



The Outspoken
CRAIG WILSON

From Hollywood

Super-star **Donna Summer** sent a token of affection to her friend, columnist Valentin Singleton when he presented a two and one-half hour salute to the High Priestess of Disco at the Diana Disco. Donna was unable to attend because she was in rehearsal for her own television special and involved in the planning of the gala Donna Summer Disco Party Benefit for the Betty Ford Cancer Center at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in November. The former First Lady of America, **Betty Ford** and Donna have become friends since their mutual involvement in ridding the world of cancer.

Speaking of the Diana Disco, **Alton McClain** and **Destiny** (**D Marie Warren** and **Robyrta Stiger**) turned the disco out when they made a promotional appearance. Alton and Destiny were in town to begin laying the tracks for a new album after just finishing a nationwide tour with super-macho act **Teddy Pendergrass**. Rumor has it that Alton has one steady fella, but if she doesn't she certainly had a choice of men who fell instantly in love with the petite beautiful singer.



ALTON MCCLAIN D MARIE WARREN ROBYRTA STIGER

The cornerstanders were shocked when word spread through Tinseltown that popular former gospel singer turned pop star, **D.J. Rodgers** was mugged. Rodgers just played a John Wayne scene with cancer and whipped the dreaded disease.

On the brighter side love and marriage was the talk of the town when **Gene Russell** and his long time girl friend **Kellee Patterson** were seen having a very late supper at the corner table of one of Beverly Hills better dining spots. Gene and Kellee both tell us that they are the best of friends, but that's all there is to that.

Rumor hazit that **Diana Ross**'s sister, **Rita**, left one man at the altar and went thataway with an Arab gentleman to find love and happiness while model-of-the-year winner, **Johnny Watts**, announced his upcoming marriage to disco roller skating star **Beverly Rose**. Johnny is telling all his friends that love is the flower and marriage is the fruit and the pair plan to happily roller skate through life together.

Somebody is ringing up lots of cash with the hit tune "Ring My Bell," but cornerstanders claim that there may be legal action over how the profits are split.

Believe it or not, singer **Rocky Robbins** had so much faith in his ability to make it as a pop star that he mortgaged his home to cut a demo tape that was picked up by A and M Records. It looks like Rocky is on his way to that dream of being a big singing star.

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Sounds Daniels

It has gotten to be the rule rather than the exception. Since the turn into the seventies, Black college campuses have been promoting major recording acts during their homecoming activities to help generate needed revenue.

Many of them have given that right to someone who could handle the entire set-up from coliseum rental to contracting bands to hiring the policemen. All these "nerve racking" goals are handled by reputable promoters due to inexperience in handling major act concerts.

Winston-Salem State University has been utilizing the promotional genius of Mr. George Woods since 1975. This not only allowed the Student Government Association (and business office) a "hands free" chance to enjoy homecoming once again. This occurrence also permitted open space for promoters to get whatever entertainment they saw would sell the best.

This years homecoming festivals are very competitive to say the least. North Carolina Central University is scheduled to have Arista Recording artists G.O. and Columbia Records artists **POCKETS** Friday October 12. A&T State University is hosting **BOBBIE HUMPHREY** on the same Friday with **KOOL & THE GANG** on Saturday. Fayetteville State University on the identical evening will introduce **SKYY**.

Smoke Signals From page 1

to deal with everyday problems. I'm glad the conference was held but I'm sorry to see that it took this long for someone to recognize that there was a need.

I've heard different opinions about the seminars, some negative and some positive. Some of the negative comments I heard were that the women in the audience were more concerned about putting on a show than expressing their true feelings.

"I don't know who she was trying to fool," I heard from one disappointed participant. "Some of these women forget where they came from, they also forget that we know where they came from."

Fortunately the positive comments out weighed the negative. The participants settled down and stopped trying to impress the others with how much money they made or the company they worked for or the position they held.

As the series progressed women began to open up and talk about the problems that all of the women had in common. They were black and they were women, something they couldn't hide nor deny even if they wanted to.

The series is over but the need for black women to get together and talk is not over. I came away from the series hungry. Hungry to meet and talk to other women to see where their heads are. And after talking to other women who attended the series I see that they want something like this to be an on going thing. I hope that more of us will be willing to see that we continue this type of discussion and if we all work for this it won't be that difficult.

--Yvette McCullough



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Video Mag.

Returns

Exposures, UNC-TV's monthly video magazine, returns on Wednesday, Oct. 17 at 7:00 p.m. on Channels 4 and 26 with a look at the black church and its effect on American politics. During the late 1950's and the 1960's, the black church was the backbone of the civil rights movement.

Organizations like the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) got their start in the black church, and figures such as the late Dr. Martin Luther King emerged as prominent and powerful leaders in the struggle for civil rights.

Host Audrey Kates goes back to the black church to find out what has happened to the leadership and driving force of the civil rights movement.

Guests include: Senior Bishop Herbert Bell Shaw of the First Episcopal District, A.M.E. Zion Church; the Rev. Joy Johnson, a state parole commissioner; the Rev. John Manley, president of the State Baptist Convention; the Rev. J.T. McMillan, pastor of the Allen Chapel A.M.E. Church; the Rev. William W. Easley, first vice-president of the N.C. Council of Churches and pastor of St. Joseph's A.M.E. Church; and Charles McLean, former field director for North Carolina's NAACP.

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Contest ends Monday October 22 at 5 p.m.

★ Miss Parks Chevrolet and her court will be in the Winston-Salem State University Homecoming Parade Saturday, October 27. Don't Miss it!

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