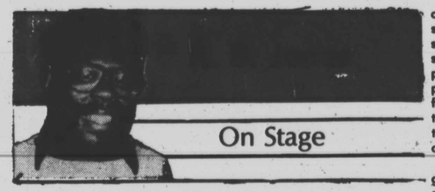

On Stage

"The Amen Corner" at Coppin hits the mark

James Baldwin's troubled relationship with religion has been a constant thread running through most of his essays, novels and plays. Baldwin who became a preacher at 14 knows the environment of the black storefront church intimately and he knows well the bitterness, envy and hatred that often lurks behind the sanctimonious poses of the congregants.

Baldwin's play "The Amen Corner" weighs the rigid and unforgiving standard of sainthood in one storefront church against the boundless forgiveness of unconditional human love.

Instead of love and joy filling the Old Rugged Cross Tabernacle there is only backbiting, jealously and conspiracy. The central plot is the two-front battle that Pastor Margaret Alexander must wage to hold onto her church and resist the temptation engendered by the return of her estranged husband Luke, a jazz musician who resurrects a carnal love in Margaret that she thought had disappeared.

The return of Luke, a famous jazz trumpeter, brings to a head the crisis that had been brewing in the heart of David their son who wants to quit playing in church and follow in his father's footsteps in the music world.

When Margaret's congregation which demands, at the very least the appearance of perfection in their pastor, turn against Margaret when she appears torn between her sanctity and her love for her husband the way sharks attack a wounded creature at the first scent of blood.

The congregation throws Margaret out in the end in favor of Sister Moore, an elderly woman who lays claim to being still pure (a virgin).

Despite the tragedy of losing her husband, son and church, Margaret learns the lesson of what love truly means.

Peggy Jordan gives a fine performance as Margaret. Although she is not quite shrill enough in the beginning of the play, Margaret as a storefront preacher would have had a more frantic preaching style.

Ms. Jordan more than makes up for slightly underplaying the fire and brimstone aspect of Margaret by portraying in a fine way the duality of Margaret's character. The vulnerability is there and so is the appearance of being torn between the love of a man and a love of the ministry.

Bryant Alexander, except for a diction problem that garbled some of his dialogue gave a very subtle performance. His Luke seems to be man who has found peace in himself. His lUke appears to be a man who is calmly facing his fatal illness and trying to resolve the family conflicts that don't seem important as death approaches.

Verna Day gave her usual good performance as Odessa the sharp-tongued sister wo tries to protect Margaret. Ms. Day conveyed the strength and compassion of Odessa in a way that made her a very noble character.

The Coppin Dancers and choir members added greatly to the show.

The highest compliment that can be paid to Martha Saunders who played the usurper of the pastorship Sister Moore is that she was decidedly an unsympathetic character. Ms. Saunders was obvious trouble from the first scene, despite her character's protestations of humility and good intentions.

Germaine Jenkins gave a fine performance as Sister Boxer, one of the leaders of the rebellion against Margaret and Ben Prestbury was equally as good as the malicious, henpecked Brother Boxer who secretly resents being dominated by women.

Thomas Day as David, never got into character and so his attempt at portrayal seemed unfocused. He seemed to be meandering around the stage with little purpose. His diction problem also resulted in many of his lines being chewed up.

Despite some flaws the production was a strong one. Director Amini Johari Courts can be proud of the effort of the cast.

—Curtain Calls

Continued from page 5

remarkable attitude to life. Ladies, he is single, a hunk and available.

If by chance you felt left out of the Helen Hayes Awards last Monday evening, take heart, your time is at hand. Alfie Brown will be on hand. Alfie Brown will be back on stage at the Studio Stage this week in the critically acclaimed play, "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom".

The concept of this show is deceptively spare in design. If you can consider singing the Blues as part of the oral tradition, then you have an evening of theatre and entertainment in store that should be more than gratifying.

This will be the first production of the play outside of New York and Mrs. Brown's presence as Ma Rainey almost assures a high level of excellence in performance. Directing the play is Samuel P. Brown who came in from New York and felt that he might have difficulty in finding the right actors needed. He was looking for mature actors who could convey a feeling that is needed for this show. In Mrs. Brown, a former Howard University great, he has a truly excellent performing artist. If you saw her, as I did, in "Member of The Wedding" also at the Studio, you will look forward to this opening.

