HERO CONTENDERS — Six youngsters who represented their schools in the 1978 "Unsung Heroes" competition are shown in this I. Henry Phillips photo. Left to right — Anthony Mines of Forest Park, Renard Brown, Northern; David Mullen, Douglass; Jarvis Page, Edmondson; Michael Young, Cardinal Gibbons and Steve McGill, Northwestern. Winner was Joseph Bosley of McDonogh. Annual dinner by McCormick honors young athletes who performed best for their schools with least notice. Final selection earns $5,000 college scholarship.

MSA for weekend

FRIDAY
Varsity Basketball
Northwestern at Lake Clifton
Southwestern at Northen

J V Basketball
N.W. at Lake Clifton
S.W. at Northern
Varsity Wrestlin
Poly at McDonough

Swimming
S. W. at Lake Clifton
S. W. Jayvee at Lake Clifton JV

JV Basketball
Northern at Southwestern

SATURDAY
Varsity Wrestling
Poly at McDonogh

Tourney slated

A men's unlimited basketball tournament is scheduled next weekend, Dec. 28 - 30, at School 135 in Cherry Hill. Winners will receive trophies. Teams interested may call Virgil Sims at 355 - 4463 before Dec. 26.

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home for the holidays

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Annapolis salutes champions

ANNAPOLIS — Forty - five members of Annapolis — Forty - five members of Annapolis High School's state champion football team were honored along with their coaches Wednesday night, in a dinner at the Stanton Community Center.

On hand were state and local politicians, educational and religious dignitaries and prominent sports figures.

These included Sen. Aris Allen, mayor John Apostol, the Rev. Father Robert Powell, the Rev. Mr. Roger Hall Reed, Lenny Moore, Sherman Punkett and Morgan State athletic director Earl Banks, who delivered the main speech.

Banks, after presenting head coach Al Laramore a plaque of appreciation and acknowledging the contribution of assistant coaches Fred Stauffer, Bill Phebus and Bruce Villwock, admonished the young athletes and their parents on recognition of football as "just one step in the climb to good citizenship."

Special awards for outstanding play went to quarterback Daryl Brown, halfbacks Randy Pittman, John Rodkey and Crandall Chambers; fullbacks Kevin Thompson and Tom Parker; end Shawn Chambers, center Lenny Riek, guards Gary Dukes and John Dobyins and tackle Daryl Parker. . . SAM LACY

Wilt wants back in the NBA

LOS ANGELES (UPI) —Former basketball star Wilt Chamberlain will report to the Los Angeles Lakers to fulfill contractural obligations, but wants to play with another NBA team, his attorney said Wednesday.

"Chamberlain is going to fulfill the obligations the Lakers say he has," Seymour Goldberg said.

Goldberg discounted reports that Chamberlain, 42, would be playing for the Chicago Bulls.

The Lakers claim that Chamberlain, who left Los Angeles after a 14-year career to coach the San Diego Conquistadors in the American Basketball Association, still owes the team one year of playing time under an old contract.

"In order to be totally clear of the Lakers' obligations that they claim we have to them, Wilt is willing to return to the Lakers immediately," Goldberg said.

Goldberg said he sent a letter to the Lakers Tuesday asking "Where and when shall we report?"

Laker owner Jack Kent Cooke said he would make a decision about Chamberlain when he receives Goldberg's letter.

After a less than spectacular (his team was 37-47) coaching career with the Conquistadors, Chamberlain, who was the NBA's most valuable player three times, and the league's career leading scorer, served as president of the International Volleyball Association.

He was also an investor in the IVA and played with the Orange County Stars.

