Omegas to hold annual talent hunt

Baltimore metropolitan area high school students will have an opportunity to compete in a talent hunt at Dunbar High School on Sunday, April 8, at 5 p.m.

The Pi Omega Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity will be offering $500 and $25 savings bonds, as well as trophies, to the first and second place winners of the classical vocal, popular vocal, classical instrumental, drama, dance, paintings and sculpture contests in this talent hunt.

Four of the first place winners may have the opportunity to compete in a five-state district talent hunt in Meadow Park, N.J. in May.

The winners of the district talent hunt will be eligible for scholarships to Morgan State University and will be sent to participate in a national contest at Denver, Colo. in August.

Baltimoreans representing Pi Omega have done well at the Omega district or national talent hunts. Approximately 12 of their 17 students have been winners over the last four years.

The auditions for the Baltimore talent hunt will be held at the Dunbar High School Theatre on March 31 between 2 and 4 p.m.

Interested students should secure applications from their high school music or art teachers before March 26.

The talent hunt on Sunday, April 8 will be open to the public and free of charge.

LOOKING FOR TALENT — The Pi Omega Chapter of the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity is sponsoring a Talent Hunt on Sunday, April 8. Members of the committee are (L to R, SEATED): Clarence Henderson, chairman, and Saul Perdue; (standing, L to R); Lemuel Boone, Clarence Hurtt, Washington Greene, Randolph Thompson and James Priest.

Employment standards report published

Harvey A. Epstein, Maryland Commissioner of Labor and Industry, announced that the task force on the Interrelationship of Maryland - Federal Employment Standards, a joint project between the state and federal government, has published its findings, conclusions and recommendations. This pilot project is the first of its kind to be completed in the nation.

The 133 - page written report contains analysis of problems identified by the task force and solutions to those problems in four areas: minimum wage and overtime, employment of minors, prevailing wage and equal pay for equal work laws. The recommendations of the task force were drawn to aid employers and employees.

The 12 - member task force, representing business, labor, agriculture and government, reported areas of overlap and duplication of efforts by federal, state and local governments to the Maryland Commissioner of Labor and Industry and the U.S. Department of Labor.

Summer study program in Africa announced

Ann Bainbridge, a teacher in the Frederick County public schools, will be escorting a group to Africa this summer for five weeks of travel and study. The program features a week on safari in Kenya, two weeks of study at the University of Nairobi, and visits to Cairo, London and Rome.

Those wishing credit may earn five graduate or undergraduate credits.

High school students might arrange for credit through their local Board of Education. Students in Frederick County Public Schools may earn one unit of social studies credit upon successful completion of the program.

The trip is open to all ages, but those under high school age must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

All arrangements for travel, lodging, meals, guides and tuition are being made by the American Institute for Foreign Study which sponsors travel study program all over the world.

Course offerings will include Africa's politics, history and society; anthropology and archeology; African music, dance oral literature; physical geography of East Africa; Kiswahili; flora and fauna of East Africa and topics in ecology and developing nations.

Individuals wishing further information, or groups interested in helping sponsor a student, should call 301 - 371 - 5967 or write Rt. 12, Box 235, Frederick, Md. 21701.

Baltimore Chapter of Kappa Silhouettes will be holding a nearly new sale at the Kappa House, 4903 Liberty Heights Ave., April 7, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The public is invited to attend.

the game of ROOTS

Millions of Americans have viewed the T.V. mini-series or read the exciting book of "ROOTS" and have participated in the phenomenon sweeping the country. There was such a tremendous response that a sequel called "ROOTS: THE NEXT GENERATIONS" was televised by ABC during February 1979.

Now G&E HILL presents an exciting and educational family board game called; "THE GAME OF ROOTS"

It's a game enabling the players to trace the roots of the Afro-American from his origin in Africa to his present position in American life.

In the center of the brightly colored game board is a family tree to enable the players to trace their own personal roots.

Yes, your tammy, and friends can now share hours of fun playing a game that will help you to know more about your own ancestors. Never before has a board game been so personalized and enjoyable. Youngsters will love it! Now is the time to be sure "our roots" are yours.

