

1200 attend benefit

Fashioning a fight against diabetes

By SHIRLEE IDEN

They came 1,200 strong to view the fashions of the Liz Claiborne's and the P.J. Walsh's as worn by media stars like Kathryn Kiefer, Robbie Timmons and Diana Lewis.

But everyone knows the real stars of the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation are the folks like June Cobb, who stood up in front of those 1,200 at the Raleigh House in Southfield and told them about JDF and diabetes like it really is.

"Diabetes is not just a disease but a way of life," the Birmingham resident said. "The statistics show that by 1980, one of every five people will have diabetes. The mother of a diabetic child has to know where that child is, so that the child gets the snacks required to counteract the insulin injection."

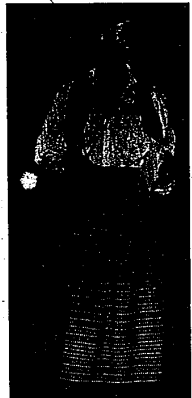
"Diabetes has many complications, like circulatory ailments, heart and in my own case, blindness," she said.

"There is no cure, help us by becoming a member, help us defeat diabetes and don't let diabetes defeat us."

Research is the by-word of JDF. Proceeds of the elegant lunch and fashion review last Tuesday will largely go to research. A great deal of it goes on in many scientific centers and victims and parents hope for a control if not a cure for the disease.

LOCALLY the JDF chapter is about five years old and has about 600 families as members. In some, parents are diabetic and in others, it's the children.

Ida Ellenson of Southfield has a diabetic grandson, husband and other relatives. After decades of cooking and



Robbie Timmons walk the ramp in a red plaid skirt and vest outfit, carried a shoulder bag and wore a broad smile.

baking for them, she wrote a collection of recipes, carefully worked out with dieticians, called "Just Delicious and Sugar Free."

Chapters around the country are ordering her booklet by the thousands, said her daughter, Marsha Gordon of Southfield.

"It's like when you make a dinner party and you stand in trepidation watching to see if the guests like your food," she said. "My mom's like that with the book."

Mrs. Ellenson said the booklet is in its third printing and requests for it have come from every part of the country. A major publisher is looking at it and the author has been on several talk shows to tell about it.

Of course the proceeds go to the local JDF chapter, headquartered in Southfield. The book is being sold for \$3 a copy, but for a diabetic who is restricted from everyday sweets, it's priceless.

Another activist in the JDF family is Gloria August of West Bloomfield. Mrs. August's two children, Brian and Kathy, both have juvenile diabetes and were diagnosed when they were very young.

Mrs. August and her daughter both modeled in Tuesday's fashion show. Kathy has spoken at past luncheons and her mother is a valuable ticket seller when JDF raises funds.

NO STRANGER to JDF either is Marilyn Turner, television personality and currently busy entrepreneur. Fashions on Tuesday came from her Rochester dress shop, but Ms. Turner has been part of JDF fashion shows as a model since they began.



Kathy August's outfit and print blouse was topped with a jaunty visored cap.

On Tuesday, she could be found backstage organizing the outfits for the celebrity models, long before lunch began. "It's a good charity and it's a good feeling doing it," she said.

Ms. Turner even convinced her husband, John Kelly, to model one outfit, a chore she says he detests. "It's a secret, don't say anything. He's a surprise model," she confided.

Columnist Bob Talbert joined Ms. Turner in commenting on the fashions even though he wasn't allowed a pre-view peek at the models in their dressing room.

"I find the styles very feminine and very appealing," Ms. Turner said before the show. "But you almost have to have someone help you put it together. These clothes look terrible on the hanger."

She predicted that the silhouette will be slimming down in the fall and there will be some pants available for women who haven't swam with the current in the return to skirts and dresses.

First on the runway after lunch was Kathy August in a Liz Claiborne pants outfit of vest, blouse and pants. A visored straw cap topped her ensemble.

Gloria August did her walk-on in a P.J. Walsh skirt and unconstructed jacket of khaki. Her blouse was bright red and the skirt a full and swingy dirndl.

"CLAY, PUTTY, and khaki and earth colors like that are big this season," Ms. Turner noted.

Shirley Lanier of Farmington Hills, wife of Detroit Platon Bob Lanier, modeled skinny pants and a matching white jacket with a burnt sienna brief sleeved blouse.

