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Exclusive Interview

IKE AND TINA TURNER

By FREDERICK I. DOUGLASS

"I don't need drugs," asserted Tina Turner after her explosive appearance at Merriweather Post Pavilion. "I'm on a natural high. Some people need drugs to feel good or to perform, but I get high off the audience. I don't drink either, because I don't like the taste of liquor or the way it makes me feel. As for those who want to drink or take dope ... I figure to each his own." Sexy, sultry and sensuous, Tina is a Sagittarian exhibiting the determination and passion associated with this sign. While she comes across on stage like the hottest harlot in Babylon, offstage she is very demure and quite a lady. She is truly a beautiful black woman

Ike is the creative genius behind the most dynamic duo in show business. A perfectionist and compulsive worker, he often labors far into the night refining the act. "When I feel like relaxing," says Ike, "I go to the studio in our home to try out some of the new things I keep hearing inside my head. I like to stay ahead of the game. I just couldn't dig going out there doing the same old thing over and over again or putting on a sloppy show."

Describing his marriage to the woman who is considered the supreme sex goddess of rock music Ike declares, "Tina likes to be free, and I believe that she should be able to do whatever she wants as long as she respects me. I trust her because I know that she can deal with any situation ... she's a woman, not a little girl. Tina can do anything she wants to do as long as she's a lady. We've kinds of hardships ... but been married for 12 years we must be doing something right so far and nothing can stop us from doing what we want to do."

Ike, Tina and the Ikettes sent shock waves through Merriweather Post Pavilion, shaking the foundations of the houses in the nearby man-made city of Columbia. While Tina belted out soul searching vocals, the Ikettes blasted away in the background, each of them having a boss voice and capable of singing lead.

Clad in high heels and skimpy dresses that ended where most women wear their belts, Tina and her three foxy companions provided a visual banquet for the male in the audience. Moving with the grace and speed of panthers, they got off into some smoking and shimmy-ing, as has never been seen on the Block, but without being tawdry or cheap looking. Stacked like nuclear outhouses, they look tastier than a double scoop sundae on a hot summer day, despite their waist-length, counterfeit hair.

Frolicking through soulful tunes like "I've Been Loving You Too Long," "Please, Please, Please" and "A Fool in Love," Ike and Tina lambasted the audience with a blitzkrieg that nearly set the stage afire. Playing non-stop for more than an hour, he gave the crowd a rare opportunity to hear some of his supersonic blues riffs on the guitar, revealing an overlooked facet of the revue.

Climaxing the show with an earthshaking rendition of "Respect," the Turners had the audience dancing in the aisles, writhing to their ectastic beat. As they walked offstage they received an earsplitting standing ovation which is due respect for talent of their calibre.

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Mod Players

The Mod Players, a group of students enrolled in the Model Cities Cultural Arts Drama class at center "E" of Harlem Park Community School, will present two comedy plays, the first on Monday, July 30, "How the Other Half Loves" and the second on Wednesday, August 1, "The Waltz of the Toreadors."

These productions will mark the opening of the third annual Cultural Arts Festival, with Norman Ross, project director; Larry Laws, center director and Robert "Bob" Russell, drama director.

Russell said the Mod Players, open to Baltimoreans of all ages, is developing skills in script reading, acting techniques, voice projection, character development, experience in makeup and proper costume selection.

The Mod Players began four years ago under the Model Cities Cultural Arts Program, directed by Norman Ross. The project is funded by the National Endowment of the Arts.

The Monday night cast of "How the Other Half Loves" includes: Oliver Cooper as Frank Foster; Colleen Tisdale as Fiona Foster; Lucian Tucker as William Detweiler; Ginna Merrick as Mary Detweiler; James Langley as Bob Phillips and Emma Tisdale as Teresa Phillips.

The Wednesday night cast of "The Waltz of the Toreadors" includes: Natalie Frederick as Mme St. Pe; Oliver Cooper as General St. Pe; Earnestine Lee as Ghislaine; James Langley as Dr. Bonfant; Colleen Tisdale as Mme Dumont Fredaine; Lucian Tucker as Gaston; Evelyn Phylle and Tony Jones as the daughters; Emma Tisdale and Pamela Brown as 1st and 2nd maids and James Staton as the young orist.

Russell, drama director, also performs with the Arena Players, the Footlights and Center Stage and teaches drama at the Clifton Park Junior High School. Russell said, "The group has a very high regard for good theatre. There are 46 members, ages 15 to 27 and residents of the Model Cities residential area. The student director is Oliver Cooper."

Admission is free by ticket; for more information call 276-4616.

"RIGOLETTO"

What is probably the most famous of Verdi's operas, "Rigoletto", opens at the Harford Opera Theater next Friday evening, July 27, at 8:30 o'clock, and will run for three weeks.

