Creating a Baltimore Style

MIRING A JUST-PERFECT HOLIDAY DRESS designed by Charlene Hyman is model Debbie Reid. Roderick Wilson was her hair stylist.

Versatile, alluring, charming, exciting? What is the Baltimore style? Is there a distinctive look that says "I am the mood of a city in renaissance"? If so, who sets the trend in design and style for the hair and fashion image that is Baltimore's emerging trademark?

What can we look forward to in the use of color and form in hair fashions. How versatile can hair color be for the fashion conscious person who has one foot in the business setting by day, but dares to play in the fanciful hot colors of today's fashion scene by night? Does the Baltimore style follow the national trend or will a new image emerge that is the essence of Baltimore, a city in transformation?

20 of Baltimore's outstanding hair stylists accepted the challenge to express their answers to these questions when they gathered recently for the CITI LITES HAIR COLOR AND DESIGN GALA, a hair and fashion extravaganza, held Sunday, December 2, at the Arena Playhouse, 801 McCulloh St. Sponsored by Roger's Beauty Supply Company, the gala affair was not a competition among stylists, but rather a chance for Baltimore trend setters in hair design to blend their creative talents with local fashion designers, make up artists and boutique owners. This high energy collective emerged with the looks and images of a stylized Baltimore.

Participating stylists, from salons well known for excellence in the use of cutting techniques, color and style were: Zelda Blackwell, Pittman's Sensuous Women; Christy Brown, Mane Attraction; Inez Carrington, Angie's Beauty Salon; David Coulter, Von's International; LaJanice Forbes, The Alhambra House of Style; Carlas Holt, Hair Gallery; Dee Dee McCleary, Scruples; Claudia McKee, Mane Attraction; Brenda McNeil, Krimpers Conversion; Maria Neil, Ryce's Unisex Hair Salon; Chaundra Pinder, With These Hands; Lillie Pinnix, Na Tress; Isla Pyott, Mane Attraction; Robin Smith, Hair Passazz; Mary Stevens, Artistic Design Coiffures; Tamala Tucker, LaMirage; Tammy Watkins, A Touch of Paris; Deborah Wiggs, Wiggs Personal Touch; Roderick Wilson, Antonio's Gallery.

Kelly Chemical Company of Chicago, makers of Gentille professional products were co-sponsors of the gala. An important part of the challenge to participating stylists was the use of Gentille's new CITI LITES, color rinses, to achieve special effects in their work. "Citi Lites, the all natural, vegetable base, non permanent colors were selected as a theme product because they combine versatility, vibrancy, wholesome hair care qualities and are especially formulated for Black hair" says new Roger's Beauty Supply President Bernette Jones.

A highlight of the show was a special dedication to "Mr. Roger" Sanders, recently retired founder of Roger's Beauty Supply Co. and a professional cosmetologist for 55 years. Bobby Bennett paid the tribute and made this presentation on behalf of Kelly Chemical Co. President, Bill Madison to "Mr. Roger".

The production a high energy, high style hair and fashion showing using a multimedia slide presentation as a background. Rosalind Russell of Vidi's Sentimental Journey will commentate the show.

Internationally known fashion designer, Charlene Hyman of Hyman and Hyman Ltd. aired fashions from her exquisite designer collection. Other local designers, Jessie Darnes, Brian Butler and Ekello David also showed original garments showcased for the show. Vintage suits from The Hall Closet, active and business wear from The Artisan's Place and accent pieces from Maja Jewelry was also included in the showing.

Andrea Bland Travis, introducing Beautiful Faces by Flair Cosmetics provided make-up, along with make up artists Ina Campbell and Estrellita. Professional models from Flair Studio as well as other local Freelancers.

Performing in the production were Sandra Booth, Rhonda Bonner, Jessie Darnes, Joan Datcher, Candace Easterling, Angel Ford, Rhoda Hall, Rene Johnson, Gwen Kellam, Brenda Laney, Shawn Murray, Monica Neale, Vanessa Parker, Shaudan Pinkney, Leslie Randall, Debbie Reid, Dawn Talley, Lisa Williams and Vanessa Williams.

