WHY ARE YOU CRYING?

# Edye Byrde stars in 1982 no.1 commercial— MCI phone TV ad

## Well-known in Baltimore, she and hubby are members of Virginia clan, largest USA family

By Elizabeth M. Oliver
City Editor

NEW YORK — Here is a dialogue that brings chuckles to all TV watchers:

WIFE — "Our son called long distance today. HUSBAND — How are he and the kids doing ? WIFE — Fine HUSBAND — Then why are you crying ? WIFE — Have you seen this telephone bill?"

The above commercial aired on TV by the MCI Long Distance Phone firm is the most popular today.

This is partly because M.C.I. has rates half as much as the old phone company we are used to.

But, the added attraction is the pleasant roly - poly lady who plays the part so well crying about the old phone company bill. (Crying like we do over the high rates).

The pleasant lady in the M.C.I. commercial is Edye Byrde, the famed Broadway star.

She and her husband, Jimmy Butts, are New York residents and both stars of TV and stage in their own right.

A fact of importance is they are members of the Virginia family, the largest USA family that includes Bill Cosby and Arthur Ashe.

In Baltimore the Virginia folks include the Herbert Graves, former State Senator Louise Gee Murphy, all the Hicks, the Vaughns, Bridgeforths, Taylors, Stiths, Shells and Christophers.

In addition, Edye was very popular as the star of the 1980 award - winning stage play, "Storyville."

She also has the role of the mother in "Another Life," the cable TV soap aired by satellite around the globe by the Christian Broadcasting Network out of Virginia Beach, VA.

Baltimoreans will Baltimoreans will recall Edye in the TV commercial aired in this region when Reads Drug Stores became Rite Aid. Edye was the pleasant lady who asked, "What happened to Reads."

Beginning this month you will also see Edye in the Poloroid TV commercials and with her TV daughter in Pamper commercials.

Busy as bees, she and Jimmy sometimes fly together to Virginia Beach to do the C.B.N. soap "Another Life." Edye goes twice a week to tape the cable TV show. She also does movie parts and voice overs.

Jimmy, who does not mind being a "senior citizens," gets parts in C.B.N.'s "Another Life," directs his trio in appearances in upstate New York's elite clubs, sings and dances.

He has been hired by the New York Cultural Arts for hospital audiences, the Department of Public Parks and the local 802 Trust Fund.

Quite popular in New York social circles, Edye and Jimmy nevertheless love home where they have three beloved miniature Pinchers: Lilly, the grandmother who is 16 years old; Nicky, her daughter, age 11; Sir James, Nicky's son, age four.

EDYE IS ALSO A SOAP OPERA STAR — Above she is shown with "her son" Eddie Hailey (R) and his TV son Troy Paris in the CBN (Christian Broadcasting Network) soap, Another Life, aired by satellite around the world from Virginia Beach, VA. All photos by Glasco Ryales on Virginia Beach set.

EDYE and her famous husband, Jimmy Butts, actor and musician, whose trio plays in upstate New York's elite supper clubs. Re-photo by Glasco Ryales.

# Over 1,000 attend Urban League's first Equal Opportunity Awards banquet

The first Baltimore Urban League Equal Opportunity Awards banquet witnessed a brilliant array of over 1,000 guests assembled at the Convention Center on Dec. 8.

The interracial group representing a cross section of citizens from around the state, enjoyed cocktails and full course dinner aglow with holiday flowers and candlelight.

States Attorney Elect Kurt Schmoke was guest speaker.

Dr. Ben Whitten was introduced with sustained applause as the new Urban League president to succeed the late Travis Vauls.

Mrs. Vauls received the posthumous award on behalf of her husband's 12 years as chief executive and total 15 years service.

Equal Opportunity Awards recipients were J. Henry Butta, the C. and P Telephone Co. chief executive in Maryland and Ms. Doris Johnson, the executive director of Cold Stream - Homestead - Montebello Community Corp.

The winner of the Poster Contest Award was Anthony White of Walbrook Senior High. His entry and others were on display in the foyer. All posters depicted a message or concept pertaining to equal opportunity.

