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THE CHARLOTTE POST

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Roberta Flack

Releases First

LP In 3 Years

Big name Rhythm and Blues recording artist Roberta Flack has released her first album in three years. "Blue Lights In The Basement" is rising fast on both Pop and Rhythm and Blues charts.

"What's Going On" released as a single earlier is being followed by "The Closer I Get To You." This album marks the first collaboration that Ms. Flack has had with co-vocalist Donny Hathaway in five years. For Hathaway, it is his first appearance on a record in four years.

Ms. Flack recently performed for a capacity crowd of 800 at the opening night of the National Liberty Award banquet. This \$1,000 a plate affair is the second annual convention of the National Black Caucus of Local Elected Officials.

A prestigious award was presented to A. Phillip Randolph by a committee comprised of Atlanta Mayor Maynard Jackson, Los Angeles Mayor Tom Bradley, and Berkeley Mayor Warren Widener. Ms. Flack was also presented a similar award for volunteering her services at this convention.

CBS Sports To

Air Muhammad

Ali-Spink Bout

Muhammad Ali, heavy-weight champion of the world, will put his crown on the line against unbeaten Leon Spinks as part of a championship tripleheader to be broadcast live by CBS Sports, Wednesday, February 15, to be joined in progress at approximately 9 p.m. following the N.C. State-Duke Basketball game on WBTV, Channel 3.

Spinks, Olympic gold medal light heavyweight champion will meet Ali for the heavy-weight title.

Ray's Jealousy

Ray Ellis parlays a chance meeting with a former school beauty queen into an all-out campaign to make his estranged wife jealous, on "Baby, I'm Back," Monday, February 13 at 8:30 p.m. on WBTV Channel 3.

Ray reminds Olivia of their 15th wedding anniversary and suggests an evening out on the town.



LEROY HUTSON

...Former Impression

Leroy Hutson Blossomed

Like A Spring Flower

By Cynthia Bell
Post Staff Writer

At the close of the Sixties, Howard University in Washington, D.C. was undergoing a musical experience. Leroy Hutson, a music student there, was blossoming like a Spring flower.

Being influenced by his talented roommate, Donny Hathaway, the two of them co-wrote several hit songs. "The Ghetto" was recorded by Donny Hathaway on his EVERYTHING IS EVERYTHING LP. Their friend Roberta Flack recorded "Trying Time" and "Gone Away" (from the CHAPTER TWO LP) initiating them into the industry.

Hutson was asked to join The Impressions to replace lead singer Curtis Mayfield following his graduation from Howard in 1970. This was a grand opportunity for him to exhibit his talents as a performer, producer, and writer.

Being a little skeptical of how the public would react to the Impressions without their

lead singer, Fred Cash of the group remembers, "We asked Leroy to come over to one of our last shows with Curt. We did some a cappella stuff in the dressing room, and I told Leroy to go home and play all his Impressions records in order to learn the parts." Being a very bright young man, that was exactly what he did. Within three days Leroy was into the act and apparently very well judging from the reception they got at their first show together in Central Park.

Leroy Hutson stayed with The Impressions for over two years. His love for his family drew him back home being powered by his ever pressing desire to write, produce, arrange, and play numerous instruments. It was not long before he produced his debut album LOVE OH LOVE, on Curtom Lable, of which Curtis Mayfield is co-president.

This Newark, New Jersey native received a very warm

response from the public as well as the music industry. The album and the title cut quickly zoomed high on the charts. Within the industry, Roberta Flack who had recorded some of his earlier work said, "Leroy Hutson is a talented writer." Piping hot disc jockey Jay Todd Johnson of Chicago's WVON said, "Leroy has impressed me with his total knowledge of music...I think he's a mother..."

A great deal of hard work by Hutson has been exerted into developing his career. It goes way back to his days of grammar and high school when he first sang professionally with a group called "The Nu-Tones." As a member of numerous gospel choirs and choruses, Hutson continued his career while at Howard. He was part of a duo, "Sugar and Spice." Upon graduation from Howard he had extensive training and experience in all aspects of music and music theory under his belt.

Nona Hendryx

Begins Work On

Epic Solo LP

NONA HENDRYX heads for the studio in February to begin work on her second Epic Records solo album due for release in April. In the interim you can catch Dusty Springfield singing the 'penned just for her' Hendryx tune "Checkmate" on her upcoming UA album.

Meanwhile, final negotiations are underway for SARAH DASH's debut solo LP. Miss Dash is hoping to begin recording in late February in addition to filling commitments for several club appearances both in New York and out. Her recent Reno Sweeney dates sold out and brought rave reviews.

Last week the two former Labelle members pitched in to provide backing vocals on the "Funky But Chic" track for ex-New York Doll, David Johansen's new LP for Blue Sky Records.

VICKI WICKHAM, manager for Hendryx & Dash, has not been idle, racking up another million in sales from The Floaters cover of her song "You Don't Have To Say You Love Me." Written with friend Simon Napier Bell, the song - performed and recorded by numerous artists including Elvis Presley - was originally released by Dusty Springfield.

McCoo, Davis To

Appear On

WSOC-TV Special

Tony Orlando, his wife, Elaine, Paul Anka, his wife, Anne, and children and the husband-wife team, Marilyn McCoo and Billy Davis, head a roster of star performers and nearly 30 celebrities who will offer different perspectives of love when "I Love You," a Valentine's Day variety special is presented on Channel Nine Tuesday, February 14 at 8 p.m.

Back To School Time

Rhoda and Brenda enroll in a bookkeeping class in night school in an effort to increase their earning capacity, on "Rhoda", Sunday, February 12 at 8:30 p.m. on WBTV, Channel 3.

Everything in night school seems to be going well, especially for Brenda, but on the night of the final examinations the good ship Morgenstern goes down with all hands.