



WBTV COSBY AND GUESTS—Oscar-winner Sidney Poitier (right) and Emmy-winner Harry Belafonte (left) flank Bill Cosby as guest stars on the premiere broadcast of his comedy-variety series "The New Bill Cosby Show," on WBTV Monday, September 11 at 10:00 p.m. on Channel 3.

New Bill Cosby Show Premieres Here Sept. 11

Comedy and variety merge to offer a satirical look at contemporary American life in "The New Bill Cosby Show."

which premieres on WBTV Monday, September 11 at 10:00 p.m. on Channel 3 with Oscar-winner Sidney Poitier and Emmy-winner Harry Belafonte as special guest stars of Bill Cosby.

Cosby, as a trapped cheap-skate, treats Poitier and Belafonte to a lavish dinner at a plush soul-food restaurant.

Cast regulars dancer-singer-comedienne Lofa Falana, comedienne Susan Tolsky and comedian Foster Brooks are featured with Cosby and his guests in other sketches. Among them are Cosby and Belafonte in "Black History Mystery," and Cosby, Poitier and Belafonte appearing as a "black militant" chorus.

Also comedienne Gwenn Mitchell helps Cosby demonstrate the predicament of a man married to a housewife who is a news-broadcast freak.

Poitier, portraying the devil tempts Cosby, as an impoverished bum, in one comedy sketch.

Belafonte sings "Tone the Bell Easy" as a solo, and "Please Don't Stop the Carnival" in an explosive production number involving the entire cast of the show.

In another comedy sketch,

Top 20 Tunes

TOP TWENTY TUNES

- (1) Baby, Let Me Take You In My Arms By Detroit Emeralds
- (2) Back Stabbers By The O'Jays
- (3) Think By Lyn Collins
- (4) Where Is The Love By Donny Hathaway - Roberta Flack.
- (5) Power of Love By Joe Simon
- (6) Looking Through The Window By The Jackson Five.
- (7) Good Foot By James Brown
- (8) I'm Still In Love With You By Al Green.
- (9) Close To You By Jerry Butler - Brenda Lee
- (10) Pop That Thang By The Isley Brothers
- (11) This World By The Staple Singers
- (12) If Loving You Is Wrong I Don't Want To Be Right By Luther Ingram
- (13) I Miss You By Harold Melvin & The Blue Notes
- (14) Everybody Plays The Fool By The Main Ingredient
- (15) Use Me By Bill Withers
- (16) School of Love By Tommy Tate
- (17) My Man Is A Sweet Man By Millie Jackson
- (18) Sweet Caroline By Bobby Womack
- (19) Honky Tonk By James Brown
- (20) Look What They've Done To My Song, Ma, By Ray Charles

Chamber Of Commerce To Honor Raper Jonas

The Charlotte Chamber of Commerce will honor Ninth District Congressman Charles Raper Jonas at a gala testimonial dinner Tuesday, September 12, at 7 p.m. in Charlotte's White House Inn.

Chamber of Commerce President John Ryan, in making the announcement, said, "Congressman Jonas has represented this district for the past 22 years and has distinguished himself with his dedication and devotion to his congressional duties and his constituents."

"Now, on the occasion of his retirement from public service," continued Ryan, "we feel it is time for the people of his district to let him know of their sincere appreciation and warm regard for his almost quarter century of service to his fellow North Carolinians."

Jonas announced his retirement from elective office earlier this year and his decision to return to private law practice in Lincolnton, his hometown. Jonas is com-

pleting his eleventh consecutive two-year term of office in the Congress of the United States. He is the ranking Republican on the House Appropriations Committee.

Chamber President Ryan also announced a bi-partisan committee to plan and coordinate the occasion which will be headed by Charlotte banker George H. Broadrick, a former Charlotte Chamber President. Serving with him on the committee will be Charlotte attorney Marcus Hickman and Tom Creasey and Powell Majors, Executive Director of the Central Piedmont Community College Foundation, Inc.

Reservations can be phoned in by calling 377-6911. Dinner music will be provided by Lounis McGlohan and his orchestra and dress will be informal.

Lester Strong Hosts Black Oriented Show

On September 10th WBTV, Channel 3, will premiere "The Lester Strong Show," a Black oriented program which has as its objective to bridge the gap between people of varying beliefs and backgrounds in order to bring about better understanding and communication.

The premiere show will feature entertainment by Pervis Lee, a well-known Charlotte entertainer and musician, plus an educational feature on certain aspects of Black History. The topic of Religion has been chosen as the first discussion theme and will be discussed by host Lester Strong and several local religious leaders.

Each program will be structured with three basic segments - musical entertainment, discussions with community leaders centered around singular themes, and Black Perspectives. The new program will be presented twice monthly.

The musical segments will feature groups and individual performers from the immediate area who will play numbers ranging from Jazz, Rhythm and Blues to Folk and Gospel.

The discussion interviews will be with varying outstanding community leaders facing the Black community. Each of these interviews will be based on themes rather than the specific individuals.

A citizens response segment will be interspersed in the Black Perspectives segment in which local citizens will have the opportunity to speak out on controversial items. It will also contain filmed segments and Black History features.

The host of the show, Lester Strong, will be a familiar face to WBTV viewers in that he has previously been the host of Channel 3's "Right On" series.

Strong is a 1972 graduate of Davidson College and is considered one of the most outstanding young men in North Carolina.

Drag Is Promoted Sales Manager With Prudential

Robert E. Drag, 1901 Leo Lillie Lane, has been promoted to sales manager in the Charlotte District Agency of the Prudential Insurance Company, according to an announcement today by J. Robert Duncan, manager.

Bob is a native of Grayslake, Illinois and was educated in public schools there. Bob joined Prudential as an agent in Charlotte in May, 1969.

A member of the Charlotte Life Underwriters Association, Bob is also active in the Optimist Club.



LESTER STRONG ... Hosts own show

While at Davidson College he was a member of the Varsity Basketball team, headed the Black Student

Coalition, an ROTC Officer, President of the Davidson College Union, selected as Charlotte-Mecklenburg's Most Outstanding Young Man for the year of 1972, Who's Who in American Colleges, and a Thomas J. Watson Fellow which entitles him to a one year's overseas study scholarship which he will soon take in East Africa.

All in all "The Lester Strong Show" will present entertainment at its finest and educational material which should provide a clear insight into the inner workings of the Black community. Be sure to tune in for the premiere of this all-new variety show on WBTV September 10 at 10:30 p.m.



Premiering Sunday

The Lester Strong Show

with entertainment by special guest Pervis Lee plus a feature on Black history and a discussion of religion in the Black Community.

10:30 p.m. Sunday

WBTV CHARLOTTE

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