



Gordon Parks, Jr., son of the famous photographer and film maker, goes out on his own as the director of "Super Fly", the new Warner Brothers release, starring Ron O'Neal, Sheila Fra-

zier and Julius W. Harris. This is young Parks' first directorial job, and he chose a Harlem adventure drama.

"Super Fly" success for beginners

"Super Fly" fulfills the standard Hollywood legend of the movie that is pulled through against impossible odds and becomes a big success. The film was made in circumstances that would have, and have in fact, defeated many other productions, and upon completion was grabbed up by Warner Brothers for immediate release.

The money for "Super Fly" came from 18 black people who had never invested in a film, but did so this time because they liked what the script had to say. Among the 18 were dentists, financiers, businessmen in the black community but also pimps, madams and drug-dealers. Even so, there was not enough money and "Super Fly" had to suspend shooting a couple of times because there was no raw film stock to work with.

The producer, Sig Shore, had made hundreds of television programs but not a feature-length movie; "Super Fly" was his first. The director, Gordon Parks, Jr., the son of director-photographer Gordon Parks, had never directed a film. The author, Phillip Pentz, had never written a screenplay. The female lead, Sheila Fra-

zier, had never given a paid performance either in a play or a film. Most of the technical crew were trainees from a Harlem project which is developing skills among young blacks.

The film was shot at the height of winter in locations which were 50 per cent outdoor. The company had to contend not only with shortage of money, bad weather and inexperience on the part

of numerous members, but the crowds that always collect at a movie in the making. The worst of these were mobs of kids who got in the way of the camera, tripped over the cables, interfered with acting and directing. When objection was made, they would reply that it was their block, and before long adults would step into the confusion to defend the kids. Power for lights and camera was simply taken from the nearest light-pole. Often the company had no per-

mit from the city authorities to shoot, but shot anyway. Indoor locations were usually provided by friends of friends which meant long treks to various parts of the city. Filming outdoors was done in lip-synch, which meant that random sounds got into the track and had to be contended with later. Movie companies who might be able to furnish money for completion already been filmed, but the producer refused to show his

footage. The actors had to wait for their money.

Somehow, "Super Fly" was finished and edited. A noted black tunesmith composed a score. The film was shown to Warner Bros. That company took "Super Fly" on the spot, now is interested in backing more movies by the rugged group which pulled together "Super Fly."

The film will premier in New York on August 10th.

Jazz band featured

The most honored practitioners of Big Band Jazz, "The World's Greatest Jazz Band," comes to the Portland Civic Auditorium for one show at 8:00 p.m. Friday, August 4.

Led by Yank Lawson and Bob Haggart, two of the jazz world's most established and revered musicians, the group also includes such all time jazz greats as Billy Butterfield, one of jazz's most respected trumpeters, tenor-sax man Bud Freeman and jazz pianist Ralph Sutton. Other members of the group are Gus Johnson, Jr., Vic Dickenson, Eddie Hubble and Bob Wilber. "The World's Greatest Jazz Band" features Big Band versions of "Alfie"; "Up, Up and Away"; and "Peace Train" as well as standards like "St. James Infirmary" and "Basin Street Blues" during the course of the show.

The band has appeared around the world, and on March 19, 1970 they played a special engagement at the

White House. President Nixon had special praise for the group, saying, "The performance of The World's Greatest Jazz Band at the White House on March 19, proved conclusively that your group spares no effort in living up to its name. As you know, the Jazz Band was a great hit here, and contributed in large measure to the success of the evening."

Masons convene

Vollie Manning, the Grand Master of the Most Worshipful St. Joseph Grand Lodge A.F. & A.M. of Oregon, and Julia M. Ganter, Grand Matron of Mt. Olive Grand Chapter, will be attending the Federation of Masonry of the World Inc., along with others in San Antonio, Texas, August 10-11.

Ghetto musical returns

"The Me Nobody Knows", the off-Broadway ghetto musical will be performed by two groups in the Portland area during the next two weeks. The Lake Oswego Community Theater will present its show Friday, July 28, under the direction of Ken Lewis. It will be presented Friday through Sunday at 8:30 p.m. through Aug. 6.

