Tien Ni and Tamara Dobson in a scene from "Cleopatra Jones and the Casino of Gold" opening around the country this summer. A special tribute was paid to Tamara at LaMartinique in NYC this past July 1.

Visiting the city zoo, Cochise (Lawrence-Hilton Jacobs-C) bushes Pooter (Corin Rogers) about possible relationship to the animals in American International Pictures' light-hearted romp about high school life in the 60's, "COOLEY HIGH." Film also stars Glynn Turman and was written by Erie "Good Times" Monte with Michael Schultz directing—They're brothers.

'Cooley High' . . . broken dreams . . . and scattered dreams

They were inseparable buddies. Preach (Glynn Turman), Cochise (Lawrence-Hilton Jacobs) and Pooter (Corin Rogers) were all members — when they didn't play hooky — of Mr. — Mason's (Garrett Morris) class at Cooley High School. "And then there was Brenda (Cynthia Davis), the school beauty.

It was in the early '60's and the Cooley High crowd was in that important stage, which comes or has come to us all, the transition from the teenage mentality to young adulthood. The sharing of youthful pranks, assignations in dimly lit theater balconies, the too-close dancing in darkened parlors at parties, gathering at the corner sweet shoppe, fights, friendships and even an occasional moment of cracking the books with one's peers, was all a part of the growing experience. It was an exhilarating time, when dreams of the future and methods of escape from the stifling confines of the ghetto were subjects of endless discussion among the seniors of Cooley High.

Preach, the poet, was experiencing his first serious love affair with Brenda and dreamed of becoming a famous Hollywood writer. Cochise, with his outstanding basketball ability, dreamed of the riches and fame which would surely follow the momentarily-awaited arrival of the letter announcing his scholarship to an outstanding university. Pooter — well, he was Pooter — content to bask in the reflected glory of his friends' dreams — himself living from day to day.

The lives of these young people were bound closely to each other and to the lives of Stone (Sherman Smith); Robert (Norman Gibson) and Damon (Maurice Marshall), the neighborhood tough guys who were the instigators of some of their outside-the-law pranks. And too, there was Tyrone (Joseph Carter Wilson) the neighborhood lover.

Their lives seemed to be taking an even pattern in the frame of fate. But fate, as a weaver, is notably capricious and sometimes broken and the dreamers threads of the dream are scattered .....

What's Happening

By Ida Peters

The scoop that the Jackson 5 are really going to leave Motown fell to Fred Douglass to break this week.

He happened to be in N.Y. with his wife and was walking down 5th Avenue and met Irene Gandy, P.R. for Columbia-Epic Records.

Irene was at Shady Grove a week ago, and I introduced her to Fred, who writes free-lance for the AFRO.

The Ella Fitzgerald-Count Basie-Oscar Peterson concert at Painters Mills Music Fair was a smash this past Tuesday night.

In the audience were members of the Guardsmen and their wives and lady friends. Miss Ella was a little irked with Bob Matthews column last week which said she walked around between numbers to get her breath.

Between sets, Verniece Reynolds chatted about how Count Basie used to take her to Sunday School back in Kansas City. Things I didn't know! Ella Fitzgerald is an AKA and Verniece presented her with a white orchid from the sisterhood.

Spotted Damita Jo who was with Biddy Wood and the Guardsmen. She's off for concerts in Sweden. Other Guardsmen in the crowd were the John Woodses, Lt. Col. William and Ivy Harris, Civic Center head Harold Jennifer, the Charles Brownses, Puddin and Iona Collins, Elizabeth and Ed Williams, City Solicitor and Mrs. Benjamin Brown, Judge David Mason, Ethel and Cliff Murray to name a few.

Paul Johnson, former Pat Daddy and native Baltimorean now Motown's Vice-President of Promotion was in N.Y. recently to announce Motown's Disco Dee-Jay Contest in connection with the company's Disco-O-Tech Series. The party was for some 200 N.Y. Disco Dee Jays.

