

Black Movies , TV News Briefs

Beverly Johnson in Israel Filming "Ashanti"

By Jesse H. Walker
Special to the Post

New York model Beverly Johnson now in Israel filming "Ashanti," an epic on modern-day slavery trade with William Holden, Michael Caine, Peter Ustinov and Rex Harrison may be seen on the screen before that film is released. She's also in Philip Fenty's completed "Baron Wolfgang Von Tripps," starring Calvin Lockhart and featuring such recognizable black names as Raymond St. Jacques and Charles McGregor, with choreography by George Faison and the music of Gil Scott Heron.

Former baseball star Willie Mays and Wes Unseld of the champion Washington Bullets appeared before the Senate parks and recreation subcom-

mittee asking for more federal money for neighborhood athletic facilities in the inner cities, such as the highly successful Rucker-ITT Summer and Winter Leagues in NYC, supported by a \$50,000 yearly ITT grant. Similar interest is the new Sport'n Skill League in NYC sponsored by the Joint Schools Committee that requires youngsters to attend a class the day before a game. The Rucker League also conducts a tutoring service for the over 2,000 youngsters enrolled in its year-round program.



Richard Pryor
...Has new role

Reports have it that jazz

great Charlie Parker's life will be made into a movie with Richard Pryor contracted for the role of Parker. Richard Wesley is writing the screenplay. Other films upcoming include Bill Cosby and Richard Pryor in the film version of Neil Simon's "California Suite" and "Firepower," with O.J. Simpson, Sophia Loren and James Coburn, the latter shot recently in NYC and New Jersey. Also, James Earl Jones will play an American shipwrecked sailor in "The Bushido Blade," now filming in Japan.

Doug Williams, Grambling's all-time quarterback who was the 1978 first round draft pick of the Tampa Bay Buccaneers (a first!), was in town last week at Yankee Stadium to help launch the 1978 Whitney M. Young, Jr. Memorial Football Classic between Grambling and Morgan State on Sept. 23 in the Stadium. The game is co-sponsored by The New York Yankees and The New York Urban League and this year's game will start at 8 p.m. on a Saturday night at the Stadium.

SUPER SOUNDS

- USE TA BE MY GIRL
O'Jays
CLOSE THE DOOR
Teddy Pendergrass
BOOGIE OOGIE OOGIE
Taste of Honey
SHAME
Evelyn "Champagne" King
STUFF LIKE THAT
Quincy Jones
YOU AND I
Rick James
THE GROOVELINE
Heatwave
DUKEY STICK
George Duke
RUNAWAY LOVE
Linda Clifford
DANCE ACROSS THE FLOOR
Jimmy "Bo" Horn
THREE TIMES A LADY
Commodores
LAST DANCE
Donna Summer
FEEL SO GOOD
Chuck Mangione
TOO MUCH, TOO LITTLE, TOO LATE
Johnny Mathis & Deniece Williams
TAKE ME TO THE NEXT PHASE
Isley Brothers
DAYLIGHT AND DARKNESS
Smokey Robinson
ANNIE MAE
Natalie Cole
I AM YOUR WOMAN, SHE IS YOUR WIFE
Barbara Mason
LET'S GO ALL THE WAY
Whispers
AIN'T NO SMOKE WITHOUT FIRE
Eddie Kendricks

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