LIFESTYLE

The Big Seven-0

Quintet entertaining the guests were Reuben Brown, piano; Valery Ponomorev, trumpet; Steve Novosel, bass; Steve Williams, drums, and Sonny Fortune, alto sax.

Listening and grooving were (L to R) Marilyn Patton from York, PA; Ruth Binsky, Elva Robinson, Lavonne Grant, Stanley Robinson, Bill Bush and Fred Grant.

Bob Matthews escorts his sister Margaret. (He calls her "Tut.")

It was called "The Big 70," and was held in celebration of the 70th birthday of AFRO editor Bob Matthews last week. Since he is a jazz fan of note, it is logical to assume that jazz would have some place in the festivities.

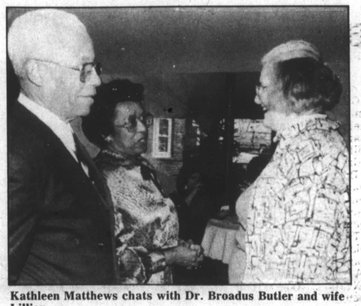
And so it did, as the Big 70 celebration took the form of a jazz concert at the spacious estate of the Murray family in Wild Rose Shores, on the South River in Annapolis.

Guests from near and far — jazz fans all — joined in the festivities which started with a cocktail party complete with hot and cold hors d'oeuvres, to a two-session jazz concert, separated by an interval wherein a full-scale buffet dinner was served.

The affair served as a mini-reunion as the Matthews clan gathered, including Mrs. Kathleen Matthews, at whose family home the affair was held; Mrs. Margaret M. Dudley of Detroit, sister of the host;

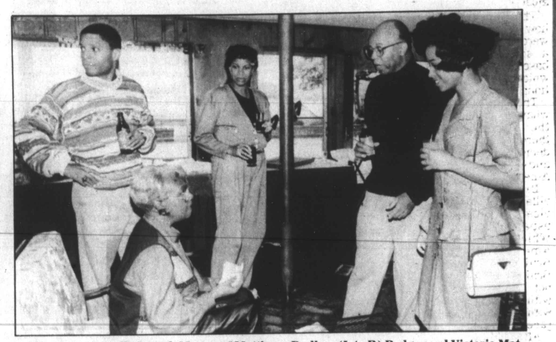
Robert and Harriette Matthews, Bonnie Matthews Butler, Rodger and Victoria Matthews, Carl Matthews, and Donne Dopson, granddaughter of the honoree.

'Twas an event which will go down in the annals of jazz events as one of the most spectacular ever — and the musicians would agree too.



Kathleen Matthews chats with Dr. Broadus Butler and wife Lillian.

Rapt attention was the mien as the camera caught (L to R) Claudette Coftley, Jerry and Ruth Perkins, Mary Brown, Joe William, Ernie Lewis, Patrick Walsh, and seated, Vernon Welsh.



Family members all: Seated, Margaret Matthews Dudley, (L to R) Rodger and Victoria Matthews, Bob, and granddaughter Donne Dopson.

Coppin dedicates new room to Patti LaBelle

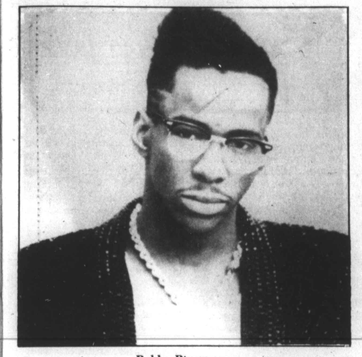
Coppin State College knows how to "Do The Right Thing" when it comes to raising money. Last week they dedicated a room to Patti Labelle, as well as hosting her opening night concert at The Lyric in conjunction with Anheuser-Busch. A reception after the show was donated by millionaire, Victor Frenkil at The Belvedere Hotel. Pictured are Dr. Calvin Burnett, Coppin Prexy, and Patti Labelle.

(Photos by Ray Gilbert)

Dr. Calvin Burnett, Harriette Morgan-Ecton, Regional Manager of Corporate Affairs - Anheuser Busch Co.; Patti Labelle; Congressman Kweisi Mfume; Victor Julien, Director of Corporate Affairs - Anheuser Busch Co. Stay tuned next week for more on these exciting events.

ENTERTAINMENT/ LIFESTYLE

Time for Music Awards



Bobby Brown

The 17th annual "American Music Awards" special will be telecast on ABC (8-11 p.m.) from the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles on Jan. 22.

Hosting the special are Anita Baker, Alice Cooper, Gloria Estefan and The Judds.

27 awards are presented in six categories — Pop/Rock, Country, Soul/Rhythm & Blues, Rap, Heavy Metal and Dance music — to outstanding performers as voted by the American record-buying public.

On the show, a special "American Music Award of Achievement" will be presented to Prince, acknowledging the influence and impact that he has had on the recording and concert scene for the past decade.

In addition, a special "Award of Merit" will be presented to singer/songwriter Neil Diamond, for his "outstanding contributions over a long period of time, to the musical entertainment of the American public."

Performers scheduled on the telecast, in addition to the four hosts, will be Paula Abdul, Bobby Brown, Great White, Janet Jackson, Tone Loc, Richard Marx, New Kids On The Block, Rod Stewart, Randy Travis and Warrant.

Among the other stars scheduled to appear on the show are Stephen Bishop, Clint Black, Michael Bolton, Taylor Dayne, Kenny Loggins, Martika, Milli Vanilli, Stephanie Mills, Olivia Newton-John, The O'Jays, K.T. Oslin, Michelle Shocked and Jody Watley.

Janet Jackson

War in Black and White

Over one million Black American soldiers served their country during World War II. Although they were still considered second-class citizens in the United States, in Britain, where thousands of Black American GIs were sent, they were given a generous and warm reception.

The legacy of Black-White relationships during World War II is examined in NO FATHER, NO MOTHER, NO UNCLE SAM, a one-hour documentary airing Monday, Feb. 5, from 10-11 p.m. on most PBS stations.

The film first documents how 100,000 Black Americans were treated as they served in a segregated U.S. Army based in Britain, a country which did not have institutionalized segregation.

The program then uncovers what happened to the babies the serviceman fathered there; babies who were often denied their natural parents and were ignored by the American government.

British working-class villagers received Black servicemen with a humanity usually denied them by Whites in segregated America. Thousands of British women ignored the British government's warning not to become too friendly with Black GIs, fell in love with them, and bore mixed-race children.

After D-Day, many British women lost touch with the Black fathers of their children and were pressured by local authorities to place babies in council care and foster homes.

One such home was Honeycutt House, Somerset, where 45 mixed-race children were housed. The film captures the reunion of four of those children, now in their forties, 35 years after they last met.

They speak frankly of their early years, the reactions of British society toward them, and their feelings toward their parents.

One of them, Jody, says, "My mother had to choose between me and her husband. It would have been difficult for him to have had a colored child."

Placed in foster care at five, she has never tried to trace her real mother. "What would have been the point of upsetting her family and my foster mother?"

Ann's mother was married at the time of her affair with a Black soldier. "Her husband didn't know anything about me and still doesn't," she says.

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