partyline

By Pattie Hodges

ANNUAL MASQUERADE BALL AT CLOISTERS

The invitation read "They came in hordes donning imaginations that are as enigmatic as the cycle of the locust — one by one they arrived, enthralled by the evening's merriment — their souls filled with mirth."

And so the guests did come by the hundreds to the Fourth Annual Masquerade Ball at The Cloister's Children Museum, Brooklandville, MD recently hosted by Vernon Ross, of the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation for the state of Maryland and Joel Holman who works at the Dett Set Beauty Salon and Pauline Brook's Boutique.

And merry they made as Arab David Bridgeport, playboy bunny, Yolanda Powell, bucaneer Wayne Davis, African warrior Donald Washington, replete with chestplate as Goldfinger James (painted in bronze) and sparkling gold dust on the guests and the floor.

Lisa Randolph came as a magnificent Scarlett O'Hara, Gregory Johnson as E.T.'s father. Billy Johnson upset the crowd in red form - fitting dress with the backout (low) brandishing a boa, as a Lady in Drag.

There was a mysterious anonymous devil on the scene and many others who partied the evening away — past the 1 a.m. deadline.

It was dance - hearty time with music by Darryl Harris (who dubs himself Mandrill), a disco d.j. from the District of Columbia.

The palate - pleasing delectables included raw bar fare with numerous fresh raw vegetables and a special dip; petite crab balls, fried chicken wings, turkey salad, three types of quiche — crab balls, fried chicken wings, turkey salad three types of quiche — crab, spinach and cheese; macaroni - schrimp salad and a cake which bore the entire party invitation.

Wine continuously flowed, with guests sipping a large variety all evening, and there was a special champagne toast between 8 and 9 p.m. when the judges were introduced.

Gifts for the best costumes were gold Oscar trophies designed by host Vernon Ross, who was dressed La Spectra De le Rose. Co - host Joel came as Fire. Both were in red.

This year, because of the fact that the ball was on a Sunday, many wore formal attire and the gowns and tuxedos were exquisite.

Prizes for 'Most Creative' went to B. T. Bentley, who came as a bag of trash. 'Ugliest went to witch Jeannette Beckett and 'Prettiest' was a colorful bird Ralph Spencer. These were the Oscar winners.

Other prize winners for second and third places, who got smaller trophies for the same categories were James Physon, Jim Shea, Linda James, Grégory Johnson, Michael Graves and that obnoxious devil from the District.

Judging the costumes were Eva Anderson, director of the Baltimore Dance Theatre; Jacqueline Brock, wife of Odell Broc, owner of Odells; Charlene Hyman Stanford, proprietress of Hyman and Hyman, whose designs have been featured in the Ebony Fashion Fair for the past two years; Sandy Mallory, of Radio Station V - 103 and Anthony "Tony" Ambridge, owner of Nick and Mary's Restaurant, North Ave. and Charles Sts.

Hostesses, clad in the hosts' usual red and black color scheme, were Brenda Carter, Joy Cosby, Stacey Ross (host's sister), Karen Evans and Alison Keye.

Guests left in a happy state, all looking forward to next year's ball.

99TH B'DAY FETE

Recently Arlene P. Greve, resident of the Granada Nursing Home reached her 99th birthday.

She was visited on her natal day by her three daughters, Mrs. Floree Montgomery, Mrs. Ella Mae Harrison and Mrs. Cora Harrison, and four days later members of her five - generation family gathered to celebrate with at the Home.

The affair was held in the beautifully - decorated dinning room which was aglow with many flowers, cards and gifts. Refreshments included punch, ice cream and a Happy Birthday Cake, replete with candles made by great - granddaughter Olufunmilayo, famed Baltimore dancer.

Others in attendance included grandchildren Edward Johnson, Catherine Figueroa, Mildred Waddell; great - grandchildren Zorian and Anthony, sons of Olu; April Wilson and Ricky Johnson.

Staff members who so graciously assisted in preparations also joined in the celebration.

Mrs. Grove was born Nov. 17, 1883 in Greenwood, SC to Peggy and Gilbert Petit.

She was educated in private schools in South Carolina and subsequently married Elijah E. Grove.

Of this union four daughters were born. Three survive, one having died in infancy.

Mrs. Grove traveled through many states and finally settled in Boston, MA until the death of her husband.

She then located in Baltimore where she lived and worked until poor health caused her to stop.

She was cared for by relatives until her condition deteriorated and she was placed in a nursing home care on her physician's recommendation.

