Jackson 5 Takes Las Vegas With Family Show

Motown's Jackson 5 is no longer exciting entertainment just for teen-age audiences. Nor is the famous act a quintet.

The Jackson 5 is now a dynamite package of family entertainment, designed to delight audiences of all ages. And with the addition of three more young offspring of the Jackson family to the act the J-5 now numbers eight, and could be very well called the J-5 Revue.

Above all, the famed Jackson 5 have now demonstrated that they can face age transition with sheer professionalism, expert showmanship and an entertaining ease that could be described only as spectacular.

That revealing fact was beautifully demonstrated the other night at the vast, MGM Grand Hotel in Las Vegas when the Jacksons opened their first revue in the world's entertainment capitol. The hotel management announced the Jackson 5 show was sold out for a full week in the spacious main show room.

A lot of people might have wondered just how the J-5 was going to meet age changes that usually beset child and youth performers. How to make the J5 act appeal equally to adult audiences as it has attracted millions of teen-age audiences in this country, Japan, Australia, Europe and Africa.

And that is probably why some wise sources in the J-5 camp did some professional homework before the group opened at the Grand.

It has been disclosed that the agile and talented fellows were under the supervision of their father Joseph Jackson, Richard Arons, and themselves. Buz Kohan and Bill Angelos worked with Becky Ellis to produce a new act of Ziegfeld productions.

Larry Cansler, structured the music score, Bob Sansom designed the sets, Ruth West fashioned their attractive new costumes and Jerry Grollneck computerized the new stage-lighting effects for the act.

Carl Joblonski worked on the stage presence of the group teaching them new dance steps which include a tap-dance skit executed by the Jackson troupe with the skill of seasoned pros. The J-5 boys are joined in the tap-dance set by their younger sister LaToya.

The MGM audiences have been standing up and applauding the tap-dance sequence, and literally raising the roof with applause at the Jacksons' salute to singing groups of yesteryear. In the tuneful skit the Jacksons do imitations of the Four Freshmen, the Mills Bros., and even the Andrew Sisters. They also do takeoffs on The Supremes and The Temptations.

They do a ringing capoff of Jackson 5 song hits with "The Dancing Machine," which happens to be their latest recording and which also is headed currently to the two-million mark in sales.

Unique and exciting in the Jackson performance is the introduction of an elfin duet featuring 11-year-old Randy and his winsome litte sister Janet, age 7. They both do a fantastic impersonation of Sonny and Cher, making the crowds scream with delight.

The entire Jackson 5 show lends lustrous proof to the fact that the famous act knows how to bridge the age gap, providing positive attraction for audiences of all ages. New songs. New steps. A new era.

Said Las Vegas Mayor Oran Gragson as he presented to the J-5 the traditional keys to his city:

"I salute you stars of today and tomorrow!"

Seated from left to right are mesdames Geraldine D. Garner, Ella Davis, Dr. J.S. Rao, (Assistant Director Career Development Parent Council D.C. Public Schools) mesdames Mamie Blocker, Pauline W. Booth and Phoebe Layton. Standing mesdames Ruth Burnett, Mildred B. Ridgley, Clara L. Herndon, Helen G. Jackson, Jessie Ford, Valerie Watson, Yvonne Rogers, Lenora Hamilton, Mirian Brown, Sarah Smith and Edmonia Hunt.

Seated from left to right are mesdames Emma Key, Mettie M. Banks, Joanne P. Green, Martha J. Roache, (Assistant Director Career Development Parent Council D.C. Public Schools) Ann P. Booth, and Jacqueline Denise Hagans. Standing: mesdames Beatrice Alexander, Charles Skinner, Virginia Dougherty, Fannie Parks, Mary Colbert, Creola Alston, Marie Williams, Vivian Gordon, Delores Stuckey, Maggie Rolferson, Joyce McMillian and Cludine L. Mitchell.

D.C. Parents - Teachers Visit AFRO

Representatives from the D.C. Career Development Parent Advisory Council recently visited the Afro-American Newspaper headquarters in Baltimore. This is part of their continuing efforts to identify potential community resources which might be tapped to enrich children's school experiences.

Schools represented were: Drew Elementary, Lenox Elementary, John Tyler Elementary, Tubman Elementary, Amaline Elementary, Seaton Elementary, Carver Elementary, Syphax School, Jefferson Junior High, Shaw Junior High and Dunbar Senior High.

Over 2,000 students in the D.C. Public Schools grades kindergarten through 12 are receiving career education as a result of a federally funded project entitled "Career Education in the Inner City." This effort is consistent with a nation-wide attempt to improve the quality of education for all sudents and provide them with marketable skills by the end of grade 12.

