## SOUNDS

By Carl Matthews

DONNA SUMMER (Atlantic)

The lady who brought us such "disco" classics as "Hot Stuff" and "Dim All The Lights" in the late 70's returns with her follow-up her 1987 "All Systems Go" LP. The 41-year-old singer from

Boston first hit the charts in 1975 with her gold single "Love To Love You Baby." In 1979, she released the disco classic "Bad Girls" album which went triple platinum. It featured the number one singles "Hot Stuff" and "Bad" Girls" ("Toot toot, beep beep" and all that stuff).

Donna's duet with Barbra Streisand, "No More Tears (Enough Is Enough)," became the first 12-inch U.S. single to be certified platinum.

In 1980, Donna switched from Casablanca to Warner Brothers

Records and hit the charts with "The Wanderer," "Love Is In Control (Finger On The Trigger)" and other singles. Her 13th album, "All Systems Go," featuring the single "Dinner With Gershwin," came out in 1987.

On her new album, which was recorded in London at the PWL studios, Donna teams up with the hot British production team of Stock, Aitken and Waterman, who already have an impressive Too bad their "hit-factory" ap- what she can do. proach to the production and armodeled after Motown Records during their prolific 60's period, sinks most of the album.

With songs like "I Don't Wanmances are wasted on these Change My Heart." overblown disco arrangements;

Good Morning

America!!

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Successful Living

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WORSHIP AT MIRACLE

FAITH CENTRE THIS SUNDAY

Pastors Alvin & Martha Jones

3rd & M Streets, NE

Washington, D.C. 20002

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WYCB-AM 1340 • Swiss Altima • Gospel Notes

French's Restaurant • Child Enrichment Center

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Sunday School

8:00 am

10:00 am

11:00 am



track record with such artists as her earlier work with Quincy Kylie Minogue and Rick Astley. Jones is a better example

There are some worthwhile rangements, which was probably moments on "In Another Place 685-5225. And Time" and "Breakaway," but even on these tracks she's made to sound more like Madonna.

Other cuts: "This Time I Know held on Saturday, May 27 at 11 held at the Inner Harbor on Saturna Get Hurt" and "When Love It's For Real," "The Only One," a.m. and 12:30 p.m. in the day, May 28 in the morning and Takes Over You" it's 1977 all over "Sentimental," "Whatever Your Meyerhoff Symphony Hall. The the 14th annual Constellation again. Donna's expressive and Heart Desires," "If It Makes You program features a full-length Classic 10K will also be held. Call often captivating vocal perfor- Feel Good," "Love's About To musical story, "Noah's Ark" by 882-5455 or 560-1337.

This Week

BALTIMORE

The Baltimore Council on Weiner. Call 783-8000. Adolescent Pregnancy, Parenting and Pregnancy Prevention is The Children's Theatre Ashosting an "Evening of Impro- sociation will perform "Three visational Drama" featuring The Canterbury Tales" on Saturday Family Circle Theatre on Satur- and Sunday, May 27 and 28 at the day, May 27 at 7 p.m. at the Bal- Walters Art Gallery: Call timore Museum of Art. Tickets 225-0052. are \$20. and includes a reception. Call 752-2922.

Center is featuring "Dinosaurs in competition will be held on III: The Beasts are Back" featur- Sunday, May 28 at the Holiday ing animated life-like creatures Inn Downtown. Doors open at beginning Saturday, May 27 and 5:30 p.m. Admission is \$10 in adrunning until August 27. Call vance and \$12 at the door. Call

The Baltimore Symphony Orchestra's Tiny Tots concert will be

Baltimore born composer Stanley

The Amateur Night Talent Search featuring the best The Maryland Science amateurs and semi-professionals Sheila at 467-6619 for more

A one-mile Fun Run will be

# Coming Soon

Eva Anderson's Baltimore Dance Theatre will present its Spring concert Series on June 10 and 11 at the Baltimore Museum of Art. Call 997-3899 or 997-1010 If for more information.

hosting workshops and lectures, further details. films of Black women, folk-

braiding at Sojourner-Douglass College on June 24. Call 467-3970 for more information.

