Best Bets

On our cover

Mary West Miller, the Arena Players' Great Dame of the theatre, is starring in the hilarious comedy "The Second Time Around" by Henry Denker at Arena Playhouse opening production their 31st season. The play is about a widow (Ms. Miller) and a widower (Gorham Scott) who fall in love and their adult children find this rather hard to take.

"The Second Time Around" opens September 16 and runs weekends through October 9 with a two-for preview on September 15 at 801 McCulloh St., Baltimore.

October 28-November 20
"OLD PHANTOMS," by Gus Edwards, a drama about a father-dominated family.

December 9-18
"SCROOGE," presented by the Youtheatre.

January 6-29
"MURDER WITHOUT CRIME," by J. Lee Thompson, a mystery melodrama.

February 10-March 4
"SOJOURNER TRUTH," by Gordon Watkins, world premiere of a historical drama.

March 23-April 15
"A BREEZE FROM THE GULF," by Mart Crowley, a tale of adolescence set in a Mississippi town.

May 11-June 3
"BALLROOM," book by Jerome Kass, lyrics by Marilyn and Alan Bergman, music by Billy Goldenberg, a musical about a widow who finds love at the Stardust Ballroom.

Friday Plus

The weekly entertainment leisure guide for the greater Baltimore and Washington areas. Published by the AFRO-AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS group.

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Gladys and Mary coming

Gladys Knight and Pips

Gladys Knight and the Pips along with the Manhattans into Constitution Hall in D.C. Saturday, Sept. 3 for two shows at 8 p.m. and 11 p.m.

In Baltimore for the first time in many a year will be Mary Wells who at one time was a greater hit than Diana Ross when the Supremes were the greatest thing around. She made a hit on the Motown Silver Anniversary Show and got into a little hassle when Diana got jealous.

She'll be at Gentlemen Ten at 2135 Edmondson Ave. from Sunday, Sept. 4 at 10 p.m. until 4 a.m. Labor Day. It's a BYOB affair and you wear party clothes and dancing shoes. Sam and Dave will also be there with their Memphis sound.

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COMING UP — Ashford and Simpson with Nona Hendryx on Friday, Sept. 16 at Constitution Hall.

Mary Wells

Have a little 'Horse Play' after dark

By Sam Lacy

For a returning visitor to the evening program at Freestate Raceway finds an assortment of refreshing surprises waiting.

Such was the case last week when the AFRO ventured to the spanking new plant located near Laurel, MD, just about halfway b etween Washington and Baltimore on old Route 1.

Enticed by the catchy new invitation couched in the slogan, Horseplay After Dark," the writer arrived to be greeted by a number of entertaining innovations.

Naturally, all of them are geared to attracting more wagering action, but the format indicates a uniqueness about this man agement not found at many racing establishments. It offers a melange of prizes to venturesome customers.

One lure is known as the King of the Hill" drawing that can pay as much as $2,500 to a grand prize winner.

Other cash awards range from $1,000 to $250.

Included among the variety of prizes announced nightly are $10 exacta wagers on specified races, dinners in the clubhouse dining room and free admission (with valet parking) to the Sunday's program.

The Freestate evening has a definite appeal, in that it can be attended after work, after dinner, in the relaxing atmosphere that usually prevails on a clear summer night.

Mrs. Glovenia Dorsey of Washington finds a convenient fund. She was on hand last Wednesday night with her daughter, Valerie, and five grandchildren.

A longtime racing fan, Mrs. Dorsey says: 'We can make a family outing and still get the kids home for a reasonably normal bedtime."

The people who know this writer are aware that he is not in even a remote sense, an enthusiastic harnes fan. Consequently, there could be some suspicion that he is playing the role of a shill for Freestate.

Nothing could be further from the truth. 'Horseplay After Dark" the other night, was thoroughly enjoyable.

And, while the results at the mutuel windows were the same as they are at the afternoon races losing, at least in this instance, was a refreshing experience.

'Say Amen, Somebody'

"Say Amen, Somebody," a gospel movie, presents a truly marvelous performance by the Father of Gospel Music, Dr. Thomas A. Dorsey. Film is now playing at the Circle Theatre in D.C.