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—Militant commissioner

(Continued from page 1)

CRC Commissioner Elizabeth Shipley posed at acting chairperson during the meeting in Ms. Keane's absence. Afterwards Ms. Shipley told the AFRO one of the problems CRC has faced is absenteeism among board members during the commission meetings.

She said that was one of the reasons why the commissioners had not released a report or took a stand on the police bearings. Ms. Shipley said she did not know when a report would be released.

"I don't know what to tell you," Ms. Shipley said. "All I can say is that we will be coming out with something as soon as possible."

The entire process of the mayor failing to reappoint Morgan was hedged in secrecy and mystery until Feb. 28 when Commissioner William Parrish told the other commissioners that he had learned that Morgan had not been reappointed.

Even though Ms. Keane said she usually receives a copy of a communication letter from Schaefer when someone is not reappointed she did not receive one in Morgan's case.

During the March meeting CRC Director John Ferron pointed out the "outstanding service" Morgan gave to the commission.

"He was an activist," Ferron said. "He did not run away from issues. In my opinion he was direct in his approach. I think he certainly served the commission well."

—Gambling sport

(Continued from page 1)

Exum, along with 25 other delegates primarily from Prince George's and Montgomery counties choose not to vote at all.

Jai alai is a game in which players use a long curved wicker basket strapped to their wrists catch and hurl a ball against the front wall of a three - wall court.

The idea is for the opposing player to return the ball, which sometimes moves at speeds of 150 to 200 miles per hour, before the second bounce.

Although the bill witnessed a surprisingly swift passage in the House, its future is not certain in the Senate.

NAACP joins county cop recruitment drive

The Baltimore Chapter of the NAACP has announced that it will be working in cooperation with the Baltimore County Police Department in their attempts to recruit minorities.

In announcing the cooperative effort, Enolia McMillan, Baltimore Chapter President said, "I was pleased to learn that a large number of minorities and women have expressed an interest in joining the Baltimore County Police Force.

"We must now see that the testing procedure and the requirements are designed to include rather than exclude persons other than those who have staffed the department in the past," she said.

More information concerning the cooperative efforts of the Baltimore NAACP and the Baltimore County Police Department is available by calling 837-6778.

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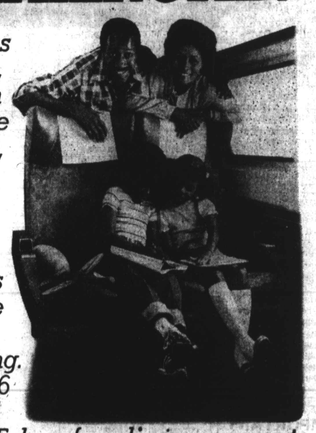

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SHOWTIME

★Theatre ★Music ★Art

B-more couple wins NY tossing, turning, swinging dance contest

"Shalamar . . . Jeffry Daniels, Jody Watley, Howard Hewitt, who sponsored 50-city contest. They got their start as dancers on "Soul Train" and picked Baltimore couple to win $3,000 prize.

By Ida Peters

Larry Hart and Theresa Ryce of Baltimore won $3,000. top prize at the Copacabana Club in New York City over contestants from 50 cities in Shalamar's 'tossing, turning, swinging dance contest.'

It all started at Odell's Disco, 21 E. North Ave., according to Odell Brock.

Odell's was contacted by Solar Records, the Sound of Los Angeles and Dick Griffith Productions to participate in Shalamar's national promotion of their hit album, "Disco Gardens" with the hit disco single "Take That To The Bank".

Solar Records is owned by Dick Griffith and Don Cornelius of "Soul Train" fame according to Brock.

So on February 14, Valentine's Day, Shalamar . . . Jeffrey Daniels, Jody watley and Howard Hewitt came to Odell's to personally select the Baltimore winners.

Larry Hart and Theresa Ryce won an all - expense paid weekend trip to New York to compete in the finals. They stayed at the Americana - Sheraton.

Larry and Theresa survived all the preliminary rounds and walked off with the top prize of $3,000.

They were the only couple to select a slow disco number . . . an old Donna Summer number.

Theresa wore a black Danskin body suit, long black Danskin skirt and black high heels. Her jewelry was a gold necklace.

