MORGAN FREEMAN STARS IN LEAN ON ME' OPENING AT THEATRES SOON



Morgan Freeman stars as high school principal Joe Clark i "Lean On Me" opening in area theatres soon.

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OF JAMES WELDON JOHNSON'S

MARGARET BELL

Directed by WOODIE KING, Jr.

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LEX MONSON

high-school principal Joe Clark, of our most gifted actors, Morgan all you have to do is spend a day opens soon at theatres across the Freeman, in the role of Joe Clark, country. It is a film that stars one who last year was on the cover tionship he has with his of Times magazine as one of the students." foremost influences on public education today. Co-starring are Beverly Todd and Robert

> For many, Joe Clark is an real-life story took place. authentic national hero, and his producer John G. Avildsen, who Conti, best known for "Rocky" and "The Right Stuff," wrote the

The film focuses on Clark, the principal who has made national news ever since he began his tenure at Eastside High in Patercourage and compassion, on Me" illustrates how hope, through discipline, can be instilled into young people of all backgrounds.

"I feel," says director Avildsen, "that Joe Clark's story in inspirational, not unlike the first 'Rocky' or the 'Karate Kid' films. His accomplishment has been formidable when one considers the obstacles placed in his path . .

Clark himself participated in the making of the film, many sequences of which were filmed at the Paterson locales where the

An Academy Award nominee story has been brought to the and winner of the New York, Los screen by director and executive Angeles and National Society of Film Critics Awards for his elecwon an Academy Award for trifying supporting performance "Rocky" and has also directed the in "Street Smart," Morgan "The Robert Guillaume Show," Freeman has emerged as one of his new comedy series for ABC. the country's leading actors.

Bros. release "Clean and Sober." Freeman stunned New York provocative Clark. theatre audiences in 1987—and won his third Obie Award—for director John C. Avildsen cast his performance in the Pulitzer several of the roles from a ma-Prize-winning play "Driving Miss on Me" is Freeman's first starring

posite Richard Pryor in "Moving" Heart," portrays the Vice Prin-



Robert Guillaume

Robert Guillaume, two-time memorable television role of "Benson" and soon to be seen on returns to the screen as Dr. Frank Napier, the school superintendent who encourages, defends and occasionally clashes with the

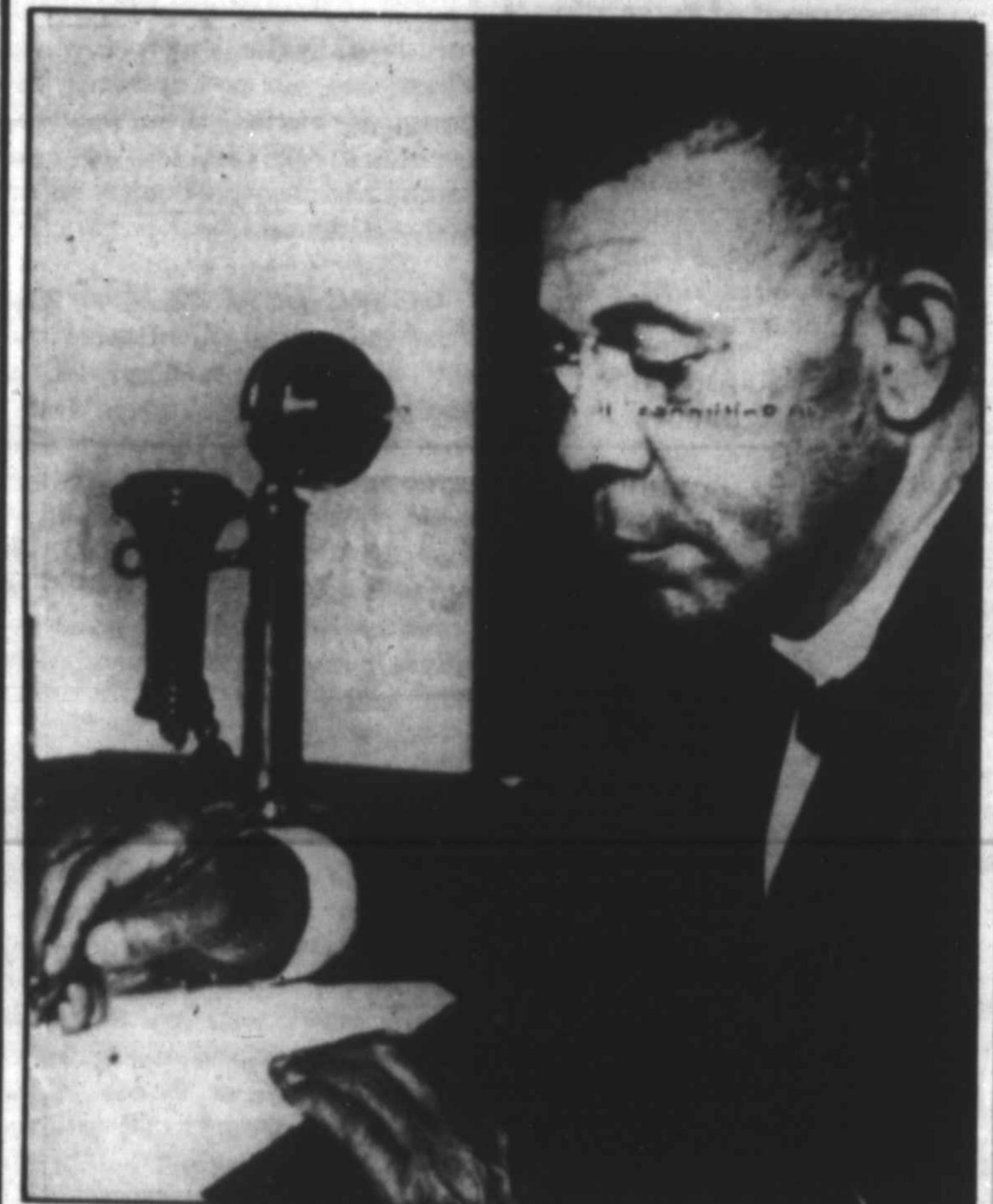
Producer Norman Twain and jor open casting call in New York City. Nearly 5,000 aspiring young performers lined up for the opportunity to be in "Lean on Me," which introduces five exciting new actors—Karen Malina White, Jermaine Hopkins, Elsa Hilario, Tyrone Jackson and Alex play pivotal roles in the saga of Joe Clark's rise to acclaim and