READY FOR THE SHOWER is Sandy Mallory, of Radio Station V - 103 as she laughs it up with Sherman Hawkins during the Fourth Annual Masquerade Party hosted at the Cloister's Children's Museum recently by Vernon Ross and Joel Holman. Sandy was one of the judges for the costume parade.

Alphas host Founders' Day Program

Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity celebrated its 76th anniversary with a week - end program that began on Dec. 4 with a candlelight service at the First Baptist Church in Guilford, MD. It was sponsored by the Columbia Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha.

The Sunday morning morning service was held at the Morgan Christian Center with a near capacity turnout of Alpha men and their wives.

The Rev. Douglas Force offered the morning service which was most inspirational.

The Morgan gospel singers, under the direction of Prof. Nathan Carter, was outstanding as they sang a series of Christmas songs and spirituals.

On Sunday Dec. 5, the Delta Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha sponsored a buffet luncheon and program at the Cross Keys Inn with participation from all of the Alpha Chapters in the greater Baltimore area and Columbia, Md.

More than 150 brothers and their wives participated in this activity which honored members of the fraternity who had served for 50 years and 25 years respectively.

Beautiful black and gold plaques were awarded to the 50 year members and certificates were awarded to the 25 year members.

Brother Dr. Clifton Jones was the guest speaker at the luncheon and received a standing ovation after his speech, which dealt with the social, housing, economic and poverty problems confronting our race.

He urged greater participation and involvement of fraternal and civic groups in eradicating these problems.

Soft background music was furnished througout the luncheon by Bro. Scott Heckstall who is a professional pianist.

A Founder's Day memorial service climaxed the lun-cluncheon program which closed with the singing of the Alpha Sweetheart Song and Alpha Hymn.

ALPHA BROTHER BRUCE EDEMY (L) receives 50 - Year Award from Thomas Mitchell, secretary of the Delta Lambda Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. for 50 years of service to the fraternity during the Founders' Day Program.

TONY ROBINSON FUNDRAISER

A Committee of Friends welcomes you to spend an evening with Anthony W. Robinson, Sunday, Dec. 19, from 5 until 8 p.m. in the Tawes Center, Coppin State College, 2500 W. North Ave. Donation is $10.

The affair is a fundraiser for "Tony," who plans to run next year for the City Council as a candidate from the 5th District.

Matthew Marcus, A. Paul Moss, the Rev. James Wooten, Dewey Robinson, Douglas B. Sands, Dr. Isiah Woodward, Raymond C. Wright, Sr., Dr. John Richardson, Atty. Charles Howard, Maddison Murray, Dr. Clayton Stansbury and the Rev. Donald Wilson.

On the Founder's Day Committee were: Joseph B. Bracy, chairman; Dr. Clayton Stansbury, coordinator; Martin Austion, Raymond Wright, Jacob Howard and Douglas Sands.

Receiving 50 Year Awards were: Dr. Maurice L. Adams, Daniel N. Clark, Alphonso R. Cottman; Robert Diggs, Osborne Dixon, J. Bruce Edemy and J. Hiram Butler.

Receiving 25 Year Awards were: Senator Clarence Blount, Joseph B. Bracy, Dr. Frederick Anderson, Dr. Otis Froe,

Single PARENTING

By Kelly Hill

This week I will talk about places to go and things to do during the holiday season.

Recently I took my children to the "Shake and Bake Family Fun Center", it was a terrific day.

We began with duckpin bowling, which my son informed me, we should do this at least once a week. We went upstairs to the video arcade, or is it called "electronic arcade?"

From there, it was two hot dogs to go with plenty of cheese and chili. Then off to the roller skating disco, which had a "Youth Skating party."

At the skating party we had pizza and soda, and the music was as loud as a disco. There were children of all ages and it reminded me of the days of the "Colisieum" skating rink that was located on Monroe Street.

The total cost for the day was $15 which included the bowling and rental of shoes, video games and food for two children and one adult.

During the holiday season, shopping for gifts can be quite expensive. To make ends meet there are some families who will be celebrating Kwanza.

Kwanza is celebrated for seven days beginning on Dec. 26, and can be observed along with Christmas. Children and parents will enjoy learning about this deep rooted African celebration at their local library.

The Civic Center will have for sale at half price toys, houseware, gifts and other items on Dec. 18 and 19.

Shopping Centers have beautiful Christmas displays and Santa Claus for the children to visit and enjoy.

The movie houses have matinee performances which are reasonable and I recommend "The Toy" rated PG for children.

