If you ask me

Hats off!

Our salute this week goes to 16-year-old Jacqueline Laster, an eleventh grader at Edmondson High School.

By Bettye Moss

She was observed serving as waitress at the Lord Baltimore Hotel, where members of the United Nurses of Various Churches, Inc. had gathered for their annual luncheon on Sept. 26.

Mrs. Celestyne Thompson, who nominated Miss Laster, observed "She is a petite, young lady. She had a warm smile, and served the guests beautifully.

"With so much going for her at this young age, I can see Jackie succeeding in whatever she does."

Thanks to Mrs. Thompson for suggesting Miss Laster.

Continue sending us suggestions for our Hats Off section. We seek here to let others know about young black men and women who are performing their chores in a creditable way.

Our rationale: More adults need to take time to praise youngsters when they do well.

Too many adults are quick to complain about our young people when they mess up.

Hats off!

Cuff Note: Mrs. Thompson, who made this week's nomination, is the lady with a smile in her voice. Many hear her when they call 728-8200.

She is the AFRO's switchboard operator. Hats off to her, too. She sets a fine example for the young people she trains.

"And, he added, that the majority of the longshoremen at his port are black, so that his relations with his mayor are just fine, mutually helpful."

New Orleans mayor is Dutch Morrell.

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BIMINI MAHMAS
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

The Southern Baptist Church
1701 N. Chester Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21213

"For it is the Jubilee it shall be holy unto you: Ye shall eat the increase there of out of the field." Leviticus 25:12

Welcome to the 50th Jubilee celebration of Choir Day

Sunday, November 1, 1981

7:45 A.M. Worship Service
Morning Message by Pastor Nathaniel Higgs
Music by The 50th Jubilee Choir
Guest Soloist, Mr. Darryl Hamilton of Mt. Calvary Star Baptist Church

9:30 A.M. Sunday Church School
11:00 A.M. Worship Service
Morning Message by Pastor Nathaniel Higgs
Music by The 50th Jubilee Choir
Guest Soloist, Mrs. Mable Malone Sanderline of Gillis Memorial C. C. Church

4:00 P.M. Worship Service
Combined Recital of The 50th Jubilee Choir featuring Guest Soloist, Mrs. Julia Mae Price Williams

First lady of Second Baptist Church and many other Soloist and Musicians

Mr. Cleo Johnson, Chairperson of Choir Day
Mrs. Mary Harvin, General Chairperson of the 50th Jubilee Celebration
Rev. Dr. Nathaniel Higgs, Pastor
Mrs. Betty A. Craddock, Church Clerk

Mt. Sinai Baptist Church
922 East Preston Street
Baltimore, Md. 21202
On Sunday, November 1, 1981, Mt. Sinai will celebrate its 77th Annual Women's Day.

Theme: ONE WAY —GOD'S WAY

Early Morning Service 8:00 a.m.
Prayer breakfast with Mrs. Joyce McNair-Hanner speaking from Israel Baptist.
Guest soloist — Mrs. Sallie Yancy

Morning Service
Rev. Edna Isaac, pastor of New Testament Church will be our guest speaker. Guest soloist, Mrs. Helen Matthews
Dinner will be served immediately following the morning service by the men of Mt. Sinai.

Afternoon Service 3:30 p.m.
The afternoon speaker will be Rev. Wilhelmina Spears-Williams from Browns Memorial.

Also celebrating the 38th Union Women's Day with us will be the Ebenezer Baptist Church, pastor, Rev. Clarence Poole.

Rev. Wm. Brown
Pastor of Mt. Sinai

EASTSIDE BAPTIST CHURCH
2519 E. Preston Street
Baltimore, Md. 21213
ANNUAL WOMEN'S DAY
Sunday, November 1, 1981

9:30 A.M. — Sunday School: Mr. Brian Lindsay and Leola Lindsay in charge
11:00 A.M. — Worship, Sermon by the Pastor and Communion Service
3:30 P.M. — Guest Speaker: Dr. Anne O. Emery, Assistant Superintendent Office of Public Information and Communication
Mrs. Lucille Scott, Chairlady
Mrs. Hattie Bunch, Co-Chairlady
Mrs. Rochelle Goode, Secretary
Mrs. Gloria Austin, Treasurer
Mrs. Laura Howe, Chairlady, Program Comm.
Rev. C. C. Alexander, Minister

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"The People of the Way"
Lafayette and Madison Aves
MARION CURTIS BASCOM D.D. Minister
James S. Hammond, M. Mus. Director
JUANITA HALL DAVIS Organist

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1981
Eight and Eleven O'Clock
MARION CURTIS BASCOM PREACHING

8:00 CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART, O GOD CARL F. MUELLER
11:00 DEEP RIVER HARRY T. BURLEIGH, ARR.