Larry wore black slacks, a "Love Boat" steward's jacket with gold buttons. His white shirt was topped with a black bow tie.

The finals included three white couples and three black.

The second place winners hailed from Omaha, Neb., Michelle Cecil and Marvin Whitfield. Third place winners from Gulfport, Miss. were Donna Gamble and Brad Heaverlo.

Odell Brock is planning a victory party for Larry and Theresa as soon as he catches up with them.

Baltimore Symphony 'reaching out'

The Baltimore Symphony Community Development Committee, which has as its objective to work with local groups to bring the Orchestra into their neighborhoods, has announced three events in its 5th Community Concert Series. Each concert will be conducted by Resident Conductor William Henry Curry.

The first concert, "A Joyful Sound", scheduled for Friday, March 30, will take place at Walbrook Senior High School, 3900 Edgewood St., beginning at 8:00 p.m. The program features excerpts from "Brahms' "A German Requiem" and Moores' "Lord, We Give Thanks to Thee" performed with the BSO by the choirs of Douglas Memorial Church (Chorus Director, James Spencer Hammond) and Union Baptist Church (Chorus Director, Dr. Richard Turner).

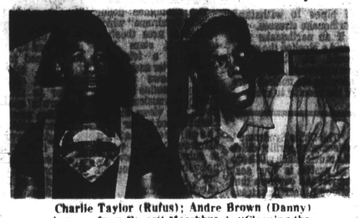
The program also includes Schumann's "Symphony No. 1" ("Rhenish") and Franck's "Symphonic Variations for Piano and Orchestra", with piano soloist Gregory Thompson. The concert is free, and there are no reserved seats.

The second event in the series, "The Animal Fair", a Tiny Tots Concert, is scheduled for Saturday, April 28, at the Community College of Baltimore Little Theatre at 10:30 a.m. CCB is located on Liberty Heights Avenue at Druid Hill Park Drive. The program, for children aged 3 to 6, which features music associated with animals, will be narrated by Rheda Becker, with Janice Barringer, dancer. This concert is also free, with no reserved seats. There is plenty of free parking available.

William Henry Curry

The final concert in this spring 1979 series will take place at the Civic Center in mid - May, and will have as its theme "A Salute to Baltimore City Employees". Details of this concert will be forthcoming.

'Double Bill' at Arena Players



Charlie Taylor (Rufus); Andre Brown (Danny) in scene from Everett Marshburn's "Cleaning the Temple," now playing at Arena Playhouse.

A "Double Bill" of two plays by Baltimore playwrights are being presented at Arena Playhouse this weekend.

"The Philosopher - Limer" by Rudy Wallace is directed by Vonnie Covington.

Everett Marshburn's "Cleaning The Temple" is directed by Robert Russell of The Mod Players.

"The Philosopher Limer" stars Nettie Millard who last appeared in "Fount of the Nation". Sam Washington last appeared in "Detective Story". Karen Ball, Shanon Covington, Robert McKenley and Craig Smith are newcomers to the Arena Players family.

Vonnie Covington is a former member of the John Taylor Dance Company and has served the Arena Players as actress, wardrobe mistress, make - up artist and director. A graduate of the Patricia Stevens Modeling School, she owns and operates her own fashion school, the Vonnie Covington Cardell Modeling Company.

Friday night, the Senior Choir No. 1, Mt. Olive Free Will Baptist Church, Mrs. Minnie Avery, president will be special guests and hosts.

Saturday the Pleiades Club, William A. Brent, president and District No. 7, Order of Eastern Star, Sister Eva Brooks, Matron, are hosts and hostesses.

Sunday, the Women's Assembly for Community Service, Mrs. Etta Williams, president, are hostesses.

Comegys in concert Sunday

Daniel Comegys, who in the early 1960s spent a year in Boston studying under the late Roland Hayes, will be presented in concert Sunday, March 25, 5 p.m. at Gallery 409, 409 N. Charles St.

A lyric baritone, Comegys in his early career studied under the great Mrs. Ruth MacAbee, who taught Cab Calloway and at the old Baltimore Institute of Musical Arts.