In this rousing documentary by George T. Nierenberg you'll hear "Take My Hand, Precious Lord" performed by Thomas A. Dorsey and the National Convention of Gospel Choirs and Choruses and "How About You."

The film was shot over a four month period in St. Louis, Chicago and Houston in 1981 and drew raves at the New York Film Festival in 1982. The music is enough to make this movie worthwhile seeing.

Coming Events

7TH ANNUAL MARYLAND RENAISSANCE FESTIVAL, Weekends **Aug. 20 through Sept. 25.** Symphony Woods adjacent to the Merriweather Post Pavilion, Columbia. 685-1445.

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SHOWCASE OF NATIONS FESTIVALS, Information, 837-INFO.

Sept. 4-5, Jewish American, Rash Field

Sept. 23-25, City Fair, on the piers.

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Sept. 7, Santana, 7:30 p.m., $12.50, $8.75.

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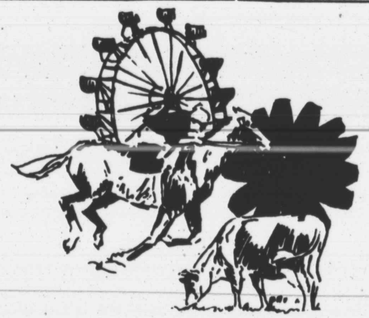
MERRIWEATHER POST PAVILION, Pavilion and lawn seats. Columbia, 730-2424.

Let's Go — Maryland State Fair



Friday, September 2

9 a.m. — Jersey Dairy Cattle Show — Cow Palace

10 a.m. — Ayrshire Dairy Cattle Show — Cow Palace

10 a.m. — Welsh Pony Show — Horse Show Ring

10 a.m.-10 p.m. — Daily Demonstrations — Home Arts Building; Weaving & Spinning — The Baltimore Weaver's Guild; Stained Glass & Doll Houses — Kathy Crymes; Rug Hooking — Laurel Brown; English Smocking — Jeanette Balady

12 noon — Midway Opens

3 p.m. — Sunkist Sunflyers — Home Arts — 4/H Bldg.

3:30 p.m. — Micro-Mini Tractor Pull — Reynolds Stage.

5 p.m. — Delicious Lamb Dishes — Demonstration — Farm & Garden Building

5 p.m. — "Luise" Country Pop Singer — Reynolds Stage

5 p.m. — Sunkist Sunflyers — Home Arts — 4H Bldg.

6 p.m.-9 p.m. — 4-H Tractor Operators Contest — Horse Ring

6 p.m. — Cooking Maryland Seafood — Demonstration — Farm & Garden Building

7 p.m. — How To Cut Up A Chicken — Demonstration — Farm & Garden Building

7 p.m. — "Luise" Country Pop Singer — Reynolds Stage

7 p.m. — Sunkist Sunflyers — Home Arts — 4H Bldg.

8 p.m. — Extracting Honey From the Hive — Farm & Garden Building

9 p.m. — "Luise" Country Pop Singer — Reynolds Stage

Saturday, September 3

8 a.m. — Saanen Goat Show — Goat Barn

8 a.m. — 4-H Dairy Cattle Judging Contest — Cow Palace

8:30 a.m. — 4-H Livestock Judging Contest — All Livestock Show Rings

8:30 a.m. — 4-H Horticulture Judging Contest — Horse Sales Pavilion

9 a.m. — 4-H Poultry Judging Contet — Horse Sales Pavilion

9 a.m. — Nubian Goat Show — Goat Barn

10 a.m. — Alpine Goat Show — Goat Barn

10 a.m. — Non-Thoroughbred Horse Show — Horse Ring

10 a.m.-10 p.m. — Daily Demonstrations — Home Arts Building; Weaving & Spinning — The Baltimore Weaver's Guild; Stained Glass & Doll Houses — Kathy Crymes; Rug Hooking — Laurel Brown; English Smocking — Jeanette Balady; Silver Jewelry — Richard Ackler; Rug Braiding — Mrs. Charles Scherer

12 noon — Berkshire Swine Show — Swine Barn

12 noon — Midway Opens

12:30 p.m. — Milking Shorthorn Dairy Cattle Show — Cow Palace

12:30 p.m. — Lamancha Dairy Goat Show — Goat Barn

1 p.m. — Cooking With Herbs — Demonstration — Farm & Garden Building

1 p.m. — Sunkist Sunflyers — Home Arts — 4H Bldg.

