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"David"

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"David," by artist Yolanda Bello, is the first issue in Yolanda's Precious Playmates, a new collection of porcelain dolls inspired by the joy of watching babies play together. "David's" head, arms, and legs are hand-cast bisque porcelain of natural black skin tone. He's dressed in hand-tailored tweed knickers with suspender straps, a matching cap and a dapper bow tie. Evaluated against The Uniform Grading Standards for Dolls developed by Ashton-Drake, "David" has been certified Premiere Grade — the Standards' highest rating and your assurance of superior artistry and craftsmanship. As an heirloom-quality doll with exceptional credentials, he may be a wise investment as well.

Acquire "David" now for only $69.95, complete with our One-Year Unconditional Guarantee. But hurry... he's issued in an exclusive, hand-numbered edition; so order today.
Will city seize chance to help black youth?

Not long ago, after The Herald-Mail ran a bunch of columns and stories on the Hagerstown Moose Lodge, a local conservative asked me if I really believed that racial discrimination is wrong, or was just trying to be politically correct.

Before I answer, I must note that no one proved that the Moose Lodge was guilty of racial discrimination. It didn't look good that a lodge of more than 7,000 strong didn't have any black members, but what appears to be is not necessarily what is.

But yes, racial discrimination is wrong. In fact, it's what wrong with the world today. The wars being fought in Bosnia and Rwanda are conflicts based on differences of race, tribe or culture. Serbs and Muslims who once lived side by side in apartment buildings in what used to be Yugoslavia are now killing each other.

And don't be smug about it; America has race-based problems too. The resurgence of anti-semitism is just one of them. We still have work to do to create a society where men and women will be judged, as the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. said, not by race but “by the content of their character.”

The Hagerstown Council has a chance to move this area a step toward that goal by funding an apprenticeship training program that would be run by Jonathan Street Task Force and Associated Builders and Contractors.

The head of the city's Community Development Department recently recommended that the council not include the program for funding in this year's Community Development Block Grant funding list, a recommendation the council can accept or reject.

The program would put needy youth into a building trades training program, an area in which ABC has decades of experience. Under the direction of building professionals, the youths would make needed repairs to buildings in their own community, then move on to seek work with private contractors.

City block grant officials say ABC’s program could be funded through a Department of Housing and Urban Development Department program called “Youthbuild.” Unfortunately, ABC officials say, they can't apply for Youthbuild money until May 1995.

So what's the big deal about waiting a year? The big deal is that Youthbuild is not a sure thing, while city grant money is. And if we agree that giving needy youth skills to make them employable is important, a year is too long to wait.

It is also too long to wait to begin changing racial attitudes here. As former NAACP official Donald Davis recently said, when black youths go into local government offices and into local businesses, they don't see many people of color.

What if, for example, such a training program made it easier for local white people to hire black tradespeople to do plumbing, carpentry or electrical work? I believe it would lead the white customers of black tradespeople to judge them not by the color of their skin, but by the quality of their work. And if something helps people see their neighbors in a way that transcends race, can that be a bad thing?

The argument that Youthbuild money will be available next year is not a good argument for not providing block grant funds for the program this year. In fact, the city could specify that this year's award is just a “bridge grant” until the Youthbuild money arrives.

The council won't finish the block grant budget until June, and the mayor says more detail on the program is needed: who would qualify for training, how long the program would last and so on. ABC has plenty of experience with apprenticeship programs and should be able to provide whatever is needed.

Then it will be up to council to decide whether it's more important to buy more old buildings, or to give local citizens a trade for the next century.

Bob Maginnis is the editorial page editor of The Herald-Mail.
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Planets the size of Jupiter, the largest in the solar system and almost 100 times the size of Earth, would be much more easily spotted, said Latham. And they would suggest that the target star has other planets.

"If you find a big one, then you can assume that there will be little ones," he said.

Three planets already have been found, but they are in orbit of a pulsar, a distant, rapidly rotating star that sends out powerful radio signals, but little light.

Aleksander Wolszczan, a radio astronomer at Pennsylvania State University, found the planets three years ago by measuring changes in the 160-per-second bursts of radio signals coming from the pulsar.

It is extremely unlikely that there is life on these planets.

"Being on those planets would be like standing in front of an X-ray machine and getting X-rayed 160 times a second," said Wolszczan.

Wolszczan said there is strong evidence of other planets about other pulsars, and this, in turn, supports the idea that there could be planets about more normal stars.

"The meaning of this discovery is that there should be planets elsewhere," he said. "If you can find planets around a weird object like a pulsar, then you should find them elsewhere."

Brown said the search for planets will concentrate on what he calls "the life zone" around stars. These orbits would be where the heat from the central star is enough to warm a planet, but not boil away water.

"Our understanding of life would require liquid water," Latham explained.

More advanced cameras to aid in the search will be placed on the Hubble in 1999 and still other instruments will be attached in 2002 and 2005.

Eventually, said Brown, the search could involve instruments placed in libration points — areas in deep space where the gravity pull of the Earth is neutralized and objects stay in one place. He said two or more instruments could be teamed to act as one massive infrared telescope capable of taking images of small objects near distant stars.

It may take such instruments to remove any doubt about the existence of other planets, said Latham.

"To prove it," he said, "we'll have to take a picture of it."
Washington County Veterans to Hold Joint Parade

Veterans groups holding ceremonies on Memorial Day are a tradition across the nation. But this Saturday the veterans in Washington County hope to start a new annual event by holding their first Armed Forces Day Parade.

