Columbia Capers

By Pinnie L. Ross

The Yuletide season brought many gaieties to Columbia, and around the world.

For most Americans, the celebration of Christ's birthday, who brought peace and goodwill to all mankind nearly over 2,000 years ago.

Speaking of celebrating; the Columbia Chapter of the Links, Inc. hosted their Christmas party last week at the home of Dr. and Mrs. (Celonia) Walden.

It was rather cold and bitter, then rain came, but it didn't stop the members along with their husband's from coming out to celebrate the cause.

Those that came early or late mattered not to Mrs. Walden, for she was ready and willing to greet us, in a kelly green gown. It was, a - line and semi-fitted, made of raw silk material. She chose nature see-thur slippers to compliment her gown.

Usually the members bring a covered dish, but not thistime, they chose to have toe food catered.

The appening took place in the Walden's spacious club room.

First food, with the most modern music playing, then the big suprise of the evening came when the lady disc jockey (yours truly) suprised the members with all "old goodies" such as, Dianan Washington, Brook Benton' Nat Cole, Sam Cook, "Wisting the Night Away", that one was a suprise , and the n Hannah Brooks, Gloria Lynn, Earl Grant, and many more.

First to start the dancing was past president Charlene Jarvis, then it continued with request to continue to play the old ones.

President Zola Boone had her say, to welcome the husbands and remind them t was truly a sale, auctioneered by Bebe Price, She did a fantastic job as usual.

Another fun gala was held down Laurel way at the home of Dr. and Mrs. (Gloria) Massey. It was really a "great" party.

Just before arriving, guests knew it was the site of the party, because cars were fine, the "Hogs", the Lincolns, Marks IV, and 450 SL's.

Mrs. Massey is another warm personal hostess, greeting everyone and making them feel comfortable.

This time the guests packed each room on the first level, they were simply beautiful and fashionable.

Pretty Thelma Daley was among the guets, she is the Delata's national lresident and was escorted by her Coppin professor husband, Gilbert.

Mrs. Massey's food was tasy andwell prepared as always. Guests kep going back for seconds and the hostess continued to replenish the empty platters. In an adjacent room was a table full of sweets. All kinds of cakes, baked by Mrs. Massey, topped with coffee. Bleieve me, when you start eating Mrs. Massey's food you dorget about all of the "little" calories.

That party lasted until about 2:30 a.m., "What a morning".

What are you doing New Year's Eve? What ever your plans are, remember there are plenty of churches that will be having New Year's Eve services.

Try to attend one, and give thanks to God for letting you live to see another new year.

May you have a new year filled with hapliness and love,

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Miss Britain, Mr. Hale wed

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel A. Britain of Normount Avenue have announced the marriage of their daughter, Miss Sheila Anne Britain to Lester Nathan Hale, son of Mr. and Mrs. Landis Hale of Potomac Street.

The ceremony took place in Progressive First Baptist Church on December 17.

Maid of honor was her sister Miss Yvonne S. Britain and bridesmaids were Darlene Britain, Marsha Richburg, Marvel Edelin, and Barbara Mitchell.

Best man was the bridegroom's cousin, Quentin Jones and ushers were Leon Britain, Ronald Richburg, Phillip Dorsey, and Landis Hale Jr.

After a reception at the Carpenter's Union Hall on Forest Park Avenue the couple left for a honeymoon in Jamaica.

The bride is a graudate of Morgan State University and is now a elementary school teacher. Lester is also a graduate of Morgan State University.

Mrs. Lester Hale

Two phase weight control program set

"Change your weight in '78," says Helen K. Fleischer, area director of the Maryland-Delaware Diet Workshop, with the Diet Workshop's Phase One and Phase Two, programs.

"Phase One is weight loss. The Diet Workshop's four-for-one approach of diet, nutrition education, exercise and behavior modification wraps weight loss up in one neat, economical package. Now we have added Phase Two, our new Maintenance Program, which carries the four points over into a permanent lifestyle.

"Losing weight should not be an expensive proposition. The best way to take weight off is through a nutritionally balanced eating program. The Diet Workshop's diet has twelve years of success behind it, and we have the solid backing of an outstanding medical authority, Morton B. Glenn, M.D. It's the safe sure way to lose weight without expensive supplements and clinics.