St. James' Episcopal Church
Lafayette Square
The Clergy
The Rev. Donald O. Wilson, Rector
The Rev. Robert T. Ford, Deacon
Mr. Maurice Murphy, Choirmaster-Organist

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1981
Women's Day
8:00 A.M. — Holy Communion
9:00 A.M. — Holy Communion, Church School
11:00 A.M. — Choral Eucharist and Sermon, Women's Breakfast Immediately Following This Service
The Public is Cordially Invited to Attend These Services
COMING EVENT
"A Song of Beauty is a Joy Forever"
Milagros Wilson Williams in BENEFIT RECITAL
Sunday, November 15, 1981, 4:00 P.M.
St. James' Episcopal Church
Patrons — $5.00 — Call 523-4588, Church Office

PERKINS SQUARE BAPTIST CHURCH
2500 EDMONDSON AVE.
CORNER OF WARWICK
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1981
Young People's Choir and Club Day

REV. RICHARD OGLE, Pastor

8:00 A.M. — MW
9:15 A.M. — Sermon By The Pastor, Church School
10:30 A.M. — New Members Class
11:00 A.M. — Open Heart, Morning Worship, Sermon by the pastor
6:00 P.M. — BTU, MMC, New Members' Class
Rap tizing

MORNING STAR BAPTIST CHURCH
"The Witnessing Church"
1069 West Fayette Street
BALTIMORE, MARYLAND 21223
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 1981
8:00 A.M. PRAYER AND SPIRITUAL HEALING SERVICE
Music: Sedella Hall Morrison and Irene Hall Kay
9:05 A.M. CHURCH SCHOOL
Ms. Juanita Gaither, Superintendent
9:55 A.M. CHURCH TRAINING
Deacon James Gilliard, Director
10:50 A.M. MORNING WORSHIP
Rev. Andrew Johnson, Preaching
1:00 P.M. DINNER IS SERVED
3:30 P.M. RECITAL
Mrs. Betty Gordon, Lyric Soprano
EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO THESE SERVICES
Reverend Dr. Samuel Ray, Pastor

In crowd

Among faces seen in the audience and-or aboard the Welcome: Dr. Tyson Tildon, the George Judes, Jake Hall, Del. Isaiah Dixon, John Ferrone, Senator Clarence Blount, Norman Brailey, Moses Lake, Werner Jordan; Charles Tildon,

Also, Geneva Puryear Howard Marshall, and from DC, Mrs. Lucy Alston and Leaford C. Williams, of the U.S. Department of Transportation.

Data: The MD Port Authority takes in $33 million in revenue each year.

We did not hear our MD port people discuss their racial picture.

'Somebody'

Union Baptist Church on Main St., in Turner Station boasts that it is a church where "everybody is somebody."

They practice their motto. The minute you enter the sanctuary members greet you warmly and encourage you to join their services.

We were there Sunday afternoon to witness mortgage burning, in six brief years, the congregation has liquidated a $125,000 debt!

Nice gesture: Special guest was Dr. W. O. Bryson Jr., president of Advance Federal Savings and Loan which made the mortgage loan enabling the congregation to turn an abandoned theatre into a thing of beauty.

Older Baltimoreans may remember that the site was once Anthony Theatre, owned and operated by the late Dr. and Mrs. Joseph Thomas, (Flavia), and that she gave the property to the church in memory of her physician-husband, who was a pioneer resident of the area.

Beauty

The Union Baptist Church is air conditioned — spacious, enabling the church to conduct outreach programs — meals for the elderly, needy, durg abuse and other community and civic gatherings.

Modern lights are highlighted by pure white walls and ceiling.

Paneling is used three-fourths of the way up each side, making the sanctuary a relaxing and comfortable place to worship.

