

Pryor, Grier Are

Soul Train's Guests

Singers Billy Preston and Brenda Payton brighten up the Soul Train stage this weekend, together with special guests, Richard Pryor and Pam Grier two of Hollywood's busiest actors.

After a two year spiritual retreat, Preston returns to the musical scene singing "When

You Are Mine" and "I've Got the Spirit." A musician-writer-singer, Preston's compositions have become more distinctive with this new sense of direction. In earlier days Preston toured with Ray Charles, Mick and the Fab Four and George Harrison.

Brenda Payton, formerly lead singer with the Tabulations, delivers "Comin' Back For More" and "Home To Myself." Now a single act, Payton recorded her first composition in 1966, "Dry Your Eyes," which was followed by "The Touch of You," another Payton tune.

Pryor and Grier are interviewed by Don Cornelius, host and producer, and the Soul Train dancers "do their thing" down the Soul Train line.

Gantt To Receive

Distinguished

Service Award

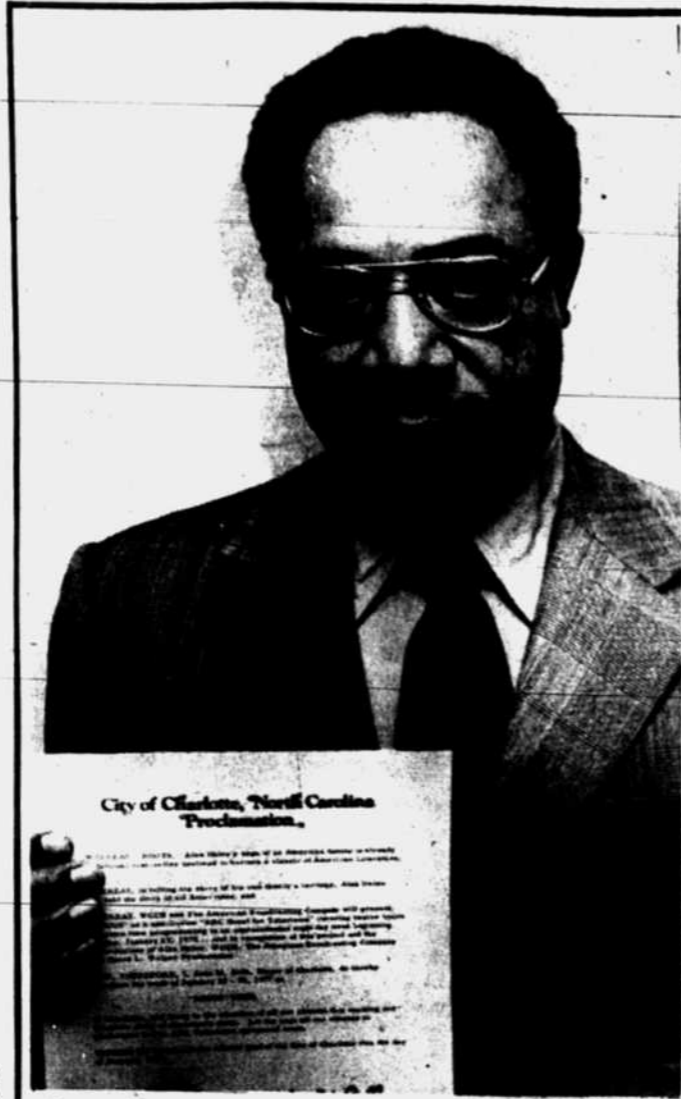
Continued from page 1 the Scout Executive for the Tuscarora District where he has overall responsibility for 58 Scout troops; Kelly S. King, an Assistant Vice-president of Branch Banking & Trust; Hugh J. Beard, an attorney who was one of four men who organized Ronald Reagan's campaign in North Carolina and served as a delegate to the National Republican Convention; David H. Singletary, first director of the newly created County Park and Recreation Department; and Luther T. Moore, a member of the legal department at Belk Store Services.