The evening's affair from 6 to 10 p.m. included a champagne cocktail hour, and hot and cold buffet reception following the production.

—More Partyline

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she can. Mrs. Turner cleverly said that the honoree was known as "the lady of fashion" – smartly attired at all times.

Her friend, Mrs. Frances Chapman, retired principal, spoke of their close working relationship in the school system, and mentioned that the retiree's friendship was the kind that many persons would like to share. Mrs. Ruth Glenn recalled their friendship from early childhood through adult life.

Graciously bringing professional impressions, Mrs. Joan Stevenson, Principal, and one of the retiree's former practice students, described Mrs. Lee as an excellent teacher and mentor. She emphasized that anyone who trained under Mary Lee had been well taught, definitely knew what teaching was all about, and would, without a doubt, excell in education. Present, in the audience, were some of Mary's former students whom she called by name.

Throughout the evening, the Bill Cummings Ensemble played and sang the lady of the evening's favorite songs. Two favorite songs sung were "Ordinary People" by Sylvester Graves, a concert artist, and "Impossible Dream" by Charles Brown, a relative and concert artist, also.

Brenda Alexander read one of the honoree's favorite poems. With poetry, song, and fellowship, the evening flowed like the peacefulness of a rippling stream.

Extending friendship and fellowship, Mrs. Lee suggested that her guests circulate and shake hands with one another, while singing "Reach Out and Touch". As she graciously moved around with her guests, everyone was deeply moved by Mary's warmth and love.

Guests were further touched by Mrs. Lee's gratitude and appreciation when she took the time to thank many people who had touched her life in various ways.

She thanked her mother, Mrs. Susan Boston, for her guidance and love; her husband and son for their tolerance and love; her family for a full life, her friends for pleasant memories and her co-workers for their cooperation and support.

She expressed that the celebra-

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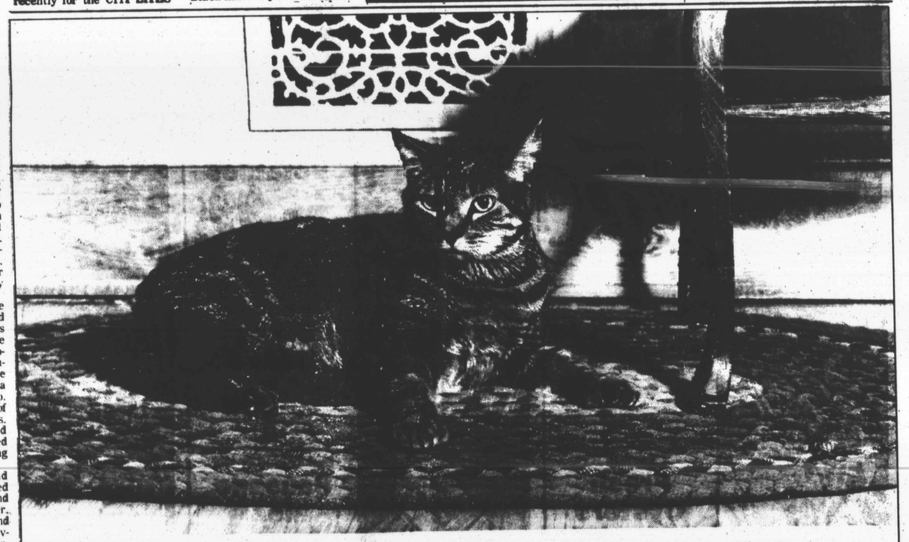

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—Protests

Continued from page 1

political action committee for the Ministerial Alliance.

"..We have gone on record as saying we want to meet with the mayor to discuss these concerns...Take it out of the zoo..and put it (the African village) in the park.

The Japanese have a Kawasaki Cultural Exchange and they have a beautiful 400-pound granite sculpture, the original Red Pagoda.