On the wall behind the pulpit in huge letters, "Love Ye One Another. Have You Prayed For Our Church? Tell A Friend About God."

Ushers and church officers looked good in white, with red caps. And did they march proudly.

Choir members' voices were resonant. They wore black robes, yellow collars. Their "Amazing Grace" was extra good.

Pastor of Union Baptist is Rev. William E. Johnson. He succeeded Rev. Dr. Carlton C. Cooke.

At Point

Known as a "dedicated man of God and men," Dr. Cooke served the church from 1950 to 1974.

The church was then in Sparrows Point, where under his leadership the congregation had financed an addition and was moving ahead. But, lo and behold, Bethelem Steel Co., was expanding and needed the space.

ABOARD PORT WELCOME — Under Francis Scott Key Bridge shown from left are Norman Brailey, A. Paul Moss, George Jude and Bob Hearn. (See If You Ask Me for details)

The church history gives due credit to the contributions of Dr. Cooke, other former ministers and founders as well as members of the committee who elected the present pastor.

Proving again that they practice the church motto — everybody is somebody.

Rev. Johnson

Union's present pastor, six foot, articulate Rev. Johnson is credited with being an able administrator, leader and preacher.

He has instituted stewardship and leadership workshops, community outreach programs and services.

He has a television program in concert with other Baptist churches. His choir recently made a recording.

Fellow ministers recognize his leadership capabilities. They recently efected him president of the Baptist Ministers' Conference.

The minister's family takes an active part in church life.

His mother, Mrs. Lillian Johnson played the organ on Sunday.

His wife, Mrs. Delores Johnson, a social worker, is on the choir.

A daughter, Deborah, was soloist. She's in personnel at Hopkins and enrolled in grad school.

Another daughter is Benita Lynn, 12, student at Lemmel Junior High.

Son, Willard Eric, a junior at Howard University was on usher duty on Sunday.

Other sons are William E. Jr., a student at Charlottesville University and Rev. Raymond L. Johnson, minister of High Rock Baptist on Garrison Blvd., here in Baltimore.

This & that

Big Sister' annual benefit card party is this Saturday, (Oct. 31), at the Forum, proceeds benefit a variety of charities.

NAACP Unity Ball is same evening at Blue Crest.

The 12 Plus 1 Club's annual benefit was Saturday at Fontaine Bleu.

Members are social workers who use their monies to support the community endeavors and to provide a scholarship to the Howard U. School of Social Work, where most are grads.

They are: Naomi Evans, president; Thelma Greene, Jo Sloan, Jean Thomas, Fran Johnson, Nancy Bennet, who chaired the affair;

Also, Harriette Howard, Lousonia Jefferson, Ann Reed, Roberta Ross, Jo Shelton and Audrey Williams.

Cuff note: The Lionel Jiggetts music jumped.

Elegant was the annual Autumn Festival given by the O'Nose, that men's club which sends guests such unique invitations. This year's in colorful orange and green with description in verse of courses and the treats they provided.

It was black tie at Blue Crest. Dennis Fisher combo was tops.

Members are: Norman Branch, Malcolm Chamberlain, Lorenzo Felder, Harrison A. Fuller, Raymond Haysbert, Argin Hutchins, Marcellus Moore, Samuel B. Newton, Robert L. Quarles, Joseph R. B. Walker;

Also, Earl Bundara, Clarence Dyson, Otis D. Froe, William E. Griggs, Clarence E. Miller, Edward McDaniels, William Mumby, Talley Portee, Melvin Smith and Ralph L. Williams.

Beat treat

Many choice gifts come in small packages.

That's the thought which went through our minds as we witnessed the performance of "Oh On Board," a Sunday ago (Oct. 18).

This is the one-woman performance, with the actress and the playwright being one and the same person.

She is Trazana Beverley, a Baltimorean, who is well on her way up in the theatre world.

"Git On Board" is a spiritually-inspired piece in two acts. It utilizes the spoken word, dance and music.

And it draws on spirituals and familiar hyms. It is anchored on the black family.

Unique. The program carried a special message from the artist in which she gave the history of the play and explained that her role model for the play was her grandmother Nan, "who still maintains a firm place in my memory."

Miss Beverley is terrific.

