COMMUNITY LIVING

Kids steal show at Southwest street festival

CRACKLING — Teinesa Penn impressed the sidewalk audience by her portrayal of the Wicked Witch of the West in the Hollins Street performance.

By Carrington Bonner
AFRO Correspondent

Although the music of 18 bands and good food dominated advertisements for the Sowebohemain festival last week in the 11-1200 block of Hollins St. the spotlight was taken by performers for and by children.

The neighborhood kids (all from James McHenry Elementary) performed the Wizard of Oz in front of an enthusiastic crowd and proud parents.

"I love it because I love kids, I don't have to say anything else," said Eugene E. Chaney, a local resident.

Tita Rutledge, teasingly called chairperson of the Kiddie committee, said it was a combination of two months of practice, two days a week and controlling minor behavioral problems that culminated into a fine performance.

When it came time to perform, the children surprised everyone with their stage presence, diction and dealing with the unexpected.

A small wind continually blew the stage set away and interrupted the play but the audience stood in the mid day heat patiently, sometimes applauding.

Great performances were acted out by Nicole Comegys as Dorothy who set the pace with affection and good delivery. Teinesa Penn as the wicked witch brought out continual humor and applause from the more than 85 people on the sidewalk milling about on Hollins St.

Antoine Heughan played the Scarecrow, Walter McCoy the tin man and Norris Smith acted out the saviour himself, the Wizard.

Fred Collins, a member of the committee said it was a project for the kids "to have fun, share a learning experience" and "have them feel good about themselves."

The Black Cherry Puppet theatre performed several shoes in front of Hollins Market including Hansel and Gretel, Waiting for the Bus, Punch and Judy, throughout the day.

"Fate made me get into this," Mike Lamason said, adding that he never saw a puppet show before he started coordinating Black Cherry Puppets.

The puppets moved near perfection to taped music. The recorded music worked because of the clear voices narrating the stories and the realism projected for the sound effects.

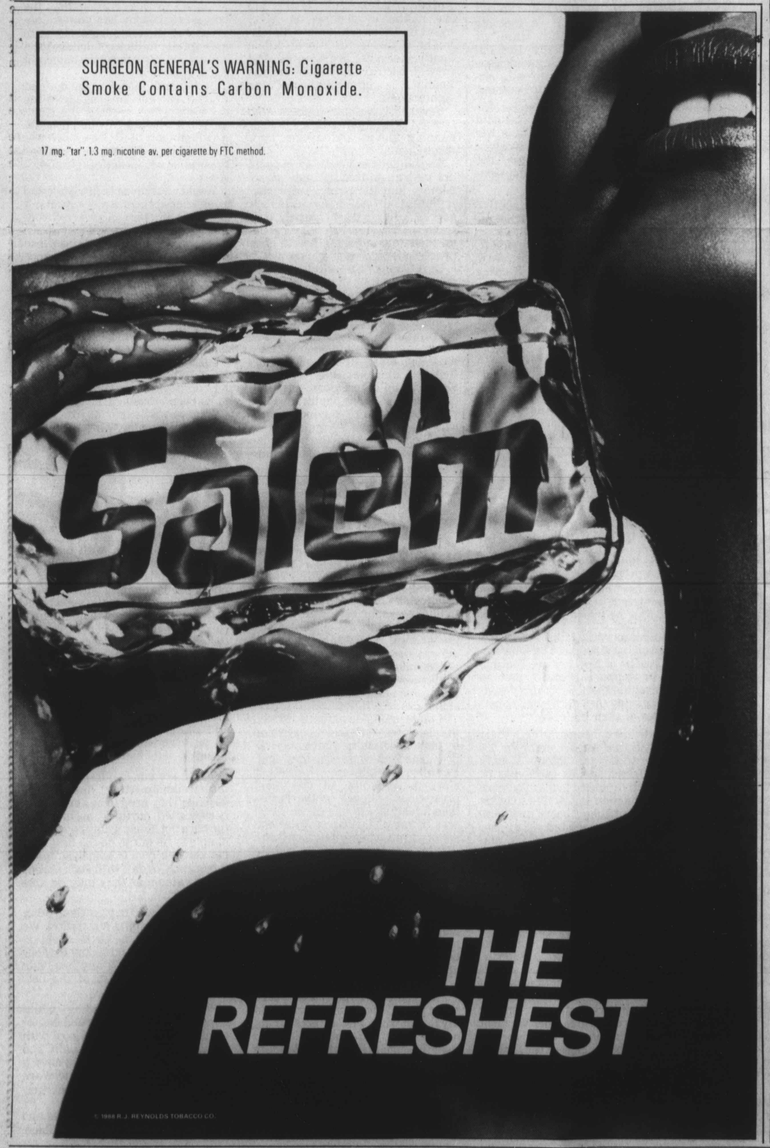
Laughing Tree performed for older kids. They are a music theatre that played fusion music dressed as giant insects invading earth in the 21st century. Overall, children of all ages enjoyed the festivities as well as the adults. Joe Fields, a member of the children's committee said it best describing the kids, "there's never a dull moment."