The Joint Veterans Council, which is comprised of the various agencies, has organized a day full of remembrance and celebration.

Events will start at 9 a.m., when the city of Hagerstown and Joint Veterans Council will be dedicating a Medal of Honor Triangle at the intersection of Jonathan Street and Charles Streets.

From 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., more than 60 units are expected to march in a parade down Potomac Street. Among them will be military and veterans groups as well as the school bands from Clear Spring High, Middletown High, Northern Middle, Smithsburg Middle, South High and Western Heights Middle.

Later, at South High, a wreath-laying ceremony and family entertainment are planned.

Potomac’s Water Quality Has Improved, Expert Says

By THOMAS HARMAN
Journal Staff Writer

MARTINSBURG, W.Va. — The Potomac River is in better shape today than it was 20 years ago, primarily because water treatment plants have been developed for nearly every community along the river, according to a former director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

John Gottshalk, former head of the wildlife service, spoke Saturday after the annual dinner of the Potomac Valley Audubon Society at the McFarland House in Martinsburg, W.Va.

“The Potomac is vastly better than it was 20 years ago because of all the work that’s been done with water treatment facilities,” he said. “It’s not in that bad of a shape now.”

Gottshalk said the Potomac’s main pollution problem results from excess farm manure that runs off the land and into the Potomac’s tributaries.

The Potomac is in better condition than the Chesapeake Bay, the body of water into which it empties, he said.

People used to assume the bay was an effective place to dump pollutants because they eventually would be swept out to sea. They have been proven wrong, Gottshalk says.

“The bay is one great big sump,” he said.

In the summer months, there is an 80 percent reduction in the amount of livable water in the bay. Gottshalk cited several forms of pollution in the bay, among them the combination of metals and acid rain in the water and the growth of algae, which consumes the oxygen in the water.

He said tighter restrictions have been placed on companies dumping into the bay. Also, stiffer standards have been placed on sewage treatment plants that use the bay in Virginia, Pennsylvania, the District of Columbia and Maryland.

Gottshalk said the reduction in the use of pesticides has greatly improved the condition of birds of prey such as the osprey and the bald eagle, which has been sighted in recent years in the Potomac Valley of West Virginia.

However, other new problems face environmentalists, and acid rain is one of the largest.

“We’re running into things we didn’t know about 20 years ago,” he said.

Gottshalk, 75, traveled from Arlington, Va., to speak to the group about the state of birds of prey in the Middle East and brought an accompanying slide show.

He made the trip to the Middle East last year as part of the Third International Conference on Birds of Prey. The journey took him throughout Israel, including areas of potential danger.

“It was the only time I’ve birded behind barbed wire... and gun emplacements,” he said.

He said the trip was run by Israelis, who would sometimes take hours to determine a safe place for the group to eat.
James Garner: one of the real men

By TOM SHALES

HOLLYWOOD — James Garner is one of the last of the real men on the screen. And off it. He's helped to change the perception of how a real man behaves with his portrayals of "Maverick" in the '50s and Jim Rockford of "The Rockford Files" in the '70s. These were heroes who had the good sense to avoid a fight if at all possible.

Garner, who gives the performance of his life (so far) in the ABC movie "Heartsmains," airing tomorrow, says both "Maverick" and "Rockford" were conceived as antecedents to the prevailing macho images of their times.

"Jim Rockford was no less macho than anybody else; he just did it in a different way," Garner says. "If you go back and look, when 'Maverick' originally came on the air, there were 17 Westerns. And the heroes in every one of them were steely-eyed and strong and brave. And Maverick came on and said, 'Wait, don't do that' (he acts as if he's about to be punched) and stuck his tongue in his cheek, and that was the end of the Western because we kind of punched holes in the balloon.

"You take 'Rockford,' we did the same thing. There were how many detective shows on the air then — two? And we came on and said, 'No no, you don't have to be that, that's not right,' and it kind of stopped those, too. So we punched holes in a lot of movies." Garner says his new film "Taste of Broadway" is another attempt to get away from the kind of roles that "Maverick" and "Rockford" represented.

Garner says he now looks forward to turning into "Melvyn Douglas or Wallace Beery" and giving up the tough guy parts. "I'm tired of this. I'm 56 years old, I've got no business doing that macho leading man crap. I'm too old for it, physically too beat and mentally too beat. I'm at the point where people are not going to believe that macho hero type.

"It also says he won't do another television series, preferring to look around at other options. This season, in addition to "Heartsmains," Garner will star in "The Glitter Dome" for Home Box Office (in November) and in "Space," a big-bang miniseries that CBS will show in February.

"I'm looking around to see what's what," Garner says. "I know I don't like miniseries. I learned that on 'Space.' I just don't care for the format. The format is just terrible. I haven't worked in three weeks. I worked one day in all that time. And I am not involved. I'm used to going to work every day and totally involving myself in my work. I can't do that in this. I work three days, I'm off a week; it's just not my style.

"James Garner is a world-class complainer. He loves to grumble around about the unfairness of it all. Beneath the growling is a pussycat, a prince, a man with an incurable likeability that wears well on television. If he doesn't think of himself as a hero in real life, he does believe in villains. For instance, he thinks his 1982 series "Bret Maverick," an attempt to revive the character he introduced in 1957, was canceled out of dumb network whim. "I was the third best show that NBC had that season, and they canceled it," he says. Network executives in New York "don't know nor care about Middle America. That's why they put what they do on television, because these people get in their limos in Connecticut and drive to New York and go up into their buildings and go to lunch at a restaurant and they don't know what goes on outside Manhattan. They just don't care. They have no feeling for it."