1:30 p.m. — Quik Fire Musical Group — Reynolds Stage

2 p.m. — Microwave Cooking — Demonstration — Farm & Garden Building

2:30 p.m. — Toggenburg Goat Show — Goat Barn

3 p.m. — Chester White Swine Show — Swine Barn

3 p.m. — Cutting Up Chicken — Demonstration — Farm & Garden Building

3:30 p.m. — Micro Mini Tractor Pull — Reynolds Stage

4 p.m. — Microwave Cooking — Chicken — Demonstration — Farm & Garden Building

4 p.m. — Sunkist Sunflyers — Home Arts — 4H Bldg.

4:30 p.m. — Recorded Grades Dairy Goat Show — Goat Barn

5 p.m. — 4-H Demonstrations — Farm & Garden Building

5 p.m. — "Luise" Country Pop Singer — Reynolds Stage

6 p.m. — 4-H Awards Program, Judging Contestants — Cow Palace

6 p.m. — 4-H Demonstrations — Farm & Garden Building

6 p.m. — Mirage Professional Dancers of the Middle East — Reynolds Stage

7 p.m. — Delicious Lamb Dishes — Demonstration — Farm & Garden Building

7 p.m. — "Luise' Country Pop Singer — Reynolds Stage

7 p.m. — Sunkist Sunflyers — Home Arts — 4H Building

7:30 p.m. — Horse Pulling Contest — Lightweights — Horse Ring

8 p.m. — Goats — Best In Show — Goat Barn

8 p.m. — Extracting Honey From the Hive — Farm & Garden Building

9 p.m. — "Luise" Country Pop Singer — Reynolds Stage

Sunday, September 4

9 a.m. — Shetland Pony Show — Horse Ring

9 a.m. — Pony of the Americas Show — Horse Ring

9 a.m. — Shropshire Sheep Show — Sheep Barn

10 a.m.-10 p.m. — Daily Demonstrations — Home Arts Building; Weaving & Spinning — The Baltimore Weaver's Guild; Stained Glass & Doll Houses — Kathy Crymes; Rug Hooking — Laurel Brown; English Smocking — Jeanette Balady; Silver Jewelry — Richard Ackler

11 a.m. — Cheviot Sheep Show — Sheep Barn

12 noon — Duroc Swine Show — Swine Barn

12 noon — Midway Opens

12:30 p.m. — Ladies Lead Class — Cow Palace

1 p.m. — Guernsey Dairy Cattle Show — Cow Palace

1 p.m. — Cooking With Soybean Oil — Demonstration Farm & Garden Building

1 p.m. — Sunkist Sunflyers — Home Arts — 4H Bldg.

1 p.m. — Brown Swiss Dairy Show Cattle — Cow Palace

1:30 p.m. — Quik Fire Musical Group — Reynolds Stage

2 p.m. — Grape & Wine Demonstration — Farm & Garden Building

2:30 p.m. — Corriedale Sheep Show — Sheep Barn

3 p.m. — Delicious Lamb Dishes — Demonstration — Farm & Garden Building

4 p.m. — Hereford Beef Cattle Show — Cow Palace

4 p.m. — Hampshire Swine Show — Swine Barn

4 p.m. — Cooking With Soybean Oil — Demonstration — Farm & Garden Building

4 p.m. — Sunkist Sunflyers — Home Arts — 4H Bldg.

4:30 p.m. — Hampshire Sheep Show — Sheep Barn

5 p.m. — How To Cut Up A Chicken — Demonstration — Farm & Garden Building

5 p.m. — "Luise" Country Pop Singer — Reynolds Stage

6 p.m. — Delmarvelous Chicken Recipes — Demonstration — Farm & Garden Bldg.