* * *

The Smokey Robinson concert in N.Y. was simply fabulous at Carnegie Hall and was his first alone without the Miracles. Local press headlined "Smokey Robinson still miraculous". He's coming this way soon.

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To Be Continued

Fred Williamson, star, producer and director of a new movie coming soon "Peace Is Hell" being confronted and harassed by two policemen (Al Hansen and Russ McGinn) who mistake him for a bum after he is mugged and robbed. It's the story of Vietnam war hero who comes home to face the ghetto. .....

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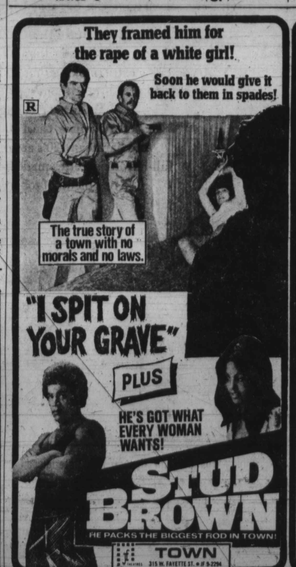

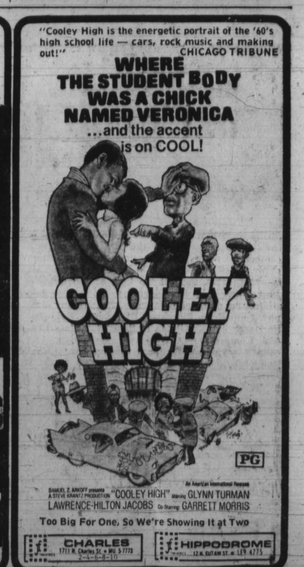

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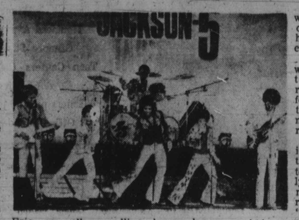
For The Record

Jackson 5 leaving Motown

By Frederick L. Douglass

After selling millions of records for the Motown label, the Jackson Five will soon become the hottest thing on the Epic label, a subsidiary of the Columbia Broadcasting System. During a press conference recently held 65 stories above the ground in the Rainbow Room of New York city's RCA Building, Joe Jackson, Father and manager of the members of the Jackson Five stated "our contract with Motown expires March 10, 1976 at which time we will begin recording on the Epic label...we attempted to renegotiate our contract with Motown, but they offered us peanuts in comparison to the number of records we've been selling over the past few years...we're not knocking the people at Motown; it's just that we have to go on to bigger and better things."

When the Jackson Five made it known earlier this year that they wanted to switch recording labels, offers started pouring in on a daily basis. According to Mr. Jackson "we have an extraordinarily talented group...We were made a lot of offers from many companies, but CBS offers us the opportunity to really diversify...I want say exactly how much money is involved in the deal, but I'll give you a clue...It's somewhere between $1 and $30 million...Columbia and Epic are album selling labels whereas Motown is strictly geared to the 45 recording buying segment of the market...we want to reach a greater public...we'll be putting forth a conscious effort to attract an older market while still maintaining our youthful fans...we plan to continue with our cartoon show and we are negotiating to do some specials on TV."



Joe Jackson, a shrewd and articulate man, further stated "the group is under contractual obligation to record one more LP for Motown...we can't start recording on the Epic label until we fulfill all of our contractual arrangements with Motown...we can't start recording on the Epic label until we fulfill all of our contractual arrangements with Motown...we plan to start out concentrating on the group sound...we will be doing some individual things after we develop some of the original material we have been writing recently...after that, who knows what we might get into...CBS is a company that is into a lot of different things...we might get into the movies...we just might do anything...one thing for sure is that we will be capitalizing on the current wave of nostalgia and will be recording some of the old, standard tunes that were popular in the '40s and '50s."

