REGGAE SUNSPLASH'S OVER TOO SOON

Marcia Griffiths

Dera Tompkins, well-known

being done in the clubs around

Marcia has always been a solo

Jamaica, but you will probably

dance originated is a mystery -

in the clubs.

but it's fresh!

By Paula Brooks

The American Reggae Sunsplash Tour played Merriweather Post Pavillon in Columbia over the weekend. The concert was a monster — there was only one problem — it was over too soon!

Anyone who's attended the festival in Jamaica can tell you it's an all night affair. In fact, some audience members were overheard plotting to get to Jamaica for the August 16th reggae showdown.

Sophia George, Sugar Minott, Half-Pint, Marcia Griffiths and Steel Pulse all turned in solid performances and left the huge crowd wanting more reggae.

Sophia George is a strong performer who did two other biggest hits, "Girlie, Girlie" and "Final Decision." Half-Pint turned it out with his "Greetings From Jan," a number one hit in Jamaica a couple of year's ago.

Sugar Minott was excellent. He set. Studio One dance hall style hits the record has taken off like a Around The Flag." Other and the audience leaped from rocket here in the States, almost

Marcia Griffiths sounded great, and the audience was im- released by Ras Records this Everybody," and a reggae verpatiently waiting for her smash year, and it has become a big hit sion of "My Perogative." hit "Electric Boogie." Marcia explained after the concert that she had to perform to the sound track, because the song is so old

In This Issue Cover Story....3

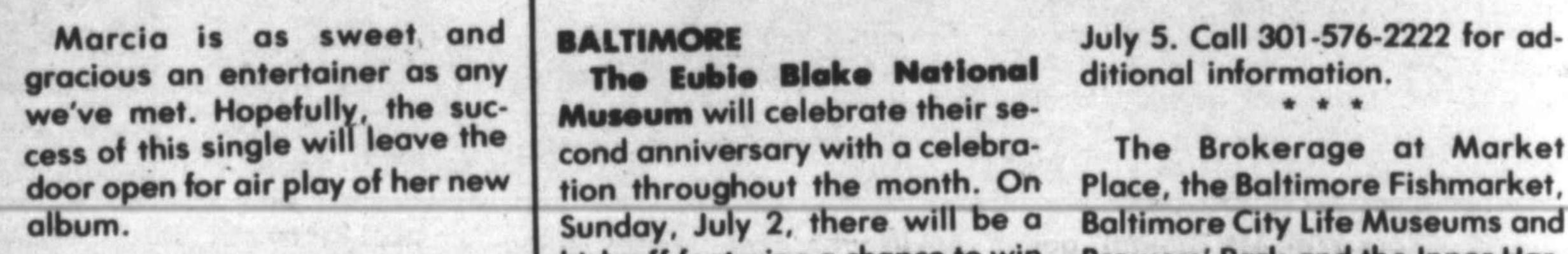
Nightlife artist with a strong following in

Personals.....6 TV Talk8 TV Listings....9

> Baltimore-Washington area. Published by the AFRO-AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS John J. Oliver, Jr.

Chairman of the Board/Publisher Frances M. Draper, President Benjamin M. Phillips IV Secretary/Treasurer Charles K. Taylor General Manager 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 Coordinate 628 N. Eutaw St. Baltimore, Maryland 2120 (301) 728-8200 2002 11th Street, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20001 (202) 332-0080