His favorite villains are the people who run the movie business in Hollywood. "I feel like I'm in a business with the biggest bunch of crooks you could ever get together," he says. "The Mafia's not as big as these people. They don't hold a candle to them. They can do it with a pencil."

In particular he has grievances against Universal Studios, whom Garner claims has gyped him out of the profits he's entitled to from reruns of "The Rockford Files" that are still playing on TV stations all over the country and at all hours of the day. In 1983, Garner filed a $22.5 million lawsuit against Universal claiming he was defrauded out of his just earnings.

"I feel like I worked for the Charlie Manson family working for Universal," Garner says now. The suit is still pending.

One thing that does not make Garner at all angry is the fact that an actor named Lee Horsley is doing what seems a blatant imitation of him — the sardonic delivery — in the ABC series "Matt Houston." Garner says, "Everybody told me he's trying to sound like me ... But hell, he's making a living at it, good for him. Why would it bother me? It doesn't bother me."

Garner thinks about it a minute and then smiles a guilty smile, "Besides," he says, "it's better than me trying to be like Lee Horsley."

The writer is a syndicated columnist.

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CBS, ABC news programs delay broadcast about Nevada senator

NEW YORK (AP) — CBS’s "60 Minutes" and ABC’s "World News Tonight" decided to delay broadcasting reports about Sen. Paul Laxalt, R-Nev., after the networks each received letters questioning the credibility of the major source of the stories.

Both networks confirmed yesterday that they were continuing to work on stories involving Laxalt, based on information received from Joseph Yablonsky, a former federal agent. But they also said the letter from a lawyer representing Laxalt was just one factor in postponing the broadcast of the stories.

"It made us look at it again, we had been doing anyway," said Joanna Bistany, vice president of news information at ABC News. "Our discussion regarding the details of the story came before the letter. We had concerns all along way."

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Life is imitating this "art"—in the worst way

My Rap Against Rap

Condensed from WASHINGTON POST
NATHAN MCCALL

Gangsters, guns and violence have always held a fascination for Americans, and blacks like me are no different. I'll never forget the first time I went with some buddies in the early 1970s to see The Godfather. I was mesmerized by the movie's shootouts, retaliatory murders and the ruthless gangster code. They had a way of resolving conflict that was appealing to a teen-ager trying to work through the murky rites of manhood. The message I picked up was: if somebody double-crosses you, he deserves to die. The Godfather was fantasy, but to a bunch of spirited boys it was a celebration of machismo.

I eventually got my chance to do the Godfather thing when an older guy in the neighborhood threatened my girl. Because that dude had offended my lady and, by extension, disrespected me, I concluded: he deserves to die.

I was 19, and it didn't take much to push me into reckless action. When I ran into that man, I gunned him down. It was like one great fantasy,

NATHAN McCall graduated from Norfolk State University in Virginia after spending three years in prison for armed robbery. He is now a Washington Post reporter and the author of Makes Me Wanna Holler: A Young Black Man in America.
music has always been an agent of change. And rap is more than rhyming words. It's the central part of a powerful cultural movement—hip-hop—that influences the way young blacks walk, talk, dress and think.

The key element is aggression—in the rappers' body language, tone and witty rhymes—that often leaves listeners hyped, on edge, angry.

In gangsta rap, women are "bitches and hos," disposable playthings who exist merely for men's abusive delight; it's cool to use any means necessary to get the things you want; and most important, it's admirable to be cold-blooded and hard. Check out this rap by Snoop Doggy Dogg:

> See it as a West Coast thing where
> I'm from
> And if you want some get some bad enough take some
> But watch the gun by my side
> Because it represents me and the mother [expletive] East Side
> So bow down to the Bow Wow

Gangsta rappers often defend their themes by saying they reflect reality. But the brutality they toast has not always been part of our reality. This is a case of life imitating art in the worst way.

Apparently, many rappers believe their own hype, and some don't hesitate to act on what they sing about: Flavor Flav was indicted on two counts of weapon possession stemming from a dispute with another man; Snoop Doggy Dogg has been indicted in connection with a murder.

Obviously, gangsta rap does not inspire every young listener to pick up a gun, but what, I wonder, is the impact of all this on people already at risk?

"While the vast majority of kids are able to take negative rap and put it in perspective, some of our most vulnerable ones are influenced," says Melvin Williams of the District of Columbia Commission on Mental Health Services.

"Those young people who have faulty parenting or no parenting at all are particularly vulnerable to influences such as rap."

Psychologist Na'im Akbar, a former president of the Association of Black Psychologists, acknowledges that the effect of negative messages on young people is not something that can be quantified. "You can't prove that it's causative," he explains, "but it certainly is correlational."

Here are some of those correlations: Black-on-black violence has escalated sharply since the late 1980s, when the popularity of gangsta rap was on the rise. The number of juveniles arrested for murder increased by more than 50 percent from 1988 to 1992. Juvenile violent-crime arrests increased at almost the same rate.

The change in the values and
Major Thrust Given Black Participation

The Bicentennial provided a major medium of recognition for America's Blacks during 1975, particularly in clarifying hitherto obscure or neglected contributions of American Blacks to the nation's birth and development.

Due to the initiative of Black Americans themselves and the growing appreciation of their role in American history on the part of other elements of American society, the year just ending holds an important promise for greater understanding of Black Americans as an integral part of the nation's pluralistic heritage.