"Bigger the sleeves, the smaller the collar," Ms. Turner commented, as six footer Kathryn Kiefer, television reporter, showed off a print dress with waist cincher and voluminous sleeves. Cathy Mann, who co-hosts a local television talk show, drew a few favorable comments herself, appearing in a Liz Claiborne design with a beige skirt in basket-weave material with a boat-necked loose top with matching scarf.

A pale lavender blouse spiced up Linda Wright Avery's white pants and jacket outfit and Sheila Rosenfeld, a professional model, wore a P. J. Walsh pants outfit and long blouse belted. Her sleeves were rolled and pants clasped at the ankle in current fashion. Applause greeted Beverly Payne as she walked out in a pal striped dress by Nippon Boutique with a tucked front and loose short sleeves trimmed in a dainty ruffle.

Robbie Timmons wore a red plaid blouse and vest outfit. The vest was unconstructed but tied in the back and was reversible.

An orange blouse over khaki pants was the choice of Diana Lewis, who also carried a vest.

Trends included pleated pants, brimmed hats, tiny collars reminiscent of the 1940s and lots of unconstructed jackets and vests.



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Marilyn Turner



Cathy Mann wore a swirly beige shirt with Liz Claiborne's soft blouse and matching scarf. (Staff photos by Gary Friedman)

Spring dance festival on the way

By LORRAINE MCCLISH

The Michigan Ballet Theatre brings its Spring Festival of Dance to Mercy High School on Eleven Mile and Middelet at 3 p.m. May 21.

The theater, based in Farmington Hills, is a performing company member of the Mid-States Regional Ballet Association.

The feature ballet is "Graduation Ball," along with four more original ballets on the playbill.

"Graduation Ball" is a reconstructed ballet staged by Mary Margaret Holt, a principal dancer in the Houston Ballet Company.

The story takes place in a formal drawing room of a fashionable girls' school in Vienna. During their graduation ball, each of the students try to outdo one another in impressing the visiting cadets from a nearby military school.

Evelyn Kreason, artistic director of the theater, describes "Graduation Ball" as a fun ballet with an appeal for all ages, similar to the "Nutcracker Ballet," which is a Christmas-time traditional show for the company.

THE FOUR original ballets in the spring festival are "Slavonic Waltz," "Childsong," "Conversations" and "Rhythm Ritual." "Conversations" and "Rhythm Ritual" are both being performed for the first time.

"Slavonic Waltz" combines classical ballet on pointe with touches of Slavic character dance. "Childsong" is a short ballet based on children's games and their relations to life.

William Hug choreographed "Rhythm Ritual" and "Conversations." He is the head of the Modern Dance Department at Interlochen and the head of the dance department at the University of Florida.

Dancers do the entire "Rhythm Ritual" ballet to the clapping of various rhythms. "Conversations" is based on

social gesture dramatized and enlarged in the dance.

Both of these ballets have been chosen to be performed during the annual Mid-States Regional Festival of Dance in Indiana at the end of the month.

Tickets for the spring festival are now on sale in Farmington Community Center, 477-8454, or may be purchased at the door.

ON JUNE 18, the company leads off the Farmington Arts Commission's "Summer in the Park Series." All performances within the series will be given at the outdoor amphitheater on the Orchard Ridge Campus of Oakland Community College.

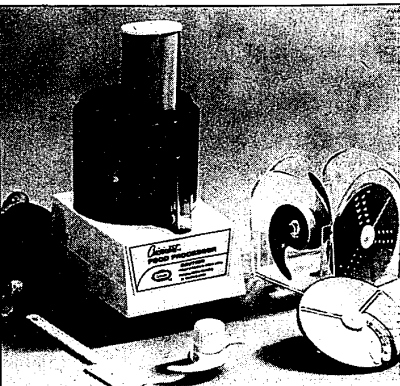
Another performance on the spring calendar is at the invitation of the Michigan Council for the Arts, focus-

ing on the top talent in Michigan. The event will take place in the Detroit Plaza Hotel on the evening of June 17.

Dancers in the spring festival from Farmington and Farmington Hills are Jean Jambas and Caryn Majeski. Dancers from West Bloomfield are Julie Lohmeier, Carolyn Missell, Susan Sathaneey, Jill Stawin, Mary Beth Rotole and Emily Washauer.



Ballerinas who will be performing in "Spring Festival of Dance" are from left, Susan Sathaneey, Jean Jambas, Jackie Willacker, Laura Peters and Caryn Majeski.



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