—Best Bets—

CONCERTS

'Summerfest'

The Baltimore Symphony Orchestra will hold a three-week music festival on the life and music of Ludwig van Beethoven. "Summerfest" will open on July 10 and will run through July 26. All performances will begin at 7:30. For further information call 727-7300.

ART

Summer Art Classes

School #33 Art Center will sponsor an art program for children and young adults from July 15 through August 9. The month long course will be held on Tuesday-Friday mornings from 10 a.m. until noon. Advanced registration is required. For further information, call 396-4641.

Black Artist Invitational

A show of painting, sculpture, photography and quilting at the Life of Maryland Gallery, Baltimore Life Insurance Building will be on display now through August 15. The exhibit is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., and includes works by such artists as Thomas Stockett, Walter Coleman, James W. Barefoot, Nathaniel K. Gibbs, Gerald D. Hawkins, William E. Joyner, Herb Lee, Elizabeth Scott, Jose Solorzano, Duane Thigpen and Pat Ward Williams. For further information, call 539-7900.

THEATRE

'Cole'

Loyola College will present "Cole", based on the words and music of Cole Porter. The show will open on July 10. For further information, call 532-5024.

"Ma Rainey's Black Bottom"

The Studio Theatre in Washington, D.C. is announcing an extension for the current production, "Ma Rainey's Black Bottom." Performances are Wednesday through Sunday at 8 p.m. and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. For further information, call (202) 265-7412.

SPECIAL EVENTS

'Little People's Program'

The "Little People's Program" will return to the Inner Harbor this summer, every Tuesday and Thursday through August 28. Each show will begin at 12:15 and will feature clown acts, musicians and a host of other entertainment of interest to children. For further information, call 837-4636.

'Turtle Derby'

The 45th Annual Chesapeake Turtle Derby, will be held in War Memorial Plaza on July 9. Owners may enter their turtles which must have a shell size of at least three and one half inches. Turtles and their "jockeys" must report to the Plaza stage by 11:00 a.m. on the day of the race to register. For further information, call 396-4891.

Ice Cream Festival

The Lexington Market will host the 1986 Ice Cream Festival on July 11 and 12 from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. Their will be eating and dancing contests and a host of other activities. For further information, call 685-6169.

'Second Time Around'

The Arena Players, Inc. will present "Second Time Around" starring Mary West Miller, July 11-August 3 (weekends only) as part of the Summer Series '86. For more information call 728-6500.

Lunchtime Concerts

The sounds of jazz and big band music will be featured every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday with Mid-Town Music '86 at Hopkins Plaza through August 29. Each concert will begin at 12 noon and will last for about an hour. Call 752-8632 for further information and a complete listing of guest appearances.

EXHIBITS

Enoch Pratt's World

Photographs, memorabilia, documents, and newspaper articles recreate the life and times of the founder of the Enoch Pratt Free Library. "Enoch Pratt's World: A Centennial Exhibition" will be on display now through December, 1986. For further information, call 396-5494.

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Jennifer Holliday headlines Harborlights Music Festival

WITH SPECIAL GUEST STAR "STAR SEARCH 1984" WINNER DURELL COLEMAN

Soul, pop, R&B sounds and the unqiue music of Broadway will fill the Inner Harbor as **Jennifer Holliday** performs at the Pier 6 Concert Pavilion, Saturday, July 5 at 8 p.m. **Durell Coleman,** STAR SEARCH 1984 male vocalist winner will open show.

Born and raised in Houston, Texas, Ms. Holliday's earliest musical experience was in the choir of her local church, the Rev. C.L. Jackson's Pleasant Grove Baptist. She came to the attention of local producers who, in 1978, staged a production of DON'T BOTHER ME I CAN'T COPE.

On a friend's suggestion, she went to New York to audition for Broadway, where she soon landed the lead role in YOUR ARMS TOO SHORT TO BOX WITH GOD, and within two years was signed as a recording artist to Geffen Records.

In June of 1980, Jennifer Holliday became part of the "Project 19" workshop at the request of lyricist Tom Eyen and composer Henry Kreiger. "Project 19" developed into DREAMGIRLS, which opened in December of 1981 to rave notices and went on to win six Tonys, including one for Ms. Holliday as Best Actress in a Musical.

The hit song from DREAMGIRLS, "And I'm Telling You I'm Not Going," likewise earned her a Grammy award as Best R & B Female Vocalist.

In August of 1983, **Jennifer Holliday's** debut album, "Feel My Soul," was released and soon after she left **DREAMGIRLS** to pursue her solo career full time. In February of 1985, she came back to musical theatre for THE WIZ choreographer George Faison's SING, MAHALIA, SING, portraying the legendary gospel singer, **Mahalia Jackson.**

Durrell Coleman

When **SING, MAHALIA, SING** closed, **Jennifer Holliday** went back to working on her singing career and her latest album, "Say You Love Me," working with various producers, and with **Michael Jackson** on one cut..

Durell Coleman, on his first appearance on STAR SEARCH in 1984, won the competition with "Breaking Up Is Hard To Do," then went on to win thirteen consecutive appearances, as well as winning the Best Male Vocalist title.

