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Lenny Williams

To Guest On

Soul Train Show

Lenny Williams, lead singer for "Power," joins "Mother's Finest," a rock-funk group, on Soul Train this weekend.

Named Best New Male Vocalist of 1977 by two East Coast entertainment magazines, Williams demonstrates his appealing musical style on "Midnight Girl" and "You Got Me Running."

Since becoming a solo artist, Williams has recorded two albums, "Choosing You" and "Spark of Love."

The talented and energetic sextet, "Mother's Finest," playing a blend of rock and funk they call "runch," show off their style on "Love Changes" and "I Don't Wanna Come Back."

Their latest album "The Mother Factor," is their third on Epic label.

Soul Train is produced by Don Cornelius, who also serves as host, and sponsored by Johnson Products Co. of Chicago.

Al Freeman Jr.

To Star In

"Malcolm X"

Al Freeman, Jr. has been signed to star as Malcolm X in David L. Wolper's production, "Roots: The Next Generations," it was announced by producer Stan Margulies.

Freeman joins previously announced James Earl Jones, who plays Alex Haley, in the teleplay by Ernest Kinoy and directed by John Erman. This final episode of the 14-hour continuation of the remarkable Haley family saga will film through November for airing on the ABC Television Network early in 1979.

"Roots: The Next Generations," uses stories from Haley's "Roots," as well as information from his upcoming book "Search" and 800 pages of notes provided by Haley and not used in his books.

"Roots: The Next Generations" is again a David L. Wolper production in association with Warner Bros. Television with David L. Wolper as executive producer.



SINGER GLADYS KNIGHT

...Alone on new album

Gladys Knight's Notable For Consistent Level Of Excellence

by Sherleen McKoy
Post Staff Writer

Down through the years, Gladys Knight and The Pips have been among the most visible and popular acts in the entertainment business. They have done film scores (Gladys had the leading role in "Pipe Dreams"), had their own television variety show, made a long series of chart-topping records, headlined in clubs and theatres internationally and have won countless awards, but recognition can hardly be said to have come overnight for Gladys, her brother Merald, Jr. (Bubba), and their cousins Edward Patten and William Guest.

Gladys finds that lead voice alone on a complete album, "Miss Gladys Knight," an unprecedented event where her interpretive power is at its peak. Songs by today's top composers-Carole Bayer Sager, the brothers Gibb,

Randy Newman, Allen Toussaint-and sparkling production by Tony Macaulay and

Ray Klein, a broad range of emotions, tempos and moods all combine to make this solo debut an occasion to be celebrated. Be not dismayed-Gladys and The Pips have not deserted company as a recording or performing act.

From early soul classics like "Every Beat of My Heart" to gold standards like "I Heard It Through the Grapevine" and "Midnight Train to Georgia," until present day jewels like "Sorry Doesn't Always Make It Right" and "The One and Only," the career of Gladys Knight and The Pips has been notable for a consistent level of excellence achieved by very few musical institutions. Still together after more than 25 years of growth and accomplishment in the entertainment business, Gladys Knight

and The Pips have won praise and acclaim throughout the world. One British newspaper stated the group's impact in eight words: "Gladys Knight and The Pips are a phenomenon."

Born in Atlanta, Georgia, Gladys Knight has been performing since she was four years old. At the age of seven, with her mother's encouragement, (both of Gladys' parents were singers in the famed Wings Over Jordan Choir), she appeared and won the \$2,000 first prize on "Ted Mack's Amateur Hour," singing Nat "King" Cole's hit, "Too Young." When another cousin, James ("Pip") Wood, heard her sing with her family, he prodded them into becoming professional, giving his nickname to the group. In 1954, when Gladys was ten years old, they were booked into Atlanta's Royal Peacock Supper Club.

LeVar Burton

To Host

Black America

LeVar Burton of "ROOTS" fame, will host a series of programs on the historic and contributions of a race of people who have been left out of the forefront of our nation's development in "BLACK AMERICA".

Burton gained notoriety through his moving portrayal of the young African immigrant forced to come to Amer-

ica in the telecast of the "Roots" series based on the book written by the best-seller author Alex Haley.

He was more recently simulcast in telling dramas, on two of the top three networks, CBS and NBC.

"BLACK AMERICA" traces the true origin of inventions and discoveries, many of which have been attributed to other historical and renowned figures in America. Produced by the Mutual Black Network, the series, through the narration of Burton, is one that will provide a rare listening experience.

WBTv To Reair

"A Christmas

Carol" Sunday

"A Christmas Carol," an animated special based on the well-known and beloved Dickens story, will be rebroadcast on "Famous Classic Tales," Sunday, November 26, at 4 p.m. on WBTv, Channel 3.

The special, a popular seasonal perennial since it debuted on the Network on December 13, 1970.

Grand Chapters To

Meet This Weekend

The Luxor Grand Lodge and the Crown and Scepter Grand Chapter, O.E.S. will meet in Charlotte, November 24-26 at the Sheraton Motor Inn on McDowell Street.

Activities will get underway Friday, with a fashion show and disco. On Saturday, an

awards banquet will be held at 7.00 p.m. The guest speakers will be Roy Wood, Vice President of the National Black Network in New York and Dr. Robert Clark, Deputy Grand Master.