... on our cover

Tim Reed's new look on 'Simon and Simon'

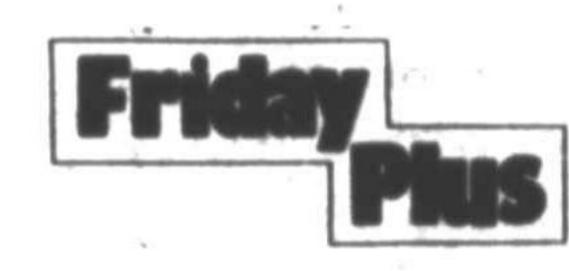
By Joe Haviland

In his new role as Downtown Brown on CBS' "Simon and Simon," Tim Reid has shed more than just the flashy threads of Venus Flytrap on "WKRP in Cincinatti."

"With Venus I was more flambovant, wiry, had an ear pierced, long hair and flashy clothes," says Reid, who spent four years playing the ultracool, super hip radio deejay. "With the character of Downtown Brown, I wanted to be totally different, so I gained a little muscle weight, working out with weights (adding 20 pounds to his body weight and a total of 17 inches of muscle in his arms, torso and legs); I cut my hair shorter; and made the guy into a sort of tennis burn, a guy who wore sweats. He's not a great dresser, not that he can't be, he's not interested in that thing, he's interested in police work and he knows that he's going to be down in the dirt with his job, so he dresses accordingly."

In the series, Reid plays a no-nonsense, occasionally quick-tempered cop, who is a "loner, a one-man task force" who gets the job done even if it sometimes requires bending the law out of shape.

"I thought of taking his character from some of the police story episodes where you see a guy who's totally dedicated to his job," says Reid. "My character is that type of guy."



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BALTIMORE/WASHINGTON AFRO-AMERICAN

By Ida Peters

RENA PLAYERS open "The Living Room" starting Jan. 6 at their Arena Playhouse in Baltimore. Play has to do with a young girl who has fallen in love with a married man, an aging psychologist, who also happens to be the executor of her mother's will.

She comes to live with fear-ridden elderly relatives after her mother's death. The aunts and uncle, staunch Catholics, all suspect that the niece is having an affair.

One bitter aunt schemes to break up the romance. The other is too doddering to understand what is going on most of the time. The uncle, an invalid priest confined to a wheelchair, is torn between mercy and the tenets of his faith regarding the sanctity of marriage.

THE VAGABOND PLAYERS, INC. will continue their 68th consecutive season with Herb Gardner's human comedy, "The Goodbye People" opening January 6 at 8:30 p.m. Performances continue through January 29 on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays at 8:30 p.m., and on Sundays at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. at the Vagabond Theatre, 806 S. Broadway. Tickets are \$5.00 general admission, \$4.00 for senior citizens and fulltime students with ID's. Call the theatre at 563-9135 for reservations.

Directed by John Splan, "The Goodbye People" stars Burt Tapper as Max Silverman. Copper Chase appears as Nancy, and Michael Keating as Arthur. Others in the cast are Harris Berman, Michael Coleman, and Wayne Conners.

DAVID ZINMAN, recently appointed to succeed Sergiu Comissiona as Baltimore Symphony Orchestra Music Director beginning with the 1985-86 season, will conduct the orchestra's next "Celebrity" Series concerts on Thursday and Friday, Jan. 5 and 6 in the Joseph Meyerhoff Symphony Hall. The program includes Schubert's Symphony No. 5 and Schoenberg's Pelleas und Melisande. Both concerts begin at 8:15

Scott Black's TowsonTowne Musical Dinner Theatre premiered its new contemporary version of WEST SIDE STORY last week at the theatre located at 7800 York Rd. The American musical classic will continue through April 1 on Wednesdays through Sundays. For reservations, call 321-6595.

Directed by John Desmone, "West Side Story" stars Marguerite Shannon and Mitch Harrell as the ill-fated youthful lovers, Maria and Tony. E. Des Taormina makes her area debut in the featured role of Anita, with Paul Zakarian appearing as Bernardo. The supporting cast includes Wolfe Kaminetz, John Doty, Edward Peters, John Cook, Ken Phillips, Kevin Sharun, Julie Herber, Ernie Ritchey, Steve Brown, Don Levine, Tony Hawkins, Rick Urben, Todd Van Hackett, Sandy Jankowiak, Kim Bell, Terri Croucher



June Thorne appears as Helen Playhouse in Baltimore, Jan. 6 thru

Kathleen Butt and Kim Werner.

Based on a conception by Jerome Robbins, "West Side Story" is a brilliant musical which combines a modern interpretation of Romeo and Juliet with a story of vivid sociological comment. The TICE PILOT, pianist MAURICE MURPHY book is by Arthur Laurents, with lyrics and the members of the BRIDGETOWER by Steven Sondheim. Leonard Bern- STRING QUARTET. The event will begin stein's familiar musical score includes at 3 p.m. in the Andrew Rankin "Tonight," "Maria," and "I Feel Pretty." The dancing and drama combine to ty's main campus. Admission will be make this a classic of the American Musical Stage.

Due to the overwhelming box office response to AIN'T MISBEHAVIN. Crossroads Theatre Company in New Brunswick, NJ announces an extension

of performances until Jan. 15. The Crossroads production of the Fats Waller hit musical directed by Rick Khan, executive director of Crossroads, includes Clent Bowers, Debra Byrd and Ellia English, all of whom performed in the Broadway and/or international companies of AIN'T MISBEHAVIN, as well as Stanley Ramsey and Cheryl Howard of Teaneck.

Musical delivers a treatment of 30 songs and piano solos either composed, collaborated on or else simply recorded by the great Fats Waller and brings to life the whole world that Fats Waller lived in and largely represented: Harlem in the '30s - the Golden Age of places like the Cotton Club and the Savoy Ballroom. For additional information and reservations, call the box office at (201) 249-5560.

