

Entertainment

Ayers & Henderson

Collaborating

Award-winning vibraphonist Roy Ayers hooks up with premier jazz trombonist and arranger Wayne Henderson for their second collaboration, PRIME TIME, the long-awaited follow-up to last year's highly acclaimed STEP IN TO OUR LIFE.

Ayers and Henderson bring a combined lifetime of experience to this special musical partnership and the results are a highly accessible melange of jazz, R & B, and soul that is not only cerebral but highly danceable, also.

PRIME TIME turns out to be even more than the sum

of its considerable parts, and that is saying something, knowing the multiple talents of Roy and Wayne.

Born in Los Angeles, Roy Ayers was the son of a schoolteacher mother and parking attendant turned scrap merchant father. Originally a pianist, Ayers started playing vibes as a high school senior. The instrument had been his favorite ever since his mother took him to a Lionel Hampton concert when he was just five years old. For twenty years, Ayers has played with such jazz artists as Curtis Amy, Jack Wilson



Once Again

Quartet, Leroy Vinegar, Gerald Wilson's Big Band, Phineas Newborn, Teddy Edwards, Hampton Hawes, Chico Hamilton, Wayne Henderson and Herbie Mann, with whom he stayed until he signed with Polydor Records in 1970.

With Herbie Mann, Roy became an instant sensation in the jazz world. After three albums produced by Mann, Ayers found his own outfit, Ubiquity, and began recording for Polydor, with whom he recently celebrated a ten year anniversary. Ayers records two albums a year for Polydor and each record

is distinct from its predecessor. After two decades in the music business and 38 albums to his credit, Roy Ayers is not afraid to change.

"I really feel proud of everything I've ever done," states Roy modestly. "I am becoming more aware of who I am and where I'm going. Each album has given me another image. In finding yourself, you must be introspective, even if you make mistakes in the process. I call it searching. I realized after the LET'S DO IT album, that I was going to change my image because I want [See Ayers, page 22]

Wayne Henderson & Roy Ayers

Music ★★☆☆☆☆☆☆ Under The Stars with Betty Brown

LORETTA HOLLOWAY, the super talent now holding forth at the LANDMARK, is still lacing the stage of the Galaxy Room with her many eye and ear catching moods. She's a refreshing talent that one should not miss.

AT THE SILVERBIRD, the CHECKMATES, LTD are appearing with a new show. The format blends a medley of the Motown '60s and '80s style. Arranger for the show is singer SONNY CHARLES and SWEET LOUIE, the comic rascal of the team, is both musician and composer.

DENISE CLEMENTE, talented and vibrant singer who became a big Vegas star when appearing in the Stardust Hotel's "Classy Sassy" revue a couple years ago, is a sure bet now at the MINT HOTEL in the lounge lineup with EDWARDS and WILDE.

FAMILY AFFAIR and SOUL CONNECTION, now at the NEWTOWN TAVERN, has made a solid musical connection at this popular show spot, to have their contract extended for another show-stopping week.

HURT 'EM BAD DISCO is still one of the hardest working disco producing groups in town. Not only are they constantly in demand for their shows at the big hotels, they also give a reasonable amount of time each week, producing benefit affairs for many civil groups.

"IPI TOMBI," that had a very successful long, award-winning run at the SILVERBIRD HOTEL AND CASINO on the Strip, is not on tour in Los Angeles. It opened recently at the Huntington Hotel Theatre and faced a picket line outside the theatre before the performance, protesting it as a racist show. The picketers, however, had gone home before intermission. Here's hoping "Ipi Tombi" returns to Las Vegas soon.

COLONY CLUB is setting the Westside on fire now with CLYDE, DEM and HER...a complete talented musical combo that has the sound of the big band...they're super-great. [See Betty, page 21]

Soul Music Crossover Happening

Just about a year ago, people began speculating on just how long disco would last and, if it were just a passing fad, what would replace it? Did this new form of music have a future? The answer is becoming more prevalent every day. Look over your shoulder. The word is CROSSOVER.

Give a listen and you'll find that so-called rock stations are playing much more black music than they used to. Could it be that the reasons they gave just a few short years ago for avoiding black music are no longer valid, since they are now losing some audience? Looking back over the national radio scene during the past year, it becomes easy to see that some vast changes have come about.

Disco is now practically dead, and rock is dying. Oh, not entirely, perhaps, and not every form of rock, with good reason.

[See Black, page 21]

THE BESTS - In Las Vegas, a "natural" goes a long way. It all goes with the Strip, as well as the downtown scene. It's a gift or a stroke of luck that goes a long way. Right now, there's another kind of "natural" making big noise at the Silverbird. Everyone's talking about the stylist song and dance team of Donna and Andrew Best. They have a flair and style that's hard to match. They're unique, different, with a harmonious flow of exceptional talent that marks nothing but success for the "BESTS." They're going places...they're a "natural."

