New Yorker named head of arts school

The dean of a New York based music school has been appointed director of the city school's highly touted Baltimore School for the Arts.

The school board Thursday night approved the appointment of David Simon, 52, a musician and educator who presently heads the Manhattan School of Music, considered the second most prestigious arts school in the country next to Juilliard.

Simon is white.

Simon's appointment becomes effective immediately. The school's Board of Overseers selected him from more than 200 applicants, two of which were from Baltimore and one from within the school system.

"We wanted someone with stature and we got him," said Dr. John Gist, deputy superintendent, just prior to the Friday press conference announcing the appointment. "The two who applied from Baltimore were qualified enough but they just didn't have that national stature that we were going after."

Born in New York, Simon received his graduate and undergraduate degrees from the Manhattan School of Music.

He is considered a proficient brass player and composer of several movie, opera and ballet scores. He has also taught pre-schoolers and on the graduate school level.

School officials said Simon will take over the total operation of the School of the Arts and will try to find assistants and a staff before the tentative December opening.

Education officials deny misuse of fed $

School officials deny charges of improperly using federal funds to pay special education teachers.

The charges came this week after the State Department of Education completed a report that showed the city was paying special education teachers with federal funds when city funds should be used.

According to the auditors' report, the number of locally - paid teachers dropped this year by nearly 30, from 883 in the 1977-78 school year to 853 this year.

At the same time, the number of federally - paid special education teachers increased by 55, from 80 to 135.

Some state officials charged Tuesday of this week, that these figures indicated teachers may have been switched from the local payroll to the federal payroll.

But Martha Irvin, acting state assistant superintendent for special education said the figures could merely reflect a shift in services provided by the city.

She said the conclusion was based on a cursory fiscal review, not a formal audit.

The state report echoes earlier charges made by Robert T. Rinaldi, the city's assistant superintendent for special education, who was fired in November 1978 on charges of insubordination and misconduct.

When Rinaldi made similar charges last year, a federal investigation concluded the funds were used properly.

Latest Lottery winners

The State Lottery announced the latest Baltimore area residents to win in Lottery games.

The winners are: Arvil Cromer, from Baltimore, and Bonnie Keegan, from Glen Burnie, each winning $10,000 in the 17 for $1 game;

Catherine Skopinski, from East Baltimore, won $1,250 in the "Big Money Game."

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Just 50 juniors' slacks. Originally * $14 to $22 ..... sale $4
Just 25 shirred waist nylon tops. Originally * $15 to $18 . sale $1
Just 25 paisley print blouses. Originally * $21 to $28 ... sale $5
Just 100 cotton wrap skirts. Originally * $17 ..... sale 2.99
Just 25 pant suits. Originally * 24.99 to 29.99 ..... sale $15
Just 25 jacket dresses. Originally * $32 ..... sale $15
Just 25 1-piece spring/summer dresses. Orig. * $20. sale $10

Men's fashions

Just 100 ties. Originally * 6.50 to 8.50 ..... sale $2
Just 50 dress shirts. Originally * $9 to $13 ..... sale $4
Just 50 belts. Originally * 4.50 to 7.50 ..... sale $2
Just 50 young men's slacks. Originally * $12 to $21 ... sale $6
Just 50 men's slacks. Originally * $15 to $25 ..... sale $8
Just 100 men's swimsuits. Originally * $6 to 8.50 .... sale $2
Just 25 nylon jackets. Originally * $13 ..... sale $5

Fashion accessories

Just 25 cotton dashikis. Originally * $8 ..... sale $3
Just 50 vinyl handbags. Originally * $17 to $19 ..... sale $4
Just 25 girls' 7-14 dresses. Originally * 10.99 ..... sale $3
Just 25 girls' 7-14 blouses. Originally * 8.99 ..... sale $1
Just 50 girls' 7-14 jeans. Originally * $12 to $14 ..... sale $6
Just 50 misses' terry slides. Originally * $8 ..... sale $2

Bedding, chairs, TVs, stereos, vacuums

Just 10 famous-name twin bedding sets ..... special $78
Just 24 Breuer-style chairs, natural wood finish.. special 29.99
Just 24 wood folding chairs. Originally * 19.99 ..... sale 8.88
Just 5 Citek 12" * black-and-white TVs. Orig. * 99.95 sale $58
Just 3 Teknika 25" * color console TVs.
Originally * 599.95 ..... sale $428
Just 3 Teknika 19" * color portable TVs.
Originally * 369.95 ..... sale $228
Just 3 Hitachi AM/FM stereo systems. Orig. * 249.95 sale $168
Just 3 Kenwood AM/FM stereo receivers.
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Just 6 Hoover upright vacuum cleaners. Orig. * 89.95 sale $48