Cast in the show is the well known Bill Harris, Napolen Turner a radio personality, Joseph Pickney, an actor with impeccable credits and Valdred Doug Brown,

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The Tube

TV program guide
Friday, May 9, 1986 to Thursday, May 15, 1986
WEEKDAY DAYTIME REGULARS

FRIDAY MAY 9, 1986

	WMAR (2)	WRC (4)	WTTG (5)	WJLA (7)	WDVM (9)	WBAL (11)	WJZ (13)	WDCA (20)	WETA (26)	WHMM (32)	WBFF (45)	WMPB (67)	HBO
7:00	Today	Today	Insp. Gadget Jayce	Good Morning America	CBS Morning News	CBS Morning News	Good Morning America	Robotech Jetsons			Insp. Gadget Transformers	Business File Sesame Street	Puff Fraggle Rock
7:30	"	"	Fat Albert Flintstones	"	"	"	"	Heathcliff Bugs Bunny	Body Electric		GoBots Fat Albert	"	Movie: "Purple Rose
8:00	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	MacNeil / Lehrer		"	Mister Rogers	
8:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"		GoBots Fat Albert	"	Of Cairo"
9:00	Donahue	Love Conn. Password	I Love Lucy Andy Griffith	People's Court Lifestyles	Donahue	Divorce Court Break Bank	People Are Talking	W.O.W.! Kid's Break	Sesame Street	Jazzercobics Secret City	Ernest Angley	Secret City Educational	Movie: Of Cairo"
9:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	
10:00	Family Ties Good Times	Family Ties Sale Of Cent.	Jeannie Bewitched	Make A Deal Headline Ch.	C. Randolph S.J. Raphael	Pyramid Make A Deal	Hour Magazine	700 Club	Sesame Street	Special 3-2-1 Contact	Brady Bunch Andy Griffith	Programming	"Greystoke: The Legend Of
10:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	
11:00	Wheel Fortune Alice	Wheel Fortune Scrabble	Love Boat	New Love Ryan's Hope	Price Is Right	Price Is Right	Lifestyles New Love	Eye On Wash. Litv. & Shirley	Mister Rogers 3-2-1 Contact	Mister Rogers Anasa Briggs	Big Valley	In Recital	Tarzan, Lord Of The Apes"
11:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	
12:00	News Search Tom.	Here's Lucy Search Tom.	Panorama	News Loving	News Young And	News Young And	News Loving	Carson Movie:	In Schools Vict. Garden	MacNeil / Lehrer	Quincy	Educational	Movie: "The Ice
12:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	
1:00	Days Of Our Lives	Days Of Our Lives	Movie: "Walk, Don't	All My Children	The Restless As The World	The Restless As The World	All My Children	"Apache"	Courage Up In Arms	Evening Exchange	Movie: "The Turning	Programming	Pirates"
1:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	
2:00	Another World	Another World	Run"	One Life To Live	Turns Capitol	Turns Capitol	One Life To Live	Gilligan	Shakespeare	Great Space Race	Point"	We're Cooking	The Laundromat
2:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	
3:00	Santa Barbara	Santa Barbara	ThunderCats She-Ra	General Hospital	Guiding Light	Guiding Light	General Hospital	Voltron M.A.S.K.	Hour Reading	Mod. Maturity Gary Jenkins	Scooby Doo She-Ra	Sesame Street	Movie: "The Buddy
3:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	
4:00	Love Conn. People's Court	Hart To Hart	He-Man G.I. Joe	$1 Mil. Chance Sale Of Cent.	Hour Magazine	Sanford Jeffersons	General Hospital	GoBots Transformers	Sesame Street	Star Perf. Peter Gunn	He-Man ThunderCats	Mister Rogers Special	System"
4:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	
5:00	News	News	Day At A Time Alice	News	News	Barney Miller News	Diff. Strokes Taxi	Diff. Strokes W. Happening	Sesame Street	I Spy	G.I. Joe Brady Bunch	Lassie Colorsounds	Puff Survival
5:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	
6:00	News NBC News	News	Gimme Break Too Close	News ABC News	News	News CBS News	News	Jeffersons Jeffersons	3-2-1 Contact Business Rpt.	MacNeil / Lehrer	Star Trek	MacNeil / Lehrer	Movie:
6:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	
7:00	Wheel Fortune Jeopardy	NBC News Newlyweds	3's Company M*A*S*H	Jeopardy Ent. Tonight	CBS News Wheel Fortune	Newlyweds Price Is Right	ABC News Evening Mag.	Benson Sanford	MacNeil / Lehrer	Evening Exchange	Mork & Mindy All In Family	Alive Animals	"Blue Skies Again"
7:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	
8:00	Knight Rider	Knight Rider	PM Magazine Carol Burnett	Webster Movie:	Charlie & Co. Leo & Liz	Charlie & Co. Leo & Liz	Webster Movie:	Movie: "The Green	Wash. Week Wall St. Wk.	Enterprise Wall St. Wk.	Movie: "Tobruk"	Wash. Week Wall St. Wk.	"Incredible Shrinking
8:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	
9:00	Last Precinct	Last Precinct	Dynasty	"Thunderball"	Dallas	Dallas	"Thunderball"	Berets"	Great Performances	Mystery!	"	Great Performances	Woman"
9:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	Movie:
10:00	Miami Vice	Miami Vice	News	"	Falcon Crest	Falcon Crest	"	"	"Grown Ups"	Mapp & Lucia	Trapper John, M.D.	"Grown Ups"	"Purple Rose Of Cairo"
10:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	
11:00	News Benson	News Tonight	WKRP Kojak	News Nightline	News Music Video	News M*A*S*H	News Ent. Tonight	Barney Miller Wrestling	Metro Week Berlin	Star Perf. Peter Gunn	Too Close Tonight	SCTV Secret Agent	Not News "Richard Pryor
11:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	Movie:
12:00	WKRP Friday Videos	Friday Videos	Star Search	Ent. Tonight Movie	Connection Dance Fever	Magnum, P.I.	Nightline Solid Gold	Jim & Tammy	"	Business Rpt.	Ind. News	"	Live On The Sunset Strip"
12:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	