"The best part of our Maintenance Program is that it is free. Once a member reaches goal range and graduates, there is no charge for weigh-in and instruction."

The Diet Workshop is holding Open House the week of January 9 in all classes. The public is cordially invited to hear about the latest concept in weight control, Phase One: Weight Loss and Phase Two: Maintenance.

For information about "Feeling Great in '78" mail self-addressed, stamped envelope to The Diet Workshop, 6999 Reisterstown Rd., Baltimore, Md., 21215.

Holiday SALE DAYS
ACME
You're going to like it here!
SUPER SAVER
AN AMERICAN STORES COMPANY

LANCASTER BRAND BEEF LOIN
Sirloin Steaks
$1.49 lb.
FULL CUT! NO TENDERLOIN REMOVED!
LANCASTER BRAND TAILLESS BEEF LOIN
Porterhouse Steaks $2.19 lb.

PENNSYLVANIA FRESH
Mushrooms ..... bulk lb. 89¢

HOLIDAY SHOPPING HOURS:
Open Regular Hours
Tuesday thru Friday
Open Saturday, Dec. 31 'til 7 p.m.
All Stores Closed
New Year's Day, Jan. 1
All Stores Open Jan. 2, 9 a.m. to 7 p.m.
Have a Happy New Year!

NEW ZEALAND, FROZEN
Legs of Lamb ..... lb. $1.29
NEW ZEALAND, BONELESS
Shoulder of Lamb .... lb. $1.19
SELECTED BRANDS (18 TO 20-LB. AVG.) BROAD-BREASTED
Grade A Turkeys .... lb. 59¢
WHOLE OR EITHER HALF, SEMI-BONELESS
Smoked Hams FROZEN WATER ADDED lb. $1.59 LANCASTER NO WATER ADDED lb. $1.79
GWALTNEY OR
Fireside Buffet Hams lb. $2.69
HOLIDAY FAVORITE! PORK LOIN
Pork Roasts
BLADE (5 TO 7 RIBS) lb. 89¢
SIRLOIN (3 TO 3½-LBS.) lb. 99¢
PORK LOIN CENTER CUT Pork Chops lb. $1.69
PORK LOIN ASSORTED Pork Chops lb. $1.19

SAVE 30¢ WITH COUPON
PRINGLES ORIG. OR EXTRA
WITH THIS COUPON
TOWARD YOUR PURCHASE OF ONE 9-OZ. TWIN PACK, ORIG. OR EXTRA PRINGLES
AND YOUR $7.50 OR MORE PURCHASE (Excluding Cigarettes & Milk Products)
COMPANY-6 (102)
Limit one per family please.
Redeem December 28 thru 31, 1977.

SAVE 30¢ WITH COUPON
FROZEN CHEESE
Ideal Pizza 15-oz. size 69¢
SAVE 34¢ WITH COUPON
ASST'D. FLAVORS! IDEAL OR
Bala Club Beverages 4 25-oz. btls. $1.00

SAVE 30¢ WITH THIS COUPON
TOWARD YOUR PURCHASE OF ONE, ANY BRAND, ANY SIZE
FROZEN PIZZA
AND YOUR $7.50 OR MORE PURCHASE (Excluding Cigarettes & Milk Products)
COMPANY-6 (103)
Limit one per family please.
Redeem December 28 thru 31, 1977.

You'll Like the Freshness Here!
FRESH, CRISP WESTERN (HEAD)
Iceberg Lettuce
RED, RIPE (CELLO PKG.)
Slicing Tomatoes
FRESH, CRISP (BUNCH)
Celery Hearts
MIX OR MATCH 3 for $1.00

SAVE 34¢ WITH THIS COUPON
TOWARD YOUR PURCHASE OF FOUR 28-OZ. BTLS., ASST'D. FLAVORS BALA CLUB OR IDEAL BEVERAGES
AND YOUR $7.50 OR MORE PURCHASE (Excluding Cigarettes & Milk Products)
COMPANY-6 (105)
Limit one per family please.
Redeem December 28 thru 31, 1977.

