Bradley Alston and Lisa Randolph display "Ragtime" poster featuring Baltimorean Howard E. Rollins.

Win a 'Ragtime' poster

You can win a free poster from the movie "Ragtime". This historic poster features Baltimore's Howard Rollins and James Cagney.

All you have to do is bring or mail a letter telling what you know about the movie; how you liked the movie or why you want to go see the movie.

Deadline is January 9, 1982.

Here's a sample letter.

Dear AFRO:

Howard Rollins is an old Eastside chum who attended Herring Run Jr. High with us. His nickname was "Nicey" and the handle was very appropriate and indicative of his warm friendly and helpful personality.

Nicey was always surrounded by girls as I remember. Herring Run was recently intergrated in 1964 and most of the black kids rode the No. 5 bus back and forth.

On this fall day one new student was giving Nicey a hard time. When the crowd left the bus, several girls surrounded this guy and threatened to "back" him if he dared "mess" with Nicey again.

We graduated that year and the next and last time I saw Howard we stood on North Avenue and Chester St on a rather cool summer evening and shared our hopes and plans for ourselves. I wanted to go right to college and into Social work and Nicey was excited about an audition for a new black soap opera called "Our Street".

Later I found out he landed a large part on the show and the rest is history.

We're very, very proud of "Nicey" a kid from the old neighborhood who has turned Hollywood on its ear. May he forever be an inspiration to our younger kids. Bradley Alston.

Howard E. Rollins visits Debbie Allen in the attic of the family home with the intention of asking her to become his wife.

Park Heights Elementary School visits

Elementary School visited the AFRO recently. Their names were:

Linda Hughes, Sandra Gill, Sharon Davis, Linda Moir, Jeanette Easter, Cheryl Middleton, Rose Snyder, Catherine Cook, Brenda Moore, Susan Harris, Audrey Pepper, Lyn Sloan, Boots Cernick, Patricia, Cheek.

Also, Helen Idavoia, Mary Gremming, Dorothy Douglas, Rosemarie Smith, Mary Baranaduskas, Fran Men Lik, Phyllis Eley, Wanda Lang, Thelma Crispens, Audrey Redford.

And Susan Compher, Ella Strawser, Peggy Block, Julia Creek, Gwen Dubose, Elizabeth Rentz, and Esther Tisdale.

District 1199 E, RWDSU - AFL - CIO, the health care unit presented Mrs. Santa with a large box of brand new toys. Ronnie Hollie is president; Staff member Beatrice Crockett made presentation.

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Proprietors: Donald & Ronnie Jackson

TV Watching

By Vanessa Johnson

Friday-New's Day

New Year's Day with Regis: A look at preparation for the Tournament of Roses Parade with Regis Philbin. 10:00-11:00 a.m.-Ch. 2.

— —

Cotton Bowl Festival Parade: Dallas's 25th Annual Cotton Bowl Festival Parade. 10:00-11:30 a.m.-Ch. 11.

— —

Tournament of Roses Parade: The 93rd annual parade, presided over by grand marshal James Stewart. 11:00-1:30 p.m.-Ch. 2.

— —

CBS Library: Lessons in life are taught to a misguided youth in three animated tales. Starring James Earl Jones. 5:00-6:00 p.m.-Ch. 11.

— —

Muppet Show: A band of pig thieves are intent upon ruining singer Shirley Bassey's "Goldfinger" number when they discover the Muppet stage is decked with real gold bars. 5:30-6:00 p.m.-Ch. 13.

— —

SCTV Comedy Network: Guest Natalie Cole sings "Nothing But A Fool". 12:30-2:00 a.m.-Ch. 2.

— —

Saturday

AFC Playoff: The San Diego Chargers (10-6) play the Miami Dolphin. 5:00-8:00 p.m.-Ch. 2.

— —

Movie: "Soul-to-Soul" account of the March 1971 soul concert performed in Ghana. Stars include Wilson Pickett, Ike & Tina Turner, Roberta Flack and others. 4:00-6:00 p.m.-Ch. 11.

— —

Power Pinch: An examination of sexual harassment in the workplace from several perspectives. 7:30-8:00 p.m.-Ch. 13.

Saturday Night Live: Guests include singer Rick James. 11:30-1:00 a.m.-Ch. 2.

— —

Movie: "El Condor", violent yarn about the attack on a Mexican fortress believed to contain a fortune in gold. Starring Jim Brown. 1:00-3:00 a.m.-Ch. 11.

— —

Sunday

AFC Playoff: The Buffalo Bills play the Cincinnat Bengals. 1:00-4:00 p.m.-Ch. 2.

— —

Movie: "Conrack", a real-life schoolteacher Pat Conroy, who worked at educating indigent black children on an island off South Carolina. 2:30-4:30 p.m.-Ch. 9.

— —

Mike Douglass: Guests include singers Teddy Pendergrass and Stephanie Mills. 4:50-5:50 a.m.-Ch. 13.

Movie: "The Boys From Brazil", pits a Viennese Nazi-hunter against sadistic war criminal Josef Mengele, the mastermind of a bizarre plot to create a Fourth Reich. 9:00-11:00 p.m.-Ch. 2.

— —

Merv Griffin: Guests include Rosanne Cash and Robbie Dupree. 9:00-10:00 p.m.-Ch. 5.

