

# Entertainment

## The Steeles Fuse R&B and Jazz with Gospel

In a world in which change and individuality frequently face resistance, those who step out, risk-takers with a commitment to quality and excellence, sometimes have to go that extra mile to stand out. Such is the case with the Steeles, justifiably regarded as one of the music industry's best-kept secrets.

With the release of *Heaven Help Us All*, their stunning debut album for Elektra Musician Records, the two-brother, two-sister Minneapolis-based team, the secret's out. Given the opportunity to share their awesome musical gifts, J.D., Jearlyn, Fred and Jevetta Steele rise to the occasion with a milestone album that stands out as one of 1993's truly thrilling recording debuts.

Initially encouraged by their father, J.D. Steele Sr., (considered the family's musical patriarch and mentor), the Steeles could frequently be found on shows in the Midwest with gospel greats like Mahalia Jackson, the Rev. James Cleveland and the Staple Singers. "Our father would get us on every gospel show that came to Gary," recalls J.D., "from the time we were just tots! Having a career in music was like a natural evolution for us."

The Steeles moved to Minneapolis in the late 1970s. Word of their dynamic harmonies and distinctive individual vocal styles soon led to a slew of commercials and background session dates. In 1982, the group became involved with the "Gospel at Colonus," an epic musical that debuted at the Brooklyn Academy of Music in New York and ended with a 12-week run at

Broadway's Lunt-Fontanne Theatre in 1988.

1989 was a pivotal year for the Steeles. Aside from signing with Elektra Entertainment, Jevetta Steele was heard on "Calling You," the haunting theme from the movie, "Baghdad Cafe." The success of the Island Records' soundtrack resulted in an Academy Award nomination and a gold record in France. Jevetta's soulful rendition was also heard on the 1990 CBS-TV series of the same name that starred Whoopi Goldberg and Maureen Stapleton and can be currently heard on the AT&T "Calling You" commercial. Jevetta's own solo debut is being released on Columbia Records summer of 1993.

Heaven Help Us All clearly fulfills the Steele's objective in putting together a debut set. From the harmonica-laden, blues-tinged, uplifting "Tide Keeps Liftin Me" to the track that is a timely, moving, a capella rendition of the Stevie Wonder 1970 call for peace and understanding, the Steeles display a diversity that is breathtaking. Superstar Prince (at whose Paisley Park studios the album was recorded), a longtime supporter of the Steeles, contributed the rousing tune "Well Done."

"I'd say that 'Heart in My Hand,' the first song we recorded for the album, was really the prototype for the record's direction. It helped us define what we wanted to do as a first recording," says J.D. Jevetta concurs, "After ten years of doing a whole variety of music, the question was how to balance all of it and make one album that can cover



The Steeles: (l. to r.) Jearlyn Steele Battle, Jevetta Steele, Fred Steele, J.D. Steele.

R&B, gospel, jazz, everything we know we can do."

The Steeles have cut through the boundaries that can often restrict and constrain true artistry. The spine-tingling harmonies that are laced throughout the album from the emotive opening track "Heart in My Hand" to "Big God," the inspirational closer, unquestionably comes from years of singing in church. *Heaven Help Us All* spans the musical spectrum and defies strict categorization. The album is simply great, great music.

**HANES MALL CINEMA 4**

STRATFORD RD. & SILAS CREEK PKWY  
769-1080

**BARAIN MATINEES EVERY DAY**  
ALL SHOWS STARTING BEFORE 6 PM


"THE SECRET GARDEN" — G
"THE SECRET GARDEN" — G
"THE SECRET GARDEN" — G
"THE SECRET GARDEN" — G
"THE SECRET GARDEN" — G
"THE SECRET GARDEN" — G
"THE SECRET GARDEN" — G
"THE SECRET GARDEN" — G
"THE SECRET GARDEN" — G
"THE SECRET GARDEN" — G

