The Lone Ranger rides again

By Vanessa Johnson

I can remember as a child the Saturday morning fights with my three brothers over the television set. Being the youngest and smallest of the clan of course they always won and would turn the station from one of my favorite cartoons to a dumb western with a man on a white horse giving a hearty "Hi Ho, Silver"— The Lone Ranger

And now the Lone Ranger and his trusty sidekick, Tonto, ride again The Universal-made picture, "The Legend of the Lone Ranger", starring newcomers Klinton Spilsbury and Michael Horse is a romantic action-filled story dealing with the legend of the man behind the mask.

After a screenig in Washington, D.C.'s Kennedy Center and over a leisurely brunch of fresh fruit salad, Eggs Benedict and a glass of champagne with a floating strawberry, in the fabulous Jockey Club, got to talk with Klinton Spilsbury and Michael Horse the stars of the movie.

Michael Horse, 31, a native of Los Angeles, is half Indian on his mother's side, part Yaqui and Cree. Being active in Indian affairs, and a friend of the original Tonto (Jay Silverheel), Michael had the obvious initial concern as to how the character of Tonto was to be portrayed.

The Lone Ranger and Tonto as seen in the film. (L). Klinton Spilbury and Michael Horse snapped by AFRO photo-journalist Vanessa Johnson at D.C.'s Jockey Club.

"I have my own ideas about who Tonto really is", he says. And I think that everything worked out fine. As it stands now, Tonto is a strong decisive man in the script, which also portrays Indians in general in more realistic terms than that in which they have been seen. Tonto is a role that has never been taken seriously, but I think the film will change that"

A professional musician and singer, Michael gave that career up to concentrate on a tradition that has been in his family for over three generations. He is one of the country's leading native artists, a silversmith whose work has been exhibited in museums and galleries throughout the United States, Paris and Brussels.

Klinton Spilsbury, 31, says the role of the Lone Ranger came naturally, since he was born in Tuscson, Arizona and reared on a range, riding horses since he was a child. When he was seven the Spilsburys' moved to Mexico to the family ranch that had been in their family since the 1880's when Klinton's grandfather was recruited by General Jack Pershing as a scout searching for Pancho Villa.

Klinton, of course, had heard of the Lone Ranger all his life, but because of the remoteness of the family ranch had never had the opportunity to see the masked man in movies or on television until he landed the role.

Klinton who seemed tired and drank only coffee said he had fun making the movie. "I want to learn as much as possible about the movie business, directing, editing and of course acting", he said. He has virtually no acting experience, and has been studying art and sculpture in New York. He feels his move into acting is not a d-ramatic change of plans but, "it's really a continuation of my earlier training, he explained, as he recounts the days on the family ranch.

Going back to the days of one's youth, "The Legend of the Lone Ranger" is an adventure, pure and simple. It's a story of virtue, friendship and daring exploits. But most of all it's a story of an American hero whose time will never end.

After the recent court controversy ordering Clayton Moore, the original Lone Ranger, to remove the famous mask, wanted to see what all the fuss was about that made me miss my favorite shows.

"The Legend of the Lone Ranger" traces his childhood meeting with Tonto and their friendship. It follows his romance with Amy Striker, a journalist, who made the loner famous by publishing his daring xand courageous feats of bravery.

Through an ambush of the Texas Rangers by Butch Cavendish and his outlaw army at Bryant's Gap, John Reid (the Lone Ranger) faces the decision that leads him to putting on the mask.

This act is climaxed by the Lone Ranger and Tonto taking on the Cavendish Gang who are holding President Ulysses S. grant hostage in Texas, while on a hunting xtrip. In the end however, the Lone Ranger and Tonto emerge as a force for law and order in the rapidly changing ewest.

Incidentally, there is historical justification for involving President Grant in the Ranger's activities. Grant actually did go to Texas during that period for a buffalo hunt with a member of the Russian Royal family.

"The Legend of the Lone Ranger" is rated PG, opens today.

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Calendar

Free Films

A science fiction special featuring two episodes of "Flash Gordon" and two chapters of "Buck Rogers" will be screened at 1:30 p.m. on Wed., May 27, at the Reisterstown Rd. Branch, 6310 Reisterstown Rd.