Reacting to a question as to whether Jermaine Jackson will leave the Motown label and join the rest of his family, Michael Jackson responded "Jermaine is still undecided as to what he wants to do...he has some very personal reasons for wanting to stay with Motown, but I'm confident that we will remain together as a group and that he will soon be joining us...however, he's a man and has the right to do what he wants to do...as for the rest of us, we've got work to do...we're still developing as a group, we're trying to fully develop our writing skills...we have our own publishing company which is called ...and On and we "really want to expand our repertoire of original material...we have a lot of plans for the group and it will take a lot of hard work to make these plans become real."

Michael Jackson emphatically denied the rumor that CBS eventually plans to get rid of the other family members and to promote him as a single recording star by stating "the Jackson 5 is a family affair and we plan to keep it that way...we've come a long way as a family group under the management of our father Joe Jackson...we feel that the family approach is the best thing for us...like my father stated earlier, we will be making some individual recordings but we would strongly resist any efforts to break us up as a group...in fact, our contract with CBS will specifically list each member of the group and the financial benefits that each one of us will be receiving...like I said before, the Jackson 5 is a family affair."

* * *

Producers of the movie "That's The Way of the World" not uptight at all over federal indictments charging record industry figures with income tax evasion, perjury and payola. The publicity can't but help the United Artists release of the Sig Shore production that dissects the multi-billion-dollar record industry and features the music of Earth, Wind and Fire. The film premieres in Boston on July 16.

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Comedy writers wanted-apply!

Norman Lear announced on behalf of Tandem Productions, Inc. and TAT Communications Company the creation of an experimental program that would provide access and opportunity for minority career-oriented comedy writers to begin a professional writing career.

* * *

Bob Peete, story consultant on "Good Times," will head the program which is being offered under the auspices of both Tandem Productions, Inc. and TAT Communications Company on behalf of their shows, "All in the Family," "Sanford and Son," "Maude," "Good Times" and "The Jeffersons."

* * *

Peete stressed "we are only looking for career-oriented comedy writers who already have the skill and knowledge of writing comedy for television, but don't have or don't know the avenues for getting their work to the proper people."

* * *

Due to Writers Guild restrictions and other legal considerations, story ideas and/or scripts cannot be accepted until certain preliminary steps are followed. They are: Comedy writers interested in participating in the program must first contact Bob Peete by letter. In return, interested writers will receive an informational letter detailing instructions to be followed. (Letters of interest should be addressed to Peete, c/o Tandem Productions, Inc., 1901 Avenue of the Stars, Suite 670, Los Angeles, California 90067.

(Do not include literary material with this letter; if you do, it will be returned and it will not be possible to consider your work.)

* * *

"We are very excited about the project, but in order for it to work and in order to avoid legal complications, cooperation from the writers regarding proper procedure is imperative," explained Peete.

Art Museum

Social Rite and Personal Delight: African Art from Baltimore Collections; An exhibition of African art, representing fifty years of collecting in Baltimore, will include works from the Museum's permanent collection as well as works from local private collections. A catalogue of the exhibition is available. Through August 3.

Permanent Collection; A selection of major works from the Museum's permanent collections featuring 19th and 20th century paintings and sculpture which are not on regular exhibition. Through Aug. 31.

Walker Evans (1903-1975): In memory of Walker Evans who died in April of this year, the Museum is honored to present a recently-acquired portfolio of 15 original photographs by Evans, published in 1974 by Double Elephant Press, Ltd. Through Aug. 31.

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... all that jazz

BY BOB MATTHEWS

Without question, one of the top trumpet players around is Freddie Hubbard. There were a few doubts in my mind about this, but last Sunday's concert put on by the Left Bank Jazz Society settled the issue.

Fronting a well-rehearsed sextet, Hubbard, when he finally arrived "about and hour late" indicated he had come to play—and did—magnifically.

Playing an amplified trumpet, Hubbard, took off on soaring solo flights that flowed effortlessly from his horn. His technique was impeccable.

