

ENTERTAINMENT **HAPPENINGS** ENTERTAINMENT

The Skyy's the limit!!

Skyy, the million-selling group whose new *Skyyport* LP is hot on the charts, have a secret weapon...a trio of singing sisters who help form the core of Skyy's smooth vocal style. But while some singers spend their whole lives trying to get discovered, the three lovely Dunning sisters got their first big break by accident. Skyy's Denise L. Dunning-Crawford, Delores Dunning and Benita Rae (Bonnie) Dunning have sung "for fun" since childhood. At Thomas Jefferson High School in Brooklyn, they won numerous talent shows and wowed their Brooklyn friends and neighbors as a singing group that became known as Di La Rae.

"We never even thought about doing it for a living," says Skyy's Denise, the oldest. But one friend and neighbor in the Lafayette Gardens project in Bedford-Stuyvesant where they grew up knew that the girls had talent.

"Our girlfriend who lived in the project also used to sing with us for fun when we'd visit," explains Skyy's Delores. "Her husband was involved at the time in the New York State Finals for the Miss Black America Pageant. He had the franchise that year to direct it.

"So he knew that we sang, and he just said, you know, why don't you come sing for me at the show. And we said Okay, we'll do it. We just thought it was another chance to sing."

Also hired to perform at the pageant was another group of struggling Brooklyn musicians -- a band known as Brass Construction. Although Brass



was two years away from their first record (a million seller), they already played like pros, and cast a wary eye when the future-Skyy girls showed up.

"They assumed we couldn't sing..." says Bonnie.

"Of course," adds Delores.

"They were just looking at these girls," says Bonnie, "saying" to themselves, Okay...sure, the same old, same old..."

When Brass had to back the girls on a song, "it was like, Oh God, here they go -- another girl group," Denise recalls.

"But when we started singing, they said that they had to look up and take notice, because they couldn't believe it," says Bonnie. After that night Brass leader and producer Randy Muller recruited the girls to sing with Brass, which led to their association with Randy's friend and musical cohort Solomon Roberts Jr., who is the leader of Skyy.

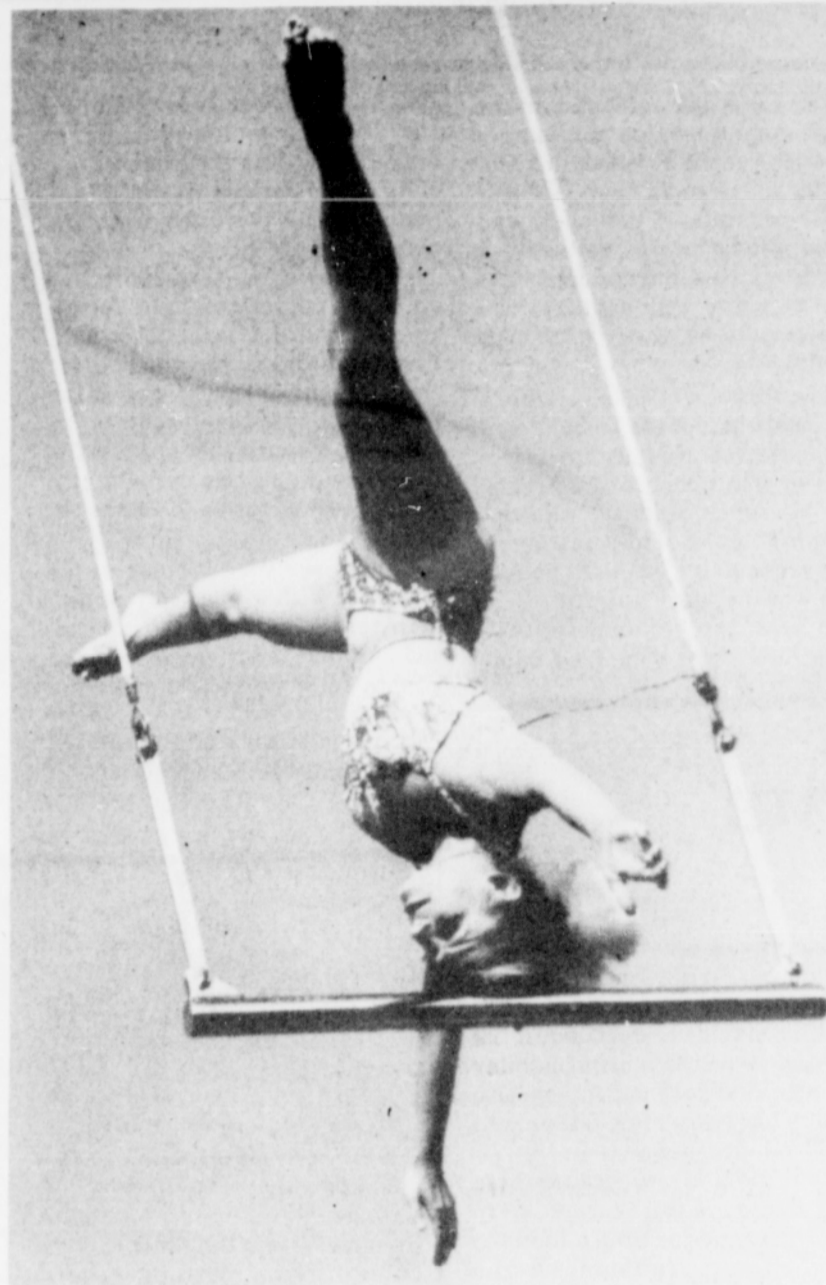
Seeing their names now in lights and on Skyy album covers is a pleasure the girls of Skyy never thought about until that night in 1973. "That night everything materialized in front of our faces," Delores says. "Before that it was fun, after that, it was an obsession."

