

ENTERTAINMENT



Dead Milkmen Rock to Sold-Out Crowd



hero worship that follows Elvis, and *Beach Party Vietnam* (which satirizes the government's efforts to glorify the army).

The crowd they draw is quite socially-displeased, and in its extremes, exhibit this hatred-energy through moshing. Moshing's alternative name, slam-dancing, succinctly describes the process: it consists mostly of bodily smashing into equally willing parties. Moshing is dancing no more than purposefully wrecking one's car is driving.

The Melody Ballroom didn't seem to be quite the setting for bands typically construed as drawing hyper, sophomoric crowds (about 75% of the audience was under 21), but the setup crew did a great job of stripping the set to make it mosh-proofed.

Two opening bands brought the crowd to its feet, preparing them for the *Milkmen*: talented *Drunk at Abbey's* and the even more talented local band *Completely Grocery*. Cigarette-smoke mushroom clouds rose to meet the scanty light show, as *Drunk at Abbey's* took the stage. Their style is reminiscent of the rock band *Love and Rockets*. *Completely Grocery's* bass guitarist's neon-pink sombrero was a fairly representative symbol of the completely happy, energetic time they gave the crowd. Their offbeat stage theatrics included pulling an audience member onto the stage in an invitation to dance, as well as passing water to the audience.

It was a sold-out show, and for good reason: it was a terrific night. No one left without earning some sweat from three and a half hours of mobility, spent between three bands. Keep an ear out for *Completely Grocery*—they're upwardly mobile in the local scene, for the good reason of their extreme musical ability. And if you haven't caught "Milkmania", perhaps you're overdue for a musical surprise.

(The band's name, by the way, stems from a joke the *Milkmen* had regarding a milk truck with an inexplicably missing driver.)

But this band with harmless antics that people seem to laugh at and tell themselves, "funny, but you wouldn't catch me partaking", had the crowd dancing in imitation of monkeys.

The *Dead Milkmen's* lyrics seem, at first listen, to be only hallucinatory, ludicrous reflections on a surface level; actually, the four-member group takes extremely insightful sections of society, transplanting it into simple wording that the younger crowd can understand and relate to, adding guitars and drums and simplistic crowd-pleasing gimmicks. While their musical talent does not touch upon a wide array of musical styles (nor do they even exhibit extreme talent on their instruments), this is not their attempt: they simply convey to the listener the idea of "Society's weird...what can we do but sing about it?" as illustrated by many of their song titles: *Everybody's got Good Stuff but Me* (a parable on materialism), *Graceland* (a joke about the

by Angelique Sanders

A nondescript tour bus with the words "nobody you know" printed on the front and a punk comic book in the window pulled up outside the Melody Ballroom. The Philadelphia quartet, *The Dead Milkmen*, had arrived in Portland.

If nothing else indicated to passersby that something was unusual about this band, the concert tee-shirts would have: a consumer had the choice between the slogans "Metaphysical graffiti" and "Fear of a Beige Planet". Or, perhaps, the band's symbol of a dead or inebriated (its eyes are X-ed out) cow named Elsie illustrates something that few seem able to decipher, yet most love.

Rodney Anonymous--he changes his name more often than Madonna changes her hair color--the keyboardist, has a keyboard with "I'm possessed" programmed in as the opening display message. The *New Kids on the Block* stickers on his keyboard, he explains less than seriously, are there so he'll be sure to recognize them should he ever run across them.

Seafirst Bank Blazer Slam 'N' Jam Returns to Civic Stadium

Seafirst Bank Blazer Slam 'N' Jam '90 will be held at Civic Stadium on Saturday, July 21st. Tickets are on sale now at all TicketMaster outlets. General Admission is \$9. A limited number of reserved seats will also be available at \$19. Children 12 and under will be admitted for half price. User fees and agency service charges are additional. Doors will open at 3:00 p.m.

