

Ray Charles

Q — It appeared that public TV makes a greater attempt to inchide minorities than commercial TV. Is that true?

A — Right now Harry Belafonte is busy trying to get funds to produce 24 programs over a three year period on public TV which would include original screenplays by writers such as Lonnie Elder and James Baldwin concerts and performances by troupes like Alvin Ailey's as well as documentaries.

Cheryl Morton Brownsville, TX

Q - What is the Black Music Association [BMA] about? I know it was started in Philadelphia six months ago with the backing of the top black and white records executives.

> Joan Mallory, Norfolk, Va.

A - BMA president and cofounder with Edward Windsor Wright, Kenneth Gamble partwith Leon Huff in Philadelphia International Records which furnished a third of



Ashford & Simpson PAGE 4

the BMA's 600,000 initial funding. Among their goals are:

- Observance of Martin Luther King as a national holiday, January 15th by the entire record

- Establishment of an international institute for black music studies.

- Encouragement of black ownership of black radio stations.

- Implementing change in AM stations programming policy of a barring black records until they have scored on black stations. The BMA hopes to do for Philadelphia (in terms of black music) what country music has done for Nash-

Q — Do you know anything about Loretta Long of "Sesame Street?"

Linda Nero Spartenburg, N.C.

A - Ms. Long who is beginning her tenth season with Sesame Street was a former school teacher and has earned an E.D. in urban education from the University of Massachusetts.

She frequently lectures at colleges as well as in Kenya, Zambia, the Republic of the Cameroun, Ghana and Nigeria. Ms. Long is a learning person.

Q - Is it true that Fat Freddie of "Super Fly" has written a

> Melvin Wright Richmond, Va.

- Charles McGregor (Fat Freddie), a former ex-con has written a book called "Up From the Walking Dead" which Doubleday is publishing. Twenty paperback publishers turned it down. McGregor has also appeared in such films as "Blazing Saddles," "The French Connection" and "Three The Hard Way."

Q - Is it true that Lionel formerly a Hampton drummer?

> Andre Harris Rome, N.Y.

A - Louis Armstrong couldn't

he was making history just by spotting a vibraphone and asking Hampton to play it back in 1930. His eight bar introduction to Armstrong's record of "Memories of You," made that day a milestone. The first recorded jazz vibes solo played by the man who became the instrument's greatest pioneer

Q - Have you read Ray Charles' autobiography?

> Renne Black Kansas City

A - For a man who has never kept memorabilia or even a diary, Charles' recollection of his personal life is detailed. Going into details about his 17 years heroin addiction, his two marriage failures and his frequent extra curricular activities with women is graphic. Ray's language is often straight from the streets.

Q - What ever happened to the Pointer Sisters?

> Christine Hockaday Garysburg, N.C.

A - Bonnie Pointer, one of the Pointer Sisters has come full circle. "No matter how rewarding working with the group might be. It was time to move on. I had my own ideas, I wanted to express," she explains, "I Wanna Make It (In Your World), is one of her

Q - Before they became performers, who were some of the people Ashford and Simpson wrote songs for?

Preston Arthur Greenville, S.C. A — The couple began writing as a hobby and quickly developed into a prosperous career when they became writers for Motown and supplied artists like Marvin Gaye and Tammie Terrell, Ray Charles and Diana Ross with some

of their biggest hits. Q - Did the newspaper strike in New York hurt Broadway? Claudine Piper

A - I'm sure there was plenty

Tulsa, Okla.