Photos by Alice M. Wells

KANSAS IN THE CITY — Antoine Heughan, Walter McCoy, Nicole Comegys, and Norris Smith performed the Wizard of Oz at the Sowebohemian Festival on the 11-1200 block of Hollins Street. The children will present the play Wednesday, June 8 and Thursday, June 9 at the James McHenry Elementary School, 31 S. Schroeder Street.

SURGEON GENERAL'S WARNING: Cigarette Smoke Contains Carbon Monoxide.

17 mg. "tar", 1.3 mg. nicotine av. per cigarette by FTC method.



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Community Calendar

Infertility program offered

RESOLVE of Maryland, a non-profit organization that offers peer support and education for infertility, is holding its next monthly program meeting on Thursday, June 9. The topic will be "How Do I Get Him/Her to Talk? A question and answer period will follow the program.

The meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. in the Fifth Floor Coffee Shop, Greater Baltimore Medical Center, 6701 North Charles Street, Exit 25 South off the Baltimore Beltway. The meeting is free and open to the public.

SPLASH THROUGH THE SUMMER with HC Library

The Howard County Library presents summer reading games with a beach theme. Our summer reading programs run from June 13-August 31, and are available at all library locations and bookmobiles. Even infants and toddlers can take part in this year's program. "Listening Lagoon" has been designed especially for children who are not reading independently. Appropriate book suggestions are available for children from infancy through the preschool years, and certificates and prizes will be awarded to children who listen to 20 books.

For more information about either game, contact the Central Library at 997-8000, ext. 254, or the Miller Branch at 461-7980.

Bedtime Stories for Toddlers

Children's Services will present a Bedtime Storytime for 3-5 years olds. This program will be held at the Miller Branch, 9421 Frederick Road, on Thursday, June 9, from 7-7:30 p.m.

Registration is not required for this drop-in program, and children are invited to come in their pajamas. For more information, contact the Miller Branch at 461-7980.

Free Glaucoma Screening

Free Glaucoma screening will be offered by the Katzen Eye Group at 11 a.m. on Wednesday, June 8, at the OASIS Center, downtown Hecht's, for people 60 years of age or older. Call 396-4799.

June Day Carnival planned

The Rosewood Center Auxiliary will sponsor the annual June Day Carnival, Wednesday, June 8, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. on the grounds of the Rosewood School. This year's theme is "Festival of Music". There will be food booths, continuous music, and crafts made by the clients in their workshops for sale. A balloon ascension will be held and every retarded client will receive a balloon. Entertainment will be provided by: Bob Barber Band, Jerry Toronto Productions, Oriole Bird, Bonnie and Stan, and Sammy Ross - "Walk-Around".

Volunteers are needed to escort wheelchair clients to the activities. Call Special Services: 363-2725.

In case of rain, all the activities will be held in the Rosewood School. Chairman of June Day is Mrs. John Seymour, Co-chairman, Mrs. Fran Macsherry, President of the Rosewood Center Auxiliary is Mrs. Lola Williar.

Self Esteem Seminar-offered

Howard County General Hospital will offer a BUILDING SELF ESTEEM SEMINAR as part of its Positive Health Program. Designed to improve one's self worth, the seminar covers the psychology of high self esteem, effective communication skills, creative imagery, and techniques to end self sabotage.

