Dionne Warwick in concert "In Performance At Wolf Trap" Mon., Nov. 29 at 9 p.m. TV, Ch. 22, 67.

Andre Watts in "Live From Lincoln Center" Sun., Nov. 28, 3 p.m. on TV Ch. 22, 67.

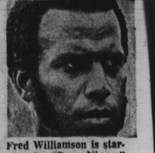
Stanley Turrentine at Villa Rosa/Showboat in Silver Springs Nov. 30-Dec.5.

George Diggs, director Ebony Players II presents "Joey" and "The Waiting Room" Dec. 2-4 at Joel's Place, One West Lafayette.

Charles Everett in "Mighty Mouse and the Quarterback Kid" on ABC After School Specials" Wed., Dec. 1, 4:30 p.m.

George Benson is at Painters Mill this Sat.

Stanley Clarke at Howard U. Nov. 26 and Nov. 27 at Painters Mill.



Fred Williamson is starring in "Boss Nigger" now at area theatres.

'Hellzapoppin' ... pooping not popping

By Ida Peters

The long awaited world premiere of Jerry Lewis' "Hellzapoppin" sort of left me with a feeling that this show is too "pooped to pop."

When George C. Scott opened the New Mechanic in "Sly Fox" the AFRO's McKenzie reported his honor the Mayor was on hand, champagne flowed and folks were all dressed up ... half and half the audience in black tie and long dresses.

I don't know what cloud nine I've been on ... but when "Sly Fox" opened I was in Las Vegas at the MGM Grand Hotel watching "Hallelujah Hollywood" one of the most lavishly staged shows ever seen in Las Vegas ... 69 stunning half-naked show girls, five dancing men, 3 singing ladies 2 singing men who could sing. Half naked girls on three stages, ceiling high staircase, walkway across the whole theatre ... and two balconies.

So opening night, was expecting a little "Hellzapoppin," updated Ziegfeld Follies maybe ... or repeat of 1940's Olsen and Johnson ... with all the beautiful people in Baltimore all turned out in best bib and tucker with TV cameras pooping ... and celebrities galore.

What I did find was one of the crummiest looking audiences I have ever seen at an opening night. Dressed down front in the $12.50 Orchestra seats. And I guess who were the only people in black tie and long dress in the Orchestra?

I'm not ashamed. We came dressed out of respect for Jerry Lewis. We feel he is a great entertainer and has gone out of his way to help put the Mechanic and Baltimore on the map. And ... Alexander Cohen and the City of Baltimore have invested a lot of money in the whole project.

As to "Hellzapoppin" This show may make it to Broadway just on Jerry Lewis' guts. It has great potential with gorgeous costumes by Alvin Colt exciting scenery and lighting by Robert Randolph.

It's supposed to be a musical circus with songs, skits, specialty acts, a little vaudeville and a little burlesque.

Jerry Lewis is great but the whole thing needs to be rewritten and tightened up.

The Volantes on unicycles are great in the first act; Leonardo, the man who juggles dishes builds up great suspense in Act Two. But, how long can an audience watch Bob Williams and Louie a dog who does nothing? Right here ... this act could have been cut ten minutes.

Jerry Lewis' most outstanding number, "Once I've Got My Cane" danced with 18 shapely girls behind a black curtain showing only canes, arms and legs has great potential for a show stopper on Broadway.

"Eighth Avenue" sung by Lynn Redgrave and the chorus is a good parody on the fact. N.Y.'s prostitutes had to move uptown from Broadway. The furs by Aronowicz, the Jourdan boots, and Bonnton handbags for costumes made this number visually exciting.

Miss Redgrave is not the best singer in the world but she shines in a television takeoff of Barbara Walters which kept the audience chuckling.

The best thing about this show is the man who keeps trying to deliver a plant to Mrs. Jones. Each time he appears the plant is larger and larger and when you leave the theatre, he's in the lobby trying to deliver a full grown tree.