The full-blown presence of Black America in the Bicentennial celebration is assured in the new emphasis emerging in 1975 on the contributions of Blacks to the Revolution, to education, to art and to other aspects of American social and cultural development.

In Pennsylvania, the NAACP will direct a Pennsylvania Bicentennial Human Relations Congress during 1976. With the assistance of grants from the Bicentennial Commission of Pennsylvania, the '76 Congresses will be held in Pittsburgh, Erie, Harrisburg, Scranton, and Philadelphia. Sessions of each Congress will be discussions on specific topics such as the history of Black Pennsylvanians and the impact of the Pennsylvania Abolition Act of 1780 on the future of human rights legislation in the Commonwealth.

The largest depository for Black history materials in the state of Florida is being constructed in Jacksonville with the aid of a $20,000 grant from the Bicentennial Commission of Florida. Citizens for Community Action in Jacksonville will be sponsoring the establishment of the Joseph E. Lee Memorial Library and Museum.

Delaware State College, a predominantly Black institution in Dover, has a $20,000 program consisting of lectures, ethnic days, drama and Black art. In another project, the state is planning a multimedia exhibit and TV package on Black heritage and culture exemplified through crafts, arts and paintings.

The life of Benjamin Banneker is being filmed in Baltimore County, Maryland, Banneker's birthplace and home until his death in 1806. Banneker was the first Black to receive a presidential appointment when George Washington commissioned him to assist in surveying and laying out the nation's capital-to-be in Washington, D.C. Banneker was a clockmaker, astronomer and friend of Thomas Jefferson.

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The New York “Amsterdam News” will publish a 252-page “Black Centennial” special edition on February 18, 1976, during Black Centennial Week. The special issue will be a chronicle of 200 years of the Black American experience, and will be distributed to a readership of over one million.

The Oregon Educational and Public Broadcasting Service is planning a television special on the history of Blacks in Oregon for presentation in 1976.

The University of Kansas at Lawrence is sponsoring seminars on the role of Blacks in Kansas history and is tape recording interviews on this subject for inclusion in the Spencer Research Library at the University.

Another oral history program is being conducted in Las Cruces, New Mexico. Factual information concerning the history of Blacks in southern New Mexico is being secured through interviews and research, and will be presented in a slide show to groups in the community.

St. Louis, Missouri will come alive in 1976 with jazz, blues, ragtime, dance, gospel sounds, and more varieties of Black music and theater which have developed over the nation’s history.

In the visual arts and in literature and drama the prominence of Black Americans is emerging as the contributions of Black scientists, writers, poets, artists, physicians, and frontiersman is highlighted.

Around the nation, museums reflecting Black culture and accomplishments are organized and functioning; universities and colleges are delving into more profound studies of the contributions of Blacks, and many Bicentennial communities are supporting a variety of projects relating to Blacks ranging from memorial
William Raspberry

‘Roots’ Gave Us ‘Ourselves’

I suppose the only question remaining on the subject of “Roots” is: Why? Why did this work become an instant classic, a literary-television phenomenon?

In particular, why has Alex Haley's history-novel been such a smash among black Americans? Don't look for definitive answers here. As Louis Armstrong supposedly said when someone asked him, “What is jazz?”: “If you have to ask, I can't tell you.”

That is no putdown of whites who ask the questions. Blacks, quite probably including black America's griot, Alex Haley, don't understand it that thoroughly themselves.

Two questions predominate. What will be the influence of “Roots” on race relations in America? And why is it that blacks, until “Roots,” were so ignorant of their history? Shouldn't the atrocities of slavery have been known already?

The quick answer to the first question is that the book and the movie will have very little effect on race relations. Certainly during its eight straight television nights it brought to the surface some latent anti-white hostility. Not the sort that would provoke a riot (although it might have been a close thing eight or ten years ago), but the sort that led a lot of black people to avoid unnecessary contact and conversation with whites, at least for the duration of the series.

In the long run, the effect on race relations probably will be positive, as the result of blacks' feeling better about themselves. But the very question misses the point. “Roots,” although its subject matter is manifestly the story of black-white relations of the most negative sort imaginable, is not a story of race relations at all. It is a story of black people. White people figure importantly in that story, but as the setting, not as the central interest.

Again, the point is not to put white people down; but it is very difficult for whites to view themselves as other than principal characters in any drama that involves them at all.

The second question—“Didn't you people know?”—misses a more subtle point. With all the anti-black violence, physical and psychological, that “Roots” portrays, it is easy to conclude that Haley's work is an appeal for white (and black) understanding of the damage that brutality did to a people.

It is nothing of the sort. “Roots” provides reminders of some of the most negative aspects of that hideously negative institution called slavery. But it is an intensely positive story, and that, I believe, is the major reason for its enormous appeal to blacks.

Black people knew about their rape from Africa, knew about the beastliness of slavery, knew about the systematic destruction of family and heritage. We knew all the negatives.

What we did not know, at least not on the emotional level where it really counts, were the positives of the people who were enslaved. We did not know, or at any rate did not feel, who we are.

We needed to be reminded that slaves did, against all odds and with occasional success, resist slavery. For there has been among us an undercurrent of guilt over the simple fact of having survived slavery. They didn't enslave the Indians, who were right here; what was it about us that made us enslaveable? Haley brought home to us both the futility and the constancy of resistance, even in the unlikely heart of a Fiddler.

But more than that, Haley tied our loose ends together, giving us, in fact roots. Black viewers were able to forgive any number of technical or artistic flaws without a second thought, because “Roots” gave us something better than historic, literary or technical perfection: It gave us ourselves, an important, significant and more than occasionally beautiful people.

