Capital Boogie Showdown '76

By Ida Peters

Compared To What? Inc. committee members planning Capitol Boogie are from left Darryll Brooks, Carol E. Kirkendall, Maceo Leatherwood and Gerald Scott.

Compared To What, Inc., they're the sponsors of Human Kindness Day, Summer Hut, Winter Workshops and The Sheet in D.C. are sponsoring the Capitol Boogie Showdown '76 at the Capital Center, Landover on Wed., Feb. 25.

Featured performers will be Parliament, Funkadelic, The Jimmy Castor Bunch, B.T. Express and Bootsy's Rubber Band.

The Executive Committee of Compared To What includes Carol E. Kirkendall, Darryll, Gerald, Scott, Maceo Leatherwood, Sara Guettel, Floretta McKenzie and George Gillespie.

The group has won many awards for Human Kindness Day in the D.C. metropolitan area ... a day of arts and community celebration culminating in a year round effort to bring relevant educational and cultural arts program to inner city children and young adults.

* * *

Ivy Monk, a graduate of Towson State College Theatre Arts Department and a professional actress will give a one woman show at Towson State College on (tonight) Fri., Feb. 20 at 8:30 p.m.

Paul Berman, Chairperson of the Theatre Arts Department says Ms. Monk's performance is on a level with Hal Holbrook's Mark Twain Tonight.

Ms. Monk comes on stage and portrays a 300 year old black woman who comes on stage with a sack. Periodically she reaches into the sack and brings out artifacts of her past and speaks about their meaning to her personally and to her people.

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Carlin Drive In
EVIL GROWS BEYOND the DOOR
Abby the story of a woman possessed

Columbia Pictures will preview their movie "Taxi Driver" starring Robert DeNiro and Cybil Shepherd ... this week-end.

Watch for Burt Lancaster in the most magnificent human spectacle ever filmed ... "Moses". The world premiere will be in the gracious presence of Her Majesty the Queen and HRH the Duke of Edinburgh in aid of the British Olympics, March 1 in London. The U.S. premiere is in Boston, March 5.

* * *

Black students at the Maryland Institute College of Art will have an exhibit of their works including paintings, drawings, designs including fashion designs starting March 7 from 3 to 6 p.m. and continuing through the month of the Afro-American and Indian Studying Center at 12 W. Madison Street.

Coordinator of the exhibit is Steve Clayburn. Assistant is John Stevenson. For information 233-2828. Opening ceremonies will include music, dance and literature.

* * *

Students exhibiting will be Linda Brown, Janice Young, Rich Washington, Bobby Thomas, Billy Hawkins, John Stevenson Jr., Jetter Bryant, Donna Doram, Edward D. Washington, Gregory Gray, Neva Moore, LaVerne Armstrong, Crystal Curley, William McIlwain;

Also Billy Hawkins, Gary O'Neil, Brian M. Robertson, Brenda Dickerson, Jerome Stokes, Charles Reese, Vita Edmonds, Viola Wiggins, Bruce Jordan Sr., Millard Delvison Jr., Michael Brown and Dorothea B. Green.

* * *

Wedding Bells — B. B. Dickerson, bass player with the top-selling recording group WAR, and the former Teresa Jones began the new year by getting married at the Rancho Verdes Country Club in Rialto, California on New Year's Day. The couple will reside in Los Angeles. WAR is currently on the national record charts with the single "Low Rider" from the million-selling United Artist album, "Why Can't We Be Friends"

Upcoming is a soundtrack LP from the forthcoming motion picture, "The River Niger," featuring all new music composed and performed by WAR. The group opens Shady Grove Music Fair this season.

The Northwestern High School Thespian Society is proud to present the first high school production in Maryland of the Broadway hit musical "Godspell".

It will be performed on Fri., March 12 and Sat., March 13 at 8:00 p.m. at Northwestern High located on Fallstaff and Park Heights Ave.

For ticket information contact Michael DeBoy at 396-0632. The play is being directed by Mr. DeBoy assisted by Ms. Judy Flom.

