

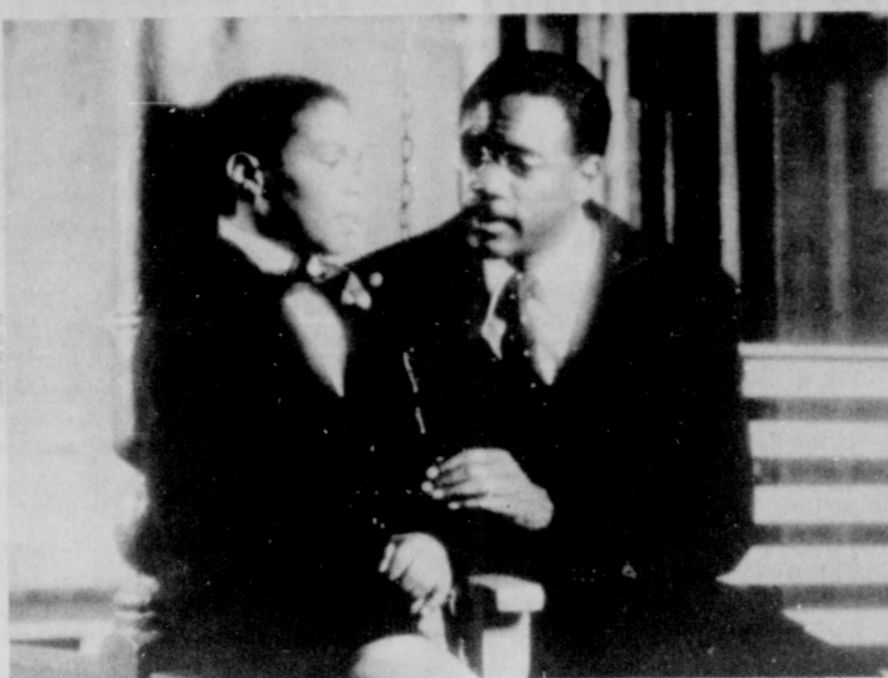
# Entertainment

## Behind-The-Scenes

by Lisa Collins



"AMEN" STAR CLIFTON DAVIS takes a break from taping the show to spend time with his darling daughter, Holly, and host Darryl Dennard.



Walter Franks (left) and Howard Rollins, Jr. star in the Peabody Award-winning drama "The Boy King," airing Feb. 11 & 20 at 9:00 p.m., eastern on the CBN Family Channel.



Wild Women Don't Have The Blues uses a rich blend of songs, archival photos, contemporary performances, and interviews to tell the story of America's earliest generation of great women blues singers. (above) The "Mother of the Blues" Ma Rainey with her Georgia Jazz Band. To air on OPB-TV at 10:00 p.m., ET, on February 24, 1989.



American Playhouse premieres its eighth season with Lorraine Hansberry's classic play, "A Raisin In The Sun." (above l. to r.) Kim Yancy, Starletta DuPois, Esther Rolle, and Danny Glover portray members of a Black American family at a crucial turning point in their lives.

### LaToya's Thrilling Them Now:

33-year old LaToya Jackson is nabbing entertainment industry headlines this week as she bares it all in a 12-page Playboy magazine spread that was slated to hit the newsstands sometime this week. Apparently, LaToya feels women shouldn't be ashamed of their bodies. However, LaToya's recent behaviour, as well as her move to New York, has the whole Jackson clan worried. According to sources close to the family, repeated attempts by family members have been made to talk sense into LaToya, about both the move to New York, and her current manager, who has a somewhat checkered past. However, it appears LaToya is enjoying all too well, her newfound freedom ... Meanwhile, the release date on sister Janet's upcoming LP has been pushed back from March to May.

### NAACP Chapter President Slaps Arsenio Hall With \$10 Million Lawsuit:

Willis Edwards, president of the Beverly Hills-Hollywood chapter of the NAACP alleges that Hall defamed him earlier this month when Hall accused him of extortion during a radio show. All this, of course, stems from last month's charges on the part of Edwards that Hall practiced racism with his failure to hire blacks in key positions on his nationally syndicated talk show. An angry Hall maintained that he has hired key blacks, stating in one interview that he was a "29-year-old guy who all my life watched these boy's clubs on TV. Why no women? Why no blacks? I'm trying to change that ... My director was white, but so was the director for the NAACP Image Awards." For the record, Hall has also instituted both an intern program, as well as a job placement program for minorities ...

