

BLACK ENTERTAINMENT'S PREMIERE MAGAZINE FOR 20 YEARS

BE

20th

LIONEL RICHIE

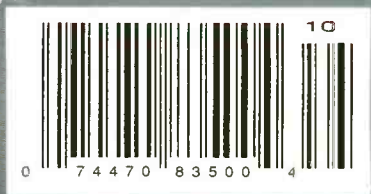


D

05/01/96 12/15/95
KELLY BRAD
1182 PLOU BLVD
APT 5
SHIRAZ MONTICHI LA 90400

ISSUE NUMBER 10
VOLUME XX
THREE DOLLARS

APR. 05
'96



0 74470 83500 4

Only 3.9 Ounces of Elite Performance

The World's Lightest Phone.



Now you can get the world's lightest flip phone for an incredible price, with all the features you'll need for the 90's. With the selection and service you've come to expect from us. And you won't find a better offer than that.

For Personal
Communications
Consultations,
Please Call
Tracie Love



Classic Cellular

253 South Beverly Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90212
Telephone (310) 276-0115
Fax (310) 276-0597


L.A.
CELLULAR®
Twice the calling area.
And first with digital!

DIGITAL
SST



Celebrates Black Music For 20 Years

BRE Magazine has held annual conferences since 1976 focusing on various themes pertinent to a positive progressive direction for the black radio, retail and record community. From "programming To Win" and "Image/Power" to "Black Radio: Marketing Our Musical Heritage," various speakers and panels have addressed the needs of this industry. Rev. Jesse Jackson, the late Buckminster Fuller, Mayor Maynard Jackson, Louis Farrakhan, Dick Gregory, Quincy Jones, Percy Sutton, Muhammed Ali, Dorothy Brunson, Joe Smith, Berry Gordy and Al Teller are among the notables who have addressed the BRE Conferences.

Likewise, noted industry professionals have shared their knowledge and expertise: Ruben Rodriguez, Frankie Crocker, Sonny Joe White, Paris Eley, Jheryl Busby, Andre Harrell, Skip Miller, Irene Johnson Ware, Cassandra Mills, Ernie Singleton, James Alexander, Barry Mayo, Joe "Butterball" Tamburro, Sylvia Rhone, Sean "Puffy" Combs, Jackie Rhinehart and Russell Simmons.

Addressing the business of the three R's is BRE Conference's main concern and many artists have enhanced that networking with stellar performances at BRE: Marvin Gaye, Stevie Wonder, George Clinton, Prince, Michael Jackson, Tina Turner, LL Cool J, Tone Loc, Nancy Wilson, David Sanborn, Regina Belle, Miki Howard, Sade, Gerald Albright, Hammer, Anita Baker, Boyz II Men, All-4-One, The Dells, Color Me Badd and Mariah Carey.

The four day conference attracts the music industry's serious professionals from a wide spectrum. Professionally registrants from artist management, entertainment law and major record labels to radio general managers, promotion and program directors, retail buyers, press and publicity attend. Geographically, participants come from coast to coast in the U.S., and, globally, from Japan, Germany, France, England, South America and ever increasingly the third world countries.

USA Today chronicled the BRE conference as a "major confab" for the music industry. "Good Morning America" entertained the issue when rap entered the forum. The *Los Angeles Times* described it as a "serious industry gathering surrounded by stellar performances."

Thanks to the dedicated music professionals, BRE continues with 20 years in 1996 celebrating the rich history being made every day described in weekly BRE issues. The BRE Annual Conference presents a window to this world. 1996, the 20th year of BRE, adds the BRE Music Festival and Awards to the annual conference in Charlotte, North Carolina, June 5-9.

A photograph of a city skyline at sunset. The sky is a vibrant orange and red. In the center, a tall skyscraper with a blue-tinted top is illuminated. Other buildings of varying heights are visible, some with lights on. The overall scene is a classic cityscape at dusk.

ERE Conference '96 Theme:

New Power Generation...

**Who's Got It
Who'll Get It
Who'll Keep It**

**Come Discover The Answers
In Charlotte, North Carolina**

The New Power City

June 6-9

HOT LINE 310.440.2888

Ron Brown



Global Loss

I had just sent a formal letter to Commerce Secretary Ron Brown requesting him to speak at this year's BRE Conference/Music Celebration June 5-9 about the international marketplace the music industry should address as Brown and the rest of the ill fated passengers were. Of his many achievements, opening the gateways between diverse peoples seems to have been his special talent.

BRE will still address the global market at the conference, but now the session will be dedicated to Brown's memory and work.

CONTENTS

APRIL 5, 1996 VOLUME XX NUMBER 10

feature

Cover Story — Lionel Richie 23

sections

Publisher's Page 7
 News 8
 Exec Stats 10
 Music Report 16
 Music Reviews 20

columns

Jazz Notes 15
 Video Visions 18
 Hip Hop Era 19
 Gospel 22

charts & research

Singles Chart 12
 Album Chart 14
 Jazz Chart 15

regional reports

Mid West 28
 Carolinas 30
 North East 32
 South East 34
 Ohio Valley 37
 Mid Atlantic 38
 West 39
 Mid South 41

LIVING LEGENDS FOUNDATION

FOUNDING CHAIRMAN

Ray Harris

FOUNDING PRESIDENT

Jerry Boulding

VICE PRESIDENT

A.D. Washington

TREASURER

Barbara Lewis

SECRETARY

C.C. Evans

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Mike Bernardo

George Daniels

David Linton

Hank Spann

Kendall Minter, Esq.

DINNER CHAIRMAN

Frankie Crocker

DINNER CO-CHAIRS

Jheryl Busby

Sean "Puffy" Combs

Lisa Cortes

Ed Eckstine

Roland Edison

Kenneth "Babyface" Edmunds

Kevin Evans

Kenny Gamble

Jack Gibson

Dick Griffey

Andre Harrell

Heavy D.

Hiriam Hicks

Leon Huff

Cathy Hughes

Hal Jackson

Jimmy Jam

Dorsey James

Earl Jordan

Terry Lewis

Monica Lynch

Jules Malamud

Michael Mauldin

Barry Mayo

Antonio "L.A." Reid

Sylvia Rhone

Jean Riggins

Ruben Rodriguez

Dave Rosas

Terri Rossi

Louil Silas, Jr.

Tom Silverman

Russell Simmons

Jimmy Starks

Ron Sweeney, Esq.

Joe "Butterball" Tamburro

Dedra Tate

H. LeBaron Taylor

Charles M. Warfield, Jr.

Barry Weiss

(listing in formation)

THE FOURTH ANNUAL LIVING LEGENDS FOUNDATION TRIBUTE AND DINNER

BENEFITTING

THE LIVING LEGENDS FOUNDATION, INC.

HONORING

RADIO
**EDDIE O'JAY
B.B. DAVIS**

RECORDS
**TOM DRAPER
WARREN LANIER**

RETAIL
**TED HUDSON
BEVERLY TAYLOR**

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1, 1996
**OPRYLAND HOTEL
NASHVILLE**

FOR TICKET INFORMATION:

CONTACT CYNTHIA BADIE ASSOCIATES (212) 222-9400

DINNER COMMITTEE

James Alexander

Tony Anderson

Brenda Andrews

John Austin

Lee Bailey

Suzanne Baptiste

Ornetta Barber-Dickerson

Manny Bella

Kojo Bentil

Lamont Boles

Joey Bonner

Tom Bracamontes

Ardenia Brown

Jamie Brown

Vinny Brown

Denise Brown-Noel

Hank Caldwell

Ruth Carson

Sheila Coates

James Cochran

Glynice Coleman

Joycelyn Cooper-Gilstrap

Steve Crumbley

Dwayne Cunningham

Doug Daniel

Sylvia Davis

Cheryl Dickerson

John Dukakis

Don Eason

Paris Eley

Rachelle Fields

Kevin Fleming

J.C. Floyd

Jesus Garber

Tony Gray

Gerry Griffith

Vaughn Harper

David Harleston, Esq.

Steve Hegwood

Sharon Heyward

Gwen Irby

Lionel Job

Hillery Johnson

Michael Johnson

Varnell Johnson

Wayman Jones

Larry Kahn

Miller London

Walt "Baby" Love

Mike Martinez

Janine McAdams

Quincy McCoy

Sara Melendez

Sydney Miller

Cassandra Mills

Richard Nash

Eddie Pugh

J. R. Reynolds

Gil Robertson

Vivian Scott

Hank Shocklee

Ernie Singleton

Martha Thomas-Frye

Eric Thrasher

Sandra Trim-DaCosta

Audra Washington

Doug Wilkins

Hilda Williams

Ken Wilson

(listing in formation)

BREFOUNDER/PUBLISHER
SIDNEY MILLEREXEC/VP
SUSAN MILLERMANAGING EDITOR
ANN L. BROWNART DIRECTOR
TONNY JIMENEZSENIOR WRITER
STEVEN IVORYVP/MIDWEST
JEROME SIMMONSEDITORIAL
TARYN BROWN
FOSTER V. CORDER
JEROME CRITE
CORNELIUS GRANT
PAXTON MILLER
ALAN LEIGH
CAROL U. OZEMHOYA
DARRYL McNEILL
JEWEL McSWAIN
JERRY SAWYER
SHEILA STEWARTCIRCULATION
HILARY WOODARDADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
EMILY STEPPES
FELIX WHYTEGENERAL COUNSEL
WILLIAM JOHN GLASSERPROMOTIONS DIRECTOR
CURTIS MITCHELLSHOWCASE PRODUCER
DAVID DICKERSON
TOP FLOOR ENTERTAINMENT
8721 SANTA MONICA BLVD.
L.A. CA 90069
(818) 905-0223PRINTING
PRISMA COLOR
BRIAN TURNER
(909) 989-9800

BRE (ISSN 1063-1011) is published weekly except one week in June, one week at Thanksgiving, one week at Christmas, and two weeks at New Years. **BRE NEWSSTANDS-BRE** is available at select Tower Records, World Book & News, LA, CA and other locations across the country. If unavailable in your area, your local newsstand can order copies directly through **BRE**. SUBSCRIPTION RATES: 1 Yr.-\$175; 2 YRS.-\$350. 1st Class & Canada-\$250; Overseas-\$350. Newsstand Price-\$3.00. Back issues \$1.50. **BRE** is not responsible for any unsolicited material. Cover and contents may not be reproduced in whole or in part without prior written permission. Second Class postage paid at Los Angeles, CA. POST-MASTER: Send Address changes to **BRE**, 2337 Roscomare #2 - 502, Los Angeles, CA 90077. Phone: (310) 440-2888 Fax: (310) 440-2895 Modem: (310) 440-2894

© Copyright 1996
PRINTED IN THE U.S.A.

20Th Anniversary

publisher's

More Than Just An Image

AS THE NEW POWER GENERATION emerges—no, not emerges, but jumps full steam into the workings of our industry, the established power pockets will find their future may quite well depend on how well they fuse with the new power pushing at their doors. This is not to say that the establishment is passé; on the contrary, they hold the reins strongly. But every leadership whether it be of a country, a company or an organization needs to plan for its succession—it needs to embrace and integrate the new power.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, NAACP, by its very name seems dated (maybe it should be National Association for the Advancement of Blacks (NAAB)...Afro-Americans (N triple A)...no, colored people works) and, indeed, its membership did not seem to reflect the new power. However, with the new blood of NAACP chairwoman Myrlie Evers-Williams, president/CEO Kweisi Mfume, and Image Awards chairman Joe Madison, there is an energized image developing that marries the wisdom and experience of this longtime civil rights organization once so vital to colored people to a drive to "venture forth into a new millennium united in our efforts to help create a better, more inclusive America."



To that end, the 27th NAACP Image Awards which had virtually stopped for the past two years were revived and tape this weekend in Pasadena for a Fox television airing April 23rd. Even though this is a major fund-raiser for them, the show and new impetus give hope that the strides made by the NAACP will not be lost but re-energized in a new, more powerful organization that is, indeed, more than an image.

BRE urges the new power generation to evaluate this organization with an open mind, give it its props, join it and give it new life. Were it not for the NAACP's actions, today might have been entirely different. **BRE**

Sidney Miller

BRE
7
APR. 5, 1996

EXEC STATS



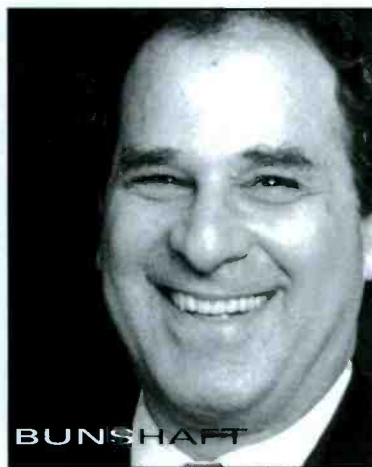
HARRELL



ANDERSON



JOUAN



BUNSHAFT

Gina Harrell has been appointed dir of video production for the Elektra Entertainment Group. Since '91, Ms Harrell has been working as a freelance producer, working with numerous directors including Kevin Bray and Diane Martel. Her production credits include clips featuring Method Man and Mary J. Blige, and Mariah Carey as well as videos for the Beastie Boys, Redman, Ol' Dirty Bastard and Cypress commercials for McDonalds, and Asics Sportswear and two short films for the PBS Series "Alive From Off Center."

Aaron Anderson is the newly appointed gen mgr of operations at G-Funk Music, Inc., the rap label owned by Warren G. distributed by Def Jam/Polygram. As general mgr, Andersons' duties include signing and developing talent, as well as overseeing the entire day to day operations of the record company. Prior to joining G-Funk Music, he was west coast A&R mgr for EastWest/Elektra where he managed A&R projects that included Kam and YoYo.

Pamela Jouan has been upped to assoc dir of promo for Atlantic Records. Jouan was most recently local promo mgr, based in L.A. In that position, which she had held since '92, She handled promotion activities in both the L.A. and San Francisco areas. She began her career in '89 at *Hitmakers*, where she worked up from an internship in the magazine's research department to vp, head of research. In '91, Jouan joined the promotion department

of Atlantic Records in L.A.

Bob Bunshaft was promoted to gen mgr of RhinoDirect, Rhino's newest division. He oversees Rhino's direct marketing efforts and is responsible for product fulfillment and customer service. Prior to his appointment, Bunshaft worked as a marketing consultant for Rhino and developed a three-year strategic plan that resulted in the formation of RhinoDirect. In addition to increasing sales through catalog acquisition and direct response television, Bunshaft will develop marketing strategies to make the internet a viable commercial channel.

Julie Farman has been appointed the head of media and artist relations at Revolution, formerly the Giant label. In this capacity, Farman will work with the label's artist to maximize exposure via print, electronic and new media. Additionally, she will be involved in all aspects of artist imaging, working in tandem with the label's marketing and A&R staff. Farman comes to Revolution after six years at Epic Records, most recently as sr dir media and artist relations. During her six years at Epic, she worked with a diverse roster of artists ranging from Pearl Jam to Sade as well as serving as a publicist on all Epic Soundtrax releases.

Phil Midiri is appointed assoc dir A&R admin, west coast for Sony Music. In this position, Midiri will be responsible for financial and contractual administration of video production and audio

recording projects for Sony Wonder's West Coast operations and various Sony Music recording projects. He will also be responsible for financial and administrative aspects of Sony Wonder's foreign licensing arrangements. Midiri will work closely with Sony Music's Business Affairs and Finance Departments to analyze and structure the financial framework of Sony Wonder video, audio, and book-and-tape projects.

Joan Fallon is promoted to sr dir promo operations at Arista Records. In this capacity, Fallon is responsible for the every day operations of the promotion department including administrative and financial duties. Most recently, Fallon served as dir, promo operations since '92. She started at Arista in '80 as a promo asst and other than for a brief period, has remained as nat'l promo coordinator and then dir promo oper.

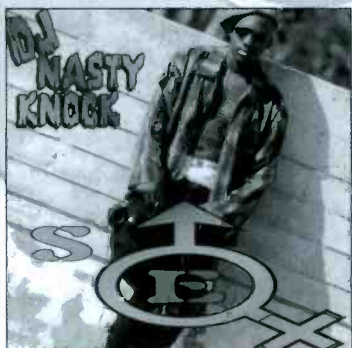
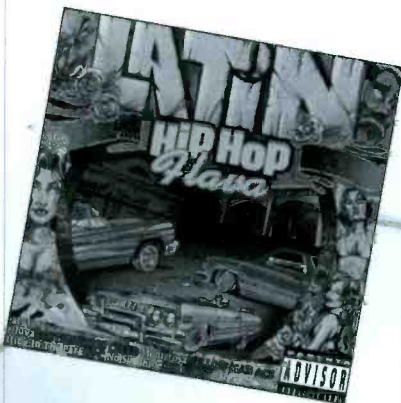
Jason Whittington is named dir of sales for Geffen Records. In his new post, Whittington will lead sales efforts for associated labels Almo Sounds, DreamWorks Records and Outpost Recordings. Whittington joined Geffen early in '88 as west coast regional sales mgr and was upped to the national post in '90. A native of southern California, he spent a year and a half in music retail before joining WEA Distribution Corp. in '78. During the next 10 years he worked his way through a variety of posts and was a WEA sales rep for the L.A. market when he left to join Geffen. **ERE**

**LABEL
ARTIST
SONG**

NEW MUSIC



- ARISTA** Whitney Houston—*Count On Me*
- DISCOVERY/WARNER** Doc Powell—*Laid Back*
- EASTWEST/EEG** Sa Deuce—*Sa Deuce*
- HOUSE OF BLUES** Paul Black & The Flip Kings—*King Dollar (Advance Release)*
John Mooney—*Against The Wall (Advance Release)*
The Gales Brothers—*Memphis Left Hand Brand*
Jimmy Rip—*Way Past Blue*
Various Artists—*House Of Blues Sampler Hot Biscuits*
- LAZ/CHURCHHILL YORK & COMRIE** Ken Lazarus—*Reflections*
- LOUD/RCA** Yvette Michelle—*Everyday & Everynight (Remix)*
- LUTHER CAMPBELL MUSIC/ISLAND** Luke—*Uncle Luke (Advance Release)*
- MCA** Passion—*Where I'm From*
Passion—*The Baller's Lady (Advance Release)*
- MOJAZZ/MOTOWN** Daryle Chin—*From The Heart*
- RCA** SWV—*You're The One*
Chantay Savage—*I Will Survive (Doin' It My Way)*
- RUFFHOUSE/COLUMBIA** Kris Kross—*Live And Die For Hip Hop*
- SO SO DEF/COLUMBIA** Xscape—*Can't Hang*
- SONY 550 MUSIC** Vernon Reid—*Mistaken Identity (Advance Release)*
- PAYDAY/FFRR** Various Artists—*Payday Representing The Streets*
- PRIORITY** Lil 1/2 Dead—*Steel On A Mission (Advance Release)*
Various Artists—*Latin Hip Hop Flava*
Heltah Skeltah & ... The Fab 5—*Leflaur Leflah Eshkoshka Part 2*
- RHYME SYNDICATE/PRIORITY** Ice-T—*VI Return Of The Real*
- STREET LIFE/SCOTTI BROS.** Yella—*One Mo Nigga Ta Go Dedicated To The Memory Of Eazy-E*
- CEE-LOW ENTERTAINMENT/212-268-2887** Energetic—*So Test Me*
- EVEJIM/213-292-3452** Leon Haywood—*Don't Worry Be Happy*
- INTERSOUND/404-664-9262** Deleon Richards—*Fountain Filled With Mercy*
- RAS/301-588-9641** Various Artists—*Ragga Mania Vol. 3*
Various Artists—*Ragga Mania Vol. 4*
Various Artists—*A Fashion Statement The Fashion Records Story*
- STREET STREET/407-362-5228** South Side Pride—*Hi De Ho*
DJ Nasty Knock—*Sex*



Billboard ALBUM CHART

Week Ending APRIL 5, '96

BULLETED ENTRIES INDICATE STRONG CHART MOVEMENT.
 ☆☆☆ REPRESENTS NEW ENTRY.