"Terror by Night", a 1946 Sherlock Holmes baffler about a diamond theft and murder aboard a train to Edinburgh, will be screened at 6 p.m. on Wed., May 27, at the Canton Center, 1030 S. Ellwood Ave.

Pennsylvania Avenue Branch Films: "The Fabulous Harlem Globetrotters", "Everybody's Different and That's Okay!", and "The Flatlettes", 1 p.m.

Walbrook Branch: Films "Skating Rink" and "The Tinder Box", 1 p.m.

Waverly Branch: Film "J.T.", 1 p.m.

Broadway Branch: Films "The Dancing Princess", "The Billionaire", and "Dinky Hocker", 1:30 p.m.

Highlandtown Center: Films "Dash of a Gandy Dancer" and "Wilbur's Story", 2 p.m.

Forest Park Branch: Film "The Smallest Elephant in the World", 3 p.m.

Thursday, May 28

S. Paul Street Center: Films "Hansel and Gretel", "Charlie Brown Clears the Air", and "Rip Van Winkle", 2:45 p.m.

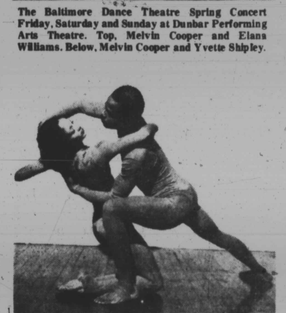
Gardenville Branch: Films "Night Owls" and "Midget Car Mania", 3:30 p.m.

Light Street Branch: Films "Captain Noah and His Floating Zoo" and "The Wonderful Lollipop Rooster", 3:30 p.m.

Millie Jackson at Painters Mill Sunday.

The Whispers are the hot dynamite singers at the Lyric tonight, Friday, with Shalamar, Lakeside and Carrie Lucas.

The Baltimore Dance Theatre Spring Concert Friday, Saturday and Sunday at Dunbar Performing Arts Theatre. Top, Melvin Cooper and Elana Williams. Below, Melvin Cooper and Yvette Shipley.



Morris Mechanic 1981-82 season

The Morris A. Mechanic Theatre announced today its 1981-82 subscription season series of eight Broadway shows. The new season will again feature eight attractions, each playing a three-week subscription engagement. Only Mechanic subscribers have a guaranteed reserved seat for each of the productions, plus fee parking. The season is scheduled at this early date to include:

"They're Playing Our Song"- This Neil Simon musical comedy with music by Marvin Hamlisch and lyrics by Carol Bayer Sager is the richly funny and tuneful story about a couple who write today's most popular love songs, but have a difficult time making their lives as harmonious as their music.

"Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street"- Hailed as perhaps the most original, audacious, and brilliant musical production ever staged, the play is the winner of eight Tony Awards including Best Musical, Best Score, Best Scenic Design, and Best Costumes, as well as the New York Drama Critics' Circle Award for "Best Musical for 1979.

James Earl Jones in "Othello" at Mechanic next season.

"Morning's At Seven"- The highly acclaimed new production of Paul Osborn's 1939 comedy is currently playing at New York's Lyceum Theatre. The story of four eccentric small-town sisters and their family relationships in their twilight years, the play won three 1980 Tony Awards, including Outstanding Reproduction of a Play, four Drama Desk Awards, and a citation from the New York Outer Critics' Circle.

"One Mo' Time"- In the French Quarter of old New Orleans at the landmark Lyric Theatre, Big Bertha Williams and her vaudeville company are set to perform. With backstage bickering and onstage strutting and singing, the play recreates the red hot jazz, sultry blues, and spicy ragtime of the roaring twenties.

James Earl Jones in "Othello"- A new production of Shakespeare's famous drama starring Tony Award-winning actor James Earl Jones as the Moor. Peter Coe, Artistic Director of Stratford, Connecticut's American Shakespeare Theatre, will stage "Othello", which will tour major cities throughout the nation after a four-week run in Stratford.

"Sugar Babies"- One of Broadway's biggest musical hits, and now in its second capacity year at the Mark Hellinger Theatre, the play is a nostalgic look at the innocent days of burlesque featuring 14 showgirls (the "Sugar Babies"), a male ensemble, and 6 comics recreating some of the most hilarious moments in burlesque.