6 p.m.-10 p.m. — Antique Cars — Grandstand

6 p.m. — Mirage Professional Dancers of the Middle East — Reynolds Stage

7 p.m. — Shorthorn Beef Cattle Show — Cow Palace

7 p.m. — "Luise" Country Pop Singer — Reynolds Stage

7 p.m. — Sunkist Sunflyers — Home Arts — 4H Bldg.

7:30 p.m. — Horse Pulling Contest — Heavyweights — Horse Ring

8 p.m. — Extracting Honey From the Hive — Farm & Garden Building

9 p.m. — "Luise" Country Pop Singer — Reynolds Stage

Monday, September 5

9 a.m. — Holstein Dairy Cattle Show — Cow Palace

9 a.m. — Montadale Sheep Show — Sheep Barn

10 a.m. — Arabian Horse Show — Horse Ring

10 a.m.-10 p.m. — Daily Demonstrations — Home Arts Building; Weaving & Spinning — The Baltimore Weaver's Guild; Stained Glass & Doll Houses — Kathy Crymes; Rug Hooking — Laurel Brown; English Smocking — Jeanette Balady; Silver Jewelry — Richard Ackler

10:30 a.m. — Southdown Sheep Show — Sheep Barn

12 noon — Spots and Poland China Swine Show — Swine Barn

12 noon — Midway Opens

1 p.m. — Dorset Sheep Show — Sheep Barn

1 p.m. — How To Cut Up A Chicken — Demonstration — Farm & Garden Building

1 p.m. — "Luise" Country Pop Singer — Reynolds Stage

1 p.m. — Sunkist Sunflyers — Home Arts — 4H Bldg.

Thoroughbred Horse Racing Daily Family Type Midway, Spectacular Rides, Games & Amusements By Deggeller; Live Exciting Entertainment Daily on the Reynolds Stage

Musical Notes

Richard Jon Smith

Richard Jon Smith was born in Africa, where since his early teens he has been involved in writing and playing music, first in a band, and later as a solo artist. He has, in fact been one of Africa's top record sellers and performing attractions for a number of years, but left to make his base in London. Smith moved to England in 1982 in order to interact with musicians from varied backgrounds.

His first U.K. recording, **"Stay With Me Tonight,"** was released in February 1982, and within three weeks it was in England's disco Top Ten, and went on to make the national charts, where it was a breaker for three weeks. It also charted on the Billboard dance chart, and in several European countries.

Smith's second single, **"Don't Go Walking Out That Door,"** went further in cemeting his reputation as a talented singer and writer. The record, produced by John Kongos, again made the dance charts both in Great Britain and in the U.S.

It was Smith's growing stature as an artist in clubs, and on urban contemporary radio in America, that attracted the attention of producers Darryl Payne (who co-produced two Sharon Redd hits, "Beat The Street" and "Never Gonna Give You Up") and Keith Diamond. They recognized Smith's talent, and expressed an interest in working with him. This resulted in "Baby's Got Another," a hit that is still receiving extensive club play, and in Smith's most recent single, "She's The Master (Of The Game)."

With Smith building up an avid following at the club and radio level, and his composition "There's No Easy Way,"recorded by Michale Wycoff, revealing a new side to his talent, anticipation is high for his self-titled debut album on Jive.

WXYV/V-103 HITLIST

Title	Artist
1. You Brought the Sunshine	Clarke Sisters
2. Human Nature	Michael Jackson
3. In the Groove	Ronnie Laws
4. Rockit	Herbie Hancock
5. Cold Blooded	Rick James
6. Just Be Good To Me	S.O.S. Band
7. Puttin On the Ritz	Taco
8. Party Time	Kurtis Blow
9. Fascination	Human League
10. Don't You Get So Mad	Jeffrey Osborne

WXYV/V-103 TOP ALBUMS

1. Thriller	Michael Jackson
2. Visions	Gladys Knight
3. Between the Sheets	Isley Brothers
4. The Songstress	Anita Baker
5. She Works Hard For the Money	Donna Summer