Ms. Johnson's citation read, "Under her leadership, this community organization is dedicated to improving health, welfare and employment opportunities of persons in the community.

Ms. Johnson is founder and Executive Director of Adopt - A - House, Inc. This innovative program has resulted in strengthening community ties between home owners and tenants.

Ms. Johnson has also been instrumental in protecting employment interests and welfare of low income domestic workers.

As a result of her efforts, domestic workers have the protection of Workmen's Compensation. Ms. Johnson also served as the Maryland Executive Director of the Neighborhood Design Center.

In addition to these activities, Ms. Johnson has served as president of Clifton Park High School PTA, president of the North Central Baltimore Health Corporation, chairperson for community projects for the American Red Cross, National chairperson for the American Asso. for Comprehensive Health Planners, and a board trustee of Union Memorial Hospital and Provident Hospital.

"Through her tireless, innovative, effective leadership, the people of Baltimore have been provided with increased opportunities to enjoy the benefits of our City."

The citation to Mr. Butta read, "As Vice President and Director of the C & P Telephone Co. of Maryland, Hank Butta has been an energetic leader in improving equal opportunities for all members of our community.

In 1980, Mr. Butta served as the Chairman of the highly successful United Way of Central

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POSTHUMOUS AWARD honoring the late Urban League President Travis W. Vauls, was received by his widow, Mrs. Vauls. (R) Equal Opportunity Award recipient J. Henry Butta, vice president and director of the C and P Telephone Co. and its chief executive in Maryland. All photos by Glasco Ryales.

MS. DORIS JOHNSON Equal Opportunity Award recipient

HOSTESS AND HOST for the occasion, Ms. Rhonda Owen, BULC Communications director and Interim President Harold Kennedy.

STATE'S ATTORNEY ELECT Kurt Schmoke (third left) joins conversation with guests (L to R) Jeffrey Varnes, manager of the Red Cross; Dr. Pearl Brackett, Red Cross executive and Richard M. Kelly, Human Services Consulting.

AWARD WINNERS from Walbrook Senior High are (L) Myrna Pitts, 11th grader, second place; Hiram Ammons (C) art teacher and member of the Baltimore Civic Design Commission and Anthony White, 12th grade, first place, a $50 Liberty bond; not present Theresa Dyer, 10th grade and Craig Kenan, 11th grade.

GUESTS — Warren Weaver, emeritus chairman of the Red Cross; Mrs. Alice Q. Pinderhughes, interim school superintendent; Henry Parks, Parks Sausage executive; Ms. Yvonne Holt, Juvenile Court master; Del.-Elect Elijah Cummings and Real Estate Broker Denise DeLeaver.

MORE GUESTS — Lt. Col. Michael Lorenzo, Mrs. Geneva Puryear, widow of Cortez Puryear, the late Urban League Family Life director; Marvin Jones, Westinghouse executive; Dr. Elizabeth M. Oliver, AFRO city editor; Dr. Ben Whitten, Urban League President-elect; Dr. Flossie Dedmond, Harbor Bank executive; State Senator Troy Brailey who represented Gov. Hughes and Mrs. Anethia Williams.

GETTING A ROYAL WELCOME — Three — time All - America wide receiver Anthony Carter (r) and Michigan coach Bo Schembechler (l) are welcomed to Pasadena by comely Rose queen Suzanne Gillespie, as the Wolverines arrived for a New Year's Day meeting with UCLA in the Rose Bowl. Said Bo: "I've been through a lot of queens," referring to his 7 previous Rose Bowl appearances. It will be Carter's second.

THEY HAVE A SWEET TOOTH — Brilliant Penn State running back Curt Warner and coach Joe Paterno carry smiles as they head for New Orleans and the Sugar Bowl confrontation with No. 1 ranked Georgia and its supreme galloper Herschel Walker. Many consider this New Year's Day battle a showdown for the national college football championship.

BOOSTS BUCCANEERS — Quarterback Doug Williams threw for 276 yards, hurled a touchdown pass to running back James Owens and scored one TD himself as he rallied the Tampa Bay Buccaneers to a come - from - behind 23 - 21 victory over the Detroit Lions last Sunday.