It sits boldly in the Inner Harbor and represents the city of Kawasaki, Japan. Why then put the African village in the zoo. We think this is basically an insult to the black community of the city."

Rev. Perkins and other members of the newly-formed committee say placement of the African village in the zoo is in bad taste, and they are upset with some of the upcoming activities planned for the site.

"They are going to bring in professional black dancers with bare feet and grass skirts. They have already secured the services of dancers. We have a great heritage. You don't make a mockery of African culture," warned the committee member.

"I had not heard anything about the recent complaints," said Dr. Beryl Williams, head of the committee responsible for placing the African Village in the city zoo.

"The NAACP had a meeting with us some time ago. We were waiting to receive their results. I wouldn't say the NAACP, but Elmer Burns called a meeting of himself and three or four members of the Ministerial Alliance.

"We agreed to send extensive folders that contained information about the village, the activities of this committee that has been going on for the past 12 years, materials from 1972 to the present which contained educational exchanges from Baltimore to Nbarga, from Nbarga to Baltimore. We consider the village to be in Druid Hill Park."

Dr. Williams says the city zoo location was chosen for several reasons. Among them are the space at the zoo was available at no cost; it is (the Village) in a tree-skated section that approximates a locality overseas; and it will have adequate security.

"It would enable us to place the appropriate small animals and birds that are likely to be in a small village with adequate health clearance," suggests Dr. Williams.

"..We can set up cultural education activities for the public to view and have hands on experience in crafts, music and dance."

Dr. Williams asserts her committee went through extensive pains to assure that the village was an exact replica of a Liberian setting. "We have come to a period of having to appreciate our black past and let the positive urban tension talks about our past.

"Someone needs to read the six points that point out the geographical location of the village, the culture, the people, the Kpelle houses and people.

"I'm fully as conscious in Liberia and the other African countries that I have visited of the modern buildings as well as the buildings of cultural heritage."

"Many African countries have cultural villages so young people of the present can see how those of the past or people of the rural present may be living," asserts Dr. Williams.

Asked if enough community protest were raised would the committee consider moving the African village Dr. Williams said, "I don't know that it could. It is cemented to the ground They (those opposed to the placement) are declaring something that we feel is not true."

—Phone access

Continued from page 1

The charge is the result of a joint board of state regulators and FCC commissioners formed to investigate how to best implement the customer line charge.

C&P Telephone Company, along with other local operating companies around the country, claim they lost large sums of financial support from long distance profit when AT&T split.

"We underpriced local service and overpriced long distance service," said C&P's Frank Just, talking about the days when the company was an active part of AT&T.

"We took the excess from one and covered the cost of the other. When the divestiture happened, local companies lost long distance revenue. The decision by the FCC is an attempt toward readjusting these contributions to the local service."

Just said one big advantage for customers is that long distance companies will have an option whether or not to lower their calling rates.

"A lot of people think this (one dollar) is a long distance access charge. It is not. This is a charge to make calls and receive calls, both local and long distance."

Presently, C&P charges AT&T and other long distance companies exorbitant rates for use of their equipment to carry out their service. With the new access charge, C&P can reduce the cost on its equipment use which allows long distance companies to reduce their cost to customers.

AT&T representative Candace Humphrey said her company anticipates lowering its long distance rates anywhere from three to six percent.

Bill Wallace of MCI said his company will always charge somewhere up to 40 percent less than AT&T.

GTE SPRINT Representative Bill Coyne boasts that his company will maintain low rates as well, only he couldn't be sure whether there would be a cut in rate charges, especially since the company saw their rates among the cheapest.

Another dollar will be added to local bills in 1986.

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Bishop Tutu's daughter speaks at local church

The daughter of Nobel Peace Prize recipient Bishop Desmond Tutu will be the featured speaker tonight (Friday) at Centennial United Methodist Church. At 7 p.m. Naomi Tutu - Seavers, Tutu's eldest daughter, will give a presentation following the showing of "The Discarded People," a film depicting life in apartheid South Africa.