Boston Symphony Orchestra principal haripist ANN HOBSON PILOT will be heard in a Washington, D.C. premier performance of William Grant Still's EN-NANGA for harp, plane and strings on Sunday, Feb. 5, 1984.

The program will be presented as part of Howard University's Andrew W. Mellon Recital Series and will also feature performances by bassist PREN-Memorial Chapel on Howard Universiopen and free to the public.

Center Stage, the State Theatre of Maryland, will present the American professional premiere of Antonio Burero-Vallego's THE SLEEP OF REASON from Dec. 29 through Feb. 5



Levine, Teny Hawkins, Rick Urben. Seated, Todd Van Hackett.

Baltimore's Bruno Jerry in Walt Disney's Magic Kingdom On Ice

Walt Disney's Magic Kingdom On Ice,

Producers Irvin Feld and Kenneth Feld know talent when they see it, and they an excellent stunt skater and an acsaw enormous talent in BRUNO JERRY, complished downhill skier. The Sun Nick Maricich and Vern Taylor. Valley, Idaho native learned both sports Recruiting these diverse athletes for from his father, world-famous barrel-Walt Disney's Magic Kingdom On Ice, jumper Herman Maricich. "During my the Felds have created the perfect teenage years I concentrated on skiing, showcase for all their talents.

an individual path at a young age. "I always knew I would return to stunt learned a lot from competition," the skating to carry on the family tradition." Baltimore native says, "but I decided Skating as the Computer Knight in the early in my career to concentrate on my TRON dimension, Nick zooms across the dancing abilities to express my in- ice at speeds of up to 50 miles per hour. dividuality." A graduate of Lake Clifton He leaps barrels, dives through fiery High School in Baltimore, Bruno studied rings, hurdles fellow skaters and dance with Alvin Ailey in New York catapults himself 10 feet in the air with where he quickly developed the incredi- the flair and fury that leaves spectators ble moves which he incorporates in his spellbound. "Anything to please the auskating. As Mr. Jazz, Bruno dience," the handsome skater guips. paralleled in live family entertainment. the first person ever to perform a triple

Although he has only been ice skating which opens in Baltimore for its first and since he was 14, when he began praconly engagement at the Baltimore Civic ticing at the Orchard Ice Rink in Towson Center on Jan. 10 for 21 exciting perfor- and the Northwest Ice Rink in Mount mances through Jan. 22, features three Washington, Bruno has progressed handsome, athletic young men who rapidly and is now regarded as the skate through five Disney-inspired pro- foremost jazz skater in America. This is duction numbers with Linda Fratianne Bruno's second appearance before a and all her friends from the Disney hometown audience as a featured skater with the show.

Daredevil skater Nick Maricich is both and I was on the downhill team at the Jazz skater Bruno Jerry embarked on University of Utah," Nick says. "But I

demonstrates his scintillating one-of-a- Canadian Champion Vern Taylor kind style when he welcomes Mickey began his competitive career by breakand his friends to New Orleans' Square ing records and setting the standard for for a razzle-dazzle finale which is un- generations to come. In 1972, Vern was



lutz in competition. In 1978, he astound- the same triple jumps which assured his ed the skating world for a second time stature as a competitor. by successfully performing the first tri-Magic Kingdom On Ice, Vern performs two dozen Disney personalities.

however. Sex and violence, of no in-

These three dynamic skating stars ple axel in a World Championship com-glide through a kaleidoscope of Disney petition. Skating as Tron in Walt Disney's adventurelands in the company of over

Film capsules

By Arthur J. Johnson

TWO OF A KIND

John Travolta and Olivia Newton-John try to recapture the magiè they created onscreen six years ago in "Grease" but fall tragically short of the mark. In this limp comedy John and Olivia are selected by angels to represent mankind as God decides whether humans are worth saving. The film is more ridiculous than it sounds. Some sex but nothing explicit. PG

A marvelous musical starring and directed by Barbra Streisand, who plays a Jewish girl at the turn of the century who wants to study religion but is forbidden to do so because of her sex. Of course, there wouldn't be a movie if she let that stop her, so she dresses as a boy with both comic and tragic results. No sex, but some male nudity. Subject matter of no interest to young children. PG

SILKWOOD

Based on a true story of a woman who tried to expose the dangers inside a nuclear plant in the 1970's, this film's strength, is the virtuoso performances of its three stars — Cher, Meryl Streep and

Kurt Russell. The story is not as satisfying or gripping as it should have been. Sexual references and nudity. For the over 16 crowd only. R

GORKY PARK

This murder mystery set in modern day Mosow begins interestingly enough, but falters because of a murky plot and a contrived love story. William Hurt as the Russian policeman is as excellent,

terest to children or teens. R D.C. CAB What do you expect from a movie that

way-out team of drivers. There are lots of four letter words and sexual innuendo and audiences seem to enjoy this R rated version of TV's "Taxi." Not those under 17, or those who haven't seen a film in the last ten years who might be shocked at what passes for entertainment these days.

TO BE OR NOT TO BE

This remake of the classic 1939 comedy which starped Jack Benny and Carole Lombard has a few good laughs (particularly the "Sweet Georgia Brown" stars Mr. T? Well, that's exactly what routine sung in Polish by stars Mel you get in this raunchy street comedy Brooks and Ann Bancroft), but hardly about a raggedy cab company and its seems worth the effort it took to redo the original. Stay home and watch "Hogan's Heroes" or wait for the original to show up on the tube. This comedy about a group of Polish actors who outwit Hitler and the Nazis is very tired material indeed. No sex or nudity, but hardly the type of film comedy that will interest children. PG

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