

Movies

Theatres

Dining

ENTERTAINMENT

THE CHARLOTTE POST

Charlotte's Fastest Growing Community Weekly

Dancing

Shows

Lounges

Thursday, June 1, 1978-THE CHARLOTTE POST-Page 1B

Cleavon Little

To Star In

Vanishing Point

Barry Newman stars as Kowalski, a former Marine, policeman and race car driver, who leads police on a four-state chase, in "Vanishing Point," to be rebroadcast as a special movie presentation, Saturday, June 10, at 9 p.m. on WBTB, Channel 3.

Kowalski offers to drive a car from Denver to San Francisco in record time. Starting out without any sleep, he is aided on the first leg of the journey by pep pills. Two motorcycle policemen pursue him, but he outdistances them easily.

A blind disc jockey, Super Soul (played by Cleavon Little), is telepathically linked to Kowalski and, via radio, tells him where the police are lying in wait for him. With Super Soul's warnings and his own driving skill, Kowalski is able to avoid roadblocks and police traps. His four-state chase makes worldwide news.

Finally, police officers burst into Super Soul's studio. Without the help of his friend, Kowalski is just another speeder as he heads towards an impassable roadblock near his goal in California.

WCCB To Air

"Roll Of Thunder,

Hear My Cry"

"Roll of Thunder, Hear My Cry" is a three part drama that will air June 2,3,&4 by WTVI, Channel 42 at 8 p.m. This powerful drama concerns the struggle of a 13 year old girl and her family to keep the land owned by her family for three generations during the years of depression.

Cassie comes from a close knit family. During the "hard times" the family is expanded with the addition Uncle Hammer (Morgan Freeman) and Mr. Morrison (Rockne Tarkington) who help them fight to keep their land and their dignity.

The Logans organize a boycott against a merchant who has committed a cruel act of arson on one of their neighbors, and the landowner who is trying to buy off their home. The boycott leads to Mary's sudden dismissal as a teacher in the black school her children attend, the bank calling for payment of the mortgage on the home, and the pressure that is applied to their close friends, David and Morrison.



THE MIGHTY O'JAYS

....Celebrating 30 years together

Mighty O'Jays Launched

Local Fans Into Another World

By Cynthia Bell
Post Staff Writer

The mighty, mighty O'Jays took hundreds of their fans and launched them into another world, their world filled with joyous music Saturday night past. The Charlotte Coliseum was part of their 1978 tour which will include major parts of the United States, Europe, and the Far East.

Gamble & Huff's Philadelphia International Record's stars have released super sounds like "Ship Ahoy," "Family Reunion," "The Way of the World," "Traveling at the Speed of Thought," and now "So Full of Love."

This year the O'Jays are kicking off their third decade together as a recording group with their appropriately titled LP, "So Full of Love." Their 20th anniversary in the music world gained them lots of recognition from the industry.

Record World magazine did a special supplement of the O'Jays to recognize their 20th anniversary. Congratulatory letters were sent to them by the U.S. Senate, the governor of Ohio, and mayor of their hometown Cleveland. These letters of praise to the group for their civic contributions was an expression that felicitate the group's personal unity and many years together.

To celebrate their twenty years together, the O'Jays embarked on a tour capturing 73 cities within its realm. Three million dollars which is the highest figure ever for a black act was grossed as a result. During the last six years the O'Jays albums have sold 25 million records which includes a platinum album and four gold albums. In the singles category, they have a platinum and three golds.

Few acts manage to survive with the change of trends in the music field. Their track record shows that they have that special touch that sets them apart from all others. They possess a style and feel for lyrics that has matured with the times.

Eddie Levert, Walter Williams, and Sammy Strain have been together since their high school years in Ohio. Back in those days they went under the name of The Mascots. They made a living playing on the "Chitterling Circuit" of Ohio until they were discovered by Eddie O'Jay, a Cleveland deejay. He taught them a great deal including professionalism and as a token of appreciation they renamed themselves the O'Jays.

"We were kids after fame. We thought we could go out, hustle a little, and soon be

discovered. Looking back on those early days, no matter how hard it was, it was easier than it is today," comments Eddie Levert.

Today the O'Jays are entertainers, businessmen, and family men. We all know that it's hard for anyone to play three roles at one time, but their devotion and long friendship is what keeps them together. Their career is a business to the O'Jays. After the weekend, they come back to the office on Monday and work schedules, recordings, and arranging the rest of the week. It's strictly business for this hard working group of determined individuals. It's not necessarily a well liked job, but it's one that they put up with, sharing the responsibility as well as the pleasure that is associated with it.

The O'Jays style of music can be traced from that of the hit makers of earlier years like the Drifters and the Dells. During this time they had only one hit, "Lonely Drifter." This was a time when they were getting their act together, shopping around for the right label and a producer to give them that special zing. Gamble & Huff stepped in and did just that. They teamed with the O'Jays and weaved their music through the years to produce what we hear today.

"Follows Lula"

Is WBTV

News Special

The second in a series of news magazine broadcasts, "A Special Edition of WBTV News," follows a lady named Lula on Sunday, June 4th at 6:30 p.m. on WBTV, Channel 3.

"I'm mama's puddin' and papa's pet, I'm 103, but I'm the baby yet."

That's Lula Watson. She's a poet and a musician, a singer and songwriter, and she's 103 going on 20.

She was born in North Carolina in 1874. Ulysses S. Grant was president, and the nation was recovering from the Civil War. Times were hard. Lula Watson began working at an early age...and now she's working again. She's on the road...taking her talents to North Carolinians, from children in day care centers to people in nursing homes. She's looked upon with awe... as though she's captured the secret of immortality...people seem to think that by watching her, touching her, perhaps they can learn the secret, too.

WBTV News watched people watching Lula for several months. Her story, "Lula," will be featured on the June 4th Special Edition.

Also on that program, a WBTV News report raises questions about how one-million dollars in federal funds was spent in a North Carolina town.

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.

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