Coleman was the only vocalist in the history of the show to retire undefeated, a fitting accolade for a performer who worked for 15 years in his native town of Roanoke, Virginia to gain the respect he now has.

But even after winning the male vocalist competition and its $100,000 cash prize, he kept his job in a convalescent hospital in Los Angeles. One of his patients turned out to be Tony Orlando's mother-in-law, and upon a visit and later conservation, Orlando eagerly asked for a tape. Subsequently he met and signed with Orlando's manager Sherwin Bash, and soon after was signed to a recording contract with Island Records.

The result is his debut album, "Durell Coleman," an album that immediately spawned a bulleting hit single, "Somebody Took My love."

Tickets for the Jennifer Holliday and Durell Coleman concert are $15.00 for reserved pavilion seating and $8.00 for the lawn.

For additional information call the Pier Six Box Office at (301) 727-5580.

'Friday Night Videos' honors 'Cosby Show'

"Friday Night Videos" will present a special tribute to NBC's "The Cosby Show" in an edition featuring interviews with guest hosts **Lisa Bonet, Malcolm-Jamal Warner** and **Phylicia** and **Ahmad Rashad.** The program will be telecast at 12:30 a.m. on July 4.

"Invisible Touch" by Genesis, "Love Zone" by **Billy Ocean,** "Born in the U.S.A." by Bruce Springsteen and "Headed for the Future" by Neil Diamond will be among the featured videos.

"Invisible Touch" is the title track from Genesis' 16th album — its first since 1983. The group is noted for members Phil Collins and Mike Rutherford ("All I Need is a Miracle").

"Love Zone" is Ocean's second single and title cut from his current album. It follows his hit song, "There'll Be Sad Songs (To Make You Cry)." Previous hits by Ocean include "Caribbean Queen" and "Loverboy."

Lisa Bonet

Malcolm-Jamal Warner

"Born in the U.S.A." by Springsteen is FNV's salute to the 4th of July. This hit single is the title song of the Springsteen album that has sold over 14 million copies to date.

"Headed for the Future" is Diamond's first single in several years. Diamond began his career as a songwriter for the 60s band The Monkees, writing their hit, "I'm A Believer." He struck out on his own in 1966. He has had 36 Top 40 hits, including "Sweet Caroline," "Cracklin' Rosie," "Song Sung Blue" and "Love On The Rocks." In 1980 he produced and starred in the film "The Jazz Singer."

Bonnie Matthews Butler

Meanderings and Meditation

Lately, I have attended several concerts held at the Civic Center that catered to the young set. There was the **New Edition** concert, the Sprite Fresh Festival featuring the **Fat Boys, The Force M.D.'s** and **Kurtis Blow** and then, the latest, the "Raising Hell" tour featuring **Rum DMC.**

The one thing that struck me as intresting was the fact that most of the rap groups don't use a live band. The only presence on the stage besides the artist are turntables and DJ's and people acting as atmosphere.

Though **New Edition** and **The Force M.D.'s** have live bands, **Kurtis Blow, The Fat Boys** and all of the acts on the "Raising Hell" Tour **(Run DMC, Whodini** and **L.L. Cool J)** didn't. The people in the audience didn't seem to care.

At the Run-DMC concert, each group was on the stage for approximately 45 minutes wiggling their bodies, taking off their clothing, scratching their private parts and cursing like sailors while in the background, the DJ scratched out a tune. The kids were on their feet screaming and hollering like the world was coming to an end.

Now, I'll be the first to admit that I'm of a different generation and I'll concede the fact that I grew up with different musical tastes but we must admit the facts. This generation adores the rap genre of music and it looks like it is here to stay for a while.

I'm equally convinced of this when I pick up my copy of *Amusement Business,* a publication by Billboard Magazine that lists the grosses of concerts around the country, and see that in Los Angeles, the "Raising Hell" tour grossed $209,961, $169,960 in Atlanta, Georgia, $147,951 in San Diego, $138,663 in Memphis, Tenn., $120,639 in Nashville and $111,638 in Birmingham, Alabama.

That's only the tip of the iceburg. There are commercial endorsements and record sales to add to the take.

While all of this money is coming out of the communities around the country, it was good to know that these young artists visit the cities they are performing in and mingle with the crowd that adores them.

Run-DMC not only visited the local radio stations and Charley Rudos in Mondawmin (the latter to promote "My Adidas," their current hit single), but stopped by the AFRO's CLEAN BLOCK meeting at the McCulloh Homes. Tickets to their concert were also made available to the CLEAN BLOCK workers.

These attitudes are positive and do a lot of good. Their songs and stage presence, however, is another story.

* * *

This Tuesday, we'll be heading over to the 20 Grand to present **J.B. Brown** of V-103 his award for being selected the **Friday Plus** Best Club DJ for 1985.

J.B. is known for his oldies show, "Countdown To Love" and I understand he has the only

Continued on page 4

L.L. Cool J (right) raps about "his radio" at the "Raising Hell" concert at the Civic Center Saturday.

Whodini had no props during their portion of the concert held last Saturday at the Civic Center.

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