Another highlight, is the woman who roams all over the theatre yelling for Oscar. Then there's the trick where a man is tied in a bag and all night long throughout the show we're shown struggling to get out.

Jill Choder plays the role of the usher who heckles Jerry Lewis all night then gets the break singing "A Miracle Happened." She's cute as a button, has a nice shape but no singing charisma. What this show needs is a soulful talented singer that will take the audience by the throat and bring it to its collective knees ... like Liza Minnelli, Natalie Coie or Mercedes Ellington who's holding her talent in the chorus?

The best of Jerry Lewis in this show is his very last number "One To A Customer" ... where a very serious, trying very hard poignant Lewis comes through ... like a little boy who always plays the clown to hide a broken heart.

"Hellapoppin" is playing at the New Mechanic through next week.

Thelma Houston to play movie 'Bessie Smith'

Thelma Houston, lady, singer, and actress, appears on the surface simply to be a multitude of talent, but her raucous voice and exhilarating stage performances are merely outlets for her much deeper sense of emotion and love for entertaining.

Thelma was born in Mississippi, but her zany and facetious personality was developed in Long Beach, California, where she was raised since the age of 10. Thelma was blessed with the natural ability, "to let it loose," but it was her first music teacher who, "developed and taught me the imporatnace of learning music," recalls Thelma.

As a child, Thelma's voice was well circulated in the Gospel circles, as she sang in church, the school choir, and upon graduation from high school joined the Gospel group, The Art Reynolds Singers.

The Art Reynolds Singers took Thelma on a cross-country trek, an experience laborious as it was, which convinced Thelma that a solo singing career would be a viable proposition. Thelma candidly remembers her debut live solo performance, "it was extremely hard work, I did five sets a night, six days a week, and lost 15 pounds in my first week."

Later Thelma left those excruciating circumstances to work at the popular Factory Club, where her performance attracted the experienced eye of Fifth Dimension manager, Marc Gordon, who engineered her first solo recording contract with ABC-Dunhill in 1969.

Her first solo album was "Sun-shower," followed by her chart single, "Save The Country" (not off the album), first penned by Laura Nyro. The album was produced by Jim Webb, and went on to become a 'Classic' introduction for a lady whose voice and exemplary qualities had finally been discovered.

The innovative style and charm she generated eventually found its way to Motown in 1972, which produced the superb album, "Thelma Houston," produced by Joe Porter on the MoWest label.

Thelma Houston

The album further enhanced Thelma's growing reputation as a stylist, and her vocal dexterity had brought her from the fringes of success to a leading lady in the R/B field. In 1974, Thelma was nominated for a Grammy as Best R / B Vocal Performance for her chart-hit, "You've Been Doing Wrong For So Long," which was a rewarding and memorable experience, Although I didn't win, the nomination restored faith in myself and the business that I had somehow lost along the way."

The Houston sound was last year featured with Smokey Robinson at Carnegie Hall and also at his gala and sell-out appearance at The Roxy, in Hollywood. Later, in a special presentation at the Dorothy Chandler Pavilion, Thelma was presented in, "An Evening with Dory Previn," in December.

While Thelma's singing career has always been in the forefront, her acting career has been nurtured and now takes up quite a bit of her creative energy, doing bit parts in both television and movies

Most recently Thelma was featured singing on the soundtrack of the Universal/Motown film, "The Bingo Long Traveling All-Stars And Motor Kings," starring Billy Dee Williams, James Earl Jones, and Richard Pryor. Thelma recorded three songs, including the title song, "The Bingo Long Song (Steal On Home)," which was released as a single.

Thelma is also featured in the hilarious and zany MGM film, "Norman, Is That You?" starring Redd Foxx and Pearl Bailey. Thelma sings the risque and humorous tune, "One Out Of Six," which is one of the two vocal tunes on the soundtrack. It is also the closing title of the film which ends in deafening laughter.