SAVE 50¢ WITH THIS COUPON
TOWARD YOUR PURCHASE OF ONE 12-OZ. CAN (12 RINGS) MAX-PAX COFFEE
(REGULAR OR ELECTRIC PERK)
MANUFACTURER-6 (106)
Limit one per family please.
Redeem December 28 thru 31, 1977.

SAVE 30¢ WITH COUPON!
PRINGLES ORIG. OR EXTRA
Potato Chips 9-oz. twin pack 59¢
REG. OR LOW-SUGAR, RED
Hawaiian Punch 46-oz. can 56¢

SAVE 20¢ WITH THIS COUPON
TOWARD YOUR PURCHASE OF ONE 10-OZ. CAN ENDUST
MANUFACTURER-6 (107)
Limit one per family please.
Redeem December 28 thru 31, 1977.

SCOTT PAPER SUPER SALE!
WHITE, ASSORTED DECORATED OR ARTS AND FLOWERS
Scott Towels jumbo roll 59¢
WHITE, ASSORTED, PRINTS OR CALYPSO FACIAL
Scotties Tissues box of 200 56¢
WHITE, PINK OR ASSORTED BATHROOM
Waldorf Tissue ..... 4-roll pkg. 85¢
SAVE 30¢ WITH COUPON!
Ideal Non-Fat Milk... 1-gal. ctn. 89¢
BEAUTIFULLY DECORATED! FRESH BAKED VIRGINIA LEE
NEW YEARS Layer Cake ..... 18-oz. size $1.59
NO DEPOSIT! NO RETURN!
Diet Rite or R.C. Cola 6 pack of 16-oz. btls. $1.09
BRIGHT & EARLY IMITATION
Orange Juice ..... 2 12-oz. cans 79¢
Prices effective December 28 thru 31, 1977. None sold to other food retailers or wholesalers. Quantity rights reserved!

SAVE 30¢ WITH THIS COUPON
TOWARD YOUR PURCHASE OF ONE GALLON, ANY CONTAINER IDEAL FRESH MILK
COMPANY-6 (104)
Limit one per family please.
Redeem December 28 thru 31, 1977.

SAVE $2.00
ON ALL TICKETS TO OPENING NIGHT OF SHIPSTADS & JOHNSON ICE FOLLIES
BALTIMORE CIVIC CENTER, TUES., JAN. 10TH, 8 P.M.
Special Coupons, worth $2.00, are available at your Baltimore Area Acme & Super Saver Markets.

SHOW TIME

Music, theatre, movies, the arts

'Earth, Wind and Fire' spellbinds 15,000 fans

By Frederick I. Douglass

Earth, Wind and Fire, the nation's numero uno Afro-American music group, headlined a show at the Civic Center, Wednesday night which also featured vocalist DeNiece Williams, and Pockets, a group of young men from Baltimore who are rocketing to success.

Earth, Wind and Fire wrapped the standing room only crowd of more than 15,000 in a mystical, magical spell that at times had everyone rivited to their seats but that also inspired the brothers and sisters to dance frenetically in the aisles. Inside the Civic Center things were comparatively peaceful and orderly as EWF filled the air with vibration of peace and love.

Unfortunately, the magic of EWF didn't spread beyond the walls of the hall. Outside two young men argued briefly. Suddenly a shot could be heard like a thunderclap, eclipsing the sounds of calmoring voices. People ran in every direction.

A black man cried out in pain as his collapsing body sank deeper and deeper into a whirlpool of nightmarish terror. Hard, jagged cement tore at his body ripped seared with pain by the metal missle that had just penetrated his flesh, his mind totally blown by how quickly a battle of words had turned to violence.

Soon the chill of the night and the pain of the bullet were forgotten as he lapsed into unconciousness and was taken to the hospital for surgery. Yet as he lay there oblivious to the world, his young black face was contorted into a question. Why? Why? Why?

Hopefully the answer to the young man's question will not be further bloodshed. Perhaps he will hear EWF's message of brotherhood and peace and will find constructive ways in which to channel his rage. But the time has come for all black people to ponder the reason why we keep destroying one another. We must listen to EWF and our other poets of peace so that we can begin finding non-violent ways to settle our disputes. I seriously doubt if the man who pulled the trigger was inside the concert, or he would have been so filled with love that he could never have blown away a brother.

