MRS. BARNETT REID
(the former Miss Yvonne Henson)

Henson sisters holiday wedding

The Highway Christian Church, Homewood Avenue and Chase Street in Baltimore, was the Christmas holiday setting for the wedding of Misses Yvonne and Denise Henson, the daughters of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Henson of Sykesville, Md.

Their daughters became the wives of Barnett Reid of Baltimore and Jose' Feliciana of Puerto Rico.

The double ring ceremonies blended the color of ice blue with the traditional Christmas colors of green and red.

Wearing identical gowns and carrying identical bouquets of flowers, the Henson sisters were escorted to the altar by their father. Bishop W. A. Showell performed the service in the absence of the Henson's pastor, District Elder W. A. Thomas who was ill.

Groomsmen included John and Larry Henson, James Burley, Will Coleman, Hector Baran and Gerald Henson.

Bridal attendants were Rosetta and Jeanette Henson, both sisters of the bride; Mrs. James Burley, Mrs. Ophelia Henson, Miss Georgia Taylor, Miss Evelyn Franklin, Miss Shirley Henson and Mrs. Faye Henson.

A reception honoring the couples was hosted by Mrs. Sarah Blackwell at the Central East Social Hall.

MRS. JOSE' FELICIANA
(the former Miss Denise Henson)

Seminar discusses women in business

The Small Business Administration and the Maryland Federation of BPW, Inc. will hold a seminar entitled "Women In Business" on Friday and Saturday, Jan. 26 and 27, at the Hilton Inn, Pikesville, 8:30 a.m. through 4 p.m.

This two-day seminar is designed, especially for women who are interested in starting their own small businesses and-or women who already own and manage small businesses. The program is designed to make you aware of those factors which are vital to the success of any small business venture.

Although the seminar's basic thrust is designed for the small business owner, there are areas of interest to all working women.

Registration deadline is Jan. 16. Registration forms and information can be obtained by calling the SBA at (301) 962-2233 or Gwendolyn Lindsay, program chairman at (301) 594-8383.

'Gift of the Nile' film

The Nile has been the one constant in the 5,000-year-old history of Egypt. The river has seen the world's first high civilization, the might of Rome, the armies of the Prophet — and today, history is still being made along its banks.

"Egypt — Gift Of the - Nile," a timely new film-lecture by Doug Jones, documents the continuing influence of the river on Egyptian life. He shows us both the ancient monuments that stand in the Nile valley — the Pyramids, the Sphinx, the temples at Luxor, Karnak and Philae — and such impressive modern achievements as the Aswan High Dam, which harnesses the river's power for industrial uses. Other sequences in the film take us to the bazaars and mosques of Cairo, the reopened Suez Canal, archaeological sites where scientists are still finding new clues to Egypt's ancient past and museums where the treasures that archaeologists have unearthed are displayed.

"Egypt — Gift Of the Nile" is the fifth program in this season's 'Round the World Adventures series sponsored by the Maryland Academy of Sciences. It will be presented at the Lyric Theatre on Thursday, February 8, at 8:30 p.m. and Friday, Feb. 9, at 5:30 and 8:30 p.m.

For ticket reservations, please call the Academy of Sciences at 685-2370. Tickets may also be purchased at the door.

'Anniversary Show of Stars' premieres Sunday

International — model, television and movie personality Sylvia Mackey will be featured along with movie star and television personality Dwan Smith when the "Anniversary Show of Stars" premieres at the Baltimore Civic Center on Sunday, January 28, 5 p.m.

Sylvia Mackey, a native of Washington, D.C., daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Cole, is the wife of the former Baltimore Colts football player John Mackey.

The Mackeys reside in a community outside of nearby Hollywood, Calif.

Sylvia can best be remembered as one of Baltimore's top and most sophisticated models who ever hit the runway. Just returning from a fashion stint in Paris, Sylvia is enjoying a glamorous and exciting career in the movie, television and fashion industries.

