

Close-Up

positive image, but that these types of roles for blacks will only continue if blacks in the audience write in and say what they want.

"It's very important that you write them. Show that you are out there. A lot of times they think you'll watch 'All My Children' anyway, regardless of what happens to Jesse. But unless you say you want to see more positive things, they won't do it."

While Fargas is a dedicated performer, he has not isolated himself from conditions in the world around him. He says one of his biggest concerns is that blacks preserve their heritage, and he has very definite ideas on how to go about it.

"We may be obsolete as a cultural people by the year 2000," says Fargas. "It's very important that we look at our culture as it is today. Young people need to talk to the older people and find out what this country was like when our grandparents were around."

"The South is a treasure chest of culture. We're losing touch with what we have," adds Fargas. "A lot of us went north to the different cities, and we lost it then. Lots of times people say,

'I'm from New York,' when they're really from South Carolina. They've only been in New York for three weeks, and they want to forget their image."

Fargas says Hollywood writers need the stories and images from older people to be able to write black history correctly.

Taking his commitment to his audience and fans seriously, Fargas says it is good for him to get out in public and get an appreciation of what people like and what they want. He says actors need to be in touch with the people they represent.

Although Fargas has achieved worldwide fame, his speech and actions convey a down-to-earth personality which makes his audience feel more like friends than strangers.

"I like to walk down the street. I like to say hello to people," says the veteran performer. "I like to answer requests. It makes me know you like what I do, as well as express what you don't like about what I do. I'm sensitive about that. I try to live up to my Americanism and my blackism."

Fargas, who has been performing for 26 years, says he is fortunate to have achieved the success he has in his career. He credits the time he spent studying

his craft with allowing him to attain his celebrity.

"You can't just do it. You must study," says Fargas. "I've been fortunate. It's a tough business, and it's very competitive."

Fargas calls his first love, the stage, a place that "separates the men from the boys" and says that he is secure in knowing that he can always come back to the stage and nurture his craft.

Fargas, who is of Caribbean parentage, says he likes to meet people to let them know "I'm not as crazy as my characters." He says, "Even at my auditions, people say 'where's Huggy Bear, why aren't you dressed like Huggy Bear?'"

"But it doesn't bother me a lot because I try to be true to the characters I portray and really get to know my character."

Fargas says his biggest accomplishment has been to develop a balanced, artistic lifestyle which allows him to have an open-minded outlook on life and prevents him from making judgments.

While blacks are beginning to get more roles in films and on television, Fargas warns actors against becoming complacent.

"We can't rest on our laurels

because we see one guy on 'Miami Vice' or the soap operas," says Fargas. "Minorities are coming into fashion on TV. If you're fashionable, you're in."

Fargas agrees with industry observers who say blacks are becoming more visible but hesitates to confirm that things are getting better for blacks in the industry.

"It goes in cycles. Because of the success of the 'Cosby Show,' it has put more emphasis on the fact that blacks can do well in television," says Fargas. "We have a commerciality, and that is being emphasized now. We don't have to be stereotyped."

Many fans would probably expect the actor who played the vivacious Huggy Bear to indulge in elaborate, eccentric pastimes which would be well suited to his character. While Huggy Bear may have lived up to those expectations, Fargas says he spends his leisure time "being a daddy, doing housework and painting the house."

Born and raised in New York, Fargas lives in Rhode Island with his wife and two young sons. The versatile actor refuses to take sole credit for his career and says he owes his accomplishments to

"the man upstairs." "We have to keep wanting. We have to say our own experiences are special," says Fargas. "I feel good about where I am, about myself and what I do."

Calendar From Page A6

Sister volunteers will be held at 7 p.m. at the Big Brothers/Big Sisters office at 610 Coliseum Drive. Call 724-7993 for more information.

THURSDAY, OCT. 10

• The Children's Theatre Board Inc. will sponsor a performance of "Look to the Stars" at 10 a.m. at the Arts Council Theatre, 610 Coliseum Drive. For more information call Sara Hollen at 724-7326.

FRIDAY, OCT. 18

• The Forsyth County Civic Club will hold its annual banquet at Winston-Salem State University at 7:30 p.m. in Kennedy Hall. The guest speaker will be Chancellor Cleon Thompson Jr. For more information call 748-1577 or 945-5375.

PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

• The YWCA will hold after-school programs for elementary school children until 6 p.m. Monday through Friday at 1201 Glade St. Activities will include swimming, skating, crafts and games. Transportation is provided from area schools. The cost is \$24 per week for Y members. A \$10 registration fee is required. For more information call 722-5138.

• Deboora Winfrey and Bert Grisard of Big Brothers/Big Sisters will hold a five-week seminar for single parents beginning Wednesday, Oct. 16. The seminar will be held from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. every Wednesday at the office. Challenges faced by single parents will be discussed, and ideas will be shared by the group. There is no charge; however, \$5 donations for refreshments will be accepted. Registration is required by Oct. 11. For more information call 724-7993.

• Can you help someone who has just experienced the death of a loved one? Can you help families who have someone dying at home? Hospice of Winston-Salem needs volunteers to meet these needs. The next training program for all volunteers begins Oct. 4. Schedules are available at the Hospice office at 768-3972.

• The Family Services Inc. Child Development Division will sponsor a Child Care Food Program. Meals will be available at no separate charge to children enrolled at Tobaccoville Child Development Center and Family Services Inc. For more information call 727-0617.

NCCU to sponsor Student Visitation Day

North Carolina Central University will welcome area high school students for a High School/Prospective Student Visitation Day on Saturday, Oct. 12.

Students attending the visitation day will be part of the crowd attending a nationally televised football game. NCCU will play Norfolk State University at noon before the cameras of Black Entertainment Television, which will distribute the game to cable television outlets across the country.

Students registering by Oct. 4 will attend the game free. Late registrants will be required to pay for their tickets.

Invitations have been mailed to each high school guidance and counseling office in North Carolina. The program will begin at 10 a.m. in B.N. Duke Auditorium on NCCU's campus.

The program will include an orientation, campus tours and a luncheon for early registrants.

People On The Move

Bailey chosen college board chairman

Beaufort O. Bailey has been elected chairman of the Forsyth Technical College Board of Trustees for 1985-86.

Bailey, media director at Winston-Salem State University, has been interim chairman since June 30, when John Arrowood's term expired. Bailey was appointed to the Board by the Winston-Salem/Forsyth County

Board of Education and will serve until 1987.

Sarah Puryear, police information analyst, has been elected second vice president of the National Police Planners Association. She was elected at a national conference held in Portsmouth, Va.

Puryear has been in the Police Department for 12 years.

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| B. BEAUTY CASE | \$66 ⁵⁰ | CASUAL CARRY-ON | \$91 ⁰⁰ |
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| C. DELUXE GARMENT BAG | 108 ⁵⁰ | 3-SUITER | 140 ⁰⁰ |
| Suggested Retail \$155 | | Suggested Retail \$200 | |
| D. 24" WITH WHEELS | 108 ⁵⁰ | 4-SUITER | 161 ⁰⁰ |
| Suggested Retail \$155 | | Suggested Retail \$230 | |
| 26" WITH WHEELS | 129 ⁵⁰ | 29" WITH WHEELS | 150 ⁵⁰ |
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Manager Larry Clapp, left, and Ronald Couthen have a variety of Zero Halliburton attache cases at Hamilton Luggage.