Despite the tragedy outside, the concert was an artistic success. Pockets, a Baltimore group formerly know as Innervisions, kicked-off the show with tunes from their runaway best selling album "Come Go With Us," blasting the up tempo title track, moving people into the groove.

While this is a boss tune, Pockets is hitbound with the jam "In the Pocket," a rollicker that begins with a zesty, gutsy bass riff that is quickly responded to by the guitarist and drummer. Soon the horns leaped in and the voices rang out.

Pockets laid down several other tunes from their thriller killer LP such as "Wizzard Wuzzit" and "Doin the Do," two instrumentals that displayed the group's versatility. Produced by Verdine White, EWF's bass player, Pockets is on a rocket to stardom.

DeNiece Williams

DeNiece Williams, whose smash hit "Free" has all the lovers upset during the early part of 1977 when she appeared at the Palace, next strolled out on stage and knocked the folks cold with smokers from her latest album "Song Bird."

Produced by Maurice White of EWF, Niecy has a hit bound jam with "Baby, Baby, All My Love's for You." Niecy got the people in deep heat as she sang new material including a taste of Ragge on "Be Good to Me" which evokes images of the Caribbean, and cello mellow ballads like "The Paper" and "We Have Love for You."

The foxy lady has really evolved as a performer and the way the audience reacted to her new songs indicates that she will be hot in 1978. And did the brothers and sisters go crazy when they heard the fimiliar melody of Niecy's biggest hit "Free."

DeNiece Williams and Pockets did a boss job of setting the stage for Earth, Wind and Fire, the superstars whose music transcends the categories of jazz and rock, and rhythm n' blues as well as race, color and creed. The music of EWF is universal in its appeal and because it encompasses elements of all phases of contemporary music. During the Wednesday night concert, EWF did a historical run of all their myriad hits and wailed away on jams from their latest album "All 'n All."

EWF's act has to be seen to be believed. Not only does EWF sound better in person and explore the breath and depth of each man's talents during a public performance, they also blow your skull with magical feats designed by Doug Henning, the star of the Broadway smash "Magic Show" and choreography by George Faison of the "Wiz."

EWF's act is spectacular from the very beginning when they magically appear from transparent tubes lowered from the ceiling to the stage where strobe lights are flashing hypnotically and smoke bombs compete with the haze created by members of the audience burning cannabis.

You name it, Earth, Wind and Fire played it — "Mighty, Mighty," "Saturday Night," "Open Our Eyes," "Shinning Star," "Yearnin Learnin'," "That's the Way of the World," and "Devotion," — just to name a few of the tunes EWF belted out during their more than hour on stage.

During the evening every member of the group was given an opportunity to solo. Maurice White was exceptional playing the Kalimba which is playewd with the thumbs and produces a sound somewhat similar to the vibes. While most of the music EWF played was of the fingerpopping variety, they also played some straight jazz, going back to the days when Maurice White played in Ramsey Lewis' group.

And then there are the elements of magic, meditation and space travel which hve become very important in EWF's music. During one number , Verdine White was lifted into the air by unseen forces and continued to pluck maniacally on his bass while floating on his side in space. The most spectacular magic trick came while the group played "Getaway," a tune that describes how meditation can be used to escape the hassles of the world.

After the band began throbbing away on this pulsating tune, six men dressed in space suits walked on stage and assembled a large metal pyramid. Verdine, Maurice four other members of the group entered the pyramid which was lifted into the air while the spacement continued to watch. Suddenly the sides of the pyramid swung open and it was revealed to be empty.

The spacemen made a big deal of looking for the missing band members, shinning search lights into the audience and throughout the Civic Center. And then—you guessed it —the spacemen took off their helmets and their stood Maurice, Verdine and the other members of EWF.

The crowd screamed for an encore which was responded to with a romping, stomping version of EWF's latest hit "Serpentine Fire," a tune that got everybody off with its pulsating, scorching rhythms.