Mrs. Tutu - Seavers, 23, holds a double major in French and economics from Berea College. She recently earned a master's degree in economic development from the University of Kentucky's Patterson School of Diplomacy and International Commerce.

Mrs. Tutu - Seavers' visit is being sponsored by Friends of Azania, a national solidarity organization supporting the national liberation movements in Namibia and Azania (South Africa).

"We will be embarking on a campaign to raise $2,500 to fund a national anti - apartheid organizer's manual," says Corbin Seavers, communications officer for the Baltimore office of Friends of Azania.

According to Seavers, the organizing manual will be used as a training guide for those interested in participating in organizing efforts to bring attention to the worsening situation in southern Africa.

BLACK CAUCUS

Gearing for 1985 assembly

By Valerie Smith-Madden
AFRO Staff Writer

In just three weeks, the State Legislature will return to Annapolis for the 1985 session. Members of the Maryland Legislative Black Caucus are gearing up to tackle some vital concerns for the black community.

Among them are health, education, the penal system and human services.

According to the chairman Elijah Cummings (D-39th), the caucus will examine the state correctional system and make recommendations for improvements;

Seek an increase in welfare benefits and a broadening of the welfare requirements;

Insure adequate funding of the Maryland Small Business Surety Bond Program, and to "make sure that Baltimore City receives maximum money from the state for education, police aid, the fire department and others."

Crime, and its effects, is a paramount concern. "For a time," reflected Cummings, "most people didn't complain about crime, but now, its almost every meeting that we attend, the number one concern is crime. It's important to our constituents."

Crime prevention through early childhood influences, is an approach which the caucus plans to take.

"Youths need constructive activities at an early age. It starts with a kid who gets locked in to the system who eventually becomes an adult within the system," he added.

For those already within the correctional system, the caucus wants to insure that those reentering society are equipped with a skill enabling them to become productive members of society. "Not to end up behind bars a few months later."

To this end, a task force, consisting of both laymen and elected officials, has been created to make recommendations to improve the correctional system.

Cummings is enthusiastic about the task force because "it expands into the community to bring us a broader perspective." The task force's final report is not expected until June 1985.

"Based on the final report," offered Cummings, "recommendations will be introduced by the caucus in the January 1986 session."

Among other things, the task force will address is the bail review process, to insure that bails are fair, alternatives to incarceration. It is our belief that not everyone has to be incarcerated to be effectively punished," and structural and architectually recommendations for physical improvements to penal institutions.

Cummings cautioned that "any change in the penal system has to start with the governor. You need money and he makes the budget."

The Caucus has met with the Governor and he assured caucus members that improvements to the penal system will be high on his agenda.

Because so many people are out of work, the Caucus seeks to broaden the requirements to include those whose unemployment benefits have run out. "A number of people have run out of resources—we refuse to forget about them."

The Caucus feels that its important to receive proper funding for the Maryland Small Business Surety Bond Program because it will provide jobs and "we want money to come back into our community," said Cummings.

With the Baltimore City School board seeking $7.5 million from the state in aid, the Caucus plans to work very closely with Delegate Wendell Phillips, head of the Baltimore City delegation and with the mayor's office to see that the city gets most, if not all of its requested sum.

The Caucus would also like to see Morgan State University receive adequate funding for its engineering school.

To increase black representation in the state legislature, the Caucus has contacted Steve Sachs and other appropriate government agencies, in an effort to see that those counties with large black populations have the tools to elect black officials."

Four counties, Dorchester, Worcester, Wicomico and Talbot have large black population but "because of certain voting requirements, they're unable to elect black officials," said Cummings.

In those four counties, voters have to register for each and every election, primary or general.

—Nigerian clashes

Continued from page 1

ficials and charged with making false statements to obtain a visa which is punishable by five years imprisonment or a fine of up to $10,000 or both.

Charles' brother was also arrested last week when he came to the immigration office to provide assistance to his brother. Charles' brother missed the last semester of school in violation of his visa status.