Dwan — and The Last Name Is Smith" are the words of Dwan Smith who the day, grooming your hair with Afro Sheen Hair Products.

The popularity and acting ability of Ms. Smith will jar your memory back when you recall and relate to her bright smile and sparkly personality in her portrayal of Jolene Jackson, Lloyd Bridges' special friend and co-star in the Columbia Picture series, "Joe Forrester."

Sylvia Mackey

Dwan Smith

Baltimoreans will remember Dwan's singing and dancing abilities which won her the coveted starring role of Delores in the Warner Brothers hit musical "SPARKLE." Shortly after, Ms. Smith received another film assignment in another Warner Brothers film, "Brothers." These films, along with her TV roles and commercial assignments, keep Dwan in constant demand as a stunning nightclub performer, electrifying lecturer and M.C. extraordinaire.

Dwan Smith will perform at the "ASOS" in a singing capacity by performing "Look Into Your Heart" from the motion picture "SPARKLE."

Ms. Smith has prepared an added treat for "ASOS" goers and will perform her arrangement of "Ease On Down the Road" from "The Wiz" with her accompanist - keyboard - tress, Jean Johnson.

Ms. Johnson, whose musical foundation comes from the church and from ten years of classical piano instruction with Dorothy Schenk, vocal instruction with Florence Russell and vocal - coaching with Eddie Beal.

Ms. Johnson has worked with Jimmy Chapel, Charles Wright of the "Watts 103rd Street Band" and Johnny "Guitar" Watson. Her television credits include appearances on the Johnny Carson Show as a background singer for Lola Falana and the Bell Telephone Special with Ben Vereen, Lisa Minelli and Joel Gray, recorded at RCA studio.

AKA's Founders' Day, Saturday

Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Epsilon Omega Chapter, Baltimore, will sponsor its annual Founders' Day luncheon on Jan. 27, at the Blue Crest North.

Mrs. Barbara Phillips of Winston-Salem, N.C., national president of Alpha Kappa Alpha, will be the Founders' Day guest speaker. Mrs. Phillips is the principal of an intermediate school in Winston-Salem.

She received her bachelor of science degree from Winston-Salem State University where she was graduated summa cum laude. She received her master of science degree from Indiana Upiversity where she became a Jessie Smith Noyes scholar. Presently, she is a candidate for the doctorate degree in education at the University of North Carolina, Greensboro.

Some of the current national projects of the sorority are the Reading Experience, United Negro College Fund and the Cleveland Job Corps.

Cooking classes at YWCA

International Center, YWCA at 128 W. Franklin St., is offering cooking classes every Wednesday.

Each week at 10:30 a.m. an ethnic cook will share her recipe of her favorite, nourishing food.

Students may take part in preparation. Recipes will be discussed and prepared food served as lunch for the participants.

West Indies, Iranian, Chinese, Spanish, Japanese, Norwegian and Estonian and German foods will be introduced. Call 685 - 1460 to register.

For those who work downtown, an opportunity is available to eat an international lunch every month. Every first Friday of the month, International Center YWCA is hostessing an ethnic luncheon at noon.

Starting Feb. 2, Ukrainian, Italian, German and Estonian lunches will be featured. Call 685 - 1460 for reservations Monday before the event.

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SHOWTIME

★Theatre
★Music
★Arts

Nataska Hasan wails at the Ritz

by
Frederick I. Douglass

Nataska Hasan, the lovely young female vocalist whose career has spanned experiences ranging from working with Dr. Buzzard's Original Savannah Band to singing in Lionel Hampton's Big Band, the Ernie Terrell Review and a road tour with the Sammy Davis Jr. Show, was wailing from way back this past weekend at the plush Ritz nightclub in downtown Baltimore.

Nataska's tour de force of the evening washer nail - the audience - to - their - chairs rendition of "Inseparable," a song made popular by Natalie Cole.

Nataska has a way with words, especially when she is singing them and she also knows how to work with her jamming band which included Phillip Stancil, keyboards; Ron Bratcher, bass; and Lenny Robinson, drums.