The Trail Blazers Rookie Game is scheduled to tip-off at 6:30 p.m. The Blazer summer camp roster, which will include Drazen Petrovic, Cliff Robinson, Byron Irvin, Mark Bryant and Nate Johnston, will play the summer camp roster of the Utah Jazz.

A three point shootout competition has been added to this year's event agenda. Drazen Petrovic, who finished 3rd this season in the NBA in 3-point accuracy, and Darrell Griffith who currently ranks 6th on the NBA all-time 3-point scorers list, will compete with NBA legend Rick Barry.

On-stage entertainment includes the "Oregon All-Star Jam" featuring some of Portland's best musicians. A concert by the world-renowned and three-time Grammy award winner Robert Cray Band featuring the Memphis Horns wraps-up this year's event.

The schedule of events are listed below:

- 3:00 p.m. Doors Open
- 4:00 p.m. Oregon All-Star Jam
- 5:00 p.m. Miller Lite Six Pack Sky Divers
- 5:15 p.m. Blazer 3-Point Shootout
- 6:15 p.m. Rookie Game Warm-Up
- 6:30 p.m. Rookie Game Tip-Off
- 8:45 p.m. Robert Cray
- 10:00 p.m. Event Ends



Anita Baker

Heats Up the Summer with a New Album, and Her First World Wide Tour

Six time Grammy Award winner Anita Baker kicked off her 40 city worldwide tour with 4 sold out concerts at Radio City Music Hall in New York City. The anticipation for her appearances is spreading across the country with additional sold out concerts at Budokan in Tokyo and Wembley Arena in London. Fans all over Europe and Asia are clamoring for tickets for their first opportunity to see Me. Baker live.

Anita's third album for Elektra entitled "Compositions" will feature the single and video "Talk to Me" as the first release. She is particularly excited about this album as she is not only the Executive Producer, but this time she composed seven of the songs. On "Compositions" she strives to recapture the spontaneity of live performance by simultaneously recording her vocals and rhythm section, a technique more characteristic of her heroines Sara Vaughn and Nancy Wilson, than of today's singers. The result in a highly

personal reverie that explores themes of love and romance in a musical dialogue that is fresh and unpredictable. Michael Powell produced the album that features such world class musicians as Greg Phillinganes, Steve Ferrone, Ricky Lawson, Nathan East, Vernon Fails and Earl Klugh. The video was shot in Los Angeles and was directed by Dominic Sena.

Prior to commencing her tour, Anita performed at Wembley Stadium for "An International Tribute For A Free South Africa," honoring Nelson Mandela. Joining her on stage were Bonnie Raitt, Natalie Cole, and Mica Paris. Other luminaries attending that night were Peter Gabriel, Tracy Chapman, Neil Young and Patti LaBelle, as well as The Reverend Jesse Jackson.

With 1990 already producing Grammy and American Music Awards, a new album and worldwide tour, Anita Baker continues to prove how limitless her talents truly are.

"Coca-Cola Coup de Hoop"



LOS ANGELES, June 25, 1990 -- Playground basketball at its "rough and tumble" best came alive at Venice Beach in Los Angeles for the first national "Coca-Cola Coup de Hoop" 3-on-3 basketball tournament. Regional playground champion male and female teams from Atlanta, New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, Hawaii and Puerto Rico competed for more than \$160,000 in prize money. In addition, the "Coca-Cola Coup de Hoop" was featured on ABC's *Wide World of Sports*. Shown at the check presentation to the winning men's team are (left to right) Chuck Morrison, vice president Coca-Cola USA; Eldridge Hudson and Gilbert Wilburn, Los Angeles; Renny Roker, president, Paradise Sports Promotions; Ed Washington, vice-president, Coca-Cola Enterprises; Wendell Wright and Maurice Griffin, Los Angeles; Jerry Graham, vice president, Los Angeles Coca-Cola Bottling Company; Mike Steele, director, Black Consumer Markets, and Harold Stone, promotion manager, Coca-Cola USE (Photo by Arnold Turner)

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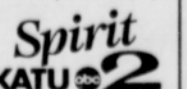
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