It is like being told over and over that you are ugly, then being handed a mirror that proves you're not.

The fact that the mirror was plucked from a cesspool called slavery may have dredged up some latent hatred. But that is a temporary phenomenon. The exhilaration that comes from looking into the mirror and seeing beauty and strength can last forever.

It is a good thing that Haley and the American Broadcasting Company have done.
The ‘Roots’ Format: Fulfilling TV’s Promise

By Sander Vanocur

ABC gambled on “Roots” and the bet paid off. The 12-hour dramatization of Alex Haley’s book, presented in eight episodes on consecutive nights, was more than a ratings blockbuster. It probably will change—as nothing before it has—the manner in which television programming is presented to us.

Television is an instrument of time, as a newspaper is an instrument of space. Time on television is divided into half-hour, hour, 90-minute and two- or three-hour blocks. A comedy series is on for half an hour, a variety show or a detective show for an hour, once a night, once a week. Each show is on when we expect it to be, it is over when we expect it to be over, and we wait for it to appear the following week.

The effect of what we have seen on these various blocks of time varies. Some have a profound effect, some not so profound. We have seen a block of time into which planning, programming and commercials were poured and we have not been touched or moved at all. We have simply used up a block of time.

It is, in some ways, an electronic substitute for daydreaming. The important difference is that the television set supplies the images that in private reverie we supply to ourselves.

But electronic daydreaming and private daydreaming have this in common—both are episodic. They last for a fragment of time. They come and they go and we move on to other efforts as we seek what Graham Greene has called the chief aim of life—the necessity to avoid boredom.

“Roots” was a different use of time. After the first episode was over, we began to arrange our future time—if one can believe the things one heard from offspring, friends, colleagues—so that we could see the succeeding episodes as they unfolded over a compressed period of eight nights.

It is very rare that we arrange our lives in so dedicated a manner around television scheduling. It is true that we may save certain hours, certain nights or certain days for shows and events we do not wish to miss. The weekend football game has become an institution.

But never before in television’s short history have so many millions of viewers rearranged their daily lives and their use of time to avoid missing a continuing program that had obviously moved and touched them in complex and compelling ways.

My guess is that nearly all of them felt a profound sense of deprivation when “Roots” ended last Sunday night. And I would further hazard that they are going to find something profoundly absent from their lives when they return to their usual sense of television time use—the situation comedies, detective programs, variety shows, sports and the rest of the electronic daydreams that are served up to us from dawn until well past midnight.

The people who watched “Roots” last week, who rearranged their use of time to satisfy some complex sense of emotional need, are probably asking themselves at this very moment why they cannot have more programming that transcends television’s fixation with chopping up narrative into tidy little packages of half-hour, hour, 90-minute or two-hour duration that are spaced a week apart.

There is no reason why viewers cannot have more of this kind of continuous programming which encapsulates a profound emotional experience into a finite amount of time—a week or 10 days or whatever time it takes to give a story a beginning, a middle and an end.

That is the worst charge that can be made against television, namely, that it chops up our sense of time into fragments that deprive us of a sense of continuity about ourselves and others.

“Roots” did not do that to us. We had, as we watched it, that elusive and precious sense of continuity about ourselves and others that television seems to promise, but usually denies us. That is why I think it has created a hunger in all of us for more programs like it.

Those programs will come. It will take some time. But time is what television is all about. The manner in which “Roots” was presented to us demonstrated that time need not be flashed by us in mindless fragments.
The book was successful even before the spectacularly popular television showing on ABC for eight consecutive nights last week. But since then, both the legitimate and underground markets for the books have expanded beyond precedent.

Book distributors in the metropolitan area have had trouble stocking local bookstores with enough copies of the book to meet the demands of book buyers.

"We can't keep them in stock," said Pat Cox, of Ingram book distributors, in Jessup, Md. "We've got thousands of back orders waiting to be filled."

"The book has touched a nerve in Washington," said Fred Eisenhart, book buyer for RPM. "We're sold out. We've sold larger quantities of this book than any other book in the last year and a half."

Eisenhart said RPM has sold 2,000 copies of the hardback version of the book since the television version of "Roots" ended.

Before the show went on television RPM sold only 1,800 copies of the book in the three weeks after Christmas.

Book distributors said no books in recent memory rival Roots as a moneymaker.

"Jonathan Livingston Seagull," "Love Story," and maybe "Everything You Wanted to Know About Sex" came close to demanding as large a number of books out of us," said Jose Gonzales, assistant manager of District distributors. "But I can't get enough copies of 'Roots' — I sold out again today."

Gonzales' company has been placing "Roots" in Dart drugstores and Drug Fair as well as in Giant Food stores. Those outlets usually sell only paperbacks.

"I could put that book in any location and it would sell," said Gonzales.

Peddlers have been seen selling the book in a Metrobus on 16th Street, on the corner of F Street, and elsewhere in the Washington area.

Most of these books have been stolen from retail outlets rather than from warehouses. In the Washington area at least five bookstores have apprehended shoplifters taking quantities of the book. Most of those who have been caught simply picked up an armful and walked out the front door, as if in defiance of store managers.

In New York a display window of the Doubleday Book Store on 5th Avenue was broken and all the copies of "Roots" in it taken. The store manager, Kent Livingston, says "Roots" is "the most ripped-off book I've ever seen. People are coming in with shopping bags and carting them off."