One-of-a-kind, fully finished broadloom remnants

9x12' brown level loop. Originally * $99 ..... sale $10
12x6'6" green plush. Originally * $119 ..... sale $10
9x12' green twill shag. Originally * $99 ..... sale $10
9x12' ivory shag. Originally * $149 ..... sale $20
12x15' green twill shag. Originally * $149 ..... sale $20
12x15' brown loop. Originally * $149 ..... sale $20
9x12' green loop. Originally * $258 ..... sale $40
12x7'6" rust shag. Originally * $161 ..... sale $40
9x12' green shag. Originally * $144 ..... sale $40

Budget store values

Just 500 men's pants ..... special $1
Just 75 misses' knit tops. Originally * 5.99 to 9.99 ..... sale $2
Just 50 misses' pants. Originally * 10.99 to 16.99 ..... sale $4
Just 50 juniors' pants. Originally * 9.99 to 14.99 ..... sale $4
Just 75 print blouses. Originally * 8.99 to 11.99 ..... sale $2

* Intermediate markdowns have been taken on original prices. TV screens are measured diagonally. All items are in limited quantities and subject to prior sale. Sorry, no mail, phone or C.O.D. orders. Use your Hecht's charge.

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INSIDE
Recording industry going thru changes

Are black promoters getting fair share?

Peaches and Herb concert has been cancelled at Merriweather Post in Columbia.

By Ida Peters

The United Black Concert Promoters are threatening to organize a nationwide boycott if our top concert artists don't start using black promoters. This is a group based in Los Angeles headed by Dick Griffey and mentioned in Bill Lane's column this week.

Is it just a coincidence that the drive for black promoters is starting when black and white promoters are being hard hit by the gas shortage?

For whatever the reason, long advertised concerts are being cancelled. Peaches and Herb have cancelled at Merriweather Post in Columbia and George Benson played only one day instead of two last week, at the same place.

The Ben Vereen concert has been cancelled at Painters Mill but his excuse is he can't come because he's started to film "Pippin."

Charles Neustadt at the Baltimore Civic Center where Teddy Pendergrass is coming in for Dick Klotzman, promoter, says they have many reputable black producers including Taurus Productions out of Atlanta and Dimensions Unlimited, Bill Washington in D.C.

Neustadt says the Civic Center will rent to any promoter, black or white if they have a good reputation of paying their bills in the industry.

He says it is a fact of life that many concerts are handled by booking agencies and when an act is booked into a city, they have so much at stake they try to get the best promoter.

He pointed out that the Shaun Cassidy concert was postponed at the Civic Center recently. Ticket sales were light and Cassidy has no new product on the market. He's not as hot as he was a year ago.

Neustadt also noted that wrestling fans were down from a year ago by 2,000 fans, either due to inflation or the gas crisis keeping folks home.

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Bill Washington speaking for his black-owned Dimensions Unlimited promotion agency says that he promotes concerts in 19 states. He handles 70 to 80 percent of the concerts booked into D.C. and 40 percent of the concerts in the Baltimore area.

He says he agrees with the United Black Concert Promoters although he admits that the name acts themselves usually can't control whether a black promoter books in any given city. Promoters are controlled also by booking agents or their manager.

However, Washington says there are enough financially qualified and technically qualified black promoters in the United States to get the business of top black stars like Teddy Pendergrass, Earth, Wind and Fire and others.

Washington also says he has been definitely hurt by the gas crunch and is purposely staying off the road until the crisis is over.

Last week his Ashford and Simpson concert drew 11,000 persons at the Capitol Centre with a tops of 20,000. The Grover Washington concert drew 2,000 out of a potential 3,700.

Asked Bill Washington what it costs to bring a top group into the Capitol Centre and he quoted a figure of $60,000.

Asked Washington about all the cancellations coming up. He says the promoter doesn't necessarily take a beating. If they have a legitimate reason, the group will pay the expenses of cancellation or set up a replay date.

One thing for sure, don't worry about Chuck Berry coming to the Baltimore City Fair on Sept. 14 although Atlantic-Atco lists him on their touring schedule. Baltimore City Fair office says they never got beyond the talking stage and then his tax problems came up.

Look for Marilyn McCoo and Billy Davis Jr. to be the headliners when City Fair time comes around.

Coming up. We've asked the Baltimore Civic Center for a list of successful black promoters who have used the Baltimore facility. The question is, are black promoters getting their fair share, and if not, why not?

Elsie Street and his wife are being honored by the Morgan College Jazz band. His Street and Street Productions recently promoted a 3-day Jazz festival in Atlantic City featuring Sarah Vaughn, Nancy Wilson, Ray Charles and Damita Jo. Eyewatchers say between 7 to 10,000 fans showed.

Ben Vereen won't be coming to Painter's Mill. He tied up making a movie, "Pippin."