The Baltimore Symphon Orchestra is hosting its Seventh Anniversary Gala on Saturday, Black Women Gathering is September 9. Call 783-8000 for

dancing, fashion shows and hair- Actress June Thorne, current-

### SHOWCASE OF NATIONS ETHNIC FESTIVAL '89

Lithuanian Festival June 3 and 4 Festival Hall, Pratt and Sharp

Greek Folk Festival, June 9-11, St. Nicholas Church, 520 S. Ponca Street. Polish Festival, June 16-18, President Street

Caribbean/West Indies Festival, July 7-9, Festival Hall, Pratt and Sharp Streets. Italian Festival, July 28-30, Middle Branch Park, Waterview

Ave. and Hanover Street. Afro-American Festival (AFRAM), August 4-6 Festival Hall, Pratt and Sharp Streets.

Hispanic Festival, August 12 and 13, Hopkins Plaza, Hopkins Place and Baltimore Street.

Ukrainian Festival, August 12 and 13, Festival Hall, Pratt and Sharp Streets.

German Festival, August 18-20, Carroll Park, Washington Blvd. and Monroe Street. India Day, August 19, Festival Hall, Pratt and Sharp Streets.

American Indian Festival, August 25-27, Festival Hall, Pratt and Sharp Streets. Jewish-American Festival, September 3 and 4, Druid Hill

Irish Festival, September 8-10, Festival Hall, Pratt and Sharp

Streets. Korean Festival, September 16, Hopkins Plaza, Hopkins Place and Baltimore Street. For more information call 752-8632.

ly seen in the Cybil Shepherd and Ryan O'Neal flick "Chances Are," is performing her one woman show at the Arena Playhouse on Satur; day, June 3 at 7:30 p.m. Call 728-6500 for more details.

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| TV Talk        |    |

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Chairman of the Board/Publisher Frances M. Draper, President Benjamin M. Phillips I Secretary/Treasurer Charles K. Taylor Thomas K. Goines Director of Marketing **Bonnie Matthews Butler** Contributing Writers Carl Matthews **Bob Matthews** Cynthia Nevels Darryl E. Owens **Deborah Quinerly** Olive Vassell Robyn-Denise Yourse Denise Dorsey-Production Coordinator 628 N. Eutaw St. Baltimore, Maryland 21201 (301) 728-8200

2002 11th Street, N.W.

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Friday Plus, May 26, 1989

Mickey Fields

Don't forget, beginning in the June 2 edition of Friday Plus, our Nightlife "pat on the back" issue At The Belvedere, Belvedere

Cummings, who can be heard or the 13th floor of the Belvedere Hotel, has performed and arranged "The Music and Songs Victor Frenkil." Mr. Frenkil. owner of the stately hotel on ten over 150 songs and has decided to record ten of his favorites to your initials and then asking utilizing the talents of Bill and that you send \$1 to his favorite they are now available on LP and charity. cassette for \$10 plus postage and



ROBERTA FLACK: MORE THAN 'jUST A SINGER'

Jenelle Fisher

perform should contact "Meet Me Hotel - Suite 1116, One East Popular musician/Singer Bill Chase St., Baltimore, Md. 21202.

> delivery and musical talents. Mr. Frenkil has been known t invite young professionals to Sunday brunch at his home as well as for folding dollars bills in-

This combination of classy men can only produce a winner.

the house, but, as Roberta job, to support herself. that you could hear at the Baptist Church down the street."

So she would often sneak there to hear the likes of Sam Cooke (with the Soul Stirrers) and Mahalia Jackson.

Moving into her teens, Roberta's listening choices gravitated towards classical, and her playing developed to a high degree; she eventually won second place honors for playing a Scarlatti sonata in a statewide contest for black students—at age 13.

Meanwhile, she was so scholastically exceptional that she was skipping grades with sing and play blues and folk regularity, and at one point had songs and pop standards on an 15, she was enrolled at Howard University on a full music scholarship.

By the time she graduated age 19, she'd already directed a production of "Aida" Washington. Roberta then began

Congratulations to Big

\* \* \*

and uncle) shared a two bedroom her graduate studies in music, basement apartment. The local but the unexpected death of her AME Zion Church afforded father forced her to leave school, everyone a chance to get out of to leave home, to take a teaching

recalls, the music "didn't have The change was extreme, as she was hired for \$2,800 a year spontaneous, full-of-life thing to teach English in a "very segregated, every backward' North Carolina town, Farmville. The frustration of teaching basic grammar to 12th graders—some of whom were older than shewas nearly outweighed by the little triumphs of exposing music to the school's 1,300 students.

