SHOWTIME

★THEATRE ★ARTS ★MOVIES

Inside. . .James Brown on the road

REHEARSAL — James Anderson, Jerris Cates, Nakita Davis and Brian Collins (L to R) rehearse a musical number from "The Me Nobody Knows," to be presented by the Cultural Arts Program of the Urban Services Agency. The play will run Friday and Saturday, Jan. 25 and 26, 8 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 27 at 4 p.m. in the Dunbar Performing Arts Theater, Orleans Street and Central Avenue. For more information call 276-4646.

LET GO!! — Jacqueline Harrington and Michael Burgess team up as heavies in "Unhand Her, You Villain," a naughty '90s musical celebrating the 100th birthday of H. L. Mencken at NEW PLAYers Theatre, 100 E. Madison St.

25 AFRO readers win Oriole basketball tickets

AFRO readers win free tickets to see Baltimore Orioles and WWIN disc jockeys play a benefit basketball game, Saturday, Jan. 19 at the Civic Center.

Oriole stars Eddie Murray, Jim Palmer, Al Bumbry, Mark Belanger, Terry Crowley and Brooks Robinson will hit the boards against DJs Eric Hensin, Don Brooks, Mary Claybourne, Curtis Anderson, Harold Pompey, Lee Cross, Billy Taylor and other WWIN staff members.

The game, which will benefit Provident Hospital and the United Way of Central Maryland, will be followed by a family disco.

Ticket winners wrote the AFRO and named their favorite Oriole player and explained their choice.

Ken Singleton topped the list with five votes. Eddie Murray ran a close second with four votes and Brooks Robinson and Al Bumbry each received three votes.

Ms. Tina Johnson, of the 3000 block of Essex Road, said Singleton is her favorite, along with manager Earl Weaver.

She explained her choices poetically:

We lost the Series,
But not the FEVER,
I still love the ORIOLES,
And super Earl Weaver!

Ken Singleton's my heart,
Though they all did their best,
When he came to bat,
I heard drums in my chest!

Not only his looks,
But "Style," that his thing,
I knew I was hooked,

Tina Johnson

When I first saw him swing!

Now I could go on,
For so long — it's a shame,
But I'm through, so please
Send me a pass to the game!

Miss Travis LaVerne Chambers, 200 block of N. Culver St., said Pat Kelly is her favorite Oriole because "he is a team player...(and) a second manager to the younger players...Pat Kelly is a steady force on the bench with his experience and fun jokes to keep the players loose."

Eddie Murray was Calvin Ayers' choice. Ayers, of the 2800 block of Parkwood Ave., said Murray "has poise and a nice personality on the field and even off." He also praised the job Murray did on first base last season.

"I think Eddie Murray is the best player in the world. (He is) a good fielder, and a good hitter and a great all-around player," said Royster McKinney Jr. of the 2000 block of Cliftwood Ave.

Ms. Antoinette Owens wrote that she thinks the whole team is good, but her favorite player is John Lowenstein.

"Whenever the Orioles were short a run, they could count on John even though he did not come through all the time," said Ms. Owens of the 2900 block of Walbrook Ave.

Other winners are: Melvina and Brenadette Alston, 300 block S. Dallas Court; Timothy Barnes, 3500 block Old York Road; Jackie Smalls, 2500 block Gatehouse Drive; Rayner T. Banks, 1400 block N. Central Ave.; David Barnes, 1000 block Brantley Ave.; Victoria Jordan, 1900 block Walbrook Ave.; Linda Dawkins, 1000 block N. Luzerne Ave.; Sandra Mathews, 300 block S. Dallas Court; Kelly Johnson, 1000 block N. Luzerne Ave.;

Also, Shawn Ware, 300 block Dallas Court; Dorothea A. English, 1800 block N. Gay St.; Lydell Mack; Tony Johnson, 2800 block Harlem Ave.; Ralph Williams, 2400 block Albion Ave.; Adrian Shivers, 4100 block Belle Ave.; Diane McKinney, 2000 block Cliftwood Ave.; Dorothea F. Wright, 2400 block E. Jefferson St.; Jacqueline Wing, 2500 block W. Fayette St., and Cherreen Johnson, 2800 block Harlem Ave.

Stevie Wonder helps lure 10,000 for King memorial

WASHINGTON

By Ronald R. Hanna

Last Tuesday morning, the greater part of Southeast Washington awakened and immediately took to the streets to honor slain civil rights leader Martin Luther King on the 51st anniversary of his birth.

An estimated 10,000 persons lined the Anacostia Street named in his honor, drawn by a planned parade along the two-mile avenue to South Capitol St., where memorial services were later held.