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



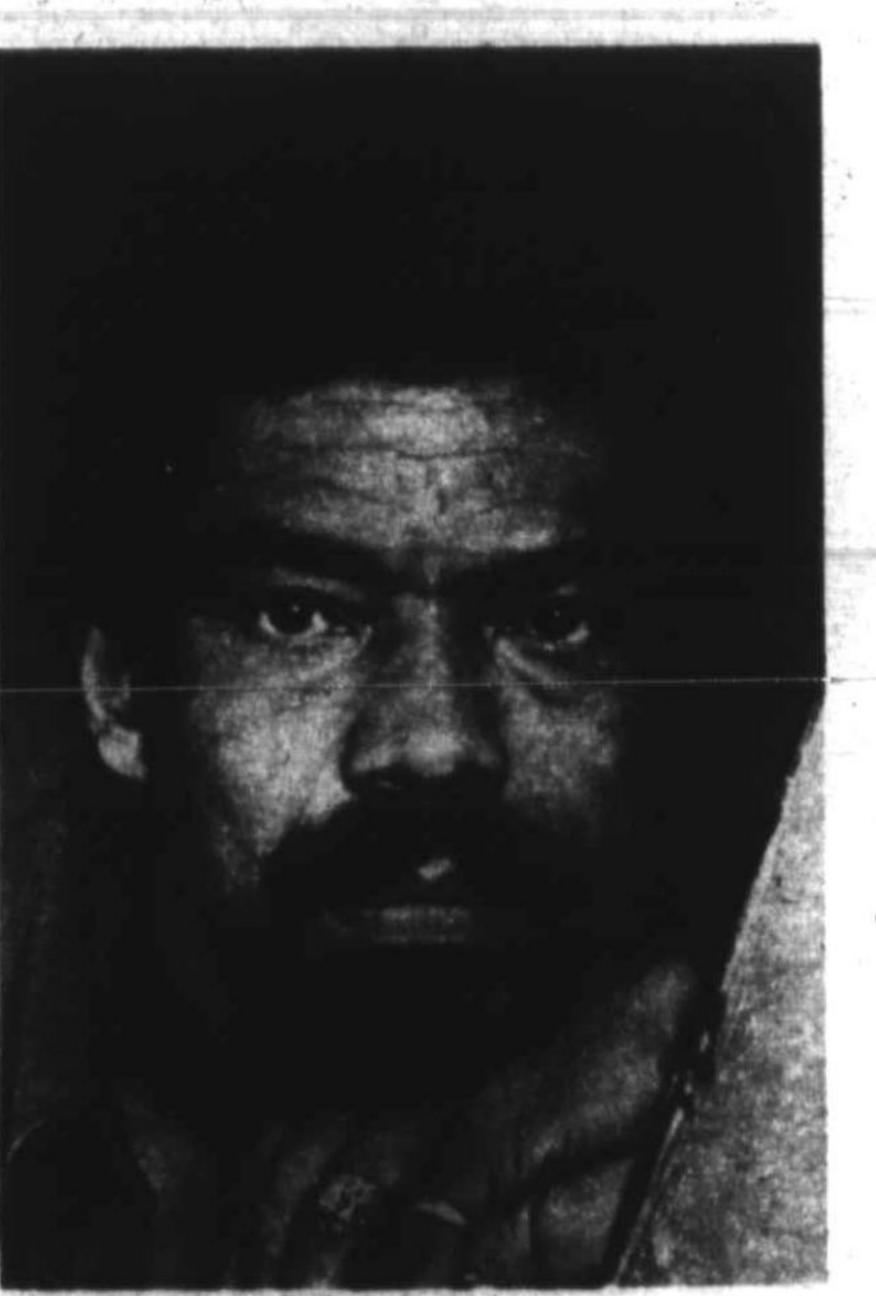
Bonnie Pointer

lost, but "Eubie" the new musical revue which premiered September had built an advance sale of more than \$500,000. The musical based on the song hits of 95 year old composer Eubie Blake received virtually raves from all the newspapers, magazines, television, radio and Black publication critics.

Q - What off Broadway shows received the AUDELCO [Audience Development Committee award?

> Valita Zimmerman Wayne, Pa.

A - Celestine de Saussure winning the award for outstanding female performance in a musical in "High John de Conquer" and Reginald Vel Johnson in the outstanding male performer in a musical "Birdland." Helmar August Cooper and Francis Foster walked away with the award for lead actor and actress in a dramatic for for "The River Niger" and "Do Lord Remember



Alvin Ailey

IT'S IN THE STARS:

Happy birthday Capricorn! You were born during the period December 23 to January 20. Your motto is "I use."

Depending on the astro chart of a Capricorn, natives of this sign have the remarkable capacity to "use up" friend, foe and themselves to the max.

Capricorn is a sign associated with power, initiative and progress. No matter how high the mountain or deep the valley, the goat will persevere to its stated

Saturn, the planet of austerity and discipline, is the ruler of Capricorn and responsible for the sign's principal characteristics. Talk with a Capricorn about being a Capricorn and you'll probably get the impression that its a dull existence, except for all the money, power and achievement that this native aspires to acquire.

Of course, not all Capricorns fit this mold, but enough do.

trials and tribulations of being a Capricorn is moodiness and depression. This group knows well the lessons of the past and the uncertainties of the future. And balancing the wisdom of this knowledge can get downright depressing.

Capricorns need to be wary of the development of stomach ulcers and other digestive problems brought on by their intense encounters with the stresses and strains of living in a complex and unpredictable world.