Thelma will make her screen debut as an actress when she stars in a movie which will portray the life of the Empress of Blues, Bessie Smith. The film will be produced by Motown Columbia Pictures.

In between researching Bessie Smith and singing on motion picture soundtracks, Thelma is also ready to unleash her new Motown album, "Anyway You Like It." The album is produced by Berry Gordy, and the title track, "Any Way You Like It," was co-written by Thelma, along with Michael Smith and Anthony Jones.

Thelma convincingly believes, "I have a good sense of myself," an asset which readily lends to her ability to interchange singing and acting, family, and her private life.

There is nothing within the bounds of entertainment that Thelma plans to omit. Her caravan of ideas keeps trucking along, and her endless zest and love for entertaining continues to be her patent for success.

Coming events

David Weiderman has been selected by the Arena Players, Inc. to direct the second play of their 24th season, "The Bad Seed" by Maxwell Anderson opening Dec. 3.

A multi-talented performer Mr. Weiderman has acted, directed, danced, and sang in a wide variety of productions on stage, screen, and television. He has performed with the Woodstock Opera Company, Austin Fine Arts Center, Mankato Civic Theatre, Chimers Playhouse, Arena Players, Marco Polo Inn, Chicago Heights Playhouse, Tyrone Guthrie Theatre, Mankato State University, and the Bloomington Civic Theatre.

Among his directing credits David includes; "Who's Afraid of Virginia Wolfe" "No Exit," "Look Back in Anger," "Scrooge," and "Blackbird" while in Miami.

He has also directed or assisted in directing "The Bold Soprano" in Chicago; "Of Mice and Men" in Mankato, Minn.; and "On Borrowed Time" and "Lysistrata" with the Arena Players in Baltimore.

Coming Events

A package of short animated films and film fantasies will be shown at the University of Maryland at Baltimore campus, Nov. 26, 27 and 28.

The program of films by independent artists will feature Quack, a 20-minute comedy fantasy by two local artists, John Huckert of Silver Springs, and Scott Guthrie of Lanham.

Two showings will take place Nov. 26 and 27, at 8 p.m. and 10:30 p.m., and one showing at 8 p.m. will be screened on Nov. 28.

An evening of chamber music will be presented by the students of the University of Maryland Baltimore County at 8 p.m. Nov. 29 in the UMBC Fine Arts Recital Hall.

The musicians will perform under the direction of Robert Gerle, professor of music at UMBC. The program, which will include music by Mozart, Beethoven, Brahms, and Mendelssohn, is free to the public.

Karen Ward has an important role in the Vagabond Players production of "Jekyll and Hyde" adapted and directed by Steve Yeager. Performances are Fri. and Sat. at 8:30 p.m. and Sun. at 2 p.m. through Dec. 5 at their Fells Point Theatre.

$4.50 Per Carload At All Times
Carlin Drive In
They call 'em EBONY IVORY & JADE AND "SWEET SUGAR"
They Can Lick Any Man Ever Made!

Keep dry with Good Gordon's Gin.

Largest seller in England, America, the world. Super-dry is why!

"SEXY MAGICO" PLUS "CANDY'S NATURE"
NORTH AVE. CINEMA
FIRST SHOW STARTS AT 10 AM MON. – SAT. 1:00 PM ON SUNDAY

Four words that paralyze a city.
GOD TOLD ME TO
DOUBLE DYNOMITE! F.N.T. JACKSON
TOWN 25th & CHARLES
BARGAIN HOURS $1.50

Thanks, Gladys, For Giving Us "Pipe Dreams!"

When Gladys Knight sings... You feel good! When Gladys Knight stars in the most romantic movie of the year... You feel even better!

gladys knight in pipe dreams PG
Color-Panavision AVCO EMBASSY PICTURES RELEASE
MAYFAIR 506 N. HOWARD ST. • JF 9-7128

'hair-raising horror'

DON'T SEE THIS ALONE! THE ENDING WILL SHOCK THE HELL OUT OF YOU!

