# CELEBRITY LOOKOUT

By JASON:

Dionne Warwick

**Q — I am so thrilled to learn that Dave Clark is going to be inducted into America's Music and Entertainment Hall of Fame. Would you please share with the readers and myself some of the great achievements of Mr. Clark?**

M. WALLER
Orlando, Fla.

A — Well, first of all Dave Clark happens to be the nation's first black record promoter. Clark has been in the music industry for over 43 years and has worked in every aspect of the business, from record presser to recording engineer.

Clark has produced and promoted famous gospel groups such as The Dixie Hummingbirds, The Mighty Clouds of Joy, The Rance Allen Group, The Nightingales and The Jackson Southernairs.

During his career he has also written lyrics for Aretha Franklin, B. B. King, Sam Cooke, Bobby Bland, King Floyd and many others.

Born in Jackson, Tenn., Clark is a graduate of Lane College with special work at Juilliard School of the Musical Arts.

He is a member of the Black Music Association board of directors. Also he has been honored with over 40 awards, including the "Number One Promotion Man in the United States" for 1963, 1965-67 and 1972.

I agree, it's graat that he's being inducted into America's Music and Entertainment Hall of Fame.

**Q — Is it true that after vowing never to return, Muddy Waters is back in Mississippi? Also I would like to know a little of his past, for example, where did he get that name?**

QIANA CARR
Mobile Ala.

A — Yes, the renowned blues singer Muddy (Mississippi) Waters made his first appearance in 38 years at the Delta Blues Festival in September 1981.

At the festival Waters performed some of his most popular songs including, "Hoochie Coochie Man," "She's Nineteen Years Old" and "Hard Headed Woman."

Born McKinley Morganfield in Rolling Fork, Miss., Muddy Waters has been known to have an interest in music since age three.

It's been said his grandmother called him her "muddy baby." As he grew up the kids added Waters, making the name Muddy Waters.

Some years ago, "Mississippi" was inserted, that's the reason we now know him as Muddy (Mississippi) Waters.

**A — Whatever happened to the Johnny Mathis album that Chic was producing? Did the deal fall through?**

B. WATSON
Washington, D.C.

A — Not only did the deal go through, but the LP is finished and ready for release. It may even be on sale by the time you read this.

Apparently, Columbia, Mathis' record company, withheld release of the album produced by Chic's Bernard Edwards and Nile Rogers until after the release of Mathis' silver anniversary album, "The First 25 Years."

Incidentally, The Chic team will produce another Diana Ross LP — they turned her "Upside Down" on the way to the top of the charts last year.

Chic

As to a new Chic album? Only Chic and the shadow know when.

**— I saw a reggae movie called "The Harder They Come" recently and it was one of the best movies I've ever seen. When was it released and where are its stars now?**

K. GOUNARIS
Baltimore, Md.

A — "The Harder They Come," which was filmed on location in Kingston, Jamaica was first released in this country in 1972.

As a first-run film, it made few waves, then was drowned in the early to mid '70s. It was a sleeper however, and gathered a cult following in New York, Boston, Los Angeles and Washington. Remember, it preceded Marley and the widespread popularity of reggae.

Jimmy Cliff, star of the film, wrote and produced the title song as well as most of the soundtrack. He still records and performs at concerts, primarily on the West Coast. Cliff, who first took Marley to that history-making meeting with Island records, is more popular in England than in this country.

We are unable to determine the whereabouts of Janet Bartley, who played Cliff's woman in the film.

The Maytals, who sang Sweet and Dandy in a recording studio in the film are, of course, still around as "Toots and the Maytals."

**— Why did Dionne Warwick get fired from "Solid Gold?" Is it true that she was hard to get along with?**

J. REEVES
Orlando, Fla.

A — According to the show producers, Warwick's contract to host the syndicated TV show was not renewed because they wanted a host that would appeal to a younger audience.

Both Bob Banner, producer of "Solid Gold" and John Goldhammer, senior vice-president of Paramount Television deny having ever said that Warwick was "difficult."

British rock singer Andy Gibb has been signed to replace her as host.

