

## ENTERTAINMENT



### Oregon Shakespeare Festival Portland 1991-92



Troy Maxson (John Henry Redwood, left) trades stories of life and death with his pal Jim Bono (Nick Smith) on the porch of the home he shares with wife Rose (Marjorie Johnson, center) in the Oregon Shakespeare Festival Portland production of August Wilson's Pulitzer Prize winning play, "Fences." On stage in the Intermediate Theatre of the Portland Center for the Performing Arts through November 30. Directed by Benny Sato Ambush, with settings by Edward Burbridge, costumes by Myrna Colley-Lee, and lighting by Stephanie Johnson. For tickets and information, call (503) 274-6588. Photo: Rick Adams.

### Oregon Shakespeare Festival Portland's 1991-92 Season Opens with 'Fences'

August Wilson's Pulitzer Prizewinning "Fences," the opening production of Oregon Shakespeare Festival Portland's 1991-92 season, opens November 6 and runs through November 30 at the Internediate Theatre of the Portland Center for the Performing Arts. The production is generously sponsored in part by US Bank.

OSF Portland Producer Dennis Begelow has announced casting and designers for the production, which features an artistic staff whose members have worked in theatres throughout the country:

John Henry Redwood, a New Yorker with extensive east coast acting credits, plays one-time Negro Leagues baseball star Troy Maxon, the center of Wilson's powerful story of the black American experience in the 1950's.

Marjorie Johnson plays Troy's wife, Rose, Richard Barbaza plays Cory, the son with athletic and college aspirations larger than his father believes to be realistic.

Peter Fitzsimmons plays Lyons, Troy's elder son by a previous mar-

Cast as Troy's friend and neighbor Bono is Nick Smith.

Charles Branklyn plays Troy's brother Gabriel.

Benny Sata Ambush, Associate Artistic Director of American Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco, directs "Fences."

Scenic design is by Edward Brubridge, who has designed on Broadway and for numerous theatres. Costumes for "Fences" are designed by Myrna Colley-Lee, a costumer with many credits at East Coast theatres and performance groups.

Lighting design is by Stephanie Johnson, whose resume includes the Robert Townsend film "The Five Heartbeats."

Good seating is still available for "Fences," and single tickets prices range from \$8.00 to \$22.00 this season. Subscriptions (season tickets for all five plays) begin at just \$36.00. For ticket reservations and other information, please call the OSF Portland box office at 274-6588.

### OLDER WORKER TRAINING PROGRAM

HOLIDAY CRAFT FAIR

DATE:

Saturday, November 9

TIME:

10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

PLACE:

Friendly House Community Center N.W. 26th and Thurman

Portland, Oregon

Bus #15 - Gordon & Thurman

Participants in the Older Worker Training Program have planned and organized the Holiday Craft Fair to help them earn extra money during the holiday season.

This event is sponsored by The Private Industry Council.

For more information, contact: Betty Gillians 241-4600

### Cold-weather goods needed

As winter nears, blankets, heavy coats and other cold-weather clothing are once again atop our list of desperately needed items. Among the other needs: workboots, rain gear and tents (for the homeless), blankets, pillows, bedsheets, baby blankets, pots, pans, dishes, kitchen utensils, tables and chairs, For details: 284-6878. chests of drawers.

Fraser Rasmussen leaving us (almost)

Long-time Board member Fraser Rasmussen resigned that post last month, but vowed to stay "as active as I can be" as a volunteer.

### **Shop at Just James**

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### The Northwest Service Center Present

"Juke Joints and Jubilee"

"Juke Joints and Jubilee" on November 22, brings together musics of the house party, the roadhouse and the church in a national tour of blues, gospel and juba dance. The soulful, hard-rockin' Holmes Brothers, singer/ pianist Fontella Bass, North Carolina Bluesman and juba dancer John Dee Holeman, and a cappella gospel quartet the Birmingham Sunlights offer up an extraordinary blend of secular and sacred sounds from the heart of black Amer-

The performers assembled for this tour have never before appeared together, and may never again. "Juke Joints and Jubilee" provides a unique setting in which to experience and appreciate their exceptional artistry and the collage of images it evokes--front porch blues at twilight, a country parlor

with the rug rolled back, shafts of morning sunlight through stained glass, the flash of guitars in a blue-tinged, smoky haze... Get down and boogie. Stand up and testify. Or both.

The "Juke Joints and Jubilee" tour is produced by the National Council for the Traditional Arts and is part of the Western States Performing Arts Tour. Major support for this tour is provided by the National Endowment for the Arts, Folk Arts Program. Funding for the NWSC concert is provided in part by The Metropolitan Arts Commission, The Oregon Arts Commission and the Western States Arts Federation. Also sponsoring the event are Willamette Week, and KBOO Community Radio. NWSC is located at 1819 NW Everett. The theater is handicap accessible. For more information, please call 228-6972.

### Northwest Service Center

Presents:

Blues, Gospel and Juba Dance "Juke Joints and Jubilee"

on Friday November 22, 1991 at 8:00pm Tickets are \$15.00 in advance, \$8.00 for children

Tickets available at Millennium, Artichoke Music, and all Fastixx outlets as well as the Northwest Service Center

For more Information call Susan Addy at 228-6972

# For Best Results Advertise in the Observer

### Upcoming Events at Powell's Book & Powell's Books for Kids in Beaverton

Thursday, Nov. 7: Seattle mystery writer J.A. Jance will sign books tonight from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. Her latest thriller, "Hour of the Hunder," is a tale of heart-stopping suspense and native American myth. This tale draws on the five years Jance spent as a librarian on an Indian reservation in Arizona. This is Jance's ninth novel.