> It was during this period, from 1962-68, that Roberta's professional music career really began to take shape. At D.C.'s posh Tivoli Club, she served as accompanist to the opera singers who strolled through the room during intermissions, Roberta would One thing led to another, and by 1967 she was doing her own gig five nights a week at the 1520

It was around this time that her voice teacher, Frederick Wilkerson, startled Roberta by telling her that he saw a brighter future

(Continued on Page 5)

# THE NIGHT LIFE

By Bonnie Matthews Butler **Entertainment Editor** 

So versatile are her talents, so

wide-ranging her interests, that

it is really no exaggeration to say

that Roberta Flack could suc-

cessfully pursue any of a host of

Fortunately for the music

listening public, she chose to

focus her energies first and

foremost on her remarkable

voice. But her musical abilities go

much deeper than "merely sing-

ing," as she is a skilled producer,

arranger, songwriter, keyboard-

ist, as well as being involved in

all facets of the business of

Yet, she manages to also be in-

fluentially involved in a number

of other projects — education,

ties and much more.

culture heroine.

community/public service, chari-

Robert Flack, who will perform

with the national Symphony Or-

chestra at the Kennedy Center on

May 25 and 26 at 8:30 p.m., is

clearly a renaissance woman of

our age. Not only as a musical

superstar, but as an international

When Roberta Flack was four

years old, her family moved from

Black Mountain, N.C. to Ar-

lington, Va., where they (Rober-

ta, her parents, two sisters and

a brother, grandmother, aunt

career options for her life.

One of the fun parts of this job is meeting and greeting the people who serve you when you're out at a nightclub or neighbor-

Imagine this: the long bar is crowded and everyone is clamoring to be served. The bartender/barmaid must take orders, pour drinks and respond to someone trying to engage them in conversation.

Sometimes this can be nerve wracking.

In Baltimore and Washington there are bartenders/barmaids who deserve a pat on the back and Friday Plus wants to tell them so.

Beginning in next weeks' issue, the Nightlife camera will travel the circuit in both cities taking pictures of your favorites who will appear in Friday Plus for our special nightlife "pat on the

If there is someone you think deserve a special thank-you, call or write, but please, let us know who you think deserves some praise. Along with each picture, we will tell you something about our Nightlife "pat on the back" person of the week.



Roberta Flack

Those interested in hearing Bill known as the Bobby Short o

Charm City for his smoot nele Fisher on Friday and Saturalong with her band Paradise, will perform for the celebration. The club will also host "Seafood Night" on Wednesday, May 31.

> Over in D.C., Sedatrius Brown is at Faces on Georgia

Ave. in northwest; The Carlos Ave. is continuing to have live Johnson Trio and the Charlie jazz. Beginning this Saturday, Thompson Trio are performing May 27m, Mickey Fields and at Hazel's on Columbia Rd. Friends will add another night of N.W. during the week and the swinging music to the club's Fuzzy Kane Trio is performing menu. Mickey also calls the club at Native New Yorker in Colhome every Tuesday at 10 p.m. umbia, Md.

ON THE CONCERT TRAIL: It's Wooten of The New Big going to be "hot fun in the sum-Wooten's Bar and Lounge and mertime" for a lot of entertain Cut Rate on Port St. Wooten now ment is scheduled at the popula occupies the space where Cade's venues in Baltimore and County Club (at the end of North Washington this summer. Har-Ave. and make a right on Port St. borlights Music Festival kicks was.) Wooten who is proud to let off with the Judds and segues inyou know he is out of Greenville, to Kenny G. on Friday, June 9 for two shows (7 and 10 p.m.). Three N.C. plays the music and is on the mike on Sunday evenings. Lake Dog Night with Leon Russell Shake is there for a Saturday and Edgar Winter play the and Sunday morning disco venue on Saturday, June 10 at 8 p.m.; Jay Leno, Thursday, June 15 at 8 p.m.; B. B. King with Joe Louis Walker on Friday, June 16 Baker St. at McKean Ave. will for two shows (7 and 10 p.m.) celebrate the birthday of Jen- Anne Murray on Saturday, June 17 at 8 p.m.; Jazz Explosion '89 day, May 26 and 27. Jennelle, featuring Maynard Ferguson, Billy Eckstine, Jimmy Smith and Marlena Shaw on Thursday. June 22 and the Summer Solstice Evening with Windham artists on Friday, June 23 at 8 Kings Dominion in Doswell,

(Continued on Page 5)

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