

Black Movies, TV

News Briefs

"Sparkle," the Warner Bros. release about three singing sisters has hit No. 10 in its first week on the "50 Top-Grossing Films" list, a happy surprise to all connected with the film. In No. 14 spot on the list is "The River Niger," "Countdown at Kusini" is No. 21 and "Leadbelly" is No. 30 spot. Of course, the top spot is "All The President's Men."

"Sparkle" is showing its spark in such cities as New York, Cleveland, Chicago and St. Louis, chalking up sparkling boxoffice receipts.

How Times Have Changed Dept.: The latest show at Harlem's famed Apollo Theatre was the film, "Bugs Bunny Superstar."

St. Croix, U. S. Virgin Islands provides a beautiful backdrop for the next edition of "Big Blue Marble" as two young boys go Spinnaker Flying. The children are instructed by an expert in this unusual sport in which the child sails in the air over the water via the sailboat's Spinnaker. Check local TV schedules for this ITT-sponsored children's international TV show.

Four members of the Jackson 5, who signed with Epic Records last spring, are suing Motown Records, seeking termination of any contractual responsibilities, as well as an audit of Motown's books by their own accountants. Jermaine Jackson, the fifth Jackson, is married to the daughter of Motown founder Berry Gordy and remains with the label. Meanwhile, after months of problems between Motown and its prime artist, Stevie Wonder, Wonder has now signed again with the label for the \$13,000,000 pact that Motown announced eight months ago.

Pamela Jiles, the 20-year-old sprinter who won first place in the 1975 Pan American



Tamara Dobson... Popular movie star

Tamara Dobson

Signs For

New Movie

Tamara Dobson has been signed by producer-director George Schlatter for a top role in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's "Norman... Is That You?", screen adaptation of the long-running stage comedy hit starring Redd Foxx and Pearl Bailey.

The 6'2" former high fashion model who gained international prominence as star of "Cleopatra Jones" and "Cleopatra Jones and the Casino of Gold," joins the previously announced Dennis Dugan, Vernee Watson and Mike Warren, who plays the title role. The screenplay for "Norman... Is That You?," was written by Ron Clark and Sam Bobrick in collaboration with Schlatter.

can Games is featured in the Summer Olympics Preview special in the Electric Company Magazine's Sports Special, for the graduates of Sesame Street who watch this children's TV show.

The NYC Department of Cultural Affairs and Andora Hodgin Total Theater have announced a month-long celebration involving teenagers and their friends with more than 100 free performances, workshops and panel discussions on the Arts during the month of May. The New York Public Library is a co-sponsor.

Charles Hobson, director of the mass communications center at Atlanta's Clark College has been named manager of Washington's WETA-FM, the area's most powerful public radio station. The 39-year-old Hobson becomes only the fourth black public radio station manager in a national system of 125 federally funded outlets. He takes over May 1, replacing Michael Hardgrove, who has accepted a post at KVIE in Sacramento, Calif.

"Bubbling Brown Sugar," the new smash hit musical revue at the ANTA Theatre, has recorded an original Broadway cast album for the H & L Labl.

Paul Warfield, the football star who returned to the Cleveland Browns this season is reportedly being groomed for a post as sportscaster on Cleveland's WKYV-TV station.

Tim Gale, who with his brother Moe, manage some of the top black stars, died April 20 in Columbus, GA. The Gale Agency developed such stars as Ella Fitzgerald, Sarah Vaughan, Erskine Hawkins, Lucky Millinder, Cootie Williams, George Kirby, Nat King Cole and others. The brothers also operated Harlem's famed old Savoy Ballroom.

Bill Cosby and Raquel Welch in "Mother, Jingo and Speed" due for release in May. "Two Minute Warning," with Brock Peters, Charlton Heston, John Cassavetes and football star Anthony Davis making his debut due to be released by Universal in July. The next with O. J. Simpson will be "The Cassandra Crossing," with Sophia Loren, Richard Harris, Ava Gardner and Martin Sheen.

In New York, the Black Theatre Alliance has declared "its support to those who are demonstrating their concern over John H. Johnson's decision to cease publication of Black World."

Lionel Hampton and his orchestra are now touring Europe through May 22.

Fashion photog Dalman E. James gave an Easter preview of his upcoming BIV Fashion and Beauty Magazine with a BIV supplement. The fashion quarterly is due to hit the newsstands soon.

British Equity, the talent union which imposed its own TV sanctions against South Africa, has voted to extend the boycott to Rhodesia.

Like Sidney Poitier did with his highly successful "Uptown Saturday Night" and "Let's Do It Again," so did Robert Redford with "All The President's Men." He chose the property, named the director, worked with a writer on the screenplay, selected his cast and followed the film step by step through production, including editing, the mixing, the scoring and the advertising and promotion.



THE SENSATIONAL KOOL AND THE GANG
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Soul Train To Spotlight Kool

And The Gang Saturday

The Soul Train spotlight shines this weekend on Ashford and Simpson, Kool and the Gang and Ronnie McNeir. Ashford and Simpson who combine outstanding writing-producing talents with first-rate performances sing "Tell It All" and "Somebody Told A Lie," an original tune from their latest album Come As You Are.