(Continued from Page 2) Constitution Hall will be the scene for the Robert Cray Band on Tuesday, February 7 at 8 p.m. The Memphis Horns and John Hiatt and the Goners are also scheduled to perform. Call 202-432-0200 to charge tickets.

"Odadaa!" a company of musicians, dancers and singers from Ghana, West Africa will perform at the Theater Lab at the Kennedy Center on Friday and Saturday, February 24 and 25. Call 202-254-3600 for further

The Jubilation! Dance Company of New York will perform at the Publick Playhouse on Friday and Saturday, February 10 and 11 at 8 p.m. The dance company will perform with African dance at the base of their repertoire. Call 301-277-1710 for time and ticket information.

The Mitchell Rose and Diane **Epstein** Dance, Comedy and Theatre Company will perform at the Baltimore Museum of Art auditorium on Saturday and Sunday, February 11 and 12. Tickets are \$12 for the general public and \$8 for students. Call 301-547-2486 for further information.



Cable's The Discovery Channel will air a biographical look at Booker T. Washington on Friday, February 3 from 9:30 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday, February 12 at midnight.

THE AFRO-AMERICAN

Friday Plus, February 3, 1989

RICHARD SMALLWOOD AT KENNEDY CENTER

You haven't heard gospel of nine musicians and singers. music like you're going to hear The son of a Baptist preacher, the stages of the Kennedy Center he co-founded the school's this Sunday, February 5.

and singer, Richard Smallwood several years lecturing at the has been the guiding force University of Maryland. behind the Richard Smallwood Smallwood's expertise rests Singers, a popular gospel troupe his seamless integration of per-

when Richard Smallwood and the Smallwood graduated cum laude leader among the new genera- of Washington, D.C. for Precision Richard Smallwood Singers grace from Howard University (where tion gospel singer/musicians and Excellence in Artistic own group, Richard Smallwood Gospel Choir) with a degree in fluences with the fervor and The following year he record- with a variety of gospel and jazz A renowned composer, pianist piano and voice. He spent

who are combining European in- Discipline. spontaneity of gospel.

stitution in 1982 as a gospel in- ing the nationally televised D.C.

cussive gospel-style piano with novator and songwriter and "Command Performance" for the legato classical style. He is a received the Mayoral Art Award President and Mrs. Reagan.

ed "The Richard Smallwood Smallwood was the first gospel Singers" album, the James (in Hawkins's "Gospel at the performer to appear at the Mon- Cleveland Award for Gospel Symphony"), Tremaine Hawkins, treux Jazz Festival in Switzerland Music Excellence, as well as a Larnell Harris and Donald Byrd. in 1973. In 1977, he represented prize for Best Song for "I Love The the United States at the Paris Lord." The crowning glory of 1983 are still active at their home-base Falls Festival in France. He was was Smallwood's piano accom- church, the Randall Memorial honored by the Smithsonian In- paniment of Leontyne Price dur- Baptist Church, in Washington,

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artists, including Edwin Hawkins

Mr. Smallwood and his group

at the Sphinx Club on Sunday February 5 beginning at 3 p.m. Call 301-728-9443 for more

The **Nubian Dance Theatre** Company will perform tradi-Cloisters Children's Museum, Sunday, February 5 at 2 p.m. Call 301-823-2551.