The Lyric Opera House will feature "Hansel and Gretel" on Tuesday, Dec. 28. For more information call 276-4646.

If you are on a tight budget and need clothing or toys that are in good shape try places like the Veterans Warehouse, Goodwill and second hand stores.

In summary and to close out the series on how children feel about single parenting. It is always good to remember it is the quality of care and time that you spend with your child not the quantity.

To Ms. Gregory, thank you very much for the books you sent, they are very helpful.

Next week I will talk about How to Cut Corners on Decorating the Christmas Tree and How the single Parent Family spends Christmas Together.

—• COLUMBIA CAPERS •—

By Pinnie L. Ross

BLACKS CROWD TO WITNESS CEREMONY

It was history in the making in Howard County last Monday night when Dr. Vernon C. Gray, first black to be elected on the five panel County Council, was sworn in.

The installation ceremony for the five members of the Council was held in the Banneker Hearing Room, George Howard Building in the County Seat, Ellicott City.

Howard County blacks who accepted the black and white invitation from Councilman Gray came from all directions.

The room was filled to capacity and those who were not there by 7 p.m. had to stand around the packed walls. The ceremony got underway at 7:30 p.m.

Freinds, campaign workers, and all of the blacks and whites who believe in Vernon were there, but there were some supporters who were not able to attend the ceremony. According to Vernon their presence was felt heavily without them being present.

Among the guests were his family, wife, campaign manager and chief, Sandra Gray, his daughter Angela, and only son Michael. Sitting very quietly were his mother and father, Mr. and Mrs. Major Gray.

Dr. Vernon C. Gray

Immediately following the reception the lawmakers began working with politics as usual. A meeting of the council was held. Among the duties of the five panel council, Ruth Keeton, two term councilwoman will chair the council while former chairperson Elizabeth Bobo will become co - chairperson. She will serve as Board of Health chairperson.

Lloyd Knowles will continue to chair the Zoning Board and our own Vernon will chair the Liquor Board.

The young lawmaker took a leave of absence from his political science professor's job at Morgan State University to campaign for County Council.

Dr. Gray is back to work now at Morgan and has begun his new lawmaking job as the first black councilman in Howard County laws Congratulations Dr. Gray!

The Columbia, Maryland Chapter of Alpha phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. presents its first annual Collegiate Holiday Mixer, Tuesday, December 28th, 9 p.m. til 2 a.m. at The Meeting House, 5885 Robert Oliver Place in Oakland Mills. There will be dancing, card playing, ping pong, backgammon. The attire is casual, school colors, and you can bring your college pennants.

Admission is $5.50 per person in advance, $6.00 at the door. Door prizes, cash bar, soft drinks, beer, wine. It's going to be a winner and it's first for those Alpha brothers.

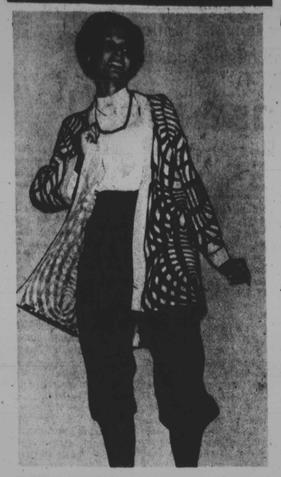
For ticket information, call Cecil Christian - 730 - 9030; Dave Barrett - 997 - 2277; Harvey Moron - 997 - 2458; Henry Sherard — 596 - 3212.

THOUGHT FOR TODAY

Like the beautiful flower full of color, but without scent are the fair words of him who himself does not act accordingly.

FASHION

Fashion graduation, extravaganza held



SADIE L. JOHNSON is wearing a snazzy knickers outfit at the fashion show for area designer sponsored by Yolanda Voss' International Studios recently at the Columbia Inn.

Odyssey Modeling Studio graduation

Odyssey Modeling Studio and Fine Arts recently held its graduation at La Fontaine Bleu, Erdman Ave.

The evening, which featured the graduates and student models in casual wear and their favorite outfits, and the graduates in their lovely graduation gowns in a segment called "A Step Toward Tomorrow", began with cocktails and a sit-down dinner.

Keynote speakers for the occasion were Alice McGill, actress, who dramatically gave inspirational remarks to the graduates which seemed to point up the psilive attitude that "You can be whatever you want to be", be Stan Poules, of the Van Sant Dougdale Advertising Co. and Tom Kenney, fashion coordinator for Woodward & Lothrop.

Special musical entertainment was provided by Shee, an all-female band — and they were great.