SATURDAY MAY 10, 1986

	WMAR (2)	WRC (4)	WTTG (5)	WJLA (7)	WDVM (9)	WBAL (11)	WJZ (13)	WDCA (20)	WETA (26)	WHMM (32)	WBFF (45)	WMPB (67)	HBO
7:00	Woody Woodpecker	Studio 4 3 Stories	Insight Veg. Soup	Kidsworld Weekend	Pole Position Get Along	Garden Living Look At It	Greatest American Hero	700 Club			Beaver Gilligan	Behavior From Socrates	Movie: "Rhinestone"
7:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"		"	"	
8:00	Snorks Tom & Jerry	Snorks Gummi Bears	Newsbag Rainbow Brite	Pink Panther Littles	Wuzzles B'stain Bears	Urban Scene Heads Up	Pink Panther Littles	Ernest Angley	Sesame Street		Open Wide Black Forum	To Sartre Society	Cont'd Movie:
8:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"		"	"	
9:00	Smurfs	Smurfs	Popples Ulysses 31	Bugs Bunny	Muppets	Muppets	Bugs Bunny	Jim And Tammy	Sesame Street	Wash. Week Wall St. Wk.	James Kennedy	Society Behavior	"Testament"
9:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	
10:00	Punky	Punky	Star Trek	Laff-Lympics Ewoks &	Hulk Hogan	Hulk Hogan	Laff-Lympics Ewoks &	Happening Puttin' On	Mod. Maturity Wash. Week	1986 Howard University	Movie: "Key Largo"	Behavior Write Course	Movie: "Gotcha!"
10:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	
11:00	Chipmunks Super Sat.	Chipmunks Kidd Video	Movie: "Uzzna's	Droids Super Powers	Richie Rich In Our Lives	Richie Rich It's Academic	Droids Super Powers	Wrestling	Metro Week Journal	Commen-cement	"	Write Course Adult Years	"
11:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
12:00	Mr. T In Baseball	Mr. T Spider-Man	Raid"	Up The Beat American	Music City Movie:	Dukes Of Hazzard	Weekend Kids Baffle	Movie: "The Pink	Wall St. Wk. Am. Interests	"	Movie: "The Purple	Humanities Rel. Quest	Movie: "The Pilot"
12:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
1:00	Baseball Cincinnati	Baseball Reds at Mets	Movie: "Duel At	Bandstand Lone Ranger	"Not Guilty!"	W. Happening Look At It	Movie: "The Great	Panther Strikes Again"	Money World Innovation	"	Plain"	Managing Nova	"
1:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
2:00	Reds at New York Mets	or Padres at Cubs	Diablo"	"	PGA Golf Byron Nelson	Movie: "A Fine Pair"	Race"	Movie: "Revenge Of	Gourmet Fr. Dining	Bodywatch Old House	Get Smart Be Thinner	"	Houseworks	Movie: "Squizzy
2:30	"	"	"	Forest Hills	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
3:00	"	"	Movie: "The	Tennis Tournament	Classic NBA	"	"	The Pink Panther"	Cookery Vict. Garden	Oil Painting Ceramics	Soul Train	Old House Vict. Garden	Taylor"
3:30	"	"	"	"	"	NBA	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
4:00	Kung Fu	In Baseball Monster	Scalphunters"	of Champions	Basketball Playoff	Basketball Playoff	Charlie's Angels	Star Games	Old House Bodywatch	Ceramics S. Previews	Wrestling	Cats & Dogs Oil Painting	Movie: "Beat Street"
4:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
5:00	Hunter	Trucks Fantasy Island	Soul Train	Indy 500 Trials	Game	Game	Indy 500 Trials	Greatest American Hero	S. Previews Around Town	Matinee At The Bijou	Check It Out! It's A Living	Motorweek S. Previews	"
5:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
6:00	News Next Question	News NBC News	Fame	News ABC News	News CBS News	News Urban Scene	ABC News News	Small Wonder Happening	Masterpiece Theatre	Newton	T. Knight Dance Fever	Newsrap Lassie	Movie: "Rhinestone"
6:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
7:00	Fame	Business McLaughlin	3's Company Movie:	Jeopardy Point To Point	Agronsky Wheel Fortune	Happening Small Wonder	At The Movies Square Off	Solid Gold	Nature	Dance Connection	Hee Haw	Robin Hood	"
7:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
8:00	Gimme Break Facts Of Life	Gimme Break Facts Of Life	"Vertigo"	Mr. Sunshine Joe Bash	Crazy Like A Fox	Crazy Like A Fox	Mr. Sunshine Joe Bash	Movie: "Hell Is For	Nature Of Things	WndrWks.	Lifestyles	Jacques Cousteau	Movie: "Gotcha!"
8:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
9:00	Golden Girls 227	Golden Girls 227	"	Miss Hollywood	Airwolf	Airwolf	Miss Hollywood	Heroes"	Explore	American Playhouse	Noah Beasts	Heart Of The Dragon	"
9:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
10:00	Remington Steele	Remington Steele	News	Pageant	Magnum, P.I.	Magnum, P.I.	Pageant	Return To Eden	Non-Fiction Television	Ad Lib Ad Lib	Dragons Get Smart	Mapp & Lucia	Howie Mandel
10:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
11:00	News Saturday	News Saturday	Archie Bunker "Warriors Of	News ABC News	News Magnum, P.I.	News Wrestling	News Shake Down	Benny Hill Movie:	Berlin	Saturday Nite Sing	Get Smart Dark Shadows	Austin City Limits	Movie: "The
11:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"
12:00	Night Live	Night Live	The Wasteland"	Entertainment This Week	McGarrett	Movie	Movie	"Curse Of The Undead"		Bobby Jones	Movie		Terminator"
12:30	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"	"

SUNDAY MAY 11, 1986

	WMAR (2)	WRC (4)	WTTG (5)	WJLA (7)	WDVM (9)	WBAL (11)	WJZ (13)	WDCA (20)	WETA (26)	WHMM (32)	WBFF (45)	WMPB (67)	HBO
7:00	Jimmy Swaggart	3 Stories First Light	Jimmy Swaggart	Peter Popoff Discovery	World Tom. Sunday Mass	Later Years Urban Scene	Real To Reel Workshop	700 Club Jimmy			Kenneth Copeland	Te Maori	"Rocky" Cont'd
7:30	Lift Voice Oral Roberts	Voyagers	Frederick K. Price	Bauman Bible	Oral Roberts R. Schuller	Gospel Essence	Black Sheep Squadron	Swaggart Funtastic	Sesame Street		Rocky Robotech	Non-Fiction Television	Movie: "Talk To Me"