

**BEST BETS, FROM
DUKE RECORDS
BACKBEAT RECORDS**

**"WOMAN WITH
THE BLUES"
The LAMP Sisters**

Duke #427

Moving On All Charts

**"DRIFTIN' BLUES"
Bobby Bland**

Duke #432

**"A PIECE OF GOLD"
Bobby Bland**

Duke #433

Double Barrel Hits

**"TO BE MY GIRL"
John Roberts &
The Hurricanes**

Duke #429

No. One In Houston

**"BE EVER
WONDERFUL"
Joe Hinton**

Backbeat #589

"Joe"—Does It Again

**2809 Erastus Street
Houston, Texas 77026**

**James Brown In
Africa Concert**

James Brown, King Records and Universal Attractions artist, will fly to Abidjan, capital of the Ivory Coast, Africa, to perform a concert on March 31. Brown and his troupe of 35 leave New York City on March 29. Arriving in Abidjan, on March 30, Brown will be given a dinner in his honor by the government that evening. The entire troupe will return to the states on April 1.



James Brown

The Ivorian radio and television system sponsors an annual gala, under the direction of the minister of information, M. Mathieu Ekra, in order to collect funds to finance the various national charities. A recent government Gallup revealed that James Brown was the most popular artist in the Ivory Coast. The Ivory Coast's Consulate in New York City contacted Jack Bart, President of Universal Attractions, and negotiated for the appearance of Brown for the gala. The Ivorian government and its radio and television system will be paying for the costs of bringing the show to their country.

The reported price for the one-nighter is \$70,000, perhaps the highest figure for a one-nighter to date. This will be Brown's first appearance in Africa.

**Motown Japanese
Tour Capacity Click**

R and B music is sweeping Japan on the heels of a tremendously successful Motown Festival tour by Stevie Wonder and Martha Reeves and the Vandellas.

The Motown unit has been attracting capacity audiences of over 3000 people at each of the concert dates in Tokyo, Osaka and the U.S. Air Force installations. The success of the Motown Fest tour has already prompted concert managers to request return dates.

Short Kuts to Hit

Isaac Hayes and David Porter, writers of "Soul Man" and "Hold On, I'm Comin'," have written another, "Your Eyes May Shine," by the Short Kuts on Pepper Records. The

(Continued on page 36)



Biggest Hits: Otis Redding; Temptations; Impressions; James Brown; Hesitations; Wilson Pickett; Sweet Inspirations; Joe Tex; Dionne Warwick; Delfonics; Dells; Howard Tate; Sam & Dave; James Carr; Jackie Wilson.

Breakout: "Save It," Melvin Davis, Bell. Broke Big in Chicago. On just about every station.

Breakout: "Do It To It," Tony Fox, Calla. Smash in Philadelphia on just about every station.

Patti Drew Looks Strong: "Keep on Movin'," in Baltimore, Chicago.

Parliaments Are Back in the Pocket: "Look At What I Almost Missed."

Bobby Bland: "A Piece of Gold."

Bobby Womack: "What is This," Minit. Baltimore.

Willie Mitchell Has a Giant: "Soul Serenade" on Hi. It's a giant in Detroit, spread to Cleveland, smash in Memphis and many other markets.

Toussaint McCall Broke in Baltimore: "Like Never Before."

Action on Irma Thomas: "Good To Me" on Chess.

Ollie & Nightingales Big in Memphis: "I Got a Sure Thing" on Stax. Spread to Chicago and other markets.

"The Goat" a Hit Instrumental: Freddy & Kinfolk, Dade. In Miami & Chicago.

New Etta James is Strong: "Security."

Powerful Arthur Conley: "Funky Street."

Strong Percy Sledge: "Take Time To Know Her."

Big Action on Short Kuts on Pepper: "Your Eyes May Shine."

Powerful Jimmy Ruffin: "I'll Say Forever My Love."

Strong Shorty Long Instrumental: "Night Fo' Last."

Smash Dance "Tighten Up" is Spreading: Archie Bell & Drells, Atlantic. #2 in Houston and going everywhere.

Baby Dolls Spreading: "Please Don't Rush Me" on Gamble. Hit in Phila., Baltimore, Cleveland, Miami.

Strong New Intruders: "From Cowboys to Girls" on Gamble.

Powerful New Precisions on Laurie: "Instant Heartbreak."

Powerful New Brenda & Tabulations: "Baby You're So Right For Me."

Big Play on Debbie Taylor on Decca: "Check Yourself." Produced by Joe Medlin. Good sales.

Slim Harpo Getting Big Airplay on Excello. Strong instrumental on A-Bet: "Chain of Fools."

New Jackie Lee: "African Boo-Ga-Loo" on Keymen. Good spread in play.

Gene Chandler & Barbara Acklin: "Show Me The Way To Go."

Strong New Jean Wells: "Sit Down & Cry."

Strong New John Hamilton: "Big Fanny." Flip, "How Much Can a Man."

New Thelma Jones: "House That Jack Built" on Barry.

Sales Breakout on Slim Harpo

The Slim Harpo has busted in sales in Cleveland, Miami, Atlanta, all through the Carolinas, Knoxville and is the Power Pick at KDIA, S.F. Excello is also very excited about the big reaction developing on "African Twist," Stacy Lane.

Next Hesitations is a Sure Giant: "The Impossible Dream" is the next Hesitations on Kapp and it is a Sureshot. It should be bigger than "Born Free" and for the same reasons. It is a fabulous record.

Good play and sales on "Reservation," Neal Kimble.

Ken Hawkins, WJMO, and Mike Payne, WABQ, Cleveland, confirm that "This Is The Thanks I Get." Barbara Lynn, Atlantic, is a top 10 smash. It's now top 5 at KATZ, St. Louis, with Robert B.Q. and with Steve Byrd at KXLW. Sales in Philadelphia are over 15,000 with WDAS, WHAT, and 50,000 watt pop monster WIBG.

Kenny Gamble is a Genius

Epic-Okeh Records contracted for Kenny Gamble to cut the Vibrations. He will shortly cut the third record by the Soul Survivors. He wrote the Madeline Bell with Jerry Ross and it's a sales giant. Ken and Leon Huff wrote and produced the new

(Continued on page 36)