

Entertainment Guide



by Allen Jones

THE COASTER

The legendary Coasters were at Jewella's for a couple of days last weekend. The Coasters originated in Los Angeles "20" years ago and are still doing their thing. Although the personnel has changed, the sound is basically the same. Their routine is varied with good audience participation for the most part. However, I am afraid if they don't come up with some new material pretty soon people will be asking, What ever happened to the Coasters. Lets be realistic "Charlie Brown", "Along Came Jones" and the many other hit tunes that made the Coasters famous fifteen years ago, just will not weather the test of time too much longer. That is not to say that the Coasters themselves are pre-antiquated as far as talent, phrasing, timing and showmanship is concerned. But if the Miracles, 4 Tops, O Jays, The Spinners and a few of the top entertainers that have been on the musical scene for 20 years can regroup and be musically and financially successful - then so can the Coasters.

STEPPEN STONE - STEPPIN HIGH

Steppen Stone, a Los Angeles based group invaded Portland a couple of weeks ago and are still on the move. They booked into Jewella's last week for one night and had the audience excited to no end. Their outfits, showmanship and general performance was well received by Portland. They offer a very good balance of musical selections. Which in my book always make for a good performance. They're young and talented and have a ways to go before they obtain the stardom they're seeking. But they are certainly on the right track - that's for sure.

GREGG SMITH BAND

If there's a world that I can associate with Gregg Smith's Band its consistency. I've been following Gregg's Band for a couple of years now in and around Portland. I can truthfully say, he never stops creating and innovating his act. He's one of those musicians that insist on everything being right! Which is one of the reason's he's been so successful down through the years. He's currently appearing at the Tourquoise Room in Southwest Portland. His sound is primarily Disco, but he can just as easily belt out a ballad or a jazz selection for your musical pleasure. Along with Gregg Smith, there's Harvey McDaniel on base and vocals, Ron Mavracini, Drums; Geno McGee on piano and vocals; Ed Synder, guitar and vocals; Bob Hudson, saxophone and Glen Emerson, trumpet and light and sound engineer. You don't necessarily have to be in a dancing mood to check out Gregg Smith's Band. You'll get tired of patting your foot and snapping your fingers after awhile - and just get up and boogie!

UT papers explore music roots

AUSTIN, TEXAS, UT NEWS - While colonial America marveled at the ability of Black musicians to master European instruments and music, the real genius of the Africans was in retaining the wealth of their native musical heritage disguised to suit white masters.

That is the idea developed in the first of a series of working papers to be published by the University of Texas African and Afro-American Studies and Research Center.