From the SE communities of Barry Farms, Congress Heights, Garfield and Woodland Terrace, throngs of youth and adults gathered early along the parade route. Posters of Dr. King were handed out, displayed and posted about the Anacostia Professional Building, where the parade was scheduled to begin at 10 a.m.

No one needed reminding that on this day, Anacostians and Washingtonians in general came forth to honor a slain leader. But in truth, a standing leader, a leader in song and spirit was that magnet which drew the knee-deep throng to King Ave. that Tuesday morning.

Stevie Wonder, the Grammy Award-winning recording artist, was anticipated, anxiously awaited and, even in absence, motivated the thousands of admirers at the base of Martin Luther King Jr. Ave. They pressed forth from all directions, at first to view the convertible vintage automobile in which Wonder would ride to lead the King Day parade.

Nature let an unseasonal smile upon the community this January 15 morn, a glow of sunshine which bathed the gathering in eventual 55-degree temperatures. Eyes strained down King Ave. towards the 11th St. bridge, believed by many to be the most likely point from which the celebrated musician would arrive.

Police did all they could to keep the many eager youths a distance from the parked parade vehicles, assisted by the events organizer, Councilmember Wilhelmina Rolark who had support from husband Calvin W. Rolark and SE community organizer Calvin Woodland.

(Photo by Ronald R. Hanna)

'WONDER-FUL' — Singer-songwriter Stevie Wonder is introduced to some 2,000 persons gathered last Tuesday to honor Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Wonder, introduced to the crowd by activist Dick Gregory (background), told those gathered of Dr. King's dream that "In my thinking, part of that dream we're still leaving sleep in our minds."

Then, as the crowd grew ever thicker and even more restless, a caravan of police cruisers, red lights flashing, crept towards the awaiting parade vehicles, and everyone knew that Stevie Wonder had at last arrived.

"Stevie!," hundreds of youths shouted, pushing towards the caravan as the cornrowed artist emerged and was led to the awaiting parade vehicle. The blind poet-singer grinned broadly, as aides assisted him to his seat in the classic convertible. Security men jostled, and were jostled in efforts to keep the masses from overrunning the car deterred from motion by the pressing number of youths surrounding it.

"I just want to touch him," a young girl cried, throwing herself onto the rear of the car.

"We love you, Stevie! We love you!" many others shouted and, as the procession crept into motion, Wonder reached out a hand to the many admirers, announcing his mutual love for those thousands gathered to receive him.

Slowly, ever so slowly the caravan eased up King Ave. followed by a throng of screaming youths, preceded by a military formation of youth cadets and a league of photographers, shuffling for the better positions.

Mothers and their infants, children of all ages and an occasional grandparent lined the avenue, emitting shouts of love for the musician as the procession climbed the hill towards the Barry Farms housing project and into the area dominated by St. Elizabeth's Hospital.

Nearing the crest of King Ave., just outside the mental institution, the crowd surrounding Wonder's vehicle thinned somewhat and, having fought off teems of admirers throughout the first leg of the journey, police motioned for the vehicles to speed up.

With a sudden exceleration, Stevie Wonder's vehicle, led by a number of police vehicles, zoomed up King Ave. and was in moments out of view to the thousands running fruitlessly after it, quickly reaching its South Capitol St. destination of Covenant Baptist Church for the planned memorial services.

A thickening of viewers gathered at King Ave. and Portland Sts. still waited for the rest of the parade long after Wonder's vehicle and entourage had passed. A group of photographers and a few youths who had marched with them continued their walk towards the church, halting traffic yet vastly disconnected from either the Wonder convoy or the marching band, still thousands of yards back down King Ave.

"Hey, where is Stevie Wonder?" someone queried of this beleaguered group from amidst the crowd at Portland St.

The question, however, was answered from within the gathered crowd.

Informed that Wonder had "sped past here" some moments earlier the youth then asked where the musician was headed. He was so told, made his way into the street and joined the few who had walked the length of King Ave., in honor of Dr. King but also, in pursuit of Stevie Wonder.

D.C. Chamber of Commerce

Melba Moore featured at annual awards dinner

"1980 - A Year of Promise and Fulfillment" is the theme for the District of Columbia Chamber of Commerce 42nd Annual Awards Dinner on Jan. 19 at the Washington Hilton Hotel.

The special attraction for the evening will be Melba Moore, singer-actress - artist extraordinaire. The masters of ceremony are Hardin & Weaver of WMAL radio whose engaging sense of humor and outstanding ad-lib ability will keep you in stitches, plus "The Big Band Sound" from Rick Henderson's orchestra, added to 2500 top leaders in the nation's capital — this promises to be the event of the year.