— —

The Jeffersons: George asks his songwriting neighbor to compose a catchy advertising jingle for his business, but the man's depression hinders his creative flow. Starring Sherman Hemsley. 10:30-11:00 p.m.-Ch. 11.

Monday

Evening Magazine: Segments include Baltimore's House of Ruth, a shelter for battered wives. 7:30-8:00 p.m.-Ch. 13.

— —

Movie: "The Elephant Man", John Merrick (1862-90), the victim of a hideously deforming disease (neurofibromatosis) that leaves him an outcast, too grotesque for even the circus sideshows that for a time provide his livelihood. 9:00-11:00 p.m.-Ch. 13.

— —

Lou Grant: Rossi tracks down members of a once-famous jazz quartet. Starring Joe Williams and others. 10:00-11:00 p.m.-Ch. 11.

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Yvonne Talton Kersey (Bertha)

Adjora Faith McMillan (Thelma)

Lynn Clifton Allen (Ma Reed)

Ronald "Smokey" Stevens (Papa Du)

'One Mo' Time'... not like old times in New Orleans

By Ida Peters

See, See rider, see what you done done,
See, see rider, see what you done done,
Made me love you, now your gal has come!

And that's the way Ma Rainey used to sing it on the Chitterlin' circuit... the Lyric in New Orleans... the Royal in Baltimore... the Howard in D.C. ... the Regal in Chicago.

Down at the Mechanic Theatre in "One Mo' Time" they have cleaned up the lyrics and Lynne Clifton-Allen as Ma Reed sings "C.C. Rider" and brings down the house... but most of the people in the audience and the young performers themselves did not catch the dirty jokes behind the words.

And if you don't understand the verse above as Ma Rainey used to sing it... or Bessie Smith... find a grandparent and maybe he or she will explain it.

Don't misunderstand me, "One Mo' Time" is a lively energetic show with a fine cast. It's fast moving by today's standards. The blues are low down but nobody... but nobody alive today can capture an audience like Ma Rainey did with her wild hair... gold teeth. They tell she spent her winters in New Orleans and when she appeared on stage she was always loaded with diamonds...backed by the one and only Louis Armstrong.

The best thing about "One Mo' Time" is the New Orleans Blue Serenaders. They are worth the price of admission. When they played "Tiger Rag" at the end of Act I, the audience Monday night went wild.. not like they used to do at the Royal. It was like the whole audience went "bravo".

The New Orleans Blues Serenaders have Albert Bemiss on piano; Manny Boyd, clarinet; Joseph F. Lastie Jr., drums; Alton Carson, tuba and John Brunious, trumpet.

As one first nighter remarked this band carried you right back to Bourbon Street and the open air cafes where tourists pay the musicians to sit in during Mardi Gras time.

Adjora Faith McMillan as Thelma was outstanding in "He's Funny That Way". She's a Chicago native and a graduate of Loyola University. She was in the international touring company of "Ain't Misbehavin'".

Ronald "Smokey" Stevens (Papa Du) is a rising young star out of Washington, D.C. He won laughs with his "He's In the Jail House Now" routine. A Pigmeat Markham he ain't! Stevens studied professionally at the D.C. Black Repertory Co. He was one of the Crows opposite Michael Jackson in "The Wiz".

Yvonne Talton Kersey (Bertha) has a show stopping number "Kitchen Man" and "The Right Key and the Wrong Keyhole". She is a New Jersey native. She has a B.A. degree in vocal music education and she had the Nell Carter role in the Broadway version of "Ain't Misbehavin'".

Lynne Clifton - Allen (Ma Reed) is also outstanding especially in "The Party" number as take-off of the Dance Theatre of Harlem's party number. She has been seen on Broadway in "Eubie", and "But Never Jam Today".

The Mechanic has gone all-out to make "One Mo' Time" a gala production... and the expense shows from the draped stage to the elaborate set designed by Michael J. Hotopp and Paul dePass.

Put your memories away and see "One Mo' Time", you'll enjoy.

WWIN and Bethel AME play for Mrs. Santa

Bethel's Spirit (86-63) winners over the WWIN team are: C. Pinchback, J. Drew, J. Howard, S. Green, L. Love, Kevin Harris, J. Raffin, D. Fassett, S. McKenzie, J. Hubbard, J. Johnson, T. Wheeler and D. Zimmerman.

Photo by Vanessa Johnson

WWIN Radio Station team were: Duke Johnson, Keith Newman, Lou Davis, Dean Barksdale, Ben Cornish, Lee Cross, Tommy Folks, Charles Richardson, Tony Woodson, Don Hopkins and David Jones.

Photo by Vanessa Johnson

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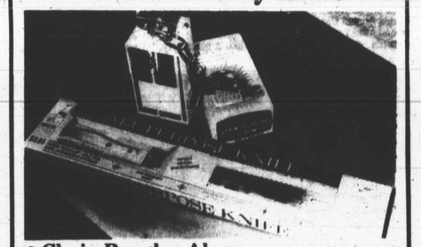
Billy Taylor, coach for WWIN, AFRO Mrs. Santa, Ida Peters, and Cleveland Brister, coach for the Bethel Spirit.

Photo by Vanessa Johnson

Referees for Mrs. Santa's basketball game held at Carver High School were Charles Johnson and Rodney White.

Photo by Vanessa Johnson

Great Holiday Gifts

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