This WEEK

"In Splendid Error," directed by Sam Wilson, is the next production at the Arena Playhouse. The play about Frederick Douglass and the dilemma he faced in choosing which one of two ways o fighting for freedom, will run weekends until March 5. Cali 301-728-6500 for more information. . . .

The University of Marylan at Baltimore County presenting "An Evening Three-One-Act - Works-In-Progress." They will be performed at the UMBC Feb. 25). Call 301-455-2384 fo more details.

Composer/arranger / saxophonist John Zorn will perform with his five piece band Naked City Band" on Friday, February 24 at 7:30 p.m. in Baird Auditorium at the National Museum of Natural History. Call 202-357-3030 for further information.

"Odadaa!", a company singers from Ghana, West Africa, will perform authenic Friday and Saturday, February 24 and 25 at the Theatre Lab at 202-254-3600 or 254-7168 for further details.

Singer/songwriter Earl Baker will be in concert on Saturday February 25 at Manifested Sons Assembly at 7 p.m. Call

program featuring Jawanze Kunjufu, an author, educator and lecturer will be held at the **Enoch Pratt Library** on Saturday, February 25 at 2:30 p.m. The presentation will be held at the Pratt Library's Edmone son Avenue Branch. Admission is free. Call 301-945-5414 for further information

"Saffire-Uppity Blues Women," a brunch concert, will take place at the Museum of American History on Sunday, February 26 at 11 a.m. Call 202-357-2700 for more

City Search '89, a local talent competition for all fields of entertainment and ages will be held at the Omni International Hotel on Sunday February 26 from 3-6 p.m. I'll be there to help judge the talented contestants. Call 301-276-1378 for more

. . . Ghanian music and dance on The Baltimore Museum Art is sponsoring a lecture en-"The African-A Dialogue" on Sunday February 26 at 3 p.m. Call the

-SISKEL & EBERT

NOW PLAYING

* * *

Bach Society of Baltimore, under the direction of Maurice Murphy, is presenting a concert of The Chamber Players of the **Bach Society of Baltimore** on Saturday, February 25 at 7:30 p.m. at The Cathedral of the Incarnation on University Pkwy. and St. Paul Sts. Call 301-750-3112 for further

The Maryland Historical Society is presenting "Music for Chamber Choir" on Sunday, February 26 at 2 p.m. in the Society's auditorium. The concert is free and open to the public. Call 301-685-3650 for

The Northwest Baltimore Corp. is sponsoring its annual February 26 at the Pimlico Clubhouse. Travis Winkey will provide models and fashions with hats by Libby. Call 301-542-6610 for more

The Black Mental Health Alliance is sponsoring a multi-media rap presentation called "A Time for Life" on Tuesday, February 28 at 6:30 p.m. at Morgan State Univer-

(Continued on Page 4)

Coming Soon

focusing on the people, events appear in the Terrace Theatre and issues of the civil rights of the Kennedy Center on struggle in America, will be Thursday, March 9 at 7:30 p.m. 3202 W. North Ave. on Wednesday, March 1 at 6:30 p.m. Call 301-396-5494 for more information.

"Expressions 9," Baltimore School for the Arts annual evening of fun will be held on Saturday, March 4 at 7:30 p.m. at the school. Call 301-377-2222 for further information.

The Walters Art Gallery hosting an adult workshop Way," a hands-on class taught by Joyce Scott on Saturday, March 4 from 1 to 3 p.m. in the museum. 301-549-9000 to register.

The Columbia Community details. Players will hold open audi- John Eaton will play Fats tions for "Little Foxes" by Waller favorites at the Na-Lillian Hellman on March 5 and tional Museum of Natural 6 at Slayton House at the History's Baird Auditorium on Wilde Lake Village Center in April 16. Call 202-357-3030 for Columbia. Call 301-992-9634 further information. for further information.

Association is hosting its 9th tion is hosting Maryland's first annual Children's Fair at the bachelor and bachelorette Timonium Fairgrounds Ex- auction fundraiser, "The Exhibition Hall on Sunday, ecutive Revenue" in May. They March 5 from 11 to 5 p.m. Call are still looking for people to 301-225-0052 for

"Eyes on the Prize," a film The New Brass Ensemble will shown at the Enoch Pratt Call 202-254-6470 for more

> "Don't Get God Started," the gospel musical starring Marvin and Vicki Winans vill begin its 2nd national tour on March 9 at the Lyric Opera House. Call the Lyric in

. . .

Harold Melvin and the Blue Notes, Jr. Walker and the All Stars, The Drifters and J. B. Brown of V-103 are just "Applique the African some of the stars scheduled for the Pre-Easter Cabaret and show scheduled for Saturday, March 25 at the Gentlemen Ten on Edmondson Avenue. Call 301-728-8970 for further

The Children's Theatre The Cystic Fibrosis Foundamore auction. Call 301-771-9000 it you are able to help.

Jamm City recording artist Delilah is one of the artists scheduled to appear at City Search '89 on Sunday, February 26 at the Omni International Hotel at 3 p.m. Call

Friday Plus, February 24, 1989

"TWO THUMBS UP! In This Issue

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MORGAN FREEMAN AND ROBERT GUILLAUME STAR IN 'LEAN ON ME'

THE STORY ABOUT THE CONTROVERSIAL

HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPAL JOE CLARK

After 20 year of acclaim as one of the New York stage's most versatile and distinguished actors, Morgan Freeman is now a movie star as well — and his most recent triumph is portraying Joe Clark, America's most controversial high-school principal, in Warner Bros.' film, "Lean On Me" scheduled to open next Friday (March 3) at area Baltimore and Washington, D.C. theatres.