Friday, Nov. 8: Meet Caldecott Award winning author/illustrator Chris Van Allsburg, signing books, 3:00-5:00 p.m. Chris Van Allsburg is the well known illustrator of several award winning children's books, including "The Polar Express," "Jumanji," "Just a Dream," "Two Bad Ants" and many more. His latest book is "The Wretched Stone."

Tuesday, Nov. 12: Today from 12 to 1:30 p.m., Martha Stewart, author of several cooking and entertaining books, will sign books. Her latest book is "Martha Stewart's Gardening." Martha Stewart is known for her eight best-selling food and life-style books. She has become a household name and the last word when it comes to the question of cooking, entertaining and gardening at home. Other books by Martha Stewart include "Entertaining," "Martha Sterwart's Christmas," "Martha Stewart's Weddings," and more!

Friday, Nov. 15: Science fiction/fantasy writer Brian Jacques, author of the "Redwall" series, will sign books from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. this evening. His latest book is "Seven Strange and Ghostly Tales." For questions for further information, please call Laura Verboort at 643-3131 or 671-0671.

#### OPB Radio To Air 'Good Moring Vietnam - 1991' A Veterans Day Tribute With Adrian Cronauer

"Goooood Moooooorning, Vietnam!" Adrian Cronauer, the real-life inspriation for the hit movie starring Robin Williams, makes his National Public Radio debut with a one-hour Veterans Day special airing November 11, during The Noon Report, 12 noon -1:00 p.m., on Oregon Public Broadcasting Radio. Cronauer, currently a lawyer in Washington, D.C., returns to the airwaves to tell the true story of his 1966 stint in Vietnam as a morning disk jockey on Armed Forces Radio Saigon. Cronauer will sample music from the 60's with clips from his show while providing entertaining anecdotes and commentary.

Good Morning Vietnam - 1991 will also feature recent interviews with Vietnam vets, as well as folk songs of Americans in the Vietnam War. Althought the show is about one time and place, Cronauer will offer a wider message on the role of the disk jockey in keeping soldiers anywhere in touch with rituals of home.

GOOD MORNING VIETNAM -1991 was produced by WETA for National Public Radio.

Valley Art Association The Hungry Artist Sale November 8 through 17th at the Valley Art Gallery

2022 Main Street

Forest Grove, Oregon.



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## Luther Vandross

### **Everything Expected And More!**

by Tony Washington

The Luther Vandross Tour came to the Rose City, October 27, 1991 at the Memorial Coliseum. It was everything expected and more! To hear a young gifted vocalist as Mr. Vandross was a pleasure. I can't recall such an event that was so action packed. All of the recent and new releases were performed. It was excellent; the band and background were intact also. You know everyone thinks of concerts as a get together; well Vandross opened the hearts of many if not all the women in Portland they were in 7th heaven. He defintely put a spell on their minds. They seemed to be spellbound, however, Luther was good.

Also appearing on the ticket was The Sounds of Blackness and Sinbad. Talk about outstanding, the Sounds of Blackness had it definitely "goin' on." The choir had a message to convey to all people. Keep your head to the sky. Portlanders have never heard a choir such as this 40 member ensemble, who should rise to the top of Gospel charts. The always funny Sinbad was there with his bag of tricks for Portlanders and funny he was. (I heard someone say, "Something's wrong with that man!"

Thanks, Sinbad. You put some life in our crowd. I would personally like to thank A&M Records and Morgan Orchilds & Rhodes for all their help. Without them it would not have been possibleto enjoy the magic of Luther Vandross and Company.

# Hollse Party II

by Bill Barber

Kid 'N Play are doing that they do best in their latest version of the popular house party series. They tell their story as well as anybody, but the thing that sets them apart from most is that they send a message. There are a lot of message senders out there. Kid 'N Play are just a little more subtle than most. The prople who watch them perform, on the concert stage and in the theater, have to work a little to get the message. They don't just preach about jobs and education. They show the viewer a positive image. A positive role model, who still maintains his own identity.

In House Party II, Kid has been given a check from his church to cover his college tuition. Play (Christopher Martin) wants Kid (Christopher Reid) to consider a recording deal with a ten car collision gorgeous record producer (Iman). Decision time. Kid has to decide whether to take a shot at the brass ring of fame and quick cash of a recording contract or the dream of a college education. The dream isn't entirely his alone. "Pops," now decease, shared in the dream. He talks to Kid from time to

time. It won't spoil it for you if I tell you Kid decides to go to college. It wouldn't be much of a movie if he didn't go to school.

House Party Ii is a comedy that illustrates the hassles and the hustles of life in college and in the street. To its credit, HP II accomplishes this without exploiting all the negative lawless sterotypes we have become accustomed to receiving from the Hollywood studios. The House Party scene you came

to the movie to see will not disappoint you. The reason that this house party was brought on was that Play got hustled out of Kid tuition money. Kid goes through some hilarious changes dodging and ducking the money issues. Play decides to "help" and the movie starts to come into its own. Theres a wide variety of characterizations of the people Kid 'N Play have to deal with. You will recognize a lot of them as people you have met in your own life.

The ending reaffirms that you can tell a story, offer a message, and still have fun. You may miss the message,



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