TW	LW	WOC	ARTIST	TITLE	LABEL	TW	LW	WOC	ARTIST	TITLE	LABEL
1	1	5	FUGEES	The Score (Ruffhouse/Columbia)		21	13	10	TERRY ELLIS	Southern Gal (EastWest/EEG)	
2	2	6	2PAC	All Eyez On Me (Deathrow/Interscope)		22	38	2	JESSE POWELL	Jesse Powell (Silas/MCA)	
3	6	7	VARIOUS ARTISTS	Music From The Motion Picture A Thin Line...(WB)		23	15	10	GROOVE THEORY	Groove Theory (Epic)	
4	4	9	VARIOUS ARTISTS	Waiting To Exhale Soundtrack (Arista)		24	25	3	THE DANGEROUS CREW	Don't Try This At Home (Dangerous/Jive)	
5	5	9	D'ANGELO	Brown Sugar (EMI)		25	27	3	PURE SOUL	Pure Soul (StepSun/University/Interscope)	
6	12	4	COOLIO	Gangsta's Paradise (Tommy Boy)		26	28	10	LL COOL J	Hey Lover (Def Jam/RAL)	
7	7	10	R. KELLY	R. Kelly (Jive)		27	☆☆	☆☆	PRINCE	Girl 6 Soundtrack (WB)	
8	8	10	QUINCY JONES	Q's Jook Joint (Qwest/WB)		28	18	4	SUGA T	Paper Chasin' (Sik Wid It/Jive)	
9	☆☆	☆☆	RAPPIN' 4-TAY	Off Parole (Chrysalis/EMI)		29	33	4	GEORGE HOWARD	Attitude Adjustment (GRP)	
10	11	10	MARIAH CAREY	Daydream (Columbia/CRG)		30	30	10	SILK	Silk (Elektra/EEG)	
11	9	9	THA DOGG POUND	Dogg Food (Death Row/Interscope)		31	31	10	IMMATURE	We Got It (MCA)	
12	21	3	CHANTAY SAVAGE	I Will Survive (RCA)		32	34	2	GHETTO TWINZ	Surrounded By Criminals (Big Boy)	
13	14	10	GOODIE MOB	Soul Food (LaFace/Arista)		33	32	10	SOLO	Solo (Perspective/A&M)	
14	3	9	VARIOUS ARTISTS	Don't Be A Menace...(Island)		34	29	10	FAITH EVANS	Faith (Bad Boy/Arista)	
15	16	9	THE TONY RICH PROJECT	Words (LaFace/Arista)		35	35	10	JODECI	The Show, The After Party, The Hotel (Uptown/MCA)	
16	17	3	CONSCIOUS DAUGHTERS	Gamers (Priority)		36	36	10	BONE THUGS-N-HARMONY	E. 1999 Eternal (Ruthless/Relativity)	
17	10	9	KRIS KROSS	Young, Rich And Dangerous (Ruffhouse/Columbia)		37	39	9	XSCAPE	Off The Hook (So So Def/Columbia/CRG)	
18	19	7	EIGHTBALL & MJG	On Top Of The World (Suave/Relativity)		38	☆☆	☆☆	GENIUS/GZA	Liquid Swords (Geffen)	
19	20	6	WIL DOWNING	Moods (Mercury)		39	☆☆	☆☆	FAT JOE	Jealous One's Envy (Violator/Relativity)	
20	23	8	EAZY-E	Str8 Off Tha Streetz Of Compton (Ruthless/Relativity)		40	☆☆	☆☆	BUSTA RHYMES	The Coming (Flipmode/Violator/EEG)	

Jackson Limousines

quality service

Ask Lyne; she can vouch for it.



(800) 522-9955 * (213) 734-9955 * fax (213) 291-2669 5917 west boulevard los angeles, california 90043 owner e. j. jackson

JAZZ ALBUMS

BULLETED ENTRIES INDICATE STRONG CHART MOVEMENT.
 ☆☆☆ REPRESENTS NEW ENTRY.

TW	LW	ARTIST	TITLE	LABEL
1	2	ELLIS & BRANFORD MARSALIS	Loved Ones (Columbia/CRG)	
2	4	TERENCE BLANCHARD	The Heart Speaks (Columbia/CRG)	
3	5	JIMMY MCGRIFF & HANK CRAWFORD QUARTET	Blues Groove (Telarc Int'l)	
4	1	HENRY BUTLER	For All Seasons (Atlantic)	
5	8	CRAWFORD QUARTET	Contemporary Blues Groove (Telarc Int.)	
6	10	WESSELL ANDERSON	The Ways Of Warm Daddy (Atlantic)	
7	7	THE WALLACE RONEY QUINTET	The Wallace Roney Quintet (WB)	
8	11	SHIRLEY HORN	The Main Ingredient (Verve)	
9	13	BENNY CARTER	Songbook (Music Masters)	
10	15	TEODROSS AVERY	My Generation (Impulse)	
11	18	JACKY TERRASSON	Reach (Blue Note)	
12	☆☆	HERBIE HANCOCK	The New Standard (Verve)	
13	14	GONZALO RUBALCABA	Gonzalo Rubalcaba In The U.S.A. (Blue Note)	
14	16	JOE SAMPLE	Old Places Old Faces (WB)	
15	17	ANTOINE RONEY	Whirling (Muse)	
16	9	BARBARA DENNERLEIN	Take Off (Verve)	
17	6	VARIOUS ARTISTS	Colossal Saxophone Sessions (Evidence)	
18	3	BOBBY MCFERRIN	Banglzoom (Blue Note/Contemporary)	
19	☆☆	CASSANDRA WILSON	New Moon Daughter (Blue Note)	
20	☆☆	PHAROAH SANDERS QUARTET	Welcome To Love (Evidence)	

CONTEMPORARY JAZZ

BULLETED ENTRIES INDICATE STRONG CHART MOVEMENT.
 ☆☆☆ REPRESENTS NEW ENTRY.

TW	LW	ARTIST	TITLE	LABEL
1	1	BONEY JAMES	Seduction (Warner Bros.)	
2	5	AVENUE BLUE F/ JEFF GOBB	Naked City (Bluemoon)	
3	4	GEORGE HOWARD	Attitude Adjustment (GRP)	
4	5	CRAIG CHAQUICO	A Thousand Pictures (Higher Octave)	
5	6	COUNT BASIC	Movin In The Right Direction (Instinct)	
6	3	OLETA ADAMS	Moving On (Mercury)	
7	8	TORCUATO MARIANO	Last Look (Windam Hill)	
8	11	SPECIAL EFX F/ G. JINDA & C. MINUCCI	Body Language (JVC)	
9	7	BOB MAMET	Day Into Night (Atlantic)	
10	10	MARC ANTOINE	Urban Gypsy (NYC)	
11	12	NAJEE	Songs From The Key Of Life.. (EMI)	
12	13	RUSS FREEMAN & THE RIPPINGTONS	Brave New World (GRP)	
13	9	VARIOUS ARTISTS	Waiting To Exhale Sdtrk (Arista)	
14	☆☆	HERBIE HANCOCK	The New Standard (Verve)	
15	16	ED HAMILTON	Planet Jazz (Telarc Int'l)	
16	☆☆	DOC POWELL	Laid Back (Discovery)	
17	17	RANDY CRAWFORD	Naked And True (Bluemoon)	
18	18	QUINCY JONES	Quincy's Jook Joint (Qwest)	
19	20	VIBRAPHONIC	Vibraphonic 2 (Acid Jazz)	
20	☆☆	LIONEL RICHIE	Louder Than Words (Mercury)	

JAZZ Notes

The Best Dreams

Pieces of A Dream, celebrating 20 years in the music business, has just dropped *The Best Of* disk on Blue Note Records. The group, which combines elements of funk, urban contemporary and traditional jazz, have also reunited for a nationwide tour this summer. The LP features not only classic POD selections such as "Round Midnight," "Warm Weather" and "Mt. Airy Groove," but also new compositions. Among them: the first single, "For You," an instrumental version of Paul McCartney's "My Love," and "The Cool Side."



Pieces of A Dream

Ferguson Funds School Band



Maynard Ferguson

Jazz legend **Maynard Ferguson** will make his only '96 Southern California appearance at the Probst Theatre in Thousand Oaks on May 31. Proceeds from the event will help fund the ongoing band and pageantry program at Newbury Park High School. Ferguson has been performing jazz for more than 50 years. One of his most famous recordings is "Gonna Fly Now," the theme from the motion picture "Rocky."

The Doc's Prescription

Santa Monica-based Discovery Records/CGR Prods. has signed Grammy nominated guitarist/producer/arranger **Doc Powell**. As a session musician, Powell rose to renown and earned the name "The Doctor" as a fixture in Luther Vandross' recording and touring band. He also has performed with such heavyweights as **Quincy Jones, Aretha Franklin, and George Duke**.

Plans call for Discovery to release Powell's third project, "Laid Back" on April 16. A contemporary jazz collection, the LP features performances by bassists **Stanley Clarke** and **Marcus Miller**, percussionist **Sheila E.**, flautist/saxophonist **Najee**, soprano saxophonist **Boney James**, keyboardist **Patrice Rushen**, pianist **Bobby Lyle** and tenor saxophonists **Gerald Albert** and **Kirk Whalum**.



Doc Powell

Easter Jazz

Los Angeles' El Rey Theatre will host an Easter Sunday Jazz Buffet featuring **Lorez Alexandria**, drummer **Clarence Johnston**, guitarist **Doug McDonald**, and **Art Hillary** on piano. **Chuck Niles** from KLON-FM will host the two shows, one at 12:30 PM, then at 4 PM. For information, call 213-299-1378. BRE

VIDEO VISIONS

BY FOSTER V. CORDER

Who's Shooting What

Def Jam artist **Foxy Brown** teamed up with Blunt recording artist **Mic Geronimo** on location of his latest video, "Wherever You Are." Look for both the single and video to drop this month...Priority recording artist **Ras Kass** just wrapped his video "Miami Life" from the soundtrack *The Substitute*. **Louis**

and **ABC** to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. National Holiday. The clip also features 12-year-old AIDS awareness activist **Hydeia Broadbent** and was shot at Hollywood High in L.A...EMI artist **AZ** has completed a double video drama, "Doe or Die/Mo' Money." Directed by **Joseph Kahn** and conceptualized by AZ, the video recounts

Photo By Jumannne



Foxy Brown and Mic Geronimo.

Nader directed...Another Priority act, **Me & My Cousin** shot their video for their single "Smooth" recently in L.A.

Cameo's **Larry Blackmon** made an appearance (the song samples the group)...**Michael Bivens**, Biv 10/Motown president and CEO, has spearheaded a video/single called "Stone Of Hope" featuring some 20 artists including **Chilli (TLC), Usher, Monica, Jason Weaver, Immature, Xscape, Subway, Soul IV Real,**



Photo By Mike Jones

L-R: Steve Harris (co-director), Ras Kass, Coolio, and Louis Nader.

the tales of a retired New York kingpin who has escaped the drug trade. The clip was shot on location in New York and Miami. The single also marks the first collective appearance of AZ's rhyme team: The Firm, AZ, Nas, Foxy Brown and Cormega. **BE**

BRE TOP 10

1. **Xavier**
"Saturday Song"
Interscope Records
Dir: Julian Temple
2. **D' Angelo**
"Lady"
EMI Records
Dir: Hype Williams
3. **The Pharcyde**
"Drop"
Delicious Vinyl/Capitol Records
Dir: Spike Janze
4. **The Tony Rich Project**
"Nobody Knows"
LaFace/Arista Records
Dir: Blue Woodrull
5. **Lionel Richie**
"I Don't Want To Lose You Now"
Mercury Records
Dir: Compiled By The American Music Awards
6. **Sanctified**
"Zoe" (with Ricky Harris)
Rev Run/Benson Records
Dir: Ricky Harris
7. **Total**
"No One Else"
Bad Boy/Arista
Dir: Hype Williams
8. **Whitney Houston & Ce Ce Winans**
"Count On Me"
Arista Records
Dir: Wayne Isham
9. **The Conscious Daughters**
"Gamers"
Priority Records
Dir: Shooting Star
10. **Hami**
"I'm Tha One Ya Slept On"
Underworld/Capitol Records
Dir: Darren Grant/Keith Ward

BE VIDEO REVIEWS

Passion
"Where I'm From"
MCA Records
Dir: **The Good Fellas**

It's a gangsta girl. If you're looking for a different looking female rapper, here she is. The Bay Area macktress looks great, wearing a derby for every wardrobe change. The dancing is not only great but well edited. This is a heavy rotation clip. **BE**

VIDEO PICK of the WEEK

Bahamadia
"True Honey Bun"
Chrysalis Records
Dir: **Brian Luvar**

Let's take a taxi ride across town while Bahamadia tells you a story. This girl is so cool with her smooth laid-back style. The song is addressed to party girls, ones who give up their morals—and more—for the sake of hanging out with the stars. The groupie life ain't all it's cracked up to be. **BE**



Bahamadia

HIP HOP ERA

BY PAXTON MILLER

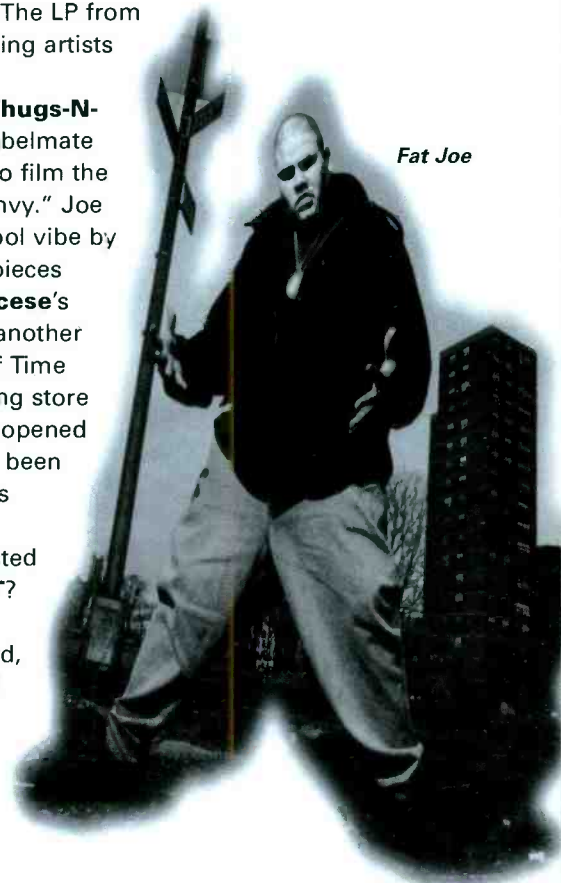
Rappers Rhyme Against AIDS



Eightball



MJG



Fat Joe

At Suave House, **Eightball & MJG** are about to shoot a video for the char-

side, "4th Chamber" features **Ghost Face Killer, Killah Priest** and **RZA**, who produced the songs...**Mad Skillz** held his LP release party at The Room in Los Angeles last week. The LP from the Big Beat recording artists is entitled *From Where???*...**Bone Thugs-N-Harmony** joined labelmate **Fat Joe** in Miami to film the music video for "Envy." Joe created an old school vibe by grabbing bits and pieces from **Martin Scorsese's** "Raging Bull." On another front, Fat Joe's Half Time South Bronx clothing store (560 Melrose Ave.) opened last winter and has been such a success, he's opening another in Manhattan...Interested in reaching **Suga T?** Write to her at P.O. Box 55854, Hayward, CA 94545. **ERE**

UNDERGROUND TOP 10

1. Fugees

The Score
Ruffhouse/Columbia

2. 2 Pac

All Eyez On Me
Death Row/Interscope

3. Busta Rhymes

The Coming
Flipmode/Violator/EEG

4. Smooth Da Hustler

Once Upon A Time In America
Profile

5. Rappin' 4-Tay

Off Parole
Rag Top/EMI

6. L.L. Cool J

Mr. Smith
Def Jam/RAL/Island

7. The Conscious Daughters

Gamers
Priority

8. The Click

Game Related
Sick Wid' It/Jive

9. Eightball & MJG

On Top Of The World
Suave House/Relativity

10. Kris Kross

Young, Rich And Dangerous
Ruffhouse/Columbia

itable compilation LP *Rap Against AIDS*, scheduled for a June 22 release on Elektra. Ball & G's contribution is the track "Listen To Me Now." The video will be directed by **Eric Meza**. Also at Suave, recording artist **Mr. Mike** from **South Circle** is currently cutting his debut LP, *Wick Ways*, in Houston. **Ice Cube** flew down to do a track last week. **Little Kim** from **Junior M.A.F.I.A.** is currently in the studio cutting her much-anticipated solo LP. She was also featured on **Skin Deep's** first single on Loose Cannon Records... **The Notorious B.I.G.** was arrested last week in New York for punching a fan...Ruthless recording artist **M.C. Ren** held his LP release party, thrown with the **Poetess** from L.A. radio station 92.3 Beat, at Rudolphos in Silverlake last week. The new LP is *The Villain In Black*...**The Genius/Gza** just keeps coming with the flavor. He's blowin' up the spot with his next single "Shadowboxin'" featuring Method Man. On the B-

RAP Pick Of The WEEK

L.A. Nash

"Car Busta U"

Menes Records

"Car Busta U" is definitely radio friendly and includes two mixes. It features the "Back Street" mix and an album version. The lyrics won't offend and the flow is tight. The hook features great background vocalists (Terry Stanton, Verline Beard and Daren Honeycutt), who create a nice melody. Each version sounds totally different from the other. The track was produced by James Allen and co-produced by Naser Baker (L.A. Nash). On the b-side is "Can' Find The Reason," a track worth a listen. **ERE**



MUSIC REVIEWS

Albums

Jazz

Doc Powell

Laid Back
Discovery/WEA

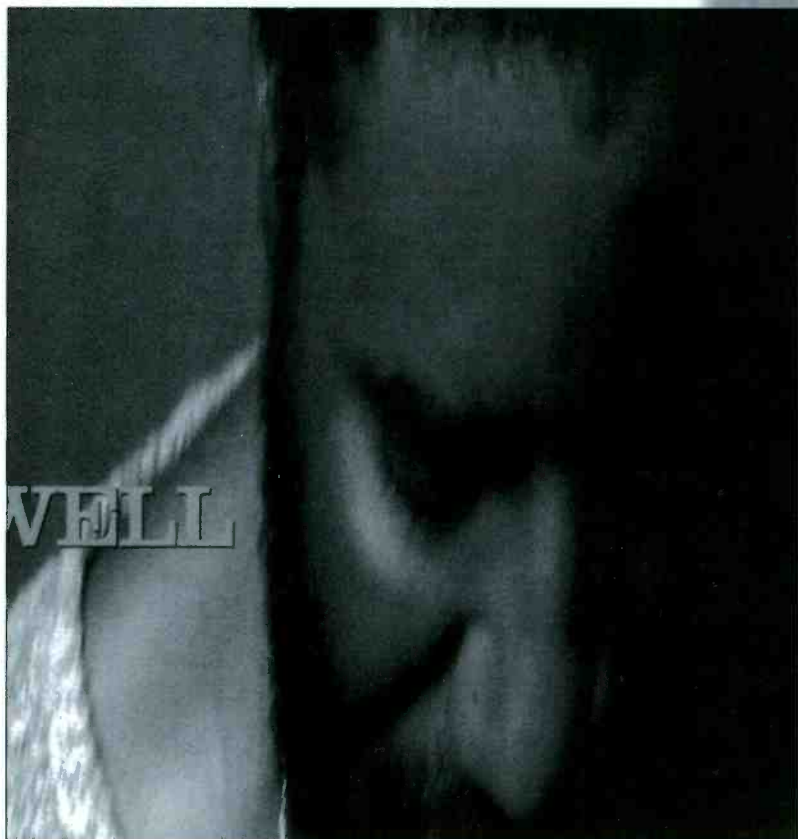
This is Doc Powell's debut release on the Discovery label. For *Laid Back* he assembled an all-star lineup, which includes Stanley Clarke, Marcus Miller, Sheila E., Boney James, Patrice Rushen, Bobby Lyle, Gerald Albright, and Kirk Whalum. Doc uses the album's 11 cuts as a forum for his unique guitar technique. The tracks range from fusion to soul-filled balladry. Doc plays such memorable melodic passages over scintillating grooves making *Laid Back* a satisfying listening experience that's nothing short of a jazz masterpiece. Demos: Jazz Fans — **Jerry Sawyer**

Rap

Yella

One Mo' Nigga To Go
Street Life/Scotti Bros.

