Supremes Return To Soul Train

The elegant Supremes, reigning female vocal group in America, return to Soul Train this weekend in the company of Al Hudson and The Soul Partners who are making their debut appearance on television's nationally syndicated dance show.

The "new" Supremes, Mary Wilson, the only holdover from the original group, Scherrie Payne and Susaye Green set the pace with "You're My Driving Wheel," "You Are the Heart of Me" and "Come Into My Life."

The first to make popular the "Motwon Sound," the Supremes have remained on top for fifteen years, selling close to 100 million records.

Al Hudson and his backup group, the Soul Partners, perfrom "I Got A Notion" and "Disco Lover." Hudson, who composes as well as sings, first gained attention in Detroit as a finalist on radio station WCHB's annual talent show which was served as a springboard to fame for such artists as Stevie Wonder and Ronnie McNeir.

WBTV To Air First Freedom Football Classic

WBTV will present the First Annual Freedom Football Classic live from Los Angeles Coliseum on Saturday, January 8th at 11:30 p.m. This will be "football at its best" to be staged annually, one day prior to and in the same city where the Super Bowl originates. The black college all-star participants in the game are seniors from the MEAC and CIAA Conferences versus seniors from the SIAC and SWAC Conferences.

A very large percentage of players from these conferences and colleges are presently the nucleus of the NFL, and many of the players participating in this game will eventually be drafted into the NFL.

The Freedom Football Classic, featuring the future pros in action, promises to become an exciting, traditional preamble to the Super Bowl.

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THE YOUNGER FAMILY IN "RAISIN"

..... Vanessa Shaw, Gregg Baker and Lacy Phillips

Nemiroff: "Raisin" Is Most Exciting Musical Comedy Ever

Robert Nemiroff gives the appearance of a gentle man who is mellowing with age. As the producer of the record-breaking Musical Comedy, "Raisin", Nemiroff was in town last week drumming up business for the play that has been receiving rave notices since its 1973 premiere in Washington, D.C.

Lorraine Hansberry could not have found a better public relation man.

"I owe a debt of gratitude to the gifted artists who have joined to make this one of the most exciting Musical Comedies ever," Nemiroff said last week, adding, "I'm certain the Charlotte audience will find "Raisin" a rich, rewarding experience because it is such a proud view of Black family lifestyle."

"Audiences generally respond to the lively dance numbers and the humor," he continued.

The Musical Comedy, which has been seen by more than three million theatre-goers during three years on Broadway and in its first six months on the road, will open at Charlotte Ovens Auditorium for three performances, Tuesday, January 4.

"Raisin", which has Sandra Phillips, Gregg Baker, Vanessa Shaw and Arnetia Walker in starring roles, will follow an eight o'clock Tuesday evening performance with a 2 p.m. matinee and an eight o'clock performance Wednesday, January 5.

A special rate is planned for students and senior citizens for Wednesday's performance.

Four leading Black community organizations -- the Black Women Caucus, the Women's Committee of the United Negro College Fund, the Epicureans, and the Ebony Group and Company--will share in the benefit from proceeds.

According to Nemiroff, the company raised $18,000 for the NAACP during a stay in Philadelphia.

"Its importance to the community has been such that its coming has been treated as a major civic and social event everywhere it has played," Nemiroff explained. Charlotte mayor John Belk has proclaimed "Raisin Week" to commemorate its appearance here.

The comedy is based on Ms. Hansberry's "A Raisin In The Sun," the pivotal play in the emergence of Black theatre in America.

"Raisin" is recommended as an entertainment "must", the greying New Yorker concluded.

Tickets are on sale at the Coliseum Box Office, National Hat Shop, and Sears Area Stores. Mail orders will be accepted. The price of admission for the evenings performances are $9.50, $8 and $6. Tickets prices for Wednesday's Matinee are $8.50, $7 and $5.

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"Come Walk The World" Set For WCCB

The new Sunday television series, "Come Walk The World" which airs on Channel 18 Leginning January 9 will be introduced with a one-hour evening special, World Vision International has announced.

The introductory program will be aired on Channel 18 from 10 to 11 p.m. on Thursday January 6.

Filmed primarily on location in Africa, Asia and Latin America, "Come Walk the World" highlights heroes and heroines of the Christian faith -- missionaries, laypersons and nationals who are being used by God.

"We want people to know that God is alive and that He is using His servants to accomplish some tremendous things," states Dr. Stan Mooneyham. As president of the Christian humanitarian organization that is working in more than 40 nations, Mooneyham will serve as host of the new series. Singer Dave Boyer will also be a "regular" on the program.

According to World Vision, the "Come Walk The World" series will devote at least half of each program to highlight the work of persons not connected with the nonprofit agency. Mooneyham said he believes it can help bring a renewal of missionary vision and zeal to America.

WSOC TV To Feature "Ship Of Fools"

Vivien Leigh, Lee Marvin, Simone Signoret and Jose' Ferrer head an all-star cast in "Ship of Fools," an adventure drama to be colorcast on Channel Nine's Saturday Matinee Jan. 1 at 2 p.m. The story concerns a group of passengers on board a German passenger freighter bound for Bremerhaven in 1933.

First there is Bill Denny (Marvin), a ball player past his prime who is pursuing one of the Spanish dancers on board. Vivien Leigh portrays an American divorcee, vainly fleeing middle age.

The drug-dependent Spanish noblewoman called La Condesa (Signoret) is falling in love with the ship-s doctor, and he with her. Two unmarried young Americans are risking separate cabins to see what they have going for them besides sex. An elderly Jewish man is returning to Germany and tries to remain optimistic despite his anti-Semitic German cabin mate.

Observing them all is a dwarf who has already discerned that this is indeed a "ship of fools" and all aboard are deep in one folly or another. One by one, the passengers' problems unfold during the voyage.

Others in the cast include Oskar Werner, George Segal, Elizabeth Ashley, Jose' Greco, Michael Dunn and Charles Korvin.

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