Best Bets

Jazz festival honors Eubie Blake

Eubie Blake, the world famous ragtime and jazz pianist, who died early this year at 100, will be honored at a festive weekend of free jazz concerts and jam sessions throughout his native Baltimore non-stop thru Sunday, Aug. 14.

Cab Calloway opened the festivities Wednesday assisted by the **Morgan State** University Choir and **Moon August**, grand prize winner of Jazz Quest.

Harborplace has been holding free jazz performances at its amphitheatre at noon. Connally's Seafood House near Pier Five has reopened its outdoor cafe serving up a jazz band Saturday and Sunday at 10 p.m. so concertgoers can stop off after the concepts or earlier.

Picnic Dedicated to Eubie — Gates open at 10:30 a.m. Bring picnic baskets, lunch bags and blankets to the "Picnic at the Pier." Dixieland and ragtime fans will hear the sounds of America's premier interpreter of ragtime, **Max Morath**. **Maxine Sullivan** will be accompanied by an all-star dixieland band, the **New Black Eagle Jazz Band** from New England. Eubie's favorite ragtime combo, the **Amherst Saxophone Quartet**, also will perform. A local 10-piece band the **Royal Blue Orchestra** from Columbia, will play honky-tonk and hot jazz — "St. Louis Blues," "Beyond the Blue Horison" and "Dinah" — from the 1925 to '35 era. The show begins at noon.

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FESTIVAL LINE-UP

Friday, Aug. 12, 6:30 p.m. — Dave Brubeck Quartet, Anita O'Day and her trio, including Harry "Sweets" Edison; JAZZ QUEST FINALIST — Port City Jazz Ensemble.

Saturday, Aug. 13, 6:30 p.m. — Herbie Mann and the Family of Mann, Wynton Marsalis Quintet; JAZZ QUEST FINALIST — Tim & East Coast Offering.

Sunday, Aug. 14, 11 a.m. — Max Morath, Maxine Sullivan, The New Black Eagle Jazz Band, The Amherst Saxophone Quartet; JAZZ QUEST FINALIST — Royal Blue Orchestra.

Sunday, Aug. 14, 6:30 p.m. — B.B. King and his Orchestra, Jimmy Witherspoon, Jay McShann; JAZZ QUEST FINALIST — O'Donel Levy.

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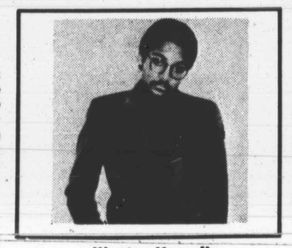
HOPKINS PLAZA

Thursday, Aug. 11, 8 p.m. — On Stage Downtown presents Baltimore Jazz Greats & Company Film Festival and special guest Lady Rebecca & Trio.

MT. VERNON PLACE

Thursday, Aug. 11, noon — Lionel Jiggets and the Infinite Experience.

Continued on page 15



Wynton Marsalis



B. B. King

Eddie Murphy at Constitution Hall

Eddie Murphy's multi-faceted career — encompassing successes at recording, television, movies, and personal appearances — shifted from high gear into overdrive in July as he began his first major U.S. tour dates in the Northeast and Midwest. The five-week itinerary, supported by the Busboys, climaxes in late-August with two-nighters at **Constitution Hall** Aug. 17-18 in D.C.

Since his first apperances on NBC-TV's "Saturday Night Live" in the fall of 1981, Eddie Murphy has propelled to the front rank of today's young comics, as was illustrated when he shared the cover of **People** magazine with Richard Pryor recently. His versatility as a first-rate impersonator, improvisor, actor, singer, dancer, and stand-up comic all on "SNL" takes him into his fourth season on the show this fall, with more surprises on the way.

"EDDIE MURPHY," his debut Columbia comedy album, has been an unqualified smash since its release one year ago this summer, selling more than a quarter-million copies and fast on its way to RIAA gold on the strength of the current tour. Consisting mainly of his funniest nightclub routines (not heard on "SNL"), the album also contained two musical numbers: "Enough Is Enough," a take-off on the Streisand-Summer hit teaming two of Eddie's favorite characters, Buckwheat and Richard Simmons; and "Boogie In Your Butt," co-written by Eddie and music producer David Wolfert of the Entertainment Company. The album was recorded in New York's Comic Strip, his original launching ground, and was produced by Robert Wachs, who manages Eddie along with Richard Tienken.

"EDDIE MURPHY," the album, was a Grammy-award nominee in 1983, and sets the stage for a second album, to be recorded at the Westbury Music Fair on Long Island later this summer. The new LP, expected for early-fall release, should include a new music track, to be produced and written by Prince.

On film, Eddie's first starring role in **48 Hrs** is generally credited with making the Paramount movie one of the year's highest-grossing hits. Eddie's second film with Paramount is **Trading Places**, also starring Dan Aykroyd, and it is already one of this summer's super-success stories at the box office. Having recently signed his own production company deal with Paramount, news of Eddie Murphy's next movie project is eagerly anticipated by the entire film community.