On his debut solo release Yella pays tribute to his departed colleague and friend Eazy-E. The recent release of the album occurred on the one-year anniversary of Eazy's death. Yella's role on his album is to give an outlet for young, up and coming



rappers who are featured. Yella does appear on four cuts—"Dose Of Reality," "Neva Had A Chance," "So In Luv," "Not Long Ago." On the other tracks, you'll find some familiar artists including Dirty Red, Leicy Loc, BG Knocccout & Dresta, and Traci Nelson. The album's first single, "For tha E," is rapper Kokane's personal tribute to Eazy. The track reflects on what Eazy meant to individuals and his impact on society. Between songs, Yella uses interludes to incorporate shoutouts and feelings of Eazy's fans. *One Mo' Nigga To Go* generates the same feel of an Eazy-E album with its genuine lyrics about the hood. Demos: Rap Fans — **JS**

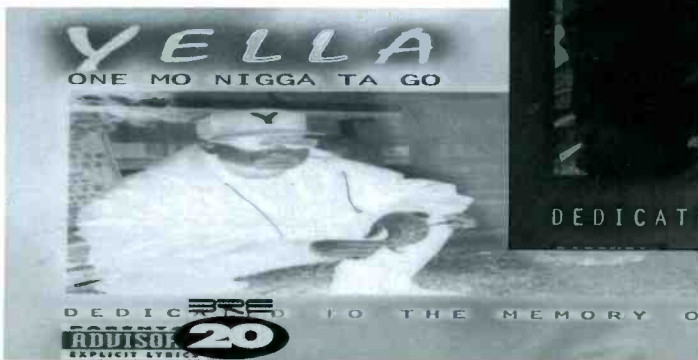
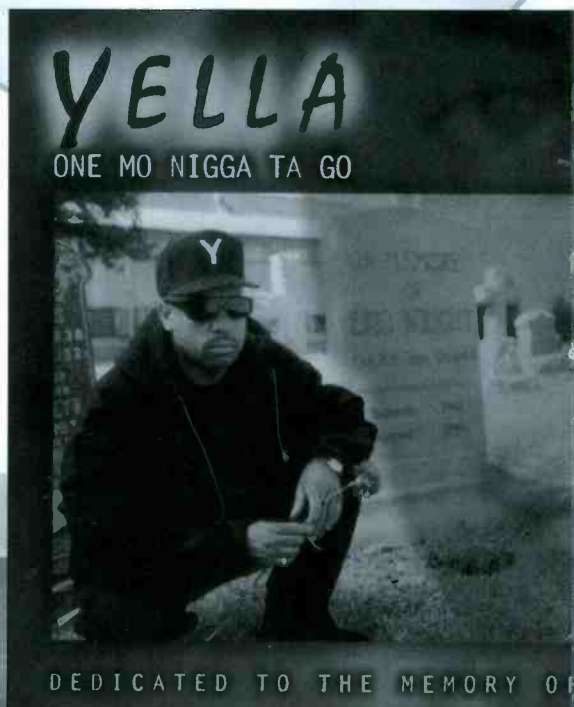
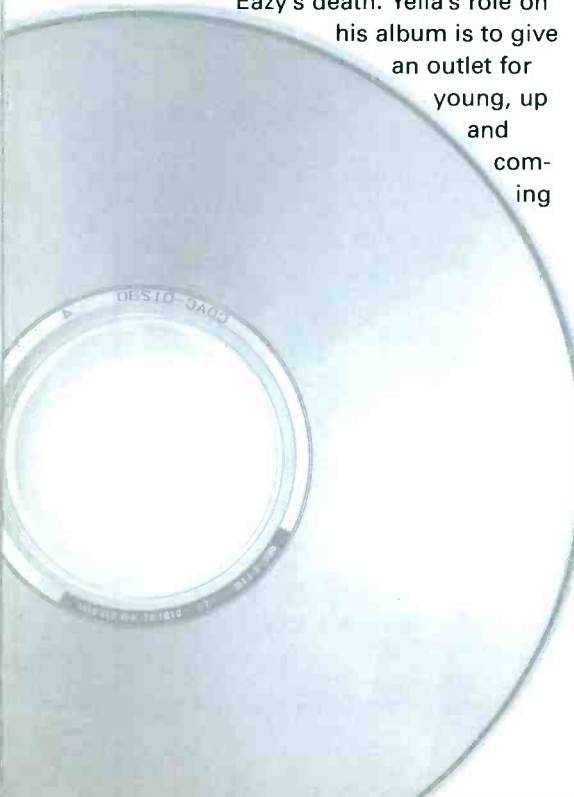
Ice-T

VI: Return Of The Real

Rhyme
Syndicate/Priority

Ice-T was one of the first rappers on the west coast to become established and receive props from the rest of the nation. Even after he gained superstar status as a rapper and actor, he kept his lyrics real, straight from the streets. His latest release is no exception; *VI: Return Of The Real* is 16 tracks of Ice-T at his best. The first single, "I Must Stand," is Ice's message to the youth, advising them to learn from the mistakes of the

past. Other tracks to listen for include "Pimp Anthem," "Return Of The Real," "How Does It Feel," "Syndicate 4 Ever," "Forced To Do Dirt." Demos: Rap Fans — **JS**



Reggae

Ken Lazarus

Reflections

Lazreè

In the late '60s and early '70s Ken Lazarus was considered one of Jamaica's most prolific artists. During this period he accomplished what few artists are able to do—being successful producing, arranging, and performing. As a veteran of Ska and one of reggae's pioneers, he was able to take the music to a point that was nouveau for the time. Now comes *Reflections*, 21 tracks of Lazarus at his best. The LP should help him regain his reign. Among the tracks to listen for include "Cecelia," "Give Peace A Chance," "Games Lovers Play," "Tonight," and "Love And Peace." Demos: Reggae Fans —JS

Singles

Rap

Energetic

"So Test Me"

Cee-Low Entertainment

Solo rapper Energetic has put out a mellow track with a smooth rap. Hip-hop beats accompany Energetic's hard-core rhyme style. Reminiscent of MC Eiht, Energetic raps with cool confidence on a tune sure to be popular among rap enthusiasts.

Demos: 18-24 —Jewel McSwain

Mack 10 F/Ice Cube

"Hoo Bangin'"

Priority

This Ice Cube-produced track is the first release from the upcoming Live Entertainment motion picture "The Substitute," starring Tom Berenger. Cube and 10 have become a popular duo, teaming up for tracks off Mack 10's debut and WC & The Maad Circle's *Curb*

Servin'. "Hoo Bangin'" is more west

coast gangsta funk. 10 takes center stage on the track with his distinct vocal style while

Cube compliments his delivery with his input

on the hook. This track

is already popular

the west coast and

growing nationwide.

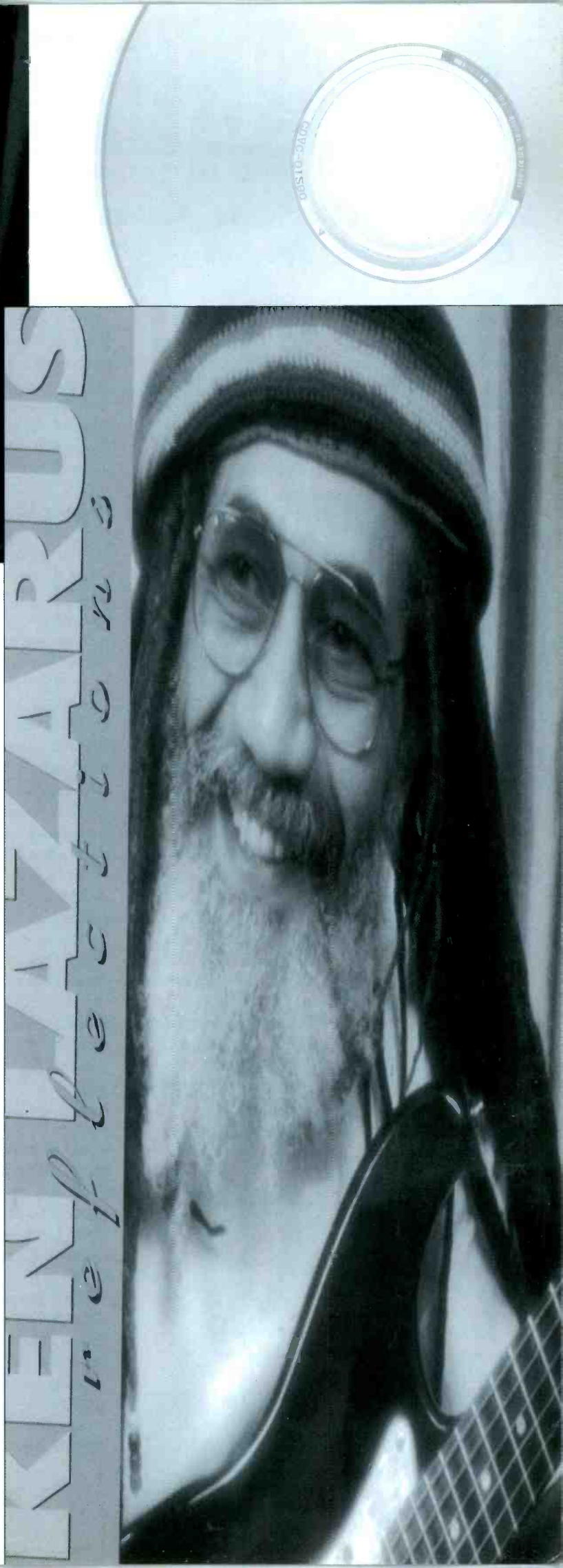
Demos: Rap Fans —

JS

EAZY-E



APR. 5, 1996



GOSPEL CONNECTIONS

BY JEROME CRITE

Commission Connects with Boyz II Men

Benson urban/gospel super group **Commissioned** is getting a helping hand from **Shawn Stockman** and **Wanya Morris** of **Boyz II Men**. Recently, the duo joined Commissioned in the studio for production work on two cuts for their upcoming LP, *Irreplaceable Love*. Stockman wrote and produced the title cut "Irreplaceable," while Morris co-wrote the ballad "They Must Know." ...**DeLeon Richards**, 19, is Intersound's latest

songstress. Her debut LP is entitled *My Life*. On this LP, she worked with hit producers **Fred Hammond** (Commissioned, Radical For Christ), **Jerry Peters**, **Oliver Wells**, **Michael Anthony Taylor**, **Percy Body** and **Noel**

Hall. Her production is top notch and her vocals make for the coming of the next great gospel singer...Warner Alliance recording artist **O'Landa Draper & The Associates** are back with a new LP entitled *Gotta Feelin'* that will be in stores April 9. The first two singles are "Gotta Feelin'" and "His Blood Washes Me," which were recorded live in Chicago at the Bismarck Hotel/Palace Theatre. The LP was produced by Laythan Armor and remixed by John Jaszcz and Dan Cleary at Cloudburst Prods...West Angeles Church of God In Christ held an Easter Walk-a-Thon for Youth Unity. An estimat-

ed 3,000 youths walked. The event was designed to remind youth to stop car jacking and drive-bys.

Bishop Charles E. Blake hosted the political and community leaders welcoming the live performance by rap artists **Fros't**, **Dreame** and **MC Captain Jack**...GospoCentric recording artist **Kirk Franklin** recently taped the NAACP Image Awards Show in Pasadena, CA. He also recently performed at the NARM convention in Washington, D.C...Be on the look out for the next LP from **Kurt Carr Singers**. It will be recorded between May and July. One of the songs they have already been performing live is "Do You Know Him? It's sure to be on the new LP...Warner Alliance recording artist **Carlton Pearson** will host the first ever satellite revival service for Azusa '96, scheduled for April 18-20. Azusa will be celebrating 90 years of classical Pentecostalism in America. The service will join over 150 churches nationwide in this live revival service. Some of the participants in this event will be **O'Landa Draper and The Associates**, **Andrae Crouch**, **Beverly Crawford**, **Donnie McClurkin**, **CeCe Winans**, **Daryl Coley** and the 500-voice **Azusa Mass Choir**...GospoCentric recording artist **La More** is currently on the road with the recording group **Out Of Eden**. Also, **Lawrence Matthews'** new LP, *All That I Have*, dropped March 19. The LP is in light rotation at WOWI on the Quiet Storm format in Norfolk. Songs that programmers are playing are "Be Encouraged," "I Will Praise Him," "Jesus Be A Fence," and "I'm Waiting" ...**The Full Gospel Conference Mass Choir** video was released April 4 and all of "Bishop's Sermonettes" will be included as it appears on the LP...**Kevin Davidson** and **the Voices of Binghampton Mass Choir** performed to a sell-out crowd for the annual Bobby Jones' Gospel Explosion. The extravaganza was held at the War Memorial Auditorium in Nashville. Along with the Voices were such award-winning artists as **Albertina Walker**, **William Becton**, **Beverly Crawford** and **Vicki Winans**. After the Explosion, the Voices were special guests at the Midnight Musical, an event produced by **Rev. Charles House** of Fisk University and New Haven Records at the Greater Revelation Baptist Church...The United Gospel Industry Council is hosting Gospel Renaissance '96 April 26 and 27 in Nashville on the campus of Tennessee State University. The Renaissance consists of two days of seminars, panel discussions and classes designed to equip and inform participants in the areas of radio retail, distribution deals, print, television, promotions, and management. For more info, call Demetrus Alexander at 615-214-1410. **BRE**



Picture in the studio (standing L-R) Commissioned group members Karl Reid, Marvin Sapp, Montrell Darrett and Mitchell Jones. (Seated L-R) Commissioned's Maxx Frank and Shawn Stockman.

GOSPEL Album Of The WEEK

Full Gospel Baptist Fellowship Mass Choir

A New Thing...Experience The Fullness
GospoCentric Records

At the second Full Gospel Baptist Convention in New Orleans last summer, the best in gospel music came out to record. This 10-track LP features such well-known gospel artists as Byron Cage, Daryl Coley, Kirk Franklin, Bebe Winans, Ann Nesby, Michael Hubbard and Larry Trotter. Produced by Jeffrey LaValley and Buster & Shavoni, one highlight of the LP are the sermonettes sandwiched in between each song, which take you straight to church. **BRE**



BRE
22
APR. 5, 1995

GOSPEL

CAPSULE

Gospel Capsule

Who: Shirley Caesar

Current LP: *Shirley Caesar Live...He Will Come*

Also Known As: "The First Lady of Gospel"



Shirley Caesar

Albums Records: 30 to date

More Than Gold: Three albums

40 And Counting: Caesar has been in gospel for more than four decades

Awards: Eight Grammys, eight Dove and 10 Stellar

Latest Grammy: Best Contemporary Gospel Album for *Shirley Caesar Live...He Will Come*

Latest Performance: The Grammy Awards Show performing "Heaven"

Church Family: Pastors Mount Calvary Holy Church in Raleigh, NC.

Stewardship: Organizing and implementing a variety of community outreach programs aimed at giving tangible, material assistance to hurting people. Caesar also throws a major gospel convention every year that draws thousands.

Spiritual Dimension: "Everything I do has a spiritual purpose to it. Everything," she says. "The Grammys, the albums, the videos...they all give me the chance to minister to that many more people. These are all powerful vehicles to touch people far beyond my capacity to reach them one-on-one and hopefully change hearts and lead people to the Lord to motivate them to take up responsibility to care for one another."

Hits Broadway: Caesar is performing in the Broadway play "Born To Sing!"

Superstar Protégés: Whitney Houston, CeCe Winans and Hezekiah Walker **BRE**

Lionel Richie: Talking Loud And Saying Plenty

Today, Lionel Richie is *Jerry McQuire*.

Just like that man in the classic "Twilight Zone" TV episode who has the ability to change his face at will, for Richie, aliases are routine.

He has one at his bank, uses one whenever he makes a collect phone call, assumes yet another when he buys a plane ticket. He's not star-tripping, and the assumed handles are not simply to avoid the average fan. "It's for the mailman who suddenly discovers he's delivering mail to Lionel Richie's house," Richie says, explaining his ritual. "Or the operator on the MasterCard line who realizes she's got my credit card number. Believe me, I'm not complaining—I'm one of the luckiest people on the planet. But sometimes you have to do unnatural things just to keep your life normal."

Indeed. So today, while camped in a luxurious New York City hotel suite—he's in town to tackle a small part as a bartender in the Denzel Washington/Whitney Houston Disney film due in December, "The Preacher's Wife"—*Lionel Richie is Jerry McQuire*.

However, any old stranger seeking the real Lionel can find him on *Louder Than Words*. His first album in four years and his debut on the Mercury label (*Back To Front*, his latest album, was essentially a greatest hits package of his Motown hits), according to Richie, the project is a clear reflection of the challenges life has presented him in the past few years.

"I guess you could say it took me 15 years to record this album, says Richie. "I say that because it took me that long to get this far, and that long to be able to say some of the things I say on this album."

Louder Than Words was created during some of the most volatile times of Richie's life. His marriage to Brenda Richie ended. In 1990 his father died. A close friend was taken by AIDS. While the album certainly isn't a somber affair, there is no question that a bit of Richie's

soul lies somewhere in each of the songs. "You're talking to a guy who had never really experienced loss on a major level," says Richie. "I was glad to be able to put my feelings, the good and the sad, into this record. You know, it's funny how life is. Certain things can tap you on the shoulder and say, 'You're mortal, fella.' All the Grammy Awards in the world couldn't bring back my father. All the money I've ever earned couldn't save my friend from this dreadful illness. And being Mr. Lionel Richie couldn't save my marriage. Those thoughts are part of what this album is all about."

As if those things weren't emotionally taxing enough, in 1992 the artist learned he developed polyps on his throat. There existed the very real possibility that, after surgery, Richie might not sing again. "My doctor told me, 'Well, let's put it this way, if things don't work out, you can always *write*.' He tried to ease my mind by saying, 'Hey, this surgery is routine.' I said, 'Doc, routine surgery is surgery on your throat.'"

With a successful operation behind him, Richie dealt with his assorted personal woes while yet another professional anxiety loomed: What kind of record to make? His last album of original material, *Dancing On The Ceiling*, was back in 1986. A lot had changed in music since then. Rumors quickly circulated in the industry that Richie had come up against a creative wall that he couldn't scale.

"I did do some thinking about the situation," Richie now admits. "I went back to my childhood home at Tuskegee University to meditate. I looked back on my career and thought, 'You never tried to follow anyone's lead, you've always done your own thing. So why start now?' I've avoided the word 'hip' because it means today and *only* today."

