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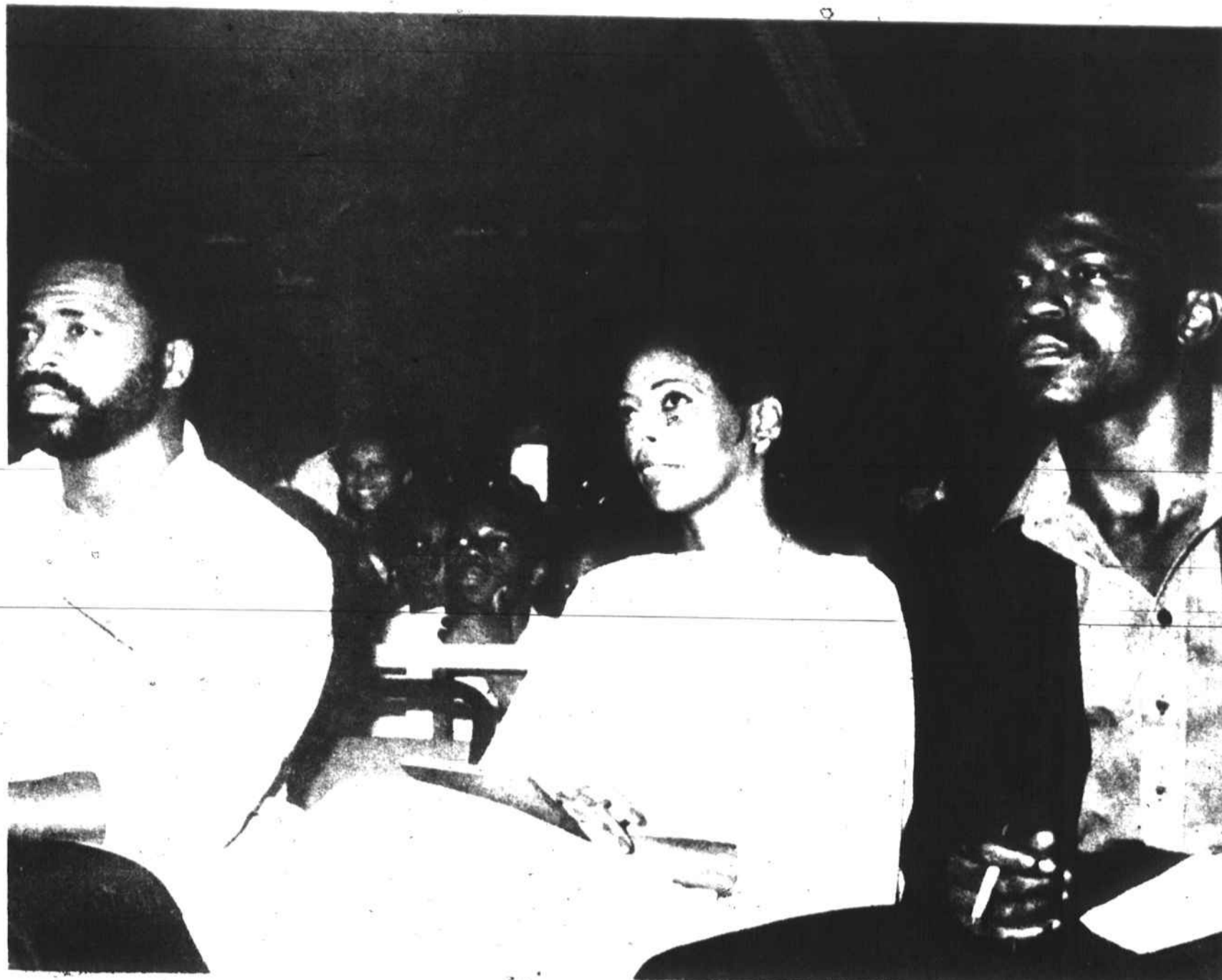


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Boogie Night



The joy of victory is clearly evident on the faces of Willie Jones, 14, [left] after they won the eight week teen disco dancing contest at Disco 2000 Friday night. For their labors, they won \$200 and individual trophies. The winners danced against three other couples as judges Horace Fulton, Carolyn Clemmons and Leon Malone [above] watched intently. The other finalists were: Chris Peoples, Yvette Carter, Brenda Smith, Malcolm Ross, Trelis Wilson and Demarest Leaper.

Staff Photos by Templeton

Billy Rowe's Notebook

NEW YORK -- Motown, the giant among the nations black controlled businesses and a proverbial bean-stalk for a number of white executives, has put on a new pair of 7-league boots. The Detroit found record co. has announced plans to revitalize its production arm and make some big strides along entertainment row.

Future plans call the chairman Berry Gordy to direct Diana Ross' screen living the life of the fabulous Josephine Baker, a screen play that will depict the life of disco queen Regine and another celluloid feature filled with the life of Susan B. Anthony, plus a make of Jon Bradshaw's "The Mercenaries."

In this same bracket, the wax works will put together for ABC a telefilm from the life of the legendary screen actress, Gene Tierney starring Jaclyn Smith, the

"Charlie's Angel graduate. Another vidfilm, "Friends and Enemies," which film star John Cassavetes has been commissioned to script and direct, will top line Billy Dee Williams in a remake of "Nightmare Alley." Arnold Orgolini and Peter Nelson have been handed veep titles and the responsibility of greening the bottom line with these operations for screen and tube.

HEADED FOR B'WAY TOO -- Having already tested the B'way legit climate this now L.A. based record industry conglomerate has cast 500G's on the production waters of Ashton Springer, the big Apple's most successful black producer, who is bring "Daddy Goodness" to the boards.

Adapted from a play by the late Richard Wright, and first marquee'd by the

Negro Ensemble Co. during its '68-69 season. "Daddy" is on the fall '79-80 B'way timetable, after an early August tryout in Philly. Other investors have pitched in an aggregate of 220G's to compliment Motown's half-mil.

If you're not aware, Springer popped on the production scene through the Off-B'way door with Charles Gordon's Pulitzer Prize winning drama "No Place to be Somebody."

His move to the legit mainstream, B'way, was just as lucky. Today he is producer and co-producer of two shows, "Euble," and "Whoopie." He was also co-producer of "Bubbling Brown Sugar" and "Cold Storage." Before the theatre bug nipped him he was in the used car and laundromat biz. Since there is a film deal already set for "Daddy," there is chances of flicker credit in

his future also.

THE PLAY WAS THE THING...The stage version of the "Wiz," which gave another black producer, Ken Harper, B'way credibility, and was an award winning hit musical, has finally ended its run. It was scheduled to hit the boards of the Pantages Theatre in L.A., but poor advance sales caused it to cold storage its scenery.

Jimmy Walker is also doing his stuff in the make believe atmosphere and is expecting equal billing for his chores with Robert Stack and Lloyd Bridges in Paramount's version of "Airplane."

The inner circles are buzzing about the fine acting job of Ron O'Neal after viewing the rough cuts of "The Final Countdown." Now perhaps his acting ability will begin to get the flicker breaks it deserves.

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