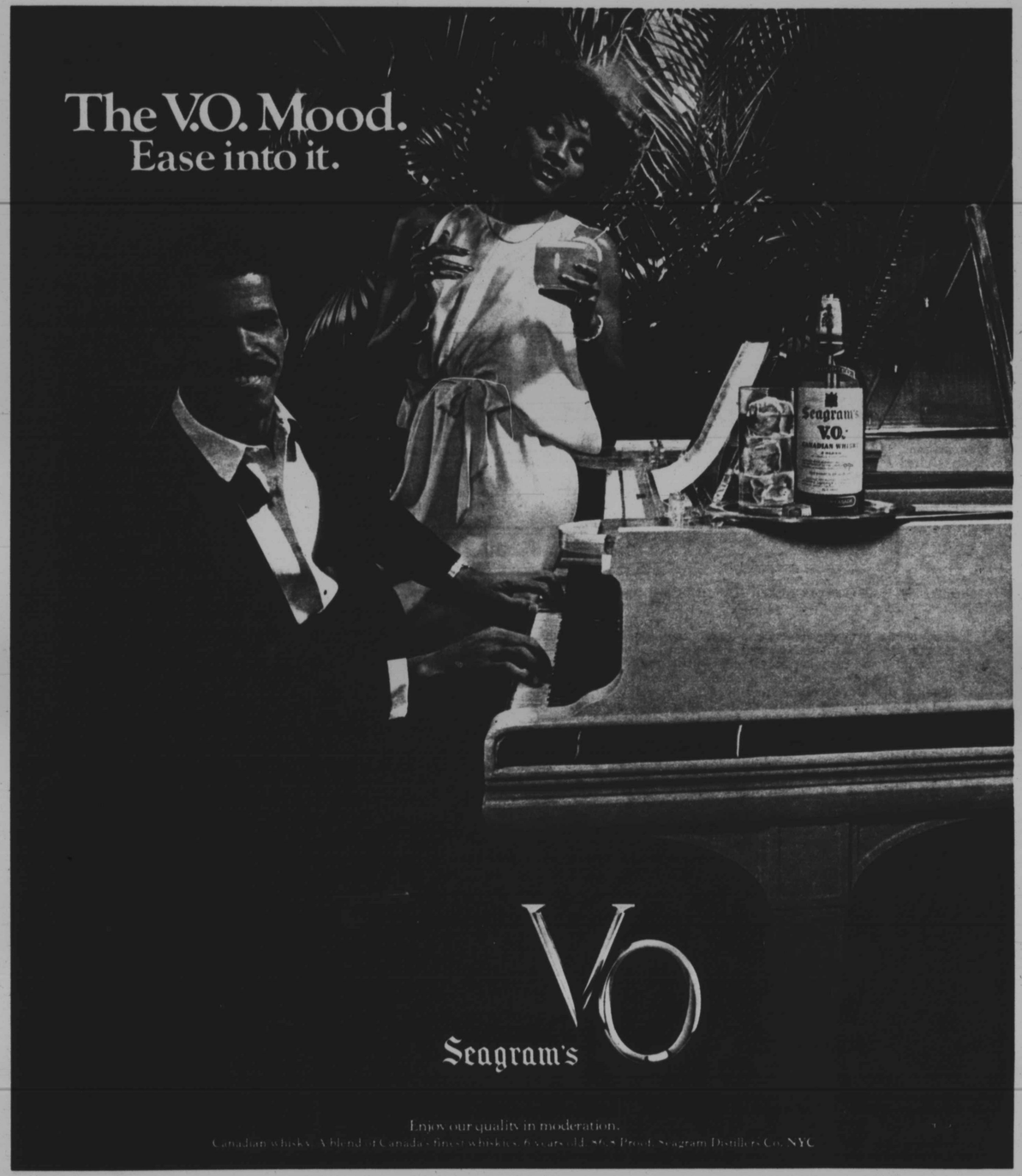
**Q — I have been hearing about a new singing group called The Nylons. Their style of singing was said to be called 'Rock-apella.' Have you ever heard of the group or 'rock-apella?'**

ALICIA GIBBS
Los Angeles, Calif.

A — What a coincidence, I read an article recently about The Nylons. The members are Paul Cooper, Marc Connors, Claude Morrison and Arnold Robinson, all originally from Toronto, Canada.

The Nylons' sound is an a cappella type combination of soul, rhythm and blues, gospel, classic doo-wah and rock 'n roll forming a new style in which they call "Rock-Apella."

They have just finished an album produced by Bob Gallo. I understand they also have a very exciting stage performance.

Johnny Mathis

*All letters should be addressed to Jason, DAWN Magazine, 628 N. Eutaw St., Baltimore, Md. 21201. All questions are welcome, but while Jason cannot provide individual answers, questions of general interest will be used in this column.*