Performances will be given on Saturday and Sunday, July 28 and 29; Friday, Saturday and Sunday,

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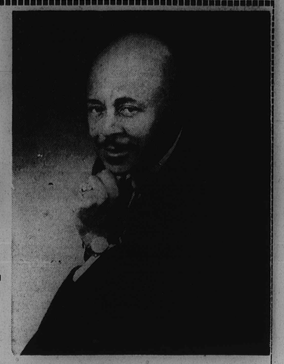
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NURSE GRADUATES — Certificates and identifying patches were awarded recently to graduates of the Technical Nursing Assistant Training Course at Bon Secours Hospital. Two of the graduates are pictured here receiving their badges from Mrs. Penny House, R.N., c. They are from left, Ms. Pauline Edwards and Ms. Lydia Wright.

New Human Relations director hopes to restore commission's credibility

By Bill Rhoden

Before he officially began acting in the capacity of executive director of the State Commission on Human Relations, Elbert L. Guillory was cognizant of complaints that the organization, along with many of its satellites, had become sterile in dealing with problems of discrimination.

According to the 29-year-old Louisiana native, however, the image of sterility will soon be replaced by an extensive and vigorous program of law enforcement within the next few months.

"I know our image in the community is a very very bad one," he stated, "but I expect that in three or four months, because of aggressive law enforcement and emphasis of this agency on problems of minority persons, our image will improve."

• • •

Realizing that his goal of making a serious impact on discrimination will be a "monumental task," Mr. Guillory plans to attack the problem seriatim.

"First of all we're going to process the complaints in a faster and more effective manner; secondly, we are going to emphasize preventive enforcement and thirdly, we are going to stop reacting to small instances of discrimination and eliminate those elements for a large area of persons.

• • •

A swift and aggressive planner and initiator, Mr. Guillory wants the organization to ultimately become analogous to a football team. "We should be offensive with defensive capabilities."

• • •

Not one to criticize the efforts of his predecessors, Mr. Guillory felt that reasons why preceeding administrators had failed in various areas was less important than how his administration will succeed.

"The state of Maryland needs for this agency to be a serious law enforcement agency, and I intend to see that it becomes exactly that!

"I don't think that law enforcement has been the major emphasis of the agency in recent years but I don't want to criticize what the agency has or hasn't done, I just want to give it this emphasis, that is, law enforcement!"

Mr. Guillory said that his first major concern will be that of structurally re-organizing his 49 man staff into two basic components: administrative and operational divisions.

"I'm forming an organizational chart and I'll be moving people around in that chart so the organization will reflect sound management principles and the ability to eliminate discrimination."

A confident, intelligent and intense man, Mr. Guillory feels that his comparatively young age is merely a number, and had nothing to do with his competency.

"My age has only been brought up by reporters," he joked, but added on a serious note, that his selection came solely because of his "knowledge and experience in the field which I gained over long years of hard work."

• • •

Mr. Guillory's long list of impressive and extensive credentials literally forced the commission to recommend his name, rather than the name of any one of the other 250 applicants to the Governor as their number one selection.

Originally a student at Southern University in Louisiana, Mr. Guillory left that school after 3½ years and joined the Navy.

After serving a four year stint in the blue and white, young Guillory enrolled in Norfolk State College, (Va.) and was graduated in 1968 with a degree in political science.

In 1971 he received a J. D. law degree from Rutgers University and became a member of the Bar.

While teaching Administrative and Civil Rights of Law at Rutgers, Guillory served as an advisor to the New Jersey Division of Civil Rights; later that year he attended the New York Theological Seminary.

Prior to being named to the directorship of the Maryland Commission on Human Relations, Mr. Guillory spent one year in Pennsylvania training lawyers, commissioners and investigators from other state and local anti-discrimination agencies across the country.

Incredible as it may seem, the fast moving cancer, (he just celebrated his 29th birthday), managed to find time to get married.

He and his wife, the former Mary Marx have been married eight years and have one child, Elbert L. Guillory II who is a year old.

"No," he stated after reeling off his list of credentials, "no one's ever told me I was too young!

"I'm old enough to have been able to acquire the experience and knowledge to do this job but I'm still young enough to have the energy and drive of youth that will enable me to put into practice those things which I know should be done."

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Name Clifton Murray to head commission

Clifton Murray, retired principal of Rosedale Elementary School No. 148, was named chairman of the new Commission on Aging and Retirement Education Thursday morning by Mayor William Schaefer.

Twenty-three persons were appointed to the panel, which will help to coordinate the city's effort in the area of aging and in formulating recommendations to the mayor on new programs.

Mr. Murray, 60, retired from the Baltimore public school system in February. His career spanned 40 years in education, with 22 of them in administration.

As provided in the legislation creating the body, the Commission members represent a wide range of interests and backgrounds.

The representative from the City Council will be Ms. Barbara Mikulski, who worked with Mayor Schaefer in proposing a new approach to the problems of the aging in Baltimore.

Eighteen private citizens serve on the commission with heads or alternates from the city departments of Health, Social Services, Planning, Housing and Community Development, Recreation and Parks, and the Police Department.

The legislation setting up the commission specifies that its membership include persons over 65 and retired.

Mayor Schaefer, in announcing the appointments, said, "I do not consider this an honorary position, but rather one which will require a real commitment of time and energy. I am sure that Baltimore's senior citizens will greatly benefit from their efforts."

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