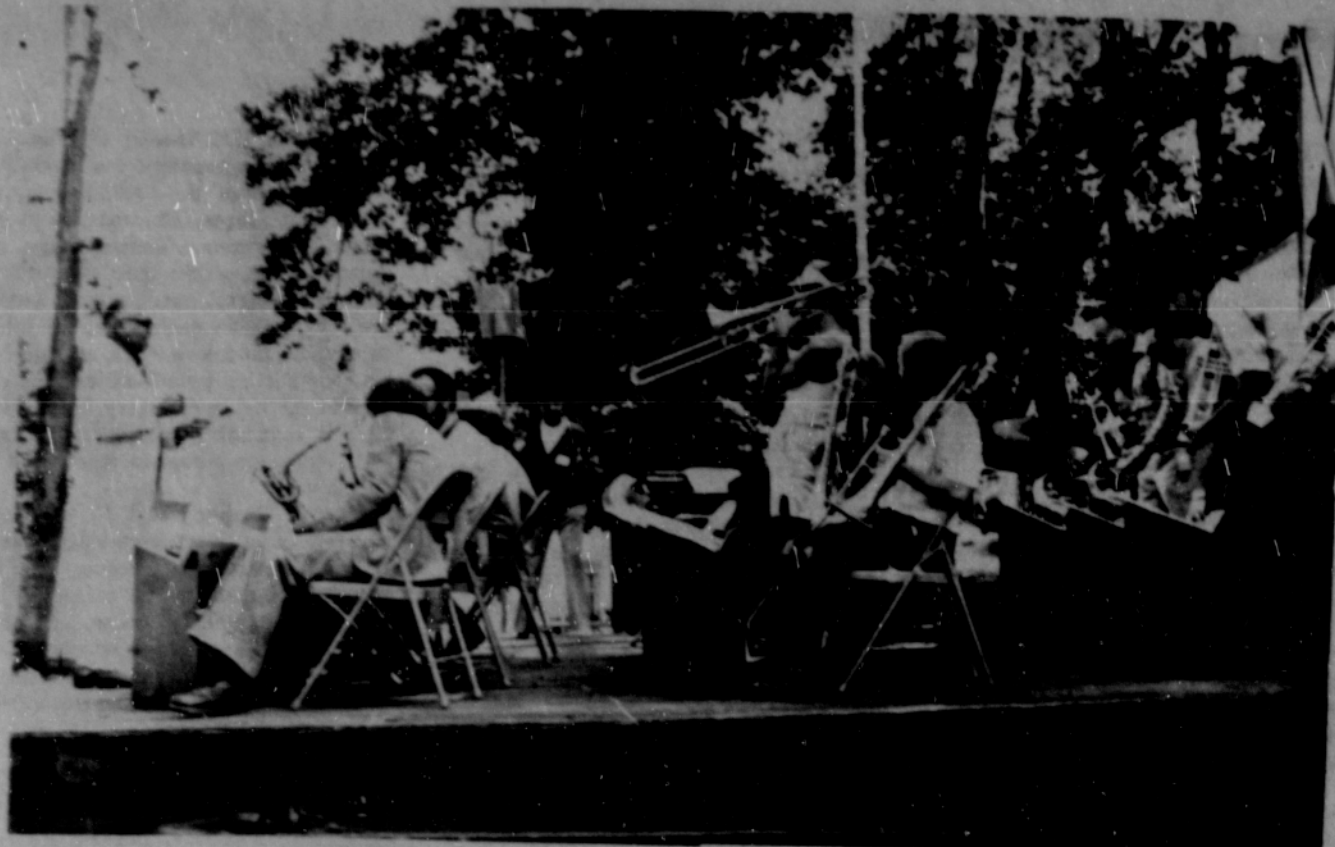
Entitled *In Retrospect: A Question of Genius*, the paper was written by Dr. K. Nyamayo Mufuka, a 1975-76 visiting professor at the University of Texas, Austin, on leave from the University of the West Indies, and Wayne Kamin, a graduate student in English at UT Austin and editor of *Trobadour Press*.

During some research on the U.S. Bicentennial, Dr. Mufuka uncovered documents of the American Presbyterian Mission in West Africa and the Congo (now Zaire) dating as far back as 1850. He was interested in the extent to which music was observed to be a part of the African's life. Even field workers were accompanied by orchestras of string and percussion musicians, he found. Mr. Kamin's interest was in the genesis of Black music in colonial America despite repeated accounts of difficulties.

In collaboration, they recount how, with little practice time, foreign instruments and rigid restrictions against playing their own music or giving or receiving musical instruction, Afro-Americans became master musicians. Yet, after an examination of sophisticated vocal and musical skills of native Africans and of the styles and complexity of African instruments, the writers find Blacks' mastery of the music of another culture less a surprise than the preservation of the elements of music from their own culture.

The series is dedicated to the late Dr. Henry A. Bullock (1906-1973), the first director of the University of Texas Ethnic Studies Program. Its intent is to promote the development of Black studies and to publicize the research efforts and ideas of the faculty of the African and Afro-American Studies and Research Center.

For more information, contact Dr. Douglas Daniels, African and Afro-American Studies and Research Center, the University of Texas at Austin, Austin Texas, 78712.



The Big Band of Walter Bridges will be appearing at Jewella's on Sunday, May 22nd, from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. The theme, *An Evening of Nostalgia*, will center around the dress and swing dancing of the 20's, 30's, 40's and 50's. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place Trophies will be awarded to the best dressed and

swing dance couple respectively. Noted song stylist "Gentleman" Gene Diamond will MC the show. Lovely Shirley Nanette will also sing a few selections along with LeVern Davis fashion coordinator for the show.

Mt. Hood CC features Vocal Jazz Festival

A "little bit of soul" will be introduced into the Gresham area by the Tenth Annual Northwest Vocal Jazz Festival at Mt. Hood Community College, Saturday, May 21.