The ten cast members include Eddie Greene, Debbie Brown, Robert Washington, Renee Larkins, Darrel Brown, Deborah Webb, Leroy Nicholson, Dalarie Davis, Kevin Bagley, and Mary Wright.

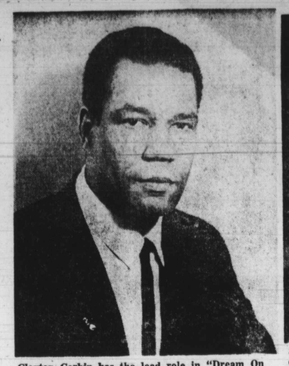
Roundtree stars in 'Man Friday'

Redd Foxx has been signed to star in "Norman, Is That You," the screen adaptation of the long-running stage comedy hit that will be brought to the screen by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer with George Schlatter producing and directing, it was announced by Daniel Melnick, MGM Senior Vice President and Worldwide Head of Production.

Before emerging as the star of one of the most popular series on television, NBC's "Sanford and Son," Foxx was a leading nightclub comedian for more than two decades. His show business career had begun as a member of a street corner band that won second prize on a Major Bowes Amateur Hour radio show.

"Norman, Is That You" was unveiled at Broadway's Lyceum Theatre in February, 1970, and has gone on to become a hit in 20 different countries. It enjoyed a 4-year run in same the longest-running France and in Italy it ha- play by American playwrights ever to be seen there. Currently, "Norman, Is That You" has finished its first year at Las Vegas' Union Plaza Hotel, is in its fourth year in Los Angeles, is in the midst of along run in Toronto, and a new national company is now being formed.

The play's authors, Ron Clark and Sam Bobrick, collaborated on the screenplay with George Schlatter, who is making his feature film debut with the screen comedy. Production is slated for April.



Clayton Corbin has the lead role in "Dream On Monkey Mountain" now playing at Center Stage. The play by Trinidad's leading dramatist and poet Derek Walcott is an exotic folk fantasy set to the pounding songs, rances and rhythms of the Caribbean.

Soprano Clamma Dale, a member of the NYC Opera Company, will be featured when the celebrated conductor Paul Freeman leads the Baltimore Symphony in an all-Gershwin Pops concert Sat., Feb. 28.

Josephine Premice, above, with Avon Long stars in "Bubbling Brown Sugar" which begins 12 preview performances beginning tonight (Friday) on Broadway.

Music Notes

The Peabody Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Leo Mueller, will present a concert on Tues., Feb. 24 at 8:00 P.M. The performance will be held in the Peabody Concert Hall, 1 East Mount Vernon Place.

The program will include Brahms' Symphony No. 1 in C Minor, Rossini's overture to Il Signor Bruschino, Samuel Barber's Music for a Scene from Shelley and Paul Dukas' The Sorcerer's Apprentice: Scherzo and Orchestra.

An all-Bach program will be presented by the Peabody Concert Singers at 8:00 P.M. on Febuary 26 in Peabody's North Hall, 1 East Mount Vernon Place.

Theodore Morrison, director of choral music at Peabody, will conduct the Concert Singers and members of the Peabody Symphony Orchestra in Cantata No. 106, Gottes Zeit ist die allerbeste Zeit, and his third chorale motet, Jesu, meine Freude.

The Women's Association of the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra has announced a membership drive to be held in March. A series of meetings and social events will highlight the month, beginning with a program by Earl Wrightson and Lois Hunt on Sunday, March 7, at 2:00 p.m. at the Evergreen House, 4545 North Charles Street.

The group hopes to increase its roster with representative members from the entire metropolitan area in order to bring the orchestra closer to more people.

For membership or program information, please call Mrs. Eleanor Rutsala, president, through the Symphony Office at 727-7682.

"The Marriage of Figaro," Mozart's four-act opera, is the WBAL Radio presentation on Saturday, February 21 at 1:30 p.m.

Principal roles will be sung by soprano Kiri Te Kanawa as the Countess and bass Stafford Dean as Figaro. Soprano Benita Valente as Susanna is also featured, and Steuart Bedford conducts.