Caressing every syllable of the lyrics to "Inseparable," Ms. Hasan let the folks who were laid back in the slick but comfortable atmosphere know that she truly understands what it is like to be deeply in love with a member of the opposite sex.

The strange thing about hearing Nataska Hasan croon is that you get a sense of deja vu, you keep having this thing roll around in the back of your head that you have heard her before.

Nataska explains, "At one time I was working as the lead singer of Dr. Buzzard's Original Savannah Band, from 1973 to 1974 when the group was mostly doing things in small clubs and a few gigs in the studios backing others.

"It was kind of hard for the group to get gigs because the act was so different, especially back in 1973 when folks weren't into revivals of older music stylings.

"Anyway, I met Stony Browder, the leader of the group, and he introduced me to the other folks in the group. Things were really crazy in those days because I was working with Savannah, but I was taking a lot of solo gigs to keep the bills paid," she said.

"While I was working with Savannah, I got a chance to go on the road with revue and took it, but worked with Savannah whenever I was in Chicago. While I was on the road I was singing six nights a week and rehearsing every day. The strain was too much for my voice and it gave out on me.

"So I split my hometown of Chicago and came to Baltimore where my mother had moved. That was in 1975 and it took more than a year for my voice to come back.

"One day Stony called me up and says that Savannah has a recording contract and wants me to do the gig with them. I couldn't because my voice wasn't right, " Nataska said.

The next thing I know, I'm listening to the radio and I hear myself singing, only I know that it isn't me. I don't know where he found her, but Stony came up with a vocalist who was singing with the group exactly the way I did.

"That was a mind blowing experience, like walking down the street and seeing someone who is your exact double. I really would have like to have done the recording with Savannah, but I wish them all the luck in the world because they are beautiful people."

Discussing how her career has progressed in Baltimore, Nataska says, "Living and working in Baltimore has been a beautiful experience. First of all, I met my manager and lawyer Rudy Hill who has been a guiding force in the development of my talent. Plus I've really enjoyed working for the people of Baltimore, even though there aren't a lot of clubs to play.

"The only bad experience I've ever had in Baltimore was while performing at War Memorial Plaza. The monitors and speakers were set up so that I couldn't hear myself singing from the stage, so I stepped out into the audience.

"Anyway, this big palooka pulls the plug on me, he actually turns off the public address system and says he won't turn it back on until I got back on stage.

"He was really being abusive and hollering at me in front of the audience, so I did the most lady like thing I could think of and walked away. It was really crazy! The man and his wife were saying that I was trying to turn the program into a Muslim rally just because I sang 'The Greatest' and dedicated the song to Muhammad Ali."

Discussing her future plans Nataska states "I'm planning to do a show this summer at the Arena Playhouse, probably doing a few dance routines combined with singing. I'm also working on a recording. My next gig in Baltimore will be at Bandstand which really has a nice feel for the kind of singing I like to do. But I really feel that the Ritz is the ideal place for a singer like myself because of the atmosphere and the sophisticated people who are attracted to the club."

NATASKA LIKES BALTIMORE — Nataska Hasan, who sang at the Ritz last weekend, said living and working in Baltimore has been "a beautiful experience."

CALENDAR

Theater

"ARSENIC AND OLD LACE" — Presented by the faculty of Southern High Schol, auditorium, 1100 Covington St., Friday and Saturday, Jan. 19, 20, 8 p.m. Tickets available at the door.

CENTER STAGE — Offering two, 10 - week courses in acting preparation for adults, Tuesday evenings beginning Feb. 6, 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. For more information call 685 - 3200.

BOOTH THEATER — Presenting "Edwin Booth", 401 Thomas Run Road, Bel Air, Md., Jan. 19, 20, 21, 8 p.m.

EDWIN BOOTH THEATRE — Brian Way's play for children, "The Wheel," will be presented on Feb. 24, at 1 p.m. at the Edwin Booth Theatre, 401 Thomas Run Road, Bel Air, Md.