"CARRIE"
Based on the runaway best-seller!
If only they knew she had the power.
R RESTRICTED
United Artists
HIPPODROME THEATRE 12 N. EUTAW ST. LE 9-4775

3 Foxy Mama's Who Know Where It's At!
They Can Lick Any Man Ever Made!
They call 'em EBONY IVORY & JADE PG
Starring ROSANNE KATON • COLLEEN CAMP SYLVIA ANDERSON
AND FRED WILLIAMSON as BOSS NIGGER
APOLLO 1300 Harford Ave. 539-6943 | CARLIN DR-IN Park Circle 542-9500 | CLUSTER 303 S. Broadway 327-7306 | MAYFAIR TWO 523 N. Howard 539-7396

It'll blow you away!
BILLY DEE WILLIAMS... You've never seen him so bad.
BLAST
"BLAST" Starring BILLY DEE WILLIAMS • D'URVILLE MARTIN SAM LAWS • CELIA KAYE
Special Guest Star RAYMOND ST. JACQUES
Music by Wade Marcus • Produced by Grant Green
Written, Produced and Directed by FRANK ARTHUR WILSON
Soundtrack available on Blue Note Records and Tapes
R RESTRICTED
SAFE Lighted Parking Across The Street!
NEW THEATRES PARK & LEXINGTON • SA. 7-7100

Jacksons taping eight new TV shows for CBS

By Vashti McKenzie

Most musical groups often find it hard to survive in the entertainment industry when maturity and growth forces change and challenge

The Jacksons, formerly The Jackson Five are not like most musical groups and they are doing more than surviving. Their new album, "The Jacksons" for their new label, Epic, should do very well.

This summer the group's summer replacement variety show did so well in the ratings that come 1977, "The Jacksons" will again be seen on CBS-TV.

Michael Jackson called 8:30 a.m. California time last week to talk about The Jackson recent successes.

"We're taping eight shows now and they will start in January", said Michael sleepily. "We wrote the theme song and there will be lots of comedy too."

The show will feature the entire Jackson family, Marlon, Jackie, Tito, Michael, Randy and the three sister, Janet, Latoya, Maureen. There will also be new costumes and choreography by Anita Mann.

As for the album, "The Jacksons," Michael noted that the family has more creative control over their music than before. A solo cut on the album "Blues Away" is receiving lots of attention from reviewers within the industry. Tito and Michael wrote the number as well as another cut "Style of Life".

Look for The Jacksons to hit the concert trail with a whole new show in mid-1977.

Michael's rendition of the theme from the movie "Ben" won an Academy Award not too long ago. He sang "Ben," a beautiful love ballad, to a rat. At the Academy Award that year the world was eagerly waiting for him to step more and more into the solo spotlight.

"A solo album is in the works" said Michael. It will feature lots of ballads.

Michael feels that ballads have a universal appeal." People all over the world love ballads for their genuine qualities," he said.

When The Jacksons made the switch from Motown to Epic, Brother Jermaine remained behind with wife Hazel, daughter of Motown magnet Berry Gordy. He is now launched on his solo career.

Michael said that the family sees Jermaine every week. The indication here is that the family may not be playing together but are staying together.

You might like to know what an entertainer who has grown up in the musical limelight does with his spare time. Michael says he collects exotic birds and Norman Rockwell paintings.

He got into exotic birds after seeing and appreciating Barry Gordy's vast bird collection on his California estate.

Michael's Peacock has been known to make loud noises at 4 a.m. much to his sleeping neighbors despair.

"I also have a Poll Parrott," that's the largest of the Parrotts and a few Pigeons, he said. Michael gets his exotic pets from a shop in the San Fernando Valley that specializes in similar animals. The birds can cost anywhere from $1200 to $1500.

This is Michael both love American realist painter Norman Rockwell whose humorous and poignant rendings appeared for many years on the cover of The Saturday Evening Post. Michael not only collects Rockwell paintings, but is a painter of graphics and caricatures.