Tony award

By the way, this is the same Miss Beverley who received the 1976 Tony Award for her performance in "For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When The Rainbow is Enuf."

Last year, she directed "Wedding Band," for the Free Spirit Theatre of Baltimore.

Mark your calendar now. In January 1982, you can see Miss Beverley in the television presentation of "Colored Girls."

It will be seen on Public Television's new Playhouse series.

Later in the year, she will appear in the Barbara Kopple film, "Mary Mansions."

Trio stars

Miss Beverley was presented by the Morgan State University Theatre.

Dr. Samuel A. Hay is chairman of the university's Department of Communications and Theatre Arts.

Trio tender

The instrumental trio which accompanied Miss Beverley gave a tender, sensitive, yet powerful accompaniment, and was equal in every way to the demands of the play and the actress.

In the group were Daryl Waters, piano and conductor; Leofoldo Fleming, percussionist; and Keith Marks, flutist.

Peter Kass directed. Choreographer was Craig Moore. Raymond Hardy handled lighting. Otis White and Iris Bond were stage managers.

Upcoming Morgan Theatre shows: Sophocles' "Oedipus," directed by Harmon Watson on Nov. 12-15 and Nov. 19-22. Matinees are Nov. 15 and 22.

Call 444-3343 for reservations.

Bates cited

Pervis M. Bates, president of VA State College's Baltimore (Charm City) Chapter has been installed in the college's sports Hall of Fame.

Honors came a weekend ago. Bates starred on gridiron in the 30's.

An Army vet who served in Asia and Europe, Bates also was professor of military science at Southern University, (Baton Rouge, LA), before retiring in 1967, with the rank of lieutenant colonel.

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SHOWTIME

AFRO talks to Leon Isaac Kennedy

AFRO employees pose with Leon Isaac Kennedy. From left, Denise Dorsey, Sylviette Carr, April Hamlin and April Washington.

By Ida Peters

In our Tuesday AFRO for October 20 was a picture of Leon Isaac Kennedy with a brief announcement that he would be in our office at 2 p.m. Thursday for a press interview for his new movie "Body and Soul."

He arrived on time in a long black limoisine. Young secretaries throughout the AFRO building passed the word and in no time flat deserted their desks and converged on the first floor.

Some whispered, "will you sign an autograph?" Some peaked and ran. Others paraded back and forth in an one chance to catch a glimpse of the star. Some got kisses; others autographs.

The advertising guys in our office were stunned. They couldn't understand. But, if Jayne Kennedy had walked in the front door, the men would have been the ones knocking us down in the mad rush.

Leon "The Lover" told us this is not his first visit to Baltimore. He and Jayne Kennedy came to Baltimore in 1977 to push their movie "Big Time" and they both were part of the AFRO's 85th Birthday Party and Parade at War Memorial Plaza, Aug. 13.

Leon and Jayne have been on a nationwide tour to open the movie "Body and Soul." Leon came to Baltimore for press interviews and Jayne did the interviews in D.C. Together they did many interviews. According to their publicist in D.C. they were gracious together in all their appearances.

Monday, Oct. 26, sportscaster - actress Jayne Kennedy and producer - actor Leon Isaac Kennedy filed for divorce citing long periods apart because of work schedules. The couple were married in 1971 in Detroit.

This really has nothing to do with the movie "Body and Soul" which cost $2 million to make, and was shot in seven weeks starting January, 1981.

Don't believe all you read in the white press about "Body and Soul." Black audiences are just loving this flick. They laugh, cry and in the end are standing in the aisles applauding.

Black audiences have made Leon Isaac Kennedy a hero because of his first film "Penitentiary" which grossed $15 million and the white press never did do a good review.

The AFRO was the only newspaper in town to give a reivew to this flick early on.

Kennedy says it's important that blacks have their own images they can identify with on the silver screen. After all there are 30 million blacks in this country.

Black men will pay to see a Jayne Kennedy, Brenda Sykes, or Vonetta McGee and black ladies rather than a Bo Derek in braids would rather see a Leon Isaac Kennedy, a Glenn Turman rather than John Travolta.

Kennedy says our audiences ought to have a choice and a chance to make our own heroes. TV is not showing us any black sex symbols. Why no black Fonz, no black Charlie's Angel?

