



Benny Carter



Nina Mae McKinney

with JEANNE PARNELL

Q. How is Melba Moore doing in the show "Timbuktu?" It's been rumored that she and Eartha Kitt are at it.

Sharron Ward New York, N.Y.

A. Melba denied all rumors of differences as she took from her starring role to host a surprise birthday party for "The Wiz's" Stefanie Mills. It was held at New York's Disco N.Y., N.Y. and it featured a huge cake made like the yellow brick road. My rift is I never got a piece of the cake. It was laid out on the floor, and Stefanie danced on it.

Q. There is a musical out with Billy Daniels, Lon Satton, Elaine Delmar and others, but I can't remember its name. Can you

> Reginald Thomas Washington, D.C.

> > Mobile, Ala.

A. It's "All God's Children Got Rhythm," which is an hour-long musical special done by members of the London Company of "Bubbling Brown Sugar."

Q. Every time one of our black heroes dies voiceless, they manage to make a film about his life. Who's next on the agenda? Norman Moore

A. Carl Foreman has paid six figures for the film rights to a book about South African black activist, Steve Biko. It was written by Donald Woods who was forced to flee the country because of his support for Biko.

Q. Has apartheid ended for audiences in South African

> Donna Eddy Battle Creek, Mich.

A. The South African Association of Theatrical Management recently called a historic meeting at the Johannesburg Civic Theatre to reveal that apartheid had been successfully ended at all legit theatres in the country. Leon Gluckman, one of the first to fight the color bar in the theatre, died in London two days previously - delegates stood to honor him.

Q. The Hawlettes remind me of the Pointer Sisters.

> Mary Gladden Brooklyn, N.Y.

A. I like them, their style is unique, their presence a trip and their sound harmonious. Ula Hedwig stands tall, Charlotte Crossley is the act, and Sharon Redd is the joint.

Q. I like the column for its news that is really other. Tell me something I wouldn't ask.

> Michelle Habersham Liberty, N.Y.

A. Well, there have been seven more inductees into the Black Filmmakers Hall of Fame. The Hall is located in Oakland, Calif., and has been honoring luminaries in the film world for the past five years. This year's entrants are: Hazel Scott, Count Basie, Benny Carter, Nat Cole, Bill Robinson and Nina Mae

Q. Please continue to write about jazz musicians as you did in the past. They are important, and a vital link to our heritage.

Jackie Hampton Columbus, Ga.

A. How's this for a starter? Freddie Hubbard. After a sensational performance at Avery Fisher Hall, introduced his son Dwayne, 12 years old, who is now into piano. Jazz is here to stay.

Q. Who is "The Chief?"

Vance Wells Los Angeles, Calif. A. The "Chief" is Stevie Wonder's brother-in-law for whom he recently gave a birthday party at the Copa. It was a real family affair, although every one from

Q. You're always talking about New York. What About Los Angeles, where the real stars

Tiny Tim to Muhammad Ali at-

Jo McKenzie

St. Louis, Mo. A. LA's NAACP asked for a probe into jobs for blacks in broadcasting. Telegrams were sent to President Carter and Atty. Gen. Griffin Bell.

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All letters should be addressed to Jeanne Parnell, Dawn Magazine, 628 N. Eutaw St., Baltimore, Md. 21201. All questions are welcomed, but while Jeanne cannot provide individual answers, questions of general interest will be used in this column.



Nat Cole

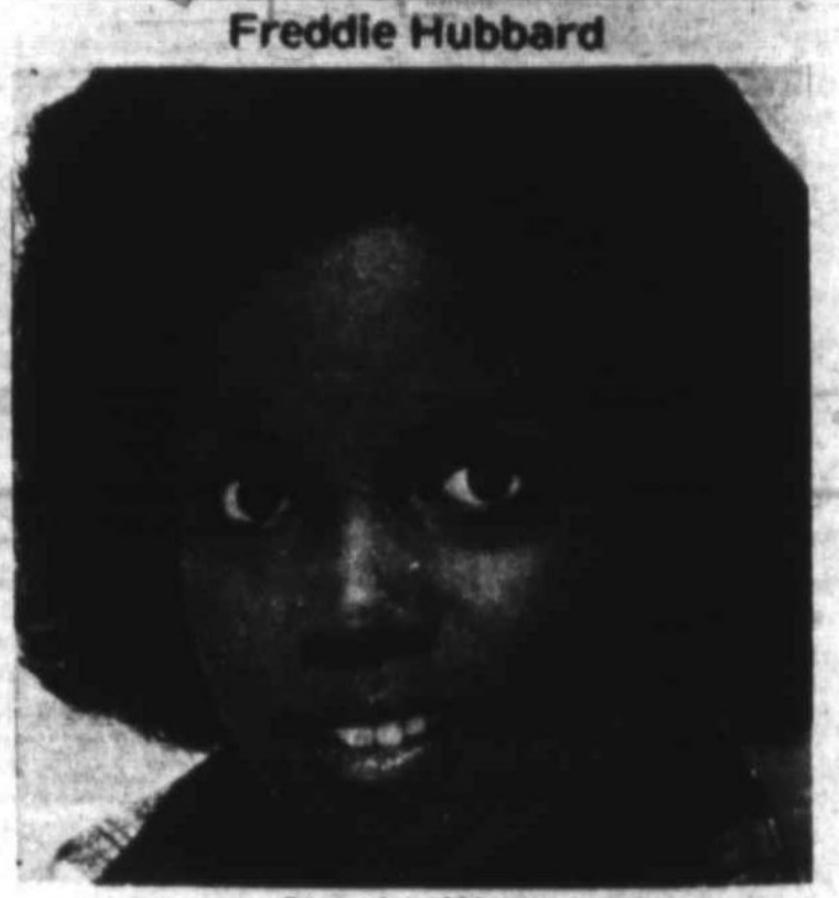


Melba Moore



The Hawlettes





Shari Hilton