On the cover of **Rolling Stone**, at the movies, performing live onstage, on your turntable, and on network and cable television — his Constitution Hall shows will be filmed for an HBO special in October — "It's the year of Eddie Murphy."

Smokey Robinson at Pier Six

In 1958, Smokey Robinson and The Miracles became the first popular act under contract with Motown Records; 25 year later, Smokey is still molding his own chapter in pop music as he brings his chart-topping romance music to the Pier Six Concert Pavilion in downtown Baltimore, on Wednesday, Aug. 17, at 8 p.m.

His latest effort "Touch the Sky," which includes five songs written or co-written by Smokey, marks the return of Robinson as producer of his own projects. The new LP includes the somber, moody ballad "Even Tho' ", "I've Made Love to You a Thousand Times" and the exuberant title track.

Smokey began his musical career in high school when he and his friends formed the Miracles. It was the early records of that group that fueled the popularity of Berry Gordy's now famous Motown label.

The Miracles' "Way Over There" became Motown's first nationally distributed single and was soon followed by "Shop Around," the smash hit that put Motown on the road to success. During the 1960's, Smokey and The Miracles went on to record a string of top 10 hits that included "Ooh Baby, Baby," "Tracks of my Tears" and "Tears of a Clown."

At the onset of the 1970s, Smokey accepted a vice presidency post with Motown, but he still found time to nurture a fulfilling new solo career that produced several albums and hit singles such as "Baby Come Close," "Virgin Man," "Cruisin'," "Being With You" and "Tell Me Tomorrow."

In addition to performing, Smokey has penned several top hits for other Motown performers as well as compositions for a diverse and influential group of artists that includes the Beatles, the Rolling Stones, Kim Carnes, Linda Ronstadt and Blondie.

Friday Plus

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LUTHER HENDERSON

LUTHER HENDERSON (Musical Supervisor), one of the entertainment world's foremost orchestrators and arrangers, is credited with more than 50 individual productions including *Funny Girl, No, No, Nanette, Flower Drum Song, Purlie* on Broadway, and *The All Night Strut* (Ford's Theatre), and "The Ann Margret Special," "The Carol Burnett Show," the Bob Hope, Andy Williams, Ed Sullivan, Red Skelton and Dean Martin Shows on television. Mr. Henderson has some 12 albums to his name, including six made with the Luther Henderson Orchestra. His original compositions number more than 15, many of which were recorded by greats Duke Ellington, Billie Holiday, Teresa Brewer and Nancy Wilson.

Meet a G.P. of Music . . . . Luther Henderson

The gentleman with the salt-and-pepper beard and the intelligent eyes tells you right off that when it comes to music he's a General Practitioner, of "G.P." Browse through his biography, and you know that's right on the money.

Luther Henderson is a musical director, arranger, orchestrator and composer. In these various capacities, he's participated in more than two dozen Broadway shows. "Ain't Misbehavin' " was his latest. For that one, he was arranger, orchestrator and musical supervisor. He also played on-stage piano. For "Lena Horne: The Lady and Her Music," he was musical consultant (he has worked a lot with Miss Horne, going back to the forties). He has worked in television (from "The Bell Telephone Hour" to an "Ain't Misbehavin' "special); has over a dozen albums ("Turned On Broadway") to his credit; has composed four musicals; and has worked out the nightclub acts for the likes of Goldie Hawn, Liza Minneli and Dinah Shore.

What has the man not done musically? Well, he's never done grand opera or played coronet with a circus band (but, with Henderson, don't count it out). And he's never done a beauty pageant either. Until now.

Henderson will serve as musical director, sharing the post with Harold Wheeler, on "Miss Teen USA," to be broadcast Tuesday, Aug. 30, on the CBS Television Network.

And he's having a ball with the assignment. "The challenge," he says, "is making something musically interesting when, basically, music should be in the background. But people are going to be looking at all those pretty contestants anyway."

There isn't much about music that doesn't turn on Henderson. For example, his piano playing gives him a kick, even though, he adds, "I'm not a bad player, but it's not what I really do, you know?"

"When we did 'Ain't Misbehavin' at the Manhattan Theatre Club," he goes on, "the piano player, who's right on stage with the performers, got into an accident and couldn't get to rehearsals. So I played the show. I did it on Broadway, too, for two months. Then we got a fantastic jazz pianist, Hank Jones, to come in. I used to threaten to have him fired if he didn't make a mistake now and then."

A turning point in Henderson's life of late has been his three-year marriage to director-actress Billie Allen. "We're collaborating on a few projects," he says. "One of the shows is about Ethel Waters. I did the music on that one. Thanks to Billie, I'm getting back to composing."

Actually, Henderson has composed four musicals. He's not one for sitting around moping. "I like to do different things," he says. "As much as I can."

