

ENTERTAINMENT

DIANA ROSS MAKES 1977 TOUR WITH NEW ALBUM RELEASE

Diana Ross launches her first major tour of 1977 when she opens a six-city schedule with a week's engagement at Chicago's Arie Crown Theatre, January 24-29.

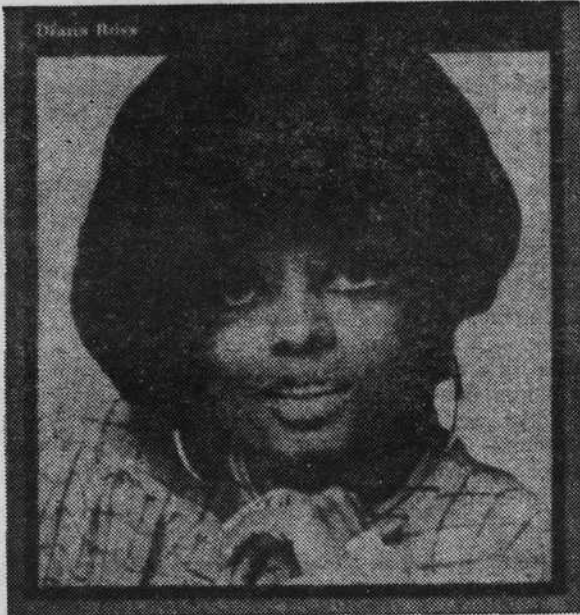
In conjunction with the tour, Motown Records has also released her new album, "An Evening With Diana Ross", a two-album package recorded live during her performances at Los Angeles' Ahmanson Theatre last year, which shattered all existing box-office marks.

Following her engagement in Chicago, Ms. Ross will be making personal appearances in Detroit, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, and Boston.

The tour de force, so penned by reviewers of her concerts last year in New York, Los Angeles, Las Vegas, and Europe, will be featured in five-day engagements in each city, carrying through to the first week in March with her final performances at the Music Hall in Boston.

Motown Records has mapped out an extensive promotional and merchandising campaign to combine the album release and the tour. There will be heavy consumer advertising on the national and local level, four-color posters advertising the album and separate concert dates, fliers, and concentrated in-store display material.

The effort will also include major time-buys, which will feature the complete Diana Ross catalogue.



SPINNERS TOP GROSS AND GOLD

Atlantic recording artists, the SPINNERS created a lot of excitement during their record breaking engagement at San Carlos' Circle Star Theatre. They were presented their eleventh gold platter for "Rubberband Man" by Atlantic V.P. Bob Greenberg during the 5-day gig, which grossed \$240,000 for eight shows and netted manager, Buddy Allen a fractured arm when he fell off stage during a rehearsal.

COMMERCE SECRETARY HONORS NATIONAL BLACK NETWORK

U.S. Secretary of Commerce Elliot Richardson awarded the National Black Network, a New York-based radio news service, a special achievement citation for its consistent, outstanding public service.

Horace S. Webb, Mr. Richardson's Director of Communications, presented the award to Eugene D. Jackson, President of the National Black Network, at a press conference January 12 at the federal Office Building, 26 Federal Plaza, New York City.

National Black Network, founded in 1973, is the first line connected black-controlled and black-oriented radio news service in America.

It features a five-minute professional prepared news show on the hour for its 80 affiliated stations with an audience of approximately 17 million black Americans. The Network's news operations, anchored

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3 minor key

by Vince Sanders, national news director, utilize the skills of 100 stringers in every major region of the United States.

The Network also has special live programs on black issues, the Black Press Weekly, and a series of commentaries by Roy Wood. Other features are a unique one hour weekly program of poetry, folklore, historical anecdotes and music, the Ozzie Davis and Ruby Dee Story Hour, and five 5-minute sports shows.

In the near future National Black Network will begin producing specials which will include a Washington Report and entertainment programming of particular interest to the black community.

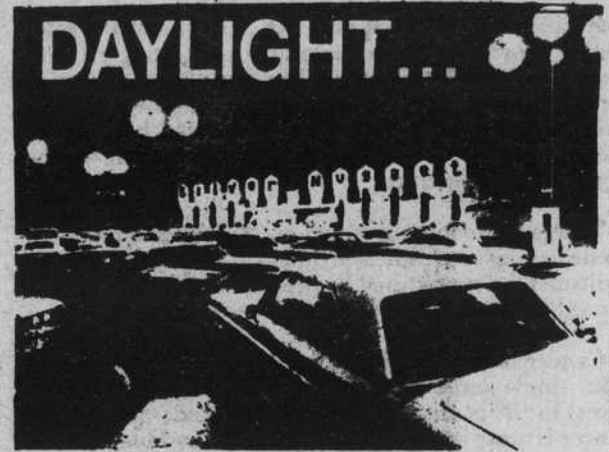
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