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THE CHARLOTTE POST

Charlotte's Fastest Growing Community Weekly

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Lou Rawls To

Occupy Soul

Train Stage

The highly acclaimed and award-winning Lou Rawls occupies center stage on Soul Train this weekend, the fast moving musical television show which features the nation's leading entertainers. Sharing the spotlight is The Ritchie Family, a female trio formed in 1975 in Philadelphia.

From his latest album, UNMISTAKABLY LOU, Rawls sings, "See You When I Get There." He also sings "Lady Love" and "Tradewinds."

At age 38 he has recorded 37 albums. These include three gold albums and one platinum, ALL THINGS IN TIME.

The Ritchie Family - Cassandra Ann Wooten, Gwendolyn Oliver and Cheryl Mason Jacks - recorded the first disco version of the old standard, "Brazil," in 1975. It sold 2.2 million copies worldwide, went gold in four countries and started them on a new career.

From their latest LP, AFRICAN QUEENS, which they term a tribute to the Black women of the world, they sing the title song and "Quite Village."

Also featured on the show are the lively and innovative Soul Train dancers.

Soul Train is produced by Don Cornelius.

WBTV To Air

30th Annual

Carrousel Parade

The Carolinas' Carrousel Parade, a Charlotte tradition for 30 years, will be televised on WBTV, Channel 3, November 24th - Thanksgiving Day - beginning at 4 p.m.

The Parade will be taped earlier in the afternoon for playback at 4 p.m. in order that WBTV can bring you the NFL Football game between Chicago and Detroit at 12 noon, and a special Thanksgiving program, "We Gather Together," at 3:30 p.m.

Hosting the Parade will be Mike McKay and Lynne Bradley, who will be perched on top of the WBTV "On The Scene" mobile unit to describe all the color and pageantry of the Carrousel Parade. They'll be checking with Clara Lowry, who'll be mingling with the crowd, talking to youngsters and spectators.



SENSATIONAL NEW BIRTH

...Covers entire musical realm

New Birth

Conquers Musical Sounds

By Jacquie Levister

Some of the rhythmic and compelling sounds heard on the airways these days are the product of "New Birth."

A group capable of conquering the entire realm of music, in its newest LP, THE MIGHTY ARMY, takes on the currently popular sounds of disco. "We haven't changed our style per se, we simply have the ability to swing with the time. Disco is the happening thing and New Birth can do it all," states Leslie Wilson, lead vocalist on the group who happens to be the featured artist on ARMY.

New Birth has long offered something special and different in the way of music. Smashes like "I Can Understand It," "Dream Merchant" and "Wildflower" have made an impact on audiences around the country. The bold spirit of the songs and flashy but solid style of the performers clearly show New Birth is something else again.

Composed of a talented group of sensitive young performers, New Birth, scheduled to appear in Charlotte Friday night, is already anticipating the release of their

next album. (An album whose concept is still in the heads of the participating group members.)

The New Birth performance, according to Tony Churchill, the breather of life through a tenor sax, "is based on the same concept as a Broadway production. In the beginning we traveled as three separate entities: Love, Peace and Happiness, New Birth and The Nightlighters. Because of audience confusion we became officially one in the wake of our fourth album BIRTH DAY."

With a stopover of several days the members of the cadre of performers find ways of amusing themselves. Jean Johnson of Pasadena Cali., (newest addition to the group and keyboards specialist) takes the time to take care of herself. Something that is typical and necessary for all women. Being the newest member of the group Jean is awaiting the development of the next album. "I am looking forward most to having my music recorded," she stated.

Leroy Taylor, Bass Guitarist for the group who hails from Augusta, Ga., uses his

time between performances to explore and improve his personal musical ability. "I use my time to get into my music and to relax. I am a fan of the Jazz Crusaders and Stanley Clarke. The styles are different but not necessarily better," chimed Leroy.

Lead Guitarist and composer (Afro Strut etc.) Charles Hearndon of Detroit, in his spare time explores the city alone to stay attuned with history and to get an idea of the local color. A very calm and relaxing person in manner, Charles refers to the likes of Sammy Davis, Jr. Ben Vereen and Barbara Striesand as performers he enjoys in his off moments.

From diverse personal taste and background has jelled a harmonious group of non-ending drive and creativity. Other members of the group include: Allen Frye, Austin Landers, Val Ewell, Robin Russell, Robert Jackson, James McKinney, Duitch Helmer and Felicia Griner.

If by some quirk of fate you have not checked New Birth the time has arrived to stop and Behold the Mighty Army!

Flip Wilson To Co-Host Challenge

Of The Sexes

Farrah Fawcett-Majors, who upset Bill Cosby last April in tennis, tries to make actor Dick Van Patten her second straight victim, when "Celebrity Challenge of the Sexes."

two-hour primetime special, is broadcast by CBS Sports, Sunday, November 20, at 8 p.m. on WBTV, Channel 3.

Other stars from the entertainment world who headline the broadcast include Cobe Kaplan, Susan Saint James, David Cassidy, Valerie Perrine, and CBS Sports' Phyllis George.

Brent Musburger and comedian Flip Wilson cover the variety package of competitive events, along with celebrity coaches and co-hosts McLean Stevenson and Ms. Perrine.

Twenty-two television and movie stars take part in the second edition of head-to-head competition, which features, among others, Ms. Saint James matching swimming strokes with Cassidy; Olympic decathlon winner Bruce Jenner taking on Kristy McNichol in skateboarding; Elke Sommer going against Robert Conrad in a cross-country race; and Suzanne Somers chalking cues with Jack Klugman in a game of eight ball.

George Burns To

Star In Comedy,

Variety Special

George Burns, one of the comedy world's great talents and a veteran of every facet of show business from vaudeville to motion pictures, in which he won an Academy Award for his performance in "The Sunshine Boys," stars in "The George Burns One-Man Show," a new comedy-variety special to be broadcast Wednesday, November 23, at 10 p.m. on WBTV, Channel 3.

Just in case Burns discovers that he's not "one-man" enough to handle an hour of singing, dancing and story-telling alone, some of his many show business pals drop by to offer a hand. They include guest stars Bob Hope, Ann-Margaret, The Captain and Tennille, and Gladys Knight and the Pips.