"Best Of

Doobie Brothers"

Certified As Gold

"The Best of The Doobie Brothers," the group's greatest hits collection on Warner Bros. has been certified as a platinum album by the RIAA in recognition of unit sales in excess of one million units.



City of Charlotte, North Carolina Proclamation.

Alex Haley author of the number one best-seller, "Roots," shown here with a proclamation from Mayor John M. Belk proclaiming January 23 - 30 "Roots" Week in Charlotte. WCCB Channel 18 and the American Broadcasting Company are presenting an all star dramatization of "Roots" in an unprecedented eight day prime time programming schedule this week on Channel 18.

Bill Cosby In Ford's Commercials

Actor Bill Cosby, Kenyon & Eckhardt Advertising, and Jefferson Productions recently regrouped in the Detroit area to produce four more television spots for Ford Corporate. The agency, crew, and Mr. Cosby spent two days in Lima, Ohio, and two days in Wixom and Dearborn, Michigan, visiting the Ford Motor Company assembly plants and safety center.

The commercials, which will air nationally, are entitled: "Engine Test No. 13," "Camshaft Feeler," "Weld Teardown," and "Dummies," and show more of the continuing reliability and durability testing program by which

Ford insures quality-built automobiles. The spots are a part of the recent, award-winning, "Ford wants to be your car company," advertising campaign.

Howie Stabin was creative director for Kenyon & Eckhardt (New York). Andy Doyle was producer. Account supervisor (K & E Detroit) was Howard Johnson; Carl Yager was account executive.

Vic Klein represented Ford Corporate's Advertising Department. Dave Norman of Jefferson Productions was the director. Jerry Wilson was cameraman; Terry DeCarlis was audio engineer, and Tony Singleton was video engineer.

"Roots" Continue Monumental Saga

By Deborah Gates
Post Staff Writer

ABC Television's "Roots," based on Alex Haley's best selling book, will continue its 12 hour monumental saga Thursday, January 27 on Channel 18.

This "saga of an American family," casting major American actors recreating the lives of men and women whose daily existence embodied 100 years of slavery, concentrates on Kunta Kinte, a carefree African boy whose abduction to America began the line that eventually led to the birth of author Alex Haley.

Casted in that part was LeVar Burton, a 19 year old second-year theatre major at University of Southern California, who showed the eagerness of a novice and the assurance of a pro in his first screen test for the part.

Kunta Kinte, who was born in 1750 to Binta (portrayed by Cicely Tyson) and Omoro (Thalamus Rasulala) under the watchful eye of grandmother Noyo Boto (Maya Angelou), was taken prisoner by slave-catchers and shipped to America on a vessel commanded by the conscience-stricken Captain Davies (Edward Asner) and the amoral Third Mate Salter (Ralph

ended in the marriage of Kunta and Bell, and they were blessed with a daughter named Kizzy.

Thursday, January 27, their daughter Kizzy, (Leslie Ugams) helped a young slave to run away. As punishment she was sold and separated from her family, where she was immediately raped by her new owner (Chuck Connors).

Friday, January 28, the setting will be 1824 and Kizzy will become the mother of a youth who will be called Chicken Little George (Ben Vereen), sired by her owner.

Soon, word will spread of slave rebellions led by Nat Turner and the owner's wife becomes terrified of all black people, and the slaves are guarded by the master's gun. Chicken George, who has taken a wife (Olivia Cole), is sent off to England to pay his owner's debt, with the promise that he will return a free man.

Saturday, January 29, the

period will be 1859, and George will return home and find his son Tom (George Stanford Brown), now a blacksmith and married himself, serving as head of the family.

The possibility of abolition is in the air, and George's freedom is deeply resented by many white men, especially two viciously racist brothers named Evan and Jemmy Brent (Lloyd Bridges and Doug McClure). When the Civil War begins Tom is recruited - and cruelly mistreated - as a smithy for the Army, where he meets a young boy called Ol' George Johnson (Brad Davis) who is to become an important part of their lives.

