

Weekend

The Arts, Leisure, Music, Columns

Ask Yolonda

Have social diseases brought back old-fashioned values?

By YOLONDA GAYLES
Syndicated Columnist

Dear Yolonda: I'd be interested in knowing if reports about sexually-transmitted diseases have cut down on pre-marital and extra-marital sex, and if so, to what degree?

I ask this because I'm single, yet I'm truly afraid to engage in a relationship with a woman. I'm afraid she might have herpes, VD, or, worse, AIDS.

I'm sure other people think about this, too. If they don't, they should. I just read a published report about one woman giving herpes to at least five men.

I'm 32, so I'm not new at relationships, but I'm truly interested in knowing how others handle this. Do you ask questions before becoming intimately involved? Do you say: "You don't have herpes, do you?" Do you cut on the light and inspect?

Bringing this subject up seems to upset some women -- particularly the ones I would be the most attracted to -- yet I find that I can no longer blindly become involved. This is no joke. It's a real concern.



Yolonda

Bob M.

Dear Bob: It's difficult to glean figures on sexual habits, but readers are echoing your thoughts. They say that they're being much more cautious about relationships.

I would think things are going to return to the days when partners knew one another better before becoming sexually involved.

Because many venereal diseases aren't visible to the untrained eye, turning on the light won't help. Still, I can't think of a tactful way to approach this subject with a potential mate, either. Perhaps a few readers will write in and tell us how they approach the problem.

Friend Overhears Gossip

Dear Yolonda: My girlfriend who I have loved and trusted like a sister has betrayed me.

I happened to walk up behind her and overhear her criticizing me and giving out some very personal business. I stood there frozen in my tracks and listen-

ed.

When she finally turned around and noticed me standing behind her, you could have brought her for a penny. She called out someone else's name as if she was talking about them, but it was too late then. I heard exactly what she said about me.

She has called me several times since this incident, but I've put some distance between us. The next time she calls I'd like to say something to her, but what?

I.F.

Dear I.F.: My personal rule for gossip: People who engage in behind-your-back gossip do so because they have nothing in their own lives worth commenting on. They gossip because criticizing someone else gets the conversational spotlight off their own weaknesses.

What should you say to her? When you see her again, simply tell her to work on her own act instead of worrying about yours.

Nurse Wants Discharge

Dear Yolonda: Seven years ago I took up nursing. After graduation, I got a job in a hospital, but, within six months, I decided I didn't like the hospital I worked for, so I quit. I found another nursing job, but I didn't feel comfortable there either, so I left that job. I finally figured out that I just wasn't made to be a nurse.

Since then, I've held a job as a typist. But this is a position that doesn't even require any special training.

I feel as though I've wasted the money that I spent going to school. Sometimes I even feel as though I'm wasting my life. My family is also very critical of me for what I've done with my training, but I just hated the field. What should I do now?

Karla J.

Dear Karla: I called a local nurses association and was told to direct you back to your former school. There, a counselor should advise you to the slew of jobs for which your training would give you an edge. Mentioned briefly was hospital administration work, or case work. Or, if you want to try a completely different route, there's pharmaceutical or hospital equipment sales.

Don't be too hard on yourself for wanting a change in occupations. People change careers every day.



Sweet And Serene

"Soul Train" will pay a special tribute to songstress Dionne Warwick later this month. The show, which will air in this area on WJTM-TV, Channel 45, will feature Miss Warwick's performances of "Got A Date" and "Two Ships Passing In The Night," among others.

Brandi

By MIKE CAMPBELL



Television

Stevie Wonder's performance in Detroit to be on Showtime

Superstar Stevie Wonder returns to Detroit, the city where he was raised and became famous, for his first solo television concert special, "Stevie Wonder Comes Home," scheduled to premiere on the Showtime cable television network in June 1984. The program will highlight Wonder's performances at Detroit's Masonic Temple April 12, 13, 14 and 15, presenting a retrospective of his most popular songs, as well as a preview of material from his forthcoming Motown album.