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Bill Lane in Hollywood

When they lined up Kick James for "Solid Gold" producers heard the lyrics of his song, "Give It To Me, Baby", and said NO. It was demanded that James change the racy lyrics and pre-record the song, if it was expected to air.

And it was not a black but a white publication that first published court-filled allegations of a girl, now 18, that she had a child by Muhammad Ali after meeting him at age 12. The New York Post front-tabloided the charges. Ali's lawyer said "Preposterous!" But he did set about filing a required court answer to the girl's claims, and alleged court-entered exhibits purportedly showing the "Champ's" ongoing knowledge of the situation.

Planned Parenthood, where ARE you?

Many long-established Hollywood production companies rejoiced when their longtime prayers were answered recently in the person of Messiah R. Reagan, who nixxed further funding for equally long-established government film offices in Washington that had for years been making instructional documentary films, and farming many of the projects out to independent filming firms located all over the U.S. Hollywood producers, non-black, had said all that government work should go to Hollywood, to them. Now they will get the work and the money. Currently there's only a handful of black film firms in Hollywood handling documentaries and instructional films, one of which is the Denise Nicholas-related Masai Film Enterprises.

Ruth Brown may have watched a lot of years go by since when she reigned high and richly as a recording singing star, but her song performances today make it seem like she's still sitting on top of the heap. Like her opener here recently at the Parisian Room, where the place was paced nightly. All colors, all classes, all ages. And that's saying a lot when you consider Ruth Brown's record hits were made chiefly back in the early Fifties. Her Parisian Room opener brought out a lot of fellow performers, Mabel King, Linda Hopkins, Della Reese and some members of the cast of television's new-promise laugh show, "Checking In". On hand was the show's star, Marla Gibbs and her actress sister Freida Rentie, plus co-star Liz Torres. CBS appears to have a winner with "Checking In!" Singer Brown also has a top role in the series.

Now that Diana Ross is her own executive producer, while waiting on RCA's up-front millions on a new contract, (as of last week) she features a black comic as warmup opener for her stage shows. Comic is George Wallace. Audiences love him. Unusual, though, because for years only white comics had opened La Ross. The recent Ross shows at the Sahara in Tahoe won packed houses nightly and acclaim far and wide, a lot of it flooding also upon the shoulders of comic George Wallace.

Sister Sledge opens at Harrah's in Tahoe on May 29... Singer-producer Cuba Gooding, formerly of the Main Ingredient, now formulating his own cable TV show... Bill Withers mended fences with CBS and getting set to turn out another block-buster record album... Dick Griffey's Solar Records switched distributors, from RCA to Elektra... Bob Marley's death leaves one Jamaican standardbearer of fame now, Jimmy Cliff... Jazz purist Winston "Sonny" Blount, aka Sun-Ra, is suddenly famous, his peculiar "jazz" music called "space susaion", or whatever. Anyway, Sun-Ra, is now star of a new movie, "A Joyful Noise". Ella Fitzgerald wants MCA Records to pay her $80,000 in royalties she says in an L.A. complaint brief was not paid to her as was due... Hosea Sapp, mixologist at the Parisian Room here, and one of the most popular barkeeps around Hollywood, has an agent now to get him movie work plying his trade. Says comic Reynaldo Rey: "Sapporooney is on his way!"

Harold Ross Fields, smith, the beleaguered boxing promoter who figures currently in the infamous Wells Fargo "missing $21 million", told us during a lengthy interview at his home that he is truly "a man on a mission", that he feels Jerry Cooney and Tommy Hearns will be exploited if they don't have his close care, that Muhammad Ali "is going to be punished by God", that he has been supporting several poverty-area projects for some time, that "certain white people, and one black, did not want to see me, a black, succeed with that big Madison Square Garden multi-match I had set up". He also detailed certain promotion projects he says he hopes to put into action soon, "as soon as Lee (his common-law wife Alice Vicki Darrow) and I get lawfully married". During the interview he suddenly said: "The feds just dropped all federal charges against me..."

Richard Pryor, his "Bustin' Loose" movie due out May 22, is busy here at Paramount filming "Some Kind of Hero", with Margot Kidder, and he's ready to begin filming the role of the late jazz sax star Charlie "Yard Bird" Parker right after that. Friends describe him today as "One of the most courteous guys in the world". He and actress-singer Lola Falana live in the same ultra-ritzy West L.A. apartment hotel where one can't eat in the dining room if one does not live in the building. Miss Falana opened here at the Huntington Hartford as star of "Getting My Act Together..."

