

# Bits & Pieces

By Cynthia Bell



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## From The Entertainment World

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Post Staff Writer

David English of the famed Temptations was shot wounded recently as he tried to stop a thief from stealing his new Cadillac. Apparently he left his car running when he stopped to help a friend in need.

During the course of a conversation with his friend, a man jumped into his vehicle. The surprised English jumped into the car also. The car thief shot English three times and dumped him into the street about a block away.

Officials report English to be in satisfactory condition at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center. The wounded singer suffered wounds in both legs and his left arm.

Marla Gibbs who plays Florence on "The Jeffersons," is pounding out ideas with Norman Lear Productions for her new show to premier this fall. She is also lined up to be the special TV Celebrity guest for the Rev. Cleophus Robinson and his congregation at a fund raising to aid his television ministry on August 5 at the Stouffers Riverfront Hotel in St. Louis.

Veteran entertainer, song writer, recording artist, and performer, Solomon Burke is active again under new management. His new single, "Please Don't You Ever Say Goodbye To Me" on Amherst Records sold close to 100,000 copies its first week out. It teams Solomon with veteran producer Jerry "Swamp Dog" Williams Jr. The single will be followed very soon by an album of the same title.

The North Carolina based musical group, Janice really tore the roof off Rod McGrew Scholarship Dinner recently held at the Century Plaza Hotel in Los Angeles. Stevie Wonder, Barry White, Maurice White of Earth, Wind, and Fire, along with several record company executives were all there trying to sign the group on their respective labels. The group did, however, sign an exclusive Public Relations contract with Warren Lanier Enterprises Public Relations Agency. They are now preparing for their fall concert tour over the Nation's college campuses to commence in September.

Fred Williamson and Nancy Wilson are slated to star in a new movie, "Blues for Fifty Yards." The story centers around a football player and a female singing star. Set to begin production in September, the movie will be filmed in location in Los Angeles,

New Orleans, and Kansas City.

The Bark-Kays, Hamilton Bohannon, Betty "Clean-up Woman" Wright, Mass Production, and the Newcomers will all appear in the Five for Five jam at the Charlotte Coliseum on Friday, August 18 at 8 p.m.

Jazz pianist and singer Jay McShann is back from his extensive European tour. His debut Atlantic album, "Last Of The Blue Devils," is astonishing music lovers and critics alike. "Hootie Blues," "Ain't Misbehavin'," and "Ain't Nobody's Business" are a few of the tunes from this LP that's turning on million of Jazz fans in this country as well as Europe.

Jay is best known for launching the career of the renown saxophonist, Charlie Parker.

He is now in New York working on his second effort for Atlantic Records. He will also be doing a month gig at New York City's Michael's Pub.

Peter Tosh who appeared as the opening act for the Rolling Stones appeared in a two day headline show at the Starwood in Los Angeles. Public response was so heavy that motorcycle police had to cordon off a three block area around the club.

Tosh will make his debut effort for the Rolling Stones Label in the fall. It will mark his third wailing solo album. In addition, Mick Jagger and other members of the Rolling Stones will join him on the forthcoming album.

"Timbuktu" is setting a record on Broadway for being the most booked play for theatre parties. This popular play has been sold out for several weekends at the Mark Hellinger Theater.

Evidently most people prefer to miss the midweek showings when many of the star come out. Michael Jackson, Earth, Wind and Fire, the Spinners, Kevin Dobson, Kirk Douglas and many others have been on hand when Eartha Kitt and other cast members did surprise concerts.

Open auditions for the Mint Museum Theatre Guild's production of "The Oldest Living Graduate" will be held Saturday, August 26, and Sunday, August 27 at 2 p.m. at 501 Hempstead Place in the Golden Circle Theatre.

Rolls for six male and three females between the ages of 30 and 75 will be casted.

# Thursday, August 17, 1970 THE CHRONICLE 1031

## Sammie Davis Jr. To Appear

## On "Steve & Eydie" Special

Steve Lawrence and Eydie Gorme - together with guest stars Leslie Browne (the ballerina who was nominated for an Oscar for "The Turning Point"), Carol Burnett, Sammy Davis Jr. and Oscar Peterson - join writers when the NBC Television Network presents "Steve & Eydie Celebrate Irving Berlin," Tuesday, Aug. 22 from 9:30 to 11 p.m.

Berlin, who turned 90 years old last May 11, gave America nearly 1,000 popular songs, many of which became classics and which will be heard again on this special, including "Alexander's Ragtime Band," "Cheek to Cheek," "This Is the Army, Mr Jones," "White Christmas," and "God Bless America."

Highlights of the special include two lengthy medleys - opening and closing - of some of Berlin's most popular songs; a spectacular "Alexander's Ragtime Band" production number featuring Sammy Davis Jr. in a dual role backed by a group of dancers; a poignant Ellis Island immigrant segment; a rollicking, comic "This Is Your Army" production number featuring Eydie and Carol; Peterson playing and Eydie singing "Cheek to Cheek;" a Brown dance medley; Burnett sing-



ing the bittersweet "Supper-time;" and a film clip of Bing Crosby singing "White Christmas."

The show opens with an Irving Berlin montage, as Steve, Eydie, Sammy and Carol present a rich and extensive medley of his songs.

Describing Berlin's beginnings as an immigrant, Steve is seen in an Ellis Island setting, recalling the poem by Emma Lazarus, "Give Me Your Tired, Your Poor," which the songwriter eventually set to music.

Next, Sammy impersonates the legendary Ziegfeld star Bert Williams interpreting "Alexander's Ragtime Band," and then offers his own multiple dance variations, backed by a group of

dancers.

Peterson provides a piano rendition of "Cheek to Cheek," as Eydie sings. Then Eydie and Carol get together for some comedy in a "This Is The Army" production number and medley. Steve and Sammy sing and dance as "A Couple of Song and Dance Men."

In a change of mood, Burnett, on a bare stage, sings "Supper-time." Steve introduces a Berlin classic, "White Christmas," leading into a film clip of the man who made the song famous, Bing Crosby. Brown then offers her dance interpretation of several Berlin songs, including "Change Partners" and "Let's Face the Music and Dance," as she is joined by two featured male dancers (Don Correia, Dennon Rawls).

Steve and Eydie then close the show with a extensive Berlin concert, culminating in "God Bless America" and "Always."

The show was produced by Gary Smith and Dwight Hemion, directed by Hemion, and written by Harry Crane. Executive producers are Steve Lawrence and Smith. The special is a Stage 2 Production in association with Smith-Hemion Productions.

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