The festival, which will include participants from high schools in Oregon, Washington, California and Idaho, begins with preliminary rounds at 8:00 a.m.

Saturday. More than 120 schools are entered in five divisions of competition which split the schools according to size. A special division for singing groups featuring all male or all female singers will be included.

Trophies will be awarded to schools finishing first, second and third in their divisions. Judges for the event will include music educators and professional

musicians from throughout the Pacific Northwest.

Finals for the competition are scheduled for the MHCC gymnasium at 7:30 p.m. with each finalist group giving a 12 minute performance. The MHCC Vocal Jazz Ensemble will perform following the high school groups. Admission to the evening performance is \$1.00

Health Help Center supplements health care

(Continued from p.1 col.2)

raising projects and by contributions from those clients who can pay for the services rendered. The clinic is dependent upon donated services from a number of health institutions and health professionals. No one will be refused help because of inability to pay.

The clinic is open three nights a week, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday eve-

nings, 7:00 to 10:00 pm. They are staffed by professionals who donate their time. Each night they are open they have a doctor, one or two nurses, medical technologist, pharmacist and a counselor available for referral. Also one Saturday a month is reserved for Medichex physicals (by appointment).

The clinic is staffed daily by a clerk/receptionist for information and referrals to other medical facilities and services in the community. The clinic may be open during the daytime hours for purposes of providing health teaching and other health-related services.

The clinic also has a mental health facility which operates primarily in four areas: 1) Hotline and Crisis Intervention assistance available for general problem-solving, eventually on a 24-hour basis. There will also be available a Crisis Team. The Help-Line number is 288-5997. 2) Individual or group sessions for dealing with unique special problems relevant to the elderly. A referral service for sharing ideas and services. 3) Youth Advocacy Group or individual sessions for problem solving and sharing. A resource for children with "problem" parents. 4) Marriage Counseling.

The Health Help Center will soon offer Home Health Nursing which will provide daily assistance for persons that require minimum nursing care.

One of the many people responsible for the success and continuation of the clinic is Gail Washington. Gail is the Administrator of the Health Help Center. She has 14 years of experience as an X-Ray technician, and was on the Board of the Oregon Lung Association, and affiliated with the National Health Security Coalition and various other related organizations. Gail is also a student at Portland State University in Health Education. She was born in Detroit, Michigan and is a member of St. Andrew Catholic Church.

Gail says, "Our purpose is not to just provide band-aid service but to be involved in the changes that effect the quality of life which are both education and legislation. Legislative because all of the processes of life are affected by laws, whether social or economic. Educational because people must be informed to make intelligent decisions to govern their own lives and also be responsible for their own lives."

Community Calender

Monday, May 16 - Residential Care Facilities Licensing Board review of licensing for Portland Youth Advocates, Parry Center for Children, Alfred Yaun Child Care Centers. Council Chambers, City Hall, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, May 17 - Northeast Coalition neighborhood meeting, 4815 N.E. 7th Avenue, 7:30 p.m.

Monday May 23 - Sabin Community Association neighborhood meeting. Call 248-4575.

Tuesday, May 24 - Boise Citizens Improvement Association Neighborhood meeting, Call 248-4575.

Tuesday May 24 - King Improvement Association neighborhood meeting, 4815 NE 7th Avenue, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, May 25 - Vermont Community Association neighborhood meeting, Multnomah School, 7688 S.W. Capitol Highway, 7:30 p.m.

Pearls from the Poet



UNITY

by Ulysses Marshall

Nigga need a new pair of shoes
He got the funky blues!
Cause he ain't got no money,
and he ain't gonna have no money
for so long!

Wow! it amazes me
How Niggas manage to keep their sanity
As much as they get
led on
lied on.
plotted on.

And then they must continue
to play a game, and carry on.

But I believe that Niggas know,
Niggas need Niggerhood!

Only Subconsciously.



EXPLAINING ACTIVITIES - Laselle S. Johnson explains efforts of the Labor Department's Women's Bureau in increasing "non-traditional" jobs for women. Johnson, a native of Pine Bluff, Arkansas, has headed the regional office of the Women's Bureau in Seattle since 1972, when that office was established.

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