Melba Moore started her singing career as a back-up singer with Frank Sinatra, Johnny Mathis and Harry Belafonte. This lead to Broadway in the productions of "Hair" and "Purlie," and Melba winning the Tony Award, New York Drama Critics' Award and Drama Desk Award.

She then ventured into a successful television career, guest starring on many programs, and later becoming spokeperson and musical consultant for an ITT Emmy and Peabody Award winning series for children.

Using her amazing gour octave vocal range as an instrument, Melba Moore displays a variance in singing styles that will captivate any audience.

Each year the Chamber recognizes several individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the community through their business and professional endeavors.

(Photo by Milton Williams).

THE GODFATHER OF SOUL has his hands full as he meets some of fans at a press conference in Washington last week. James Brown, who was in town appearing at the Warner Theatre, is joined by (L to R) JeNet Williams; Raye Powell, Olene Adams and KiKi Foster.

MAKE THE EASY ON YOUR FOOD BILLS
CATCH...
THOSE WEEKLY SPECIALS IN OUR NEWSPAPERS
CLIP THE COUPONS
THOSE FEW CENTS ON CAN ADD UP TO $$$ SAVINGS

TV Watching

Steelers, Rams tangle in Super Bowl

By Vanessa Johnson

Friday

B.A.D. Cats: Nick's attempt to help the department's image by judging a beauty contest backfires when he gets framed with a drug rap. Starring Jimmie Walker. 8:00-9:00 p.m.-Ch. 13.

NBA Basketball: The Bullets take on the Rockets at the Summit in Houston. 9:00-11:00 p.m.-Ch 20.

American Music Awards: Cher and Elton John are the hosts for the seventh annual awards ceremonies, which honor the year's favorite pop rock, soul, and country performers and recordings. Among artists scheduled to appear are Michael Jackson, Peaches & Herb, Sly Stone, Rick James, Chic, Lionel Hampton, Natalie Cole & Peabo Bryson and many others. 9:00-11:00 p.m.-Ch. 13.

Movie: "The Take", police melodrama with Billy Dee Williams as a syndicate-busting cop who gets under the table payoffs. 12:40-2:20 a.m. - Ch. 13.

Midnight Special: Host Isac Hayes is joined by KC and the Sun-shine Band, Kool & the Gang and many others. 1:00-2:30 a.m.-Ch. 11.

Movie: "Carmen Jones", Oscar Hammerstein II's modernized all black version of the Bizet opera. Starring Harry Belafonte, Dorothy Dandridge Pearl Bailey and Diahann Carroll. 2:55-5:00 a.m.-Ch. 5.

Saturday

Fat Albert: The gang learns that cooking isn't just for girls and sports aren't just for boys in this tale. 11:30-12:00 p.m.-Ch. 2.

Hot Hero Sandwich: Guests today are LeVar Burton, Michael Learned and others. 12:00-1:00 p.m.-Ch. 4.

Soul Train: A salute to The Commodores. Songs include "Wonder-land". 1:00-2:00 p.m.-Ch. 11.

Wide World of Sports: Same day coverage of the pairs and ladies events at the 1980 U.S. National Figure Skating Championships in Atlanta. With Tai Babalonia and Randy Gardner. 4:30-6:30 p.m.-Ch. 13.

Love Boat: Stubing opens his suite to the crew after their quarters are flooded; and two passengers are cheating on their mates. Starring Pam Grier and Robert Guillaume. 8:00-10:00 p.m.-Ch. 13.

NBA Basketball: The Bullets take on the Spurs at the HemisFair Arena in San Antonio, Texas. 8:30-10:30 p.m.-Ch. 20.

Beatrice Arthur: Bea Arthur's guests for a variety program are Rock Hudson, Melba Moore, and Wayland Flowers & Madame. 10:00-11:00 p.m. -Ch. 2.

Don Kirshner's Rock Concert: Performers include Ashford & Simpson, Michael Jackson, Stephanie Mills and others. 1:30-3:00 a.m.-Ch. 4.

Sunday

Kids are People Too: Guests are Dom DeLuise, Pearl Bailey and singing group The Emotions. 10:00-11:30 a.m.-Ch. 13.

Superstars: Well-known anthetes put their versatility and their senses of humor to the test in this series which opens a new season with a men's preliminary competition taped in Freeport, the Bahamas. Entrants include WBC heavyweight champion Larry Holmes and others. 2:00-3:00 p.m.-Ch. 13.