Another vice to be controlled or avoided is drinking or drugs habits found attractive because of the false sense of liberation and escape they afford.

Three Types of Capricorns

Born Between December 23 and January 1

You are co-ruled by Jupiter, the planet of benevolence and bounty. Chances are that you will use your

By Michael

To be a Capricorn is a serious trip not frequented by many departures of folly. But this is not to say that Capricorns don't have fun as do their other sign colleagues.

What can be said is that the will and purpose to win is clear in even frivolous pursuits.

Members of this zodiac group can be as passionate as Scorpios and as creative as the most talented Pisces. Perhaps the difference lies in the purposefulness of the action.

Capricorn rarely marries until he or she can afford it, rarely buys unless it's prudent to do so, and rarely gives commitments unless reciprocation is guaranteed.

All this is not to say that the Capricorn native is destined to zoom to great heights of achievement and recognition. No one knows this better than the native - and it is frustrating.

The sons and daughters of Saturn too often must plod along and push constantly to attain their goals. But no one does it better

One of the side effects of the

strong Capricornian qualities for the good and upliftment of those around you. Caution must be taken, however, not to allow your materialistic nature to run to excesses.

> Born Between January 2 and January 11

You are co - ruled by Mars, giving you added energy. initiative and enthusiasm. Because of the Mars influence, persons find it difficult to type you as a Capricorn — until they really get to know you.

The passion of Mars makes you most anxious to succeed. Your need is to proceed with caution and grace in your pursuits for love and power. Those folks you encounter along the way can be pretty angry as they recover from being steam - rolled by your forceful progress.

> Born Between January 12 and January 20

You are co-ruled by the sun, conferring strength of character, ego and the need to be in the limelight. You are the Capricorn most likely to sit in high places.

Astrology is not an absolute science, do don't expect perfection. Use it as a tool in evaluating your self and those you interact with. All of the zodiac signs have qualities of one another that make for a variety of compatibility matches. The following sign love matches are based on general sun sign characteristics to be used only as a guide.

Capricorn and Aries

There are whose who predict that such a liaison with Aries (March 21 - April 20) could be disastrous. The strong Aries personality could clash with yours. You could develop bases for distrust and Aries could soon lose interest. Capricorn and Taurus

Taurus (April 21 - May 20) could be just for you provided the two of you don't take each other for granted. Taurus has a stubborn streak, but tends to be affectionate. Try to avoid wearing your cold side too often.

Capricorn and Gemini

Gemini (May 21 - June 21) is one of the more unpredictable types of the zodiac. You generally don't like that. To make this work will require a lot of tolerance on your part - that means avoiding jealousy and excessive doldrum moods.

Capricorn and Cancer

Cancer (June 22 - July 22) is oh so sensitive. Aside from the fact that this is not one of your more prominent traits, this match could work well for you. Cancer types respond naturally well to domesticity, or at least security, both potentially prominent Capricorn traits. Good luck!

Capricorn and Leo

Leo (July 23-August 23) can be a dashing king with a big ego, or a sensitive queen requiring much attention and affection. To make it with a Leo remember to pacify that Leonian ego and be as romantic as possible.

Capricorn and Virgo

Virgo (August 24 - September 22) is much to your liking. They can be serious, dedicated, critical and interesting. This is one to play by ear. The rewards could be satisfying.

Capricorn and Libra

Libra (September 23 - October 22) is largely a social being, often with a nature unlike your own. The chances of this union working rests with the Libran's ability to balance and compromise. This could prove quite a match.

Capricorn and Scorpio

Many Scorpios (October 23 - November 21) do well with your sign. They have the passion and depth to fit your program. Shrewd Capricornian tactics won't work too well with Scorpio. The payback could smart.

Capricorn and Sagittarius

The independent nature of Sagittarius (November 22 - December 21) may not go well with your equally independent nature. You've heard the story about the meeting of two immovable forces. But one thing for sure, it'll be fun while it lasts.

Capricorn and Capricorn

This one could work like a charm. The only drawback is the period or periods when both of you are moody or depressed at the same time. But together you could conquer the world.

Capricorn and Aquarius

Aquarius (January 20 - February 19) is often termed the "people oriented" sign. They are social and unconventional. If you happen to be a conventional Capricom, you're in for a lot of headaches.

Capricorn and Pisces

Pisces (February 19 - March 20) is a mate worth seeking by Capricorn. This mate can be most understanding and sensitive to your needs. This match may be the tonic to raise you to your highest levels of social sensations.