Comegys will be accompanied by Reinaldo Reyes, professor of Music at Towson State University, the official accompanist for the Metropolitan Opera Regional Auditions.

The concert is being sponsored by the Cultural Arts Project, a division of the Urban Services Agency and is free to the public.

The program will begin with "Piercing Eyes", "She Never Told Her Love" and "Sailor's Song" by Joseph Hayden; "An die Ferne Geliebte" by Ludwig Von Beethoven; "Aufenthalt", "Lachen und Weinen", "Der Wanderer An dem Mond" and "Fischerweise" by Franz Schubert.

After an intermission the program will continue with "The Boatman's Song", "The Dodger", "At the River" and "I [illegible]ight Me A Cat" by Aaron Copland and will wind up with old American folk songs arranged by Roland Hayes including, "Plenty Good Room", "Lilie a' Humble," "Lil' Boy How Old Are You" and "Round About the Mountain".

Comegys is a graduate of Douglass High School, Class of 1956 where he remembers starring in "The Telephone" with singer Veronica Tyler.

He graduated from Morgan State College in 1960 and from 1956 to 1960 studied with Nadia Boulanger and Pierre Bernac at the Conservatory of Music, Palace of Fontainbleau in France.

He also studied at the Academy Mozarteum, Salzberg, Austria; Vienna Academy of Music, Vienna, Austria; Royal Academy of Music, Stockholm, Sweden and received his Master of Music from the University of Maryland College Park.

He has had a varied career which included Palace concerts in Austria sponsored by the United States Information Service; Assistant Professor of Music, Windham College, Vermont; and Musical Director, Arlington Dinner Theatre.

Comegys while in Paris talked of his life in Paris with other Americans and remembers the late Ollie Stewart, AFRO Correspondent who was a great conversationalist.

He also remembers visits to Dr. Mercer Cook's house and meeting with Grace Bumbry and other American stars.

He remembers when the late Dr. Martin Jenkins visited on a State Department tour and they went to the Latin Quarter. Dr. Jenkins wore a beautiful gray suit, Homburg and gloves.

Currently, Comegys is an Instructor in Voice at the Cultural Arts Project. He is married to the former Ethel Ellis and they have two children, a boy, Marco, born in Vienna and a daughter, Danniella, born in Germany.

On black classical music

Next season at the Lyric — what's missing?

By Dominique-Rene de Lerma

The Baltimore Symphony Orchestra has announced plans for the 1979-80 season. Let's see what's in store and what it means.

Traditional chestnuts include works by Rachmaninoff, Chopin, Dvorak, Mozart, Haydn, Beethoven, Schumann, Tchaikovsky and the like, carefully placed so as to retain the interest of those concert goers comfortable with old friends.

Slightly adventurous additions include Barber, Bartok, Mahler, Walton, Berlioz, Fodaly and company. These are off the most beaten of paths, but not so far that conservative listeners should feel any impatience.

Innovative pieces include works by Leslie Bassett, the premiere of a commissioned work by Jacob Druckman, the lengthy eighth symphony of Bruckner, Gyorgy Legeti's piano concerto in its first American performance, and perhaps Schoenberg's Gurrelieder.

The conductors include the BSO's music director, Sergiu Comissiona, for 12 of the 16 subscription events, and the splendid young black conductor, William Henry Curry for at least one of these (at which time, Maestro Curry has scheduled Stravinsky's "Le sacre du printemps," and every school child should have a chance to hear and see this work, after being prepared).

Guest conductors will be imported from Minnesota and Indianapolis.

The season's soloists will include Horacio Gutierrez, Alexis Weissenberg, Nathaniel Rosen, Jan de Gaetani, Garrick Ohlsson, Benjamin Luxon, Radu Lupu, Anthony di Bonaventura, Gary Graffman, Joseph Silverstein and Pinchas Zuckerman, sometimes joined by local choral ensembles.

One of the highlights should be in February, when Baltimore's wind artists get together to make up the concertino of Mozart's symphonie concertante, a work with a mysterious background, which is destined for a splendid performance.

There will also be the extra series on Fridays and Saturdays, with their own soloists and repertoires.

Is anything missing?

