

ENTERTAINMENT

THE CHARLOTTE POST

Charlotte's Fastest Growing Community Weekly

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WTVI To Broadcast

"Talk Of The County"

"Talk of the County," the County government television program on WTVI, will feature a discussion and explanation of the services provided by the County's Agricultural Extension Service, at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, April 12, on Channel 42. A portion of the program will be devoted to providing tips for spring gardens.

Phil Haas, Director of the Agricultural Extension Service, and Ted Caudle, Extension Agent, will discuss the activities of the County department with David McNeill, Assistant Director of the County's Public Service and Information Department. In their discussion, they will explain the original purpose for developing the Agricultural Extension Service, and discuss the services provided by the agency's four divisions: home economics, 4-H youth, community development, and agricultural and horticultural programs.

Mecklenburg County's changing agricultural needs will be discussed, and Haas and Caudle will also explain how residents can receive information and advice from the Agricultural Extension Service.

"Talk of the County," is a monthly program produced by the County Public Service and Information Department in conjunction with WTVI. It is broadcast on the second Monday of each month, at 6:30 p.m.

"Inside America"

Premieres Sunday

"Inside America," an innovative and entertaining one-hour series premieres Sunday, April 4, at 7 p.m. on WSOC-TV, Channel 9, with Dick Clark as host.

The program takes a look at life in America today—the fads and fashions, sports, movies, music, television, and the people and events that are raising eyebrows and making news.

The premiere's lead story takes us on board "The Love Boat," where Bernie Kopell, who plays the ship's doctor, meets his real-life counterpart and those of the series' other stars.

Other highlights of the premiere show include: A look at second generation stars, featuring Jamie Lee Curtis, daughter of Janet Leigh and Tony Curtis and a star in her own right as the reigning queen of horror movies; Rex Reed's ten worst movie picks of 1981; a look at video arcades; celebrities reveal which one of the Ten Commandments they would drop; and Miss Universe of 1980, Shawn Weatherly, shows how to get in shape.



SKYY

...Hot recording artists

Thousands Dial Themselves Into Skyy's Style Of Rhythm And Funk

By Loretta Manago
Post Staff Writer

"Here's my number and a dime; you can call me anytime." With this open invitation from the song, "Call Me" by the hot recording artists Skyy, they have allowed thousands of new fans to dial themselves into their style of rhythm and funk.

As a group Skyy may appear to be in its infant stages. But individually the experience that the musicians and vocalists possess is as vintaged as a fine wine.

The eight-member, self-contained group includes Solomon Roberts Jr., Anibal Anthony Sierra, Gerald Le Bar, Tommy McConnel, Larry Greenberg and female vocalists Denise L. Dunning-Crawford, Delores Dunning and Benita Rae Dunning.

With formal training that began in high school, Solomon Roberts is Skyy's lead vocalist and rhythm guitarist. When Roberts was a student at Bromley School of Music studying drum, he began to develop an interest in the guitar.

Self-taught on vocals and the guitar, Roberts tends to have a natural talent as a songwriter as well. His first formally recognized successful hit "Give It What You Got" was recorded by B. T. Express. Robert now co-writes Skyy material and co-produced the group's latest LP "SKYY."

A graduate of Brooklyn College, Anibal Anthony Sierra plays lead

guitar for Skyy. His associate degree in Music and Art was only complemented by the musical influence top artists George Benson and Jimi Hendricks has had on him.

The bassist for Skyy Gerald La Bon played saxophone while in high school. A native of Port-Au-Prince, Haiti Le Bon has worked with The Moments, Sylvia Robinson, George Kerr and Randy Muller and Brass Construction.

Drummer Tommy McConnell got his funky beat through both formal and informal training. He attended Three Bees Music School and studied jazz techniques with Andrew Sorrell.

Professionally, Skyy member Larry Greenberg has been playing since the age of 13, but originally started playing the piano at age four. His absorption of the Latin-rock feeling in the early seventies led him to form his own Latin-rock sextet and to work as a sideman in several Salsa groups. Greenberg began exploring new directions in

music when he made the transition from the organ to multi-keyboards and synthesizer.

A trio of sensational sisters comprise the female vocalists for Skyy. Denise L. Dunning-Crawford, Delores Dunning and Benita Rae Dunning have been singing since the days of the Supremes and The Temptations. Back then, they were known as De La Rae.

Performing in local bands, talent shows and an invitation to sing in the 1973 Miss Black America New York State Pageant were the routes that ultimately led De La Rae to Randy Muller and Brass Construction and eventually to Skyy. After working with Muller's group for two years, he introduced them to Solomon Roberts who in turn gave them a chance to use their musical creativity with his material and the three have been members of Skyy ever since.

Skyy is on the rise, continuing to set their own limits and when it comes to music, it is clear they have none.

Cotillion Fetes Ronnie Dyson

Atlantic-Cotillion Records recently hosted a special listening party in New York City to officially welcome vocalist Ronnie Dyson to the label and to premiere his first Cotillion album, "Phase 2." Among those in attendance at the affair were members of the Atlantic, Atco, Cotillion and WEA families, representatives of the print and broadcast media and many of

Mr. Dyson's friends and musical associates.

Ronnie Dyson's Cotillion debut, "Phase 2" was produced in New York City by Bobby Eli and includes songs from a variety of writers. Featured is the new single, "Bring It On Home," which is already enjoying strong radio action across the country.

"In Touch With Special Olympics" To Air Sunday

"In Touch With Special Olympics," a look at the upcoming competition to be held at UNC-Charlotte on April 29 and 30, will be seen Sunday, April 4 at 6:30 p.m. on WBTV, Channel 3.

WBTV Community Affairs Director, Ken Koontz, will host the 30-minute program. His guests will be Frances Gibson, a teacher at the Metrolina Independent Living Center, and Gary Comer of the Special Olympics Steering Committee.

The Special Olympics program helps mentally retarded citizens build happy, useful lives by teaching them to develop their strengths and weaknesses. Every spring, more than six hundred special education students participate in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg games. All year long the students prepare for the games, and this athletic training generates a confidence that extends into the classroom and the job. Participants, even at the lowest level, may advance all the way to the International Games, which are held every four years.

Koontz and his guests will discuss this outstanding event, the big pre-game parade on April 28 and the need for the volunteers to act as aides to the participants on "In Touch With Special Olympics."

Funny Special

"We Dare You"

Airs Monday

"We Dare You," a half-hour variety special which preserves a great American tradition — the practical joke — airs Monday, April 5, at 8 p.m. on WSOC-TV, Channel 9. Terry McGovern and John Bauman host and entice everyday citizens to play zany and outrageous gags on friends, relatives and common strangers while hidden cameras record the results.

Included in the special are these dares:

--A bride and groom shock their wedding guests by switching brides at the altar and revealing a most unusual wife-to-be to the assembly.

--Singer-actor Paul Williams is lured to a Beverly Hills mansion on the pretense of auditioning the son of a foreign dignitary who wants to be a singer.

--A man tells his wife that they have the use of a friend's \$30,000 boat for the day. But when they arrive at the marina, they discover the boat in drydock and despite his wife's protestations, he attempts to lower the vessel into the water—with seemingly disastrous results.