One carping criticism . . . the amplification of the horn seemed to dull the highs a trifle. They were not as crisp as they should sound. The difference was apparent when Freddie switched to Flugelhorn without electronic apparatus.

Most of the program was made up of tunes recently released in Hubbard's new album. But particularly outstanding was a soulful rendition of "Moment To Moment".

And, believe it or not . . . the group took off on "Midnight At The Oasis", the first time this reviewer has ever heard it done as an instrumental.

Special mention should go to George Caples, on piano, clavinet and string ensemble. He had to use a phone book on the piano bench . . . but didn't really need it. Whenever the music got to him, he played standing up . . . and on tenor sax and flute;

Carl Randall, was on tenor sax and flute; Henry Franklin, bass; Carl Burnett, drums; and Buck Clarke, congas. All in all, an inventive, cohesive.

Next week, Carlos Garnett and the Universal Black Force will be on hand, and one of the highlights of the session will be a wedding . . . that's righ . . . a wedding.

Clifford Jordan, tenor sax man with the group, will marry Sandra Lee Williams during one of the intermissions!

* * *

Down the road apiece, the big band of Stan Kenton and Woody Herman played a dual bill at Wolf's Trap over in Virginia near Dulles Airport.

Both bands were in their usual slick, precise groove with the average age of the band and its members about 30.

Herman finished off his set with a rousing rendition of "MacArthur's Park" which provided a bit of mystery.

THE ARRANGEMENT WAS ALMOST IDENTICAL WITH THAT OF THE Maynard Ferguson Band . . . so couldn't help but wonder who did it first.

Naturally all the old favorites were played, but Kenton shone bright "Body and Soul" . . . and "My Funny Valentine".

Unfortunately was a one-night stand. Both Kenton and Herman are en route to N.Y. where they will play at the Newport Jazz Festival which has been underway since last weekend.

Having been reading the reviews of this year's Newport Fest and oddly enough, the most outstanding concerts thus far has been an all gospel show featuring a tribute to Mahalia Jackson.

Heard by the grape vine that Ella Fitzgerald was a bit miffed over this column's comment on her health.

"Can only say that at her Shady Grove appearance all indications were that she was not completely up to the physical exhuberance of the Ella Fitzgerald I have listened to often in the past. In fact, tried to see her after the show but almost an hour after the close of the performance she had not emerged from her dressing room.

If she's in the best of health . . . HOORAY!

Enoch Pratt

Monday, July 7

"Pygmalion," film at the Pratt Library's Keyworth Avenue Center, 6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, July 9

"Black Music in America," film at the Pratt Library's Edmondson Avenue Branch, 6 p.m.

"The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman," film at the Pratt Library's Lafayette Square Center, 6 p.m.

Friday, July 11

"Home Canning and Preservation," lecture-demonstration by Coralee Cutler, home economist, University of Maryland Extension Agency at the Pratt Library's Walbrook Branch, 10 a.m.

EVENTS FOR CHILDREN

Monday, July 7

Walbrook Branch: Mystery book hunt, 12:30 p.m.

Fells Point Center: Films — "When Knights Were Bold" and "The Red Balloon," 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.

Forest Park Branch: Arts and crafts, 2 p.m.

Light Street Branch: Games and puzzles, 2 p.m.

Tuesday, July 8

Canton Center: Films — "Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein," "Georgie to the Rescue" and "The Laurel-Hardy Murder Case," 10 a.m.

Hampden Center: Films — "That's All We Need" and "Neighborhood House," 10:30 a.m.

Brooklyn Branch: Films — "Kookie Kids" and "White Mane," 11 a.m.

Fells Point Center: Puzzle day, 1 p.m.

Pimlico Branch: Films — "The Tinderbox" and "Peewee Had a Little Ape," 1 p.m.

Forest Park Branch: Puzzle day, 2 p.m.

Gorsuch Avenue Center: Films — "Just Say Hic!," "A Story, A Story" and "Lickety-split Licorice," 2 p.m.

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