MUSICAL MOMENTS:

Amahl and The Night Visitors

By ADAH K. JENKINS

"Amahl and the Nigh Visitors," the Yuletide operatic tradition, was presented at St. James Episcopal Church by the Opera Workshop of Dulaney Senior High School, under the direction of William O. Myers.

A modern work by Jean Carolo Menotti it deals with a crippled lad and his impoverished mother who are visited by three kings seeking a Child in Bethlehem.

The Dulaney performers gave a well timed, intelligent presentation, evidencing excellent basic training, vocally and dramatically. The acapella choral passages were especially gratifying.

In the demanding role of the Mother Peggy Koerner was imaginatively moving, matched adequately by Harry Ostroff, boy soprano. Vocally well equipped, the Three Wise Men and their page were portrayed realistically by Landon Bowie, Kaald Olsen, Wyatt Ewell and Clay Kunkowski.

A delightful dance by the villagers who entertained the royal visitors, was choreographed by Sandra Lee Myers, wife of the conductor.

With Jean Carico at the piano and an orchestral ensemble of flute, oboe and French horn, the pastoral atmosphere of the opera was well supported.

The service was opened and concluded by Rev. Donald O. Wilson, pastor. Sponsoring the presentation was St. James Church Music Department, of which Mrs. Elaine Howard is president and Mrs. Charlotte Swann, committee chairman.

Myers, who is a specialist in musical theatre and faculty member at Dulaney High School, has directed a number of successful productions at the school and at the Jewish Community Center, Catonsville Senior High School and Rosedale School.

* * *

Featured at the annual holiday concert at Madison Avenue Presbyterian Church was "The Christ Child Steeps," composed by Clarence Henderson, choir master, who conducted the Choir and soloist.

Presenting the work and also a soloist in the Saint Saen's "Christmas Oratorio" was 17 year-old soprano Sonia Richards, of Philadelphia, where she is a student at the Music Academy.

Also appearing with the choir were: Florine Poulson, mezzo, Dorothy Lofton, contralto, Earl Booker, tenor and Sylvester Graves, bass.

(Organ accompaniment was played by Lillian Glascoe. Rev. Reginald Daniels pastor, presided at the religious opening and conclusion.

CALENDAR: The Baltimore Symphony Orchestra Association regretfully announced this week that beginning Dec. 29 concerts will be suspended, due to the strike which the Musicians Union called for midnight, Dec. 28.

This cessation of work is the Union response to the unwillingness of the Association to accede to demands for a contract far beyond the financial means of the Association. Joseph Meyerhoff is president.

Sun., Jan. 16 at 5 p.m. in Chambers Auditorium, Provident Hospital, Roosevelt Newsome Jr. pianist in concert presented by the Piano Teachers Activities Group. Mrs. Florence Carter, pres. Tickets $1.25.

Sun. Jan. 9 at 3 p.m. at Goucher College, Christopher Parkening, classic guitarist in concert.

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DISTINGUISHED SERVICE—William S. Lyles receives a plaque of appreciation from Lt. Col. David M. Kitchcart (Fort Holabird) for his years as Fort Holabird's family housing manager. Mr. Lyles has transferred to leased housing division, Corps of Engineers.

BEHIND BARS—WMAR-TV camera man, Charles Purcell, and writer, George Gipe, are shown in a Maryland prison filming a documentary series, "Bars to Progress," to be aired next week. Monday-Friday, 7:30 p.m. The series investigates the current value of Maryland's four major correctional institutions which house over 5,000 inmates.

Man denied probation

A 22-year-old man accused of violating auto laws, was told he would not get the bonus of a probationary sentence for telling "an outright lie" on Tuesday in Criminal Court.

Michael R. Mattnews, 2300 block Nevada St., found guilty of tampering with someone else's car trunk, was sentenced to six months imprisonment by Judge Solomon Liss.

During the trial Mr. Matthews denied under oath before Judge Liss that he was guilty of the crime.