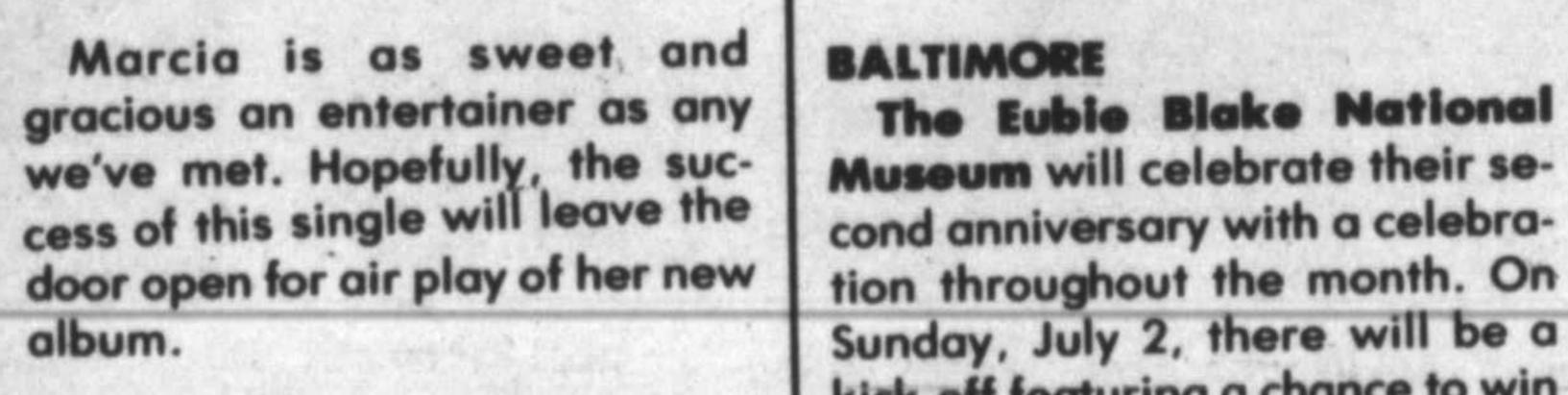


They were better than I've ever information. seen them. They were always good, but this performance was Mills and Alvin Ewing.

This included the "Ras Brass" horn section headed by Dean Frazier. They did a tribute to Mar- at the Baltimore Fishmarket's Washington, D.C. and surcus Garvey with a medley of it was not included in her current songs including: "When the Right Call 301-576-2222 for further The film series "Da Time Comes," "So Much Things details. To Say" (Bob Marley) and "Rally Marcia could not believe that favorites were "Raid Blues seven years after it was number Dance," "Roller Skates," "Sadie one in Jamaica. It was re- Was An Angel," "Jump Up

David Hinds, group leader, has always tried to educate and help better world conditions through great fun teaching Marcia the his music and lifestyle. He said Electric Boogie line dance that's "My parents were middle-class the country. How and where the decision to "dread up." She askworst looking locks in the

That was seven years ago, and his formidable "trunk" is now so long he ties it up. When asked if Three — She, Rita Marley, and his mom felt any better about his Judy Mowatt sang background hair, he laughed and said "she vocals with Bob Marley for many still hates it."



SHOWCASE OF NATIONS ETHNIC FESTIVALS 189

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

This WEEK

The Eubie Blake National Sunday, July 2, there will be a Baltimore City Life Museums and kick-off featuring a chance to win Brewers' Park and the Inner Har-Of course, everybody was a vacation for two to the bor have scheduled "Baltimore's waiting for Steel Pulse, that pro- Bahamas, live jazz and guided Old-Fashioned Independence lific English group with a strong museum tours at 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. Day Celebration" on Tuesday, Juof solid songs under their belt. | Call 301-396-1300 for more ly 4 and featuring everything

The National Orchestra Inextra - special. The musicians stitute Philharmonic comprised seemed to have a wonderful rap- of undergraduate through postport with each other. The Libera- graduate musicians will perform tion Posse included, Selwyn on Saturday, July 1 at 8 p.m. in magic tricks, play games and Brown, Steve Nesbitt, Sydney | the Meyerhoff Symphony Hall. Call 301-486-0770 for additional