There are several factors which make the D.C. program quite successful. centered. It is largely The program is student teacher directed, and it is career oriented. In other words, there is a conscientious effort to make all teaching relevant.

With the support and active involvement of parents and other members of the community, project teachers and counselors involve students in such activities as rap sessions with persons who might serve as inspirational role models, increasing interviewing skills, educational tours during which students see workers in job settings, and the production of exhibits of students made materials.

Members of the Career Development Exemplary Project staff are:

Mrs. Beisie D. Etheridge, director, Mrs. Ellen F. Dutcher, Dr. Jay S. Rao, and Mrs. Martha J. Roache, assistant directors.

Their office is located in the Carver School at 45th and Lee Streets, NE, Washington, DC, 20019.

What's Happening by IDA Peters

Fred Williamson had to cancel his promotional trip to New York on his new film "Black Eye" because of an accident while horseback riding.

If you were looking forward to seeing "Forever Yours" . . . with the Franz Lehar orchestra at the Mechanic . . . forget it . . . it's been cancelled.

The primary aim of any movie producer is to make money. Take a look at some up-to-date figures Mame, the Warner Bros. musical starring Lucille Ball has topped the $2 million mark in its world premier engagement at Radio City Music Hall. **Enter the Dragon**, with Bruce Lee and introducing Jim Kelly has done $14 million foreign gross for the same company, topped only by **My Fair Lady**. And **Blazing Saddles**, starring Cleavon Little, and 11th on the 50 Top Grossing Films for the week just did a blazing $900,000 in New York area neighborhood theatres alone, and it's now number one for Top 50 with a $2,810,050 gross nationally.

Tops among money making black films this week is Pam Grier's **Foxy Brown**, 17th on the Top 50 List. Others on list, in order, are **Three Tough Guys**, **Willie Dynamite**, **Five on the Black Hand Side**, **Thomasine and Bushrod**, and a revival of **Lady Sings the Blues**.

* * *

The first worldwide television series for children **Big Blue Marble** will be previewed in May over 20 U.S. stations reaching about 47 per cent of television viewing homes.

Presented as a public service by ITT, the series will go into regular weekly telecasts in the U.S. in September in other countries in 1975.

"Big Blue Marble" is conceived as a children's television show that deals with the wholeworld and appeals to the whole child. It is planned to entertain and to educate.

The show is designed to appeal particularly to children in the 8-to-12 age group. This is the period when children are particularly curious, outgoing, and eager to expand their horizons and identify with their peer group.

Walbrook High Students recently were among those who participated in the Omega Psi Phi Annual Talent Hunt at Edmondson High School.

Top award went to **James Barefoot**, aspiring artist, in the area of the Visual Arts. James exhibited oil paintings and collages with musical themes. He received a trophy for first place, fifty dollars ($50.00) and a trip to Atlantic City for Natonal Competition, which takes place May 4th.

James has had one man shows at the Walbrook Branch of the Enoch Pratt Library and Radio Station WEBB. He has also exhibited in many local student exhibitions. James plans to attend the Maryland Institute College of Art in September.

Second place in the Visual Arts went to **Bruce Fields**, who exhibited tempera painting, exotic prints and ceramics with surrealistic themes. Bruce is a Saturday art student at the Maryland Institute College of art. **Valice Myers** also exhibited sculpture and painting in the competition. James Barefoot studied painting and college from teacher-artist Eugene Warren and Bruce Fields creates under the direction of potter-teacher Mrs. Nancy Schaefer. Mrs. Reva Lewie, teacher-artist, is department head in art at Walbrook.

Anthony Harmer represented Walbrook in the performing Arts area. He won second prize with a Chopin composition in the classical Music Category. Tony is also studying at the Peabody Conservatory of Music. Mrs. Anse Emery is the energetic principal at Walbrook.

"You're a Good Man Charlie Brown," the comedy on Charles Schulz's "Peanuts," will be presented at the Maryland General Hospital Auditorium, 827 Linden Ave., on May 3, 4, 10 and 11. Curtain time is 8:15 p.m.

The Annapolis Fine Arts Festival will be held from June 14 through 16, 1974 at the City Dock, Annapolis Maryland. Now in its 12th year, the Festival attracts thousands of visitors from all parts of Maryland and neighboring states to observe and participate in programs in the arts and crafts, dance, music, photography, writing and many other art forms.

* * *

Costumes dating from 1868 to 1945 will be on display when Towson State College's Theatre Arts Department opens **"100 Years of Costumes"** Saturday, May 4 from 6 p.m.-9 p.m. in the Art Gallery of the Fine Arts Building.

Tina Croll and Co. comes to the Theatre Project from New York with glowing reviews and a six member dance company which will be performing six of its most successful works. Performances begin Friday and end Sunday May 5.