However, an arresting officer testified he saw the defendant tampering with a "blue car" which was parked on Hollins Ferry Rd., two blocks from the defendant's home, on July 29.

According to the officer, he initially noticed the defendant because of his "suspicious manner."

Evidence also revealed the defendant had car keys on his person at the time of his arrest which opened the car in question.

* * *

Mr. Matthews testified they belonged to a "friend" who asked him to keep the keys for his car.

He then stated, "There's only one reason why I won't give this man probation, I'm not going to give bonuses to people who commit deliberate perjury and try to get away with something.

Judge Solomon Liss, advised defense attorney Gerald Kroop, "I just don't buy the story that an officer would come in this court and deliberately commit perjury."

"I'll give no bonus for testifying falsely."

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Senators want street renamed Carter Blvd.

Baltimore's four black state senators have endorser "Mr. Civil Rights," Walter "E's" proposal to have North Avenue renamed after "Mr. Cival Rights", Walter P. Carter.

During WJZ T.V.'s "Black Conference" program, Senator Verda Welcome stated that she sees no reason why North Avenue could not be renamed after Walter P. Carter.

Also, State Senator Clarence Mitchell stated that he has been actively supporting this drive, by giving people petitions to sign.

State Senator Clarence Blunt stated that he also sees no reason why North Avenue could not be renamed, when cities like Washington and Chicago have changed the name of one of their main Blvd.'s, after Martin Luther King.

Senator Robert Dollon stated that as long as he can remember, cities have been changing the names of streets. Therefore, he feels that having North Ave. renamed after Walter P. Carter, is a good idea.

He also stated that North Avenue is the street, in Baltimore, that unites the Black communities. For it is felt, that now is the time to have a street, that the Black communities can relate to.

Also, strongly supporting us in Maryland's first black Congressman, Parren J. Mitchell.

So far the move has received support from the majority of black elected officials and approximately 3,000 signatures, from various communities.

It is expected that Councilwoman, Victorine Adams will introduce the Bill to the Baltimore City Council when it returns to session.

However, the move needs more support, in signing petitions.

All interested persons can contact:

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Otis Taylor AFC 'Player of Year'

KANSAS City — His team didn't get past the quarter-finals in the quest for SuperBowl status, but Otis Taylor did.

The flashy Kansas City Chiefs wide receiver romped off with "player of the year" recognition in the American Football Conference.

The results of a United Press International poll, announced late Tue. y, revealed that Taylor beat out the highly-touted Bob Griese, Miami Dolphins quarterback, for the honor.

Taylor, the rangy wide receiver who grabbed several crucial passes in a last minute drive to beat the Oakland Raiders in the final game of the regular season that clinched a playoff berth for the Chiefs, was named on 12 of the 33 ballots submitted by sportswriters from each AFC city.

Griese, finished with nine votes while his teammate Larry Csonka was third with three votes.

Chiefs' quarterback Len Dawson was fourth with two votes while Floyd Little of Denver, Walt Sweeney of San Diego, Paul Warfield of Miami and Ted Hendricks of Baltimore all wound up with one vote apiece.

"It's shocking," said Taylor when informed he had won the award. "This is the biggest thrill of my life. I think the main thing was staying injury free as far as serious injuries are concerned and getting the ball thrown to me week after week.

"You know, we decided to throw the ball a lot more this year and our team provided us with a lot of room and good plays."

With his size, his speed and his great hands, Taylor proved almost unstoppable during regular season play.

He finished second in the conference in receptions with 57 behind Oakland's Fred Biletnikoff, who caught 61.

But Taylor amassed 1,110 yards through the air and scored seven touchdowns.

In the Oakland game, which the Chiefs had to win to qualify for the playoffs, Taylor caught five passes, including a 29-yard TD toss from Dawson.

It was during the Chiefs' desperate drive in the closing minutes that Taylor was at his greatest.

He grabbed a third down pass deep in his own territory for a first down and then was interfered with on a long pass from Dawson on the Oakland 12 yard line, ultimately setting up Jan Stenerud's winning field goal.

