

ENTERTAINMENT

Natalie Cole To Say Wedding Vows While "I Do" Is Climbing Charts

NEW YORK, N.Y. (AP)—Singer Natalie Cole's "I Do" is climbing the rhythm and blues charts.

And on Sept. 17 she'll say "I do" to record producer Andre Fischer in a wedding ceremony in Los Angeles.

"I've got my gown. I've never had a wedding gown before. I didn't have a traditional wedding the first time," she says.

Fischer was the original drummer and founder of the R&B group Rufus with Chaka Khan. He and Cole met about 15 years ago at a Tokyo music festival.

"Chaka and I became friends," she said. "I had no idea he (Fischer) liked me."

a comeback album. It refers to Cole's 1987 "Everlasting" album, her first for EMI, which was a comeback and was a success. The biggest single from it was "Pink Cadillac."

"I think rock fans were a little upset," she said. "That's by their buddy, Bruce (Springsteen). How could I do a song he wrote? He must have hated it because I never heard a word."

Her album, "Dangerous," on Modern Records in 1985, was her first since going through drug rehabilitation six years ago. "That album was okay. It wasn't a big deal but it was better than some things I had done. That was a very difficult time for

you're going to get in trouble," she said. "We need to keep the line of communication open with young people. My biggest concern as a parent is that my son will be able to talk to me."

"Kids in the era I was brought up in weren't allowed to talk about certain things. It wasn't right to have certain thoughts going on in your head. You'd feel guilty if you brought them up to your mom or your dad. I found my answers outside of the home, which isn't the greatest place to experiment."

About her son, 11-year-old Robbie, she says, "I want him to have an education. I'm glad I got my education. In spite of all the things I've been through, the bottom line is I know I'm educated, intelligent. I can speak well, express myself. I can mingle. I don't have to feel ostracized in any kind of group."

"With education, my children might even be able to stand out," she said. "Their education will be such that they can move around and see the world. I had that opportunity and I would want the same thing for them."

"We should upgrade our educational system and put more money into it. These days you want to send your kid to private school if you can afford it. It shouldn't be like that."

Mavis Staple, Prince Teaming As Unlikely Collaborators In Music

The combination of Mavis Staples, of the family gospel group the Staple Singers, and Prince sounds like an unlikely one for collaboration.

But it happened.

A Mavis Staples album, "Time



NEW SEASON—Tim Reid and Daphne Maxwell Reid star in "SNOOPS," a new hour-long, lighthearted mystery drama about an offbeat Washington, D.C.-based professional couple who share an insatiable curiosity about crime and intrigue—which sometimes gets them into sticky situations. "SNOOPS" will be broadcast on Fridays from 8:00-9:00 p.m., beginning this fall on the CBS Television Network.

Parkins Performs In Concert With Symphony Sept. 8

DURHAM—Organist Robert Parkins, artist in residence at Duke University, will perform with the North Carolina Symphony in Duke Chapel on Friday, Sept. 8. The classical concert will be at 8 p.m.

This is a unique event, as it marks the symphony's first appearance with Parkins in Duke Chapel. Parkins will perform Handel's Concerto in F Major for Organ and Orchestra, Opus 4, and Poulenc's Concerto in G Minor for Organ, Strings, and Timpani. The symphony will open the concert with Handel's Overture from the Royal Fireworks, and will close the evening with Mussorgsky's "Pictures at an Exhibition."

Single tickets for the event are on sale now. For ticket information, call the Page Auditorium Box Office at 1-684-4444, or the Raleigh Civic Center box office at 1-900-292-7469 or 755-6060.

Gospel, Blues Show Bringing Southern Music

Gospel and Piedmont blues will be performed in a concert of traditional Southern music at 3 p.m. on Sunday, Sept. 17, at the North Carolina Museum of Art. The concert is free and open to the public.

The Badgett Sisters of Caswell County and Etta Baker of Caldwell County will perform, continuing music traditions passed down from one generation to the next. The Badgett Sister—Cleonia Graves, Connie Steadman, and Celester Sellers—will perform hymns, spirituals and gospel songs in traditional, unaccompanied style. The three sisters were taught to sing by their father.

Etta Baker is an old-time blues musician who plays banjo, guitar and fiddle. Her fingerpicking is considered by many to be the premiere example of the Piedmont blues guitar style. She began playing at age 3, and by 5, she was playing melodies and simple songs. She learned to play banjo, guitar and fiddle from her relatives.

The concert is held in conjunction with an exhibition of art by grassroots North Carolina artists called "Signs and Wonders: Outsider Art Inside North Carolina."

Films Of Black Dancer Topic For Art Forum

Two classic films from the 1930s that electrified the film world this year at New York's Film Forum will be the subject of the September Film Forum at the North Carolina Museum of Art at 8 p.m. on Thursday, Sept. 21.

The films feature entertainer Josephine Baker, the black American dancer and songstress who became the toast of Europe. Made in France in 1935 and 1934, these newly subtitled prints present Baker in all her sensuous glory. "Zou Zou" is the story of a laundress who becomes a music hall sensation. In "Princess Tam Tam" Baker stars as a Bedouin shepherdess who is taken to Paris as a princess. Both films are full of Baker's uninhibited dancing and exuberant singing in extravagant production numbers.

"Princess Tam Tam" will be screened first at 8 p.m., followed by a 20-minute audience discussion at 9:25 p.m. "Zou Zou" will be screened from 9:45-11:15 p.m.

Tickets for the forum are \$5 (combination ticket for the September and October forums) or \$3 for single tickets at the door.

The museum hosts a film forum on the third Thursday of each month to examine independent, avant-garde, overlooked or foreign films. For more information, call the museum at 633-1935.

