## CELEBRITY

All letters should be aderessed to Jason, DAWN Magazine, 628 N. Eutaw St., Baltimore, Md. 21201. All provide individual answers, questions of general in terest will be used in this column.

LOCKOUT

Richard Otto, violinist and Sarah McLawler, organist, was the question from Dr. E. Julian Ingram of Chicago in the August DAWN Magazine.

MANSFIELD OTTO, Their son

A. — To the person who inquired about the unique jazz trio of Richard Otto and Sarah McLawler, he on violin and she on organ, Richard Otto passed away on his birthday, Feb. 22, 1979. His wife has picked up the pieces of her life and continues to perform solo in top hotels and supper ciubs around the world. She is currently appearing in Atlantic City thru Nov. 22 at the Claridge Hotel in the Bombay Lounge. I must say this was a black group ahead of its time and their recordings are now expensive collector's items. Remember when they appeared at the Apollo Theatre and did the whole show with only Moms Mabley the comic? Or when they appeared with Sarah Vaughn at the Little Belmont in Atlantic City? She now lives in Bronx, NY.

Q. — I am an avid dedicated fan of "Hill Street Blues" and since then its program-writer launched "Miami Vice." I am even a larger fan of this new series. I was so thrilled with the show I telephoned to Los Angeles to get information about Philip Michael Thomas and they referred me to the production office in Miami. They promised to send me a photo but

Q. — What happened to the combo of didn't. Can you tell me anything about him? CHERYL L. BROWN

> A. — Here's a photo of Philip Michael Thomas where he appeared with Irene Cara in the 1970s flick "Sparkle." He has been on several TV shows and has appeared in "Come Back Charleston Blue" and "Coonskin." He played several seasons on the New York stage in "Hair" and "No Place To Be Somebody." He studied religion at the University of

Q. — What happened to Pam Grier who made "Hit Man" and "Coffy"? Whatever happened to films like "The Mack," "Superfly" and...

> JIMMY HAWKINS McLeansville, NC

A. — Pam Grier is still alive and well but roles have been very slim for black males and females. Her last role was the 1983 "Something Wicked This Way Comes." She played The Dust Witch and The Most Beautiful Girl In The World. As to films like "The Mack" and others made by black film directors-producers like Max Julien, their source of money dried up and blacks don't support producers like Gordon Parks' "Leadbelly." We complained so much about Blaxploitation that the white folks started making the same flicks using white actors.

Q. — You say you cannot provide individual

answers but please tell me what happened to Buddy Johnson and his sister Ella Johnson? After all the good music they produced over the years I have seen no article on them. Our past musicians, due to space cannot even now get what they deserve from our black

> CLARENCE SMITH Los Angeles, CA

A. — We don't know but I bet some of you readers out there know. We have put feelers out to our friends in the music world and will give you some answers in next month's DAWN.

Q. — Can you send me the name of a psychic detective who helps people find

MRS. R. L. H.

Los Angeles, CA A. - Sorry. Your best bet is to hire a regular private detective, a lawyer or talk to your local police.

Q. — My cousin says that Prince is 24 and I say he's 26. How old is he and where may I write him?

> ALETA MOORE Shreveport, LA

A. — Prince is 24 and you may write him at The Howard Bloom Agency, 135 E. 55th Street, NYC 10022.

Q. — We have a bet. Did Charles Dutton who is the angry trumpet player in "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom" now on Broadway ever kill anybody and didn't he serve time? My

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Sarah McLawler



**Pam Grier** 



Philip M. Thomas and Irene Cara

## NATIONAL ROUNDUP

WASHNGTON, D.C. — SIGN OF THE TIMES All the nation Capital's major hotels have been booked up for the January Presidential inaugural ceremonies since last August by Republican supporters....Chicago school principal William O. Stewart, one of the Grand Old Party's veteran electoral delegates and Illinois state chairman, opted to attend the American Federation of Teachers' convention here last summer instead of the Republican convention in Dallas where he was elected to be a delegate also. The AFT endorsed Democratic presidential candidate Walter Mondale while Stewart sought hotel reservations here for the GOP inauguration.