The subject of a Time magazine cover, Joe Clark is either revered or rejected by the world of education, but almost universally embraced by Eastside High School students in Paterson, New Jersey. Clark's special brand of "tough love" turned their school from a disaster area into a "home away from home."

For his starring role in "Lean On Me," Morgan Freeman was fortunate to have the actual role model to observe. "Before I met him," observes Freeman of Joe Clark, "I had the normal skepticism about his methods. But going to the school, seeing the situation and what's he's done . . I think he's terrific."

Morgan Freeman made a lasting impression on critics and moviegoers when he was nominated for an Academy Smart", which also brought him Society of Film Critics and the tured. I got help."

national Board of Review. of Chicago was growing up "in a sider with ice picks, nails and bottles I stole, I conned, I passed

Frank Napier (Robert Guillaume, right), Patterson school district's Superintendent of Schools, Award for his electrifying sup- argues with his long-time friend Joe Clark (Morgan Freeman), when Clark turns down an offer porting performance in "Street to become Eastside High School principal in "Lean on Me," opening March 3 at area theatres.

honors from the New York Film not the violent type." School, in "Hello, Dolly!" with Pearl his portrayal of the chauffeur in Critics' Circle, the Los Angeles his own words, became Bailey and Cab Calloway, and he the Pulitzer Prize-winning play Film Critics. The National Freeman's "slavation. I got nur- subsequently took over the title "Driving Miss Daisy," a role he

Freeman made his stage breakthrough in 1967 with his off-Niggerlovers." This was quickly production. the tests. But I was scared, I'm followed by his Broadway debut Freeman won his third Obie for seemingly impossible task of portrays a marriage counselor.

role in "Purlie!"

After finishing high school, he He received a Drama Desk, joined the Air Force, then Clarence Derwent Award and , Another star in the new film is moved between the West and Tony Award nomination for "The Robert Guillaume who for nine Guillaume says "My whole wood, Mississippi to the tough East Coasts, doing odd jobs and Mighty Gents" on Broadway, and years was known and loved by tenure was to conspicuously stay South Side of Chicago, may have trying to break into show has been the recipient of three millions as Benson, the television out of stereotypical, sociological destined him to play the role of business, attending college and Obie Awards — the first for the character who rose from being a traps. To me, Benson had to be and then dance classes in San New York Shakespeare Festival governor in his own series. and his second for the lead of "Benson."

schools in America—Eastside High in Paterson, New Jersey.

cleaning up one of the toughest

Throughout Clark's risky tenure, he and Napier clash ideological swords on occasion, but both fight for the same goals - a better education for the school's mostly black and Hispanic students.

Robert Guillaume was raised in a St. Louis ghetto by his grandmother and he dreamed of becoming the first black tenor at the Metropolitan Opera. "When I first stepped out on a stage," he recalls, "I did so because somebody told me I could sing. I continued because it was the only thing that was challenging me." This ambition directed him to Washington University, where he studied voice, and then to a theatrical apprenticeship in

To support his artistic training, Guillaume worked as a streetcar conductor and postal clerk, but he finally made it to Broadway in the musical version of "Golden Boy" starring Sammy Davis, Jr. and "Porgy and Bess."

Guillaume achieved major recognition in the title role of "Purlie!" and then as Nathan Detroit in the acclaimed all-black revival of "Guys and Dolls" — o performance which earned him a Tony nomination. Guillaume's love of theatre brought him back to Broadway in 1985 to reprise "Purlie!" with Sherman Helmsley and Melba Moore.

On his "Benson" role, didn't feel was trying to be popularity with audiences is now the Frank Napier, who hires long- bringing him back to a new series time friend and colleague Joe of his own for ABC, "The Robert Clark (Morgan Freeman) to the Guillaume Show," in which he

'No Half Stepping' Airs ON CHANNEL 2 SATURDAY

25th, at 7:00 p.m. The competition is part of WMAR-TV 2's Month and Provides an opporhave their work produced and aired on television.

"No Half Stepping," the win- Maryland, who is employed to ning play in The Seventh Annual the Johns Hopkins Medical In Drama Competition for Black stitutions as a Housing and Stu-Writers, will air on Channel 2 (in dent Services Coordinator. She is Baltimore) on Saturday, February a graduate of the University of Maryland, Eastern Shore.

> "No Half Stepping" is a story that focuses on the lives of the household set in the early 1970's that his children set goals and challenges that confront them. outside of Detroit. As head of his household, Levi Rogers' "get tough" approach with his family look at how the Rogers family the Arena Players. WMAR-TV 2's stems from his desire to ensure deals with the obstacles and Jon Stiehm is Executive Producer Theater at Coppin State College.



will re-create on screen opposite

(Left to right) Calvin Garlic, Daria Jones, Joe Ann Oatis and Kenneth Abrams star in "No Hali Stepping," winner of Channel 2's seventh annual drama competition airing Saturday, February

establish certain values in their. WMAR-TV 2 produces the play lives. "No Half Stepping" takes a at its studios in association with

and directing the hour-long program is Channel 2's Rick White and Amini Johari-Courts, Assis-