Last week at Kramerbooks and Afterwords, 1347 Connecticut Ave. NW, two young men picked up armfuls of the book and walked out. Two men who work at the store caught up with them on Connecticut Avenue.

"They asked them where they were going without paying for the books," said Bill Kramer, owner of the store. "They asked them to give us our books back."

According to Kramer the two men said they took the books to protest white exploitation of a black man's work.

"They gave us the books back and went off," said Kramer. "They asked if they could keep one. We said no."

Several stores in the Washington area suspect that they have been losing copies of "Roots" to shoplifters, but have no way of knowing exactly how many. The manager of one downtown store said simply, "I wouldn't be surprised. I have sold — or am missing — 200 copies in the last couple of weeks."

Other books have been conspicuous favorites of shoplifters in the past. Last Christmas several stores in the Washington area lost copies of Leni Riefenstahl's book of photographs, "The People of Kau," and New York stores have reported losses of Wilfrid Sheed's "Muhammad Ali."

Susan Lemoon, a buyer for RPM Distributors, says she can remember only a couple of other examples, and they were paperbacks. "One was Abbie Hoffman's 'Steal This Book.' The other, and this is going way back, was 'The Autobiography of Malcolm X,'" which was co-authored by Alex Haley in 1963.

Sales of a million volumes would make "Roots," after only four months on the stands, one of the best-selling hard-cover books of all time. The trade publication Publishers Weekly considers any book that sells more than 750,000 copies to be in that category. "Gone With the Wind," for instance, has sold 5,190,000 hard-cover copies since 1936. "The Better Homes and Gardens Cookbook" leads the most recent list (which excludes various editions of the Bible) with 18,694,976 copies sold since 1980.

**All-Time Ratings Records Set**

**By TV Dramatization of 'Roots'**

RATINGS, From A1

programs that the network's shows captured the top 16 places in last week's Nielsen ratings, breaking the old CBS record of sweeping the top 15 places.

In fact, all 21 of ABC's prime-time (8 to 11 p.m.) shows last week finished among the top 26 Nielsen-ranked programs. A record average of 25 million American TV households tuned in to ABC every day last week, according to Nielsen, giving the network a startling 52.1 per cent of all television sets tuned in between 8 and 11 p.m.

The overwhelming ABC superiority for the week enabled CBS, with an average of only 11 million TV households tuning in, finally to catch up with NBC and tie it for second place over-all for this television season.

NBC averaged a "mere" 9.3 million TV homes last week, the 10th of the season, in the face of the "Roots" competition.

CBS' highest ranked show last week was 17th-place "All in the Family," which can usually be counted among the weekly top 10. NBC's top-ranked show was "Little House on the Prairie," which came in 24th, about 10 places below its usual rank.

ABC's one-week ratings sweep has apparently put the new number-one ranking network out of reach of its rivals for the 1976-77 TV season crown.

Since September, ABC has averaged 21.9 Nielsen points overall to 18.7 for CBS and NBC, which means a lead of approximately 2.2 million TV homes every night of the season for ABC over the other two networks.
Book Sales Unprecedented

By Christopher Dickey and Juan Williams
Washington Post Staff Writers

Carrying 12 copies of "Roots," two young men rushed out of the Kramerbooks and Afterwords shop in downtown Washington without paying. In College Park, workers at the Maryland Book Exchange followed a young man to his car, where they found 25 stolen copies of "Roots."

Thieves who have stolen copies of "Roots" from bookstores and libraries in cities across the country are selling the $12.50 book for $5 and up on buses, subways and street corners.

This underground market is one indication of the phenomenal success of Alex Haley's saga of an American black family.

"Roots" is being sold legitimately not only in bookstores but in places where hard-cover books are rarely found—on the counters of liquor stores, in drugstores and in supermarkets.

The book is going into its 14th printing since its publication last October. Soon there will be a million copies distributed across the nation. On a single day last week 67,159 copies were shipped from Doubleday's warehouses to fill orders.

TV Ratings Set Records

By John Carmody
Washington Post Staff Writer

ABC's televised dramatization of "Roots" set almost every all-time television rating record and enabled ABC to dominate last week's top program rankings as no network has ever before, according to A. C. Nielsen Co. figures released yesterday.

Sunday night's two-hour conclusion to the eight-part, 12-hour television version of Alex Haley's novel of Afro-American history, attracted 58 million viewers — the largest single-program TV audience in the 27 years such records have been kept.

The seven preceding episodes of "Roots" captured the top seven spots over 60 other prime-time television programs last week, and, together with Sunday's conclusion, captured eight of the top 13 spots on the all-time TV program popularity list.

That list of all-time popularity leaders is now topped by Sunday night's episode of "Roots," followed in second and third places by the previous all-time leaders, parts one and two of "Gone With the Wind," which were telecast by NBC last November.

The "Roots" episodes of Jan. 28, 27 and 25 have take over fourth through sixth places on the all-time list, with last month's Super Bowl XI in seventh place and the "Roots" episodes of Jan. 24, 26 and 29 filling out the top 10. The "Roots" episode of Jan. 23 ranks 13th on the all-time list, following two other Super Bowl football games.

"Roots" also was so powerful in attracting viewers to other ABC

See RATINGS, A12, Col. 3
Something awesome did happen in America last week and we all know it was not a snowstorm. Without quite defining it, we know intuitively that this television series called "Roots" was a shared crossing over deep water, a stunning passage in the mass culture of America.

To grasp this, merely consider 30 million American families, nearly half of our population, gathering in their living rooms for eight evenings, children and parents, to watch an eight-part melodrama on our greatest national disgrace. Black people groaning in the hold of the white man's slave ship. This TV set in your living room is a powerful preacher.

