

arts and leisure



The Mood of Romance

On the left is a dramatic, velvet gown in black and gold panne, designed by Pierre Cardin, with Tuxedo by After Six, and at the right, are Frank Masandrea's designs of elegance sporting a little slink in ochre panne velvet with a hip wrap and a high-neck look

shimmering in burgundy. These are some of the many fashions that will be featured in the upcoming Ebony Fashion Fair at the M.C. Benton Convention Center, Nov. 6 at 8 p.m.

Ebony's Fashion Fair To Appear November 6

With "The Mood of Romance" as its theme, the 25th Annual *Ebony* Fashion Fair will appear in Winston-Salem at the M.C. Benton Convention Center on Nov. 6 at 8 p.m. Proceeds will benefit the Urban League Guild Scholarship Program and the Urban League Building Fund.

Mrs. Eunice W. Johnson, producer and director of the show, personally selects fashions from the exclusive collections of famed designers such as Halston, Stephen Burrows, Bill Blass, Christian Dior, Yves St.

Laurent, Lanvin, Chloe, Lancellotti, Andre' Laug, Valentino, Tita Rossi and Missoni.

More than 200 garments, complete with the latest accessories will be showcased by 10 female and two male models, part of a road show that includes a music director, commentator, stage and business managers and a wardrobe staff, and spreads the fashion gospel coast to coast.

Because of the unprecedented demand for sponsorship of the show by charitable organizations around the country, Fashion Fair now

tours two seasons — the East and Midwest September through December and the Southwest January through May — appearing in more than 174 cities.

Mrs. Marion Jervay, general chairperson of the benefit performance, says ticket sales are going "exceptionally well" and that she expects an even larger attendance in Winston-Salem than last year.

Tickets may be purchased from any Guild member or at the Urban League Office.

Musical Notes

Patti Austin Joins Bubba

Bubba Smith and Deacon Jones, former pro football stars and mainstays of the Lite beer advertising campaign, are the principal players in the most ambitious radio campaign yet conducted for Lite by Mingo-Jones Advertising Inc.

Seven 60-second commercials, five of which feature Smith and Jones, have been completed as part of an expanded Lite radio advertising campaign. Two of the seven commercials are full

music spots, starring vocalists Patti Austin and Gerald Alston, lead singer with the Manhattan.

The new Lite spots are vignettes in which the ex-football greats engage in casual conversation in a bar, at a touch football game and in other places where beer drinkers gather.

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ed banter creates a link between Lite and the average beer drinker, allowing consumers to easily relate to the athletes, because of the low-key conversational style of the commercials.

The Mingo-Jones radio commercials were written by Executive Vice President and Creative Director Caroline Jones and Allan Corwin, vice president and associate director. The original music was created by Sid Woloshin.

Broadway Is My Beat

Diana Ross May Be Stand-In For An Ailing Dolly Parton

By Joey Sasso

Observations in Covering the Night Beat... **Diana Ross** wanted to take a year off from performing, but now she may have to stand in for **Dolly Parton**, who had to cancel her upcoming Atlantic City concerts because of her serious gynecological condition. There are also definite plans to team Diana with **Elton John** to videotape part of a concert series for pay TV. They'll be in good company — the series will include **Frank Sinatra's** Yankee Stadium show...

Richard Pryor battled with producers to hire his former girlfriend **Margot Kidder** to appear with him in "Superman III," but the brass had the last laugh. When Margot flew all the way to London to film her scenes, she found they had been cut to a day and a half...

Bubbly **Ann Jillian** was halfway through her act in Lake Tahoe, Nev., when someone in the audience shouted: "Lady, you're magnificent."

Ann thought she was going to have trouble with a heckler, but the loud-mouthed fan was none other than **Sammy Davis Jr.** So Ann promptly lay flat on the stage to show the audience how knocked-out she was by the superstar's compliment.

Sammy's praise didn't end there.