General Cinema

## RAINBOW

### A Bookstore-Cafe

*Read the Chronicle while you relax on our patio & enjoy a delicious meal with your favorite wine or premium beer. Rainbow is "Food for Body and Mind"*



712 BROOKSTOWN AVE. OPEN DAILY 723-0858

## WAYNE'S

### Lounge

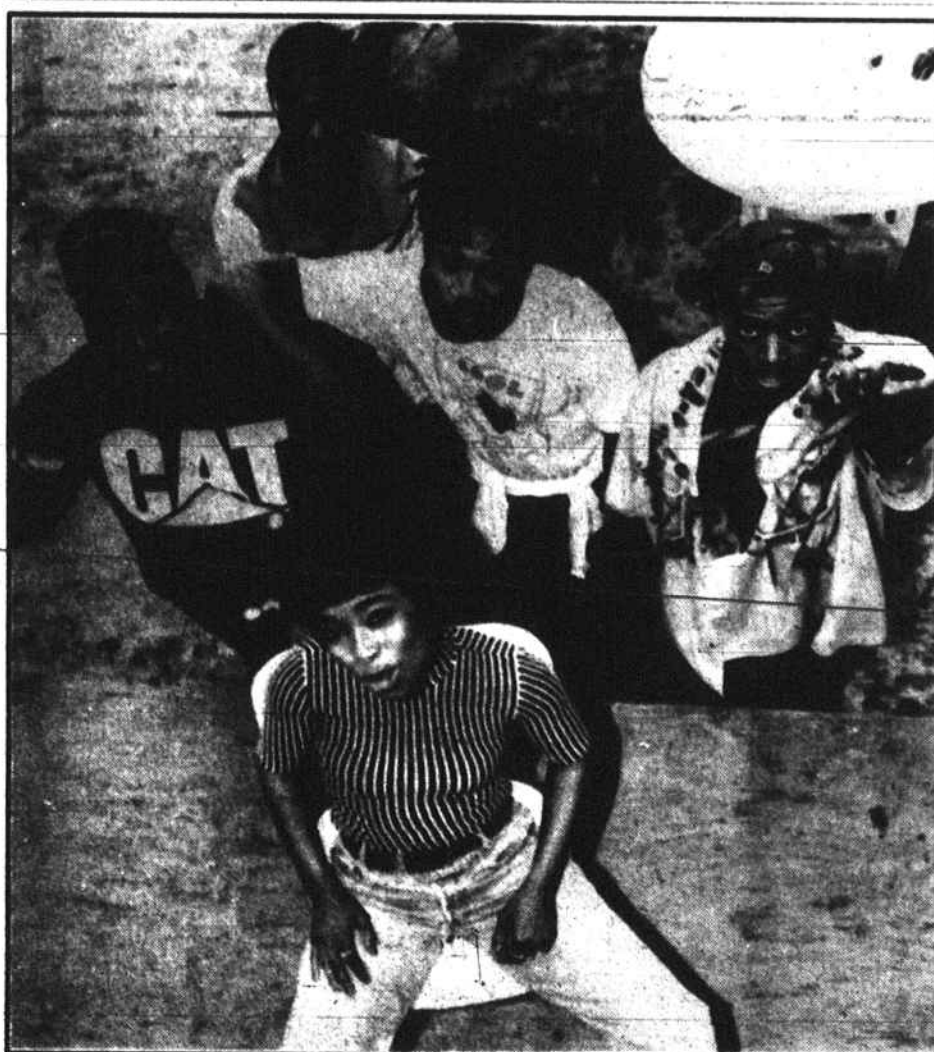


Thursday Sept. 2nd  
**VIP NIGHT**  
Corporate night out

Friday, Sept. 3rd **Melva Houston**  
Moment's Notice **Jazz Night**  
9:30-1:30 Cov.Ch. 9:30-1:30 Cov. Ch.