The second presentation will be by the Civic Theater's group and will run from Aug. 3-5 and 10-12 at 8 p.m. It will be in the Blue Room. Originally directed by the late James Cameron, the show uses members of the Lewis and Clark Civic Theater of Astoria and students at the Tongue Point Job Corps Center.

The ghetto musical deals with responses by New York ghetto children toward their urban environment.

Black male now leader of America

"The liberated black male is now the natural leader to whom America must turn if it is to move past the style into the substance of a democratic society," says black psychiatrist, Dr. Price M. Cobbs, in the August "Special Issue" of Ebony. Dr. Cobbs, a psychiatrist in private practice in San Francisco, is the co-author (with Dr. William H. Grier) of the best seller, Black Rage. Says Cobbs, writing in Ebony: "It is a totally new experience for many black men to open their minds and see how they are being copied. In walk, in dress, in music, in language and social consciousness, the black male is supplying some vital missing links to America."

The noted black psychiatrist is convinced that the U.S. is witnessing the emergence of what he calls "The Liberated Black Male." The type of man Dr. Cobbs is describing has tapped within himself a

wellspring of creative energy. This new found energy allows and even forces the black male to revitalize relationships with his fellow black men and to seek heightened emotional and intellectual pleasure with black women. Dr. Cobbs sees the liberated black male as measuring masculinity and manhood against black standards and competing only with himself. "The liberated black male is reborn, buck naked and brand new," says Cobbs.

The entire August "Special Issue" of Ebony deals incisively with the frustration and torment besetting the black male in America. The liberated black male has been to the mountaintop to search deep within himself for answers. In finding the secret for their own survival, the black man holds the key to survival to white America, and in the age of alienation and violence, America may finally have to ask us for help, reports Ebony.

Leisure Hour holds tournament

On August 7 and 8, 1972, the Leisure Hour Golf Club will hold its 28th Annual Amateur Golf Tournament at West Delta Golf Course.

As announced by the Tournament Chairman, George Rankins, this is one of the major golfing events of the season. No less than 150 of the top golfers from the Northwest will be represented. We are expecting participants from as far as Baltimore, Maryland; Denver, Colorado; and many parts of California and Washington.

There will be five handicap flights plus a championship flight. Persons interested can secure entry blanks by calling George Rankins at 288-8391.

Leisure Hour Golf Club is a member of the Western States Golf Association and the United States Golf Assn. On Sunday, August 6, 1972, a two-man, best-ball practice session will be held at the West Delta Golf Course.

Tournament headquarters will be at the Thunderbird Motor Inn, Jantzen Beach.



MORE ARMY FIRST

In past columns, we've mentioned various achievements for which the Army can take credit for either developing, discovering or inventing. Here are two more.

Chlorine as a water purifying agent was first used in 1910 by Major Carl Darnall of the Army Medical Service. Liquid chlorine reduces typhoid fever and other waterborne diseases that contaminate water. Undoubtedly, this purification process has done as much as any other achievement in medical history to help save lives.

And number two has to do with chicken feathers! For years, goose-down sleeping bags were used by the Army for bivouacs and by civilians for camping trips. Army scientists, though, have now found a way to treat common chicken feathers to give them the same bulk and filling power as goose feathers.

His mistake came when he tired of patrolling and chewing and settled himself on the rear axle of a truck. Poor Bill never woke up from that nap. "Little Bill," the only other male member of the herd, had been "bucking" for the top spot for a long time and was evidently the only one delighted by Big Bill's passing. He got the job, but also eleven bereaved widows.

ON THE TOWN

Our schedule is 8 til 4:30 Monday thru Friday, at 321 S.W. Salmon. If you're in the area on one of these days, drop by and chat. We'd be glad to answer any questions you might have on Today's Army.

Chess event scheduled

Park Haviland Hotel will be site of two Chess events the weekend of August 5 and 6, 1972. First four games of 1972 Oregon Chess championship will be held there plus the Portland Summer open Chess Tournament. Spectators are welcome to come and watch at no charge. Play starts at 10 a.m. Saturday, runs until 10 p.m. and starts 9 a.m. Sunday until about 8 p.m.

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