

ENTERTAINMENT NETWORK

Joe "Bean" Keller, Entertainment Editor

Mary Wells' local appearance

She was a founder and architect of the world-famous "Motown Sound." She has been ranked by critics and fans as one of the best female singers in the business. Her "My Guy" single ended the Beatles' historic early 60s' dominance of the number one spot on the pop charts. She was - no, she is - the incomparable Mary Wells.

Fresh and rested after several years of semi-retirement, Mary returns to the recording scene with a new Epic Records LP, In And Out Of Love. The album should prove to be a warmly-welcomed one, especially by people who are complaining about the lack of good songs these days. In And Out Of Love is full of good songs.

The sound hasn't been heard very much lately, and with good reason. Mary, the mother of three children, was concerned about being home to be a parent. That, of course, is nearly impossible to do juggling a rough touring and recording schedule. But, the kids are older now, and that's good news for all of us. It means that Mary's back.

Mary Wells grew up in poverty in Detroit. She says she was a sensitive child and still remembers how she hated seeing her widowed mother scuffle and struggle trying to make ends meet. Mary helped when she could, even selling homemade soft drinks around the neighborhood and turning the proceeds over to her mother. It was this same inner drive that would later lead Mary Wells from obscurity to prominence.

At 16, Mary heard of an up-and-coming young songwriter named Berry Gordy Jr., who had worked closely with Jackie Wilson. Through a friend, she reached Gordy in hopes that he might help her start a songwriting career.

Mary will be appearing for two shows at the Key Largo on Oct. 24th.

Poolside Records' new release

Poolside Records is proud to announce plans for the release of a second single from the Nu Shooz cassette, Tha's Right. The "A" side of the record will contain an alternative mix of "Goin' Too Far," while the "B" side will be "Make Your Mind Up." The release follows on the heels of the Shooz No. 1 summer hit, "I Can't Wait."

Poolside President Rick Waritz states: "When the excitement over "I Can't Wait" started to die down, all the radio stations that had been playing the record started asking us about a follow-up. We had always felt that "Goin' Too Far" was a strong tune, so we decided to go ito the studio and beef it up a little. We added some new drum parts and brightened the vocals some, and just basically added a little more punch to the track. We're just really happy that there seems to be a demand for Nu Shooz music out there."

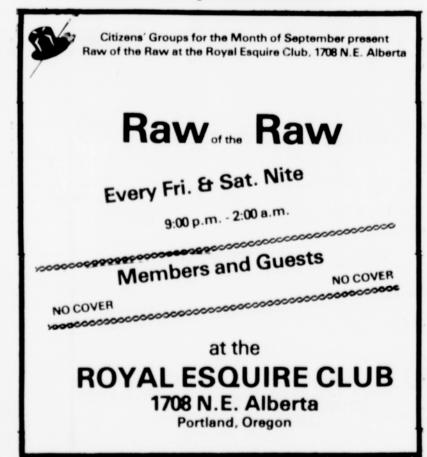
The package for the single will include a fold-out poster and will be available oct. 21. Please call 281-3834 for further information.



Holiday festival of Black dolls

Interstate Firehouse Cultural Center, Portland's most unique cultural center is the perfect locale for the most unique doll show ever held in Portland. "Holiday Festival of Black Dolls" is more than a mere doll show. It is a showcase for dollmakers, artists and collectors to exhibit and market to their diverse clientele, Black dolls of every hue and description including paper, porcelain, clothespin, soft sculpture, sock and antique. Many of the dolls are one-of-a-kind. All are colorful and beautifully made. Some of the collectibles and antiques are dated late 1800s and early 1900s.

"Holiday Festival of Black Dolls," Sataurday, October 19, will be exciting, educational, enlightening and entertaining. Dollmakers, artists, collectors and entertainers for this most unique festival are Pacific Northwest residents. However, some artisans residing outside Washington and Oregon will have their works of art on display. Anyone wishing to participate, may direct inquiries to: "Holiday Festival of Black Dolls, P.O. Box 1212, Bellevue, Washington 98009, (206)323-9329.





Ronald K. Charity, President and founder of the Black Teenage World Scholar ship Program congratulates 1985 winner, Sharon Cort, 17, of Freeport, NY. during crowning ceremonies in Antigua, West Indies, site of the 1985 program. Sharon is Vice-President of her student council, a cheer leader and manager of the varsity football team at Freeport High School. Hampton University present-

Benny Bell to perform locally

A pair of Portland performing and directing talents, actress-director Victoria Parker and dancer-choreographer Benny Bell, will combine forces to present Ntozake Shange's choreopoem, "For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide/When the Rainbow is Enuf," the fall Portland State University theater arts production, November 9-23, in Lincoln Hall Auditorium.

The show will play Thursday through Saturday at 8 p.m. on the auditorium main stage. Tickets, at \$5 general and \$3.50 students and senior citizens, are available from the PSU Box Office, 229-4440.

Parker and Bell first discussed staging Ntozake Shange's collection of narrative pieces some time ago and began planning the production last spring. They are listed as co-directors, with Bell choreographing the stage movement for the seven Black actresses who make up the cast.

"For Colored Girls. . ." evolved from early presentations of poetry and dance in Berkeley by Shange and a group of collaborators. It was first produced in New York by Joseph Papp, opening on Broadway in the fall of 1976. The work is described by Shange as, "The words of a young Black girl's growing up, her triumphs and errors, our struggle to become all that is forbidden by our environment, all that is forfeited by our gender, all that we have forgotten."

Co-director Victoria Parker was last seen in the PSU Summer Festival Theater production, "Agnes of God." A graduate of PSU, she has taught theater classes at Portland State and elsewhere and has acted in and directed many local and regional theater pieces. She won "Willie" awards for best direction and best production with her 1979 show, "When You Comin' Back, Red Ryder?"

Benny Bell, who now choreographs and performs with his Benny Bell Dancers, has performed and taught dance in Europe and the Northwest. He has been a featured artist with the Katherine Dunham Dance Company and the Keith

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Jazmin Jam

The Jazmin Jazz Combo is hosting a Jam Session every Sunday at the Royal Esquire Club from 3 p.m. until 5 p.m. Children are able to attend. Students and instructors make up the Jazz Combo and musical friends sit it with gospel, standards and contemporary music.

The Jazmin is also starting an adult women's band for those 18 and older on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. at the B.E.C., 1640 N.E. Alberta.

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