* * *

On Sunday, Feb. 29, at 3:30 p.m. in Jenkins Hall of Loyola College, a concert will be given by "Lunari" (Nucleus), soloists from the movement combine of Georgia Cushman. The concert will be a benefit for the Walden School's Grace Newsom Cushman Memorial Scholarship Fund.

The benefit concert is being arranged for the purpose of establishing a substantial fund to enable gifted young students, who would otherwise be unable, to receive an opportunity for intensive and undistracted study at the Walden School. Tickets may be requested by calling 542-3362.

Enoch Pratt

Sat., Feb. 21 —

Central Library, Children's Department: Preschool story hour, 11 a.m. Pennsylvania Avenue Branch: Films — "Dragon Stew," "Marble," A Little Girl and a Gunny Wolf," 1:30 p.m.

Sun. Feb. 22 —

"Music at the Library," presenting the Bucharest Quartet in an informal concert featuring music for bass viol and bassoon. Sponsored by the Pratt Library 2 p.m.

Exhibit —

"A Progressive City — Baltimoreans in the Early National Period." An exhibition, planned especially for the Bicentennial Year, recognizing the contributions of Elisha Tyson and other Baltimoreans of the era to interracial harmony, at the Central Pratt Library, second-floor cases, beginning February 17.

bury and the Women's Association of the Baltimore Symphony, at the Central Pratt Library 2 p.m.

Exhibit —

"A Progressive City — Baltimoreans in the Early National Period." An exhibition, planned especially

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The McKenzie report

Baltimorean in Gladys Knight movie

By Vasiti McKenzie

Isn't it ironic that the director of a movie which calls for a character by the name of Mary Alice locates a real-life Mary Alice.

* * *

And how does the real-life Mary Alice and the only black female teamster at the Valdez Terminal Camp land a role in that movie?

* * *

She tells the director that she has some acting and modeling to her credit, she has a screen actor's guild card in her possession, and her name is the same as that of the character he wants to cast.

* * *

Such was the case of Mary Alice Artes, a 27-year-old Taurean who hails from Baltimore, and who has worked on the Trans Alaska Pipeline System for almost two years.

* * *

When the pipeliner heard that "Pipe Dreams," a movie starring Gladys Knight, called for a black female truck driver to cast as Mary Alice, she approached Stephen Verona, the director, about the role.

* * *

Verona was impressed with Mary Alice's credentials and asked her to read for the part. He was convinced that Mary Alice was perfect for the character in the script and immediately cast her for the role.

* * *

Previous acting experience for the versatile and energetic field truck driver was in Pat Garrett and Billy the Kid, which starred James Colburn, Bob Dylan and Kris Kristofferson and directed by Sam Peckinpaw (who also directed Straw Dogs and The Wild Bunch).

* * *

Said Miss Artes, "I must call my grandmother and thank her for this name." After completion of the movie, the chess, back gamnon and dance enthusiast assures us that, "I'll return to the pipeline."

* * *

Miss Artes' pipeline experience began in Fairbanks, Alaska where she worked for 1½ years in Price's Fairbanks Warehouse as an apprentice warehouseman. She has been employed with Alaska Associates-Flennaugh at the Valdez Terminal Camp for three months as a "swamper."

* * *

Though Valdez is the terminus of the pipeline which begins at Prudhoe Bay (northernmost part of Alaska), says Mary Alice, "Valdez is another beginning for me"

PEN PALS

Would you like to make new friends from all over the world? Do as thousands have and submit your name in this column. Simply send $1.00 check or money order and your particulars to Pen Pals, AFRO-AMERICAN Newspapers P.O. Box 1857, Baltimore, Md. 21203. Please allow three weeks for publication.

I am a young school teacher and I own my own business. I am 5'8", 145, and would like to meet a nice lady from any part of the world. Age no limit, looks no barrier to a lasting relationship. Necessary that you be educated, warm, considerate, neat and kind. I will answer all letters, must send picture with the first letter. W. Bell, 3009 Trio St., Richmond, Va. 23223.

