

ENTERTAINMENT

# HAPPENINGS

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## B.B. King going to China

Blues great B.B. King is the current favorite goodwill ambassador of the U.S. State Department. They are negotiating with the Peoples Republic of China to send King on a goodwill tour of the Chinese mainland. This would make the Mississippi born artist the first American performer to tour China since the Communist takeover more than three decades ago.

King recently returned from a tour of Russia, again on behalf of the State Department. In Russia King played to audiences as large as 100,000 people and was invited to visit a collective farm. "The farm," says King, "was actually like the plantation which I grew up on in Mississippi. We had a chance to meet some of the workers there and learned quite a bit from them because they are a very proud people -- proud of what they are doing."

King said he saw only thirteen Blacks in all of the U.S.S.R. but the all-white audiences proved an easy chore. "Like Louis Armstrong said, 'Music is an universal language' Blues is the past, present and future with people who have problems. The Soviets have had their share . . . they know the feeling of happiness and they know pain."



PICTURED: Crystal Blake of Motown Record's and Reggie Thomas promoter of Superdisco. Crystal will M.C. along with J.W. Fridav.

Look out Portland Hilton Hotel Flash/Superdisco 1980 will arrive. Flash-funk along with Captain Boogie, currently featured in the movie *Skatetown U.S.A.* and the upcoming disco roller film *Captain Boogie*, will appear along with Superdisco to make the last disco of the 1970's, the most unique disco-entertainment event Portland has ever seen.

Be there Saturday, December 22, from 8:00 P.M. to 2:30 A.M.

Flashfunk/Superdisco 1980 comes to Portland...

Portland's own Disc Jockey J.W. Friday will M.C. the show along with a Disco rollerskating disc jockey.

Tickets go on sale December 1st, at Meier & Frank ticket office.

## Community Calendar

**Black identity in Portland** will be the topic of a presentation by the Black Cultural Affairs Board of PSU. Ron Herndon will speak on "Negativism of Portland Toward Blacks". Jawanza Kunjufu of the Institute of Positive Education will discuss "Black Identity: Today and Tomorrow". December 6th, 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Romeo Villanueva, who is on tour for the Campaign for a Nuclear-Free Philippines will speak Monday, December 3rd at 7:30 p.m. at 4312 S.E. Stark. Childcare will be provided and refreshments served. Villanueva is a former worker on the reactor which was sold to the Philippines by Westinghouse and funded by the U.S. Export-Import Bank. The event is sponsored by the Trojan Decommissioning Alliance and the American Friends Service Committee.

The Portland CETA Advisory Council will meet on Dec. 6th at 3:00 p.m., Room 106, City Hall, to review trainee enrollment numbers and progress in the Wacker training program, and to review overall CETA enrollment levels.

**Daycare workshop** to learn how to be certified to care for children in your home. Sponsored by 4-C and Ockley Green Community School. (285-8269)

**Keep Christ in Christmas** annual Christmas Advent Festival, Hilton Hotel, Dec. 9th, noon until 8:00 p.m. No admission charge.

**Creative writing** classes will be held at the Western Forestry Center for students grades 4 through 9. Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. until noon. (228-1367)

**North Portland Concerned Citizens** will discuss Phase 1 of Portsmouth/Adriatic Street Improvements. Dec. 5th, 7:30 p.m., Portsmouth School.



Miss Wells is appearing at the Showplace Lounge from November 29th through Saturday, December 8th.

## Mary Wells discovered at age 16

It was one of those golden eras in pop music -- a period that would establish the pace that would be followed for years to come. They called it the "Motown Sound" and its influence can still be detected, even though the Motown boom faded almost as quickly as it began back in the early 1960s.

Motown shattered the color line in pop music. The music was soul that found vast acceptance in the white market.

Motown's roster was filled with many of the great names -- The Supremes, Diana Ross, Marvin Gaye, Tammy Terrell, Smokey Robinson and the Miracles, the Temptations, Stevie Wonder, Martha Reeves and the Vandellas, the Spinners.

Right at the top of that list has to be Mary Wells, the first artist to appear on Berry Gordy's Motown label. Gordy discovered her when she was a 16-year-old student at Detroit's Northwestern High School. She had been singing, mostly in church choirs, since the age of 3.

Gordy was so impressed with her voice that he decided to sign her as the first artist for the new label he was planning. The label was Motown.

Mary Wells kicked it off in grand style with two quick hit records, "Bye Bye Baby" and "I Don't Wanna Take a Chance". A hit album, "Bye Bye Baby", quickly followed.

At this point, her third single, "The One Who Really Loves You", was released and it sold more than a million copies -- a staggering number for the late '50s and early '60s.

A string of million-seller records followed. Then came the hottest of all Miss Wells' records, "My Guy", which sold 2 1/2 million copies and pushed the Beatles out of the top pop position.

After leaving Motown in 1966, Miss Wells signed with Atlantic Records and Jubilee Records. With Jubilee she began writing and producing with her husband, Cecil Womack. Among the results were "The Doctor", "Two Lovers" and "Dig the Way I Feel".



## An extra night at the pops!

"Pops Potpourri" -- an evening with Irving Berlin, Rodgers & Hart, Jerome Kern, Duke Ellington, Norman Leydon, Richard Hurst and Ardyth Shapiro -- will benefit the Washington Park Zoo. The Oregon Symphony Orchestra will perform at the Portland Civic Auditorium on December 5th at 8:30 p.m.

## PSU presents jazz concert

It's A "Joyful and Jazz-Full" Christmas season at Portland State University as jazz artists Jeannie Hoffman on piano and David Friesen on bass join the PUS Chorus and Sinfonietta for another annual holiday event on December 6th and 7th at 8:00 p.m. in Lincoln Hall Auditorium.

The event has become a Portland tradition with the music and dance presentations varying from standard carols to the not-so-standard Hoffman/Friesen arrangements of old favorites.

The University Choir will be directed by Bruce Browne and the Sinfonietta by John Trudeau. Hoffman has been a jazz pianist and vocalist for more than twenty years in the San Francisco and Portland areas. Her work with bassist Friesen has earned them a wide circle of fans.

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Ernest Hemingway

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2 shows - 3 dance sets nightly

Shows 8:00 P.M. & 10:00 P.M.  
Tickets \$4.00 - \$12.00

SPECIAL PRE SHOW DINNERS

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