Odyssey was established in 1971 at College Park, University of Md. by William Allen, director-owner, who has been teaching modeling for 11 years.

His techniques have progressed and advanced with the era of high fashion, junior and children's modeling.

Allen's courses cover the total spectrum of what a complete model should know. He also has an Odyssey in Las Curses, NM.

Student models in the 1982 graduation were Lyn Williams, Shellyn Graham, Sonja Conyers and Katrina Rose.

1982 Graduates, whose certificates were presented by Theodore Johnson, were Carrie Murray, Eric Jenkins, Jr., Jacqueline Murphison, Deborah Brandford, Pamela Wilks, Hope Williams, Annastasia Allen (Chocolate), Sandra Farley, Tondria Simon, Renee Barnes, Cynthia Bowman, April Gaskins, Dwight Smith, Terri Kitrick, Milton Johnson, Donna Worsley, Horace Duren, Deborah Weber, and Lisa Farmer.

Engagements and Weddings

Michelle Musgrove to wed Samuel Johnson

Michelle Musgrove Engaged

Mr. and Mrs. Ellsworth Musgrove (Vernice) of Carroll Co. proudly announced the engagement of their daughter, Michelle, to Samuel James Johnson, son of Mr. and Mrs. Mortimus Johnson (Eloise) of Randallstown, MD.

The bride - to - be is a graduate of South Carroll High School and attended Towson University. She is employed at National Federation of the Blind.

The prospective bridegroom is a graduate of Randallstown High School and UMBC, with a major in Music. He is employed with Caltex Cable Television as a supervisor.

The wedding will take place Saturday, Feb. 19, 1983 at the First United Church of Jesus Christ, 5150 Baltimore National Pike at 1:30 p.m.

Kaleidoscope Studio hosts fashion extravaganza

The new Pimlico Center (Formerly Club International) on Park Heights Avenue was The Scene of a Spectacular fashion extravaganza, given by Kaleidoscope Studios, recently.

Kaleidoscope is a non-profit, Social Betterment Organization, dedicated to modeling instruction, personal grooming, and the art of dancing. The Organization is co-directed by Lois Carter and Warren Thompson, Jr.

It's present focus is on fund-raising activities for Community Organizations and Sales Promotions for Designers and Clothing Merchandisers.

The show provided a showcase for Local Designer Talent such as Sheila Duren, Kevin Garner, Larry Holland, Mae Tuggle and Francina Bean-Waters.

The very popular Bill Cummings Band provided instrumental and vocal treats.

A variety of Acts provided a Cornucopia of entertainment.

Barbara Chandler sang the Jennifer Holiday number from the Broadway hit, Dream Girls, Melvin Cooper of the Baltimore Dance Theatre, and his partner, Rhonda performed rhythmic, agile dance routines. The Amazing Josini titilated the audience with his magic and ventriloquism routine.

A bizzare and sensuous trio headed by Adrian Paimley, called Man-Beast, performed an exotic Cave-man combat skit, which startled and excited the audience.

Finally, the feature of the evening was a dazzling fashion exhibition performed by the Kaleidoscope models and the Larry Holland Troupe.

Exquisite Garments in fine woolens, satins, taffetas, silks and fur-trimmed outfits, were adorned by highly attractive models. The garments were a display of detailed craftsmanship and design ingenuity. These designers should be very proud of their originals.

Ready-made garments were also supplied by MERRY-GO-ROUND of Mondawmin, and the posh and increasingly popular CHAMELEON Boutique of Falls Road.

New stars on the designer horizon

Baltimore seems to be bursting with creative talent in the field of fashion. Two of the most promising designers in the local area are Sheila Duren and Larry Holland.

Sheila is a native Baltimorean, who showed early proclivity toward manipulating fabric and thread as a ten year old, making doll clothes which drew considerable attention in the family circle.

In 1976 she attended the Maryland Institute of Art and in 1979 she matriculated for a three year period at the fashion Institute of Technology in Manhattan.

She developed invaluable skill while working as an apprentice with New York Furriers.

She returned to Baltimore in 1980 and began to create fashions as a free-lance designer.

She exemplifies the classic practical school of design, but her creations have a definitely distinctive quality. She did a bright orange satin evening gown (form fitting) with a deep neckline for the show.

Larry Holland is a native of Harrisburg, PA, who has resided in Baltimore for the past year and a half.

Larry began his career as a model at age seventeen. He made his own sketches and garments.

He was a teacher of models at the Barbizon school for a brief period, and has also worked at The Baltimore Academy in Towson.