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Weekend basketball

College Schedule
Friday
Hagerstown CC tournament
Eliz. City at Chi tournament
Saturday
Hagerstown CC tournament
Eliz. City of Chi Tournament
NBA Schedule
Friday
Atlanta at Boston
Cleveland at New Jersey
San Antonio at Chicago
Denver at Golden State
Washington at Los Angeles
Kansas City at Phoenix
Philadelphia at Seattle
Saturday
Cleveland at Atlanta
San Antonio at Detroit
New York at Houston
New Orleans at Indiana
Kansas City at Milwaukee
Washington at Portland
Monday
Philadelphia at New York
Golden State at Portland
San Diego at Seattle
CONTINENTAL ASS'N.
Friday
Allentown vs. Maine at Portland
Rochester at Jersey Shore
Saturday
Lancaster at Wilkes-Barre
Jersey Shore at Rochester
Allentown vs. Maine at Bangor
Monday
Baltimore at Jersey Shore
Maine at Wilkes-Barre

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G78-15	2 for $84.00	$2.66
H78-15	2 for $88.00	$2.86

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P195/75R14	6B78-14	$66.15	$2.35
P205/75R14	7B78-14	$63.32	$2.36
P215/75R14	8B78-14	$65.85	$2.61
P225/75R14	9B78-14	$71.60	$2.67
P205/75R15	7B78-15	$65.40	$2.58
P215/75R15	8B78-15	$68.45	$2.74
P225/75R15	9B78-15	$75.60	$2.90
P235/75R15	10B78-15	$79.30	$3.02

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G78-14	$42.00	$2.42
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H78-15	$46.75	$2.65
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TOWSON — 715 YORK ROAD South of Bellona Ave. — 823-4000 — Daily 7:30 A.M. 5 P.M. Sat. 7:30 A.M. 5 P.M. Thurs. till 8 P.M.
NORTHWEST — 6431 REISTERSTOWN Near Opp. Reisterstown Plaza — 764-2626 — Daily 7:30 A.M. 5:30 P.M. Sat. 7:30 A.M. 5 P.M.
HAMILTON — 5619 HARFORD ROAD — 426-2330 — Daily 7:30 A.M. 5:30 P.M. Sat. 7:30 A.M. 5 P.M.
ESSEX — MIDDLESEX SHOP. CTR. — 687-8313 — Daily 7:30 A.M. 6 P.M. Sat. 7:30 A.M. 5 P.M. Thurs. till 8 P.M.
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SHOWTIME ★Theatre ★Arts ★Music

Bill Bailey's gone home

By Ida Peters

Funeral services were held for Bill Bailey, fondly called Willie by his famous sister, Pearl Bailey, Monday, Dec. 18 at Miller Memorial Baptist Church, 22nd and Jefferson in North Philadelphia, Pa. Funeral arrangements were handled by Hobson Reynolds.

Bailey died December 11 at the age of 68. He was on his way to the hospital where he was an outpatient suffering from heart trouble, a lung ailment and high blood pressure.

He never returned home from the hospital and his widow, Pernell notified the police. The widow was very upset with the City of Philadelphia because although his body had adequate identification an employee in the Medical Examiner's office took two days to notify her of his death.

Bailey began a 30-year career by dancing for pennies as a youngster on street corners in D.C. where his father, a minister, often would join him and pass the hat.

He later performed with such stars as Cab Calloway, Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Billie Holiday and Miles Davis as well as his younger sister, Pearl.

He was known as one of the smoothest tap dancers in 1930s, 40s and 50s and headlined shows in New York, Las Vegas, London and Paris.

Bailey was a protege of the famed dancer Bill (Bojangles) Robinson who once called him his only competition.

In recent years, Bailey lived in Philadelphia quietly with his family at Cambridge Street near 29th. He worked as a doorman while preaching at local churches.

In 1961 he retired from show business and established a small church on 126th Street in Harlem. He told the AFRO at that time; he was ordained a minister in the Church of God in Christ following a year's study. He returned to the bright lights for the sake of raising funds for his church and was billed as the Rev. Bill Bailey.

He had many brushes with the law because of his drug addiction and in 1959 was arrested by beatnik cops in N.Y. along with 95 others in a million dollar dope raid.

He finally got the best of drugs in 1961 and retired from show business. In recent years he worked as a doorman while preaching at local churches. He and his family have been living on welfare since April 30, 1964, receiving $331.50 every two weeks for his wife and seven of his 11 children according to the State Department of Welfare.

He is survived by his wife Pernell; four sons, Willie, Jimmie, Johnny and Bobby; seven daughters, Pearl, Mary, Monica, Tanya, Esther, Beverly and Barbara.

He is also survived by three brothers and nine sisters including the famed Pearl Bailey.