* * *

I would like to meet a Scorpio young lady between 16-21. I am 5'10", 140, nice looking and serious minded. Hobbies are music, art, painting and artistic ability, tennis, soccer, yoga. Very honest, enjoyable, interesting to know and lonely. Wants to meet someone in the City area. Ce C. Camper, 613 N. Augusta Ave., Baltimore, Md. 21229.

* * *

I am 37, 5'1", 135, light brown skin and have one child. Want to correspond with a nice man who live in Virginia. Ethel Hopewell, 3839 Reno Street, Apt. B, Philadelphia, Pa. 19104.

* * *

I am presently incarcerated and I am trying to establish a meaningful relationship with a very understanding, open minded young lady. I am 6'2", 175, and I am 35 with brown eyes. I am interested in yoga, tennis, nature, art, law, basketball and listening to jazz. Will answer all letters and exchange photos. Rev. Donald S. Davis, Box P.M.B. 95718, Atlanta, Ga. 30315.

* * *

I am presently incarcerated and I would like to correspond with young women between 18-30. I am 5'2", 140 with brown eyes and I am a Cappicorn. I love reading and corresponding. All letters will be answered, would like to have a photo if possible. Jerome Williams, No. 122-969, P.O. Box 534, Jessup, Md. 20794.

* * *

I am presently incarcerated and I would like to correspond with anyone that is willing to write to me. I have a need to find someone that is willing to help. I am 27, 5'9", 140 with brown eyes, black hair and brown skinned. My sign is Virgo. Have many interest. Will answer all letters. Larry Rowe, No. 142-053, P.O. Box 787, Lucasville, Ohio, 45648.

* * *

I would like to meet a sincere man between 55-65 who doesn't drink, like church and wants a wife. I don't drink, or smoke. I have a nice home and car. I am 59, 149 and 5'6". Please send a photo with first letter. Mary Price, P.O. Box 8073, Richmond, Va. 23224.

* * *

A religious man who has devoted himself to God's work needs a financial aid from a religious organization or anybody who can finance our mission in Nigeria for preaching all over the nations and to have all necessary items to promote the good work of God. C. Ola Akinlahan, 133 Lawanson Street, Ilire, S/L Lagos, Nigeria.

* * *

I am 22, 5'8", in good health. My interests are reading, music, swimming, photograph and football and current affairs. I would like to correspond with pen pals between 17-22, from American, Japan, Canada, Germany and India. Walter C. Ojelundu, 3 Ohelsenu Street, Ikorodu Road, Fadeyi, Lagos, Nigeria.

* * *

I am 37, 5'4", love people and music (jazz). I'm a Divorcee. I do not believe in signs, but for those of you who are interested my sign is Scorpio. Shirley Felton, 116 Westminster St., Springfield, Mass. 01109.

* * *

I would like to correspond with American pen pals. My hobbies are, singing, fashion and nursing. Mary Dawodu, School of Nursing, U.B.T.H., Benin City, Nigeria.

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Delta Sorority's film premiere in April

Columbia Pictures will distribute "Countdown at Kusini," the first entertainment motion picture ever to be financed by a black women's organization, it was announced jointly by David Begelman, President of Columbia Pictures, and Mrs. Lillian P. Benbow, immediate past president of Delta Sigma Theta.

Delta Sigma Theta is the largest black sorority in the world. The film was underwritten by the 85,000 member organization through its subsidiary, D.S.T. Telecommunications, Inc., a large portion of it by personal out-of-pocket contribution, and without assistance from any government programs or grants.

Executive producer of the film is Mrs. Benbow, who also is Housing Director for the State of Michigan.

"Countdown At Kusini" is a contemporary action-adventure movie, starring Ruby Dee, Greg Morris and Ossie Davis. It is a topical drama of political intrigue and revolution in Africa, paralleling recent and continuing events on that continent.

Directed and co-written by Mr. Davis and filmed in and around Lagos, Nigeria, "Countdown At Kusini" is the first black American production to be shot entirely in Africa by black American professionals.

