

HAPPENINGS



ENTERTAINMENT NETWORK
Joe "Bean" Keller, Entertainment Editor

6th Avenue opens up

Portland's newest over-21 club and night spot will be having its Grand Opening on Wednesday, April 24, 6 p.m. 'til 2 a.m. at the 6th Ave. Club, 15 N.W. 6th (formerly Old Town Saloon). It's soon to become one of the city's hottest live entertainment spots, hosting a variety of Portland's artists from Rock to R&B. The public is invited to attend the grand opening and be entertained by the music of No Shooz. The M.C.'s for the evening will be the Z100 Morning Zoo. Gary Bryant, Lorna Dee and the Z100 Jammin' Salmon. See you there.

'Seizure Later' by Gran Mal

Rick Mitchell, music critic for *Rolling Stone* record magazine and *The Oregonian*, and founder of the Electric Gan Mal, a Latin term that directly translates to "big bad," and now commonly refers to major electric short-circuiting in the human brain akin to an epileptic episode. Of course, only the hopeless intellectual will form some image connection, although Mitchell does plan an original composition for the performance entitled "Seizure Later."

Gran Mal members are all notable and active in other bands. Calvin Walker, lead vocalist; Damien Dillon, drums; John Mazzocco, bass; Dan Brandt, keyboard-synthesizer; John Jensen, trumpet; Warren Rand, saxophone, and Rick Mitchell and Curtis Craft on percussions.

Gran Mal is scheduled to debut at Key Largo on April 28, opening for El Combo Caribe, then headlining on the same stage May 6.

Stevie Wonder Day urged

Radio personality/activist Bob Law, host of "Night Talk," has called for Black Americans — especially Black radio stations — to show nationwide solidarity for Stevie Wonder and his public support of Nelson Mandela, the imprisoned South African leader. Law has asked Black radio stations across the country to play a day of Stevie Wonder's music.

Wonder's songs were banned from South African radio stations recently after Wonder dedicated his Oscar to Mandela, leader of the outlawed African National Congress. Mandela has served 22 years of a life sentence for treason and sabotage.

"If my being banned means people will be free, ban me mega-times," said Wonder who won the Academy Award for best song "I Just Want to Say I Love You" from the motion picture "The Woman in Red." Those wishing to show their support for Stevie Wonder should call their local stations and ask that they have a Stevie Wonder Day of Music.



Whitney Houston's N.Y. solo debut

New Arista signing Whitney Houston made her first solo New York City appearance at Sweetwater's, previewing songs from her just-released debut album, "Whitney Houston." The LP features production contributions from Kashif (including the single, "You Give Good Love," Jermaine Jackson, Michael Masser and Narada Michael Walden. The five-night Sweetwater's engagement, which drew raves from the press, attracted show-business personalities such as Gregory Hines and singer Patti Austin, as well as many radio and retail people who came out to see the young singing discovery.

Shown at Sweetwater's following one of Houston's shows are (l-r): Austin; Whitney Houston; Kashif; Cissy Houston; LaLa, writer of "You Give Good Love."

PBS nixes interracial film

by Lanita Duke

GRASSROOT NEWS, N.W.—If middle-class America is anything like it was portrayed in a film entitled "Seventeen," then our youth are truly in trouble. And racism is alive, perpetuated and ingrained in everyday attitudes, actions and thoughts.

"Seventeen" was the youth segment in "Middletown," a multi-part documentary portrait of Muncie, Indiana in 1982. Underwritten by Xerox Corporation and the Public Broadcasting System, "Seventeen" was never broadcast in the "Middletown" series.

The reason lies with the content. The filmmakers shadowed a white 17-year-old female for two years through her involvement with a Black basketball star, her relationship with her high school teachers and her interactions at home.

The scandal of Xerox and PBS was the youth and her peer group's very limited vocabulary — four letter words — with outside interests equally narrow — drinking beer and smoking marijuana.

Bettering one's self, going to college or even completing homework assignments were never discussed by the youth. Also, a consistent disrespect for adults was quite evident throughout the film.

The main character, Lynn Massie, is infatuated with a Black youth. However, when she's alone with him, she chastises him to the point of castration — "Why are you always telling lies? Why aren't you home?"

On an interracial double date when one of the Black youths is perceived as being embarrassed because he's out with a white girl, Lynn counters with, "Listen, you guys ain't the ones getting the bad name — we are. White girls don't mess with no Black guys, but we swallow our pride cause we care about you so much."


But Lynn's caring for the basketball star is short-lived. After seeing she does a roll call of "I've done him so wrong with Ted, Jim, Harry, etc. . . ." While still involved with the relationship, the local Ku Klux Klan burns a cross in her yard and her friends call her a "nigger lover."

"I think it's death when Black and white get together. I think it sucks!," says a white male to her in a pool hall.

Lynn, without defense, puts up with the criticism but immediately breaks off the relationship when Black girls begin to call her home with threats. Lynn replies to these assaults with a tirade of "Black b—ches!"


"Seventeen" was shown last weekend, sponsored by the Northwest Film Study Center. There were only two scenes when a Black youth kissed a white girl. Both times, white couples in the audience left. Now, if this happens in Portland where interracial dating is so visual, just think how those folks at PBS and Xerox took it. J. Hoberman from the Village Voice summed up "Seventeen" this way: "The fear of presenting an interracial couple on TV is a greater scandal than any romance could be."

"Seventeen" is a slice of America in the raw. Because it seemed so real, and it was real, it takes one inside the youth of America and what it shows is that they are in trouble.




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9:00 p.m. till 2:30 a.m.
Music by: Benny Wilson trio
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All Musicians Invited to Jam
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27th Annual
Ebony Fashion Fair
Presents *Color Fantasy*
Sponsored By
The Links, Incorporated
Portland, Oregon Chapter
Friday, April 26, 1985
8:30 P.M.
Red Lion Motor Inn
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Benefit of:
Links' Educational Fund
Proceeds to:
American Heart Association
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Kerr Young Parents Program
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and
Sylvia's
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MAY 3rd (Friday)
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Taking Place At:
LLOYD CENTER TEMPLE BAPTIST CHURCH
1319 N.E. 7th Ave. & Clackamas
SERVED FROM 5:30 p.m.-8:30 p.m.
ALL MONEY USED TO HELP SEND KIDS TO CAMPS THIS SUMMER!

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Nationally-renowned entertainers, including such well-known personalities as M*A*S*H star David Ogden Stiers, actress Jean Stapleton, and talk show host Dick Cavett, will help launch Public Radio Campaign '85. This nationwide on-air effort, designed to assist NPR member stations in local fund-raising, is scheduled for April 22 - 27, a week of specially-produced performance and news program from National Public Radio and member stations.

Citizens' Groups for the month of April present the Staple Bros., Cavalcade of Stars, Ray Dell & Co. with "Lady Magic" Paulette, Strictly Roots, Gene Diamond and Tiffany. All at the Royal Esquire Club.

Royal Esquire Club
1708 N.E. Alberta

HAPPENINGS APRIL HAPPENINGS

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 April Fool's	2	3 Staple Bros.	4 Happy Birthday Francine	5	6
7	8	9	10 Staple Bros.	11	12 Ray Dell & Co. featuring Lady Magic Paulette	13
14	15	16	17 Happy Birthday T.J.	18 Strictly Roots	19	20
21 Aries Party with Gene Diamond & Francine	22	23	24	25 Staple Bros.	26	27 Frank Redding and Co.
28 Frank Redding and Co.	29	30				