★★★★★★★★

Pearl called him Willie

Pearl Bailey was one of the entertainers that made the song "Won't You Come Home Bill Bailey" famous. Many hearing her sign this song on national television did not know she had a brother Bill or that he was the famous tap dancer.

Monday, Pearl Bailey sat on the front row at Bill's funeral. She wore a tan fedora, a black turtle neck sweater, high boots and pink tinted sunglasses.

Shortly after the next to last of Bill's 11 children 10-year-old Tanya had helped to cover her father's remains with a silken white quilt and began to weep in her pew, Pearl fetched the little girl to her own seat.

She hugged her sobbing niece throughout the service.

Pastor Roland Jones summoned Pearl to the pulpit just before he was to read the Eulogy. And, while his name was officially William Eugene Bailey, Pearl admonished the 900 persons present that "His name was Willie not William.

"Willie once said to me, Pearl, I think you cry so much for others, it's a wonder your clothes don't stay wet all the time. I wept a long time ago while he was walking."

She imagined her brother would, if he could, leap up and dance for the man who said, "Lord, nothing's gonna happen today that you and I can't handle."

Pearl concluded by reading a wire from a theatrical agent she didn't identify:

In life, there are many people who vamp 'til ready. And there are dancers prone to doing air taps, (faking it). Willie's taps, on the other hand, were clean cut, fast and accurate.

By now, Pearl was tapping her foot on the floor.

UNDATED AFRO file photo shows the Rev. Bill Bailey with his first wife, Eddie Lee Bailey, as they admire their daughter Beverly Ann Bailey.

1951 Photo

She continued:

Bill Bailey won't you please come home. Many persons in the audience applauded.

Pearl Bailey left the church with Tanya still clinging to her and slipped into the same limoisine which took her and her husband, Jazz drummer Louis Bellson and others to Rolling Green Cemetery.

His roles go back to those of Monteverdi, right to the start of opera, up to the music of Gunther Schuller and Dmitri Shostakovich. Italian, German, French, English, Latin, Russian, Spanish - these are the languages with which he has worked.

He made his Metropolitan debut in 1976, his La Scala debut in 1977 and, already booked into 1981, he will then appear at the Paris Opera.

In 1973 he sang excerpts from "Boris Godunov" with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra. Our critics praised his "sensitive vocalism," finding him "blessed with an imposing stage presence and a commanding voice to match."

I've heard Mr. Estes only once in person, and that was in the role of Ned in Scott Joplin's "Treemonisha" (Atlanta, 1972).

Until we in Baltimore have the pleasure of playing host to Simon Estes again, we can explore his recordings of Shostakovich, Verdi, Rachmaninoff, Handel, Haydn, Delius, Beethoven, and Mendelssohn as these appear on the RCA, Angel, Columbia, and Italia labels.

CALENDAR

The Freedom Brothers, Charles Jones and Elridge Robinson will present their second annual Christmas concert at the Waxter Center, Sat., Dec. 23 at 1:30 p.m., 861 Park Ave.

Xmas at Pratt

Children are invited to get into the Christmas spirit at the Enoch Pratt Free Library. Tree trimmings, puppet shows, Christmas crafts and special Christmas films are among the many offerings for youngsters at Pratt branches as the holiday season nears.

Presented without charge, as are all Pratt library programs, the round of festivities has been scheduled as follows:

Theatre

HELLO DOLLY — now playing at Mechanic Theatre starring Carol Channing

FOR COLORED GIRLS Who Have Considered Suicide When The Rainbow Is Enuf" - Now playing at Warner Theatre in D.C.

ARENA STAGE — "Ah Wilderness", Dec. 1 - Jan. 7 - "The 1940's Radio Hour," Nov. 3 - Dec. 17;

UNCLE VANYA — Chekhov's play starring Peter O'Toole through Dec. 23 at Eisenhower Theatre, Kennedy Center, D.C.

THE CHRISTMAS STORY — Curtain at 8 p.m. Wed. thru Fri.; 4 p.m. and 8 p.m. Sat. and 4 p.m. Mon Dec. 25. Theatre Project, 45 W. Preston St.