EDWIN BOOTH THEATRE — Auditions for actors, singers, dancers and musicians for the Edwin Booth Theatre's spring spectacular musical, "Funny Girl," will be held on Feb. 19, 20, 21 at 7 p.m. 401 Thomas Run Road, Bel Air, Md. Auditions for musicians will be at 8 p.m. on Feb. 21. For more information call 838-1000 or 879-8920 ext. 211.

Music

BALTIMORE SYMPHONY — "Friday Favorites" concert, Lyric Theater, Jan. 26, 8:15 p.m. Featuring Gershwin's "Concerto in F" and Brahms' Third Symphony, William Henry Curry will conduct. PEABODY — "The History of Jazz", two - credit course on jazz from its origins to the present will be offered at Peabody Conservatory beginning Jan. 29. The course meets 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Registration is now open to the public.

DUKE ELLINGTON ORCHESTRA — Directed by Mercer Ellington, for one show only, Johns Hopkins University, 3400 N. Charles St., Tuesday, Jan. 30, 8 p.m. Tickets are available to the Chaplain's office and Union Desk in Levering Hall, $4 for students with ID, $6 general admission. Mail orders for tickets accepted until Jan. 26. Send check or money order to Office of the Chaplain, Johns Hopkins University, Charles and 34th sts., Baltimore, Md. 21218.

MARYLAND INN — Marty Grosz and Wayne Wright resurrect a lost jazz form in the King of France Tavern at the Maryland Inn, Tuesday, Jan. 30 - Feb. 4. Call for reservations and more information, 269-0990.

BALTIMORE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA — Conductor Richard Hayman, who is replacing the scheduled Arthur Fiedler, will appear with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra in a Pops Concerts, Saturday, Feb. 3 at 8:15 p.m. at the Lyric Theatre.

BALTIMORE SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA — Finnish conductor-composer Leif Segerstam and the 16-year-old pianist Ken Noda will be the guests of the Baltimore Symphony at the Midweek Concerts on Jan. 21 - Feb. 1 at the Lyric Theatre.

PEABODY — Rosa Ponselle, Metropolitan Opera diva, will be honored by the Peabody Institute in a "Salute to Rosa," on Saturday, Jan. 27 at 8 p.m.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND — Marian McPartland will present a Master Class and a Pedagogy Class for area piano teacher and area music educators at the College Park campus of the University of Maryland, Saturday, Feb. 17, 10 a.m. - noon and from 2 to 4 p.m. in Tawes Recital Hall.

Arts

MSU EXHIBIT — Works by Clarence Wood and William Travis, Morgan State University, Coldspring Lane and Hillen Road, Gallery of Art, through Feb. 10. Gallery hours are Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 444 - 3022 for more information.

ANNIVERSARY — Commemoration of 75th anniversary of the Great Baltimore Fire, exhibition of photographs, Maryland Historical Society, 201 W. Monument St., through Feb. 4. Call 685 - 3750 for more information.

"LUMINOSITY AND REALISM" — Still - lifes and landscapes by Richard C. House, Johns Hopkins University, Milton S. Eisenhower Library, Homewood campus, Charles and 34th sts., 9 a.m. to 6 p.m., Sunday, Monday through Saturday, 1 to 6 p.m. Through Feb. 18.

Night Scene Seen

Reviving AFRO After Hours Tradition

Yvonne Davis
5 Mile House

Tommy Flanagan
The Bandstand

Gladys Wheatley
Mack's C'est Bon

Marguerite James
Lee's Lounge

Dexter Gordon
Left Bank Jazz Society

Dorothy "Sissie" Diggs
Duck's Black Satin

By Bob Matthews

Started the rounds once again on Wednesday night, and realized from the outset that we had talked about some of the clubs, but had not made sure a picture of the barmaid was included.

So, backtracked a bit in order to bring things up to date.