Their first hit record, "Let's Go Get Stoned," written for Ray Charles, brought them to the attention of Motown Re-

ords where they turned out such successes as "Ain't No Mountain High Enough," "Ain't Nothing Like The Real Thing," "Reach Out and Touch (Somebody's Hand)" and "Remember Me." Kool and the Gang give one of their most unforgettable performances with their renditions of "Love and Understanding" and "Sugar." These versatile instrumentalists will be remembered for earlier releases, "Funky Man," "Let The Music Take Your Mind"

and "Higher Plane," all written, arranged and produced by the group.

For his initial Soul Train appearance, Ronnie McNeir entertains with "Sagittarian Affair" and "I'm Your Lover."

Matthews Library

Sponsors Free

Mini-Courses

Registration is now open for the latest series of free mini-courses sponsored by the Matthews Library (124 W. John Street).

The classes will include "The Heimlich Maneuver," (the lifesaving technique for people choking on food) taught 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, April 28 by Gil McElravy; "Danish Cross Stitch," taught 10 a.m., Wednesday, May 5 by Diana Rogers; two classes on "Mah Jongg" taught 10 a.m., Wed., May 12 and 19 by Eleanor Morris; and "Ribbon Pillows," taught 7:30 p.m., Wed., May 26 by Sharon Doyle.

The public is invited to sign up for one of more of the mini-courses by going by the Matthews Library or by calling 847-6691.

Local Black Leaders

To Appear On Program

continued from page 1
Among the local and state personalities participating in various aspects of the 3-day conference will be State Senator Fred Alexander who will introduce Major Coleman

Young of Detroit at the Friday 1 p.m. opening session. Charlotte City Councilman Harvey Gantt will introduce Mayor John Belk, Luther Hodges, Jr., president of the Charlotte Chamber of Commerce, and James Hunt, Lt. Governor of North Carolina. Mayor Young's address is titled, "Maximizing the Influence of Black Democrats in 1976."

Other local and state dignitaries appearing throughout the conference will be Mayor Howard Lee of Chapel Hill,

attorney Julius Chambers and four local clergymen, Revs. Coleman Kerry, T. A. Samuels, Robert Walton, and Bishop Joseph Sherman.

According to the latest reports received by The Post, the "Presidential Candidates Forum" on Sunday morning will feature Senators Frank Church and Henry Jackson, Representative Morris Udall, Governor Edmund Brown, Jr. of California and former Georgia Governor Jimmy Carter.

SAMMY & COMPANY
The 90 minute weekly late-night series hosted by Sammy Davis, Jr., has been renewed for an additional 26 weeks through March 1977. Most of the new episodes will be taped in Las Vegas.

Can Capitalism Benefit Blacks?

Bank American Corporation, the parent company of the country's largest bank put forward an impressive 68-page annual report for last year.

There are some 65,000 employees of Bank America Corporation around the world. Total assets at year's end was \$66,763,054,000. This \$66 billion is six times the annual budget of the most populous state in the union-California.

The largest single asset of the corporation, the Bank of America is headquartered in San Francisco. Minorities constitute 43 percent of San Francisco's population. The city's black population is 14 percent.

Over nine percent of the state of California's population is black, indeed over 12.5 percent of the country. The corporation by its by-laws may have as many as 25 directors. But no blacks are among the existing 14 directors who govern the biggest banking institution in the country. A citadel of capitalism.

The board members, according to the report are selected on the basis of their demonstrated ability, experience and judgement. They range from a recently elected former Nixon aide, Roy L. Ash to a family fixture, Mrs. Claire Giannini Hoffman.

She traces her tudor to A. P. Ginnini the bank's founder.

The bank board broadcasts two other supposed minority members; a Beverly Hills rancher's white wife, Mrs. John W. Myers, and Ignacio E. Lozano, Jr., publisher of a Mexican-American directed newspaper in Los Angeles.

The board is not without comedy or entertainment news. Messrs. Tatum of Walt Disney Productions and Peter O'Malley of the Los Angeles Dodgers; Theodore A. Von der Ane (Von Grocery Company) and Robert DiGiorgio (DiGiorgio Corporation) for food exploitation; and Louis A. Petri and Karl L. Wentz both of

whom represent fine wines with their last names.

These and others along with three officers of the corporation are charged with increasingly complex duties. By its own admission it is the

Board that is the keeper of the corporation's social conscience. This concept cannot be truly said to come to fruition with the nominating committee which selected these people or the people themselves in their policy projections.

The bank made less than 1-100th of its commercial and industrial loans available to minority businesses through the Small Business Administration last year. At year's end, its minority vendors program only amounted to one

percent of the banks rent payments for the year.

The phrase "corporate social responsibility" according to the report implies the fulfillment of a corporation's obligations to its different constituents-shareholders, employees, customers, and the public as well as the environment of the communities in which it operates.



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