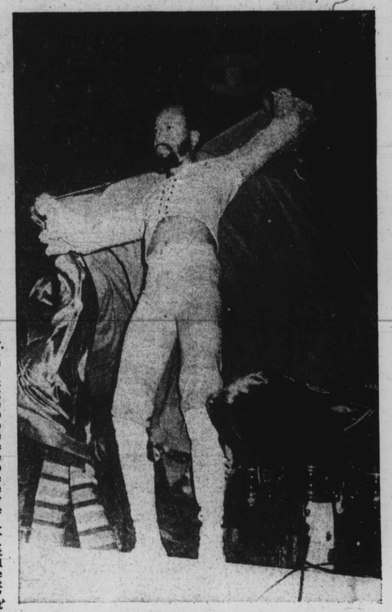
Then the mysterious tubes reappeared from the ceiling, the members of EWF entered them and disappeared before the eyes of the crowd amidst more flashing lights and smoke bombs. What a show.

I was sheduled to interview Maurice White after the show, but when my wife and I got backstage, Monty White, the group's road manager, infomed us that Maurice was hoarse and wanted to rest because the group would be appearing at the Capitol Center on Thursday night. Monty promised that the AFRO would have the opportunity to intervier Maurice and other members of Earth, Wind and Fire in the very near future. I will, however, share a few comments that Maurice made during a conversation we had when the group was last at the Civic Center.

Responding to a comment that some people feel EWF is getting removed from their fans Maurice stated "Unfortunately this is true to a certain degree. I would like to walk out in the audience and shake everybody'shand,but when you are in the public eye, you have to give up a lot of freedom. We have to have bodyguards just like the president because while most of the people are friends, we never know when someone might try to hurt one of us.

"Everybody loved Malcolm X and Martin Luther King. Everybody loved the Kennedys' but look what halpened to John and Robert. It seems that there are people in this country who don't want to hear messages of peace."

This is the chilling reality that grips us during the 70's when young men are shot down in the street while entertainers on stage sing songs of brotherly love.



FLASH!!! — Maurice White of "Earth, Wind and Fire" flings off his cape at the beginning of the group's concert at the Civic Center Dec. 28.

EARTH, WIND AND FIRE set the souls of some 15,000 persons on fire Wednesday night when they spotlighted the concert at the Civic Center.

THE GOOD LIFE

Children

PREESCHOOL MOVIES — For children ages 3 to 5, Pikesville Branch library, 1111 Reisterstown Road, Thursday, Jan. 5, 10:30 a.m. Call 494-2131 for free tickets.

PEANUT BUTTER "Gingerbread Men" — Reisterstown Branch library, Cockeys Mill Road, for ages 3 to 5, Wednesday, Jan. 4, 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. Call 833-1550 to register.

PRESCHOOL STORY TIME — Towson branch library, 320 York Road, for three - year - olds, Wednesday, Jan. 4, Thursday, Jan. 5, 10 a.m. For ages 4 and 5, Thursday, Jan. 5, 1:30 p.m. Call 296-8500 to register.

PRESCHOOL STORY HOUR — Turner's Station Branch, 411 New Pittsburg Ave., Thursday, Jan. 5, 4:30 p.m. For ages 3 to 5. To register call 284-7570.

Health

BLOOD DONATION — Red Cross Donor Center, 2701 N. Charles St., Saturday, Dec. 31, 9 a.m. to noon, Monday, Jan. 2, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 3, noon to 8:15 p.m., Wednesday, Jan. 4, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Thursday, Jan. 5, noon to 8:15 p.m., Friday, Jan. 6, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Call 467-9005, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays for an appointment.

Community events

HAPPY NIGHT — New Year's Eve celebration, Inner Harbor, Saturday, Dec. 31, 11 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Includes lasers, fireworks, music and refreshments.

PUBLIC MEETING — Advisory Board of Juvenile Services, O'Conor State Office Building, 201 W. Preston St., conference room 8A, Wednesday, January 4, 2 p.m.

CHRISTMAS GARDEN — Fire station, 2700 Glen Ave. at Cross Country Boulevard, through Sunday, Jan. 8, 10 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily.

"TOYLAND, Including Toys That Teach Us Science," — The Maryland Science Center, Light Street at Key Highway, through Jan. 29. Exhibit includes marionettes, wooden toys, stuffed animals. Call 685-2370 for times and admission prices.