LU ANN Hampton Laverty Oberlander - Curtain at 8:30 p.m. Fri. and Sat. thru Dec. 23, Fells Point Theatre, 811 S. Broadway.

Dance

NUTCRACKER — Starring Sylvester Campbell, Dec. 26 - 30. The Maryland Ballet with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra Lyric Theatre.

WASHINGTON Ballet — "The Nutcracker" - Through Dec. 30 at Lisner Auditorium, George Washington University

Art

GALLERY 409 — New gallery at 409 N. Charles St. is showing works by Sylvia Snowden and Robert Torrence II, Tues. thru Fri. 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sat. 1 - 6 p.m.

CITY HALL — The first artists' invitational exhibition of juried painting, sculpture and crafts thru Jan. 30. Hours weekdays 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

WALTERS — Ann Allen, lecturer in the education department of the Walters Art Gallery will conduct lectures on the gallery's current exhibition, "The Grand Mogul: Imperial Painting in India, 1600 - 1660" at 12:30 p.m. Tues. and Wed. in the Centre Street Building.

Events for children

THE CLOISTERS — A variety of activities, in keeping with the holiday season, are planned at The Cloisters Children's Museum during the week of December 18 through the 22. Winter holiday activities will be offered during the Christmas school vacation" from December 26 through January 5.

Top Jazz Albums

1. Rapid Seed — Grover Washington Jr.
2. Touchdown — Bob James
3. Air Gone — Weather Report
4. Flame — Ronnie Laws
5. Intimate Strangers — Tom Scott
6. Children of Sanchez — Chuck Mangione
7. All Fly Home — Al Jarreau

On Black Classical Music

By Dominique deLerma

The international Mr. Estes

The Bayreuth Festspielhaus is that opera theater in Bavaria which Ludwig II built for Wagner and for the productions of his operas, few of which could be satisfactorily staged in any of the existing houses. The inauguration of the hall took place in 1876 after extensive fund - raising projects, with much of the money coming from Ludwig's own treasury. The Festspielhaus quickly began to be regarded as a holy site for the Wagnerites, whose hero was the prime German of all German composers.

It was a question of national pride perhaps, more than racial discrimination, when the audience found out (in 1961, I think) that the production of Tannhauser" would have a black Venus, namely Grace Bumbry. But she won them over totally.

This year their Flying Dutchman was black. Simon Estes, a bass - baritone from Centerville, Iowa (where he was born in 1938), conquered Bayreuth.

Mr. Estes did not start off with the idea of going into music. He spent three years preparing for a medical career, one in theology, and four in social psychology at the University of Iowa, after which he was encouraged to enter the Juilliard School of Music.

Perhaps that was not time lost because the male voice matures quite a bit later than does the female voice, and the university experience gave Mr. Estes broader intellectual horizons than he might have otherwise secured. For example, he is working on a sociological study of the black family.

In 1965, after his Juilliard studies, he won the Munich International Competition. Veronica Tylrer had carried off first prize the year before, and he crossed paths with Ms. Tyler in 1968 when he was a winner of the First International Tchaikowsky Competition in Moscow and, like Ms. Tyler, he was invited to the White House by President Johnson.

Since that time he has sung more than 80 roles with the major opera companies of the world. To cite the houses or operas would be a task for a list - maker, but we should note that, as Boris Godunov in Luebeck, he received 54 curtain calls in 1977.

He was selected to be soloist at the events which opened the Kennedy Center's concert hall and which started Carlo Maria Giulini's tenure as conductor of the Los Angeles Philharmonic.

When he appeared in Italy, the police had to be called to lock the doors of the theater in Perugia so the crowd which lacked seats would not invade the hall.

He has sung in Hong Kong, Mexico and in Australia. In Sydney his performance "left the audience shouting in the aisles, wildly demanding more."

Deborah Kerr in "The Last of Mrs. Cheyney" at the Mechanic, Feb. 6.

Night Scene Seen reviving AFRO news after dark tradition

With BOB MATTHEWS

'Tis the season to be joyous, and Night Scene wishes to each and every one of you, a pleasant and trouble - free holiday.

Whether or not you celebrate Christmas, Kwanza or Hannukah, this is the season for families, so Night Scene skips over the time you will be devoting to home deeds, and moves along to the prime partying time of the year.