(Continued Tuesday's AFRO)

Kip Branch's new novel, 'Gnawing at My Soul'... moving and sensitive

By Ida Peters

"Gnawing at my Soul" — By Kip Branch - 204 Pages - Richard Marek Publishers - 200 Madison Ave., New York, NY, 10016 - 1980 - $11.95

Kip Branch, now a New York - based writer and a teacher in the Communications Department of Wilson College in Chambersburg, PA. has just had his first novel, "Gnawing at My Soul" published by Richard Marek.

The writing borders on brilliance and shows promise of great writings to come. Kip Branch is no stranger to AFRO readers, as over the past five years he has contributed essays to the Entertainment Department and to Dawn Magazine.

The significance of young people like Kip Branch who can accurately portray black life, is that he is our hope for the future. Not only is he training young minds to write well, but hopefully this book and others to come, will be turned into movie and TV scripts to upgrade the black image in telecommunications.

"Gnawing at My Soul" is about a young man, Jackie Montgomery, growing up in Newark, NJ. It explores his boyhood friends in his neighborhood and their search for manhood.

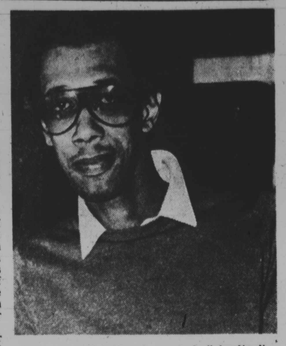
After the desertion of his father, the child is taken into the home of his fanatically religious tyrannical God-fearing aunt. His overworked mother is dying of Cancer. Her dream is to have one member of he family finish college.

The book explores the anguish and loneliness of a black young man in a white midwestern college after he wins a scholarship. The book is a thoughtful analysis of his white professor, the few black students on campus and a love affair that ends in sadness.

The youthful author also touches on that taboo in black life, incest. He also treats dramatically the rage of black men against life's circumstances over which they have no control.

How he handles his rage, the dying of his mother, faces his fear of his aunt's God and realizes his mother's dream makes this novel a first - rate piece of work.

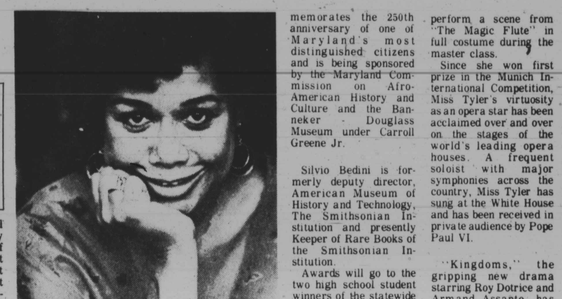
Overall, Kip Branch has incorporated into his novel the songs of the 1960s with emphasis on Al Green and Al Jarreau emphasizing the unconscious control the electronic media has over our lives.



Kip's novel is dedicated "most of all for Nardi, who told me to wait 'til my chance came, and I did."

Micki Grant here; opens Arena Players new musical

IDA PETERS



Ms. Micki Grant here to see premiere of her new musical.

The Arena Players will present a new musical by Micki Grant, author of the Broadway hit, "Don't Bother Me, I Can't Cope," opening tonight (Friday) with a reception at 7 p.m.

"It's So Nice To Be Civilized," an urban musical with music ranging from blues to country western, and dance from soft shoe to disco, will run every weekend from October 30 through November 22.

Micki Grant's career in the arts includes success as a stage and television actress, singer, playwright, composer and lyricist. Aside from "Don't Bother Me, I Can't Cope," she co-authored the music for "Your Arms Too Short To Box With God" and contributed additional lyrics for "Eubie."

The new musical "Civilized," examines the civilization of an urban street through a series of vignettes about the lives of the inhabitants on "Sweet Bitterstreet, USA." The scenes are illustrated using scenes of satire, sentimentality, social comment and humor.

The Pastor's Aid of Shiloh CC Church and The Benevolent Committee of Macedonia Baptist Church are sponsoring theatre parties on Oct. 30.

The Virginia State University Alumni Association is the sponsor Oct. 31. The Women's Day Committee, Leadenhall Baptist Church and People's Baptist Church Women's Day are sponsors Nov. 1.