Or try to imagine the reasons why this gruesome story, so long suppressed or excluded from our orthodox history, should now enthrall us. What makes the ugly truths so compelling to America's popular audience at this point?

Whatever speculative explanations you may come up with, the fundamental message is the same: Our shared memory has been abruptly altered, broadened to incorporate long-denied realities.

Beyond this blunt acknowledgment, it will take a long time (and probably many arguments, from many different viewpoints) to define the message of "Roots" and its impact on ourselves. In obvious ways, it was a very crude history lesson and critics will enumerate the benign falsehoods and wholesale simplifications. As a sequence of eight dramas, it was better than most TV but still clumsy and blatant, in the manner of TV melodrama.

Low history, bad art. These complaints are still only footnotes, I think, which do not really reduce the social phenomenon of "Roots." It has glorious implications for the future of the nation, an obvious suggestion that the self-enriching process that built the American culture out of many remains alive and inventive. "Roots" is a little frightening, too, as a dramatic example of how our mass mythologies can be defined or altered so effectively, so swiftly by a small number of citizens, the people who control television broadcasting.

The social implications become clearer and more impressive. If one assumes the worst about those TV people, if one assigns the most cynical motives to their endeavor, assume ABC did not gamble on "Roots" out of some deep yearning to promote racial justice, but from a deep yearning to sell soap and hamburgers to the largest possible audience. Assume also that these TV people know what they're doing, if not as artists or historians, as packagers or manipulators of images that draw people to their TV sets.

In that sense, the profound social message of the "Roots" phenomenon is contained in this simple fact: See ROOTS, Bl, Col. 1.
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Marsha Lillie-Blanton linked lack of health care to lack of employment. With her is community leader Wil Mitchell.

25% lack benefits on Jonathan Street

By TERRY HEADLEE
Staff Writer

Linda Jones has been without health insurance for more than four years, ever since she was laid off from a local warehouse.

And the Jonathan Street resident has plenty of company.

A new study shows that one out of every four residents under the age of 65 who lives in the predominantly black community in Hagerstown don't have health insurance.

The 38-year-old Jones says she hasn't had any major health problems, but does wonder sometimes what will happen if she ends up in the hospital.

"It's something I think about from time to time," said Jones, who also worked on the assembly line at Mack Trucks for 15 years before being laid off in 1987.

A chief finding of the recent study written by the Washington County Health Department and Johns Hopkins University showed that health care was lacking for many residents in the Jonathan Street community.

Part of the problem is linked to employment, said Marsha Lillie-Blanton, assistant professor with the Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health and a member of the staff that handled the survey.

Employed residents can often get insurance through work while those who are jobless may not even be eligible for Medicaid. The report showed that one out of three community residents were unemployed, a rate four times higher than the county average.

Other findings of the study:
- One out of three reported that a chronic medical condition affected their daily activities.
- About half of women aged 65 and older reported never having had a mammogram.
- One out of three residents reported needing, but not seeking care.

The report was based on a survey taken last summer that included 128 door-to-door interviews and contacts with 40 providers of health care and social services.

One disturbing statistic showed that one out of three African-Americans in the county visited the Washington County Hospital emergency room during one eight-month period.

Lillie-Blanton said that showed there are "some barriers in access to care" since residents should be visiting less expensive general practitioners who can provide better follow-up care. Many go to the emergency room because they know under law they can't be denied care, she said.

Though the percentage of African-Americans on Jonathan Street lacking health insurance was comparable to the national statistics, it still is 40 percent higher than the country's white population. Only 15 percent of the nation's white population have no health insurance compared to 25 percent for blacks.

"The study showed there is good evidence to suggest a need for the county to give more attention to the Jonathan Street area," she said.
On Saturday, May 28, a Molotov cocktail was thrown at a house in Sandy Hook in southern Washington County. A $5,000 reward was offered for information on the incident, and the Maryland State Fire Marshal's office speculated that it might be racially motivated because the intended victims were a black man, Donald Thomas, and a white woman, Michele Hicks, who lived there with several of her children. But on second look, the incident begins to look more like a neighborhood dispute, and a good example of bad judgment.

The problems began the previous week, on May 21, when Julie Hoffman, then visiting her aunt in Sandy Hook, hosted a large party. Thomas said some party-goers' vehicles blocked his car in. When the guests were asked to clear a path, Thomas said he heard racial slurs. Slurs from the neighbor's home continued for a week, Thomas said, and he decided to confront Hoffman about it. When she returned home at 2 a.m. on May 28, he was waiting outside. What followed was not a friendly conversation.

Thomas said that after Hoffman began screaming at him nose-to-nose, he warned her to back off. She didn't, Thomas said, and he slapped her, knocking her to the ground. She filed a private warrant, which claimed, among other things, that he had knocked out one of her teeth and fired a gun at her. The day after the slapping incident, Thomas said three men, armed with a knife and a shotgun, confronted him at the house and provoked a fight, which ended when he turned his dogs on them.

Now the NAACP is involved, and Frederick County chapter president Lord Nickens said the residents are responsible, because they just stood back and let things happen. There is no excuse for racial slurs or attempted arson, but we believe Thomas made a serious mistake in confronting Hoffman in the middle of the night, then slapping her. Finding Hoffman unreasonable, he should have walked away, called the NAACP, or filed a complaint with the Maryland Human Relations Commission. Donald Thomas may be a victim of a racial injustice, but he picked the wrong method to fight against it.
Honor

Continued from A1

Fred Teeter Jr., executive director of the county Chamber of Commerce, said the chamber and Associated Builders and Contractors nominated Hundley for the minority business advocate honor several months ago.