* * *

Stanley Turrentine performs 301-837-4636. * * *

Timothy Lee and Gospel Music Workshop of America "Island in the Sun" on July 12 in will perform "On Stage the Carmichael Auditorium of the Downtown" in Hopkins Plaza on National Museum of National Thursday, July 6 at 7:30 p.m. For HISTORY. For more details call additional information call 202-357-3030. 301-837-4636. * * *

The Baltimore Fishmarket and ophonist Grover Washington, the American Lung Association is Jr. will perform at Wolf Trap in sponsoring Non Dependence Vienna, Va. on Monday, July 3 at everyday working people. My Day, aimed at helping people 8:15 p.m. and on July 5, The Four mom could not understand my quit smoking, with a "Kiss Your Tops and Frankie Valli and the Butts Goodbye" party at the Four Seasons play the venue. Call ed me why I have to have the Fishmarket from 7 to 9 p.m. on 703-255-1916 for further details.

and pop charts. from live music to fireworks. For a schedule of events and other information call 301-837-4636.

Ronald McDonald, the hamgive out prizes on Thursday, July 6 at the Karry Kaufman Pavilion in the Inner Harbor at 12:15 p.m. For additional information call

* * *

July 5. Call 301-576-2222 for ad-

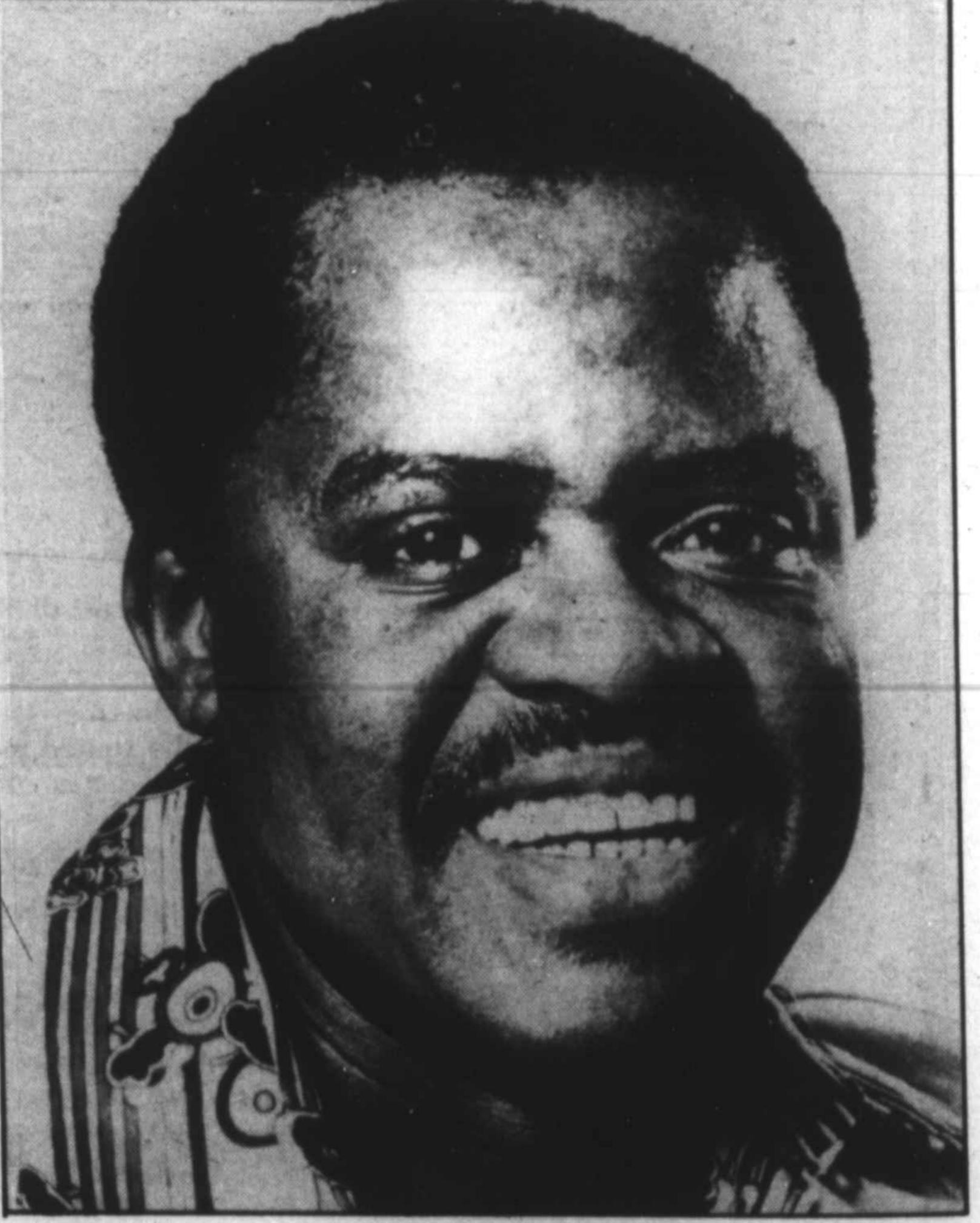
* * *

The Brokerage at Market

ditional information.

The film series "Dorothy Dandridge: Dream Goddess of the 1950's" will show her films

Guitarist B. B. King and sax-



Stanley Turrentine

FREddie Jackson COVERS THE AREA

Singer/Songwriter Freddie cessor even as he pursued Jackson has achieved success music. with his 1985 debut album, "Rock With Me Tonight" going platinum and spinning off the hit singles, "Rock With Me one of her background Tonight" and "You Are My singers, but also penned her Lady," to the top of the R&B

Freddie Jackson was literally born into a singing family. His mother actually went into labor while singing in a con- for Howard Johnson (the "Jam