One of those things is his work with the Canadian Brass Quintet. "Recently, I took two of the most revered Mozart opuses and sort of tilted them a bit. Music is finally becoming music. Period. Like the kind of things John Williams does with the Boston Pops. More and more, it's less pure classical or pure jazz. To see that kind of fusion is very exciting."

Spoken like a good G.P.

TV Happenings

Kentucky Derby winner **Sunny's Halo**, coming off a bang-up third-place finish against older horses in the Whitney Stakes on July 30, is expected to meet **Preakness Stakes** winner **Deputed Testamony** in a field of 1983's top 3-year-old Thoroughbreds entered to run in the 114th Travers Stakes, which will be broadcast live from Saratoga, N.Y., **Saturday, Aug. 13** (5-6 p.m. PM, ET) on the CBS Television Network.

Jim Kelly will host the broadcast of the Travers, America's oldest stakes race, joined by expert commentators Frank Wright and Charlsie Cantey, reporter Phyllis George Jimmy "The Greek" Snyder, and racecaller-Marshall Cassidy.

Run at the classic distance of 1 1-4 miles and limited to 3-year-olds, the $200,000-added Travers Stakes is the showcase event of the annual month-long Saratoga race meeting. Its past winners include many of Thoroughbred racing's greatest champions, among them Man O'War, Whirlaway and Native Dancer.

Following his triumph in this year's Kentucky Derby, Sunny's Halo came a cropper in the Preakness and the Arlington Classic finishing out of the money, but there were excuses. The colt was receiving heavy medication to treat a debilitating skin rash and, in addition, had injured an ankle. In the Whitney, his first race in seven weeks, Sunny's Halo entered the track swathed in bandages and sweating profusely. The colt was also equipped with a new sheepskin hood and a new rider, Eddie Maple. Worse, as the Whitney unfolded, Sunny's Halo encountered a nightmarish trip.

Pinned on the rail most of the way, and forced to steady several times or else run up on horses in front of him, Maple finally got galloping room along the rail on the homestretch turn and Sunny's Halor responded with a mighty surge. He finished third, less than a length behind Island Whirl, trainer Laz Barrera's million-dollar-winning 5-year old. Most pleasing to Sunny's Halo trainer David Cross was that Sunny's performance came against perhaps the best field of handicap horses to meet in New York this year.

On the same day as the Whitney, a Monmouth Park, N.J., Deputed Testamony put away a classy field of 3-year-olds to win the $200,000-added Haskell Invitation Handicap. Deputed Testamony has now won four of his last five starts, including the Preakness, the Governor's Cup, the Keystone Stakes and the Haskell.

Others expected to challenge Sunny's Halo and Deputed Testamony in the Travers Stakes include Belmont Stakes runner-up Slew O'Gold, Haskell runner-up Big Bet, and Play Fellow, winner of the American Derby at Arlington Park in July. A Phenomenon, winner of the Jim Dandy Stakes, a major prep for the Travers, and now a winner of four of five lifetime starts, is also expected to be entered in the Travers.

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Posing as a nerd-like computer whiz looking for love, Matthew signs up with a posh dating service that may be manipulating some of this country's top thinkers, in "Brain Drain," on NBC-TV's **"The Powers of Matthew Star"**, Friday, Aug. 12.

Wymore sends Walt (Lou Gossett Jr.) and Matthew to find Dr. Benton Pierce, a top economist, who, Wymore fears, has, like a growing number of top minds, disappeared only to resurface later as a defector to another country. When Walt and Matthew discover Pierce disappeared after using the services of "Heart's Desire," an elegant dating service run by Eric Weston and his beautiful assistant, Evita, the two assume new identities to utilize the dating service — and find "Heart's Desire" is selling a lot more than companionship for the lonely.

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Arnold's luck is all bad until Mr. Drummond gives him a good-luck charm, a Japanese cricket, in "The Cricket," on NBC-TV's **"Different Strokes,"** Saturday, Aug. 13. Conrad Bain, **Gary Coleman**, **Todd Bridges**, Dana Plato are the series' stars. Though the pet cricket seems to bring Arnold good luck, its chirping also brings sleepless nights for the rest of the family.

Sports

Seven of the top 10-ranked professional tennis players in the world — including No. 1-ranked John McEnroe, No. 2 Ivan Lendl, No. 3 Jimmy Connors and No. 4 **Yannick Noah** — will be battling for a top prize of $51,000 and tuning up for the U.S. Open at the same time, at the Player's International Canadian Open, the final match of which will be broadcast live by CBS Sports on SUNDAY, Aug.14 (1:00-3:30 PM, ET) on the CBS Television Network.

Frenchman Yannick Noah, 23, has blossomed fast in 1983 and is another serious Canadian Open contender. Already this year the tall (6'4") righthander has equalled his total number of tournament wins in 1982 (three), and in doing so took his first Grand Slam title, at the French Open in June.