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TV Watching

Weekend TV Watching
By Vanessa Johnson

Friday

John Davidson: Guests include baseball player Red Carew of the California Angels. 4:30-5:00 p.m.-Ch. 13.

Baseball: The Baltimore Orioles vs the Tigers in Detroit. 8:00-11:00 p.m.-Ch. 2.

Movie: "National Lampoon's Animal House", farce about a low life college fraternity in 1962, the denizens of Delta House are pretty gross and the dean is determined to expel the beer-chugging, party loving young scholars. 8:00-10:00 p.m.-Ch. 11.

Benson: Benson discovers that sour Kraus is definitely better than a grateful one after he saves the housekeeper from choking to death. Starring Robert Guillaume. 8:00-8:30 p.m.-Ch. 13.

Movie: Patrons of a Los Angeles disco "Thank God It's Friday", as they dance to the music of an aspiring singer who performs "Last Dance". Starring Donna Summer and Ray Vitte. 12:00-2:00 a.m.-Ch. 13.

Sneak Previews: Gene Siskel and Roger Ebert discuss films made by and for blacks. 9:00-9:30 p.m.-Ch. 22 & 67.

Saturday

Fat Albert: The evils of narcotics are spelled out by the gang. Hosted by Bill Cosby. 12:00-12:30 p.m.-Ch. 2.

Baseball: The Baltimore Orioles vs the Tigers in the second game of a doubleheader at Tiger Stadium in Detroit. 2:15-5:00 p.m.-Ch. 2.

Black Horizons: Host Dwayne Wickham is joined by Cathy Pugh, publisher of the Afro American News World Report and others. 7:30-8:00 p.m.-Ch. 11.

Movie: "Salem Lot", unleashes a modern-day vampires in a small Maine community. 8:00-11:00 p.m.-Ch. 2.

Love Boat: Isaac doesn't want a former teacher to know he's a bartender. Starring Ted Lange. 9:00-10:00 p.m.-Ch. 13.

Flip Wilson: Guests include comedian Redd Foxx. 11:30-12:30 a.m.-Ch. 2.

Dan Kirshner's Rock Concert: Performances by Grover Washington Jr. 1:30-3:00 a.m.-Ch. 4.

Sunday

For Our Times: Highlights from a meeting of the Congress of Black Churches, held May 12-14 in Nashville, Tenn. 10:30-11:00 a.m.-Ch. 2.

Soul Train: Performances by Dee Dee Sharp Gamble and Rufus. 2:30-3:30 p.m.-Ch. 11.

Movie: Gene Wilder is a meek publisher who gets side-tracked by romance and murder aboard the "Silver Streak", a Los Angeles to Chicago luxury train. Starring Richard Pryor. 8:00-10:00 p.m.-Ch. 2.

Men Who Rate A 10: Gloria Swanson, Barbara Eden and Brooke Shields are the hosts for a variety show "about the men whom women find attractive." Among them are Teddy Pendergrass. 10:00-11:00 p.m.-Ch. 11.

The Jeffersons: Taking her cue from "Dallas", Florence writes a soap opera in which G.R.R a villainous dry-cleaning tycoon, torments his family and associates to the point of murder. Starring Marla Gibbs and Sherman Hemsley. 10:30-11:00 p.m.-Ch. 2.

Movie: Tonight Richard Pryor assumes three different roles in "which way is Up?" about a California orange picker plagued with women trouble. 11:45-1:45 a.m.-Ch. 4.

Superstars crown Mrs. Washington, 91

The Dynamite Superstars is a group of just that - Dynamite Superstars. As far as being dedicated to their community, Super, because they are all very personable women, and Stars, because they each shine and give a light of inspiration to young and old alike.

Mother's Day, 1981, was a rainy, rainy day, but for the Dynamite Superstars, it was a day of sunshine, joy and happiness. The Dynamite Superstars, held their 7th Annual Mother's Day Dinner and Fashion Show Extravaganza at the Holiday Inn-Inner Harbor.