MAKING IT HAPPEN

Performance: Mago Hunt Center recital hall, University of Portland, 5000 N. Willamette Blvd., April 1, 1981 - 8 p.m., a one man performance of music and dance on "Indian Lore," by Phil Lucas. Free and open to the public.

Film: "Enemies" by Karen Boettcher, directed by Pauline Poetter, April 10, 11 (Friday, Saturday) 16, 17, 18 (Thursday, Friday, Saturday) 8:00 P.M., Portland State University, Lincoln Hall. For more information call the Theater Arts Department at 229-4612.

Talent Search: For located talented people to appear on stage April 18, 1981 at the Coliseum Assembly Hall in conjunction with the local Miss Black Portland Beauty Pageant. Dancers, Singers, Actors/Actresses, Comedians, etc. are all wanted. There will be judging of the talent by local judges, with prizes being awarded to the best act. Deadline for talent acts is March 31, 1981. For more information call Gracye Kennedy at 249-0844.



Miss Ilona is one of the death-defying aerialists in the all-new 1981 version of the Hubert Castle International Three Ring Shrine Circus playing Friday, Saturday and Sunday at the Memorial Coliseum. Wild animals, clowns, pretty girls and a host of jugglers, acrobats and trained dogs and chimps will be the order of the day at the six performances of the huge circus, March 27, 28 and 29.



KWAME: A LADIES MON!

With his spirited music and equally spirited good looks, Polydor recording artist Kwame who is riding high with his debut album, *Followi* meets two of his latest fans, Cheryl Lynn on his right and Sarah Dash to the left. The occasion was a gala celebration for the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre held at Bond's International Disco in New York City. The spirits were high that evening - Cheryl Lynn performed singing her big hits *Got To Be Real* and *Keep It Hot* and was joined onstage by the Teddy Bear himself, Teddy Pendergrass. Sarah Dash echoed her disco smash *Sinner Man* and other cuts from her latest LP *Oo La La Sarah Dash*. Kwame, the Jamaican born newcomer had a first rate glimpse into the New York music business, and by the end of the evening he was discussing with Ms. Dash the possibility of producing her next album!

MAKING IT HAPPEN

Dance Fitness: Emphasis will be focused on aerobic and jazz techniques. Versatility will be stressed. Designed for beginners. Good way to firm up, lose weight, gain grace, control the body. Class begin March 31, 1981 at 7:00 for adults. Fee \$2.00 Classes will be held at University Park Community Center, 9009 N. Foss. Instructor is B.J. Pittman.

Saturday Movie: "St. Louis Blues" (Musical 1958). The life story of composer W.C. Handy. Stars Nat Cole, Eartha Kitt and Ella Fitzgerald. The songs are classics, superbly performed by some of the music world greatest, March 28, 1981, 6:00 pm - Ch. 12 KPTV.

D.J. DANCE MACHINE

15th & Killingsworth

MARCH 22, 1981

SUNDAY 2:30 P.M.

THEME:

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FASHION SHOW

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3 BIG DAYS OF SUPER THRILLS starts FRIDAY, MARCH 27

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Adults \$4.50
Children \$3.50

RESERVED \$2.00 extra (child or adult) for Reserved Seats

6 PERFORMANCES (2 Hours 15 Minutes)
FRIDAY, MARCH 27 at 7:30 PM
SATURDAY, MARCH 28 12 Noon - 4:00 & 8:00 PM
SUNDAY, MARCH 29 1:30 & 5:30 PM

MARCH 27-28-29 - MEMORIAL COLISEUM

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GOSPEL LP ★ SOUL 45's ★ SOUL LP

SOUL LP

1. Marvin Gaye - In our Lifetime
2. Ozone - Jump on It
3. Gap Band III
4. Shalamar - Three for Love
5. Gil Scott-Heron - Real eyes
6. Eloise Laws
7. The Whispers - Imagination
8. Aretha
9. Millie Jackson - I had to say It
10. Yarbrough & Peoples - The Two of Us

SOUL 45

1. Rapp Payback - James Brown
2. What's Wrong with our love Affair - S.O.S.
3. Watching You - Slave
4. Everything is Cool - T-Connection
5. Thighs High (Grip your hips and move) - Tom Browne
6. Bon Bon Vie - T.S. Monk
7. Here's To You - Skyy
8. Together - Tierra
9. Funkin Around - Rose Royce
10. Little Girl Don't You Worry - Jermaine Jackson

GOSPEL LP

1. Mighty Clouds of Joy - Cloud burst
2. Walter Hawkins - The Hawkins Family
3. Kristle - I Can't Let Go
4. Beverly Glenn - Take Me Higher
5. Al Green - The Lord Will Make A Way
6. James Cleveland - Sing with the world's greatest Choirs
7. Inez Andrews - The Remarkable
8. Billy Preston - Universal Love
9. James Cleveland Presents Henry Jackson
10. The Gospel Music Workshop Mass Choir of America - Recorded live in Philadelphia, PA., "I Give My All To You."

ASB INTERESTING FACTS
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By AMERICAN STATE BANK

Scotland was named Caledonia till the 3rd century when the Scoti tribe of Ireland overran it and changed the name to Scotland.

The first city in the history of the world to reach a population of 1 million was Alexandria, Egypt.

Oddly enough, the Nobel Peace Prize was named after the man who invented dynamite, Alfred Nobel. He left 9 million dollars, the interest on which is given to each year's winners.

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Time: 5:00 - 9:00 PM

Place: "On The Rocks" 15 N.W. 6th

Sponsored by The Oregonian Ladies

Door Prizes Admission: \$2.50 Single \$5.00 Couple Door Prizes