"My Sister, My Sister" a new drama by Ray Aranha is now playing at The Little Theatre on West 44th St., N.Y. Above, Seret Scott as Sue Belle and Jessie Saunders as Evelina.

Enoch Pratt

Friday, May 3
"Henry V," film at the Pratt Library's Northwood Branch, 2:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 5
"The 39 Steps," film at the Central Pratt Library, Wheeler Auditorium, 2:00 p.m.

Sunday, May 5
"The 39 Steps," film at the Central Pratt Library, Wheeler Auditorium, 2:00 p.m.

Tuesday, May 7
"Picaso Is 90," film at the Central Pratt Library, Wheeler Auditorium, 2:00 p.m.

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Music Therapy Week will be celebrated May 5-11. Dr. James A. Young, founder of the Foundation for Music Therapy, Inc. and Dr. Leroy Fitzgerald and Dr. George Taylor at Coppin State College are involving their students in the new program. Above, Dr. Young conducts his Music Therapy Class at Coppin with autoharps and orchestra bells, flutes, and meladicas. Left to right: Dr. Young; Jeff Byron, Specific Learning Disability Program, School No. 55; Mrs. Thelma Cooper, volunteer worker with students and senior citizens; Mrs. Mary Gaskins, Senior, Special Education, Coppin; Mrs. Betty Catron, Assistant Professor of Music, Coppin; and Charles Williams, 4 and 5 grade teacher at School No. 99.

(AFRO staff photo by Norma Spencer)

Monumental Music Hall

by Connie E. Brown

ST MATTHEW'S

The Concert Choir of the College of Notre Dame of Maryland, under the direction of Paul Davis, presents a program of works by Palestrina, Krenek, Schumann, Quincy Porter, and Faure on May 5 at 3:30 p.m. at St. Matthew Church, Loch Raven Blvd. and Woodbourne Ave. The concert is free.

* * *

OPERA-C.C.B.

"Scenes from the Opera" will be presented by the Music Department of the Community College of Baltimore on May 10 and 11 at 8:15 p.m. in the Little Theatre of the College's Fine Arts Center, 2901 Liberty Hgts. Ave.

The gala event on Friday, May 10, will be followed by a reception after the performance for those persons attending the benefit for the C.C.B. Cultural Arts Council.

* * *

ARTS DISCUSSION

A "Futuer of the Arts in Baltimore" panel discussion, followed by luncheon, takes place on Wednesday, May 8, 11 a.m. in the White Oak Ballroom of the Cross Keys Inn, as the final event in an eventful [illegible] of activity, presented [illegible] WSON

Towson State College's talented Dance Company, under the [illegible] Helene Breazeale, and the [illegible] semble, under the direction of Hank Levy, once again combine forces to present "Another Evening and Afternoon of Music and Dance" on Thursday, May 2 at 8:15 p.m. and Sunday, May 5 at 4 p.m.

The performances are being held in the Stephens Hall Auditorium and admission is free.

* * *

BACH SOCIETY

The Bach Society of Baltimore, Inc. announces its final concert of the season to be held Sunday, May 5, 8 p.m., at the Cathedral of the Incarnation, St. Paul Street at University Parkway.

* * *

BALLET AUDITIONS

The Maryland Ballet Company is holding open auditions for male and female dancers on the intermediate and advanced levels, ages 16 and up, on Sunday May 5, at 1:00 p.m. at the Baltimore School of the Ballet, 10429 Reisterstown Road, Owings Mills, Md. Female dancers should bring pointe shoes.

Dick Clark will welcome special guests Sami Jo and The Soul Children to "American Bandstand," Saturday, May 4.

Sami Jo will sing "Tell Me a Lie" and "Start Again." The Soul Children will perform "I'll Be the Other Woman" and "Come Back Kind of Love."

The Soul Children

Harbor City Visits AFRO

Bob Bradley and Mrs Vivia Chang, teachers at the Harbor City Learning School No. 418, toured the AFRO on a Newspaper In The Classroom Program a few weeks ago with a small group of students.

Feeling the tour was both interesting and beneficial to their learning program, a Mobile Cluster, they reutrned with more students from their school of 500.

In this program, the students participate in a work/study program, and most of their learning experiences are gained by observation and interaction within the city.

The school is located at 24th and Maryland Ave. In the above photo, left to right are: Sarah Jones, Vivia Chang, Bob Bradley, Anthony Rollins, Leroy Marshall, Michael Brown, Clifford Poole, and Michele Campbell.

Freedom Wins Apollo Contest

Freedom, seated: Ronald Gray; standing left to right: Fleet Darby, Larry Darby, Nelson Lee, Lacy Jones, and Clayton Swann.