Larry has a flair for high fashion and his focus is on sleek, svelte evening apparel.

He has a penchant for tall willowy models who exhibit style and elegance.

Larry believes his creative ability to be a gift. He began sewing by practicing on his sister's sewing machine.

His fashion achievements were highlighted when he won a gown competition in New York for Cover Girl Magazine, with 12,000 points.

The primary goal of both Sheila and Larry is to sell lines in volume to major stores and outlets. These designers are undoubtedly on the rise.

Hampton alumni association hosts annual dinner

On Sunday, Nov. 28, the Baltimore Chapter of the National Hampton Alumni Association held its Annual Dinner at the Forum with Gustav Heningburg as the guest speaker.

Heningburg, a 1950 Hampton graduate, is the president of Gustav Heningburg Associates, Inc. of Newark, NJ.

Prior to the establishment of his consultant firm in 1980, Heningburg served for 12 years as President and Chief Executive Officer of the Greater Newark Urban Coalition. In that capacity, he earned the trust and respect of welfare recipients and corporate presidents . . . of community based street organizers and mayors and governors.

He was the "prime" architect of the "Newark Plan" which provided training and employment for hundreds of black and Hispanic construction workers.

This plan became the model later adopted by the State of New Jersey and has been widely hailed as the most effective construction affirmative action in America.

Heningburg has served as a trustee of St. Paul's College, Lawrenceville, VA.; Essex County College in Newark and Bloomfield College, Bloomfield, NJ.

Among his more than 100 citations and awards are two presented by Hampton Institute. In 1970, he received the Distinguished Alumni Award and the Trustees Outstanding Alumni Award. The Baltimore Chapter of the NHAA has submitted his name for consideration as a trustee of Hampton.

During his remarks at the dinner, Heningburg revealed a startling fact. He stated that for the first time in the history of this country, students have reading levels lower than those of their parents.

This certainly represents a challenge to educators and black institutions, in particular, as most black students are definitely below national averages in reading and math.

As Heningburg stated, black schools have traditionally had remedial programs to help students who are deficient. They must continue in this effort and serve as a role model for other institutions who are finding this a difficult challenge.

The dinner also featured a beautiful duet by Brenda Doswell and Atheda Lusk, accompanied by Nathan Carter. Jake Cox was spokesperson for the Capital Gains Fund.

Hampton Institute, ranking 86th in endowment among all colleges in the United States, last year embarked on a $30 million capital gains drive.

This drive started by Dr. William R. Harvey, President of the college, is being spearheaded by William Ellinghaus - President of AT & T.

The National Alumni Association which generally gives approximately $250,000 to Hampton each year has been asked to give an additional $1 million covering the span of the drive.

To meet this goal, the local chapter has asked each alumnus to give an additional $25 per year to be earmarked for the capital gains drive.

The March 1984 Mid - Atlantic Regional Conference of the National Hampton Alumni Association will be held in Baltimore.

Cherry Blackwell, coordinator for that project, brought this to the attention of the more than 200 alumni and friends gathered for the ocassion.

Among those present were Dr. Saul Perdue, a former Hampton Trustee and William Sykes, a current trustee.

Officers of the Baltimore Chapter are: Eleanor C. Tildon, president; Treopia G. Washington, vice president; Lynda Brown, recording secretary; Barbara Speight, corresponding secretary; Melissa Perdue; treasurer; Theodore Gross, assistant treasurer; Samuel Stewart, parliamentarian and Clarence Barber, chaplain.

Woodlawn Highlights

By Marjorie R. Green

RETIREMENT FETE

"I am quite pleased and happy and I want everyone to know how appreciative I feel." This expression was voiced by Mrs. Roberta Carter, Employee Development Specialist in the Division of General Training. The statement echoed her feelings about the retirement luncheon given in her honor on Tuesday, Dec. 7 at the Cross Keys Inn on Falls Rd. Joining her for the celebration were approximately 25 guests representing a section ross of people in the workforce who have been associated with her since she joined the Social Security Administration in 1969.

Her co - workers in the Common Needs Training Branch, Division of Training who sponsored the luncheon, surprised Mrs. Carter by inviting her daughter, Mrs. Vivian Gantt, Raleigh, NC to arrive during the festivities. Mrs. Ann Ealy and Mrs. Frances Mohorn, both considered as daughters by Mrs. Carter, were also among the guests.

Gerald Burton, Division Director; Nathaniel Treadwell, Branch Chief and Eric Levy, the honoree's immediate supervisor were participaants on the informal program.