Sunday, Jan. 30, the Civil War is over but freedom has a bitter side-effect, as most people seem interested only in using and abusing the emancipated blacks in the same old way. Chicken George and his family are constantly harrassed by hooded nightriders and exploited by men such as Evan Brent and a carpet-bagging Senator (Burl Ives).

CHARLOTTE ART CINEMA
123 W. TRADE ST. *376-1720
OPEN 11 A.M. DAILY & 1 P.M. SUNDAY
SUPER • X • DOUBLES
"SWEET PUNKIN"
"MOUNT VENUS"



Eric V. Davis
...Merit badge winner

Troop Number

80 Going On

Hiking Trip

Eric V. Davis, Boy Scout of the Year and son of Mr. and Mrs. James H. Davis of 1411 Rollingwood Drive, will travel approximately 15 miles along with 26 other members of Troop No. 80, Boy Scouts of America on a hiking expedition as a project toward earning skill awards and merit badges.

According to scout master Eugene Marsh, the troop's expedition will be divided into three phases, learning first aid, learning to read maps and compasses, and learning to travel.

This 12 to 16 hour expedition will consist of camping, cooking, and a lecture period.

If Eric wins a skill award and merit badge on this expedition, it will be a second time around for him, for he's already acquired one merit badge and two skill awards for gardening, citizenship and first aid, respectively.

THE TRIUMPH OF AN AMERICAN FAMILY
ROOTS, TODAY'S BEST-SELLING BOOK BY ALEX HALEY COMES TO TELEVISION TONIGHT. IT BEGINS WITH A PROUD AFRICAN WARRIOR. SLAVERY SHACKLED HIS BODY, BUT IT COULDN'T CHAIN HIS SOUL. ROOTS IS HIS STORY, THE STORY OF HIS CHILDREN, AND HIS CHILDREN'S CHILDREN.



18 WCCB abc
Charlotte, N.C.

ABC TV - WCCB are presenting Roots for 8 consecutive nights. Check local listings for the time of each night's telecast. Parental discretion is advised.

THE BODYGUARD
starring **SONNY CHIBA**
PLUS 2nd FEATURE
The Chinese Mack
2 BIG SHOWS | \$1.00 TILL 2:30
Carolina Theatre

SAVE NATURAL GAS. YOU'LL SAVE JOBS, REOPEN PLANTS AND PREVENT FURTHER CLOSINGS.

HERE'S THE PROBLEM:

There is a critical shortage of natural gas in the nation. The entire winter has been far colder than normal. Recent weather has been severely cold, causing unusually high usage of natural gas on Piedmont's system, day after day.

Our Propane-Air plant is temporarily shut down because we don't have enough liquid propane to run it.

Our supplier has cut 45% from our daily entitlement of pipeline gas.

We've been notified that certain quantities of Emergency Purchase gas might not be allowed to leave Texas.

That's the situation in a nutshell. We've already had to cut off gas to many customers. If you don't help us conserve, we will have to cut off more.

HERE'S HOW YOU CAN HELP:

You can help save jobs, reopen plants, and prevent further closings. If we all pull together, we can get past this crisis.

Heating is the biggest user of natural gas. Turn thermostats down to 62°.

Use as little hot water as possible.

Encourage your friends and neighbors who use natural gas to do the same.

This will help save natural gas. And help save jobs.



PIEDMONT NATURAL GAS.

HELP!

Your efforts will make a difference.

WGIV

Battle Of The Choirs

Don't Miss The Biggest Event

In The History Of Charlotte.

WGIV And The Heart Association

Are Sponsoring A Blood Pressure Check.

Entertainment Will Be Provided By YOU.

If Your Choir Or Gospel Group

Is Interested, Contact

Jim Black At 333-0131

Cut - Off Date January 30

Don't Forget:

Hypertension Is The Leading Cause Of Death Among Black People.

Come On Out And Get Your Blood Pressure Checked.