

Baltimore Indian Community Views Premiere Showing of Movie "Windwalker"

"A GALA AFFAIR"
By Herbert H. Locklear

"The fact that the Indian community was consulted first represents a big switch from past experiences." This and other similar comments, were overheard at the Baltimore Premiere showing of the movie *Windwalker*.

On February 18th the Baltimore Indian Community was invited to the premiere showing of the movie *Windwalker* billed as the "Most Authentic Indian movie ever made..." Approximately two hundred interested Native Americans attended the showing which began at 8:00 p.m.

A special invitation had been made to fifty personalities to attend a reception with "the Stars" of the movie, beginning at 6:30 p.m. At the reception with the movie's leading lady, Miss Serene Hedin. Miss Hedin is Navajo and makes her home in Denver, Colorado.

Those attending the reception found Miss Hedin to be "...charming, beautiful, a warm personality, interested, etc..." Bob Keyes said about Miss Hedin. "She is one of the most beautiful women I've ever seen. Her complexion, her charm, her composure all make her quite suited for the part." Many of those attending made special effort to capture a photo in Miss Hedin's presence. She also gave many requested autographs.

Barry Richardson, acting Executive Director of the Baltimore American-Indian Center, summarizes that he was contacted by Ray Thompson left to right are: Mr. Ray Thompson, Miss Serene Hedin, Mr. Thompson of Ray Thompson Associated, Inc. in Hunt Valley to give Earl Brooks and Barry Richardson, acting executive director of the movie. "The first chance to see this movie." Mr. Thompson Baltimore American Indian Center. made his effort from the "...respect and high regard" he holds for the Native Americans in the Baltimore area.

Since the first showing to the Native Americans at the Westview Cinema, the movie has been opened at many "first run" theaters in the Baltimore area.

"The movie was magnificent," said Vonnie Oxendine, a local businessman and community advocate. "The photography, the scenery, the acting were all superb..." according to many of those attending the premiere.

Most persons expressed their feelings in summary around what seemed to be their two important issues:

That for a change the "Indian people were first given an opportunity to view and comment on a movie about Indians; then, on the basis that the movie is so authentic Native Americans, including many members of the case, all persons interested in good movies with a traditional American theme, should be sure to see *Windwalker*.



Shown left to right are: Mr. Ray Thompson, Miss Serene Hedin, Mr. Thompson of Ray Thompson Associated, Inc. in Hunt Valley to give Earl Brooks and Barry Richardson, acting executive director of the movie. "The first chance to see this movie." Mr. Thompson Baltimore American Indian Center. made his effort from the "...respect and high regard" he holds for the Native Americans in the Baltimore area.



Hal Hunt at work



Miss Serene Hedin and Herbert H. Locklear are shown above.

THE BALTIMORE EXPERIENCE

Hal Hunt--

"The Tree Man"

A

"Groomer for Nature"

by Herbert H. Locklear

"For thirty-one years of my work experience I have been in the Tree Business," says Hal Hunt (also known as 'Boot.')

Since 1956 when Hal first came to Baltimore, he has worked with various tree service companies, including ten years as foreman with the Baltimore City Forestry Division.

Mr. Hunt's application for license to the State of Maryland was approved and he opened his own business in 1972. Since that time, Hal has employed many different local residents and has trained "...all those willing to learn the business," he said.

First visit to Hal's family home in the Rosedale section clearly reflects the nature of his business, if made on a work day. There are in sight trucks, grinders, choppers, loaders and other heavy and light equipment and tools of the trade. There are neatly arranged rows of chordeed wood, ready for sale, ready for home use.

Hal shares that while there is usually plenty of work, his peak periods are at the time of, or following inclement weather, especially high winds and ice.

Hal says that he finds this type of work "...close to nature and helping to remove that which nature has rejected and assisting nature to groom herself." His wife Kathryn says that Hal loves his work and seems to be much happier working for himself. Mrs. Hunt, a former resident of Greensboro, NC, assists her husband in the business, especially keeping contracts for service in order.

Hal and Kathryn have four children and three grandchildren. The family attends the South Broadway Baptist Church where most are members.

When asked about how he is best known, Hal says that after the tree business, it probably would be by his gospel singing.

Hal sings with the South Broadway Spirituals, a group of gospel singers all of whom are members of the church of the same name.

In spite of a very busy schedule, Hal says, "...I just have to slip away a few days during the season and go fishing." One can eat fish at the Hunt's home about anytime of the year. What's more, one can usually eat outside in the big back yard which is equipped with permanent picnic furniture and fixtures.

Those who know Hal best say he is a hard working man who is concerned about doing a good job at whatever he does. One lifelong friend comments "Hal is constant, he can be counted upon; he is reliable."



Mrs. Kathryn Hunt is shown with all the "Little Hunts."

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