Do you remember in 1973 when Paul Freeman and I visited Baltimore to initiate that series of black music symposia? This was designed as a chance to focus attention on the contributions of composers of color, and I remember the enthusiasm that many felt as that week drew to an end.

Now, they said, we will perhaps have more black players in the orchestra. A good prediction, one which did not even envision the arrival of Maestro Curry

Night scene ...seen

By Bob Matthews

The Place

Made a solemn vow this week to visit some of the clubs in the daytime in order to portray some of the barmaids who labor during the "happy hours."

First stop was The Place, where Regina Randall proudly presides over her domain. Persuaded her to pose for the picture you see on this page, and it was a struggle, for she wanted her daughters and granddaughters to be included.

Guess this is what makes The Place unique since it is run by mother Regina, with the help of daughters Grace Grant and Regina Simmons. It flowers during the daylight hours, for it is an oasis for those who work in the neighborhood and like a lunchtime "taste."

Then too, it is a perfect place to drop in after work, which happens daily. The address is 318 W. Franklin St., between Howard and Eutaw Sts.

Paul's Stable

The name is a pun or a misnomer, and refers to Paul Coombs, who is manager of the club out on Park Heights and Belvedere Aves. The listed owner of the club is Jasmine Coombs, who just happens to be married to Paul.

She is also pictured above, for during the day and happy hour times, she handles the bar chores. The Coombes have owned the club since 1972, and are avidly looking forward to the opening of the Pimlico race track.

This is the busiest time of the year for The Stable. Although the club is on the small side, it has that ambiance that lends itself to intimate gatherings.

There are small little banquettes and tables spotted throughout the room, and we can imagine when the race track crowd isn't around, people hold intimate conversations.

Asked Paul what was one of the specialties of the house during the afternoon happy hour. Was told that Lowenbrau goes for just a dollar at these times.

Walked around the corner on Park Heights to Willie Richardson's, and true to what we had heard, there was a goodly crowd assembled in the backroom lounge.

Told the barmaid on duty that we would like to take a picture for this column, but she told us emphatically "no." Ergo, no pix. Didn't linger, but could see that the happy hour crowd was increasing and enjoying.

Maybe we'll get there at another date to check things out thoroughly.

Regina Randall
The Place

Mary Smith
Sportsman's Lounge

Jackie Porter
Duck's Black Satin

Jasmine Coombs
Paul's Stable

Duck's Black Satin

Returned to Duck's Black Satin for another look, this time during daylight hours, and things looked just as warm and friendly as they did at night.

Got there just as the changing of the guard was about to take place, and we took pix of both the day and night barmaids, but for this week, we'll go with our theme—daytime. So, there is a picture of Jackie Porter on these pages.

Mostly For Music

Sportsman's Lounge still has Mickey Fields, Johnny Polite and Sonny Fowlkes on Fri. and Sat. nights. The Sat. afternoon jazz set this week will feature Harold Adams, El Prince and vocalist Ruby Glover.

Note on this page a picture of Mary Smith, who is usually on duty Saturday afternoons. Mary is our guide. If she disagrees with the music on the stand, she will do her work wearing ear plugs.

Happily, she hasn't had to recently, for the jazz policy at the club has really started to move.

Got a chance to hear the Louis Hayes quartet at The Bandstand on opening night, and believe me — it blew me away. This is without a doubt the top attraction to play the club since it opened last year.

Besides Hayes on drums, there is Jamil Nasser, bass; Harold Mabern, piano, and Frank Strozier on alto. The group has been together for almost two years, and it shows.

One little tip — on opening night, the club was packed for the first show — you can imagine how it will be for the rest of the weekend, so make it early — its worth it.

The Left Bank Jazz Society will present a group that is sure to leave a lot of questions in its wake. The Old and New Dreams Quartet, composed of Don Cherry, Dewey Redman, Charlie Haden and Ed Blackwell.

Most of them have played in groups fronted by Ornette Coleman, which should give a clue as to the type of music they are into. We predict that there will be a surprise in store for the attendees, the same as there was for the Sam Rivers outing.

Next week, we'll try to hit some clubs where disco dancing is the main order of business. Incidently, if you would like to see a report on some particular club — give us a buzz, or drop a line.