The seminar can be attended for four Wednesdays, June 8, 15, 22 and 29. from 7 to 9 p.m. or for a one day workshop on Saturday, June 25, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call 740-7600.

Conference held on Blacks in Higher Education

The Black Faculty and Staff Association of the University of Maryland College Park is sponsoring the second annual conference for Blacks in higher education June 8 - 10 at the Holiday Inn of College Park.

The conference will address such problems as the declining representation of Blacks among faculty and administrators, the increasingly hostile campus climates for black and other minority students and staff, and the need for better recruitment and retention programs for black students.

For more information about the conference and/or to obtain an entry form, call 454-4954.

SPORTS

Showtime 6B
High School Sports 3B
Strictly Personal 5B

SAM LACY

Chivalry

It isn't often that I desert the girls . . . . Whenever any quitting is done, more often than not it is she who does the quitting, not I.

Even now, it isn't a complete divorce that I am about to undertake . . . . It's more in the nature of a trial separation . . . . You've heard of those, I'm sure.

Just for now

Anyway, I am sorely tempted to drop the little 4-legged woman I clung to so steadfastly in the first two races of the thoroughbred Triple Crown: Winning Colors.

As the world knows by now, the 3-year-old grey filly ran away from the boys in the Kentucky Derby on May 7, then came back two weeks later to be brutalized in the Preakness where she finished third to Risen Star.

The best but...

Really, friends, there is no doubt in my mind that Winning Colors is the best 3-year-old in training . . . . On second thought, perhaps I should say she WAS the best horse on the 3-year-old horizon until the May 21 race at Pimlico where she was victimized by rival trainer Woody Stephens, who used his own colt Forty-Niner as a weapon to keep her from continuing toward racing's first Triple Crown filly.

So now, after a stunning win in the Derby and after withstanding a physical beating in the Preakness, Winning Colors comes to the Belmont . . . At a mile-and-a-half, this Saturday's race in New York is the most gruelling of the three tests.

Ambush awaits

And it is a curious essence of Triple Crown history that some cagey trainer seems always to be rested animal to take on the tourists.

The way Coastal torpedoed the highly touted — and talented — Spectacular Bid in 1979 . . . as Summing halted Pleasant Colony in 1981 . . . and in the fashion that Conquistador Cielo upset Aloma's Ruler in 1982.

Spectacular Bid and Pleasant Colony had won both Derby and Preakness in their years and were favored to go on to join the previous 11 Triple Crown champions . . . . But the hidden New York entries cancelled the champagne.

Chivalry ain't...

To prove the lie in the often-used lament that "chivalry is dead," I'm only going into this trial separation from my equine darling until the AFRO's late-week editions . . . . A longer look at the others is needed.

You see, my feeling is that it is a little much to ask a female horse to absorb the physical pressures of two hard races in two weeks and be ready for the hardest of all within the span of five weeks.

One more week of complete rest for her would have me back on her back for the Belmont . . . . TWO more weeks to get ready and she and I would go to the windows — Desert Star, Private Terms, Brian's Time and the rest notwithstanding.

Notable quotable

The late Hall of Fame pitcher Satchel Paige, on why he called one of his most reliable pitches his "be ball": "Because it always be where I want it to be."

SPORTS on deck

BELMONT HEDGING: Sports columnist Sam Lacy, fearing the kind of ambush for which the third race in the Triple Crown is famous, ducks a commitment until the late-week editions (1st Sports).

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PROVING ITS WORTH: The alumni of Baltimore's Project Survival youth program offer proof that the effort produces a blend of outstanding academic talent as well as topline basketball prospects for colleges (1st Sports).

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THE SECOND ACE: Another of a generation of highly perceptive black sportswriters follows Art Carter in death. Joe Bostic's story touched upon (1st Sports).

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LOOKOUT, JACKIE: Here comes Gail Devers doing a great imitation of the Joyner-Kersee expertise in heptathlon competition (2nd Sports).

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OLYMPIC SKEPTICISM: South Korean authorities admit concerns over the threat of terrorist infiltration at the Summer Olympic scene (2nd Sports).

Lori to the rescue in Paris tennis

Tennis fans pulling for black accomplishments in the French Open at Paris last week, were in their final gasps when reward came.

It came in the nature of a mixed doubles championship for Lori McNeil, the 23-year-old Houstonian, who had bowed out earlier in women's singles and doubles along with all the other black contestants.

