

LISA COLLINS

**Behind
The
Scenes**



Lasting legacy: MCA Records next No. 1 release is almost guaranteed to be the posthumous album collection they're set to release this week from the late Tupac Shakur.



SHAKUR

Expected to enter the Billboard charts at No. 1, the new album, "The Don Killuminati - The 7-Day Theory," was recorded by the slain rapper under the pseudonym Makaveli shortly before Shakur was shot Sept. 7 on the Las Vegas strip. The album touches on familiar themes for Shakur - guns, politics, sex and revenge. One of the more sensational cuts, "Me and My Girlfriend," is an unconventional ballad in which Shakur pledges devotion to his favorite pistol in an even more unconventional light.

Meanwhile, bowing this week at the nation's box offices is "Set It Off" with actresses Jada Pinkett, Vivica Fox and "Living Single" star Queen Latifah in lead roles. Both Pinkett and Latifah get high marks for their roles in "Set It Off," which is about four women who grew up together in Los Angeles and in an act of desperation, set out to rob a bank. In pulling off the heist, they then discover they like it. Also starring in the film is Blair Underwood, who is paired as the romantic interest of Pinkett. Latifah plays a street-wise lesbian. Rounding out the foursome is Kimberly Elise.

A toast to the Whispers: The Whispers hit the stage

Nov. 5-10 at the Wiltern Theatre in Los Angeles for a self-styled musical production titled "Thank God! The Beat Goes On." The production is an autobiographical piece which tells the story of the famed R&B group's rise (and many struggles) in the record business. Of course, the Whispers - twins Walter and Scotty Scott, Nicolas Caldwell and Leavell Degree - play themselves. Jazz vocalist Alyson Williams co-stars in the production in the production in the role of Phyllis Hyman who had worked closely with the Whispers in the course of their recording careers. If all goes well, the group is sure to take their act on the road. At present, they are not signed to a label deal. Their last album, "Toast To The Ladies," was released early last year.

For The Record: A second annual report on the depictions of violence in network television (conducted by the UCLA Center for Communication Policy) concludes that the networks are on the right track, with just five of 114 prime time series monitored rating "frequent concerns" for their violent content. Among the five prime-time shows which raised frequent red flags are "New York Undercover" and "Walker, Texas Ranger." Not surprisingly, theatrical films making their debuts on network TV is where most of the violence remains.

Art imitating life: It didn't take long for Hollywood to surmise that there might be a real story behind the highly publicized CIA-crack cocaine conspiracy that has nabbed top headlines in recent news. Now it turns out that Touchstone Pictures (Disney) is reportedly negotiating a deal to develop a feature film based on the controversial series of articles that first surfaced in the San Jose Mercury News alleging that CIA-backed Contras transported crack cocaine into South Central Los Angeles to raise money.

By the way: Smokey

Robinson, Diana Ross, Stevie Wonder and the Temptations were among those in attendance at ceremonies for Motown Records founder Berry Gordy, who recently received a star on the legendary Hollywood Walk of Fame.

Actor Richard Roundtree recently joined the lineup for Disney's forthcoming live-action film version of "George of the Jungle," now shooting in Los Angeles. In the new version of the cartoon made popular in the '60s, Roundtree plays a guide hired to lead an African jungle expedition that eventually discovers "George."

Finally, you can add Whoopi Goldberg to the growing list of big name stars currently boy-



GOLDBERG

cotting "Entertainment Tonight" in protest to the "stalking" tactics employed by its sister magazine "Hard Copy," in their attempts to gather celebrity information. In a written statement, the actress reports that she won't do any interviews with ET until something is done about "Hard Copy."

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COCA COLA "EDUCATOR" OF THE MONTH
DAISY ROGERS WALKER
Principal
WILSON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Mrs. Daisy Walker, principal of Wilson Middle is currently enrolled at South Carolina State University in the Doctoral Program. She received her Eds Degree in '93, Principal's Certificate in '88, and Masters Degree in '86 from UNC-Charlotte, and BA in English from Winston-Salem State University in 1969. There is no question to her dedication and love of higher learning. She realizes that one must know more, to teach more.

Prior to accepting her post at Wilson in 1995, Mrs. Walker was Principal(94-95) and Assistant Principal(87-94) at Garinger High School, taught at Randolph Junior High School 1969-1987, taught English part-time at Central Piedmont Community College 1969-1979, and was Summer School Site Administrator at various schools 1988-1990.

She recognizes the importance of professional development, and has participated in the following courses/seminars: Alcohol/Drug Education Seminar (89), Superintendent's "Excellence in Teaching and Instructional Leadership" Task Force (concentration on parental and student involvement 1989), was Facilitator/Presenter for UNCC Conference on Reading and Writing (87-88), Career Advisor Assessment Team (1989), Administrator's Conference (87-91), Management Training (87), NC Center for the Advancement of Teaching (87-89), Curriculum Council (89), Task Force for Drop Out Prevention (89-92), Middle School Conference and Task Force (91 & 95) Yale University School Development (95-96), and many others.

Fortunately, her dedication has not gone un-noticed, she has received awards and honors to include: "Teacher of the Year" (85-86), First Union "Teacher of the Year" (84-85), Career Teacher (85), Schools of Excellence Award (89), National Beta Club Award (85/Advisor), Award for effective implementation of the "Goal of the Year", 100% PTSA membership for Faculty and Staff (Garinger H.S. first time ever 80-95), Chairperson for United Way - 100% for school 87-89), Assistant Principal of the Year for NCAE (1989 & 1992), N.C. Assistant Principal of the Year for NCAE (1993), "Class Act" - Channel 9, WSOC-TV, recommended by Student Executive (91-92), voted by Garinger H.S. Student Government as Administrator of the Year (92-94), honored by Student Government GHS for African-American History (1995), and presented an Award as chairperson for involving all CMS middle schools in "Crisis of the Black Male" by Dr. Kawanza Kunjunfu (1990).

This recognition speaks for itself, we invest our time in what we believe in, and Daisy does just that.

She is married to Willie Walker, Sr., they attend, and are very active members of Friendship Missionary Baptist Church.

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