Richie's thoughts were reaffirmed when, while backstage at a Bobby Brown concert, he men-

tioned to a rapper that he was considering using rap on his next album. "He said, 'Why? You the man with the melody. We checkin' for *you*.' I knew then that I had to do my thing."

Even so, to help him explore new territory within his "thing," Richie called on other hitmakers. Jimmy Jam and Terry Lewis who produced three tracks—the sentimental "Don't Wanna Lose You," "Say I Do," a sweet, intimate ballad, and the funky '90's-style urban jam, "I Wanna Take You Down." When it is suggested

that the latter sounds like a marked attempt to be current, Richie has a ready answer. "Well, what people forget is that I'm the same guy who performed (Commodores tunes) 'Slippery When Wet,' 'Too Hot To Trot,' and 'Brick House,' I'm no stranger to funk. When I went to Minneapolis to work with Jam and Lewis, once in the studio they said, 'Richie say *Ow*.' I said, 'Man, I've done that stuff before.' And they said, "But just say it into the microphone for us.' I did, and young employees came from all over the complex. Jam said, 'See, people have been waiting for years for *that* Lionel to come back.' That's where "I Wanna Take You Down" comes from."

For "Climbing," an ethereal track, he called on David Foster to co-produce. "That song is definitely one of the most different things I've done," says Richie. "I see it as my 'Sergeant Pepper.'"

"Ordinary Girl" is the result of Richie's collaboration with Kenny "Babyface" Edmonds. "I remember 'Face always used to credit me with being an influence and I appreciated that. When we finally got to work, everything just flowed. I perfectly understand the whole 'Face phenomenon. You see, he's one of the only guys out here among the new generation writing *melodies*. And he gives you arrangements. Most of these kids are just giving

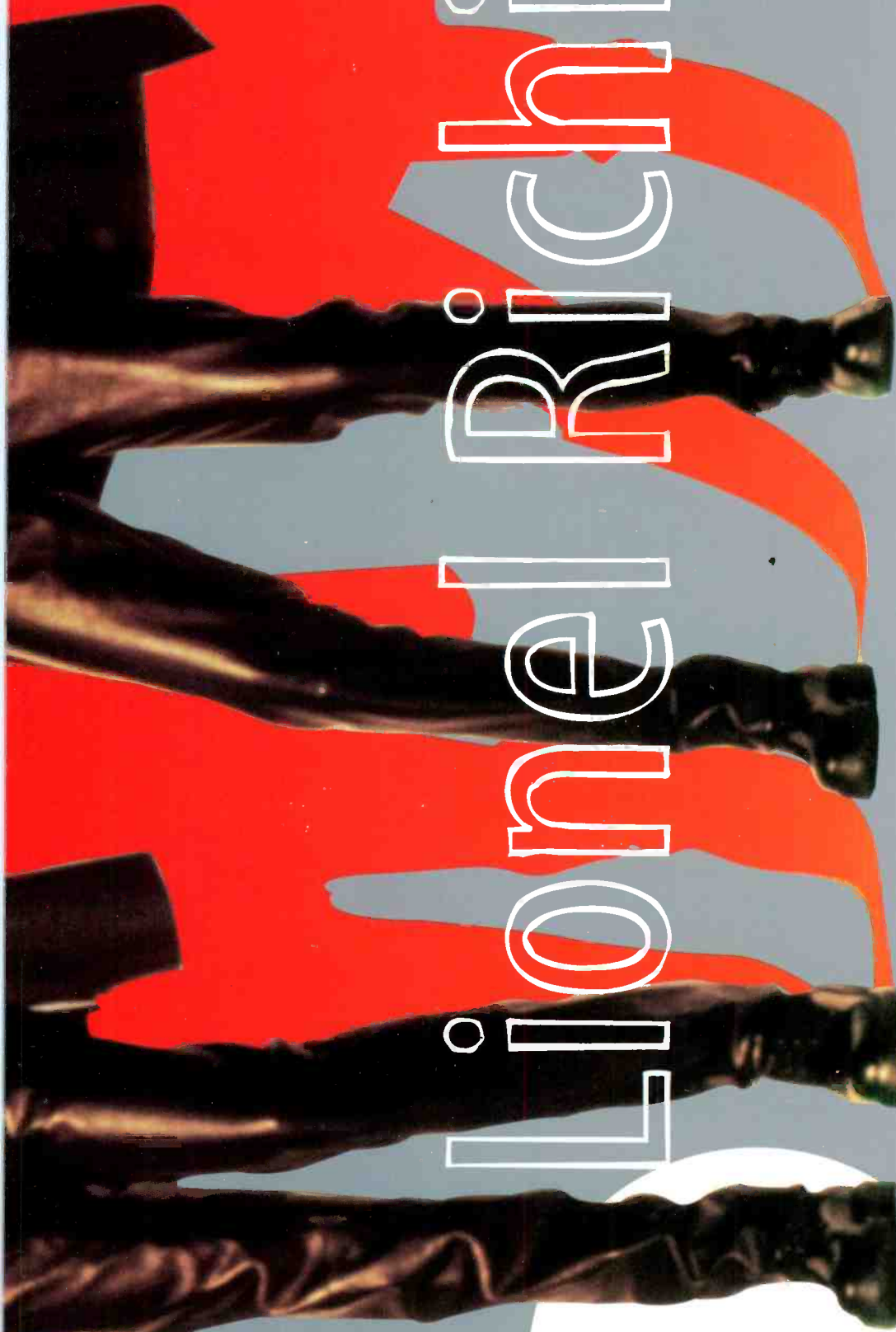
COVER
STORY

BRB
STORY

By Steven Ivory



Lionel Richie



you grooves. I can remember being honored at one of those songwriting awards ceremonies, when Sammy Cahn and Henry Mancini—two of the greatest songwriters pop music has ever known—both came over to me and said, 'Keep writing melodies, that's what great songs are all about.' I couldn't believe those two giants were congratulating little ol' me, but I never forgot those words."

The rest of the *Louder Than Words* tracks—among them the airy, jazzy "Lovers At First Sight" (featuring Richie on sax, the instrument he used to play during the early days of the Commodores); the soulful, introspective "Change" and classic-bound tracks "Still

In Love" and "Can't Get Over You"—were co-produced with Richie by his longtime production partner James Anthony

Carmichael, who has worked on all of the Commodores LPs and Richie's solo LPs. The two first met in Los Angeles in 1970.

"The Commodores hadn't signed with Motown yet," Richie recalls. "We'd opened for the Jackson 5 at the Hollywood Bowl and stayed in L.A. the next week just hanging out. I went down to watch the Jacksons record, and I noticed everyone was coming to this Carmichael guy for advice: the musicians, the engineer. I thought he was the producer; I didn't know he was simply the arranger. But he was in total control. I said to myself, 'Now, *that's* the guy I want in the studio with me.' We invited him to produce the first Commodores album, and he and I have been together ever since."

Richie calls Carmichael, a low-profile country preacher kind of fellow who shuns the spotlight, his musical rock. "With success comes arrogance and ego," says Richie. "That's when you need people of integrity around you. For me, Carmichael is that guy. He's the one who will say, 'Yeah, it's

a good song now, Rich, but if you work on it a couple more weeks it'll be a *great* song. Here's a guy who turned down the chance to produce both Barbra Streisand and Kenny Rogers. This is a guy who hates the limelight so much that he wouldn't show up at the Grammys to get his own award. He's real and he's honest. Everyone needs somebody like him by their side."

If the reticent Carmichael *would* speak, he'd no doubt wax sentimentally about watching Richie go from being a Commodore to being *the* Commodore; of Richie's rise to prominence as one of the greatest pop songwriters in the history of the

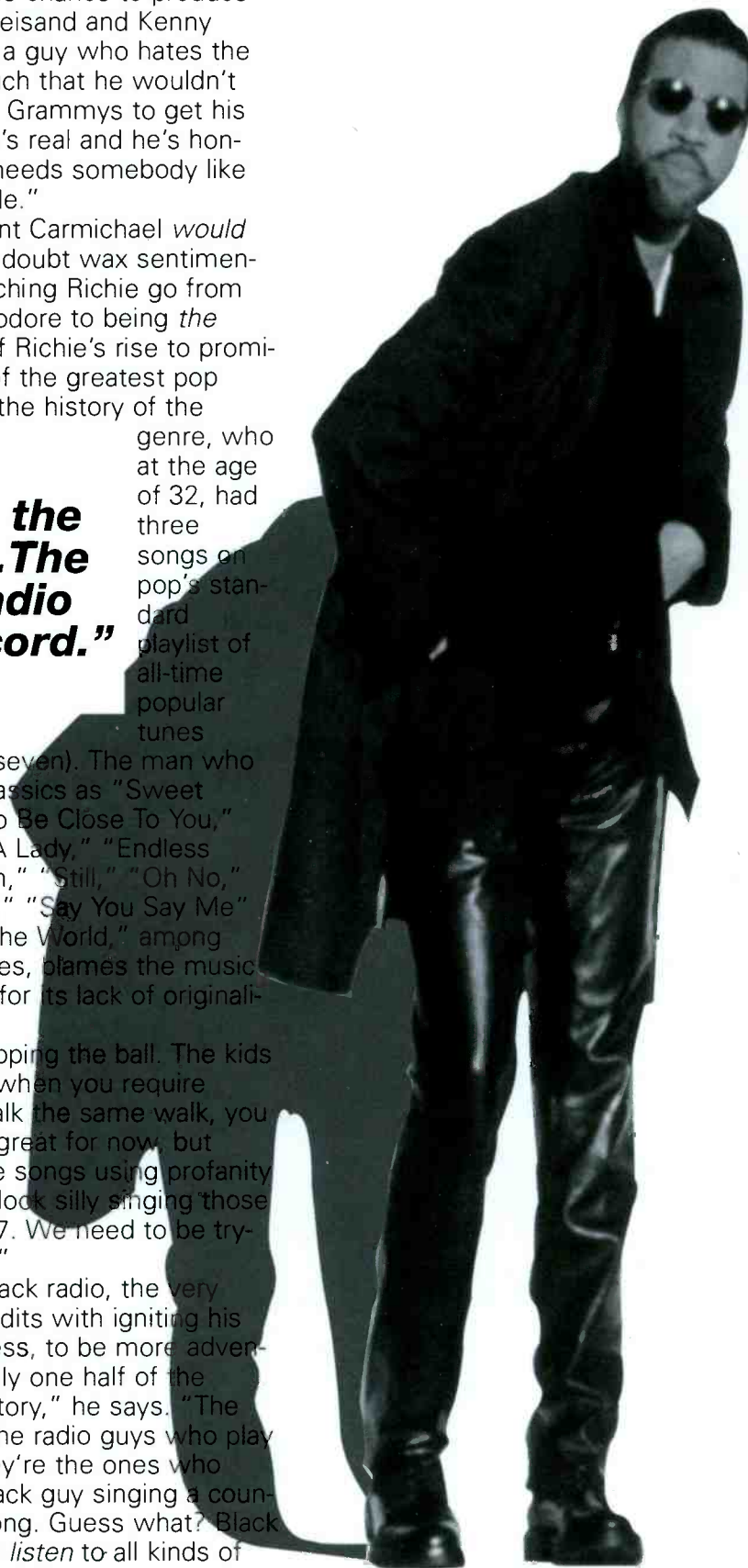
genre, who at the age of 32, had three songs on pop's standard playlist of all-time popular tunes

(today, he has seven). The man who crafted such classics as "Sweet Love," "Just To Be Close To You," "Three Times A Lady," "Endless Love," "Sail On," "Still," "Oh No," "Truly," "Hello," "Say You Say Me" and "We Are The World," among other great tunes, blames the music business itself for its lack of originality.

"We're dropping the ball. The kids are gifted, but when you require everyone to walk the same walk, you kill genius. It's great for now, but when you write songs using profanity at age 18, you look silly singing those songs at age 37. We need to be trying to develop."

He urges black radio, the very medium he credits with igniting his meteoric success, to be more adventurous. "I'm only one half of the Lionel Richie Story," he says. "The other half are the radio guys who play the record. They're the ones who dared play a black guy singing a country-sounding song. Guess what? Black folks *make* and *listen* to all kinds of music. We need to embrace it all." **ERE**

"I'm only one half of the Lionel Richie Story...The other half are the radio guys who play the record."



FLIX

BRE
MAGAZINE



Awesome Threesome

Dallas Austin, Treach and Monica pooled their talents to record a single on the soundtrack for the new Eddie Murphy flick, "The Nutty Professor."

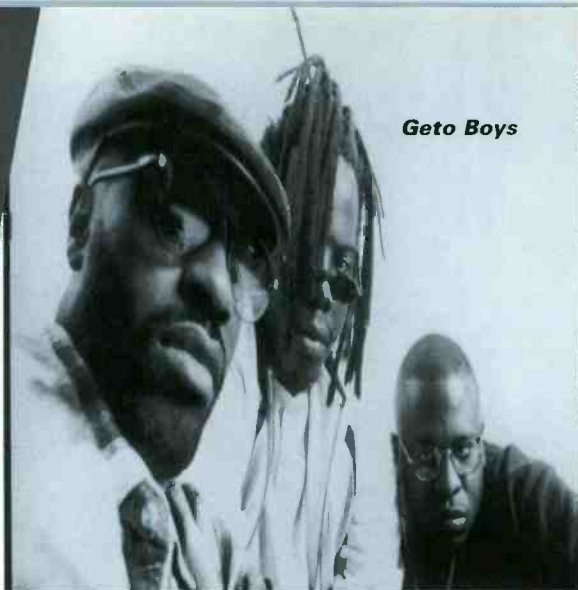
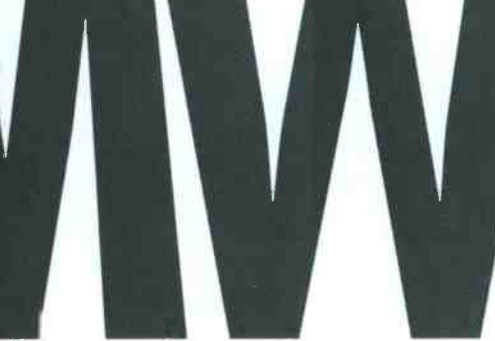
A Phat Evening of Jazz

ASCAP, in conjunction with Dark Gable Entertainment and Phat & Jazzy Prods., is hosting the 1996 Jazz Series which happens every Tuesday at Atlas Bar & Grill in Los Angeles. Spotted at the kick-off recently were: L to R, Jewel McSwain, BRE Magazine; Ernie Singleton, Ruthless Records; Emily Steppes, BRE and Alonzo Robinson, ASCAP.



Dream Team

The legendary jazz ensemble Pieces Of A Dream recently hooked up with Spike Lee at a gala in NYC to help raise funds for the Jackie Robinson Foundation. Pictured left to right: POD members, Curtis Harmon and Cedric Napoleon, Spike Lee, James Lloyd, POD. BRE



Geto Boys



Radio Reporters

ILLINOIS

WBCP-AM,

Sam Briton

Champaign, (217) 359-1580

WBML-FM, Andre Farmer

Urbana, (217) 333-2613

WGCI-FM, Elroy Smith

Chicago, (312) 427-4800

WEJM-FM, Monica Starr

Chicago, (708) 895-1400

IOWA

KUCB-FM (College), Sekou Mtayari

Des Moines, (515) 246-1588

KBBG-FM, Yvette Maise

Waterloo, (319) 234-1441

INDIANA

WJFX-FM, Ange Canessa

Fort Wayne, (219) 493-9239

WLTH-AM, Tony D

Gary, (219) 884-9409

WTLC-FM, Vicki Buchannon

Indianapolis, (317) 923-1456

MINNESOTA

KMOJ-FM, J.R. Maddox

Minneapolis, (612) 377-0594

WRNB-FM, Pete Rhodes

Minneapolis, (612) 341-2447

MISSOURI

KATZ-FM, Jim Gates

St. Louis, (314) 692-5108

KPRS-FM, Myron D

Kansas City, (816) 763-2040

KXOK-FM, Ron Scott

St. Louis, (314) 991-7797

WISCONSIN

WKKV-FM, Nate Bell

Milwaukee, (414) 321-1007

WMCS-AM, Cathy Brown

Milwaukee, (414) 444-1290

WMUR-AM, Aaron Pulley

Milwaukee, (414) 288-7541

WNOV-AM,

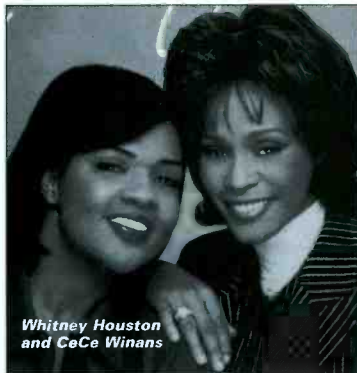
Sandra Robinson

Milwaukee,

(414) 449-9668

Programmer's Poll

Sandra Robinson
WNOV-FM/Milwaukee, WI



Whitney Houston and CeCe Winans

Whitney Houston & CeCe Winans, "Count On Me," Arista

This is an all-round song. A definite crossover that can also be played on the gospel side. Demos: All



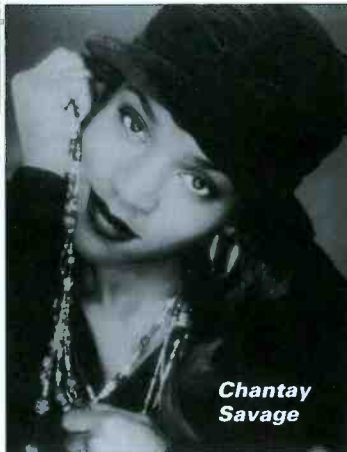
Seal

Chantay Savage, "I Will Survive," RCA

A woman's song to say the least. A very nice popular song. Demos: Women, 18-34

Seal, "Don't Cry," WB

I didn't think it would do as well as it has. Great response. Demos: 18-35



Chantay Savage

Top Ten

1. Joe

"All The Things (Your Man Won't Do)"

Island

2. D'Angelo

"Lady"

EMI

3. H-Town

"A Thin Line Between Love & Hate"

WB

4. Chantay Savage

"I Will Survive"

RCA

5. Fugees

"Killing Me Softly"

Columbia/CRG

6. Mariah Carey

"Always Be My Baby"

Columbia/CRG

7. Art N' Soul

"Ever Since You Went Away"

Big Beat/AG

8. R. Kelly F/R. Isley

"Down Low (Nobody Has To Know)"

Jive

9. Mona Lisa F/ Lost Boyz

"Can't Be Wasting My Time"

Island

10. Randy Crawford

"Give Me The Night"

Mesa/Bluemoon

Most Added

1. Geto Boys

"The World Is A Ghetto"

Rap-A-Lot/Noo Trybe

2. Jodeci

"Get On Up"

Uptown/MCA

Regional Heat

Total

"Kissin' You"

Bad Boy/Arista

Midwest Report

By Jerome Simmons

Today's Woman Brings Out The Masses

An Expo For Today's Black Woman proved to be an overwhelming

success. The Expo officially opened as **Merry Green**, promoter of the Expo, Alderman **Dorthoy Tillman**, **Rev. Willie Barrow**, **Annette Whittington**, WVAZ promo cut the ribbon before a thousand youngsters.

Highlighting the opening was the Teen Summit to which more than 10,000 youngsters were bussed from various public and private schools around the city.

The Expo included more than 200 vendors and performances by **Silk**, **Ann Nesby**, **Asante**, and **David Josias**. There were also fashion shows, karate demonstration, and dancers.