The award, which is administered by the state's Small Business Administration, is given to one person in the state each year. Mindy Allentoff, a business development specialist for the SBA and coordinator of the award program, said four people were nominated this year.

"It's tremendous. What a deserving guy," Teeter said. "He's such a beacon of light for people. He sets such a good example through his work with youth in the Jonathan Street area. He really lives what he believes."

Hundley will receive the award during a breakfast ceremony at the Baltimore Omni at 7:30 a.m. on May 6, Teeter said.

One of 28 people appointed to the state Commission on Neighborhoods, Hundley will join a diverse group of Marylanders in drafting an "agenda for action for neighborhoods across the state," according to a release from Gov. William Donald Schaefer's press office.

"It's important that we act aggressively to support, strengthen and revitalize our neighborhoods," Schaefer said in the release. "After all, neighborhoods, communities and individuals all working together for a common goal is part of the American way of life."

The commission's first meeting is March 14 in Crownsville, Md.

Hundley was named to the commission in part because of his involvement with the Washington County Housing Authority, the release states.

"I look at (the appointment) as a chance to help everyone in this area. I want to do a lot of things to help," Hundley said. "I'm very excited. This gives me the opportunity to voice some things that have been in my heart and to have a voice at a higher level for people who need help."
County once had thriving iron industry

By HARRY WARNER

All the badly scattered and hard-to-find facts about Western Maryland's old iron industry have been gathered up and sorted out into coherent order by a countian, Michael D. Thompson.

His 157-page document, "The Iron Industry in Western Maryland," is not yet generally available. But one copy of it has been turned over to the Historical Advisory Committee of Washington County, whose chairman, John Frye, is hopeful that some means will be discovered to permit its publication.

Thompson, now a student at West Virginia University, has not only researched the available information about the area's iron industry. He has also fitted now extinct industries into the larger picture of the iron manufacturing in colonial North America and the early years of the United States, in addition to reviewing details about natural resources that gave rise to the old furnaces and iron works in this part of Maryland.

Some of his findings would be a surprise to anyone who hasn't studied the topic extensively. For instance, there's the matter of the enormous appetite for trees that was possessed by an iron works in the old days. In the 18th century, his manuscript shows, charcoal was the favorite source of carbon for iron furnaces. He estimates that the average 18th-century furnace used up an entire acre of 20-year to 25-year-old hardwood timber every day it was in operation. It makes you wonder what would have happened to this area's woodlands, if the iron industry had thrive indefinitely (and if coke hadn't begun to be favored in place of charcoal in the 19th century).

Thompson emphasizes the fact that Washington County's old furnaces were big and important ones in 18th-century North America. At Mt. Etna Furnace (the historian prefers that spelling to Mt. Actna, which is normally in use today) the Hughes family created cannon for the American Revolution. He terms the initial product of 70 guns "a prodigious industrial achievement and an immense contribution to the war effort, unmatched by any other furnace establishment in any other North American colony at that time."

At Green Spring Furnace, where the Fort Frederick Iron Works thrived toward the end of the 18th century, was probably the biggest iron-making establishment as far as sheer size is concerned in Maryland's history, Thompson believes.

One of the special benefits of his research has been the sorting out of the various names attached to the sites where the iron industry existed in Washington County, and a clear explanation of which names belonged where. The names can provide a source of endless confusion to anyone who looks through old documents without some such explanation. For instance, Antietam Forge wasn't the same as Antietam Iron Works, but existed near the point where Old Forge Road crosses the Antietam northeast of Hagerstown. Meanwhile, Antietam Iron Works once was known as Frederick Forge, even though it's in present-day Washington County, and a considerable distance from the city of that name.

On the other hand, even this diligent researcher hasn't been able to turn up much information on the Long a Coming Furnace. He believe it "was a sizable iron works establishment of which hardly any information survives." It is known to have used ore from the Snively pit near Boonsboro and from two ore banks near Frederick Junction.

The iron industry's history in this area even provides some insight into slavery conditions. In 1840, there was 53 slaves among the property of the Antietam Iron Works. But in the 1840's the Antietam industry was in financial difficulties and old documents cited by Thompson indicate lack of proper food for the slaves, "a good deal of dissatisfaction" among them, and fears of the iron works manager that they would disappear into the free soil of Pennsylvania.

Even though the iron industry has long since ended in Washington County, there are still a handful of surviving countians who were children when Antietam Iron Works officially went out of existence with a court-ordered sale of its holdings in 1886.

The list of things which were involved in the sale forms a striking contrast to the almost complete disappearance of visible evidence of that facility. Items sold included a new furnace, 21 tenement houses, a mansion house, a merchant mill, a wharf on the canal, and almost two square miles of land.

Meanwhile, although it isn't mentioned as part of Thompson's manuscript, efforts are under way to protect the land where the Antietam industry once stood. The C&O Canal National Historical Park contains a small part of the former iron works property. But some historians here feel that other important parts of the iron works site should be added to federal holdings. Almost all the land recommended for this acquisition is lying unused today.

Nobody is sure what historical treasures might lie just below the surface on the land in question. So much has vanished that it isn't even possible to trace, without thorough investigation, the exact spots where various structures shown in old photographs once stood. The present road didn't exist when the iron works was operating, so there aren't enough present-day visible landmarks to permit ascertaining the original lay of the land.