Richard Rowe, host of a local radio show, will talk on "The Strength of the Black Family" on Sunday, February 5 at 2 p.m. at the Enoch Pratt Library. Admission is free. Call 301-358-1400.

The musical "St. Louis Women" will be performed at Northwestern Senior High School, 6900 Park Heights Ave. on February 3 & 4. The show is sponsored by the Department of Recreation and Parks. Call 301-396-2934 for more details.

Award winning poet Nikki Giovanni, will present a lecture on Monday, February 6 at Goucher College. The lecture is free. Call 301-337-6116 for more

The play "Steps in Time: Scenes

(Continued from Page 2) popular demand beginning Tues-

"Eye on the Prize," a movie that chronicles the civil rights movement will be shown at the Enoch Pratt Library, the Walbrook Branch, 3202 W. North Ave. on Wednesday, February 8 at 6:30 tional African dances at the p.m. Call 301-396-5494 for more

10440 Falls Rd., Brooklandville on Margaret Walker, an acclaimed writer and poet, will speak about her new work "Richard Wright: Daemonic Genius" on Thursday, February 9 at noon. Cost is ner person (includes autographing session) and will be held at Stouffer's Harborplace Hotel. Event is sponsored by Enoch Pratt Library, Central. day, February 7. The performance will be held at Baltimore

City Life Museum, 800 E. Lombard St. Call 301-396-3523 or 3279 for . . .

Paula Giddings, author of "In Search of Sisterhood: Delta Sigma Theta and the Challenge of the Black Sorority Movement," and book-signing session on Wednesday, February 8 at 7 p.m. in the Marion and Gustave Ring Auditorium, Hirshhorn Museum. Call 202-357-3030 for more

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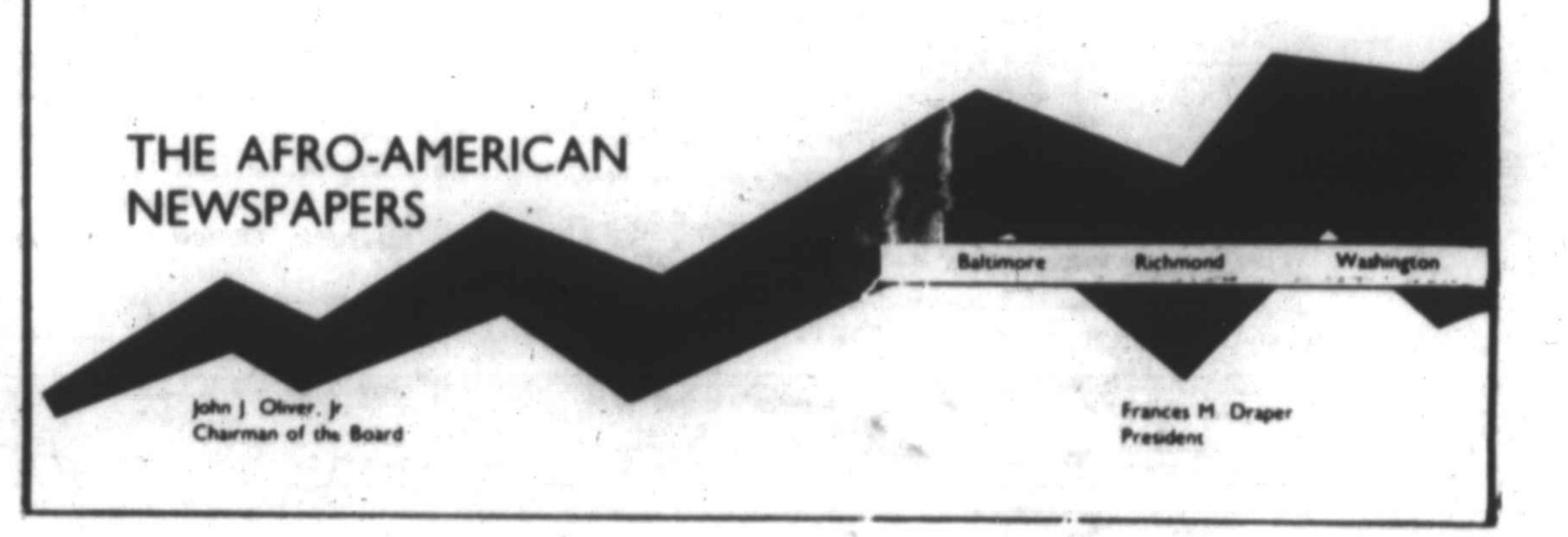
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