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THE CHARLOTTE POST

Charlotte's Fastest Growing Community Weekly

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WBTV To Air

Billboard No. 1

Music Awards

Singer-actor Kris Kristofferson and The Bee Gees will host the "Billboard No. 1 Music Awards," a live "Big Event" presentation on Channel Nine Sunday, December 11 at 9 p.m. Both Kristofferson and The Bee Gees are among the nominees.

The special, to originate live from the Santa Monica, California Civic Auditorium, will honor achievements in all aspects of contemporary music

- pop, jazz, rock and country western - as determined by Billboard magazine's audience surveys between November 1, 1976, and October 21, 1977. This year the results will be telecast for the first time in the history of the surveys.

Seven artists and two groups are multiple nominees: Barbara Streisand with four; Stevie Wonder with three; and two each for Andy Gibb, Barry Manilow, George Benson, Thelma Houston, Donna Summer, Fleetwood Mac and The Emotions.

WSOC-TV Impact

Week To Focus

On The Elderly

Today elderly Americans represent the fastest growing portion of our population. By the year two thousand, they will represent one fourth of our population. Included in WSOC-TV's impact week centering on the elderly, "eyewitness Journal" will examine some of the plights of senior citizens in "Being Old and Ill" Sunday, December 11 at 6 p.m. Channel Nine's Community Affairs Director Jeanne Bohn hosts this special journal.

In addition to Bohn's exploration of many sad facts pertaining to the older folks, she will interview Dr. Elizabeth Corkey and Virginia Bowser who give an overview of the special problems of aging in America. Elaine Rumberg with ELDERCARE will discuss the work her agency does in finding help for those who are old and at home and need some nursing care. Marilyn Rowland, R.N. and Director of "The Oaks" at Huntersville Hospital, a public nursing facility. She will talk about the special features of "The Oaks."



ATTRACTIVE CANDI STATON

...Peach of a product from the south

Candi Staton's Singing Stronger Than Ever

By Jacquie Levister
Post Staff Writer

Candi Staton? The lady is alive and well and singing stronger than ever.

On her third Warner's Album, MUSIC SPEAKS LOUDER THAN WORDS the evidence is presented as she covers the gamut from her disco hit single "Dreamer Of A Dream" to Freddy Fender's hit "Before the Next Teardrop Falls." However, my personal favorite on Candi's newest LP released during the summer '77 is her rendition of the Bee Gees' "Nights on Broadway."

A peach of a product from the South, Candi a native of Hanceville, Alabama hails from a family of six children that was rightfully classified as "poor." It was her mother, a deeply religious woman, who instilled strong beliefs in her daughter. (Candi's father was a miner and farmer). Like others before her with similar guidance, it was only natural that her singing debu-

ted in the choir box.

At the age of 10 she became a member of the Jewel Gospel Trio, under Sister Bishop M.L. Jewell; it was with the trio that she met other young gospel singers of that day, including Lou Rawls and the teenage Aretha Franklin.

Her reputation as a singer spilled over to the night club scene when her brother took her to a club in town where the audience prevailed upon Candi to do a few numbers. With a repertoire that consisted of only one nonsecular song, "Do Right Woman," she sang and floored her audience. Unable to make the performance of one song an entire act she took on the task of learning others. From that humble beginning she began gigging steady in various clubs.

Candi enrolled in nursing school, but soon left to join Clarence Carter's show and met producer Rick Hall. That was about the time her hits started and the rest of the

world began to hear about Candi Staton.

To Candi's credit, the hits kept coming throughout the late 60's and early 70's, most of them through her association with producer Rick Hall and Muscle Shoals. It was a surprise in early 1976 when the gifted singer decided to begin cutting some sides with producer Dave Crawford. Crawford proved however, to be the catalyst for the new Staton style, showcased so effectively in her second Warner's album YOUNG HEARTS RUN FREE which included the follow-up hit "Run To Me."

If you have a penance for uncomplicated music with a punctuated by a quality female vocalist then MUSIC SPEAKS LOUDER THAN WORDS is just your stick. According to Candi, "I love to sing, but I try to bring it out lyrically. The album contains a soulful version of the Doobie Brothers' "Listen to The Music."

WBT To Conduct

Major Charity

Drive For Xmas

WBT managing director, Cullie Tarleton, has announced that WBT and WBT-FM will conduct a major charity drive over the Christmas season. The public service project is called the WBT CHRISTMAS PENNY PITCH and will run from Dec. 8th through Jan. 1st.

Over 800 coin canisters are being distributed in Mecklenburg, Gaston and Union counties. Locations include 7-11 stores, McDonalds, NCNB branch banks, the Overstreet Mall shops, Eastland, Southpark and Eastridge Malls. Additionally, the three malls are donating all coins in their fountains to the PENNY PITCH. To tie in with their holiday promotion, the Overstreet Malls will have a special PENNY PITCH train car set up to collect coins.

The recipient of this year's PENNY PITCH funds will be the Dogwood Chapter of the Easter Seal Society serving handicapped children and adults in Mecklenburg, Gaston, Union, Cabarrus, Cleveland, Lincoln and Anson counties. Easter Seal programs include providing equipment for the handicapped, sending handicapped children to a special summer camp, maintaining a therapeutic swimming program, and making telephone reassurance calls to handicapped people living alone.

WBT and WBT-FM will be supporting the PENNY PITCH drive with a major on-air effort as well as television and newspaper promotion. The week before Christmas, WBT's H.A. Thompson will broadcast live each day from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. from some of the participating malls and stores. The schedule is Eastridge Mall on December 19th, Belk in uptown Charlotte on Dec. 20th, Southpark on Dec. 21st, Eastland on Dec. 22nd, and the Radisson Plaza Mall on Dec. 23rd.

Any stores wishing to participate in the WBT CHRISTMAS PENNY PITCH can call 374-3751 for information on obtaining a coin canister and display materials.

THURSDAY NIGHT MOVIE

Michael Sarrazin and Gayle Hunnicutt star in a suspense story of a young man caught in a vicious circle of evil including two women and one hundred cats in Channel Nine's "Thursday Night Movie: Eye of the Cat," to be telecast December 15 at 9 p.m.