Walter Hawkins, Edwin Hawkins, Tramine Hawkins and the Love Center Choir.

Hawkins Singers free concert in Inner Harbor

The Walter and Edwin Hawkins Singers, the most prestigious group in gospel music today, will perform at the Inner Harbor this Tuesday, July 17 at 8 p.m. as the Salute to American Music series of free concerts continues.

Walter Hawkins, father, composer, singer, and minister, is the leader of this remarkable musical family whose three albums have topped the gospel music charts. His recording of "A Change Has Come Over Me" is one of the best known tunes in the gospel music field.

Walter's wife, Tramaine, is lead vocalist of the group. His brother, Edwin, who gained nationwide fame for his award-winning recording of "Oh Happy Day," is the pianist. He is joined by his three sisters, Carol, Peddie, and Lynette, and a cousin, Shirley Miller, as vocalists. Daniel, another Hawkins brother, is the outstanding organist of the family.

Together, Walter Hawkins and his family present a concert that is celebration of joyous music and exuberant spirit. Salute to American Music is free of charge under the sponsorship of Maryland National Bank and the City of Baltimore. The public is encouraged to bring chairs and blankets as seating is on the grass.

For further information, call the Baltimore Office of Promotion and Tourism at 685-8689.

Night Scene Seen

By Bob Matthews

Epicurean Lounge

Began this week's trek out on York Rd. at the Epicurean Lounge, and was in for a bit of a surprise.

From the outside and package-goods enclave, there is no indication as to the spaciousness of the entire establishment, for it is indeed a huge place.

The bar proper consists of a tremendous horseshoe-shaped bar, with loads of room in the back for games (shuffle-board), dancing or whatever.

On Thurs. through Saturdays, there is top-flight disco on the scene with George and Leroy alternating as deejays. This is more or less standard at a great many bars in town, but the Epicurean offers something just a bit different.

In the rear of the place is a huge outdoor sector, called "The Horses Stable," where tables, a dance floor, and bandstand are provided.

In addition, there is a barbecue pit, and Willie Edwards, better known as "Chilly-Willie" says they plan to crank it up starting this weekend.

As proof positive that disco is not the end-all, be-all of the place, they have Mickey Fields and his group performing in the outdoor Horse's Stable on Sundays from about 3:30 p.m. until midnight.

'Twas a Tuesday night when we visited, and Vercell Foote was doing the barmaid chores, and a busy-bee she was too, for the place was rapidly getting crowded even though it was still early in the evening.

So, the Epicurean should be put down as a place to check — seems to us to be right in the mainstream of things.

The Full Moon

Down the street a block to look in on The Full Moon that has moved coffee house which was formerly known as "Blues for Mr. Charlie."

Marvin Cabell has taken over the place; it's open Thurs. through Saturdays from 11 a.m. - 4 a.m. On Sunday's it's 10 p.m. - 3 a.m., and Mondays is jazz jam days with the club open 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

They have made a few changes in the club, which is considerably brightened. For those who just want to converse, there is a game room in the back with chess boards and backgammon tables available.

No alcoholic beverages are available, there is a $3 admission charge, and Marvin, along with Hugh Walker, drums and John Paton, keyboards, provide the music. For those who like to stay up late — it seems to be an ideal spot.

Vercell Foote
Epicurean Lounge

Liz Page
Patton's

Andy's Lounge

Staying on York Rd., this time up near Cold Spring La., is Andy's which is in essence a bar-lounge, but actually is a very decent restaurant.

Popped in for luncheon one day just to check things out, and on the restaurant side of the place, was pleasantly surprised at the decor and efficiency displayed.

There is a real live charbroil pit in the food preparation area, so when they advertise char-broiled meat — it is precisely what they fix. Tried out the seafood platter, which turned out to be pieces of fish, shrimp, scallops, and hush puppies.

'Tis a long way from downtown to go to lunch, for an evening snack while you're tippling, you can get it all in one place. The bar area comes alive in the evenings, with mixed drinks a specialty.

Mostly for music

It will be the Heath Brothers at Left Bank Jazz Society's Sunday afternoon set, and if you don't know who they are by now, you've had wax in your ears for a while.

If you've never heard them in person, then prepare to get your mind blown, for besides Jimmy and Percy Heath, Stanley Cowell on piano will blow you away.

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At the Bandstand, it will be Red Rodney, trumpeter, leading a group composed of Reuben Brown, piano; Dude Brown, drums, and Mark Ellicott, bass.

Haven't heard Rodney in many years — still remember him from the Charlie Parker days, so it will be interesting to see how he has progressed.

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The Sportsmen's Lounge will have Marvin Cabell fronting a group for the Saturday afternoon jazz session, while percussionist Gaynell Colburn and Co. will be the attraction on Friday and Saturday nights.