Freedom, currently appearing at the Guys and Dolls night club, recently won first place in the prestigious amateur show at the Apollo Theater in NYC.

This Wednesday night talent show sponsored for over 30 years by the Apollo Theater, has produced such great show business performers as Lena Horne, Billy Eckstine, Billy Holiday, and George Kirby.

To win first place Freedom competed and won four consecutive Wednesday night shows. Participants in the shows represented amateur talent from all over the country.

As first place winner, Freedom, in the near future, will be appearing for one week at the Apollo as professionals with top name stars.

Freedom is composed of three singers and three musicians: Clayton Williams Swann, 18, base guitar; Nelson Hiram Lee, 16, drummer; Larry Darby, 14, baritone; Fleet Carter Darby, 15, lead guitar; Lace Lamont Jones, 12, 1st. tenor; and Ronald Lee Gray, 12, 2nd. guitar. All are students in the Baltimore Public School System.

Their first recording, produced and recorded at Sigma Sound Studios in Philadelphia, will be released early this summer.

The group has made numerous appearances at local night clubs, cabarets, political, charity, and public events, including the 1973 Baltimore City Festival held in Hopkins Plaza.

Freedom, performing together for 2½ years, is comanaged by Mrs. Gracie Darby and Lester Coles of Baltimore.

TV Notes

By Cynthia Stevenson

WILEY DANIELS

Wiley Daniels becomes the new anchorman for Eyeopener News, beginning Monday, May 6. The early morning half-hour news program is televised Monday through Friday at 7:00 a.m. on WJZ-TV 13.

The Eyewitness news reporter is also the anchorman for the weekday 1:00 p.m. Eyewitness News. Wiley hosts TV 13's "Black News Conference," which is televised on Saturdays at 12:30 p.m.

Wiley has been with WJZ-TV since 1966, as general assignments reporter. He first came to Baltimore in 1956 from Birmingham, Ala. to work as a disc jockey for WEBB Radio, where he was also program director.

The veteran news man received a Master of Arts in Television and Communications from Emerson College in 1956. Prior to that, he served in the military, for two years. Wiley completed his undergraduate studies at Talladega College in Talladega, Alabama. He is married to the former Ruth Saunders.

"The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman," tracing the life of a black woman from slavery to civil rights, received 12 television Emmy nominations

Don Cornelius, executive producer and host of Soul Train, will present Eddie Kendricks, the Dramatics and Martha Reeves as featured guest entertainers this weekend when Soul Train makes its weekly trip via television into homes across the nation.

MARTHA REEVES

Music Country, U.S.A., ABC (May 2) — Charlie Rich hosts this regular network country music series. His guests include Dionne Warwicke, Donna Fargo, Mac Wiseman, Tammy Wynette, Ed Hubbard, Hank Williams, Jr., Mac Davis and The Americans.

Don Kirshner's Rock Concert, syndicated (in most markets, weekend of May 3-4-5, but check local listing for exact date and air time) — In a repeat broadcast, Van Morrison, Mott the Hoople and Richie Havens with Fresh Flavor are special guests.

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We've got a "Big Blue Marble" for your children.

"Big Blue Marble" is the name of the first worldwide television series for children.

It will premiere within the week on one of your local stations. Be sure to tune in with your children.

The aim of the show is to encourage awareness in children of the world they live in by showing how children in other lands live, work, play and grow up.

The only restriction on the selection of subjects is against gratuitous violence.

And all shows will be without commercial interruption.

"Big Blue Marble" takes its name from the photograph of the Earth snapped from Moon orbit by Astronaut Frank Borman.

Mr. Borman, now a consultant on the series, says: "I believe this new television series, 'Big Blue Marble,' can be a major influence for building a better understanding and appreciation of the one-world concept among children all over the world."

The show is designed to appeal particularly to children in the 8-to-12 group, the ages when most children are curious, outgoing and eager to learn about other children whose customs, language and dress are different.

One way this learning will be stimulated is through "Dear Pen Pal," a regular feature of the show.

Initially, American children will be invited to write to "Big Blue Marble" to receive by return mail the name and address of an English-speaking child in another country with whom they can correspond directly.

Research studies with more than 2,000 children across the nation from varying backgrounds were conducted using a pilot film before the series went into production.

The series will reflect these findings, and, in addition, incorporate recommendations from leading educators. And whatever is shown on the program will be depicted as it really is, with no editorial point of view expressed or implied.

Presented as a public service by ITT, the initial 26-installment series will go into regular weekly telecasts in the U.S. in September.

In 1975, the "Big Blue Marble" series will be distributed in other countries throughout the world.

The best ideas are the ideas that help people. ITT

International Telephone and Telegraph Corporation, 320 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022