Moderating the seminars, which included such panelists as **Mike Bernardo**, **Kashif**, **Rolanda**, **Bertice Berry**, **Tony Brown**, attorney **Carl Douglas**, were members of the WVAZ on-air staff.

Hosting the closing gala were **Tom Joyner**, **Cheryl Burton** and **Diane Burns**, ABC-TV Chicago. The scheduled keynote speaker, **Maya Angelou**, took ill and was not able to attend. As the MC, **Barbara Proctor**,

broke the news to the more than 1,000 participants.

Jesse Jackson was on hand as substitute speaker.

To the delight of the crowd, **Oprah Winfrey** accepted the award for Angelou. "I had to come here to accept the award for my mother, my sister, my friend, when Maya says she's sick, she's sick," Winfrey told the crowd. She ended her speech with a reading of Angelou's poem

"Phenomenal Woman."

Following Winfrey, **Loleatta Holloway** enthralled the audience with a mini-concert featuring her hits.

Pegue Suffers Stroke

WGCI's **Richard Pegue** suffered a stroke last week and is in Chicago's Michael Reese Hospital. Pegue who has been a mainstay in Chicago radio for over 25 years is considered one of the leading authorities on the history of R&B music. We pray for his speedy recovery.

Geto Boys Resurrected in Chicago

With props that included coffins, tombstones, and hearses, the **Geto Boys** launched their long-awaited reunion album, *The Resurrection*, at George's Music Room at Midnight, April 1.

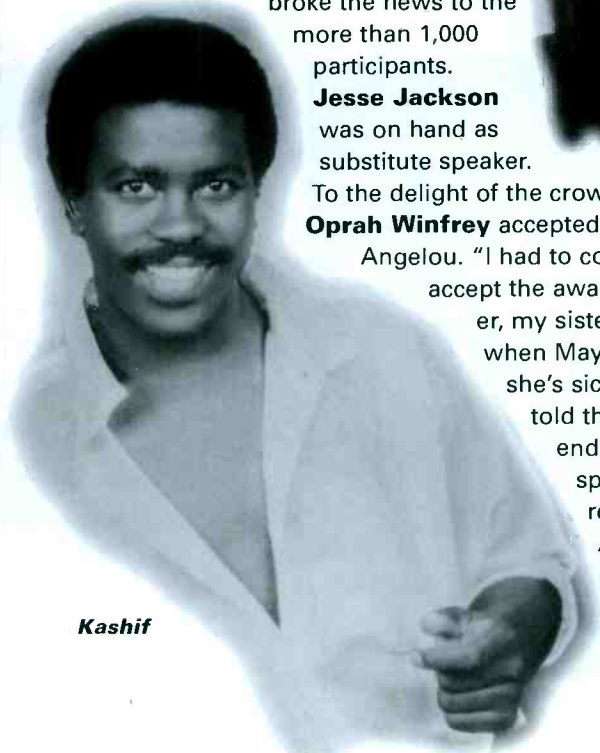
The show opened with the members popping out of the caskets. Why the Windy City? The LP features messages of political and economic empowerment from former Chicago gang leader **Larry Hoover**, founder of the gang Gargster Disciples. ☞☞☞



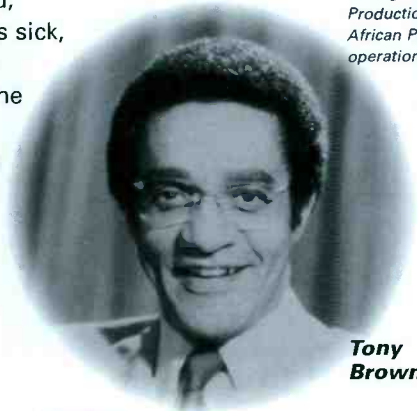
Silk



Mike Bernardo



Kashif



Tony Brown



When Teldec/Atlantic launched *African Portraits* with a kick-off party at Chicago's Ritz-Carlton Hotel nearly everyone in town turned out. From L-R: Henry Fogel, CEO/executive dir of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra; performer from the Sundance Production Arts Institute; Hannibal, musician and composer, *African Portraits*; performers; Arthur Moorehead, vp, mktg and operations, Atlantic Classics; Carter Russell, promoter.



Radio Reporters

NORTH CAROLINA

WCPS-AM, Sam Adams
Tarboro, (919) 823-2191

WAAA-AM, Mark Raymond
Winston-Salem, (910) 767-0430

WFXC-FM, Chris Conners
Raleigh/Durham, (919) 941-0700

WZFX-FM Bobby Jay
Fayetteville, (910) 486-4991

WCMG-FM Brian Wallace
Greensboro, (910) 275-1657

WNAA-FM (College),
Yvonne Anderson
Greensboro, (910) 334-7936

WIKS-FM B.K. Kirkland
New Bern, (919) 633-1500

WKNC-FM, (college) Abe Claiborne
Raleigh, (919) 515-2401

WLL-AM, Jackie Brown
Raleigh, (919) 833-3874

WRVS-FM (College), Will Harris
Elizabeth City, (919) 335-3517

WELS-FM, Anthony Gonzalez
Kinston, (919) 523-5151

WESQ-FM (Rap), Benjamin Boddie
Rocky Mount, (919) 385-5266

WRSV-FM, Paul Andre'
Rocky Mount, (919) 937-6111

WSHA-FM, Kevin Jay
Raleigh, (800) 241-0421

WQOK-FM, Jerry Jam
Raleigh, (919) 848-9736

WAUG-AM, Tim Mwadime
Raleigh, (919) 516-4750

WPEG-FM, Andre Carson
Charleston, (803) 308-9300

WSNC-FM, Prentiss Thomas
Winston-Salem, (910) 750-2324

WWWZ-FM (College), Tolly Carr
Winston-Salem, (910) 750-2324

SOUTH CAROLINA

WJAY-AM, Cynthia Brown
Mullins, (803) 423-1140

WJMZ-FM, Marv Hankston
Greenville, (803) 235-1073

WWDM-FM, Curtis Wilson
Columbia, (803) 776-1013

WKWQ-FM, Johnny Green
West Columbia

WLBG-AM, Cassie Fowler
Laurens, (803) 984-3544

WLG-AM, Dan McCoy
Hemingway, (803) 558-2977

WPAL-AM/FM, Jae Jackson
Charleston, (803) 763-6330

WICI-FM, Ernie D.
Sumter, (803) 775-4747

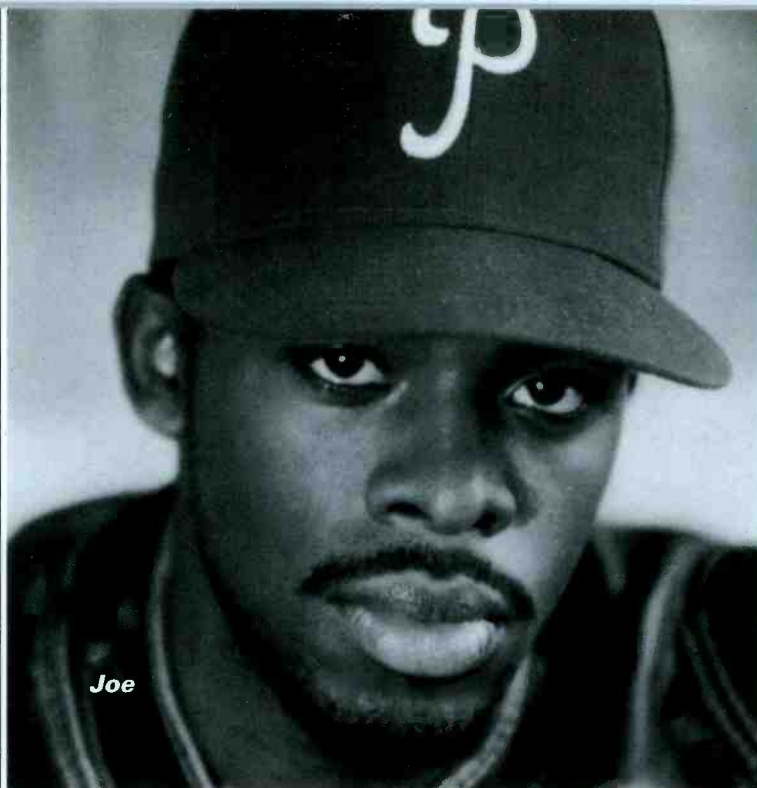
WMTY-FM, Alan Gowan
Greenwood, (803) 223-4300

WOIC-AM, Don Hambrick
Columbia, (803) 771-0105

WSSB-FM, Marion White
Orangeburg, (803) 536-8677

WVGB-AM, Mighty Jody
Eaufort, (803) 524-4700

WWKTFM, Shamella Barr
Kingstree, (803) 382-2362



Joe

Programmer's Poll

Dan McCoy
WLG-AM/Hemingway, SC

Roger Smith, "RYBW & Others," Nefferti

This is a jazzy rap song. That talks about the colors of humanity. It has a jazz and rap element with a message. Demos: 18-40

Maxwell, "Ascension Don't Ever Wonder," Columbia

Great rhythm smooth and clean lyrics. Old folks and young folks can enjoy this one. Demos: 18-40

Milton L. Creah, "African Rhythm Rap," Crea & Associates

One of the strongest rap records I've ever heard. It hones in on African Americans. Stores call me about this one. It's the most feedback we've ever gotten on a record. Demos: 18-50



Jodeci

Top Ten

1. **Joe**
"All The Things
(Your Man Won't Do)"
Island
2. **Chantay Savage**
"I Will Survive"
RCA
3. **D'Angelo**
"Lady"
EMI
4. **Fugees**
"Killing Me Softly"
Ruffhouse/Columbia/CRG
5. **Mariah Carey**
"Always Be My Baby"
Columbia/CRG
6. **R. Kelly F/R. Isley**
"Down Low (Nobody Has To Know)"
Jive
7. **Brandy**
"Sittin' Up In My Room"
Arista
8. **Whitney Houston & CeCe Winans**
"Count On Me"
Arista
9. **Mary J. Blige**
"Not Gon' Cry"
Arista
10. **Horace Brown**
"One For The Money"
Motown

Most Added

1. **Men Of Vizion**
"Housekeeper"
MJJ/Epic
2. **Kris Kross**
"Live And Die For Hip Hop"
Ruffhouse/Columbia/CRG

Regional Heat

Jodeci
"Get On Up"
Uptown/MCA

In The Carolinas

By Sheila Stewart



Remembering WWDM's Brenda Jones

Brenda Jones, news/public affairs director for WWDM-FM in Columbia, died March 27 from complications of heart disease at a hospital in Charleston. Jones, a 15-year radio veteran, was 39 years old. Program director **Paul Jackson** says it took everyone by surprise. "She will be greatly missed and our hearts and condolences go to her family," says Jackson. Jones, a native of Sumter, SC, co-hosted the morning show with **Curtis Wilson** and sidekick **Lee Durant**.

Breakfast Staples

It's hard to believe the "Breakfast Brothas Morning Show" has been in effect for only a year. It's become such a staple in Charlotte, it seems the show has always been on the air. The dynamic morning show duo celebrated their one-year anniversary recently with a blowout bash complete with a live band. The entire morning show went on location and partied all morning long with more than 350 listeners in tow.

"This is great. It's a wonderful feeling to have so many people come out for our party," says **BJ Murphy**. Local television celebrities and other folks were on hand including **Kim Bogues**, wife of Hornets player **Mugsy Bogues**, **Sonya Curry**, wife of Hornets **Dell Curry**, City Council leaders and other distinguished guests. The Breakfast

Brothas Morning Show consists of five members: morning personalities **BJ Murphy** and **Keith Richards**; **CeCe McGhee**, morning show co-host/producer; **Storm Johnson**, sports announcer; and **Chris Melton** of "Metro Traffic."

Win A Record Deal On BET

Motown Records and BET are sponsoring a talent search in the Carolinas April 27 at the Area Sports Club in Charlotte. The winner will be flown to Washington, DC, to compete with winners from other cities on BET's "Video Soul." The grand prize: a Motown Records recording contract.

Each participant must submit two songs no longer than four

minutes. One song must be an original (music, beat, lyrics) and one must be a cover tune. Tapes have to be post-marked by April 15. Each entry must include a return address and a work and home phone number.

PD Not MD

Whoops! BRE made a mistake when we announced **Jackson Brown** was named md of WQMG. Jackson is actually the station's new pd. Our apologies. BRE



L-R: WPEG's Keith Richards, morning personality; BJ Murphy, morning personality; Sheila Stewart, news director.



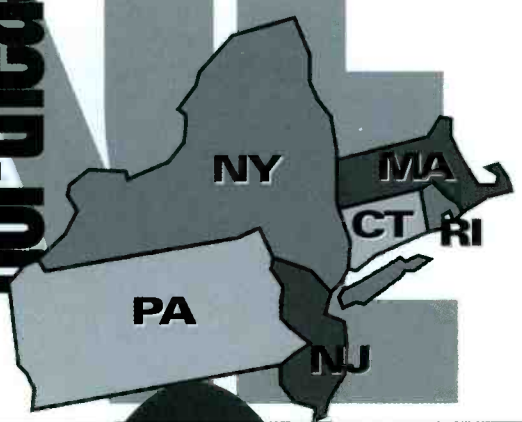
Kim Bogues

June 1, 1996
Lincoln Memorial
Washington, DC



STAND
FOR
CHILDREN

northeast region



Toni Braxton

Top Ten

1. **D'Angelo**
"Lady"
EMI
2. **Chantay Savage**
"I Will Survive"
RCA
3. **Joe**
"All The Things (Your Man Won't Do)"
Island
4. **Mariah Carey F/ DaBrat & Xscape**
"Always Be My Baby"
Columbia/CRG
5. **Deborah Cox**
"Who Do U Love"
Arista
6. **Horace Brown**
"One For The Money"
Motown
7. **Whitney Houston & Ce Ce Winans**
"Count On Me"
Arista
8. **Brandy**
"Sittin' Up In My Room"
Arista
9. **R. Kelly F/R. Isley**
"Down Low (Nobody Has To Know)"
Jive
10. **Groove Theory**
"Keep Tryin'"
Epic

Most Added

1. **Jodeci**
"Get On Up"
Uptown/MCA
2. **Maxwell**
"Til The Cops Come"
Columbia/CRG
3. **Men of Vizion**
"Housekeeper"
MJJ

Regional Heat

- Toni Braxton**
"Let It Flow"
Arista

BRE Radio Reporters

Connecticut

- WNHC-AM, Doc Martin
North Haven, (203) 234-1340
- WKND-AM, Earnie Jay
Windsor, (203) 688-6221
- WRTC-FM (College), Tony Simmons
Hartford, (203) 297-2439
- WYBC-FM, Chic Smith
New Haven, (203) 432-4127

Massachusetts

- WILD-AM, Dana Hall
Boston, (617) 427-2222
- WTCC-FM, James Lewis
Springfield, (413) 781-6628
- WMUA-FM (College Rap), Shannan Magee
Amherst, (413) 545-2426

New York

- WBAI-FM, Chet Jackson
New York, (212) 279-0707
- WBLK-FM, Eric Faison
Buffalo, (716) 852-5955
- WDKX-FM, Brian Lewis
Rochester, (716) 262-2050
- WRKS-FM (Oldies), Vinny Brown
New York, (212) 642-4300
- WUFO-FM, Lenore Williams
Buffalo, (716) 834-1080

Pennsylvania

- WAMO-FM, Ron Atkins
Pittsburgh, (412) 471-2181
- WDAS-FM, Joe Tamburro
Philadelphia, (610) 617-8500
- WHAT-AM, Linda Timmons
Philadelphia, (215) 581-5161
- WUSL-FM, CeCe McGhee
Philadelphia, (215) 483-8900

Rhode Island

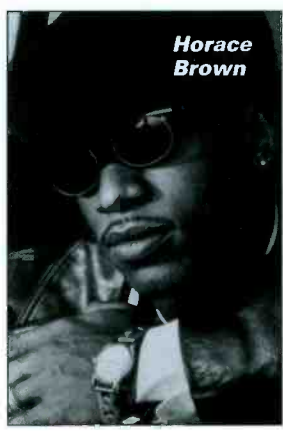
- WBRU-FM, Nicole Harrison
Providence, (401) 272-9550

Doc Martin WNHC-AM/North Haven, CT



SWV, "You're The One," RCA
Sisters with voices are back. Heavy phones, great vocals with top notch production. Demos: All

Fugees, "Killing Me Softly," Columbia/CRG
Many request. They display diversified talent mixing singing and rapping. Lauryn can blow. Demos: All



Horace Brown, "One For The Money," Motown
Great mover, especially in the morning. Demos: 25-54

Radio Bits

WUSL was chosen as one of the finalists in the National Association of Broadcasters' 1996 Crystal Radio Awards competition. The winners will be honored on April 16. In other Power FM 99 news, the Philadelphia station has hired **Helen Little** as the new midday personality (10 AM-2 PM) and asst. pd. Little comes to WUSL from New York's WBLS where she was md and air personality. She began her career at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill as a weekend announcer for WCHL-FM. She later worked as asst. pd for KJMZ-FM Dallas.

To The East Blackwards

By Darrell McNeill

ASCAP Honors Ashford & Simpson

It was only fitting that New York's Motown was the backdrop for two of Hitsville's children to be exalted. **Nicholas Ashford** and **Valerie Simpson**, whose legendary songwriting career spanning over four decades started at Motown, were honored with the highest ASCAP has to offer, The Founder's Award.

Luminaries turned out in droves to pay their respects, including **Gladys Knight, Maya Angelou, Roberta Flack, Geoffrey Holder, Russell Simmons, Nona Hendryx, Nile Rodgers, George Fazon, Frankie Crocker,** and **Veronica Webb.** Nick and Val were also praised via videotape by **Quincy Jones, Eddie and Brian Holland, Lamont Dozier and Diana Ross. James Wright** and his band performed the duo's material with **Martha Reeves, DJ Rogers, Ann Nesby** of Sounds of Blackness, and **Jamecia.**

"They are two of the most respected, prolific, compassionate people," beamed **Marilyn Bergman,** ASCAP president. "They've written songs that touched people's hearts. They make people feel human with the humanity of their songs, something all of us writers try to do. Sometimes we succeed, but they always do."

"It's really wonderful to be part of history. That's what it's all about," said Knight. "If we don't keep our history alive, who will? That's why I'm here tonight, because these two individuals have certainly made a contribution to our musical history."

"This is just the best," gushed Simpson. "I feel like I've died and went to heaven



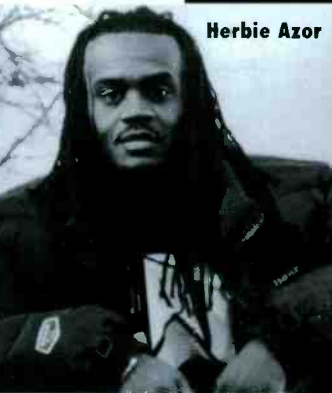
Ashford & Simpson

already. This night means so much to me, you can't imagine. To be honored by our organization, ASCAP, the songwriter's friend, because that's what you are to us."

Not Just Skin Deep

"We're trying to go back to the true essence of R&B," says **Rich the Gangsta,** part of the male vocal trio called Skindeep "Beautiful melodies, great background vocals, great harmonies. We're trying to go back to that style where you felt the music. Instead of just hearing it, you felt it."

Young heads are feeling the group's debut single, "No More Games," produced by **DJ Clark Kent** and featuring a tasty guest appearance by **Lil' Kim** of Junior



Herbie Azor

Who: Herbie Azor, also known as Herbie Love Bug

Based In: Born in Haiti, raised in Queens, and still based in New York.