Track and Field: The VitalisUS. Olympic invitational taped yesterday at New York's Madison Square Garden. Among the schedules participants are the following world-record holders: Renaldo Nehemish's 60 meter hurdles, Evelyn Ashford, women's 60 meters and Houston McTear, men's 60 meters. 3:30-5:00 p.m.-Ch. 11.

Super Bowl XIV: The Pittsburgh Steelers vs the Los Angeles Rams at Pasadena, Cal. 6:00-10:00 p.m.-Ch. 2.

Soundstage: Keyboarder Chick Corea, singer Al Jarreau and vibra-phonist Bary Burton jazz ut up. 7:00-8:00 p.m.-Ch. 22 & 67.

Michael Butler, who bought "Hair" to Broadway, has announced that "Raglae," his long-awaited musical captializing on the interest in that Jamaician rhythm will open sometime next month. The music will be by Ras Karbi and Max Romeo and the musical is about a woman rock superstar who returns to her native island of Jamacia and finds a spirituial and career rebirth by becoming involved with the Rastafarian religion.

SUPER HOSTS, HOSTESS — Irv Cross, Jayne Kennedy and Brent Musberger (fron row, L to R) team up with Jimmy "The Greek" Snyder and Jack Whitaker at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, Calif., for "The Super Bowl Today," Sunday, Jan. 20, 4:30 to 6 p.m. on the CBS Television Network.

'Dollars and sense' inflation story

The news is full of stories about higher interest rates, the credit crunch, and the shrinking value of the dollar. But these are just some of the many elements in the inflation story.

A new booklet produced in cooperation with the Department of the Treasury, the Department of Argiculture, and the Department of Commerce, offers an explanation of our current inflation problems.

Many economists believe that government spending and deficits play a major role. But the inflation snowball also rolls along on heavy consumer spending, expanded consumer credit, and demand for expensive imported products and foreign oil.

To learn about inflation and what you can do about it, send for a copy of Dollars and Sense. It's free from the Consumer Information Center, Dept. 620H, Pueblo, Colo.

A major cause of inflation is our balance of trade abroad. Until recently, we've exported more than we bought from other countries. Now, due in part to our 50 billion-dollar-a-year foreign oil bill, we send more dollars abroad than we get back from overseas buyers. That makes our currency worth less in foreign markets.

So we pay more for all the imported goods we buy. And then American competitors can more easily raise their prices, too.

But there's another factor in today's inflation: consumer behavior. Consumer dollars continue to compete for goods, even at ever-higher prices. Part of the reason is the expanded use of credit to pay for what we want now but can't really afford.

At the Kennedy Center

West Side Story returns to stage

By Charles Farrow

There are many reasons why "West Side Story" is still a fascinating theatre experience. After 23 years and countless performances, 380 years after William Shakespeare wrote his version of the Romeo and Juliet story upon which the musical is based, the music, the dance and the singing still enthralls its audience.

It's a lavish show with a modest budget of one million dollars that opened at the Opera House last week. "West Side Story" has a young, enthusiastic cast that gives the show an uncommon strength often lacking in contemporary "Broadway shows".

The original 1957 production ran for 732 performances on Broadway, and looking back its no wonder that it lasted as long as it did. It has a musical score by Leonard Bernstein, lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, a book by Arthur Laurents and direction and choreography by Jerome Robbins.

Washington folks will have a special reason for cheering this production. The young people of the Workshops for Careers in the Arts will see one of their own in a starring role in "West Side Story".

Debbie Allen worked with the Workshop before she left to go to New York and there begin a string of interesting successes that led to a starring role in a TV series and a role in Alex Haley's "Roots: The Next Generation"

Harolyn Blackwell, who lives in Northwest Washington, sings with stunning effect, the popular "Somewhere". Miss Blackwell is still studying at Catholic University and while she is here, she will give a recital which will earn her a Masters degree in vocal performance.

"West Side Story" is a tale of the problems of two youthful street gangs in New York City trying to claim and hold on to a particular territory for their own. The problems are ancient: white against Black, Puerto Rican against the New Yorker, the children of Emma Lazerus' "huddled masses" trying to stem the onrushing tide that threatens their ufestyles.

What Bernstein and Robbins have done is to recreate a show style that seems dated and fresh at the same time. The dancing seems particularly modern because the innovative choreography is still being used today by dancers. For all these years ballet companies and musicals have lived off of these primal dance patterns created by Robbins.

"West Side Story" receives a honestly deserved standing ovation at the end of the evening.

The 5:30 Difference

News, weather and something more is the "5:30" difference. Tobie Marsh anchors. Meteorologist Ken Philips has the forecast.

5:30

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