"Stevie Wonder Comes Home" is more than a pay-TV special," says Peter Chernin, Showtime's senior vice president. "It is a major national event that will capture the lasting works of one of the most gifted songwriter-performers of our generation."

Wonder was born in Saginaw, Mich., and has been in the record industry since the age of 10, when he recorded his first hit record, "Finger-

tips," in 1963. Stevie has recorded for Motown from the time he was introduced to the company by Ronnie White of the Miracles in 1961. He has received 14 Gammy Awards during his career, including three Album of the Year citations for "Innervisions,"

"Fulfillingness' First Finale" and "Songs In The Key of Life."

At 33 years old, Wonder is credited with having written over 200 songs.

Wonder's first LP of the '80s, "Hotter Than July," was dedicated to the memory of Nobel Peace Prize-winner and slain civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Stevie was especially active in the successful campaign which made Dr. King's birthday, Jan. 15, a national holiday. He led his own march on Washington, D.C., to lobby for the bill this year.

In 1983, Wonder was inducted into the Songwriters' Hall of Fame.



Remembering Marvin

WAIR-AM will air "Marvin Gaye: The Legend Is Forever," Sunday, April 15, at 4 p.m. The program will feature a retrospective of Gaye's music and one of his last interviews (photo by Joe Daniels).

Musical Notes

Is Don King after the O'Jays?

Boxing promoter Don King, who recently became involved with the Jacksons' tour, is apparently interested in expanding his involvement with music. King has been quietly wooing the O'Jays with the suggestion that he promote their upcoming summer tour. King and the O'Jays were recently spotted together at the Page-Witherspoon championship boxing match in Las Vegas, where the O'Jays sang the national anthem.

It's not surprising that King should pursue the O'Jays. The group has sold over 18 million records worldwide, has won nine gold and five platinum LPs, and had the biggest grossing tour by a

black act in 1982.

Long Overdue

CBS Records and the Harlem YMCA have established the first Harlem YMCA Jazz Hall of Fame to give recognition to the world's greatest jazz artists. The 1984 induction ceremony will be held at Avery Fisher Hall in New York's Lincoln Center on Monday, May 14.

The ceremony, paired appropriately with a concert that will present artists such as Ramsey Lewis, Hubert Laws, Ron Carter and a Latino All-Star Band. Please see page B10

Review

'Splash': Jump right on in; this Disney movie is just fine

By RHONDA BRANNON
Chronicle Columnist

"Splash," the most recent film released by Touchstone, the adult-oriented Disney movie company, stars Tom Hanks, Daryl Hannah, John Candy and Eugene Levy. And it features a conventional, adult-oriented story line -- to a point.

Alan Bauer (Hanks), the co-owner of a fruit and vegetable wholesale business, falls for a mysterious young woman who saves him from drowning. Daryl Hannah is the young woman -- well, at least half of her is woman; her bottom half is all fish.

A boy-meets-girl love story with a twist, "Splash" is a delightful "fish tale" of love and laughs directed by Ron Howard (formerly of "Happy Days" and "The Andy Griffith Show"). Babaloo Mandel and Lowell Ganz, who collaborated on Howard's

first film, "Night Shift," are responsible for "Splash's" enjoyable script, and lest I forget, Mary Routh is responsible for the polyurethane mermaid tail worn by Hannah.

The story line goes something like this:

Twenty years ago at Cape Cod, a young boy meets a young mermaid and they share a few tender moments together. Years later, the incident is just a silly childhood dream to Alan, who by now is a successful businessman who's not having too much success with his private life.

You see, Alan wants to settle down and start a family, but that's not about to happen. His girlfriend is leaving him.

Hanks, formerly of TV's "Bosom Buddies," turns in a good performance as a young man in search of love. He's. Please see page B10