Bio: A one-time rapper in the group Super Lover MCs, Azor discovered and produced the mega successful trio Salt 'N' Pepa and later the duo Kid 'N Play. In addition, he's produced several other rap acts including Dana Dane, Sweet Tee and Kwame.

Current Happenings: Azor has added another trade to his repertoire—fashion designer. Azor, along with his partner Herb "Prince" Johnson, recently started a line of clothing called Tuffa Wear.

Fledgling Designer: All the while Azor was displaying his artistry through his music and production skills he was also indulging in another form of art—drawing. Azor drew logos and small designs for T-shirts and later it grew into designing a line of handbags called Body Bags. It was a modified version of a saddle bag that Azor and Johnson created for themselves. The response to the Body Bag was so overwhelming it led Azor to expand and thus Tuffa Wear was born.

Clothing The Masses: Azor and Johnson have a simple plan for targeting the Tuffa Wear consumer—it's for everyone. "I don't want to get into making the clothes for just a limited group of people," says Azor. "It's not going to be pro-black or pro-youth, it's going to be pro-human being. Anybody who can relate to the styles and likes what they see—it's for them."

About the Gear: The clothes range from sportswear to semi-formal wear, incorporating a wide range of materials in many different colors. The price range? "We'll have items costing as little as \$12 [a T-shirt] and items costing \$700 [three-quarter length shearling pull-over]," says Azor. "Tuffa Wear is about taking those designs and doing them in ways never imagined," Says Azor "Our clothes are for trendsetters, people bold enough to take the lead in fashion."

Where To Get Tuffa: The line will be available in boutiques and specialty shops everywhere. The first line premiered in Atlanta last October. "We got a great response," says Azor. "Why Atlanta vs. New York? Azor responds, "New York is a little overplayed. What hasn't been done here? Atlanta is a hot bed right now it's up and coming and ripe for new ideas."

Future Plans: Azor plans to keep-on-keepin' on with fashion while still producing. He is producing Salt 'N' Pepa's current album as well as producing his new group called Storm on Atlantic Records. Storm is an R&B/rap group that "does it all," says Azor. **BRE**

—Jewel McSvain

3RE

Radio Reporters

WAPZ-AM, Geroline Seay
Wetumpka, (334) 567-7971

WBLX-FM, Niecy
Mobile, (334) 432-7609

WENN-FM,
Mychael Starr
Birmingham, (205) 254-1820

WEUP-AM, Steve Murry
Huntsville, (205) 837-9387

WGOK-AM, Irene Ware
Mobile, (334) 432-8661

WJUN-FM, Larry Steel
Dothan, (334) 671-1753

WLBI-FM, Kim Moore
Birmingham, (205) 934-6576

WNPT-FM, Derrick Tenner
Tuscaloosa, (205) 758-3183

WSLY-FM, Gus Weiss
York, (205) 392-5234

WTUG-FM, Steve Sloan
Tuscaloosa, (205) 345-7200

WVAS-FM, Eugenia
Montgomery, (334) 229-4306

WXVI-AM, John Hadrick
Montgomery, (334) 263-4141

WYOK Steve Ross
Mobile, (334) 432-3373

WZMG-AM, Yvonne Batts
Opelika, (334) 745-4656

WZZA-FM, Tori Bailey
Tuscumbia, (205) 381-1862

FLORIDA

WEDR-FM, James Thomas
Miami, (305) 623-7711

WFLM-FM, Don Ricardo
Port Lucie, (407) 450-9356

WNFO-FM, Paul Dancer
Gainesville, (904) 462-6690

WHNR-AM, Terry Hill
Winter Haven, (813) 299-1141

WPOM-AM, Robert Charles
West Palm Beach, (407) 844-6200

WPUL-AM, Steven King
South Daytona, (904) 767-1131

WTMP-AM, Stacey Powers
Tampa, (813) 620-1300

WWSD-AM, James Nelson
Quincy, (904) 627-1230

WXQL-FM, Roger Moore
Jacksonville, (904) 786-8091

GEORGIA

WEAS-FM, Floyd Blackwell
Savannah, (912) 232-7288

WFXA-FM, James Alexander
Augusta, (803) 279-2331

WFXM-FM, Michael Gamble
Macon, (912) 827-1270

WGOV-FM, Harvey Moore
Valdosta, (912) 244-9590

WIBB-FM, Kevin Fox
Macon, (912) 788-9790

WFXE-FM, Phillip D. March
Macon, (706) 576-3565

WJIZ-FM, Desiree
Albany, (912) 883-5397

WKZJ-FM, Ike Filmore
Warm Springs, (706) 655-2228

WRFG-FM, Kip Ferguson
Atlanta, (404) 523-3471

WMXY-AM, Judy Childs
La Grange, (706) 827-1270

WPGA-FM, Phil Clark
Macon, (706) 882-6348

WRAS-FM (C), Randall Moore
Atlanta, (404) 651-2240

WSGF-FM, Marie Kelly
Savannah, (912) 994-0999

WSKX-FM, Charlotte Lovett
Hinesville, (912) 368-9258

WSOK-AM, Jay Bryant
Savannah, (912) 232-3322

WVEE-FM, J.B. Louis
Atlanta, (404) 898-8900



Kris Kross

PROGRAMMER'S POLL

Kevin "Koolin'" Fox
WIBB/Macon, GA

Total, "Kissin' You," Bad Boy/Arista

Great female song with Raphael Saadiq production it's in the pocket. Demos: 18-34

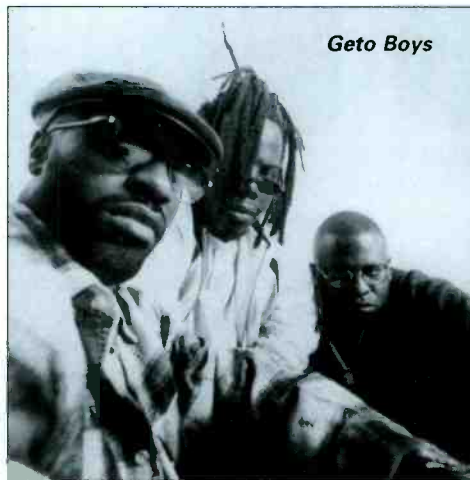


Total

Geto Boys,
"The World Is
A Ghetto,"
Rap-A-Lot/Noo
Trybe

One of the pre-
miere rap
groups of the
80's is back
with a familiar
War track.

Demos: 18-24



Geto Boys

Kenny Latimore, "Never Too Busy," Columbia/CRG
Strong debut from an artist, I'm sure we'll hear more from. Demos: Female

Top Ten

1. Joe
"All The Things
(Your Man Won't Do)"
Island
2. Mariah Carey F/
DaBrat & Xscape
"Always Be My Baby"
Columbia/CRG
3. D'Angelo
"Lady"
EMI
4. R. Kelly
"Down Low (Nobody Has To Know)"
Jive
5. Chantay Savage
"I Will Survive"
RCA
6. H-Town
"Thin Between Love & Hate"
Warner Bros.
7. Deborah Cox
"Who Do U Love"
Arista
8. Fugees
"Killing Me Softly"
Ruffhouse/Columbia/CRG
9. The Tony Rich
Project
"Nobody Knows"
LaFace/Arista
10. A Few Good Men
"Have I Never"
LaFace/Arista

Most Added

1. Total
"Kissin' You"
Bad Boy/Arista
2. Jodeci
"Get On Up"
Uptown/MCA
3. Rippingtons F/
Phil Perry
"Caravan Of Love"
GRP

Regional Heat

Kris Kross
"Live & Die For Hip Hop"
Ruffhouse/Columbia/CRG

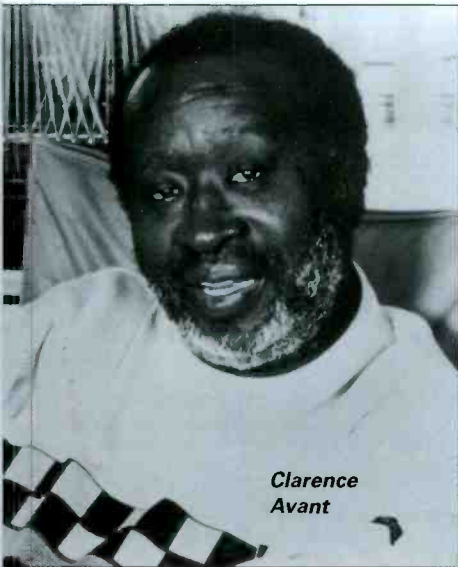


Florida Focus

By Carol U. Ozemhoya

Avant and Unity Pres Bid On Miami Hotel

Eugene Jackson, chairman and president of Unity Broadcasting Network, and **Clarence Avant**, chairman of



Clarence Avant

Motown Records, are heading two separate investor groups vying for the rights to the first black-owned, convention-size hotel on Miami Beach. Jackson's group, World Hotels & Resorts, was one of seven groups that bid on the project. Jackson's group includes him and two Miami real estate developers and promises a \$56 million, 330-room Hyatt Hotel.

Avant's group is called RDP, Royal Palm Hotel Ltd., and includes Avant; R. Donohue Peebles, a real

estate developer out of Washington, DC; the HCF Group; Jeffrey Earl Thompson, a DC-based accountant; and Cecile Barker, an information systems company owner from Maryland. The group is offering \$28.6 million for a 252-room hotel under the Crowne Plaza banner.

Bids were due Monday, April 1, to the City of Miami Beach, which was offering a \$10 million incentive package to whomever will be awarded the project. The proposed black-owned hotel project came about several years ago as a result of the formation of Miami Partners for Progress, a group of anglo, black and Hispanic community and corporate leaders. The group was formed when black community leaders organized a boycott of Miami at a convention site after the city snubbed South African leader Nelson Mandela on his visit to South Florida shortly after being released from prison. The boycott lasted nearly two years and chased away an estimated \$100 million in convention business from the Magic City. Miami Partners for Progress was formed to implement a 20-point plan that would help the area's African-Americans advance economically. One of the points of the plans was to build a black-owned, convention-size hotel.

Each of the seven groups that bid on the project will be entitled to present their proposal to the Miami Beach Commission in May. Three proposals will be ranked in order of merit by June. If the top-ranked bidder is unable to complete the project, the development rights will go to the second-ranked bidder. This is the second time the project has been bid on. Two years ago, a group of Miami investors bid on the project, but the deal fell through when they were unable to secure financing.

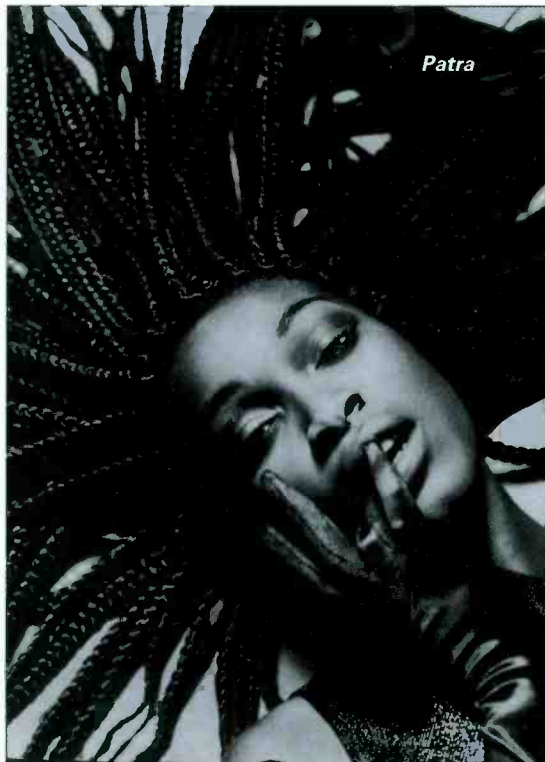
Avant's group has already said if it is awarded the project, it will likely include a Motown Cafe.

Dancehall Specialist Opens On South Beach

Miami continues to be a hot property, weather aside. New on the beach is Shang Records, a reggae label headed by **Clifton "Specialist" Dillon**, whom many tout as the top producer on the reggae scene today. Whom has he put his magic touch on? The names read like a Who's Who in hip-hop as well as reggae, or dancehall as the "new jack" of reggae is called: **Patra, Shabba Ranks, Super Cat** and **Mad Cobra**. His label has just locked into a distribution deal with Epic Records.

Dillon was born in Montego Bay, Jamaica. He took money inherited from his father and invested it wisely—in himself, getting an education. In the biz now for about 15 years, Dillon sees his label becoming the "Motown of the reggae-dancehall scene." Although he had an office on 7th Avenue just off of Times Square, he chose to move to Miami to be closer to Jamaica. Now in one of the South Beach's poshest new digs—the Portofino Building on Washington Avenue, Dillon boasts a staff of six full time employees in addition to himself and president of the label, **Luther McKenzie**. McKenzie's background varies from musician and producer to promoter, having put together some of Shabba's most successful tours. Shang also features an in-house booking agency. Of course, with Dillon managing Shabba, Patra and Mad Cobra, they are the top billers in his stable of reggae and dancehall artists.

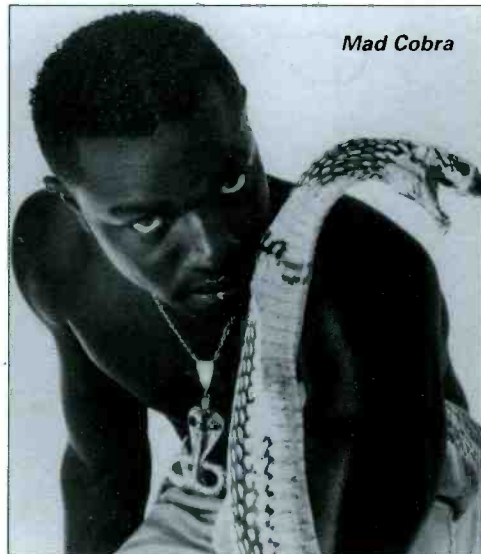
Dillon joins Patra as a new Miami resident.



Patra

The dancehall queen chose to give up her New York digs last year for a Miami condo overlooking the bay.

BRE



Mad Cobra

Journey
Journey

OTIS
and
SHUGG

PRODUCED BY RAPHAEL SAADIO

INTERSCOPE
1
RECORDS



©1996 INTERSCOPE RECORDS. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. 97002



Radio Reporters

KENTUCKY

WOKS-FM, Bill Porter
Hopkinsville, (502) 886-1480

OHIO

WCKX-FM, Frank Kelly
Columbus, (614) 464-0020

WDAO-AM, Michael Ecton
Dayton, (513) 263-9326

WIZF-FM, Bill Bailey
Cincinnati, (513) 351-5900

WJTB-AM, Soni James
North Ridgeville, (216) 327-1844

WROU-FM, Stan Boston
Dayton, (513) 222-9768

WVKO-AM, Bob Nunnally
Columbus, (614) 451-2191

WZAK-FM, Lankford Stephens
Cleveland, (216) 621-9300

MICHIGAN

WDZZ-FM, Eugene Brown
Flint, (810) 767-0130

WGPR-FM, Clarence Rome
Detroit, (313) 259-8862

WJLB-FM, Michael Saunders
Detroit, (313) 965-2000

WKWM-FM,
Grand Rapids, (616) 676-1237

WQBH-AM, Jay Butler
Detroit, (313) 965-4500

WQHH-FM, Cullen Dubose
Lansing, (517) 484-9600

WTLZ-FM, Kermit
Crockett
Saginaw, (517) 754-1071

Programmers Poll

Soni James
WJTB-AM/ North Ridgeville, OH

Millie Jackson, "The Lies That We Live," *Ichiban*
Very strong song. Demos: 25-40



Maree', "Nothin' But The Dog," *Gamma*
Great hip hop song for younger generation.
Demos: 18-35

Bobby Blue Bland, "Tonight's The Night," *Malaco*
Great great song. Vintage Bobby. Demos: 25-40

Blues Launch In Detroit

Grammy Award winning blues guitar legend **Buddy Guy** will kick off a national tour in Detroit April 18 at the Majestic Theatre. The tour, in support of his upcoming release *Live! The Real Deal* (dropping April 16), will travel to Minneapolis, Denver, Ft. Worth, Houston, DC, winding up June 22 at Monterey, CA.



Gatemouth Does In-Store

Clarence "Gatemouth" Brown, who just completed his worldwide tour with Eric Clapton, recently visited Street Corner Music in Birmingham, MI, for an in-store acoustic performance. Brown, who is 72, can be heard on the Capitol release *Texas Guitar Killers*, a collection of blues songs. **RE**

Top Ten

1. **Joe**
"All The Things (Your Man Won't Do)"
Island
2. **D'Angelo**
"Lady"
EMI
3. **Chantay Savage**
"I Will Survive"
RCA
4. **Brandy**
"Sittin' Up In My Room"
Arista
5. **H-Town**
"Thin Line Between Love & Hate"
Warner Bros.
6. **Mariah Carey**
"Always Be My Baby"
Columbia/CRG
7. **Xscape**
"Do You Want To"
So So Def/Columbia/CRG
8. **Mary J. Blige**
"Not Gon' Cry"
Arista
9. **Pure Soul**
"Stairway To Heaven"
StepSun/Interscope
10. **R. Kelly**
"Down Low (Nobody Has To Know)"
Jive

Most Added

1. **Jodeci**
"Get On Up"
Uptown/MCA
2. **Kenny Latimore**
"Never Too Busy"
Columbia/CRG

Regional Heat

- SWV**
"You're The One"
RCA



Xscape

PROGRAMMER'S POLL

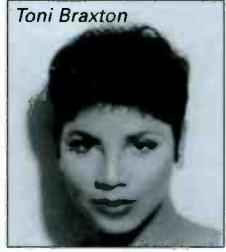
Magic
WJTT-FM/Chattanooga, TN.



Monica

Monica, "Why I Love You So Much," Rowdy/Arista
A great romantic song good for adults but the kids identify with. Demos: All

Toni Braxton, "Let It Flow," Arista
It's from *Waiting To Exhale*, enough said. Demos: All



Toni Braxton

Jesse Powell, "All I Need," Silas/MCA
It's a good uptempo song with a funky beat that gets you in the mood. Demos: All



Jesse Powell

Dolemite For President

Comic **Rudy Ray Moore**, known worldwide as Dolemite, announced his candidacy for President at Tower Records in DC last week. WMMJ-FM's morning drive time host, **Monica Majesty**, was on hand to introduce Dolemite, who'll run on the "I Ain't Lyin'" Party ticket, and read a proclamation from D.C. **Mayor Marion Barry** congratulating Dolemite. What was it all for? To promote Dolemite's latest release, *Rudy Ray Moore's Greatest Hits* on the Right Stuff label. Moore went all out for the occasion, dressing from head to toe in red, white, and blue. He even announced that **Eddie Murphy** may be his running mate. **BRE**

Top Ten

- 1. Joe**
"All The Things (Your Man Won't Do)"
Island
- 2. D'Angelo**
"Lady"
EMI
- 3. R. Kelly F/R. Isley**
"Down Low(Nobody Has To Know)"
Jive
- 4. Whitney Houston & CeCe Winans**
"Count On Me"
Arista
- 5. Mariah Carey**
"Always Be My Baby"
Columbia/CRG
- 6. Chantay Savage**
"I Will Survive"
RCA
- 7. Lionel Richie**
"Don't Wanna Lose You"
Mercury
- 8. Xscape**
"Do You Want To"
So So Def/Columbia/CRG
- 9. Fugees**
"Killing Me Softly"
Ruffhouse/Columbia/CRG
- 10. Coolio**
"1,2,3,4, (Sumpin' New)"
Tommy Boy

Most Added

- 1. Geto Boys**
"The World Is A Ghetto"
Rap-A-Lot/Noo Trybe
- 2. Jodeci**
"Get On Up"
Uptown/MCA

Regional Heat

Xscape
"Can't Hang"
So So Def/Columbia/CRG

BRE
Radio Reporters

MARYLAND

- WJDY-AM, John Parker
Salisbury, (410) 742-5191
- WOCO-FM, Wookie
Ocean City, (410) 641-0001
- WPGC-AM, Damon Williams
Greenbelt, (301) 441-3500
- WRKE-FM, Tony O
Ocean City (302) 539-2600
- WWIN-FM, Denise Edwards
Baltimore, (410) 332-8200
- WXYV-FM, Mike Johnson
Baltimore, (410) 653-2200

TENNESSEE

- WABD-AM, Silvers/Kevin
Clarksville, (615) 431-4984
- WRK-FM, Bobby O'Jay
Memphis, (901) 529-4300
- WFKX-FM, Kimberly Kaye
Jackson, (901) 427-9616
- WJTT-FM, Keith Landecker
Chattanooga, (615) 265-9494
- WNOO-AM, Bob Sharp
Chattanooga, (615) 698-8617
- WQOK-FM, Tony Wright
Nashville, (615) 227-1470
- WXSS-AM, Darryl White
Memphis, (901) 323-1272

VIRGINIA

- WFOV-FM (College), Jay Wright
Norfolk/Hampton, (804) 727-5670
- WJJS-AM, Dave Lee Michaels
Madison Heights, (804) 847-1266
- WJWS-AM, Freddie Hargrove
South Hill, (804) 447-8997
- WMYK-FM, Morris Baxter
Norfolk, (804) 622-4600
- WOWI-FM, K.J. Holiday
Norfolk, (804) 627-5800
- WPLZ-FM, Phil Daniels
Petersburg, (804) 748-4199
- WVST-FM (College), Calvin Miles
Petersburg, (804) 524-5933

WASHINGTON D.C.