Narcotic charges abated by death

The Criminal Division of the Municipal Court dropped Monday narcotic charges against a dead man whose mysterious murder police strongly suspect to be in connection with heroin trafficking.

The dead man, Lamont Reed, was arrested and charged with possession of narcotic Dec. 6. But before his trial he was found murdered together with a girl on the first floor of an apartment in the 1700 block Linden Ave.

The presiding Judge I. Sewell Lambdin, stated he was dropping the charges because "there is no one to prosecute."

In the same court, Edward Garsia, a 33-year-old man from Pennsylvania, was given a total of one year imprisonment for disorderly conduct and assaulting a police officer.

He pleaded not guilty to the charge.

Police officer J. M. Reuling told the court Dec. 23 when he attempted to arrest Garsia for disorderly behavior, Garsia assaulted him.

Garsia who claims to be a puerto Rican stated he was traveling with his girlfriend to Virginia. When the bus reached North Charles St., Baltimore he heard some hot argument on the bus.

"I turned around to find out the cause of the argument but the police got me," he told the court.

Garsia admitted he was drunk at the time but he flatly refused to admit he assaulted the police officer.

"Maybe I was too drunk to know I assaulted the police," he stated.

Pleading for leniency, public defender Edward Shapiro, stated the alleged assault charge was the first offense in the life of Garsia and that he should be given some consideration.

Film 'King' at Edmondson High, Jan. 14

The epic film "KING: A Filmed Record...Montgomery to Memphis," which was nominated for an Academy Award, will be shown on Friday, Jan. 14, at 7:30 p.m. at the Edmondson High School Auditorium, 501 Athol Avenue, Baltimore, under the auspices of the Churches of West Baltimore.

"KING", the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as leader of the civil rights movement, from the Montgomery bus boycott to the assassination.

Tickets for the three-hour documentary are priced at $1.50 and are available at Hunting Ridge United Presbyterian Church, Edmondson Avenue at Winans Way. Tickets may be ordered by phone between the hours of 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Friday at 566-2926 or 566-0977. Groups of 25 or more may purchase blocks of tickets at a reduced rate.

"KING", the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. as leader of the civil rights movement, from the Montgomery bus boycott to the assassination.

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CLOSED THURSDAY

Legislator calls for unity to fight 'runaway crime'

Delegate John W. Douglass (D., 2nd Dist.) has called on black elected officials to unite together in fighting the rampant and runaway crime in Baltimore City.

In a letter sent this week to 21 black elected officials, Delegate Douglass said, "Most citizens live with some fear of the crime menace, but it is our communities which bear the brunt of it.

According to Delegate Douglass, 70 per cent of all crimes committed in Baltimore are in communities represented by black elected officials. He stated:

"While we may dispute those who would like to place the blame for the whole crime problem on Blacks, making it a racist issue, we cannot absolve ourselves from all blame when our people are a majority of the offenders, and worst of all, majority of the victims."

"We, as Black leaders, must take the responsibility of stopping this crime which is destroying our community and thwarting our attempts to rebuild a livable city.

We must not allow our inaction or inability to come to grips with the problem appear to give tacit approval to the destructive tendencies of some of our race.

Delegate Douglass concluded "Hoodlums have no more respect for the advances we have made for our people than they do for those of the so-called White Establishment.

"The long term gains of the Black community are being hurt, as well as the hapless victims of the crimes."

Calling for a black alliance in developing a master strategy to put an end to this massive wave of crime Delegate Douglass asked for political responsibility to decent constituents.

"No sociological data can make me forget that Blacks are the people who are suffering most from these criminal acts," he said.

He then urged Black officials to attend a meeting scheduled for Jan. 6, 8 p.m., at the Kirk Community Center, 22nd Street and Kirk Avenue.

"While long term sociological benefits such as penal and judicial reform are important," he said, "our first concern must be the protection of our citizens."

Bullets back home Jan. 5th

NEW YORK — The Baltimore Bullets, fresh from a resounding 119-87 victory over the Cincinnati Royals, were Thursday afternoon to engage their constant nemesis, the New York Knicks.