Meanwhile the NAACP was turned down on a meeting with CBS to discuss "Frank's Place," after launching a letter campaign that resulted in more than 30,000 letters to the network requesting that "Frank's Place" be put back on TV. CBS-TV President Laurence Tisch stated that the meeting wouldn't do any good. However, the NAACP says they will

not let the matter rest and is actively pressing for another meeting date.

**Guillame--Man In Waiting:** Robert Guillame, who is capping off two more episodes of his "Robert Guillame Show," is also crossing his fingers for an air date. Guillame is high on this project in which he'll play a divorced marriage counselor, who is romantically involved with his attractive, white secretary. However, thus far, the series has not been targeted with an air date. Guillame is quoted as saying: "we'll wait like buzzards in the sky to see if we can go on the air as a spring replacement ..."

**Speaking of TV, the Gordy Company will make its TV debut** next week with their upcoming mini-series, "The Lonesome Dove," which stars Robert Ulrich, Ricky Schroder, Angelica Houston, Tommy Lee Jones, and Danny Glover. Suzanne de Passe serves as executive producer of the show, which is being shown February 5-8.

**Short Takes:** The Beastie Boys want out of their contract with DefJam Records. DefJam says no way, but according to industry insiders, The Beastie Boys are shopping a deal with Capitol Records. However, it will be some time before this legal squabble is all squared away ... The release date for "Lean On Me," the movie depicting the real-life story of Principal Joe Clark has been moved up to March 3 ... Howard Hewett seen around town with his steady, Motown recording artist Nia Peeples, who is soon to be seen in film, "Deep Star Six."

**Interested in a recording contract?** MCA Records has agreed to sponsor this year's Showcase '89 on Radioscope, which while billing itself as "the entertainment magazine of the air" is syndicated nationally in over 90 US markets. According to vice-president, Diane Blackmon-Bailey, grand prize winners will receive an MCA recording contract. A.D. Washington, MCA's VP of promotion, is spear-heading the national effort, however all inquiries for Showcase '89 should be made directly to Diane Blackmon-Bailey at (213) 969-0011.

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## BROADWAY BOUND

by Garland Lee Thompson

### WOHLE SOYINKA PLAY POSTPONED AT NEW ROSE THEATRE

The latest work of Wohle Soyinka, the first African Nobel Prize winner for literature (1987), "Death and the King's Horseman," has been postponed by the New Rose Theatre and re-scheduled for February, 1990. Artistic Director, Michail Griggs, whose Portland company, along with the Storefront Theatre, went into the Winningstad Theatre in the new Performing Arts Center last season.

### THE WHOLE SCENE'S CHANGED

Griggs is quoted: "(Portland) Center Stage opening was like plopping a huge bass in a goldfish pond. Suddenly the whole scene's changed." The new company from the Oregon Shakespeare Festival has a \$1.6 million inaugural season and it is reported that attendance has been a healthy 15 percent above the projected break-even point, while New Rose has been forced into severe cutbacks in its direct competition with Center Stage, for money and audiences. New rose subscriptions fell 25 percent this season to about 1,000. Single-ticket sales for the season's first two shows also dropped badly. "Two years ago we were a major theatre in Portland. Now we're sort of the smallest of the den size companies. It changes the way you look at things," said Griggs. New Rose did not do well at the box office with several of its Winningstad shows, including "the Woods," "Misalliance," "A Touch of the Poet" and "Life of Galileo," according to reports.

### BLACK ACTORS TO FEEL THE EFFECTS OF NEW ROSE DEFICIT

The Black actors who have been active in Portland area theatre, will feel the effects of the postponement. Brenda Phillips, currently starring in "The Colored Museum," theatre, was scheduled to perform a role in Soyinka's "Horseman," after her IFCC

Theatre run. She have been working steadily since opening the season in "Simply Heavenly," at Portland State University and Storefront's, "Zooman and the Sign." She, along with Neal Thomas, Denise Williams and Gregory Donovan have been "on a roll" in what has already been called "the ninth wave" for Black Theatre performers in this city. The producers "dropped the ball" on the one, while the actors are getting raves reviews, she noted.

The IFCC, however, is reporting a near sell-out second week for "The Colored Museum," and is going into the Winningstad Theatre (Feb. 23rd, 24th, and 25th) for the final week with a hit. Write on, IFCC.

