Jeanne Parnell's:

CELEBENIT

Andre DeShields

Q — What is bound for Broadway?

Lois McPherson
Gaston, N.C.

A — The hottest word of mouth around town is "Jazzbo Brown" which has been readying its Broadway opening first in showcase. A remake of the "Jazz Singer," all in black, it has that dynamic smoothie Andre DeShields as Jazzbo who yearns to be a Broadway star while his minister father has him slotted for a gospel career. The show which was turning them away in its showcase run and, revisited in commercial previews, is still playing to standing room. In addition to Andre DeShields there is Chris Calloway, Jerry Jarrett and Zulema.

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Q — Will the Broadway hit "Annie" be made into a movie?

Ida Wells
Carlton, TX

A — A dime store millionaire's 130 - room mansion, now part of New Jersey's Monmouth College might become the home of Daddy Warbucks in the film version of the hit musical. A roofttop solarium, custom designed chandeliers and hundreds of bronze and crystal wall sconces are among many of remaining items in the building. If an agreement is reached between the college and columbia, filming of "Annie" at the school will take place next year.

Star - Shemah

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Q — How are blacks doing in the record industry?

Sadie Jones
Greensboro, N.C.

A — Robert Summer, president of RCA Records announced plans for major expansion in the steadily growing field of black music establishing an autonomous black music department. Simultaneously, Summer appointed Ray Harris to head the department in the newly created position of division vice - president, Black Music. "Black music activity has shown tremendous growth in recent years," Summer said, "and RCA and is associated labels are now expanding on their earlier commitment."

Audrey Smaltz

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Q — What black woman is widely recognized as one of the leading fashion authorities in this country and abroad?

Henry Nash
Camden, N.J.

A — Audrey Smaltz is trend - setter in her own right having been named three times to the International Best Dressed List. As a consultant and advisor to a number of international companies, Miss Smaltz travels more than 25,000 miles annually, and it is not unusual to see her arm - in - arm conversation with Yves St. Laurent or Pierre Cardin in Paris, or just discussing the latest movements in the world of jazz with her great good friend Lionel Hampton in Las Vegas. Audrey makes numerous television appearances on behalf of her clients and on her own as a fashion expert in both men's and women's wear.

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Q — Who is Star - Shemah Babatoon?

Jeanne St. John
Germantown, PA

A — Actress Star - Shemah Bobatoon known for her role of Diana Freeman in the Alex Haley - Norman Lear produced television series "Palmerstown U.S.A." was celebrating the second season of the hit program which is scheduled to begin production soon. Star - Shemah is no newcomer to the acting profession. These efforts have resulted in her winning the female lead for such highly acclaimed TV programs as "Turkey Treasure," "Rebop," "A Piece of Cake," "Muggsy," and "Wishes of Joanna Peabody."

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Q — It is true that the real life youngsters who starred in the film "Fame" — most of them virtual unknowns are about to achieve what their screen characters fail to do in the movie?

Carleen Wilson
Albany, N.Y.

A — 1. Barry Miller who played Ralph, the jive talking Puerto Rican comic, since "Fame" has starred in "King of America" on a PBS movie, and will appear with Bobby Benson and Eli Landau's "The Chosen."

2. Antonia Franceschi, one of the youngest is dreaming about becoming a member of New York City Ballet Company.

3. Irene Cara who plays Coco, the singing hopeful, was recently signed to a record contract by Robert Stigwood. She sang the song "Fame," which went to No. 1 slot. She is also set to star with Jody Foster on TV in "The Best Little Girl in the World."

4. Lee Cureri, who played Bruno, is discussing starring roles in "Taps" with producer Stanley Jaffe and Franco Zeffrelli.

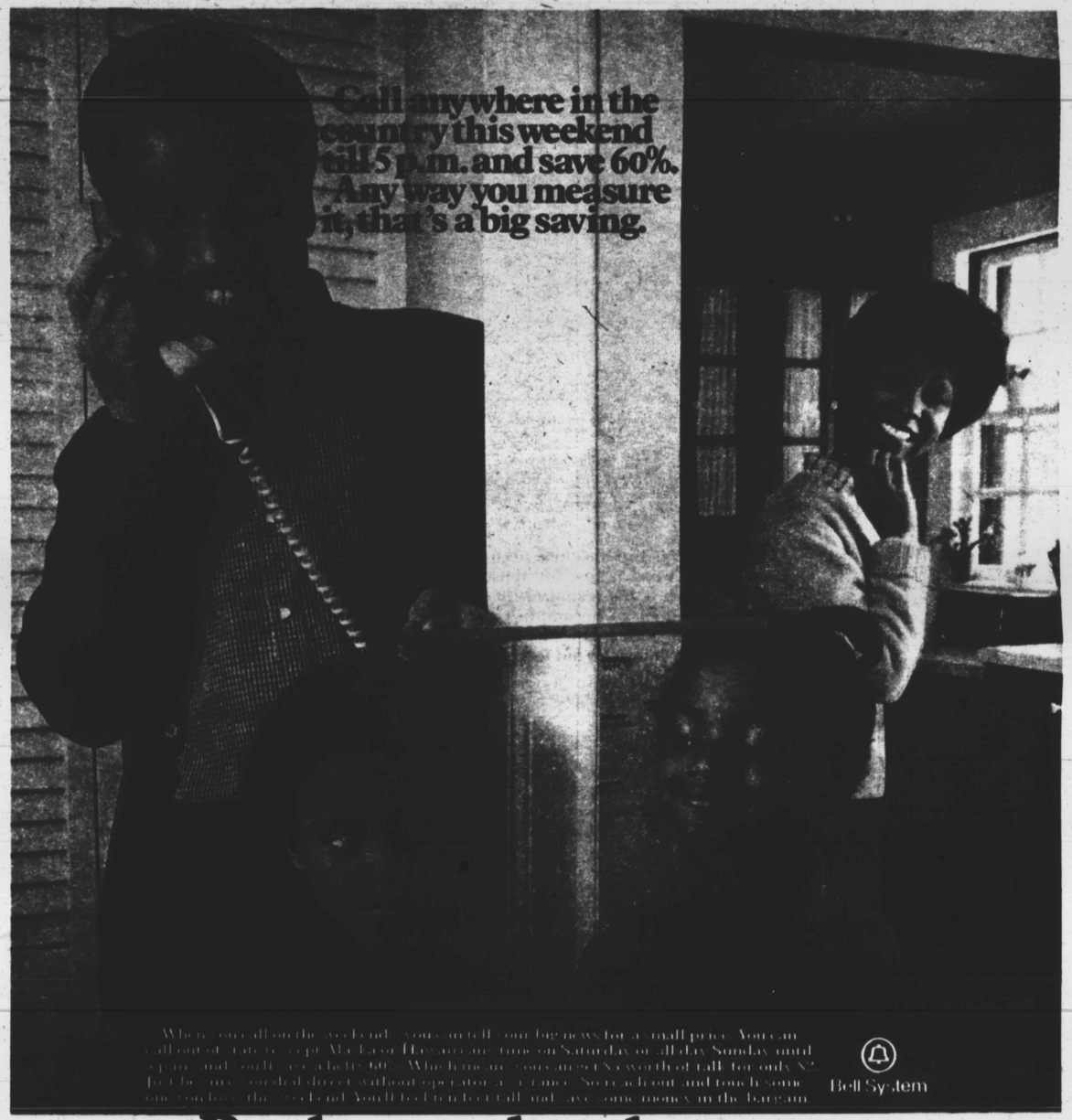
5. Paul McCrain completed

(Continued on Page 21)

Ray Harris

Jennifer Jones

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



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