In besting the hapless Royals at Baltimore Civic Center Tuesday, the Bullets got a 26-point performance from Archie Clark and 24 from Jack Marin.

Wes Unseld contributed 24 rebounds as well as 14 points.

The Bullets return home Friday to spend New Year's Day, then undertake three games next week, commencing with a Wednesday night clash with the Detroit Pistons and Saturday with the Atlanta Hawks.

On Sunday, Baltimore meets the Phoenix Suns at College Park.

Child, 13, slain on the Avenue

Edward Anthony Steward, 16, 500 block W. Preston St., has been charged in the homicide of George Diggs, 13, 500 block Baker St. Steward is being held without bail pending a hearing.

Police report the incident which happened at Sanford Place and Pennsylvania Ave., occurred during a fight between the two.

Police state the children were watching a fire Sunday at 5:45 p.m. when a quarrel ensued.

Homicide police are also looking for a suspect in the slaying of Miss Montana Curbeam, 19, a 2000 block Henneman Ave., found dead in the 2000 block Mura St. at 1 A.M. Monday.

No arrest has been made in connection with the shooting but police state they suspect the shooting was over an argument.

She was shot twice in the left chest.

Man, 22, boy, 14, held for theft

The Eastern District Police have arrested and charged Leroy Dance, 22, 1600 block Llewelyn Ave., and a 14-year-old boy for allegedly stealing articles valued at $329.

The articles were stolen from the home of Henry Guest, 1600 block Llewelyn Ave. at 12:45 Dec. 25.

The theft which nearly paralyzed the Christmas festivities of the Guest family involved two family television sets, a children's savings bank, and a clock radio.

Items recovered by the police are a transistor radio, two home safes and $55 in cash.

The still unrecovered Christmas goods include a pair of pajamas, an umbrella, a nightgown, two football suits and two footballs.

Father, son wounded in holdup

A man and his son were seriously wounded in gun battle with two gunmen who attempted a hold-up of their shop at 5:55 p.m. Monday.

The father, James Purdie, 68, 2700 block Harlem Ave., is still at the Lutheran Hospital but his son, Lewis Purdie, 30, of the same address was treated and discharged.

According to police reports, the two were in the shop, the Purdie Confectionary Store on Harlem Ave., when two young men with guns entered the shop and asked them to stay still.

The two men, the reports stated, then moved about ransacking the store in search of money.

Police state that the father reached for his revolver but one of the gunmen shot his hand. The son took the fallen gun and fired five shots, police claim.

Police report when the gunmen were running away, they returned the shots and hit Lewis in the shoulder.

They never succeeded in taking away anything.

"BARS TO PROGRESS"

WMAR-TV recently surveyed over 500 Maryland community leaders on what they consider the most pressing problems confronting our city and state. One result of the survey is an unusually ambitious documentary series, produced by WMAR-TV, on Maryland's prison system and the problems it presents to the commonwealth.

Since the community leaders overwhelmingly chose CRIME and its complications as the current *Number One Problem*, and since the prisons, recidivism and the lack of effective rehabilitation are all part of the crime complex, this searching study is most timely.

The Attica (N.Y.) State Prison tragedy followed by only a few days a disturbance in the Baltimore City Jail which was stopped before it could become a riot. Each of the other overcrowded, underfunded prisons in Maryland seems like a time bomb, ticking away but ready for a trigger.

After some study of the vast problem, and the programming needed to explore it in depth, the WMAR-TV Documentary Staff determined that five half-hour programs are required.

"BARS TO PROGRESS" will be telecast 7:30 to 8 P.M. on consecutive nights beginning Monday, January 3 through Friday, January 7, preempting "Jeannie."

The project will have a major publicity and promotion campaign. On-air promotion will include management-editorial-type short comments calling attention to highlights of the series.

WMAR-TV has high expectations for this important series . . . for the inherent drama the topic will produce . . . and for community reaction to the presentation.

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