

PRINCE: A MUSICAL PRODIGY

To say that Warner Brothers recording artist Prince is a musical prodigy is almost an understatement. Before he turned 20, Prince had sold nearly three million records. He had recorded three LPs, playing all the instruments and writing and singing all the songs himself. And he'd gotten his first number one single -- "I Wanna Be Your Lover."

One might expect a musician who plays 26 instruments and records his albums in a home-made Minneapolis studio to have a lot of formal training. But as Prince confesses, "I had one piano lesson and two guitar lessons as a kid."

At the age of seven, Prince first started teaching himself to play. "My dad left home for the first time and left his piano," Prince says. "He never let anyone play it before. So I taught myself songs from the television--Batman, Man from UNCLE. I learned to play them by ear."

By fifth grade Prince (his real name) was playing piano in talent shows, and soon after started writing original songs. By thirteen, he had his first band--Champagne. Champagne played hotels and high school dances, but by the time Prince finished high school, he realized he had far greater ambitions.

A break came when Curtis Moon, proprietor of a local Minneapolis studio, asked Prince to add some piano tracks to a guitar and voice demo Moon had made. After he put down the piano part, Prince asked Moon if he wanted bass. Moon accepted, and by the time Prince was done, he'd added bass, drums, a guitar lead and overdubbed his own back-up vocals.

To return the favor, Moon let Prince have some free studio time. After Prince recorded some demo tapes, he set out for New York to find fame and fortune, and even though he was offered two record deals, Prince turned them down because "they wouldn't let me produce myself. They had a lot of strange ideas--tubas and cellos and stuff. I knew I was going to have to do it myself if it was going to turn out right."



Prince returned to Minneapolis, where meanwhile Moon had played Prince's work for a local manager. The manager was impressed enough to help Prince get his recording deal with Warner Brothers, and became at 18 the youngest artist on the label to ever produce his own record.

"I have a lot of creative control," explains Prince. "They let me produce my own records, write my own songs, pick the arrangements and all that. They're really open. I just do the album, give it to them, and they put it out."

Although he makes it sound like a modest achievement, Prince's records have already made a splash. The singles "Soft and Wet" (Off For You, his debut) and "I Wanna Be Your Lover" were both R&B hits. "Uptown," off his latest--*Dirty Mind*--marks Prince's third hit. At 20, Prince may still just be a kid. But it's clear this is one kid who knows what he's doing.

MAKING IT HAPPEN

Woodwind Specialist Arlen Asher will be featured artist for the 6th Annual Festival of Jazz March 27-28 at the University of Portland. He will perform each evening at 8 p.m., in Buckley Center auditorium. The admission charge of \$2 students, \$3 adults is payable at the door. Junior and high school students from all over the Northwest will attend the two-day festival.

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Date: Sunday - March 29, 1981
Time: 5:00 - 9:00 PM
Place: "On The Rocks" 15 N.W. 6th
 Sponsored by **The Oregonian Ladies"**
Admission: \$2.50 Single \$5.00 Couple
Door Prizes



On March 29, 1981, the "Oregonian Ladies" will present the exotic "Cattani Lingerie of California" at "On the Rocks," 15 N.W. 6th. Don't miss the show of the year!

Participating in the "Cattani Lingerie of California" show are: (Left to right) Doris Larklin, Carlana Valder and Colette Morrison. They will indeed present to some and introduce to others, a dynamite show!



MARLEY LIMBS UP BEFORE A SHOW -- Raggae singer and international superstar Bob Marley points out some of the unique features of the hall he played in Heidelberg on his recent sold-out European tour to support his album *Uprising*. As the solitary wooden leg on the table attests, it was no ordinary theatre, but a factory for the manufacture of artificial limbs. Before the evening's performance, Bob had a chance to wander the facility performing a whole new type of limb-o, observing with great interest the variety of spare human parts arrayed before him. When he hit the stage that night, Marley transformed the giant room from the world of the artificial to the realm of the real with the dynamic human emotions that are the product of Bob Marley and the Wailers' shows.

Ask Aunt Bea

Dear Aunt Bea,
 I am a student of 16 years. When I went to the university, I fell in love suddenly with a boy in one of my classes. I began to be nervous each time I saw him, but tried to hide my true sentiments. It was in vain because the boy noticed my interest in him and misinterpreted my true character. Disillusioned and heartbroken, I decided to dedicate myself to my skills. After a few weeks I noticed that one of my professors looked at me with sincere affection. Although he is much older than I, I accepted his invitation to go to a theatre with him - I returned home in a trance. He is a gentleman of much culture and charm. Now I am truly in love, but have fear. It is the second time I have fallen in love in three months and I fear I will become a light and frivolous woman, if I continue this. My friends laugh at my sentiments and I don't dare talk to my mother about my new love. I don't know what to do. Advise me please.

Fran
 Portland

Dear Fran,
 It appears to me that you are suffering from a loneliness syndrome and are accepting every whim that comes along with a kind word or glance. I don't believe you could have fallen in love so quickly with a fellow student and suddenly out of love, and then suddenly in love again with your professor, and all in three months time.

It's obvious that you need companionship and possibly someone to care or even someone to care for. I suggest you cool it with love for awhile until the right guy comes along. When he does, you'll know it. Get involved in other activities, allowing other friendships and involvements. There are still people around who care for fellowship

without intimate involvement. Have fun, your whole life is still ahead of you, and so is love!

Aunt Bea

Dear Aunt Bea,
 I'm in love with a man 25 years my senior. He loves me too. Our romance wasn't planned, it just happened over a long period of time. We have much fun together, and have a lot in common. We like the same things and we're able to work out our differences in an adult-like manner, that is, until you mention marriage.

Aunt Bea, I'm 22 and he's 47. I'll call him John. John thinks our age difference will make too much of a difference, should we settle down into matrimony. He says there is a definite difference in dating and being married as far as relationships goes. Frankly, I don't agree, especially if we love each other the way we say we do. What do you think.

In love

Dear In Love,
 John is right, not only does being married makes a difference, and I might add, a big difference, but your age difference will definitely matter in the long run if not sooner. It's difficult to be convincing in a few words, but once you've experienced it, the words make sense, but then it's too late.

I suggest that you listen to John. Discuss it further and try to understand. If you have such a beautiful thing now, enjoy it and don't risk the possibilities of ruining it for something that may look better.

Remember a bird in the hand, is worth 2 in the bush. May you and John have a long and lasting love together.

Aunt Bea

Send your questions to: Aunt Bea, Box 3137, Portland, OR 97208.

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The fastest flying bird in the world is the swift, which, incredibly, can fly at about 200 miles an hour.

The first woman in a President's cabinet was Frances Perkins, in 1933, who was Secretary of Labor under President Franklin Roosevelt.

"The Star Spangled Banner" did not officially become the National Anthem until 1931. It wasn't made official by Congress till then -- 117 years after it was written.

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THE PORTLAND OBSERVER AND **HOUSE OF SOUNDS**
TOP 10
 GOSPEL LP ★ SOUL 45's ★ SOUL LP

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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 	
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 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." 	