The program began with greetings from Mrs. Alberta Campbell, and then the Rev. James Wooten of the Cherry Hill United Methodist Church, blessed the group. The audience was then favored with the beautiful selection of "Let Us Break Bread Together", sung by Mrs. Hattie R. Smith of New Shiloh Baptist Church.

The commentator for the evening was Mrs. A. Lois DeLaine, chairperson of the Office and Secretarial Science Department of the Community College of Baltimore, Harbor and Liberty campus.

Mrs. DeLaine presented the Dynamite Superstars to the audience. They are: Betty Brown Janyce Maith, Corene Brown, Annie McCoy, Sally Brown, and Daisy Miller.

Sheppard Burge of the Mayor's Office then presented the Dynamite Superstars with a citation from the Mayor of Baltimore City, for their outstanding efforts in the community for the past seven years.

To delight the audience before dinner, Monica Contee, 19, and Monica Maith, 4, did a ballet duet.

Fashions for "Spring '81" were shown in the categories of, 1. The Western Look, 2. The Short Cut axto Summer, 3. The White Scene, 4. Nine to Five, and the finale was the High Voltage and Star Scene, where models portrayed such stars as Billy Dee Williams, Peaches & Herb, Bo Derek, The Mystery Lady from Dynasty, Tina Turner, The Bobbsy Twins, Millie Jackson, Sugar Ray, Dinah Ross, and Price Charles and Lady Dinah.

Also during the course of the evening, 22 mothers were honored as "Baltimore's Outstanding Women of 1981". They included Mesdames California Butts, Ella Rea Byrd, Peggy Carter, Ella Cooke, Annie Davis, Elsie Dow, Annie Evans, Clustie A. Ford, Susie Griffin, Ernestine Hawkins, Rose Hoelmes, Mary LaFavors, Frances Lance, Ruby Miller, Alice Oglesby, Blanche Phillips, Coretta Lee Taylor, Evelyn Thompson, Marion Thomas, Rebecca Washington, Ruth Williams and Lois Wooten.

From among these 22 outstanding women of 1981, one was chosen as the mother of the Year for 1981. The Winner, Mrs. Rebecca Washington, 91, was crowned and robed as the musicians played "You're Once, Twice, Three Times A Lady".

The show closed with the musicians playing "Reach Out and Touch Somebody's Hand", with the 40 models going throughout the audience shaking hands and thanking the guests for coming.

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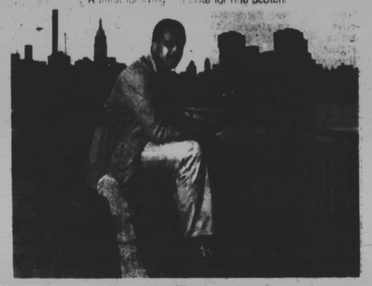

DAVID HARDY

BORN: Plainfield, New Jersey, 1942.
HOME: West New York, New Jersey.
PROFESSION: Investigative/political reporter, *New York Daily News*.
RESPONSIBILITY: To share reality with others, even though I'm mindful that reality is not always an inspiring spectacle.
STORY: Be it a homicide, a zoning fight, a political scandal, or simply a tale of a compassionate Jersey City hot dog vendor, my job is sometimes thrilling, often onerous, occasionally perilous, but always interesting.
QUOTE: Every human being should possess a sense of morality about society and accept personal responsibility for his or her role".
SCOTCH: Dewar's White Label "On the rocks with a splash, when relaxing with my chess computer".

David W. Hardy

Top Hits

R & B Albums
1. Being With You — Smokey Robinson
2. A Woman Needs Love — Ray Parker Jr. & Raydio
3. The Dude — Quincy Jones
4. Gap Band III — The Gap Band
5. Street Songs — Rick James

R & B Singles
1. A Woman Needs Love — Ray Parker Jr. & Raydio
2. What Cha' Gonna Do For Me — Chaka Khan
3. When Love Calls — Atlantic Starr
4. Being With You — Smokey Robinson
5. Sukiyaki — A Taste of Honey

Top Jazz
1. Winelight — Grover Washington Jr.
2. Voyage — Rhyta Sanborn
3. The Clarke-Duke Project — Stanley Clarke & George Duke
4. The Dude — Quincy Jones
5. Galaxian — Jeff Lorber Fusion

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