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Alpha Gamma Chapter, Morgan and the Aristocrat Social Savings Club are the sponsors on Nov. 6. Other sponsors in November are League of Women's Voters, Union Memorial United Methodists, Optimist Club of Northwood, Baltimore Alumnae Chapter, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority and Baltimore Marketing Association.

Shakespeare's comedy "Much Ado About Nothing" is the next offering of the 1981-82 Center Stage season, directed by Center Stage Artistic Director Stan Wojewodski Jr. Previews Oct. 30-Nov. 2, opens Nov. 3, and runs through Dec. 6.

"Much Ado About Nothing" is an astonishing blend of bewildermemt, grace, passion and bravado. The verbal skirmishings of the witty and reluctant Beatrice and Benedick, the hilarious sleuthing of the immortal Dogberry and all the hot tempers, pridefull egos and reckless imaginations combine to make this one of Shakespeare's most sophisticated and delightful comedies.

Silvio Bedini, author of "The Life of Benjamin Banneker," will be the guest speaker at the Benjamin Banneker Awards Banquet Saturday, Oct. 31 at 7 p.m. at Holiday Inn BWI Airport.

The affair to celebrate the life of Banneker (1731-1806) commemorates the 250th anniversary of one of Maryland's most distinguished citizens and is being sponsored by the Maryland Commission on Afro-American History and Culture and the Banneker — Douglass Museum under Carroll Greene Jr.

Silvio Bedini is formerly deputy director, American Museum of History and Technology, The Smithsonian Institution and presently Keeper of Rare Books of the Smithsonian Institution.

Awards will go to the two high school student winners of the statewide Banneker Essay Contest.

The Howard University Alumni Club of Baltimore will present the Howard University Concert Choir of Washington, D.C. in a scholarship benefit concert Sunday, Nov. 1, at 4 p.m. in the auditorium of Lake Clifton Senior High School, 2801 Saint Lo Drive. The concert choir is under the direction of Dr. James W. Norris.

Internationally renowned soprano Veronica Tyler, a native Baltimorean, will conduct a free vocal master class at the Peabody Conservatory of Music, One East Mount Vernon Place in downtown Baltimore on Saturday, Oct. 31 from 2-5 p.m.

Participants in the class, which is designed specifically to recognize untapped minority talent living in the Baltimore - Washington, D.C. area, will receive Miss Tyler's expert guidance on the best use of the voice and her insights into a professional career.

Miss Tyler will also perform a scene from "The Magic Flute" in full costume during the master class.

Since she won first prize in the Munich International Competition, Miss Tyler's virtuosity as an opera star has been acclaimed over and over on the stages of the world's leading opera houses. A frequent soloist with major symphonies across the country, Miss Tyler has sung at the White House and has been received in private audience by Pope Paul VI.

"Kingdoms," the gripping new drama starring Roy Dotrice and Armand Assante, has opened a four-week run at the Eisenhower Theater of The John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Directed by Tony Giordano, Associate Artistic Director of the Circle Repertory Theatre, "Kingdoms" is based on the kidnapping of Pope Pius VII by Napoleon in 1809, and the clash between the two men over the five-year period of the Pope's captivity.

Playing Pope Pius VII is Roy Dotrice, who received a Tony nomination last season for his performance on Broadway in A LIFE. He won an Emmy for his performance in Pinter's THE CARETAKER and for eight years was a member of the Royal Shakespeare Company. Washington audiences will remember him from his one-man show "Mister Lincoln."

Armand Assante, noted for his film work in "Private Benjamin," "Little Darlings" and "Paradise Alley," will be playing Napoleon.

Miles Davis here

In the 1960s, Miles Davis, an intense, dapper man with a hoarse voice had an almost messianic hold upon contemporary jazz men and he was the supreme influence and motivating force within his peer group.

Miles Davis was bop and much more for an entire generation of jazz fans. As part of the reaction in the years following World War II, jazz seemed to be lost in the ethereal clouds of intellectualism, its roots no longer in the blues, shapped instead by the spectre of European orthodoxy.

With one record, "The Complete Birth of the Cool," 1949, Miles Davis changed all that and brought back lyricism and melody and the blues to jazz. Musically, Miles has led an entire generation of trumpet players into the use of mutes, a wispy tone, experiments with overblowing into a microphone, and the quiet use of spatial elements and lyricism in playing.