Speaking of New Year's Eve, which is the traditional time for noise, sparkling bubbly, and comradeship. There are some special events on tap for the night, and naturally, we can only list a bare minimum.

We suggest, however, you check your favorite watering place for their plans, so that if reservations are required — you'll be included.

Brice's Intimate Lounge

"FFD Company" will be the live attraction, with an open bar and hot buffet available. Reservations will be necessary, which are on sale now.

The cost will be $30 per couple. According to Frazier Brice, all the usual trappings will be included — noise makers, confetti and the traditional black - eyed peas.

5-Mile House

There will be a $5 cover charge for New Year's Eve activities, which will include the ritual foods — buffet and b.l. peas, paper hats, noisemakers and all the rest.

The entire proceedings which will commence at 10 p.m., will be one huge disco scene, with all three rooms more or less combining for the night's sessions.

So, rather than three separate rooms, the clientele of all the rooms will combine forces in one gigantic disco party.

Point After

Plans for the back room for New Year's eve will include an open bar and free refreshments.

Naturally, all the accoutrements necessary for ushering in the New Year will be on tap, and the cost will be $15 per person. Reservations are being taken now.

Jimmy Powell told me that they will have live disco music on this night, but couldn't say yet which group it would be.

Sphinx Club

Sphinx Club perennial, alto saxist Arnold Sterling, along with Chico and Chico on drums and organ, will be on the podium for the last night of the year.

The music will commence at 11 p.m., and continue on until the ultra wee hours. There will be a $2 cover charge for members, and a $3 charge for non members on this night.

No reservations are necessary, but it is recommended that you be in place fairly early, for the Sphinx Club is usually jam - packed at black - eyed peas time.

Left Bank Jazz Society

LBJS will host its second annual New Year's Eve cabaret at the Famous Ballroom on Charles St., with music again provided by the Houston Person - Etta Jones quartet.

Cost this year is $13 for singles, $25 per couple. Tickets have been on sale for a couple of weeks now, and remembering last year which was completely sold out, it promises to be another "biggie."

Festivities will start at 10 p.m., and according to Benny Kearse, they'll go until 6 a.m., with a full breakfast served, including those traditional b.l. peas.

The Bandstand

Fells Point will be the scene of the "battle of the saxes" as Sonny Stitt and Mickey Fields hook up. They'll be on hand for the N.Y.'s eve do, and if you've ever heard these two together, you know it's a "cuttin' " session.

The cost will be $6 single, $10 per couple, and since the room is on the small side, it would be prudent to get reservations early. Once again, there'll be the expected paraphernalia attendant to ushering in 1979.

Maryland Inn

Perhaps the biggies of this area are the plans at the Maryland Inn in Annapolis, where they will start the evening with a raw bar at 7:30 p.m., then comes a cocktail sip until the full dinner is served — with wine, plus an open bar.

At 11 p.m., the patrons move into the King of France Tavern, where they will be entertained by the Ray Bryant Trio — with open bar continuing. Fee for all this is $125 a couple, with reservations a must.

Blues Alley

If you've a mind to spend the N.Y.'s eve time in D.C., Blues Alley is having three shows. Dinner and show beginning at 7 p.m., will cost $25 per person, or $15 per person for the show only.

At 10:30, it will cost $35 per person for show with an additional cost for dinner. Party favors and champagne is complimentary at this session.

The 1 a.m. show will have a $15 per person cost, with breakfast optional for an additional charge.

Talent on hand will be the Monty Alexander Trio, along with comedian Ron Douglass.

Some Bars Won't

Checked with the Md. State Liquor Board to find out what will happen to bars with 6 - day licenses since New Years' Eve falls on a Sunday night.

Usually, bars of all types are allowed to remain open all night, and they will be once again, with this difference.

No dispensation has been made to allow 6 - day licensees to open early, so that bars which are normally closed on Sunday, will not be allowed to open until 12:01 a.m. Monday Morning, January 1, 1979.

Naturally, we couldn't cover everything this time, but we'll have more information for you in your Friday AFRO next week.

For now, from The Night Scene Seen, and . . . And All That Jazz, we wish you a glorious holiday season.