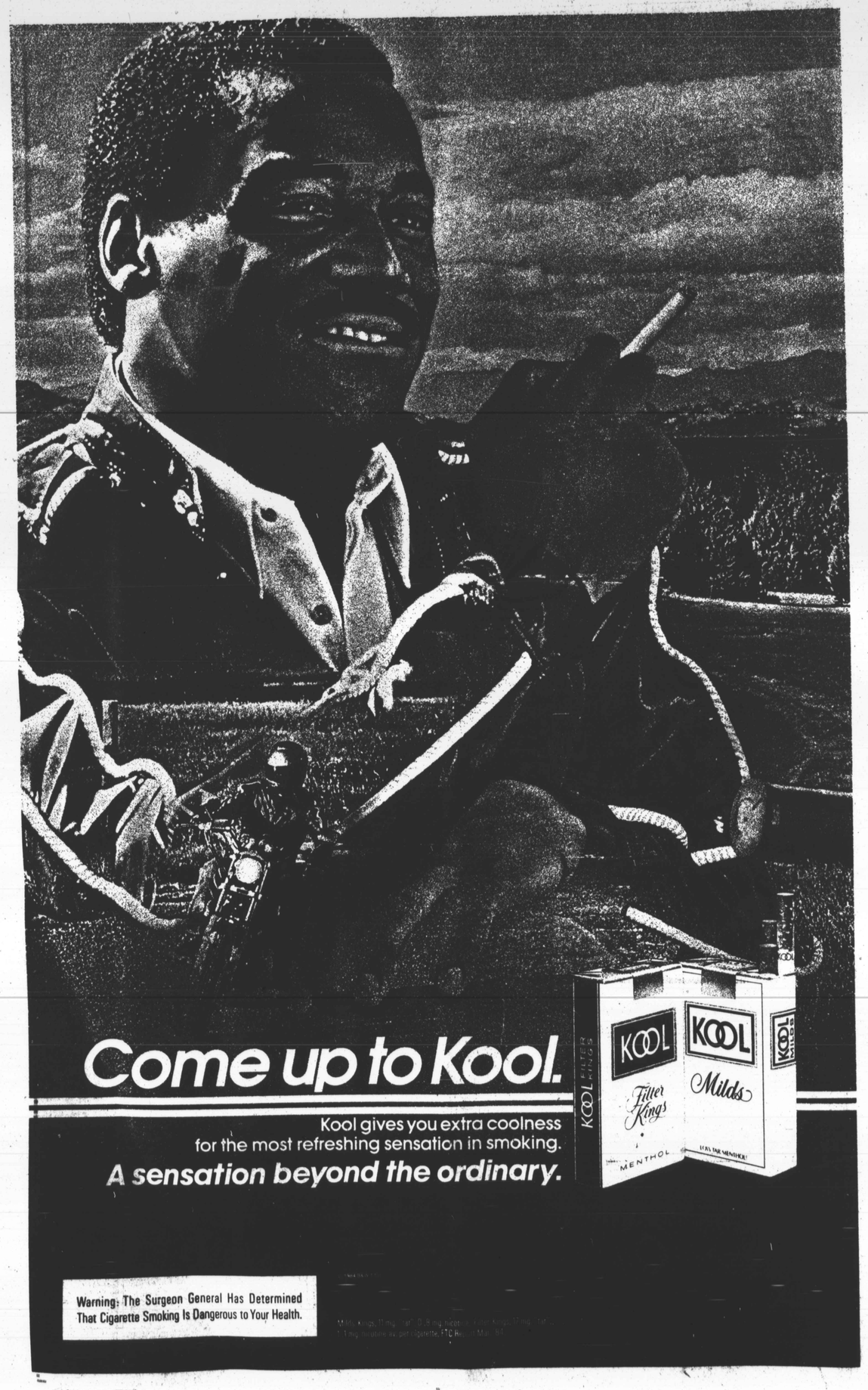

Showtime

CELEBRITIES

(Photo by Bruce Smallwood)

JOE BLACK, vice-president of Greyhound corp. in Phoenix, Ariz. is shown with his wife, Bernice, at the 14th Annual Black Caucus Dinner in D.C.

By Ida Peters

We stand CORRECTED! JOE BLACK, vice-president of the Greyhound Corp. in Phoenix, Ariz. was photographed at the Black Caucus Banquet with his wife Bernice. And, for all you folks on the East Coast, the former Morgan great has been married nine months and he won't be coming for Homecoming this year.

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The former home of silent movie stars Mary Pickford and Douglass Fairbanks (Pickfair) was the scene a week ago when Dr. Jerry Buss held a POSH bash with star-studded crowd to kick off the United Negro College Fund's (UNCF) 1984 "Lou Rawls Parade of Stars."

Stars on hand included CICELY TYSON and hubby MILES DAVIS putting to rest the rumors they have split., plus Leon Isaac Kennedy, BYRON ALLEN, DIAHANN CARROLL, CAESAR ROMERO, SUGAR RAY ROBINSON, to name a few.

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The AFRO told you weeks ago that JANET JACKSON had eloped with JAMES DEBARGE but only JERMAINE would confirm the fact that he had heard she was married. The Jacksons, Joseph and Katherine refused to answer inquiries even when they were in D.C. and Philly for the Jacksons' Victory tour. The only thing we were getting from their publicists were the latest on Rebbie's Janet and LaToya's new albums.

Janet and James eloped to Grand Rapids, Mich. and when they applied for a marriage license in Kent County, Mich. they gave their full names and the same address. She's Janet Damita Jackson, 18 and he's James Curtis DeBarge, 21. And, while Janet has six famous brothers and two sisters, Rebbie and LaToya... James grew up in a family of 10 all under one roof with his parents, Robert and Etterlene DeBarge in Detroit.