Soul II Soul Debut LP Passes Gold On Charts

One of the fastest-breaking success stories of the year has undoubtedly been Soul II Soul's, as the group's debut album and single, "Keep On Movin'" have just both passed the gold sales mark. The album has been out just six weeks, while the single—which has already hit No. 1 on the R&B and dance charts—is still on its way up the pop charts. Currently, "Keep On Movin'" is listed at 28 on Billboard's Hot 100 chart, and looks poised to climb much higher, while the album is firmly lodged in the top 10 of the black albums chart, and the top 30 of the top 200 albums chart.

The new video for "Keep On Movin'" is also a multi-format hit, airing on BET, VH-1, and MTV, as well as other video outlets nationwide. Currently, Jazzie B, leader of Soul II Soul and the "funk dred" movement, is making plans for a tour of the states this fall. The group's special SRO show at New York's Palladium on July 19 was one of the city's most talked-about events this summer, previewing a show that's sure to take the country by storm.



NATALIE COLE

"Last October I received a call from one of my background singers that Andre had some material he wanted to submit. I later found out what he really wanted was a date. He was very cool and a little shy. I figured it was going to be a business relationship, and it was for several months."

"We did work on the 'Good to be Back' album. He arranged and produced 'Matter of Fact' and 'Gonna Make You Mine.'

"In January I was performing in Lake Tahoe and he called. Would it be OK if he came to see the show, and he wanted to bring his children. He has three. I said, 'Sure.'"

"He told me he'd been in love with me 15 years," Cole said.

Fischer proposed after her 39th birthday in February.

Cole has been on a 40-city tour since July, promoting her new "Good to be Back" album of mid-tempo ballads on EMI Records. In a recent relaxed, happy interview, she said it's her first such tour in at least seven years.

The song "I Do" is a duet with Freddie Jackson. "It is a getting-married song. Freddie told me his sister is getting married and wants to play it at her wedding. It is definitely a love ballad."

On her tour, Cole's cousin, Eddie, sings it with her. Her father, Nat "King" Cole, had three brothers, Ike, Freddie and the late Eddie, Sr. All were singers.

Cole's first husband was Marvin Yancey, co-producer of her first album, "Inseparable," which won her Grammy Awards in 1978 as best new artist and best rhythm and blues female vocal performance for her single "This Will Be." They divorced nine years ago. He died of a heart attack three years ago.

The "Good to be Back" album isn't

me."

Even though she knows how bad addiction can be, Cole doesn't give advice about drugs. "You can advise all day long and it doesn't mean anything. I was advised. Kids are going to do what they're going to do."

But she does have advice for parents. "You try to show them the road. If kids are brought up with a lot of animosity, friction and noncommunication, where everybody walks around holding everything inside,



MAKING A RETURN—With the release of their new label, Valley Vue Records, the Manhattans also introduce the newest member of the group, Roger Harris, who replaced former member Gerald Alton. With their new single, "Why You Wanna Love Me Like That" now released, this song reaffirms that the Manhattans are, indeed, Back!!

WTVD-TV 11 Does Report Card On NC Public Schools

North Carolina schools are getting a bad report card.

Students too often test alarmingly low compared to other states. Dropout rates are high. Teacher salaries are low. And like the rest of the nation, North Carolinians wonder if public education in America has become second-rate.

WTVD-TV 11 is launching a comprehensive examination of education with a special emphasis on school problems and opportunities in the Heart of Carolina.

Beginning in mid-September and continuing for the remainder of the year, WTVD will air special reports, news and public affairs stories and provocative programming tackling a number of educational issues.

The project will be called "Education: Rising to the Challenge," and it will be a station-wide effort.

In announcing the special effort, WTVD's president and general manager, Alan Nesbitt, said, "Our

goal is to generate dialogue and debate."

"We believe that by raising awareness of educational issues and better involving the public at large," said Nesbitt, "the problems have a better chance for long-term solution."

The project will be coordinated by WTVD's director of community services, Janice Crump.

A wide range of issues will be examined, from school funding, curriculum concerns, and community involvement, to the quality of teaching, student motivation and the changing educational needs in the job market.

Should we expect more work from students? Are teachers properly trained? Are we losing educational ground to Japan and Europe? What is the responsibility of corporate America? These are among the questions.

WTVD sought out opinions from the issues from across the Heart of Carolina. In a series of roundtable discussions and key meetings the station heard from administrators, educators, students, parents and community leaders from the entire viewing area. Their valuable input will help form the direction of the project and provide on-air programming material.

In drawing together research and resources from around the nation, WTVD will try to emphasize the positive as well as the problems. When a problem has been tackled and solved, where an innovative approach is working, these solutions will become part of the programming.

As an example, of the early phases of "Education: Rising to the Challenge" will be a special "Salute to Teachers." Beginning in mid-September, WTVD will telecast a series of on-air vignettes focusing on exceptional teachers from all 23 counties in the Heart of Carolina.

"Education: Rising to the Challenge" is being launched with on-air promotional announcements by WTVD-TV 11 news anchors Larry Stogner and Miriam Thomas in conjunction with the opening of the fall school term.



JOINING THE TEAM—Frank Bullock, a Henderson resident and a graduate of Johnson C. Smith University has been in radio sales and broadcasting with a local radio station prior to coming to the Management and Training Corporation with Kintrell Job Corps Center. He joins the center as a placement specialist.



JACKSON STREET—Epic recording artists the Jacksons are inviting all America into their private lives with the release of "2300 Jackson Street," the title song from the long-awaited album by Jackie, Tito, Jermaine and Randy,

along with the release of a new video. The song was written as a tribute to parents Joseph and Katherine Jackson.