SPORTS AFRO SPORTS

## Basketball

COLLEGE GAMES
UDC at R. I. Christmas tournament (women
Fla. A-M at Siena Windy City tournament (Chicago)

Monday
Hampton at UDC
Md. E. Shore at Green Bay
Nicholls St. at Tex. Southern

COLLEGE SCORES
Geo. Mason 91, Md., E. Shore 80
Georgetown 80, Southern 65
Ala. State 100, Grambling 71
Oregon St. 59, Tenn. State 47
Michigan 83, Fla. A and M 49

## NBA schedule

Thursday
Cleveland at New York
San Antonio at Chicago
Dallas at Milwaukee
San Diego at Houston
Portland at Kansas City
Boston at Denver
Indiana at Utah
Detroit at Phoenix
Seattle at Los Angeles (USA)

Saturday
Dallas at New Jersey
Washington at New York
Phoenix at Denver
Boston at Utah
Detroit at San Diego
Golden state at Portland

Sunday
Kansas City at Atlanta
San Antonio at Cleveland
Houston at Milwaukee (ESPN)
Seattle at Phoenix
Detroit at Los Angeles (ESPN)
Indiana at Golden State
Denver at Portland

## GU coach's mother dies

LOS ANGELES (UPI) — Georgetown basketball coach John Thompson, whose team played Tuesday and Wednesday night in the Holiday Classic, returned to Washington early because of his mother's death.

Thompson and the team arrived in Los Angeles Sunday. He learned of his mother's serious illness Monday and returned home late Monday night. His mother, Mrs. Anna Thompson, died Tuesday.

Georgetown is coached by assistant Craig Esherick during Thompson's absence.

Georgetown defeated Wisconsin, 71 - 43, in Tuesday night's opening round of the Holiday Classic.

GU COACH JOHN THOMPSON

# O's cagers open 22-game slate

A group of Baltimore Orioles who devote much of the winter playing charity basketball games, will open a 22 - game schedule Wednesday (5th) at York, PA.

The entourage will show mostly in areas of Maryland, closing out at Pikesville, Perryville (MD) High; Jan. 8, Martin Spaulding High at Severn, and Easton (MD) Middle School Jan. 12.

On Jan. 13, the O's will play at Randallstown High; Jan. 15, at Woodlawn Senior High; Jan. 17, at Harford Christian; Jan. 20, at Perry Hall High, and Jan. 21, they will take on a Boy Scouts team at Poly- Western.

The Birds visit Frederick C.C., Jan. 22; Hanover High (PA), Jan. 24; Hammond High, Columbia, Jan. 25; Detroit at San Diego Aberdeen High, Jan. 26, and Feb. 12, just in time to head for Florida spring training

York Osteopathic Hospital will be the opening opponent, the game set at York (PA) Community College.

A second game in Pennsylvania will match the basket Birds against Warfordsburg High School there, Jan. 6.

Then the junket moves Jan. 7 to James Bennett High in Salisbury, Jan. 28.

They will be at South Carroll High, Sykesville, Jan. 29; C. Milton Wright High, Bel Air, Feb. 1; Fallston (MD) High, Feb. 2; Howard CC, Columbia, Feb. 4; Chesapeake Bay Middle School, Pasadena, Feb. 5; and Pikesville Senior High, Feb. 12.

Highlight of the junket will be a Feb. 8 contest with an all-star team from the TV - radio staff of WTOP in DC at Capitol Centre.

HE'S NO. 4 — In Chicago, Bears running back Walter Payton is No. 1. But last Sunday, he became the fourth player in NFL history to rush for more than 10,000 career yards. The 5-10, 202 - pounder from Jackson State joined Jim Brown, O. J. Simpson and Franco Harris in this select circle.

# Racing moves to Bowie

BOWIE, MD. — The Bowie management prepares to open a 63 - day Thoroughbred race meeting Monday, despite a disagreement over a new contract with the union representing many of the track employees. Several hundred trainees will be ready to man all phases of operations.

Post time has been set at 12:30 p.m. until Feb. 21 when the first race is scheduled for 1 p.m. The daily programs will consist of nine races with exacta, daily double and triple forms of wagering.

The $50,000 added Resolution Handicap days card.

