

THE ENTERTAINMENT SEEN

Calloway to Appear on CBN

Cab Calloway, the legendary bandleader from Harlem's Golden Age, will appear during Black History Month on CBN Cable Network.

Still witty and exuberant at 79, Calloway will appear as guest star on "Celebrity Chefs" at 10:30 p.m. eastern time, Tuesday, Feb. 16, on CBN Cable Network. Robert Morley is host.

Cabell (Cab) Calloway lived his revues with white tails and jive-talking banter, flamboyant dance routines and beautiful women when he was bandleader at New York's famed Cotton Club in the '30s and '40s. His Cotton Club Orchestra boasted musicians of extraordinary caliber.

The Rochester, N.Y., native was a singer, dancer, musician and composer. But most of all, he was a showman, a fact brought home to modern film audiences with Francis Ford Coppola's "The Cotton Club" in 1984. In that explosive recreation of the jazz age, Larry Marshall appeared as the great Cab Calloway.

In the '30s Harlem was "the place" to go, the talent was the best and Cab Calloway conducted the excitement on stage. His improvisation when he once forgot the lyrics to his "Minnie the Moocher" led to his trademark scat syllables, "hi-de-hi-de-ho."

The maestro has appeared in films and theater in his more than 50 years of show business. He was the inspiration for the character "Sportin' Life" in George Gershwin's folk opera "Porgy and Bess" and played the role in the 1950 revival that ran for two years on Broadway.

In recent years he has continued to entertain and told a reporter for Ebony magazine, "My following is the one thing that has kept me going. I'd go crazy if I retired. I'm still having a ball and I plan to keep going as long as I can."



Stephanie Mills

Stephanie Mills began singing in her native Brooklyn, New York at the age of 3. By age 9, she had landed her first Broadway role in a production of "Maggie Flynn". At 16, she gained national acclaim starring as "Dorothy" in the Tony-winning Broadway show, "The Wiz." Today, her ongoing romance with contemporary music continues in the studio and on stage.

advancing career. She entered the pop music world early — at the tender age of 11, she won the "Amateur Hour" contest at the legendary Apollo Theater for six consecutive weeks, winning her first professional booking as the Isley Brothers opening act.

Later, she dazzled audiences in her triumphant 5 year run of "The Wiz"; in 1979, teaming with James



Mills' dynamic vocal abilities have sold millions of records around the world, earning her both the coveted Grammy and American Music Awards. She could undisputedly be called the biggest voice from the smallest package in show business.

"If I Were Your Woman", her latest MCA LP, demonstrates her gifts all over again. A host of top-flight producers worked with Mills this time, including Paul Laurence, Wayne Brathwaite, La La, Davy-D and Russell Simmons, Nick Martinelli and Ron Kersey. Center-stage throughout the album is Mills herself, interpreting heartfelt ballads ("Secret Lady," "Touch Me Now" which she co-wrote) and simmering rhythmic numbers ("Can't Change My Ways," "You're Puttin' A Rush on Me") with equal verve and assurance. "If I Were Your Woman's" first single, "I Feel Good All Over," is classic Stephanie: vocally powerful and emotionally uplifting.

"If I Were Your Woman" is the latest step forward in Mills' steadily-

Mtume and Reggie Lucas, she recorded her debut album, "Whatcha Gonna Do With My Lovin' ". The LP sold over one million copies, launched two smash singles, the title cut and the rocking "Put Your Body In It."

With "If I Were Your Woman" released, Mills plans to begin touring as the headliner for the Michellob Class Act Concert series this summer. Her return to Broadway stage, in the musical production of "To Sir With Love," co-starring Dorian Harewood of "Hill Street Blues" is scheduled for fall of this year.

From theater to pop and R&B, Stephanie Mills has combined a spectrum of styles and made them her own. "If I Were Your Woman" is evidence that her prodigious talents have only deepened as her career has escalated.

"This Day and Some Bright Tomorrow" by J.M. Gates, MBA

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Available Spring 1988

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Portland, OR 97207

THE STREETCORNER SINGERS



Portland's own Streetcorner Singers will be the opening act for the Stephanie Mills show. The Streetcorner Singers recently were the voices of the California Raisins in the Will Vinton Claymation special. The a capella group, formed in 1979 to make a commercial, consists of (L-R) Willie Sutton, Steve Stevenson, Anita Knauls, Sunni Waters and Richard Chambers. Photo by Richard J. Brown

THE TOP TEN SINGLES

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|
| 1 Keith Sweat
I Want Her | 7 Roger
I Want To Be Your Man |
| 2 Stephanie Mills
Secret Lover | 8 Najee
Mysterious |
| 3 Smokey Robinson
What's Too Much | 9 Lou Rawls
I Wish You Belonged to Me |
| 4 Force MD's
Touch And Go | 10 Jody Watly
Some Kind Of Lover |
| 5 Tony Terry
She's Fly | Courtesy of |
| 6 Stevie Wonder
Skeletons | ONE STOP RECORD SHOP |

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