Lee's Lounge

First stop was Lee's Lounge at Liberty Heights and Gwynn Oak aves., where Marguerite James holds forth behind the bar. Asked her what was her maiden name, and was proudly told: "Just put down Marguerite Edwards."

So we did.

Asked her what was the busiest night, and according to Marguerite all of them are. 'Tis true, the place was jumping on this night, with Demon Brodie doing the deejay chores.

They disco at one end of the club with the flashing lights and the entire bit. Had a couple of friends along for this stop, Claudine Allen and James Miller, who expressed astonishment at the Lee's scene.

They were pleasantly surprised to discover the pleasant, moving ambiance of the club.

Naturally some of the regular patrons were around, and Bobby Davidson, Larry Dupree and Gary Davidson were at a table digging all the happenings.

Couldn't resist asking why a table of three men were sitting alone. Bobby lost no time in telling us, "It's early yet."

5-Mile House

Whipped around a few corners to check out the 5 - Mile House at 5302 Reisterstown Road. Wanted to be sure to get a picture of Yvonne Davis, who attends the front bar. She's been doing it in the same location for three years now and has a coterie of loyal fans.

In fact, William "Doc" Murphy was holding down one end of the bar and letting everyone know that the club was "it" and he wouldn't miss the scene.

He admitted that he only lives two blocks away, which just might influence his regularity at the spot.

Bill White, who was doing the managing chores this night wanted to make sure we recognized the birthday of Belva Finney, who is the barmaid in the Research Room.

(Continued on Page 26)

On Black Classical Music

By
Dominique de Lerma

Dr. de Lerma is a professor of music at Morgan State University. He also hosts "Melodies, Lyrics and Notes" on WEAA - FM on Sundays at 11:30 a.m.

So you play drums, or keyboard or a little sax, or maybe you sing? For the past few decades or so, your next step is to start a group and make plans for all the gigs that will come your way. After all, remember so and so down the block who now has a truck and a real fancy car.

Well, career insurance demands more. Where would you be without your group?

Corporate music making is an old tradition in black music. There are a lot of recordings which document how effective ensembles are in Africa, in Trinidad and in Brazil.

Black music is not easy

Even though Baby Dodds and his followers tried to create a one - man percussion ensemble, it had to be a good bit different from the complex ensembles in Africa, and who every heard a one - man steel band?

Black music is very often a social event. It demands a participating audience (think of church), and it is not always something which remains totally in the hands of the musicians (think of the preacher who also sings).

Dancers might sing or wear jingles which rattle right along with the drummers. So the tradition is all set for non - solo performance.

But check out the African recordings, again. Listen to the solo songs accompanied by Mbira in Zimbabwe, or by the kora in Gambia. There is a lot of music for a single performer within this history.

As is true also in European Gregorian chant, for example, the solo music is more complex and difficult than that for the ensemble.

Now if you're talking about getting together for some music making just for the fun of it, all well and good. But if you're speaking about a profession, we better not overlook those other factors can make your career more secure.

The sax player who seems to sound great with his group, when heard by family members and friends, may not yet have mastered scales.

The singer who might cause some people to be carried out of the church can be developing nodes on the vocal cords, which might put an end to that career very fast.

Whatever the instrument, there are few people who are 'fortunate enough (this not a matter of talent) to know intuitively how to use the instrument, but to practice, how to develop all the skills which a future in music might demand.

But if you attend a college or conservatory, then will you have to study theory and history and that other repertoire? Of course. But this is not an institution's scheme to do you in. These are not subjects which a school teaches unmindfully.

The singer planning for a career in gospel music will study early Italian art songs, and Schubert Lieder, for example. There is nothing subversive in this.

AFRO photo by Robin McGinty

GETTING READY for opening night are veteran Arena Players Mrs. Christine Moore and Harvey Denmark. They will appear in "The Detective Story" which opens at the Arena Playhouse Thursday, Feb. 1. For more information call 728-8500.