Classes, lectures, workshops

SEMINAR — "How to Bid Successfully and Make a Profit," presented by the Maryland Port Administration to provide information to minority contractors. World Trade Center, Pratt Street, 16th floor, Constellation Room, Tuesday, Jan. 3, 7 to 10:30 p.m.

GROWING UNDER LIGHTS — Workshop for growing plants under lights, Cylburn Park, 4915 Greenspring Ave., Wednesdays, Jan. 4, 11, 18, 25, 10 a.m. to noon. Call 396-5642 for more information.

SIGN LANGUAGE CLASS — Towson Area Branch library, 320 York Road, Wednesday, Jan. 4, noon to 1 p.m. Call 296-8500 to register.

Music

Jazz

NEW YEAR'S EVE CABARET — Presented by the Left Bank Jazz Society, Famous Ballroom, 1717 N. Charles St., Saturday, Dec. 31, 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. Featuring the music of the Houston Person Quintet with Etta Jones, vocalist. For ticket information call 945-2266.

Classical

BACH'S MAGNIFICAT — Presented by the Baltimore Symphony and Chorus, Lyric Theatre, 120 W. Mt. Royal Ave., Wednesday, Thursday, Jan. 4, 5, 8:15 p.m. Call 837-8691 for ticket information.

Theatre,

"PICNIC" — Special performance by the Arena Players, sponsored by the Baltimore Urban League Guild, Arena Playhouse, 801 McCulloh St., Friday, Jan. 6, 8:30 p.m. For ticket information call 523-8750.

The Arts

SO WELL REMEMBERED — Toys If the Near Past, The Peale Museum, 225 Holliday St., Saturday, Sunday, 1 to 5 p.m., Tuesday through Friday, 10:30 to 4:30 p.m. Through Jan. 8.

PAINTING EXHIBIT — Works by James W. Voshell, Catonsville Community College, 800 S. Rolling Road, Humanities Building, gallery, from Jan. 6 to Feb. 3. Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesday, Thursday, 6 to 8:30 p.m., Saturday, 1 to 4 p.m.

"FAMILIES" — Works by city school children, Johns Hopkins University, Homewood campus, Charles and 34th Streets, Milton S. Eisenhower Library, gallery, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday, 1 to 6 p.m.

...all that jazz

New Year's Eve on radio

By Bob Matthews

Once upon a time, it was the big commercial radio networks that hopscotched around the country on New Year's Eve, bringing in the big bands, via remote installations.

This year, it's the National Public Radio network, — WBJC-FM is the primary affiliate in Baltimore, although WTOW-FM, and WEAA-FM carry some of its news programming.

Beginning at 10 p.m., EST, NPR will go live from two New York jazz clubs, the Cookery, and the Village Gate, both in Greenwich Village. The program is slated to last until 3 a.m.

Three vocalists who have been around a while will be spotlighted from the Cookery: Alberta Hunter, who is now over 80 years old, and has been shouting the blues since the early 20s;

Helen Humes, who came to fame as a singer with the Count Basie orchestra during the 30s, and pianist-vocalist Rose (Chi-Chi) Murphy, whose high falsetto chirpings were jazz novelties in the 30s.

When the remote moves to the Village Gate, Stanley Turrentine and his group will be on hand.

Stanley, is now a prime exponent of the jazz-fusion school, and has played Baltimore many times.

There'll be house-party type of solid down to earth swinging jazz on tap at the Famous Ballroom New Year's eve, as the Left Bank Jazz Society presents Etta Jones and the Houston Person quartet in a cabaret-dance scheduled to go until the very wee hours.

They'll even trot out the black-eyed peas and breakfast. It's a relatively new experiment for LBJS — their first New Year's eve venture.

Over in Washington, Dizzy Gillespie is slated to blow in the New Year at Blues Alley in Georgetown.

The Villa Rosa-Sheraton will have Monty Alexander wailing away as 1978 comes into being.

Naturally all of the local jazz groups will be working at the many nightclubs which are putting on special events. As usual, bars in Maryland will be allowed to stay open all night—even the 6-day licensees.

So — like most everyone else, "... All That Jazz" takes this opportunity to say to you all, "Have a swinging New Year!"