In 1982, Freddie met Melba Moore and not only became hit "Keeping My Lover Satisfied."

Later he toured with Lillo Thomas. He also has written cert and later gave birth to Song") and most recently

Freddie Jackson (Left) greets Patti LaBelle and Lou Rawls at the United Negro College Fund telethon held annually and named for Rawls.

him. A native New Yorker, Freddie followed in the footsteps of two generations of relatives and sang in the church choir.

During his teenage years, he matured as a soloist at Harlem's famous White Rock Baptist church, this is the church where Nick Ashford met Valerie Simpson many

years ago. Laurence and became a member of Paul's Laurence gospel collaboration, Paul and Freddie wrote several tunes, including "Trust Me" for Capitol Records artist Lillo

From singing gospel on Sundays, Freddie branched out in to other forms of music. After winning several talent shows, Freddie began to nurse fledgling career on the It was there he met Paul

cabaret circuit. He covered material made popular by those who influenced his vocal style — Shirley Caesar, Aretha Franklin, Gladys Knight, Luther Vandross, the Spinners

For several years, he held a full time job as a word pro- way.

wrote "Winners" for Melba's current album.

Melba also persuaded her management company, Hush in turn he was signed to Capital Records.

Freddie has other interests he wants to pursue. He would like to try his hand at acting. "I visited the set of the Bill Cosby Show, and that was exciting. I like laughter and I like to make people laugh. I'd like to try comedy." Maybe he can work on it while relaxing at his private getaway, a 17-acre estate in the Poconos on the outskirts of Pennsylvania

With the release of "Don't Let Love Slip Away," Freddie began a concert tour, starting with a Budweiser Music Festival in the United States, tollowed by a tour of Europe, including London, Holland, Paris, and Germany and now in this area.