Teamed with Jorge Lozano of Mexico, Lori vanquished Martina Navratilova and Emilio Sanchez on Friday. She and her partner then won the final, bouncing Brenda Schultz and Michael Schapers of the Netherlands, 7-5, 6-2.

Winning Colors with trainer D. Wayne Lukas

Joe Bostic is buried

Funeral services were held last weekend in New York for Joseph W. "Joe" Bostic, a longtime sportswriter, radio commentator and ring announcer.

Death occurred last Sunday at the age of 79, at Southampton Hospital on Long Island.

After a brief stint in radio at Baltimore's WCBM — the demise of which also occurred last week — Bostic moved to New York where he became a serious journalist working with Dan Burley at the Amsterdam News and later moving to the People's Voice as sports and city editor.

In addition to pioneering at the Baltimore station, Joe became the first black announcer at boxing matches in the Madison Square Garden ring.

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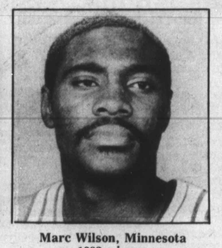
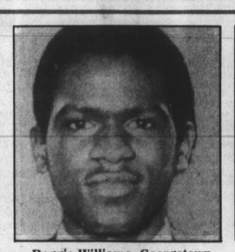
In 1944, with Wendell Smith, Bostic took first baseman Dave "Showboat" Thomas and pitcher Terris McDuffie to Ebbets Field for a tryout for the Dodgers.

Brooklyn officials, however, decided that Thomas at 33, and McDuffie at 32, were too old for their interest.

Virginia Sherman, Howard 1984 winner



Marc Wilson, Minnesota 1982 winner



Reggie Williams, Georgetown honored in 1983

Beth Smith, Loyola another '83 winner

Coretta Blake, Coppin State chosen in 1986

Project Youth: a splendid mix of talent

By Sam Lacy

Have you heard of Reggie Williams and David Wingate and Marc Wilson and David Gately?

Of course you have. All these young athletes established themselves as outstanding basketball players. Some even — like Williams and Wingate — were sufficiently outstanding to be playing with the world's finest in the National Basketball Association.

But, are you familiar with such names as Virginia Sherman and Coretta Blake and Kisha Street?

Maybe not, but . . . .

These are a few of the young people who came through Baltimore's enterprising Project Survival youth program, and today bear witness to the proof that program officials are making no false boast when they use the slogan "Project Survival — more than just basketball."

Survival, under the direction of Vernon Wolst and assistant Sharon Snyder Reichlyn, has given guidance to thousands of young Baltimoreans.

Moreover, the project is a mix of talent that produces in the classroom as well as in the athletic arena, and blends all boys and girls of all races, religions and complexions.

Virginia Sherman, a 1984 scholarship winner, is an excellent example of what these youngsters can achieve by combining their personal strength with a little outside encouragement.

Virginia was in the AFRO office the other day with her Cum Laude degree from Howard University, a slew of honors for her academic performance, trophies for her basketball contributions to the Lady Bison, and certification that she has been chosen to tour Europe in July with the Christian Outreach team.

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Coretta Black, another Survival honoree, returned to the 1988 dinner platform to tell an audience of 1500 that the scholarship awarded her in 1986 rescued her from a difficult financial burden and gave her the lift that has enabled her to pursue her work toward a degree in adolescent psychology at Coppin State College.

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And, within a few weeks aftershe was announced as one of the 1988 awards, Kisha Street penned the following letter:

"Dear Project Survival:

"I am happy and appreciative to be the (1988) recipient of the Sam Lacy Scholarship Award, and equally thankful to have been chosen Female Basketball Athlete of the Year.

"For five years I have played on the basketball team for the Flaghouse Recreation Center in the Project Survival Program. I am thankful for the opportunity Project Survival afforded me to improve upon my athletic ability on the court. The discipline over the years carried over into the classroom, and I am to graduate in June from Western High School with a diploma in the Advanced College Preparatory Course.

"The scholarship award is indeed a financial blessing and will cover a great portion of my tuition at Howard University, where I plan to major in electrical engineering . . . . Sincerely, Kisha Street."