The happy couple will live in California. She will continue as a regular cast member of "Fame" with Debbie Allen and he to tour with the popular Motown group The DeBarges. It will sure beat sleeping with a snake as one fan magazine reported. She is still pictured in a wedding photo with a real live door key in her hoop earring. If we remember correctly, she said that key was for pet cages!

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"ABC Rocks," the ABC Television Network's exciting late-night series, focuses on the latest in the fast-paced music video field, on Friday, Oct. 19 (12:00 midnight-12:30 a.m., EDT).

This week's visual elements include proven superstar performers and two newcomers in the rock movement. Volatile TINA TURNER leads off with "Better Be Good to Me," her most recent single after her top multi-week chart buster "What's Love Got to Do With It?" Wham! (U.K.) presents a young approach with "Wake Me Up Before You Go-Go." LIONEL RICHIE grabs the spotlight with "Penny Lover." Top director Bob Giraldi created this video in song and dance for Richie. This is the fifth top single from the "Can't Slow Down" LP, which has sold over 11 million copies. John Cafferty & The Beaver Brown Band performs the hit that has brought the group back to prominence. It's "On the Dark Side," a re-release hit from the film, "Eddie and the Cruisers." Finally Survivor, a new band from Epic Records, does "I Can't Hold Back."

Backstage at the Royal

1948—The late County Basie (1936-1984) with Pearl Bailey. She used to sing "Won't You Come Back Bill Bailey" and always talked about her feet hurting. She was also famous for singing "Tired," and "Legalize My Name." Bailey born in Newport News, VA. and educated in Philly sang for Noble Sissle, Cootie Williams and Count Basie. She was once married to Slappy White the comedian who was born in a small street behind the Royal Theatre. Slappy sold candy as a youth at the Royal. Ask around and see if you can find Basie's "Songs of Bessie Smith" on The Flying Dutchman label.

1949—Gordon Anderson with Pigmeat Markham. Pigmeat, Dewey Markham born in Durham, N.C. in 1906 was famous for his skits "Here Come de Judge," and "Crap Shootin' Reverend." He was often teamed with Jackie (Moms) Mabley.

1946—Jimmie Lunceford on stage at the Royal. His real name was James Melvin Lunceford and he was born June 6, 1902 in Fulton, Mo. and died July 13, 1947 in Seaside, Oreg. He played the Cotton Club, 1934; taught music at Fisk University and was the most popular band of 1935. He wrote "Rhythm Is Our Business" "Uptown Blues" and "Dream of You."

Bob Matthews

ALL THAT JAZZ

By now, you have probably heard about the upcoming Tribute to Baltimore's Jazz Left Bank Jazz Society and Sojourner-Douglass College.

But, if you haven't it is shaping up as one of the top music events of the season, although there has been a slight change. Alas, Pieces of a Dream will not be on the program.

A conflict forced the Pieces to cancel, and as a replacement, vocalist Phyllis Hyman has been scheduled for the festivities.

Oh, yes, we know that Phyllis kinda angered Baltimore audiences when her last appearance was not consistent with her abilities (how do you like that euphemism?) but this is her chance to make it all up to Baltimore.

If you question her jazz vocalist style, bear in mind that she once traveled in a group which included Gary Bartz, and played for quite a while in the Broadway show "Sophisticated Lady."

Will have a lot more on the tribute in future editions—it is scheduled for the weekend of Nov. 10.

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This is the Sunday for the outstanding concert on tap for the Pennsylvania Friends of Jazz, which goes on from 5-9 at the Sheraton Hotel in Harrisburg West.

The lineup is enough to make any jazz lover drool, with Curtis Fuller heading up a sextet composed of Benny Golson, tenor sax; Art Farmer, flugelhorn; Mickey Tucker, piano; Rufus Reid, bass, and Albert Tootie Heath, drums.

Since the Left Bank Jazz Society sessions don't begin until October 28, lovers of live jazz are making plans to get to this set. In fact, a group headed up by Ruth Binsky is sponsoring a bus trip to the concert.

The bus will be leaving from in front of Sparky's Cleaners, in the 4700 block of Liberty Heights Ave., at 3 p.m. Sunday. You can get more information by calling Ruth at 523-2090.

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And indeed, the Left Bank Jazz Society will open its season on October 28 at Parsons in Park Circle on Druid Park Drive, where there is ample free parking available.

Artists on tap include Bobby Watson, alto sax; Curtis Lundy, bass; Mulgrew Miller, Washington, drums.

All of the concessionaires usually seen at LBJS concerts will be on hand, including Chef Willis and the cakes and pies lady, Ms. Gladys.

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For your future planning the Smithsonian Institution has released its schedule for the Resident Associate Program Series which kicks off with a Nov. 11 concert featuring singer Anita O'Day.

Jan. 13 will be highlighted by guitarist Kenny Burrell; March 10 — Red Rodney and Ira Sullivan; April 21 — Joanne Brackeen. Others who will be performing include Kenny Barron, and the contemporary stride pianist, Dick Wellstood.

Naturally, there will be lots more about these attractions at a later date.

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Charlie Byrd is the attraction at the King of France Tavern of the Maryland Inn this week, and you might note that pianist Ahmad Jamal is scheduled to play the room November 7 - 11.

Tomorrow from noon until midnight, radio station WPFW is playing a complete program of Miles Davis music. It's his birthday celebration, and the mayor of DC has proclaimed it Miles Davis Day in D.C.

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