As Freddie puts it, "I've been away for a little while. Meanwhile my fans may have argued, fussed and fought with their lovers. But I'm coming back . . . so "Don't Let Love Slip Away," because I'm on my

Jody Watley likes to keep things 'fresh'

It should be no surprise that there isn't even one ballad on exposure that got the two Jody Watley's MCA solo debut. recruited for the pop/soul trio, As a founder member of Shalamar. Though the unit Shalamar, one of pop's most suc- spawned many fine lead cessful trios, Watley often made singers—including Howard which served as prototype for the it her business to side-step Hewett — it was Jody and Jef- American "We Are The World" popular trends. The results were frey's distinctive vocal and visual usually musically and visually in- style that provided the group's downright shocking, but always exuding the ground-breaking spunk that made the unit an international sensation.

On her self-titled solo debut Jody follows those same creative instincts and came up with a first offering that provides welcome relief from the trendy Top 40 Jody creatively exiled herself for writing songs with Andre blahs and in the process two years to London and Paris, Cymone for a demo tape. To her showcases her formidable, everbudding talent. Jody co-wrote six of the LP's nine songs and called upon some influential friends for assistance: producers Andre Cymone (The Minneapolis Sound architect), Bernard Edwards (Chic, Diana Ross, Duran Duran), Pat Leonard (Madonna) and even George Michael (of Wham!), who trades leads with Jody during Edwards' gang-busting production of "Learn To Say No."

Says Jody, "I'm proud of what we came up with. I wanted to make a record that reflected me and didn't do things just 'because.' There are no ballads on the album because I love to dance, and the uptempo things kept out-weighing the importance of the obligatory ballad. I wanted my first album to be as fresh as possible."

Jody's desire for the new and Productions, to sign him, and mildly off-the-wall is not surprising when you consider her uniquely varied introductions to show business. She was born in Chicago to a singing/pianoplaying mother and a travelling evangelist father whose radio shows made him popular among a show biz crowd that included giants like Sam Cooke, Johnny Taylor, Joe Tex and Jackie Wilson, who was also Jody's

> It was during one of Wilson's performances that, at age 8, Jody made her illustrious stage debut. "I was standing in the wings with my parents watching the show, and he just came and pulled me out there and we danced

By age 15, Jody's family had settled in Los Angeles, where she plugged into the local music scene. Ultimately, she and dance partner Jeffrey Daniel made it onto Don Cornelius' "Soul Train" TV dance show, and through their innovative dance routines and trend-setting dress (often Jody's designs), the twosome became national celebs.

It was the show's tremendous distinctive vocal and visual style that provided the group's identity throughout their biggest hits, Bank," "A Night To Remember" and "Dead Giveaway."

When that edition of Shalamar ended in 1984 ("It was like a marriage that ended in divorce"), where she modeled for top surprise, major labels leaped at magazines and newspapers. the prospect of working with her. While there, she recorded with the Art of Noise, and "Sixteen," "I was glad to know people were a duet with teen group Musical still interested in working with Youth, bulleted into London's Top me," she says. "I know I had

However, Jody's real oppor-

tunity to break new ground came when she was enlisted, along with other British superstars, to participate in the "Do They Know It's Christmas" single and video, session and a deluge of pop the time, we just all got togéther to do what we felt should be done. I don't think anyone had including "Take That To The the idea it would all turn into something so big."

> After some soul searching, Jody returned to the States ready to make music. Once in L.A., she hired a manager and started So did many of her musical peers. plenty left in me; it was good to know they felt the same way."

Good Morning America!! Wake Up and Join

Successful Living

7:30 A.M. MON-FRI CHANNEL 50 WFTY-TV 9:30 A.M. MON-FRI CHANNEL 66 WTKK-TV



WORSHIP AT MIRACLE FAITH CENTRE THIS SUNDAY

8:00 am Worship 10:00 am Sunday School 11:00 am

Pastors Alvin & Martha Jones

3rd & M Streets, NE Washington, D.C. 20002 (202) 544-0313

WYCB-AM 1340 • Swiss Altima • Gospel Notes French's Restaurant • Child Enrichment Center Dav'El • Afro-American Newspapers Metropolitan Eye Care Center.

Sponsored by

itiony rive, during 30,