Festival through a twenty-five city, six week tour of the nation to begin April 4th and wind up Sunday, May 13. The Festival will include such other top draw R&B acts as **The Chilites**, **The Main Ingredient** and **The Moments** and will appear at some of the country's larger concert halls including the **Richmond, Va. Coliseum** April 15, **The El Paso, Texas Coliseum** April 19, **Washington D.C.'s Constitution Hall** April 27 and **Dallas, Texas' Moody Coliseum** May 7.

B.B. King & Mayor C. Evers Co-Host Medgar Evers Tribute, June 12

NEW YORK—ABC/Dunhill recording artist **B. B. King** and **Fayette** (Miss.) **Mayor Charles Evers** will co-host an all-day "Mississippi Homecoming" in tribute to slain civil rights leader **Medgar Evers** on Tuesday, June 12 in Fayette.

In a letter urging "all Mississippi stars and artists, greats and near-greats to come back home again," **Mayor Evers** said, "I am asking each of you, **Black**, **White** or **Indian**, to come home and help us with our tenth anniversary observance of my brother's death. Those who have left to go on to fame and fortune and those who have stayed here to comfort and sustain us in person are asked to come to Fayette that day."

The day's events, still in the planning stage, will include an early morning church service to be presided over by the new **Black bishop** of the **Catholic Diocese of Natchez-Jackson**, **Father Joseph Howze**; a breakfast or luncheon with speeches by several **Mississippi-born** notables, a parade and a dance in the evening.

One of his top selling **ABC/Dunhill LP's** "Indianola Mississippi Seeds," pays tribute to **B. B. King's** birthplace. He and **Mayor Evers** are long time friends.

Among the celebrities who are being invited to participate in this, as **Mayor Evers** expressed it, "undreamed of day shining out before us" are **Jerry Butler**, the **Chambers Brothers**, **Ray Charles**, **Arthur Crudup**, **Bo Diddley**, **Betty Everett**, **Bobbie Gentry**, **Albert King**, **Furry Lewis**, **Elvis Presley**, **Leontyne Price**, **Charlie Pride**, **Rev. Cleophus Robinson**, the **Staples Singers**, **Johnny Taylor**, **Muddy Waters**, **Tammy Wynette**, actor **James Earl Jones**, and writers **Willie Morris** and **Turner Catledge**.

Mississippi born artists, writers, poets, athletes, and others who would like to "come home for a day" should call **Mayor Evers** at (601) 786-8591 or **B. B. King** at (212) 421-2021

Lynn's 'Hot' Warms Brown

NEW YORK — A substantial portion of the royalties from **Barbara Lynn's** new single on Atlantic, "You Make Me So Hot" has been legally assigned by her producer and manager, **Huey Meaux** to the **William Boy Brown Medical Fund**.

Boy Brown is the **Beaumont, Texas** disk jockey and program director of **KJET-AM** who was paralyzed as the result of an alleged police beating several weeks ago. Now completely immobilized from the neck down, a medical fund has been created to supply resources for **Brown's** future medical necessities.

R&B Additions

WWRL—NEW YORK
I Can Make It Through The Day—**Ray Charles**
—ABC
International Playboy—**Wilson Pickett**
—Atlantic
Here's Where The Love Is—**Bobby Wilson**
—Chain
Standing Ovation—**The Dells**—Cadet
Thin Line—**The Impressions**—Curton
Breakaway—**Millie Jackson**—Spring

WJMO—CLEVELAND
What's Usual Ain't Natural—**Sam Russell**
—Playboy
Leaving Me—**The Independents**—Wand
Rolling Down The Mountainside—**Isaac**
—Hayes—Enterprise
La La At The End—**Anthony & The Imperials**
—Avco
Instigating—**Whatnauts**—GSF

WVON—CHICAGO
God Bless—**Wolf Moon**—Fungus
Armed & Extremely Dangerous—**First Choice**
—Philly Groove
So Nice To Be Loved By You—**Ovations**—
Sound Of Memphis
Hallelujah Day—**Jackson Five**—Motown

KATZ—ST LOUIS
You're Still My Brother—**Barkays**—Stax/Volt
What It Takes To Get A Good Woman—
—Denise—LaSalle—Westbound
They Say The Girl's Crazy—**The Invitations**
—Polydor

WCHB—DETROIT
All The Heaven A Man Really Needs—**Joe**
—Tex—Dial
Crying Man—**Clyde Brown**—Atlantic
Funny—**Priscilla Price**
Instigating—**Whatnauts**—GSF
Forever—**Baby Washington & Don Gardiner**
—Master V
Use Me—**Esther Phillips**—Kudu
Who Made You Go—**Faith, Hope & Charity**
—Sussex
If I Could Only Be Sure—**Nolan Porter**—ABC

KGFJ—LOS ANGELES
Bad, Bold & Beautiful Girl—**Persuaders**—
—Atlantic
Drift Away—**Dobie Gray**—Decca
I Don't Want To Lose You—**The Classic**
—Sullivans—Kwanza
Always—**Luther Ingram**—KoKo
Fencewalk—**Mandrill**—Polydor
Blue Magic—**The Guess Who**—RCA

UA's Mike Stewart Heads Soul & Blues Awards Board

LOS ANGELES, CALIF. — **Chuck Mann**, president of **Cinema West Productions**, has announced that **Mike Stewart** will preside as Chairman of the Board of Governors for the '73 Soul and Blues awards.

Mann, producer of this year's second annual Soul and Blues Awards to be held July 17th at the **Beverly Hilton** in **Beverly Hills**, also announced that **Ms. Dede Dabney** (**Record World**) has been appointed to head the **New York Chapter** advisory board committee.



Robert "Kool" Bell (center), bass and vocals as well as leader of "Kool & The Gang," is all smiles as he presents a copy of their latest top selling **De-Lite** album, "Good Times," to **Enoch Gregory** (left), popular **WWRL DJ**, **NYC**, **Fred Fioto** (right), president of **De-Lite** serves as host for a swinging press cocktail party, held at the **Half Note Club** in **New York City**, honoring **Kool & The Gang**. The groups latest single release is "Country Junky" from the "Good Times" album and, the album has already gone over the 50,000 sales mark.