CELEBENIT
with JEANNE PARNELL

Stella Marrs

Wilson Pickett

Q — What ever happened to Wilson Pickett?

A MACassandra Jackson
Beverly Hills, CA.

A — He has just concluded a major tour of Africa and Europe. He is producing many of his own records and is active in running his own publishing company. He also starred in the hit movie, "Soul To Soul." Says Wilson, "I haven't been that far away, no one would play my records because I wouldn't go disco. Disco starts nowhere and ends nowhere. My music is the music."

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Q — What do you think of the "stars" when they're not on stage?

Sandra Washington
South Carolina

A — Most stars are always starring, and I love their company. Recently, Ken Reynolds, a national public relations executive for Polydor Records and wife Vickie, hosted a star-studded event. He received a special "Happy Birthday" recording containing greetings from Cheryl Lynn, Keith Barrow, Bobbi Humphrey, Sara Dash, Debbie Allen, Anna Horsford, Charlie Mingus III, Ellis Haizilp, Gerry Bledsoe and Beverly Johnson giving a star performance.

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Q — Is it true that most celebrities in the performing arts recognize their talents at a very early age?

Gail Hollingsworth
Baltimore, Md.

A — Fifteen-year-old Janie McClain seemed to enjoy singing as a baby. Her mother recalls her hanging over the crib rail at nine months repeating the chorus "Hang On Sloopy." At two or three she stood in front of the mirror with makeup, a wig, and her mother's long dress pretending she was Freda Payne or Diana Ross. Now her favorite artist and love is Michael Jackson. She met Michael for the first time, quite by chance, in the lobby of a Philadelphia hotel. Janice says when she gets older she'd like to meet Michael again. Look out Jackson!

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Q — It's not too late to ask what should be happening in the 1980s?

Janice Jones
Washington, D.C.

A — Stella Marrs, jazz singer, writer, philosopher and spiritualist says, "It's time for a T.V. program dedicated to jazz. So many jazz innovators, creators and artists have thousands of stories to tell. These artists have traveled so many miles all over the world to bring their music to the masses, who in that experience have so many tales to tell, full of life, fear, happiness, fun and truth. It's time for the public to be hearing about this segment of Americana." A great happenings for the 80s.

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Q — Is it true that Cecil Holmes, the big Casablanca executive, was once a model and a singer?

Barbara Gomez
Mississippi

A — Cecil Holmes has done several T.V. commercials, and he did belong to a singing group called the "Caveliers" while growing up in New York. Mr. Holmes now lives in California, but returns to New York frequently to have his hair done at B. J. Bubbles, the new "in" unisex salon for the "jet set."

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Q — Has George and Reggie buried the hatchet?

Dolores Sykes
North Carolina

A — Stienbrenner and Jackson have quietly kissed and made up. The Yankee's are being restructured on and off the field and spring training is only days away. Last summer's war of words ended with a phone call Reggie made to George. The Gallup Youth Survey for the "Most Admired Man," of teenagers, boys and girls has Jesse Jackson in No. 6 post and Ali and Burt Reynolds tied in No. 7-8 spot.

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Q — Tell me everything you know about Jim Brown Jr.

Sonia Black
Richmond, VA.

A — The 18-year-old son of the famed football star and movie actor, is a senior at the Fulton County Lakeshore High School in Atlanta, Georgia, and a star on the basketball team. He's 6' 2", a 180 pound guard, averaging 18 points and 10 rebounds a game while leading an 11-0 team, top ranked in Class AA, with 67 percent field goal accuracy. He has college recruiters begging.

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Q— What's happening off-Broadway?

Carol McDonald
Texas

A — "Inacent Black and the Five Brothers" is a smashing success at the Billy Holiday Theatre in Brooklyn, New York. It's a new spiritual mystery comedy written by A. Marcus Hemphill. Elaine Graham who plays the title role is a two time Audelco nominee. Special thanks was given to the Frank Silvera Writers Workshop as the originators of the initial reading, because the show might make Broadway.

Janice McClain

Brown, Ray & Goodman, Ken Reynolds holding Sarah Dash and Rowina Harris.

Cecil Holmes

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.

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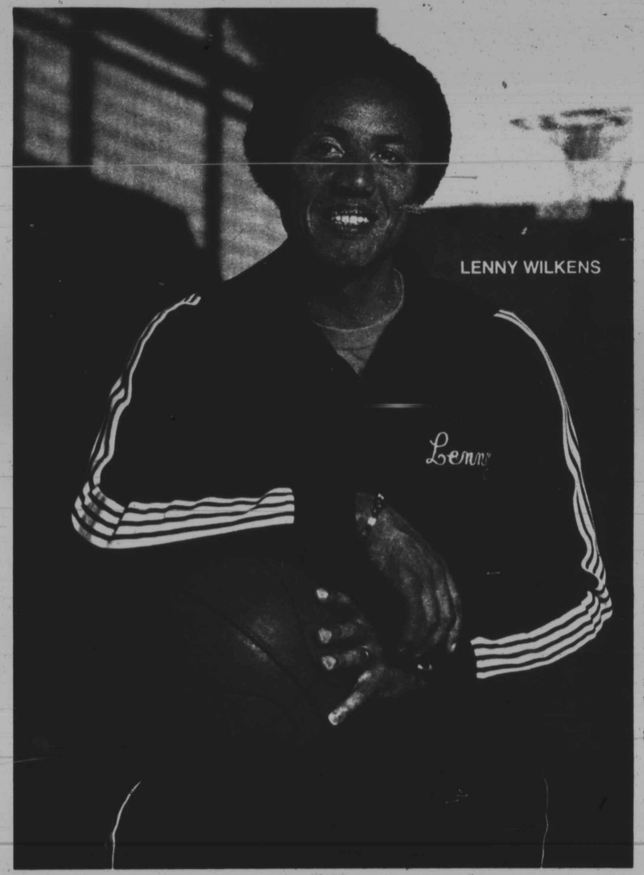

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