128 N. Cherry Street  
Winston-Salem, NC 27101  
Phone: 919-723-1150

Full Food Service Available  
Live Jazz every Friday and Saturday  
Weekly Drink Specials  
Ample Free Parking



Columbia recording artist Penny Ford, along with Warner Bros. recording artists, the Jungle Brothers, took it to the streets at Central Park's Summerstage, where thousands of hyped New Yorkers jammed to their funky sounds. Pictured here are Penny Ford (center), producer Randy Jackson (left) and from the Jungle Brothers' Torture, Mike "G" and Rich Mason.

### THE SCOOP

**Is "Roc's" Marriage Steady?:** An attractive, aspiring young actress/dancer alleges that "Roc" (Charles Dutton) reportedly made a pass at her recently. The young lady is one of several who often work as a stand-in for Janet Jackson during her video shoots. The flattered starlet claims that she refused Roc's offer because she is very much in love with her long-time boyfriend. The actress further alleges that Roc very politely informed her that he may contact her again at another time, and maybe by then, she won't still be in love. Now, all of these allegations are rather brow-raising because there are rumors that Mr. Dutton and his actress wife Debi Morgan are supposedly having marital problems again. They reportedly separated. So "The Scoop" asks: Is their marriage actually on the "rocs?"

**Sade Does it Her Way:** Sade was in concert in Dallas recently as she tours the U.S. While visiting "Bid D," one of the hotel workers where Sade stays reports that one

of her assistants had the hotel maids strip the beds completely of its sheets then replace them with more sheets. This was to insure, without a shadow of a doubt, that the sheets were indeed clean before Sade slept on them! By the way, this hotel is a very, very ritzy place, the kind that you'd see on "Lifestyles of the Rich & Famous."

**Fresh Face on Fresh Prince:** Actress Daphne Maxwell Reid is supposedly joining the cast of "Fresh Prince of Bel-Air." Daphne is the wife of actor/producer Tim Reid. So does that mean that Janet Hubert-Whitten definitely, once and for all will not be returning to the show? To further speak of Fresh Prince, Warner Brothers records top executive Benny Medina, who's also one of the creators of the NBC hit series, has an uncle who teaches art to supermodel Christy Brinkley and her daughter. The elder Medina is said to be an outstanding artist.