Music for the film is by Manu Dibango, gold-record winner whose "Soul Makossa" was a multi-million seller and spearheaded the Afro-Latin trend evident today in contemporary rock 'n' roll music.

The film is scheduled for release in April. Columbia is designing a release pattern which will embrace the participation of the sorority in all aspects of the distribution process, with emphasis on the promotion campaign.

Noting that the production was "generated far from the standard procedures of the industry," Mr. Begelman describes it as "an auspicious and courageous accomplishment." The film industry "is accustomed to the 'unprecedented' and the 'unique'," he points out, "but Delta's accomplishment is unprecedented and unique in deed!"

During Mrs. Benbow's two-term, four-year tenure as President, the public service organization moved into bold new ventures, among them the financing of the motion picture.

While "Countdown At Kusini" is solid adventure-romance, Mrs. Benbow stresses that "Delta consciousness-particularly regarding stereotypic and violent model roles for young blacks-has invested the project with acceptable ideological values for the growing black family movie audience.

Delta Sigma Theta, with national headquarters in Washington, D.C., has over 500 chapters in 45 states, the Virgin Islands and Liberia, West Africa. The sorority originated at Howard University, Washington, D.C. in 1913, when the first chapter marched on the Capitol in support of the female right to vote. Among its professionally-trained, high-visibility memberships are leaders in government, in media, in the arts and in education.

The current president of the sorority is Mrs. Thelma T. Daley, who also is President of the American Personnel and Guidance Association. Mrs. Betty L. Williams, Dean of the U.C.L.A. School of Nursing, is President of D.S.T. Telecommunications, Inc.

"Countdown At Kusini," a Columbia Pictures release, is a D.S.T. Telecommunications, Inc. Presentation for Delta Sigma Theta, Inc., Mrs. Lillian P. Benbow, executive producer. The film was directed by Ossie Davis and co-scripted by Mrs. Davis, Al Freeman Jr., and Ladi Ladebo. Ladebo produced, with Herbert Lannard as associate producer.

... and all that jazz

By Bob Matthews

It is almost impossible to describe the voice of jazz singer Betty Carter.

It is not necessarily merely vibrato is practically non-existent, it is overly ... not always right on pitch—but it swings with a capital S.

Ms. Carter was the featured performer at the Left Bank Jazz Society's regular concert last Sunday, and though the crowd was smaller than usual—they got a surprise treat.

Backed up by the John Hicks trio, consisting of Hicks, piano; Walter Booker, bass, and Clifford Barbaro, drums; Betty Carter proved she has no peer when it comes to bop and scat singing.

When Kay Davis came on the jazz scene, Duke Ellington used to describe her appearances as "a voice used as a musical instrument."

Betty Carter is a musical instrument.

Imagine if you will, Charlie Parker's saxophone. When he plays, instead of reed sounds, you hear voice sounds—that voice would be the embodiment of Betty Carter.

The illusion is helped along by the way she holds her hands as though she were holding a sax.

During the set, one segment was devoted to tunes done by Charlie Parker: "If I Should Lose You," "Just Friends," "All The Things You Are," "Music, Maestro, Please," and myriad others.

It was obvious from the outset that Betty and the trio had worked together for quite a while. The polished performance, complete with original charts showed it.

What many in the audience perhaps did not realize is that Betty is an arranger and did most of the charts herself.

As a youngster, she studied at the Detroit Conservatory of Music—on piano—before joining the Lionel Hampton band, where she stayed two years.

Despite her youthful figure, Betty has been around a while. She was a friend of both Billie Holiday and Charlie Parker. A frequent guest at the Apollo Theatre in New York, she was signed by a record company after an appearance there.

Twas the same company for which Ray Charles recorded, and she wound up doing an album with Charles.

Plaudits to the LBJS for setting up this concert. Only hope they can bring Betty Carter and the John Hicks trio back soon, 'cause by now the word must have spread—it will have to be a smash.

* * *

This week, LBJS brings in the Duke Ellington orchestra under the direction of Mercer Ellington.

On February 28, the Monty Alexander trio, who in my book is one of the most exciting pianists on the scene today.

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