Everything, according to Roberta, was done in a style and manner she like. She received flowers from her branch chief, a gift certificate from the guests and several gifts from individual co-workers.

Stating her future plans, Mrs. Carter promises to aggressively work towards the furthur development of the Sunday School Plans program in the Northwood Appold United Methodist Church on Coldspring Avenue where she is superintendent of study.

In addition, she hopes to complete a Masters Study Program and travel to some of the places around the country she has not had time to visit.

The Woodlawn Toastmasters club extended recognition to her recently when the Toastmaster for the day stated that the club was impressed with the support Roberta Carter has given in helping them set up aids for their programs.

Speaker Otis Hooper, an SSA retiree, choose as his subject during the Toastmasters meeting; "Life Begins At Forty."

"I felt he was directing his speech to me and I felt honored," she said.

Roberta's official retirement date is December 31, 1982. Her last day at work was Friday.

SSA UNION ELECTIONS

On Wednesday afternoon of this week, The American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE) Union Local No. 1923 announced the results of the recent election.

Newly elected officers are president, John Gage; First vice president, Alvin Levy; 4th vice president, Gordon Christensen; Secretary, Yolanda Chrzanowski; Chief Steward, Annabelle Johnson; Sgt-At-Arms, Jim Slezbak; and Treasurer, Stanley Starr.

Other Union Local 1923 officers are 2nd vice president, Ronald McDonald; 3rd vice president, Bernadette Hall; 5th vice president, Arnold Spivak; 6th vice president, Marty Dansicker; 7th vice president, Bernard W. Smith; 8th vice president, Cynthia Ennis; 9th vice president, Leonard Gizinski, Health Care Financing Administration (HCFA); 10th vice president, George Tsigounis, HCFA; and 11th vice president, Joseph Flynn.

CUSTOMER INFORMATION FROM GENERAL MOTORS

HOW TO STOP DRUNK DRIVING.

TOUGH LAWS MAY HELP, BUT WE ALSO NEED TO CHANGE OUR ATTITUDES.

Do you know anyone who's in favor of drunk driving? Not likely. And yet many people have driven when under the influence of alcohol, or will do it at least once.

Take a look at some chilling statistics. One out of every two of us will be involved in an alcohol-related accident sometime during our lives. Last year alone, more than 25,000 people died in such accidents; an additional 1.5 million were injured. A disproportionate number of those killed were under 25 years old.

The cost of drunk-driving accidents amounts to over $24 billion every year in property damage, loss of wages, medical and legal fees. Not to mention the emotional pain to the victims' families and friends.

What is being done about it? Over the years, many different approaches have been tried: mandatory jail sentences, stiff fines, license suspensions, alcohol-rehabilitation programs, and higher drinking-age laws.

No single countermeasure seems to do the job by itself. Tough laws, unless they are supported by equally tough enforcement and the certainty of punishment, don't seem to work over the long run. Even with all three, probably the most effective single thing we could do is to examine our own attitudes about drinking and driving.

How much do you really know about the effects of alcohol? The facts may surprise you. For example, a lot of people believe that beer and wine are less intoxicating than other drinks. In fact, a can of beer, a glass of wine, or a 1½-ounce drink of 86-proof liquor are all about equally intoxicating.

A lot of factors determine how quickly you'll get drunk. Your body weight, how much you've had to eat, and the number of drinks you have over a specified time all make a difference. That's why it's so hard to know when you've had too much.

A common legal definition of intoxication is .10 percent blood-alcohol level. For a 160 lb. person, it takes about four or five drinks in the first two hours on an empty stomach to reach the legal limit, compared with three or four drinks in the first two hours for someone who weighs 120 lbs. Of course, your judgment and reaction time will be impaired well before you reach the legal limit.

At General Motors, we're very concerned about the effects of drinking on driving. Over a decade ago, we developed a device that tests a driver's reflexes and motor responses before starting the car. The Department of Transportation is now field-testing that device.

We also strongly favor all efforts that focus attention on the problem such as the Presidential Commission on Drunk Driving. Make sure your friends and family know the facts about mixing alcohol and driving. Drunk driving will only stop when we all decide it isn't socially acceptable. Be self-confident enough to admit when you've had too much to drink to drive safely.

Meanwhile, seat belts are still your best protection against drunk drivers. They can't prevent an accident, but they will help save your life during a serious crash—whatever the cause.

This advertisement is part of our continuing effort to give customers useful information about their cars and trucks and the company that builds them.

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