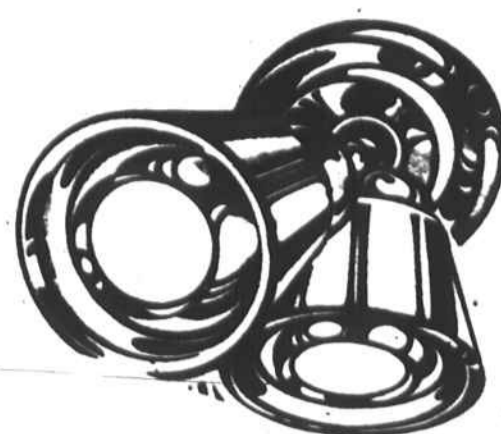


of Entertainment



W-S

Chronicle

Triad ... Check it out!

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Oates Acclaimed By Audiences, Critics

Warren Oates who stars as Hammond Maxwell in "Drum," United Artists release opening Now at the Parkview Theatre, is one of America's finest actors, shooting to the top some years ago when critics and audiences took note of his extraordinary performances in two films released simultaneously: as Arch in Peter Fonda's "The Hired Hand" and as the fantastic GTO in Monte Hellman's "Two Lane Blacktop."

His most recent films include: (in reverse order) "Drum," "92 in the Shade," "Race With the Devil," "Born to Kill," "Bring Me The Head of Alfredo Garcia."

Warren Oates was born in Depoy, Kentucky, a poverty pocket town deep in the coal mining district. His father ran the general store there until the depression when he was forced to close his business and find work on the road. As a child, Oates picked strawberries for two cents a quart, wormed tobacco for 25 cents a day and loaded sand onto trucks for road builders.

At 18 Oates joined the Marines and after a two-year stint as an airplane mechanic, entered the University of Louisville and was introduced to drama when he read Eugene O'Neill's "Mourning Becomes Electra."

In 1954 he headed for Broadway and began to get work on live TV in New York playing roles on such long-gone shows as "Studio One" and "Philco Television Playhouse." When live TV ended in New York, Oates borrowed \$50 and drove to Hollywood—a bumpy road that finally led to fame and fortune.

On Location

In San Juan filming for "Drum," United Artists release opening at the Theatre, was done at famed El Morro Fort, the ancient bastion built more than 250 years ago by two Irish-Spanish Army officers, Marshal Alejandro O'Reilly and Engineer Thomas O'Daly. It was here that scenes of some 250 blacks, just off the slave ship, move up from the docks to an auction block to be sold to plantation owners.

The Cast

- Warren Oates
- Isela Vega
- Ken Norton
- Pam Grier
- Yaphet Kotto
- John Colicos
- Fiona Lewis
- Paula Kelly
- Royal Dano
- Lillian Hayman
- Rainbeaux Smith
- Alain Patrick
- Brenda Sykes
- Clay Tanner
- Lila Finn
- Henry Wills

Ken Norton Finds Fighting, Acting Quite Similar

Fighting and acting are rather similar, says Ken Norton, the No. 1 challenger to Muhammad Ali's world championship title.

Norton, starring with Warren Oates, Isela Vega, Pam Grier, Yaphet Kotto and John Colicos in "Drum," the United Artists release, certainly has the knowledge and ability to make a statement like that.

He has been boxing since 1967, at which time he was in the Marine corps and friends got him interested in the fight game.

And he starred in a motion picture prior to "Drum," the boxoffice hit "Mandingo." "Drum," which will open Now at the Parkview Theatre, has the same theme and setting as "Mandingo."

In "Drum," scripted by Norman Wexler from the Kyle Onstott best-selling novel, Norton stars in the title role, the principle character who tries to stem a slave revolt. The film is set against the turbulent background of the 1850's just before the Civil War in the New Orleans area and deals with the slave trade and life on a plantation.

Also, Norton mixes it up in a bare knuckles fight with Kotto, who played Jack Johnson on Broadway in "The Great White Hope" and was highly acclaimed for his role of Crunch in "Report to the Commissioner."

To Norton, fighting professionally and acting are similar because both are demanding pursuits, especially if you wish to succeed in them. Both require much preparation, research, and then in the actual performance are strenuous, pushing one to the limit, Norton knows.



Still DR-10 **Mat 1A**
An enraged Ken Norton raises his pistol in preparation to storming a plantation manor and burning it. Norton has the title role in "Drum," a United Artists release opening Now at the Parkview Theatre.

Mexican Actress Appears in 'Drum'

Isela Vega, who stars in the pulsating drama "Drum," which opens at the Theatre through United Artists release, is a sensational Mexican actress, who rose from secondary roles in more than a score of films in her native country to where she has now become Latin America's biggest box office female attraction with more than 25 films to her credit.

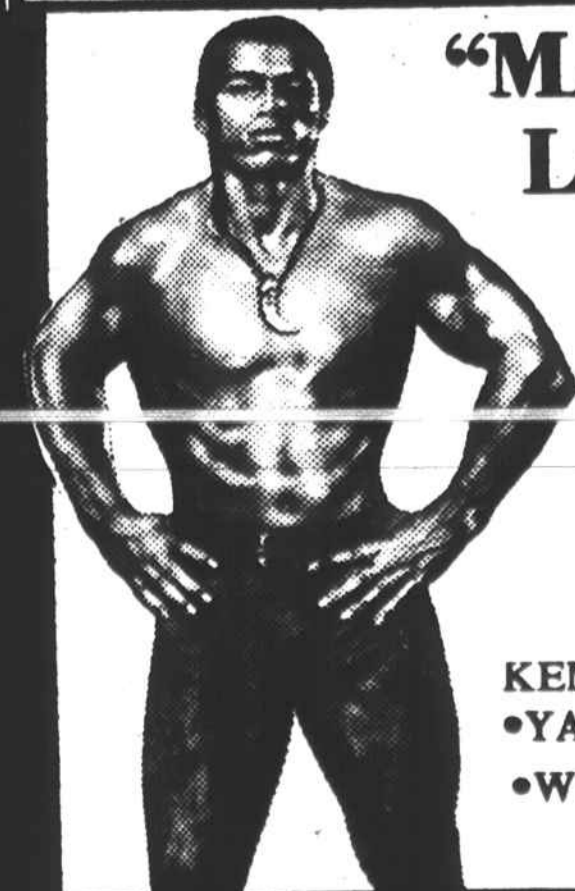
It's been that way since the late 1960's when she began to be cast opposite such prominent leading men in Mexico as Jorge Rivero, Mauricio Garcés, Jorge Luke (her second husband) and Mario Moreno (Cantinflas) among others. She has appeared in one other American-made motion picture—also opposite Warren Oates—in "Bring Me The Head of Alfredo Garcia."



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"DRUM"

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• YAPHET KOTTO
• WARREN OATES



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