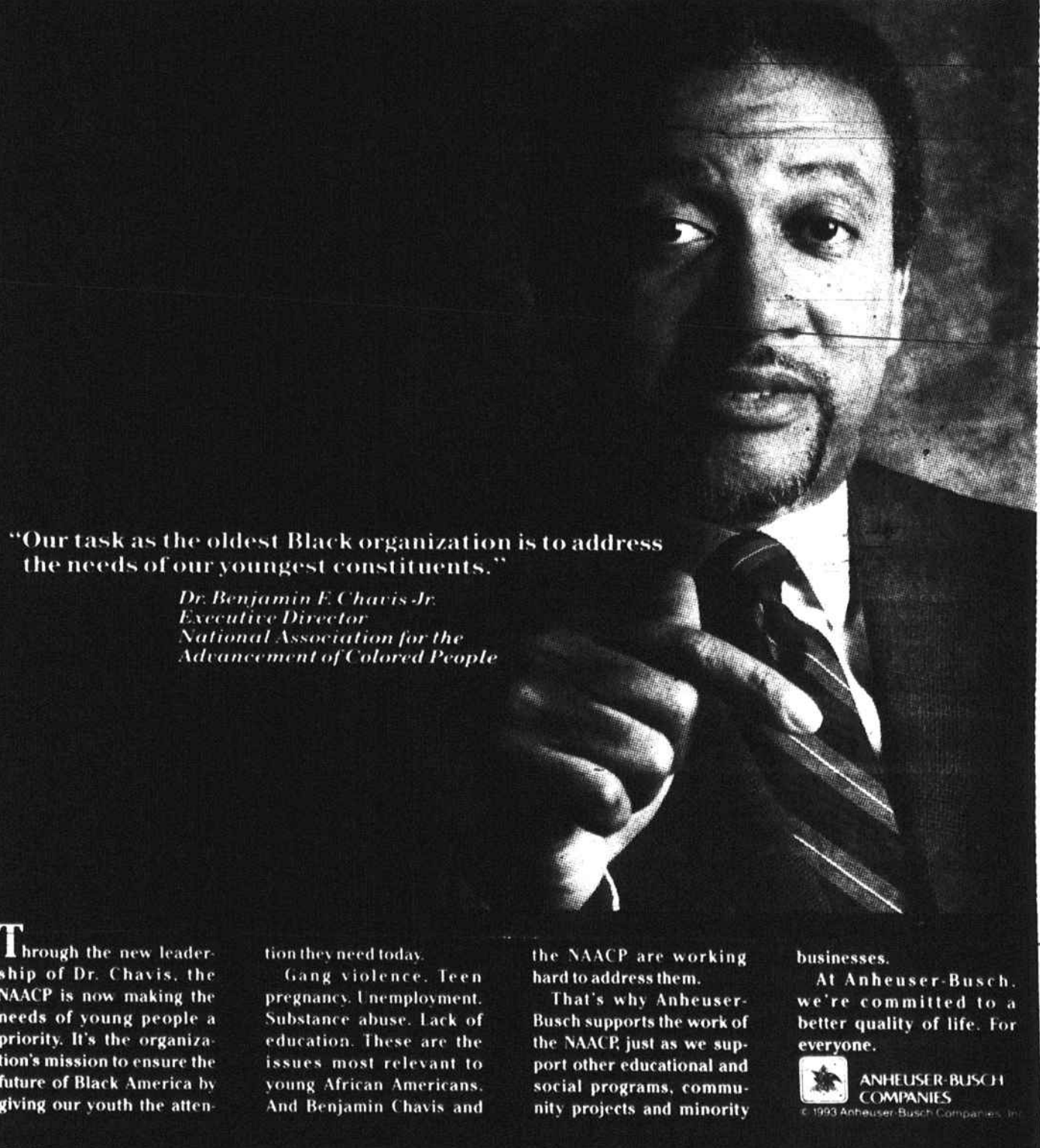
**Cutty Cuts a Deal:** Internationally acclaimed Dance Hall DJ Cutty Ranks has signed a deal

with Priority Records. Cutty, along with Ninja Man and Supercat, popularized the hardcore, dance hall style famous for its reality lyrics and serious Jamaican ghetto topics. Cutty's current single, "Limb by Limb" is climbing the charts in Jamaica, London and New York. His first album for Priority is set for release during the first quarter of 1994.

**Magic in the Movies?:** Former L.A. Lakers superstar Magic Johnson is reportedly purchasing a multi-screen movie theatre in the Baldwin Hills section of Los Angeles.

**Big Brother is Still Watching:** Super/Scooper/Sources in Moscow, as in the former Soviet Union, say that "Poetic Justice" has already hit the movie screen in the American Embassy, along with "Jurassic Park" and other American box office busters. But, if you're just a regular "working Joe," they're still watching "Gone with the Wind," which sources say there are long lines of moviegoers who can't wait to see the film!

## PEOPLE WHO MAKE THINGS HAPPEN.



"Our task as the oldest Black organization is to address the needs of our youngest constituents."


Dr. Benjamin E. Chavis Jr.  
Executive Director  
National Association for the  
Advancement of Colored People

Through the new leadership of Dr. Chavis, the NAACP is now making the needs of young people a priority. It's the organization's mission to ensure the future of Black America by giving our youth the attention they need today.

Gang violence. Teen pregnancy. Unemployment. Substance abuse. Lack of education. These are the issues most relevant to young African Americans. And Benjamin Chavis and the NAACP are working hard to address them.

That's why Anheuser-Busch supports the work of the NAACP, just as we support other educational and social programs, community projects and minority businesses.

At Anheuser-Busch, we're committed to a better quality of life. For everyone.


**ANHEUSER-BUSCH COMPANIES**  
© 1993 Anheuser-Busch Companies, Inc.

