

## A SOLDIER'S STORY'S ART EVANS AMONG STARS OF COLUMBIA PICTURES' "SCHOOL DAZE"

Filmmaker Spike Lee follows his celebrated "She's Gotta Have It" with a contemporary comedy with music that explores black college life. "School Daze" takes place during one unforgettable homecoming weekend at fictional Mission College in the South. The film is about romance, relationships, rituals, rivalries and global concerns.

Amidst the turmoil, the campus is polarized about apartheid in South Africa and whether the college should divest itself totally. Art Evans portrays Cedar Cloud, chairman of the College Board of

Trustees — eager to silence student and voice of conscience Vaughn "Dap" Dunlap (Larry Fishburne) and the controversial campus unrest which could possibly tarnish the upstanding image of Mission College.

Busy actor Art Evans soon completes work on his second season as Morgan, co-starring in the syndicated TV comedy series "9 to 5." Art has made numerous guest appearances on TV. He'll then be traveling to the island of Jamaica for 7 weeks of filming... starring in Lorimar's new film production "Waiting for Maubee."

also starring Denzel Washington, Robert Townsend & Zaies Mokai.

His many film credits include "Ruthless People," "Jo Jo Dancer, Your Life is Calling," "Fright Night," "Native Son," "Jon Landis' "Into the Night," and John Carpenter's "Christine." Perhaps his most memorable role, however, was that of Pvt. Wilkie in "A Soldier's Story."

Art also stars with David Keith and Kathy Moriarty in the feature film "White Of Te Eye," an upcoming Cinema International release.



Mission College President McPherson (Joe Seneca, r.) is under pressure from Trustee Cedar Cloud (Art Evans, l.) to silence campus protests in Columbia Pictures' presentation of a Forty Acres And A Mule Filmworks Production, "SCHOOL DAZE." Also starring Larry Fishburne, Giancarlo Esposito, Tisha Campbell and Kyme, the film was produced, written and directed by Spike Lee. (Photo by David Lee)

## "LEGENDS IN CONCERT" PERFORMS FOR ROA "7 CARD POKER RUN" BENEFIT

The cast from the Imperial Palace Hotel & Casino's award-winning show "Legends in Concert" recently performed a benefit concert at the new "Legends" ranch in conjunction with the Receptive Operators Association's 7-Card Poker Run car rally.

Following the car rally, participants were entertained by the cast of "Legends" during a barbecue at the ranch. All proceeds benefited the ROA, which is a non-profit organization that promotes tourism in Las Vegas.

The "Legends in Concert" cast included Tony Roi as Elvis Presley, Laura Peters as Marilyn Monroe, Art Vargas as Bobby Darin, Tim Searcey as Sam Cooke, Willie Collins as Liberace and Bill White as Louis Armstrong.

"Legends in Concert" is performed nightly (except Sundays) at 8 p.m. and 11 p.m. in the Imperial Theatre Showroom. The show price is \$11.95 (plus tax) and includes two cocktails. There is a \$2 surcharge on Saturdays. For reservations, call 794-3261.

## Introducing . . .

## Jay Jay Jones, Publisher of *The National Black Talent Directory*

by Patricia D. Barnes

You would think that it was opportunity that brought Jay Jay Jones from Detroit to Los Angeles fourteen years ago. "But," says Jay Jay, publisher of Hollywood's first *National Black Talent Directory*, "it was the weather. I could no longer stand the winters there." But in a town that breeds dreamers, Jay Jay's creative instincts were brought into full focus and within a month after his arrival, he was modeling for many of L.A.'s top hotels. He

also modeled extensively for magazine publications and billboards as well as televised fashion features and commercials.

Not so bad for a kid whose closest affiliation with show business included acting in school plays and participating in local syndicated commercials in his hometown of Detroit. But, not quite enough, according to the enterprising young man who felt the need to grow.

Acting was a natural extension of that growth. With



Jay Jay

a bit more hard work and determination, Jay Jay was soon featured in major commercials such as MacDonald's, Burger King and Sprite. He later appeared in motion picture and television films, including "Concepts in Elegance," a televised fashion extravaganza that featured the flamboyant model, "The Optimist," and "Hill Street Blues."

It should surprise no one that The Shooting Gallery Photo Studio, owned by Jay Jay and located at 6223 Sunset Boulevard, Hollywood, CA., was an outgrowth of his acting profession. "I couldn't find anyone to give me the right image, the look I wanted. Other friends (actors) of mine had the same complaint. So we got ourselves a camera and experimented taking shots of each other."

But Jay Jay says his biggest challenge has been the Talent Directory. The first edition of *The National Black Talent Directory* will be pub-

lished in June 1988. It includes headshots, agent/manager referrals and union affiliations for Black performers — actors, actresses, comedians, vocalists, athletes, models, etc. — as well as technical and creative professionals behind-the-scenes — directors, producers, writers, make-up artists, composers, engineers, etc. *The Directory* will be distributed free of charge to all the major studios, independent producers, casting and advertising agencies, across the country. Asked how the idea of *The Directory* was conceived and just what he hoped to accomplish, Jay Jay explained, "It came naturally after so many (industry-related) people would come into my photo studio asking where they could find a Black producer, director, etc. It made me realize that a publication of this type was needed to provide decision-makers in the entertainment business full-accessibility to the tremendous pool of Black talent that is available."



POKER RUN WINNERS CONGRATULATED BY "LEGENDS IN CONCERT" CAST — The winners of the Receptive Operators Association's 7 Card Poker Run are congratulated by the cast members from the Imperial Palace's "Legends in Concert." From left to right: Bill White as Louis Arm-

strong, Willie Collins as Liberace, car rally winners Art Eastman and Jackiann Smith, Tony Roi as Elvis Presley, Art Vargas as Bobby Darin, Laura Peters as Marilyn Monroe and Tim Searcey as Sam Cook. The winners drew four 7s on their first four stops and won \$1,000.