- WHUR-FM (College), Hector Hannibal
(202) 806-3500
- WKYS-FM, George Hamilton
Washington, DC, (202) 686-9300
- WMMJ, Terri Avery
Washington, DC, (202) 686-9300

WEST VIRGINIA

- WWWU-FM (College), Rachel Bell

West W r e g i o n



Radio Reporters

Arizona

KMJK-FM,
Art Jackson
Phoenix, (602) 263-8844

California

KDIA-AM,
Bob Jones
Oakland, (510) 251-1400

KGfJ-AM (Oldies),
Johnny Morris
Los Angeles, (213) 930-9090

KKBT-FM, Harold Austin
Los Angeles, (213) 466-9566

KPOO-FM (Rap/Urban),
Jerome Parsons
San Francisco, (415) 346-5373

KOEO-AM, David Caudillo
Fresno, (209) 233-8803

KUCR-FM (College), Barry Benson
Riverside, (909) 787-3421

Colorado

KDKO-AM, Rick Walker
Denver, (303) 295-1225

New Mexico

KISS-FM, Jackie James
Albuquerque, (505) 265-1431

Nevada

KCEP-FM, Louis Conner
Las Vegas, (702) 648-4218

KUNV-FM (College), Warren
Peace
Las Vegas, (702) 895-3877

Washington

KBMS-AM, Angela
Jenkins
Vancouver, (503) 222-1491

KRIZ-AM, Frank
Barrow
Seattle, (206)
323-3070

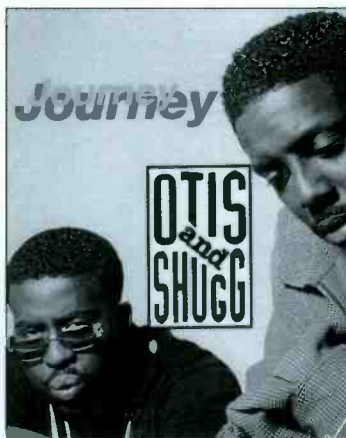
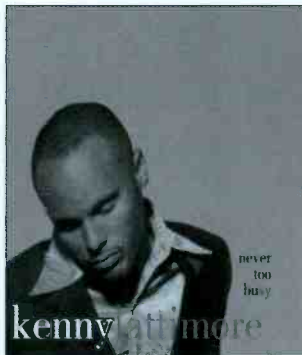


Total

Programmer's Poll

Angela Jenkins
KBMS/Vancouver, WA

Otis & Shugg, "Journey,"
Interscope
It's slammin'. It has a touch of Raphael Saadiq. Good for all demos. Demos: All



Kenny Lattimore, "Never Too Busy," *Columbia/CRG*

Right on target, the single will do well. Nice refreshing sound. Doing well with men and women. Demos: All

UBU, "Merry Go Round," *Epic/550 Music*
Good upbeat tempo for summertime listening. Targets a younger audience. Demos: All



Radio Bits

Odyssey Communications has hired **Eileen Woodbury**. She brings with her eight years of experience in Los Angeles radio, having held positions as dir of mktg and promotions at KKBT and promotions dir at KQLZ. Prior to that, she was the promotions dir at KEZY-FM in Anaheim. Odyssey Communications counts six stations across the country among its holdings.

Top Ten

1. **Joe**
"All The Things (Your Man Won't Do)"
Island
2. **H-Town**
"Thin Line Between Love & Hate"
Warner Bros.
3. **Chantay Savage**
"I Will Survive"
RCA
4. **D'Angelo**
"Lady"
EMI
5. **Art-N-Soul**
"Ever Since You Went Away"
Big Beat/Atlantic
6. **Toni Braxton**
"Let It Flow"
Arista
7. **Mariah Carey**
"Always Be My Baby"
Columbia/CRG
8. **Whitney Houston & Ce Ce Winans**
"Count On Me"
Arista
9. **Mary J. Blige**
"Not Gon' Cry"
Arista
10. **R. Kelly**
"Down Low (Nobody Has To Know)"
Jive

Most Added

1. **Immature**
"Please Don't Go"
MCA
2. **Kris Kross**
"Live & Die For Hip Hop"
Ruffhouse/Columbia/CRG
3. **Rippingtons F/ Phil Perry**
"Caravan Of Love"
GRP

Regional Heat

Total
"Kissin' You"
Bad Bay/Arista

A Rich House

New LaFace/Arista singer/songwriter/performer **Tony Rich** performed to a full and very pleased crowd which included 2 Pac, Theresa Russell and Tyson at House Of Blues in L.A., performing songs from his debut album, *Words*.



Tony Rich

Xtra Fun

New American Recordings artist **Chino XL** celebrated the release of his debut LP, *Here To Save You All* at the Garage in East Hollywood. Chino rocked the audience, which included other rap stars such as **Ras Kass**.

Mistress of the Mic

MCA Records' soulful new "Mistress of the Mic," **Nonchalant** recently dropped by the studios of L.A.'s KKBT to meet and greet the staff and promote *Until The Day*, which features the hit single "5 O'Clock." She said hello to **Julio G.**



Nonchalant

Lyrics For Literacy

As part of their ongoing commitment to education, Perspective Records co-founders **Jimmy Jam** and **Terry Lewis** recently visited L.A.'s Crenshaw High School as part of IAAM/ASCAP Literacy Lyric Project. The visit to Crenshaw High is Jam & Lewis' second visit to a high school during which students learn firsthand from them about the important roles reading and writing play in songwriting and creating music. **Montel Jordan**, **Louil Silas**, president of Silas Records, and ASCAP president **Marilyn Bergman** also attended.

KKBT Has Soul

Radio station KKBT was set up for live broadcasts from the Soul Train Awards backstage at L.A.'s Shrine Auditorium. BRE Among those who stopped by were:

L-R: Corn Dog, P-Funk, asst pd Maurice Devoe, and md Mariama Snider with Brownstone and Brandy.



KKBT asst pd Maurice Devoe, md Mariama Snider, air personality Julio G. and KKBT Community Action director Dominique DiPrima with Xscape.





ARKANSAS

KCAT-AM
(College),
R.D. Robinson
Pine Bluff, (501) 534-5001

KCLT-FM, P.C. Weaver
West Helena, (501) 572-9506

KIPR-FM, James Booker
Little Rock, (501) 836-0104

KMGC-FM, Jerry J. Walker
Camden, (501) 663-0092

KMZX-FM, Terry Neal
N. Little Rock, (501) 376-1063

LOUISIANA

KBCE-FM, Donnie Taylor
Boyce, (318) 793-4003

KFXZ-FM, Frank Tray
Lafayette, (318) 981-0106

KGRM-GM (College),
Madelyn Laney
Grambling, (318) 274-3244

KJCB-AM, Carl Thibodeaux
Lafayette, (318) 233-4262

KVOL-FM, Ann Broussard
Lafayette, (318) 233-1330

KLPL-FM, Robert Thomas
Lake Providence, (318) 559-2340

KMJJ-FM, John Wilson
Shreveport, (318) 227-8020

KNEK-FM, Tyrone Davis
Washington, (318) 826-3921

KQXL-FM, Chris Clay
Baton Rouge, (504) 926-1106

KXZZ-AM, James Williams
Lake Charles, (318) 436-7277

KYEA-FM, Marvin Robinson
West Monroe, (318) 322-1491

WYLD-FM, Angela Harrison
New Orleans, (504) 827-6000

KZWA-FM, Randolph Walker
Lake Charles, (318) 491-9955

TEXAS

KALO-AM, Jay Moore
Port Arthur, (409) 963-1276

KAZI-FM, Steve Savage
Austin, (512) 836-9544

KBWC-FM, Clarice Watkins
Marshall, (903) 927-3266

KCOH-AM, Travis Gardner
Houston, (713) 522-1001

KHRN-FM, Lester Pace
Bryan, (409) 779-3337

KIIZ-AM, Mychal Maguire
Harker Heights, (817) 699-5000

KJMZ-FM, Keith Solis
Dallas, (214) 556-8100

KKDA-FM, Skip Cheatham
Grand Prairie/Dallas, (214) 263-9911

KMJQ-FM, Carla Boatner
Houston, (713) 623-2108

KNON-FM, Dave Chaos
Dallas, (214) 828-9500

KZEY-FM, B.J. Williams
Tyler, (903) 593-1744

KZRB-FM, A.D. Johnson
New Boston, (903) 628-6059

MISSISSIPPI

WALT-AM, Randy Graham
Meridian, (601) 693-2661

WACR-FM, Gerald Jackson
Columbus, (601) 328-1050

WBAD-FM, Troop Williams
Greenville, (601) 335-9264

WESY-AM, Danny Jones
Greenville, (601) 332-1580

WJMG-FM, Ladonna Jones
Hattiesburg, (601) 544-1947

WJSU-FM (College), Bobbie Walker
Jackson, (601) 968-2285

WKXG-AM, Herman Anderson
Greenwood, (601) 453-2174

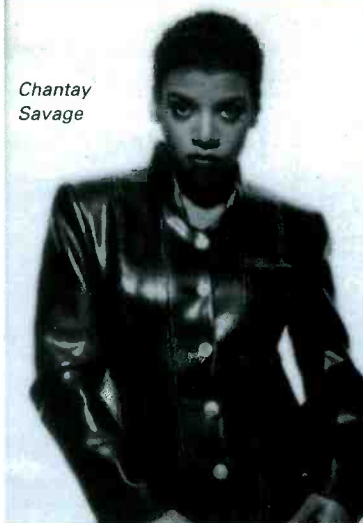
WKZB-FM, Eddie "Doc" Murphy
Cleveland, (601) 846-0927

WQFX-AM, Willie Rice
Gulfport, (501) 863-6080

WTYJ-FM, George Lee
Natchez, (601) 446-9911

WURC-FM (College/Jazz),
Sharon Goodman Hill
Holly Springs, (601) 252-5881

Chantay
Savage



PROGRAMMER'S POLL

A.D. Johnson

KZRB-FM/New Boston, TX.

Men Of Vizion, "Housekeeper," MJJ/Epic

MJJ Records has another star act. Demos: All



Men of Vizion

Bone Thugs N' Harmony,

"Crossroads,"

Ruthless/Relativity

I think this is the best of Bone yet and I believe this song can catch the ears of the adult listener. Demos: All



Bone Thugs N' Harmony

Celly Cel, "It's Goin

Down," Jive

Simply beautiful, this song

is goin' off. Demos: Rap

Fans

Radio Bits

As of April 2, **KFXF** is now **KRRQ** (95.5). Not only have they changed their call letters, they are now 500,000 watts.

According to pd **Frank Tray**, their new target audience is 18-34.

Top Ten

1. Chantay Savage

"I Will Survive"

RCA

2. Joe

"All The Things(Your Man
Won't Do)"

Island

3. H-Town

"A Thin Line Between Love & Hate"

WB

4. Mariah Carey

"Always Be My Baby"

Columbia/CRG

5. Whitney Houston
& CeCe Winans

"Count On Me"

Arista

6. R. Kelly F/R. Isley

"Down Low (Nobody Has To
Know)"

Jive

7. Deborah Cox

"Who Do You Love"

Arista

8. D'Angelo

"Lady"

EMI

9. A Few Good Men

"Have I Never"

LaFace/Arista

10. Art 'N Soul

"Ever Since You Went Away"

Big Beat/AG

Most Added

1. Total

"Kissin' You"

Bad Boy/Arista

2. Jodeci

"Get On Up"

Uptown/MCA

3. Kris Kross

"Live And Die For Hip Hop"

Ruffhouse/Columbia/CRG

Regional Heat

The Rippingtons

"Caravan Of Love"

GRP

Midsouth Report

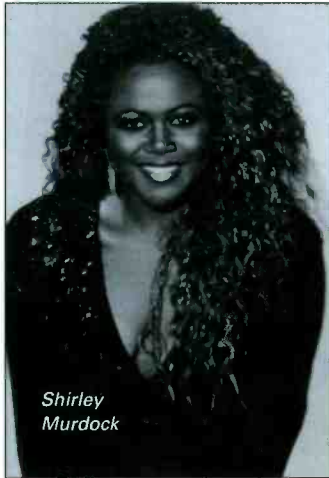
By Taryn Brown



Louisiana Talent Shows Big

Local and big name talent wasn't hard to find as KMJJ Radio and KYEA held their annual talent shows. The KMJJ show featured **Shirley Murdock, Monica, Total, Mystikal, and H-Town.** The KYEA show, now in its fourth

year, was not only about discovering new talent but also a message of "No Vote, No Voice: Make A Difference."



Shirley Murdock



Monica

First All-News FM In U.S.

The first all-news FM station in the country can now be heard in Dallas, KEUP Radio is now rival to KRLD-AM, which is being headed by K104 former, pd director **Michael Spears.** **Ed Budanario,** former air personality at the all-jazz format KOAI, is part of the news team.

Houston's Austin Promotes Locally

Local concert promoters play a big part in helping to "break" and showcase new artists. **Darryl Austin's** Houston-based company is responsible for booking new acts who start to "heat" up the charts. "Concert promotions is a risky business especially for local promoters," says Austin, "but he feels record companies can help ease the burden of showcasing new acts by absorbing some of the cost to bring an act to a city." "It's a win-win situation," says Austin. "As a promoter, we can be partners in promotional tours and everyone can benefit. It gives a new artist the opportunity to make money as well as give the label a chance to do radio and retail."

Seeking New Post

Mike Anthony, former md of KMJJ, is on the lookout for a radio position in this market. Anthony has experience as an on-air personality and extensive production skills. He can be reached at 318-635-4281.

NBPC Plan Soulful Meet in Dallas

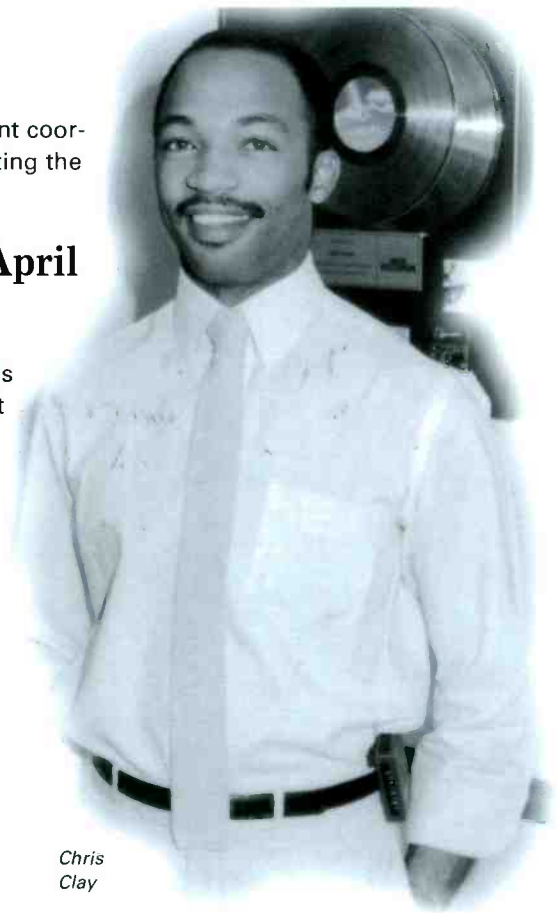
Plans are now underway to hold a special reception for radio and record executives who will be attending the National Black Programmers Coalition meeting in Dallas April 13-14. The Soul Embassy Cafe, a live entertainment and restaurant venue, had been selected for the reception. **Billy Bowles,** BMG's

product development coordinator, is coordinating the event.

Chris Clay, April Fool B.D.

Chris Clay, pd for KQXL, celebrated his birthday April 1. But Clay, who works around the clock, almost forgot. "I knew my birthday was April 1 but I really forgot what day it fell on."

BRE



Chris Clay

93 BLX

SEEKING

Niecy Davis, Program Director of 93BLX-FM is seeking professional, energetic air talent with 3 years experience. Production and computer skills a plus.

Send tapes and resumes to 1204 Dauphin Street, Mobile, AL 36604 as soon as possible.

Soul Train (Continued from page 9)

The rundown of winners included:

- TLC, who took home "Best R&B/Soul Single, Group, Band or Duo" for "Waterfalls", "Best R&B Soul Rap Music Video," also for "Waterfalls," "R&B Soul Album of the Year, Group, Band or Duo" for *CrazySexyCool*;
- D'Angelo got "Best R&B Soul or Rap New Artist," "R&B Soul LP of the Year, Male" for *Brown Sugar*; and "Best R&B Soul Single Male"
- "Best R&B Soul Single, Female" went to Whitney Houston's "Exhale (Shoop Shoop)"
- "R&B Soul or Rap Song of the Year" was "One More Chance" by Notorious B.I.G.



Boyz II Men

- "Best Jazz Album" went to Fourplay for *Elixir*
- "Best Gospel LP," The New Life Community Choir featuring John P. Kee for *Show Up*
- 2Pac's *Me Against The World* won "Best Rap Album"
- "R&B Soul LP of the Year, Female" was awarded to Mary J. Blige's *My Life*



Patti LaBelle

Around Town

By Jerry Sawyer

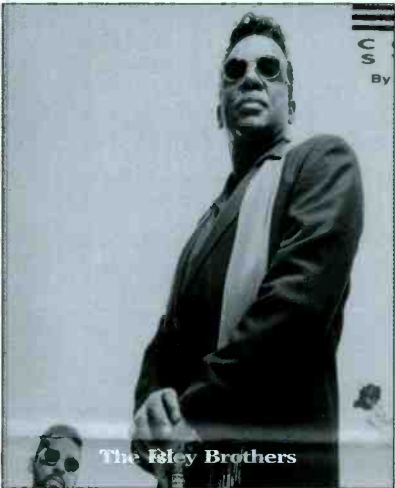
Soul Train Brings Out The Biggest

The Soul Train Music Awards bring out some of the biggest names in the music industry. During the days leading up to, and those following Soul Train's annual presentation, L.A. is the site of some of the biggest and most lavish parties. Although BRE wasn't able to make them all, we did run across some of the best parties and performances to hit the City Of Angels in a long while. It started on Thursday with Sprite Night at The Hollywood Palladium where most notable performances were by **Groove Theory** and **Domino**. Later in the evening **LL Cool J** at The House Of Blues took the crowd through his catalog of songs including performances of classics like "I'm Bad," and "I Need Love," and hits like "Hey Lover" and "Doin' It." In the house for L's performance were Def Jam CEO **Russell Simmons**, Sean "**Puffy**" **Combs**, **Salli Richardson**, **Salt-N-Pepa**, **Jamie Foxx**, and **Mr. Dalvin** from Jodeci. Jodeci was celebrating the double platinum status of their album *The Show, The After Party, The Hotel*. Mr. Dalvin was a busy man; he also made his way across town to Paradise 24 to witness performances by **Passion** and **Jesse Powell**.