Double Pace Stable's Thirty Eight Paces, winner of last year's mile (features the opening and a sixteenth renewal, will seek a repeat triumph in the fifth running of the test.

Treavant Stable's Sunny Winters, runnerup to Thirty Eight Paces in last year's Resolution; Benray Farm's Hush Hush Flash, victor in the recent Walter Haight Handicap at Laurel and The Jim stable's Blackie Daw, stakes - winning stablemate of Thirty Eight Paces, are among the formidable 19 eligibles.

Remember Jubilee Day 1983

## NFL weekend

GAMES SUNDAY
Miami at Baltimore
St. Louis at Washington
NY Giants at Philadelphia
NY Jets at Kansas City
Chicago at Tampa Bay
Buffalo at New England
Cleveland at Pittsburgh
Cincinnati at Houston
Atlanta at New Orleans
Green Bay at Detroit
LA Rams at San Francisco
Denver at Seattle
LA Raiders at San Diego
MONDAY NIGHT
Dallas at Minnesota

# WBA orders new Dokes-Weaver go

PANAMA CITY, (UPI) — The World Boxing Association Monday ordered a rematch between heavyweight champion Michael Dokes and former title - holder Mike weaver.

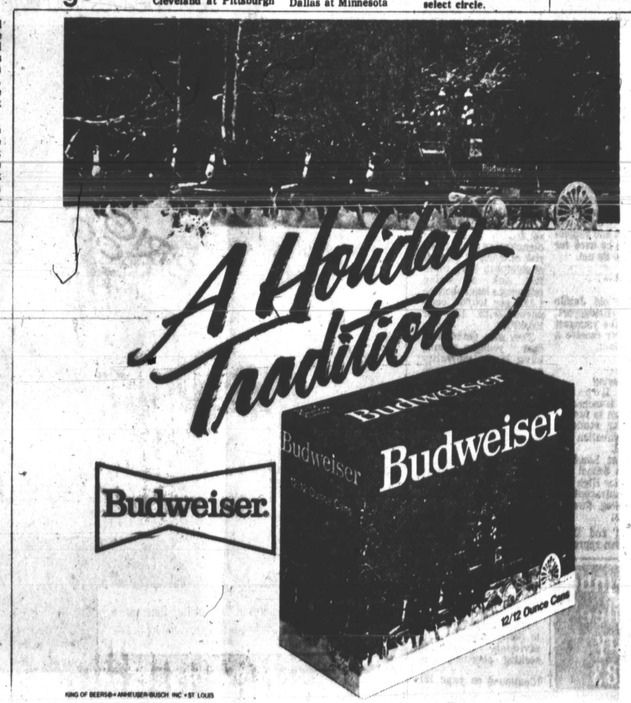
Dokes won the crown from Weaver on a technical knockout after 63 seconds of the first round No. 10 in Las Vegas, Nev. The TKO ruling triggered a protest from Weaver's camp.

The Panama - based WBA Executive Committee, headed by Venezuelan Gilberto Mendoza, said the rematch must be held within 90 days, giving promoter Don King 30 days to respond.

If King does not arrange a rematch within 30 days, any promoter may attempt to stage the bout.

The committee said the decision was made after reviewing three times a film of the Nov. 10 fight in which referee Joey Curtis halted the bout.

The committee said Curtis did not give Weaver an eight - second count when he was knocked down 40 seconds after starting the fight. The committee said the referee gave Weaver just five seconds.

"He should have complied with the rule and counted the eight seconds," a committee member said. "He took rights away from Weaver by not completing the count."

HOLIDAY JAM SHOW & DANCE
FEATURING
The SUGAR HILL GANG
"THE LOVER IN YOU"
"LET'S GET SMALL"
TROUBLE FUNK
"TROUBLE FUNK EXPRESS"
BOOGIE ON THE FLOOR WITH
The A. P. CREW DISCO
Baltimore CIVIC CENTER
201 W. BALTIMORE STREET
SAT. JAN. 1
7:00 P.M. 'til 11:00 P.M.
ADVANCE ADMISSION $6.50--DAY of SHOW $8.50
TICKETS ON SALE AT BALTIMORE CIVIC CENTER