From the day the group's first single debuted I Want You B ack" to its latest hot single "Enjoy Yourself," millions of fans have clamored for the group's attention and love.

The Jacksons off on new TV career.

Mobbed airports, hotels concert halls and stages often threatened the group's safety. Unlike most musical groups, The Jacksons never withdrew from view.

Fans are important to The Jacksons You'll find them talking to their fans and signing autographs sometimes for long hours. If you want to keep in touch with them you can do so by writing The Jackson Fans Club, P.O. Box 5-J, New York, New York 10019.

P.S. In answer to the question all you young ladies have been asking about these beautiful black men ... yes, a few of them are still single and still available. Randy, 15 is unmarried; Michael, 19, says, "I'm always interested in love, I like everyone and I'M not comitting myself to any one girl."

No, no, Michael won't be married anytime soon.

You and I have heard that line before, usually just before the tune of "O Promise Me".

P.P.S. And, don't you forget that the five sons of Joseph and Katherine Jackson are among the elite few who can boast fourt consecutive number one singles having sold more than 60 million records.

Sammy's Las Vegas party benefits Negro College Fund

NEW YORK, N.Y., Lucille Ball Jack Lemmon, Liza Minelli Shirley MacLaine and Mickey Rooney will be on hand Thursday, December 16, when the United Negro College Fund throws "The Greatest Birthday Party Ever Held" for Sammy Davis, Jr., at the Las Vegas Hilton. Frank Sinatra is the honorary chairman.

In addition to Frank Sinatra, the tribute committee will include Bob Hope, Lucille Ball, Steve Lawrence, Eydie Gorme and Pearl Bailey.

Sammy's friends and supporters of the College Fund from throughout the United States plan to usher in Sammy's fifty-first year with a gala dinner and celebration, emceed by Flip Wilson.

"This party is a tribute to a great human being who dedicated hundreds of hours to the cause of black higher education in America," said Flip.

Sammy Davis, Jr., who has originated more "firsts" in the entertainment world than almost any other performer, is chairman of the United Negro College Fund's Special Events Division. He was three times voted the Las Vegas Entertainer of the Year. In 1973 UNCF's Wilberforce University awarded him an honorary doctorate.

Proceeds from the $100 per person dinner party will be used to further the education of students at UNCE's Colleges The UNCE supports 41 predominantly black colleges throughout the country. Over one-third of these youngsters come from families which earn $6,000 or less.

Tickets to the Sammy Davis, Jr., Birthday Party can be obtained through the United Negro College Fund, c/o/ the Sands Hotel, 3317 Las Vegas Boulevard South, Las Vegas Nevada 89109, telephone (702) 735-9111 x835 or by calling UNCF Headquarters in New York at (212) 644-9626.

Phil Woods recording session

By Frederick I. Douglass

Alto saxophonist Phil Woods appeared at the Villa Rosa Lounge in Silver Springs during this week and demonstrated the skills that he learned while playing in the big bands of Dizzy Gillespie, Buddy DeFranco, Gene Krupa and many others.

His sax playing was also heard with the likes of Donald Byrd, Kenny Dorham, and Philly Joe Jones during the 1950's. Some of his best work during this period can be heard on a Prestige label reissue entitled "Altology."

During his week long stint at the Villa Rosa, Woods was making a live recording. Outside in the park lot sat a trailer filled to the brim with more than $200,000 worth of recording equipment, including a video tape set-up which enabled the engineers to see as well as hear what was going on inside the lounge.

The equipment was owned by a father and son team who freelance for several recording companies, travelling around the country to capture on vinyl those artists who do best in live sessions. They have a fascinating line of work which involves recording Country and Western musicians as well as Blues, Jazz and Gospel artists.