In 1969 with "Bitches Brew," Miles started an entire new trend in popular music. He combined many types of music into haunting chord patterns that are unpredictable and seem almost as if they are alive with character that is a bit more than music.

There is a communicated feeling that grabs you and says, "Don't try and understand for it may be above you, but listen, you may learning something, or get the feeling you always hope to get from listening to great music; that inner from listening to great music; that inner stimulation that rhythm gives your soul."

Many people look on Miles Davis as some sort of "King of Jazz," the type of musician one acknowledges as the best because everyone says he is the best.

Many people have never taken the time to listen to the music of Miles and . . . There are even people who don't like his music, who declare he is the best.

Judge for yourself. Miles Davis will be in B-More in person at Painters Mill, Saturday, Oct. 31.

Night Scene Seen

By Bob Matthews

This is the big Halloween weekend, and Night Sceners are gearing up for the big doings—some of which are firsts.

For example, Radio Station WEAA-FM is planning to do four remote broadcasts from The Sportsmen's Lounge tomorrow (Oct. 31). The sets will air between 9 and 10:30 p.m.

It's all a part of the Morgan State Univ. Homecoming celebration, and two groups essentially will be featured in the broadcasts. One, vocalist Liz Figueroa, along with Rick Johnson, drums; Mickey Fields, tenor sax; Bill Byrd, organ, and John Lamkin, trumpet.

Then, the regular weekend attraction at the club, vocalist Bill Harris, along with Bobby Ward, drums; Charless Arnette, keyboards; Butch Coleman, bass, and Benny Russell, sax.

Officials at the radio station told me that this is a part of the attempt of the station to be more community oriented, and in essence, to get more involved. Sounds great!

It will be homecoming for a couple of local musicians, as Jimmy McGriff heads up a trio for the Left Bank Jazz Society presentation Sunday.

With McGriff will be alto saxist Arnold Sterling, along with Vance James on drums. This will be the first time to hear the group since they joined McGriff, almost a year ago.

At The Closet, Brenda Alford and her Trio will be on tap for the ghosts and ghoulies with a special Halloween party with prizes and an open buffet.

Chatted with Henry Baker, Jr., who told me that Brenda will be held over for a couple of weeks in November, holding forth Thursday through Sundays.

The last two weeks of the month will have Ruby Glover and the Fuzzy Kane trio as the weekend attraction. Incidently, the John Lamkin group is scheduled to take over the Wednesday night sessions at the club.

Always happy to see a new club enter the Night Scene, and the newest is called Hats, Inc. It's located on Paca St. between Mulberry and Franklin Sts, in the site formerly occupied by the Black Image.

Owners of the new venture are Charles White and Edward Mason, and we must say they have done wonders in transforming the club into a slick- looking, eating establishment.

There are lots of tables on the first level, with the menu prominently posted in plain sight. The upstairs room is not quite finished, but is expected to be opened in a couple of weeks.

The emphasis is on the lunch and dinner trade, with special emphasis on lunch for the Social Security Administration crowd which is a mere two blocks away.

Happy hour is from 4-6, and features 2-4-1. Asked where the name Hats, Inc. came from. Was told that there was no special reason, they just wanted to be different.

You would never believe the problem we had trying to track down some information about the recently completed Miss Nitelife contest. It was all for the benefit of Project Survival, and we are told the closing event was a huge success.

Winner, and Miss Nitelife is Jacqueline Taylor of Roots Unltd. who won a 5-day trip to Las Vegas. First runner up was from Beverly's Crosswords, the prize was a color-TV.

In third place was Stephanie Boston of Dr. Buzzard's, who won a radio. According to Vernon Wolst of Project Survival, more than 44 bars and taverns took part in the contest, and over $5,000 was raised for the Project Survival activities.

Tried to get some information on this from Mr. Nitelifer himself, Walter Carr. He didn't know a thing about it. Very strange!

The Birdcage has become famous for its Monday night jazz sessions, wherein local talent gets a chance to work out with the pros. But there is also a swinging session going on weekends at the club.

Tonight and tomorrow, the Morris Dow trio, featuring Claudia Thomas, with Sonny Fowlkes on organ will hold down the upstairs room. Don't know how long it's had that name, but the upstairs room is called the Nest.