Friday, following the Soultrain awards show, there were a number of parties going on around town. The Official Soul Train Awards Afterparty was held at the Century Club with a promised performance by **Boyz II Men**. Island Records threw a special bash at the House of Blues featuring a special and rousing performance by the Isley Brothers. The food was more than plenty and the house was packed. In another part of town, after winning the award for "Best Rap Album" for *Me Against The World*, **2Pac** celebrated the triple platinum status of his double album, *All Eyez On Me*, at the Death Row party in Santa Monica at The Museum Of Flying. The party featured a 2Pac performance, the high point being when Pac was joined on stage by labelmate **Snoop Dogg** for a rendition of "2 Of Amerika's Most Wanted." In the house were **Kam**, **Too Short**, **Tha Dogg Pound**, **Suge Knight**, Interscope exec **Step Johnson** and **Left Eye** from TLC. The "California Love" afterparty at the Sanctuary followed in Beverly Hills. This very private affair, which lasted until 5 in the morning, was low-key and celebrity packed....Saturday, Atlantic Records along with New York photographer, Nirto, threw the annual "East Meets West" press and publicists' brunch at the Hyatt on Sunset. That night the place to be was *Vibe* magazine's party at Paramount Studios in Hollywood. In the house for this exclusive engagement were **Queen Latifah**, **Tyson**, **T-Boz**, **Tevin Campbell**, **Tamia**, **D'Angelo**, **Robert Townsend**, **Faison Luv**, **Clark Kent**, **CeCe Penniston**, and **Method Man**.

Sunday afternoon provided a heated basketball game in the Music Industry Basketball League (M.I.B.L.) between two of the league's best, Biv 10 and Run'N Guns. The two battled until the very end with Biv 10 pulling out a last second victory. Cheering at the game were **Dana Dane**, **Flex**, and **Faith Evans**...Rounding out this four day weekend were two days of performances by **Bahamadia**, **Goodie Mob**, **The Roots**, and the **Fugees** at the House Of Blues (see review next week).

If you missed out on the events and are looking for something to do, check out the L.A. Social Club. This exclusive club which happens on the first Saturday of each month features pool and domino playing and is now located at the Hollywood Athletic Club. For more information contact Versatile Productions (213) 525-1498.



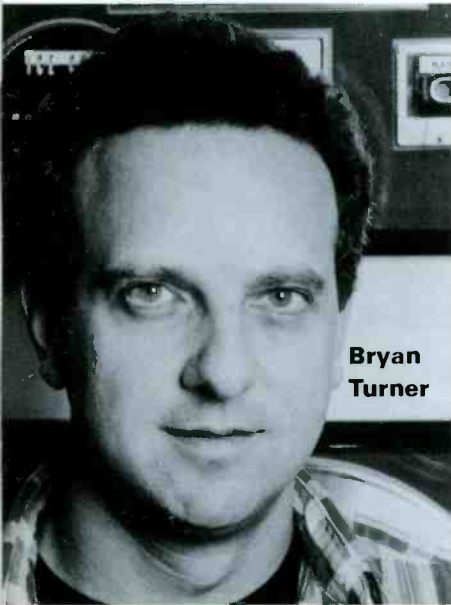
The Isley Brothers

Indie Insight

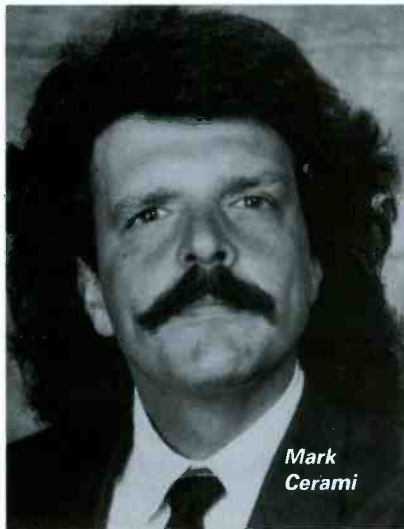
Music Still The Priority

By Jerry Sawyer

When **Bryan Turner** found himself unemployed after this company, K-Tel, filed for Chapter 11 he didn't hit the want ads. Instead he started his own record label, Priority Records. Turner and his partner **Mark Cerami**, who heads the sales department, brought in **Steve Drath** to handle administration. The label began by releasing compilations. The



Bryan Turner



Mark Cerami

first major success came with *Kings Of Rap*, which featured **Run-D.M.C.**, the **Fat Boys**, and **Whodini**. That was in 1985. By the end of the first year, Priority had grossed \$2.9 million. Priority continued on the successful compilation trail, releasing *Rap's Greatest Hits* the next year. Their gross jumped to \$7 million. In 1987, Priority acquired the rights to the **California Raisins** (remember the popular commercial) who released an album that sold more than 1 million copies.

1988 turned into a landmark year for the company when Turner met **Eric "Eazy-E" Wright** who was trying to get a production deal for his label Ruthless Records and a little known rap group named N.W.A.. Priority struck a deal with Eazy and his partner, **Jerry Heller**, to distribute the label. What followed was **N.W.A.'s** groundbreaking album *Straight Outta Compton*, and Eazy-E's *Eazy Duz It*. Both sold over 2 million units and catapulted Priority. It also placed west coast hip hop on the map as a major force in the music industry.

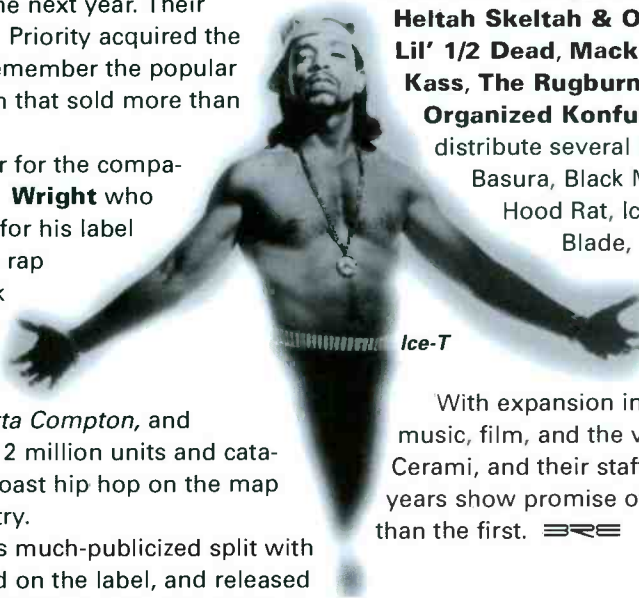
Two years later came **Ice Cube's** much-publicized split with N.W.A.. Despite this, Cube remained on the label, and released his first solo album, *Amerikka's Most Wanted*. It went platinum. That year also brought the release of N.W.A.'s second album, *EFIL4ZAGGIN*, which was Priority's first no. 1 hit. It too went platinum. Over the next few years, Cube released four more albums all of which went platinum; he also released an EP, *Kill At Will*, that went gold. When **Dr. Dre** departed Ruthless, he kept ties with Priority, including 1993's 3 million-selling release on Death Row, *The Chronic*, which helped Priority's gross for that year skyrocket to \$80 million. Priority hasn't only been rewarded with record sales, the industry has recognized its success. At the '93 and '94 NARM conventions Priority won "Independent Label Of The Year," making it the fifth time that had happened in six years.

For their tenth anniversary Priority decided to branch out to

film, launching Priority Films. Ice Cube's Ghetto Bird Prods. teamed up with Priority Films and New Line Cinema to produce *Friday*. Written by and starring Ice Cube, the film achieved domestic box office receipts exceeding \$27 million. The accompanying soundtrack, which featured Cube, Dr. Dre, **Cypress Hill**, **Scarface**, **Mack 10**, **Tha Alkaholiks**, and **2 Live Crew**, sold almost 2 million copies, while the first single by Dr. Dre "Keep Their Heads Ringin'" went gold.

Now entering their second decade Priority has grown from a small independent known primarily for its hard-core rap releases to the nation's largest independently owned and operated label. Their artist roster has expanded to include acts like **B.U.M.S.**, **Conscious Daughters**, **Cutty Ranks**, **Fab 5 Featuring Heltah Skeltah & O.G.C.**, **Homicide**, **Ice Cube**, **Ice T**, **Lil' 1/2 Dead**, **Mack 10**, **Magnapop**, **Nyoo**, **Paris**, **Ras Kass**, **The Rugburns**, **The X Members**, **Tha Truth**, and **Organized Konfusion**. They also distribute several labels including Basura, Black Market, Freeze, Hood Rat, Icehouse, Metal Blade, No Limit, Perrion, Rhythm Safari, Scarface, and Straight Out Tha Labb.

With expansion into other types of music, film, and the vision of Turner, Cerami, and their staff, the next ten years show promise of being even better than the first. 



Ice-T



Ice Cube

Upcoming Priority Releases

4/9	Soundtrack/Various	<i>The Substitute</i>
5/21	Magnapop	<i>Rubbing Doesn't Help</i>
5/21	Lil' 1/2 Dead	<i>Steel On A Mission</i>
6/4	ICE-T	<i>VI: Return Of The Real</i>
6/11	X Members	<i>Down With The Average Joe</i>
6/18	Heltah Skeltah	<i>Nocturnal</i>
6/25	Westside Connection	TBD
7/2	NWA	"NWA Greatest Hits"



BLACK ENTERTAINMENT'S PREMIERE MAGAZINE FOR 20 YEARS

BRE

20th

ISSUE NUMBER 07 VOLUME XX THREE DOLLARS

20 Years of Celebrating Black Music

BRE's '96 Conference Music Festival

MAR. 15
'96



**BRE'S 20th ANNIVERSARY CONFERENCE
BLACK MUSIC CELEBRATION
The New Power Generation
June 5-9, Charlotte, NC**

BRE celebrates its twentieth anniversary this year and has selected a variety of events to commemorate being the voice of black radio. This year's annual conference, themed, *The New Power Generation*, doesn't imply everyone under thirty, but it does address those who represent the new power—some of who are definitely under thirty—but age is not the criterion. Power is. And new power more specifically.

Consequently *Charlotte, North Carolina*, an upcoming new power city located in the center of the most heavily concentrated black radio area was chosen as this year's site.

June, Black Music Month, appropriately addresses our new focus at the conference—a *music celebration*. The four day conference will include a music festival offsite from the hotel with an all-star line-up of top talent in a day long event catering to the BRE conference attendees with VIP treatment, yet also open to the public. BRE's annual *industry awards* presentations will be included in this program with many of the top radio programmers involved on-stage. Television and radio broadcasts will further increase the exposure. *Booths, Hospitality Tents, and Food Courts* will support the 8 hour concert.

The new power *Golf Tournament* will tee off Thursday morning at 8am and the *Celebrity Basketball Game* will pit radio against record industry executives with entertainment celebrities choosing teams on Friday. And if there are enough daredevils, a *Demolition Derby* will take place on Saturday. A new *movie premiere* and, for the first time, a *musical play* are anticipated. *Fat Tuesdays*, or a city walk with clubs and dining areas will showcase many of the upcoming *new power talent* as well as the *hotel clubhouse* on a daily basis. Wednesday night will showcase the *Charlotte talent*. Parties, receptions, happy hour, and hotel shows will be part of the daily fare.

Daily panels spotlighting the *new power generation* will answer the questions...*who's got it...how to get it...and how to keep it...*with some specific how to's. Four simultaneous panels will run each morning and afternoon on Thursday and Friday. Saturday will feature a *Job Fair* for the radio, retail and record industry with labels and stations set up to interview and greet new power people. The *Second Generation*—the sons and daughters of current industry professionals and the many college students interested in the entertainment industry—will also be given special access.



BRE 20th Conference Musical Celebration '96

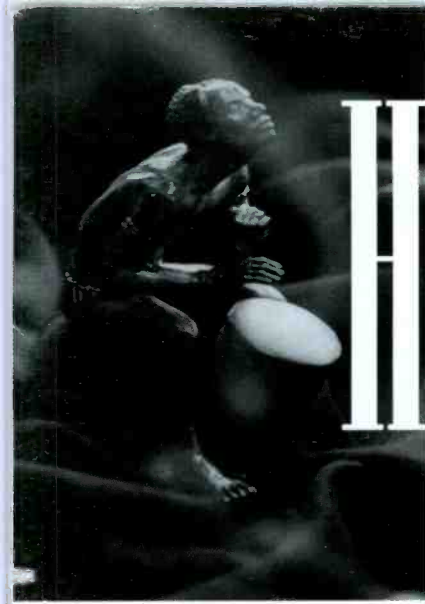
June 5-9

Tentative Schedule

	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Registration	2-8	9-7	9-7	9-1
Continental Breakfasts		9-10	9-11	9-11
Foyer Booths	2-8	9-6	9-6	9-1
Golf Tournament*		8-2		
AM Panels (4 simultaneous)		10-11:30	10-11:30	10-11:30
NBPC Board Mtg				9-10
NBPC General Session				10-11
2nd Generation Brunch				9-11
Keynote Speech				11:30
Luncheon Shows		12-2	12-2	
Music Celebration*				2-10
includes booths, food courts, hospitality tents Industry Awards presentations				
PM Panels(4 simultaneous)		2:30-4	2:30-4	
Happy Hour / Showcases		4-6	4-6	
Celebrity Basketball*			5-7	
Movie Premiere*		6-8		
Musical Play *	8-10			
Shows		8-10	8-10	
Party/Showcases	11-2	11-2	11-2	11-2

Video Network runs 24 hours daily over host hotel TV network

*Offsite of Host Hotel



How Hip-Hop's Boy Wonder Regulates

By Donna Torrence

Chris Lighty, president of Violator Records, is known around the industry as "Baby Chris" partly because of his age (he's 26) and partly because of the sweet baby face and little boy smile he flashes. He is also known as the man who not only built a strong and solid management company as the head of Def Jam's RUSH Management, but the one who was

responsible for bringing multi-platinum West Coast artist Warren G to his Def Jam distributed label, Violator.

Presently bi-coastal, working on Warren G's new

album in L.A. while also supervising production on Mobb Deep's new LP due out in June, hip-hop's baby boy took a moment from his studio time to talk to BRE about how he regulates.

His success did not go unnoticed. Catching the attention of Def Jam president Lyor Cohen and CEO Russell Simmons, Lighty inked a management and distribution deal with the label. The deal placed Lighty in charge of Simmons' RUSH Management, an artist management company, and brought Lighty's Violator to Def Jam. Lighty immediately went to work building a successful management company, bringing on board artists such as Leaders of the New School, Brand Nubians, Tribe Called Quest, De La Soul, Third Base and others.

While rollin' in L.A. circles, loving that "G Funk" sound, Lighty was turned on to Warren G, the brother of Dr. Dre. "Dre's album *The Chronic* had just dropped. And all you heard about was the 'Warren to the G.' Snoop talked about him all over the *Chronic* album. He had a song called "Indo Smoke" on the soundtrack for John Singleton's *Poetic Justice*. "John Singleton's a good friend of mine and introduced us. We worked out something and got into the studio working on his album." Warren G's Violator LP, *Regulate...The G Funk Era*, was a multi-platinum selling CD.

What's Lighty's latest accomplishments as Def Jam's vp of A&R as well as president of Violator and what is now Violator Management? For starters, as executive producer of L.L. Cool J's LP *Mr. Smith*, Def Jam has realized their highest-selling single ever with "Hey Lover." On the management side: "Woo-hah!," the first single from Lighty-managed Busta Rhyme's LP reached platinum sales in just two and a half weeks. Lighty and his company are also in the midst of spearheading the production of several LPs for Violator artists Warren G and Foxy Brown, as well as work with Bone Thugs & Harmony and Mobb Deep. Lighty's organization also manages Tribe Called Quest and producers LES and Diamond D. The latest to sign with Violator are CRU, who Lighty describes as the next Tribe, and Flesh Bone from Bone Thugs, who will make his solo debut on Violator.

How does Lighty wear all of these hats at once? He has the help of partner and colleague Mona Scott, who came to Lighty with production, management and A&R experience. She's the woman holding down the fort while Lighty spends time in the studio seeking out new talent.

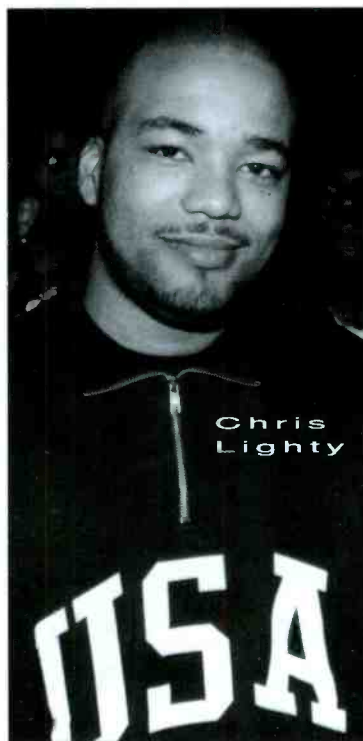
At 26, Lighty, Baby Chris, or whatever you call him, knows how to regulate.

Donna Torrance has written for *Upscale*, *Black Elegance*, and *One World*.

NEW POWER GENERATION BRE Conference Theme

Born in the Bronx and raised during hip hop's rise from the streets of his neighborhood to mainstream, well-known DJ Red Alert took Lighty under his wing. Lighty went from carrying crates for Red to carrying equipment on the road for the many groups Red was affiliated with. Next he became road manager for both the Jungle Brothers and Tribe Called Quest. Working with Red Alert Prods. and the artists in Red's camp (then known as Native Tongue, which included De La Soul, The Jungle Brothers and Moni Love) gave Lighty his first real whiff of the music biz—how it ran, what was involved in making a hit and how important it was to come with something new and original. "We were jazzy and abstract. We were rhyiming about different things and sampling from different sources. We were doing just the opposite from what everyone else was doing at the time. If they were hard-core then we were jazzy. If they were sampling rock n' roll, we were sampling blues," says Lighty.

The production company "Baby Sounds" is what came out of Lighty's fast education with Red and Native Tongue. And soon after, raising his aspirations to the next level, Violator Records emerged. Taking his lead from the Russells and Andres of the industry, Lighty approached the Queens-based rock 'n roll label Relativity with an opportunity to get in on the hip-hop action. Closing the deal, Lighty took the helm of Violator and realized success with his first act, Chi Ali (selling over 200,000 units) and saw further hits with Fat Joe and the Beatnuts.



LIONEL RICHELIE LOUDER THAN WORDS



Album Available Now!

LBR MUSIC

PRODUCED BY LIONEL RICHELIE, JAMES ANTHONY CARMICHAEL,
JIMMY JAM AND TERRY LEWIS, AND DAVID FOSTER

MANAGEMENT: FREDDY DEMANN
THE DEMANN ENTERTAINMENT CO.



© 1996 POLYGRAM RECORDS, INC.