



Peabo Bryson

Bryson entered the recording industry in the early 1970s. By 1976 he had produced his first album, titled *Peabo* which found positioning on the national soul charts and brought him to the attention of major recording companies.

Peabo signed with Capitol Records late in 1977 and his first album for the label, *Reaching For The Sky*, was released shortly thereafter. Paired with producer/arranger Richard Evans, Bryson recorded eight of his own compositions on his Capitol debut. The album's title track and another single, "Feel The Fire," were immediate chart hits and earned Peabo his first gold album. "Feel The Fire" has subsequently been recorded by several artists including Stephanie Mills and Stanley Turrentine.

Next, Peabo teamed with producer/arranger Johnny Pate to produce this follow-up album *Crosswinds* (November 1978), which topped the soul charts, made the Pop Top 30 and also became a gold album after spawning another pair of hit singles - the No. 1 soul hit, "I'm So Into You" and the Top 30 title track.

His last album found Peabo Bryson teamed with talented songstress Natalie Cole. Title *We're The Best of Friends*, the album showcases some of the warmest, most spontaneous vocal interplay recorded by a male/female vocal duo since Roberta Flack and Donny Hathaway. Each of the artists contributed new songs to the album, and the production of the album was a joint effort, with Mark Davis and Marvin Yancy producing one side and Johnny Pate and Peabo Bryson producing the flip side. Both artists' musicians contributed to the backing of each artists' side. Two hit singles from the album, "Gimme Some Time" and "What You Won't Do For Love," charted in the Top 10 on the national soul charts.

It is, perhaps, Peabo's imaginative and sensitive songwriting skills and abilities which separate him from his peers. He has been tagged as an entertainer/songwriter who can project a wide range of textured thoughts, feelings and emotions for his listeners and concert audiences.

Intensely private, solidly spiritual, extremely reflective and undeniably likeable, Peabo Bryson is only beginning to assert his own influence and style on today's pop music. Says Peabo, "It is only within the past three years that I've gained better access to my songwriting. It comes from within. I reach for it and I get the truth." For all who had the pleasurable experience of encountering Peabo Bryson's special lyrical statements, there is an anticipation that the well of talent residing in this youthful artist will bring many years of musical enjoyment.



ADVANCES TO FINALS - Buddy Hardeman (left) of the Washington Redskins defeats Alfred Jackson of the Atlanta Falcons to move to the finals of the Natural Light/NFL Players Association Racquetball Series. Hardeman and Tim Mazzetti of the Falcons were winners of the Miami regional tournament against players from the Tampa Bay Bucs, Miami Dolphins, New Orleans Saints and New York Jets. The top two players from each of five regional tournaments will compete for \$18,000 in prize money from Natural Light beer in the national finals June 13-15 in St. Louis, Mo.



BUILDING STRENGTH at the YWCA. Monica Rogers of Brooklyn, N.Y. works with bar bells to develop her upper torso muscles. Brooklyn's physical training program is typical of those available to girls and women at more than 400 community ywcas at 5000 locations all across the country. Celebrating National YWCA Week this month (April 20-28), 2 1/2 million girls and women of diverse backgrounds strengthen YWCA action programs. Working together, they move across cultural differences in economic, racial and political backgrounds to effect true partnership.

NAACP Vancouver Branch is holding its annual Tea, Sunday May 26, 1980 at the PUID Bldg., 1200 Fort Vancouver Way, Vancouver, Washington.

Senior Citizens. A Yoga class (beginning and intermediate levels) for Senior Citizens will be held at 11:00 a.m. on Wednesdays starting June 11th at Neighborhood House, Inc. The class is free and open to the public. Also, a Bridge get together for senior citizens sponsored by Neighborhood House, Inc., 29 SW Hamilton Street. Please communicate your desire to attend by calling Andi at 226-3251.



FIRE ON ICE - David Comb, ICE FOLLIES lightning-fast daredevil skater, takes a breathtaking dive through the death machine created by his father 30 years ago. Comb is one of the many world champion skaters featured in the 44th Edition of Shipsteads and Johnson's ICE FOLLIES, presented by Irvin Feld and Kenneth Feld of Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus.

DAVID COMB - DAREDEVIL ON ICE TEMPTS FATE WITH BIGGER-THAN-LIFE ANTICS

Backstage David Comb could easily pass as a preacher or an innocent bystander. But instead, Comb's life and work are ringed with danger of the highest order - danger fueled by an abundance of leaping flames circling a metal ring through which he propels himself in a perilous act on ice, featured by Irvin Feld and Kenneth Feld, coming to Portland's Memorial Coliseum for 10 spectacular performances May 21st through 26th.

As the son of an ice rink owner, 36-year old Comb claims to have been only a skating "dabbler" who had serious intentions of entering the business world. Although a competent skater by virtue of the unlimited access to the ice he enjoyed at the family rink in northern California, David never competed as an amateur like so many up-and-coming professionals. He restricted amateur ambitions to the college gym at San Jose (Calif.) State where he was a strong and able athlete. Later, while still a student, he decided to attempt the difficult combination of skating and gymnastics, and in a short time was blending both skills with a full blown act and an offer from ICE FOLLIES.

Comb's unusual skills on ice have brought him great personal and professional satisfaction, including the remarkable opportunity, after more than 10 years of searching North America, to find an unusual stunt prop constructed 32 years ago, by his now deceased father. The "Death Machine" as he calls it, has been a principal attraction in his sizzling act since it was brought to his attention by a stranger in Toronto. The "Death Machine" has a huge set of steel teeth that steadily revolve, encircled with fire, as David propels himself from the ice through the wheel. "It was a great joy to find it," he cheerfully remarks. "I'd been waiting to have it for years, even if it was strictly for sentimental reasons."

Although continuously fascinated by daredevils, the public regularly queries Comb on his choice of occupations. "I never like to fully reveal my reasons," he laughingly remarks, "but let's say that I love the audience's acknowledgement, and extract great pleasure and pride at being the only skater to do my type of act. And because I am absorbed by what I'm doing, I don't worry about the possibilities of injury."

Comb figures that he's performed variations on the daredevil routine almost 4,000 times in the last 10 years and because the act involves a number of somersaults, dives, and skating up to 50 miles an hour, he occasionally feels privileged to brag a bit. He's an accomplished skater and daredevil and his fellow skaters agree as to his abilities. As fellow veteran and technical expert, Richard Dwyer says, "skating in itself can be very dangerous, especially at high speeds on ice that is sometimes a bit uneven or wet." But to consider the ingredients of David's act and the varying conditions is reason to believe that he's a unique skating artist.

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