

JUMPIN WITH WHOOP!

hanks to her new found fame and recent marriage,
Whoopi Goldberg seems to have reason to be jumping
with joy. Goldberg, who won an Oscar nomination for
her dramatic role in THE COLOR PURPLE, steps
into her first comedic role in her new movie JUMPIN'

JACK FLASH. She stars as Terry Doolittle, a bright young woman
with a boring computer job. Sitting at a computer in the international money transfer department of a large bank, Terry breaks up
the monotony of transferring money by punctuating her transactions with more personal communications.

She sends recipes for Yankee pot-roast and advice to a Frenchman on how to manage his love life. Then one day, Terry receives an urgent plea from a British agent trapped in the Eastern Bloc. Intrigued by the opportunity for some excitement and romance in her life, she runs to the rescue; touching off a series of comedic hair-raising adventures where she tangles with both CIA and KGB spies. After some near-misses and a brush with disappointment, the film ends with Terry smiling into the eyes of her White love-interest—the British Intelligence agent—"JUMPIN' JACK FLASH."

For this film-reviewer, the only belly grabbing guffaw in the movie came when Terry disguises herself as one of the Motown Supremes. For me that was Goldberg at her funniest.

While the film does not have all movie critics rejoicing, because as one reviewer noted: "The film succeeds neither as a conventional comedy nor as a Whoopi Goldberg vehicle," fortunately for Goldberg, in today's Hollywood, critics who dog movies do not necessarily break them. On the top ten movie hit list, "Jumpin' Jack Flash" ranks number 3. Within a month after its release, the film earned close to \$3 million.

You've come a long way baby! Three years ago Goldberg was

a welfare mother scrimping by with some very odd jobs. One of the oddest — a stint as a beautician in a morgue. Goldberg remarked that this job was not as bad as it seemed since the clients were always still and never complained.

The comic won acclaim in her Broadway debut in 1984 with her one-woman show directed by Mike Nichols. She created and presented a variety of highly original character sketches in monologue. Her one-woman skits like complete short plays, were a balance between funny satire and heavy-hearted sadness. Her comedy has been compared with Richard Pryor and Lily Tomlin's. In other words, her work can be described as satire with a cutting edge, and she is an actress (she prefers to be called an actor because that term is not as limiting in her opinion) with a wry attitude toward life.

espite the mounting material written about her, she points out that she will not go Hollywood. She still lives in the same ramshackle neighborhood. Not long ago she subsidized her pals' performance of **Tokens**, an original musical extravaganza with a cast of 60.

"I've been taken care of by people, so I'm continuing the tradition," comments the star. "That's why I live here. This is where I know people will say, 'Hey, don't get Hollywood with me: I remember when I had to drive you to the welfare office.'I depend on my friends for that, to keep my ego in check, 'cause it's real easy to go the other way."

Of her quirky appearance, the actress explains that she's a hippie. Her image — a combination of a puckish smile, bouncing dreadlocks, oversized shirts, baggy pants, and colorful hightopped kicks.

Continued on page 11

SANDY CARPENTER is an Educator and Free Lance Writer in New York.

... Whoopi

Continued from page 10

She explains that she still believes in peace and ove — the hippie motto of the '60s and '70s.

At 36, Goldberg recently married Dutch

cinematographer David Claessen, 27. They met while working on a documentary film about the homeless. About the current demands of fame, Goldberg says: "I think it's time to backtrack and get some stamina." She likes being outrageous. She dropped her rather ordinary moniker Caryn

Johnson and tagged herself Whoopi Goldberg. She recently appeared on Joan Rivers' TV show wearing a sweatshirt with the words "WHITE BOY" written on it. On that show she also used a couple of expletives that insult women, just to be outrageous.

BLACK

Please explain when Apartheid in South Africa started?

Ruth Carpenter Indianapolis, Indiana

regation as a way of life had characterized South Africa for many decades, a turning point came in 1948 when D.F. Malan's National Party defeated the United Party led by J.C. Smuts. Apartheid now became the official state policy and even the slightest trend toward racial integration was reversed.

were discussing politics and he says that it is Congressman Parren Mitchell who is on the powerful Ways and Means Committee, while I maintain that it is Congressman Charles Rangel. Who is right?

Sally Walker Cuddebackville, New York

A You are. Harlem Rep. Charles Rangel is the only Black member of the House Ways and Means Committee and the House Senate Conference to draft the recent final tax reform passage.

By Anna R. Berry and Freddie Brian Vincent



17 mg. "tar", 1.3 mg. nicotine av. per ciga ... tte by FTC method.

SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING: Smoking By Pregnant Women May Result in Fetal Injury, Premature Birth, And Low Birth Weight.