Woods was in good form for his recording session. He played the sax with ease and fluidity throughout the evening, occasionally revealing that his major influences were Charlie Parker and Johnny Hodges. At one time during his career Woods was mislabeled as being "Just another Bird acolyte." While Charlie Parker exerted an immense influence on Woods, the man was able to use Bird's phenomenal playing as a point of departure in the development of his own unique style.

Woods is a mellow cooker. His playing swings, but never gets hysterical. He has begun to emerge from relative obscurity in recent months to being a Jazz musician who is really in demand. His success is due, in part, to his recording "The New Phil Woods Album" which gained him considerable recognition. In fact one of the best performances of the evening was a tune drawn from this album which was entitled "The Sun Suite." Woods really smoked on this jam, demonstrating his total command of each and every facet of the alto saxophone.

Woods also scored big when he played "Chelsea Bridge/Johnny Hodges." his tribute to the great saxophonist. The melody of the song has lyrics which go "When I hear people play alto sax the wrong way/I am tempted to say "Remember Johnny Hodges, the Rabbit, My first habit." It was on this song that I really began to appreciate the breadth and depth of Phil Woods' ability. But there was more, much more, in store for my ears.

I was really shocked when Woods announced that he was going to play "Body and Soul," that venerable classic that is considered to be the exclusive domain of Coleman Hawkins. While Woods did nothing to dislodge Hawkins from his ownership of the song, he did a beautiful job of playing the song. I am most anxious to hear how the recording session turned out. It should have come off beautifully because Woods and his program together, the band was tight and crisp, and the crowd and atmosphere at the Villa Rosa were just right. Be sure to check out Yusef Lateef and Stanley Turrentine who will be doing shows at the Villa ROSA Lounge before the end of the year. I guarantee that you will find the trip to Silver Spring worthwhile.

Larry Graham of Graham Central Station at Capital Center, Saturday.

Billy Nolen (John Travolta) and his girl friend Chris (Nancy Allen), a pair of cruel high school students, go joyriding, in "Carrie."

TV-RADIO TUBES
COMPLETE LINE OF PHONOGRAPH NEEDLES
$2.00 (TUBES CHECKED FREE)
WE REPAIR PORTABLE TV'S
RELAY ELECTRONICS
311 S. BROADWAY • PHONE 675-0588
Open 9 a.m. to 6 p.m.—Sat. till 7 CLOSED THURSDAY

THE LEFT BANK JAZZ SOCIETY Presents
JAZZ CONCERT EVERY SUNDAY
5 TO 9 P.M.
THE FAMOUS BALLROOM
1717 N. CHARLES ST.
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 28, 1976
STAN KENTON and his ORCHESTRA

Look at it this way
Hosted by Vernon Dobson & Sam Daniels
Sunday 6:30PM 11 where you belong

IBM Presents Movies to Remember
Outstanding movies that have been enjoyed by audiences over the years, shown with only one interruption.
Saturday:
SINGIN' IN THE RAIN
Gene Kelly, Debbie Reynolds, Donald O'Connor
8 P.M. CHANNEL 5
IBM

We've got your island in the sun.

It's in the Bahamas or the Caribbean. Only $107-$243* plus airfare.

Now Eastern can fly you to an island far away that will make you feel at home. An island with beautiful people, tropical breezes, warm waters and sun drenched beaches. Choose any of our Holiday Inn Sunprize vacations and sharpen up your tennis game. Stay 8 days/7 nights in Aruba ($107-$149*). Or Curaçao ($107-$135*). Nassau ($128-$170*). Montego Bay ($121-$156*). St. Thomas ($166-$243*). For reservations and more information on these and other island destinations call the travel specialist, your travel agent or call Eastern Airlines at 768-3100 in Baltimore. And find your place in the sun. We've got the right time and the right place for you.

EASTERN THE WINGS OF MAN
"The Wings of Man" is a registered service mark of Eastern Air Lines, Inc.
*Prices are per person, double occupancy and don't include airline taxes, meals and transfers unless indicated or gratuities. Effective till 12/15/76. Prices are subject to change.

27 NOV 27