Gary, Ind. Mayor Richard G. Hatcher, chairman of the historic Jesse Jackson presidential campaign and vice-chairman of the Democratic National Committee, is not one to say "I told you so," but he did not go along with the Mondale campaign team following the San Francisco convention last July...."I am not for anymore black assistant, or vice chairmen or deputy campaign officials," Hatcher angrily declared in demanding that black politicians have final decision making positions in the Democratic presidential campaign since black voters have demonstrated greater loyalty to the party than any other segment of the nation in the past 50 years...Look for some major realignments in black leadership in the party for the next elections, beginning in 1986.

Blackwell and Charles Connors also are demanding new leadership roles in the party, seeking to replace old guard white leadership following their active roles in the 1984 campaign...And Jackson political strategist, Howard University political science professor Ron Walters is outspoken in urging third party consideration by the Rainbow Coalition organized by dynamic presidential nominee.

The Booker T. Washington Foundation's longtime plans for development in the Caribbean and Africa are being realized now with announcement of multi-million dollar economic programs in the areas by board chairman Val Washington and president Charles Williams at their second annual Distinguished Service Awards dinner held here recently

The Foundation honored the nation's black mayors, then headed by Tuskegee mayor Johnny Ford, at its dinner last year and paid 202-371-1300. tribute to the 25 island-nations of the Caribbean last month with awards to BTW founder, Dr. Fred Patterson (former president of advocate of minority business opportunity

Tuskegee Institute and the United Negro College Fund) and George R. Rainford, secretary general of the Caribbean Community and Common Market (CARICOM).

Washington, former major Republican strategist, insists that the (Ronald) Reagan administration's Caribbean Economic Recovering Act will provide "opportunity for everybody" in the islands, as well as participation by large and small U.S, firms. "I am particularly concerned that not enough black and minority small businesses are getting involved...We at BTW are concerned that many of our constituents have little or no knowledge of the CBI or the Caribbean market and we are trying to



James Troy

Young, black Republican leaders Ken get that information out to this important

A conference of interested persons preceded the dinner at the Organization of American States headquarters. Dinner co-chairmen included American Telephone and Telegraph board chairman Charles L. Brown; Earl Graves, magazine publisher; Rev. Leon Sullivan, OIC board chairman; Percy Sutton, chairman, ner City Broadcasting; Ted Turner, Turner Broadcasting and Cable News Network chairman, and Frank Borman, president of Eastern Airlines. Suzanne de Passe, president Motown Productions, and Patricia Walker Show, president of the Universal Life surance Co. (Memphis), were dinner cochairpersons. All of the firms representatives are interested in developing business in the islands, said Williams. For further information, contact Dr. Charles Tate, executive vicepresident, Booker T. Washington Foundation, 1010 Massachusetts Avenue, NW.,

Rep. Parren Mitchell (D-Md.), the leading

legislation in Congress, was among the authors of "Urban America 1984—A Report Card", the study of investment opportunities for small business firms in 56 key cities with populations over 250,000. Contact Congressman Mitchell, U.S. House of Representatives, 2367 Rayburn Office Building, Washington, D.C., 20515, 202-225-4741, for more information.

The Small Business Administration and the Export-Import Bank recently announced an agreement to guarantee working capital loans of \$200,000 to \$1 million dollars extended by private lenders to small exporters.

"Many small firms are capable of exporting, but need financing to undertake export related procurement, production and marketing programs," said SBA Administrator James C. Sanders. 'This unique arrangement will enable Eximbank to reach small businesses and their bankers through the existing potential source of new growth, of increased exports and of new employment for our country. SBA and Eximbank are now working together to help them realize their potential," added Eximbank president William H. Draper III. Contact Export-Import Bank of the United States, Washington, D.C., 20571, 202-566-8990.

Texas Congressman Mickey Leland, who was recently named "Big Brother of the Year" in the Capital area, has now been named "Big Brother of the Year" for the eastern region for his contributions to life of disadvantaged young men in Washington (D.C.), Maryland, Virginia, Delaware and Pennsylvania.

During the current furor over the nation's Equal opportunity programs, Dr. Lenora Cole Alexander, director of the Women's Bureau U.S. Department of Labor, recently told over 200 corporate equal employment opportunity officers that their job is clear.

"America is seeking to settle its debt with a group that has provided backbone to the economy without reaping a comparable share of the rewards available," said Doctor Alexander.

Speaking before the annual midwest meeting of the Equal Employment Advisory Council (EEAC), she told the group, "you are the people who get paid to see to it that what we (Women's Bureau) are trying to do is translated into workable programs that remove barriers to women's progress and elevate the status of women in the workplace."

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by Larry Still and Art Carter