Immigration officials searched the home of Charles Ohaechesi last week. Charles claims his home was unnecessarily torn apart by immigration officials searching for documents necessary to verify the identity of his sister-in-law.

Charles, and his sister-in-law Eunice, are scheduled to appear in INS court today (Friday) to stand trial on charges of making false statements to obtain a visa.

Because authorities said they had several names for Eunice and were uncertain of her true identity she has been held in jail until her trial date.

"These Nigerian students are having a terrible time with immigration people," asserts Professor Elizabeth C. Gray of Cuppin State College, "...Charles is not only a bright young man, but he has worked, he has money, a car, a house and a lot of intelligence. He is a model immigrant."

—Bias charged

Continued from page 1

Brown said that the Community Relations Commission had sent two groups of "testers" to determine if the complaints were valid.

Said Brown, "Our tests show that all the whites that went in were not charged anything."

When an AFRO staffer called the club, she was told that there was a $5 admission but interested patrons could purchase a club membership that entitled them to free admission. A club membership costs $50.

Brown said one way to get the Acropolis to treat all people equally is to make it expensive.

Ms. Williams said that she questioned a group of white patrons in the ladies room and discovered that they were not required to pay nor produce ID.

This is the second suit in recent months filed against a night spot. The 20 plaintiffs in the suit against the Adam's, a night spot located in the Ramada Inn off of Security Boulevard, recently settled their suit out of court, for an undisclosed amount of money.

"Part of the settlement," said Brown, "was that the amount remain confidential."

Brown said that "there's a benefit in the public knowing and other night spots would know that you can't treat people this way.

He added that the Ramada case was broken when "an employee finally 'fessed up; those were my orders, this is what I was told to do."

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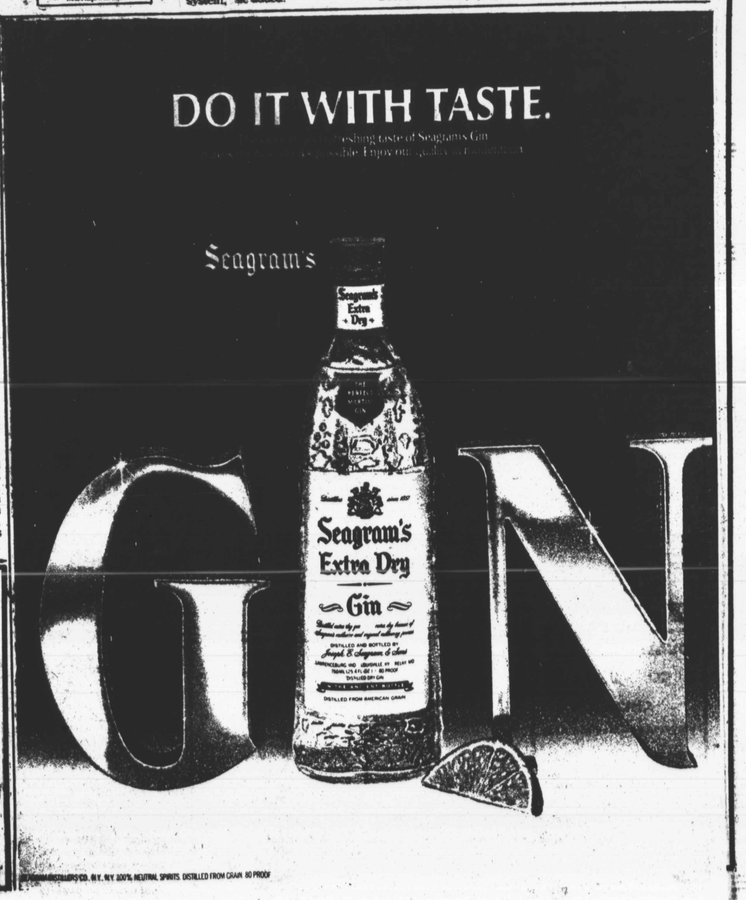
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