### AFRICAN-AMERICAN PLAYWRIGHTS, THEIR CRAFT AND LEGACY

The Black Studies Dept. of Portland State University has set a new 10-week special course on "African-American Playwrights, Their Craft and Legacy." From the Harlem Renaissance, the Federal Theatre days, the Sixties, to the Eighties, the American Black Theatre Movement has presented many new artists on "the World Stage," from Langston Hughes, Lorraine Hansberry, Ntozake Shange, Charles Fuller, August Wilson, to George C. Wolfe ("The Colored Museum"). And what's the score: Tonys, three Pulitzer Prizes, New York Drama Desk Awards, many Audelco Black Theatre Awards, New York Obies and perhaps make a contribution to Wohle Soyinka's Nobel Prize.

The PSU course is scheduled for this Spring term, starting Wednesday evening, March 15th, 1989, 6:20 p.m. to 9:40 p.m. Dr. Darrell Millner, Chairman of the Black Studies Dept. has ask me to conduct to the exciting new course and bring in several known produced and published Black playwrights to appear during the course series.

## Fifth Annual Mayor's Ball Recruiting Performers

The Portland Music Association is accepting applications to perform at this year's Mayor's Ball to be held at the Memorial Coliseum on April 22, 1989. While the emphasis is on original contemporary styles of music, the PMA is recruiting all styles of musical acts including: gospel, dixieland, swing, classical, folk, ethnic musical styles, bluegrass, country, dance groups, and theatrical performers.

Applications are available at local night clubs, record stores, and music stores. The applications must be received by the Portland Music Association no later than Friday, Feb. 17 to be considered.

The Ball is a charitable community service project, with this year's proceeds going to benefit the Oregon Fund for the Homeless and Hungry, Outside In, Burnside Projects' Youth Shelter House, and St. Francis Dining Hall.

You may receive an application by mail by sending a self-addressed, stamped, legal size envelope to Peter Mott, Project Coordinator, 1338 SE Miller Street, Portland, Oregon 97202. For further information you may call the Project Coordinator at 231-4843.

## Availability Of Oregon Teacher Corps Loan Applications For 1989-90

Applications for the Oregon Teacher Corps program for the 1989-90 academic year are now available. This program is a loan forgiveness program aimed at attracting qualified individuals into the teaching profession. Of interest to you is the fact that special consideration is given in the selection process of minority student applicants. Those students who qualify for this program can have their Oregon Teacher Corps loans forgiven if they teach full-time for three years in a public elementary or secondary school in Oregon.

# Music Millennium

Invites You To The

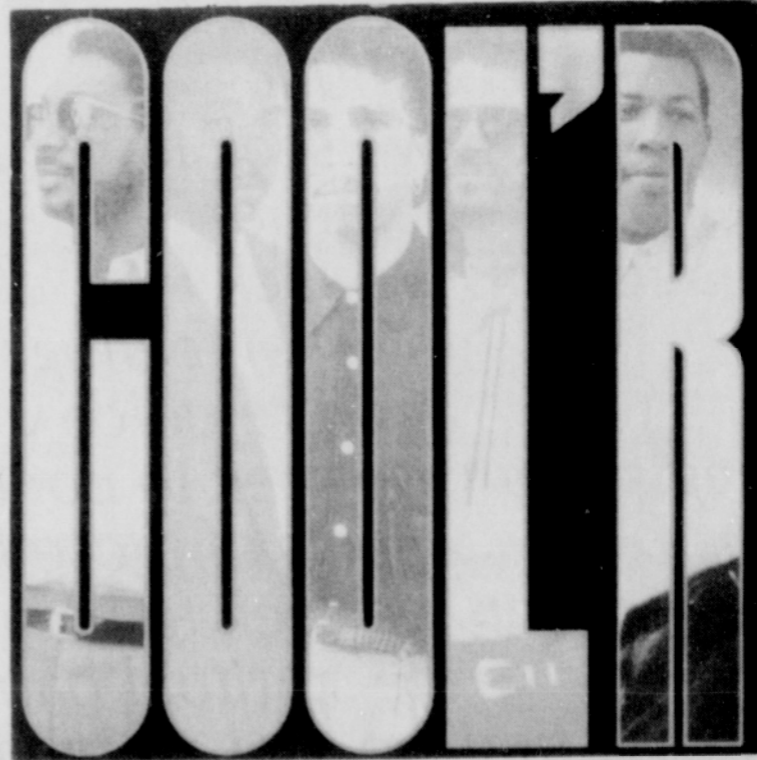
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