He sent champagne to Ann's dressing room and hired her to appear with him in his own stage act in November.

A lawyer who represented Richard Pryor for five

years has filed a libel suit against the comedian for a remark that he delivered before an audience and that is repeated in the movie "Richard Pryor Live On Sunset Strip." **Michael R. Ashburne** claimed in his suit that he was damaged when Pryor said during the filmed performance: "I used to have a black lawyer...he took me for hook, line and sinker."

Ashburne contends that many people who saw the film "understood" Pryor was talking about him...

NBC has handed down the word that no "Gimme A Break" segments will air that don't feature **Nel Carter**. So, when she returns to work (hopefully next week) from her stay in the hospital with what has been described as "exhaustion," the producers will rush her before the cameras to film bits and pieces that will be edited into the segments shot during her absence...

Lou Rawls was arrested in Maryland's Howard County and charged with assaulting a female business associate July 20. The singer, released on his personal bond, is scheduled to go to trial in December.

Sally Claude Carroll, 35, alleged that Rawls, 48, struck her in a dispute that preceded his performance in Columbia, Md. Carroll has filed a \$3.6 million civil suit in connection with the incident...

Singer **Grace Jones** had every intention of being on time for a party celebrating her latest album, "Living My Life." But it took her a while to get gussied up in her Village Loft.



Richard Pryor and Margot Kidder in a scene from Pryor's "Some Kind of Hero." Pryor, who's playing a baddie in the third "Superman" film, used his pull to get Kidder (Lois Lane) a role in the movie, albeit a little one.

Then she decided not to call her chauffeur but to grab a cab instead. As it turned out, Grace was a little too gussied up in the newest of "new wave" fashion for the average N.Y. hackie. Several slowed down to

get a good look at the strikingly tall woman with closely cropped hair, didn't know what to make of her, then sped right off. Finally, a brave cabbie picked her up.

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Bill Summers Fighting To Keep Brother Off Death Row

Recording artist Bill Summers ("Jam The Box," "Call It What You Want," "Roots") was talking with an interviewer about his latest album, "Seventeen," at an outdoor cafe along Los Angeles' famed Sunset Strip when his mind seemed to wander.

Summers politely begged an apology.

"I'm sorry," he said. "There's just a lot going on now and sometimes it's hard for me to keep my mind on things at hand."

For Summers, it is understandable. Unlike artists with a new release, he is not worrying about the chart position of his new record, the next single or an upcoming tour.

Summers is a man fighting for his brother's life in a controversial murder trial that has rocked the Midwest.

In 1969, his brother, Darnell Summers, a Vietnam veteran, was charged with the 1968 murder of Michigan State Police detective Robert Gosner, killed by a sniper's bullet in Inkster during a rash of racial disturbances that plagued the area. With so many such trials going on (Black Panthers, Chicago Seven, etc.), the case went on mostly unnoticed. And nine months later, the charges were dismissed "without prejudice" — which meant the trial could be reopened at a later date.

Thinking the case was behind him, Darnell Summers left the area and went to Germany where he established a popular music group called Afrodisiac.

Fourteen years later, however, Darnell Summers, now 34, is back on trial for the same murder.

"It's like a nightmare has come back to haunt us," says Bill. "It's almost a throwback to the 1960s, when they were railroading people left and right. You know, I thought all that stuff ended way back then, but this makes me know it's still here with us. And I tell you what, it's frightening."

On one side is Summers, a small battery of over-worked and underpaid attorneys, friends and people

determined to see him released. On the other is Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor John Bianco, the state police and a questionable witness.

Summers was arrested in July of this year in Germany and transported back to Detroit on the strength of the state attorney's claim that Summers' former girlfriend, Gail Simmons, would testify against him. Three days after Summers was brought back, however, Simmons refused to testify, explaining that police had fabricated her testimony and coerced her to sign it with the promise that she would be given a light sentence on another charge.

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