## Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

## **Bill Cosby** In Person - In Concert

Dan Bean Presents and Artists Consultants are proud to announce Bill Cosby -- In Person -- In Concert, for two shows only, Saturday, May 14 at 7:00 & 9:30pm at the Portland Civic Auditorium. Tickets went on sale Saturday, April 9, at 10:00am at all G.I. Joe's Ticketmaster ticket locations or charge-by-phone (503) 224-4400.

Bill Cosby is, by any standards, one of the most influential stars in America today.

Whether it be through concert appearances or recordings, television or films, commercials or education, Bill Cosby has the ability to touch people's lives. His humor often centers on the basic cornerstones of our existence, seeking to provide an insight into our roles as parents, children, family members, and men and women. Without resorting to gimmickry or low-brow humor, Bill Cosby's comedy has a point of reference and respect for the trappings and traditions of the great American humorists such as Charlie Chaplin, Will Rogers, W.C. Fields and Groucho Marx.

Coming from a Philadelphia ghetto, he represents the voice of the vast, ordinary world out there. Everyone seems to easily identify with his characters and the situations they find themselves in. Bill Cosby points out the humor in our lives, and in doing so, he touches our hearts. Because of this, his appeal is not restricted to any specific group. His Chaplinesque qualities, combined with an earthy innocence, have endeared him to people from all walks of life.

It is the fusion of these qualities that has resulted in television's biggest and most influential hit of the modern era, The Cosby Show. The show was credited by many for singlehandedly resurrecting the sit-com genre. Cosby's return to television after eight years was prompted by what he perceived as a lack of relevance and an abundance of superficiality in TV comedy programming. Week after week of #1 ratings and the almost unanimous critical acclaim for the show only confirms that others agree with his opinion. His success on television, which has been a catalyst in promoting NBC to first place, has been matched in other areas. In 1986, he broke Radio City's 53 year old attendance record for his concert appearance. Although Cosby has performed stand up since he was an infant -- for his mother, father and brothers -- his first "professional" comedic "gig" was for \$5 a night at a night spot called "The Underground" in a small room named "The Cellar." It didn't have a stage, so Cosby did his act on a table with a chair propped on it. Word of Cosby's comedy soon spread from Philly. The club called "the Gaslight" in New York booked him for sixty dollars a week, and he was



Bill Cosby

on his way.

Soon his routines rocked audiences with laughter at the top clubs around the country. Many of his expressions became part of the jargon of the generation, like his famous drawn-out 'riiiiiiight." Much of his early repertoire drew upon his childhood pals from the Philadelphia tenements: Fat Albert, Old Weird Harold, Dumb Donald, Rudy, Nolan & Weasel. He talked about his youth in Philadelphia where two guys on the block shared one broken-down auto, crashed parties, cowered from trouble, and constantly scrimped around to raise the 19 cents they needed for gas for their car and the 14

dollars they needed for oil.

It was during Cosby's nightclub circuit period (when he was first getting started) that Carl Reiner caught his act in Pittsburgh and introduced Cosby to producer Sheldon Leonard, who signed him to star in the I Spy series. The series, about two spies disguised as tennis bums, was an instant smash on TV. Cosby's I Spy role as co-star broke the racial barrier television. Before the series ended, he had won three Emmy Awards. It was a historic moment in casting when a black man was placed along side a white man as his equal, and it created international interest in the show and in Bill Cosby.

## "Kids' Crime Patrol" Fund Raiser

**Continued from Metro** 

Stoppers Board of Directors is todonate space for the "KIDS' CRIME responsible for raising the necessary funds. Recently, in an attempt to help raise money for itself and the local Crime Stoppers Programs, Crime Stoppers International entered into TROL" rides have been placed at the an agreement with O.R.E. Corporation, a minority-owned company in 1. Milwaukie Bowl: 3056 Harrison El Paso, Texas, and manufacturer of the"KIDS' CRIMEPATROL amusement ride (see attached). Under the terms of the agreement, O.R.E. Corp., 2. which is fully insured and accepts full responsibility for the "KIDS' CRIME

PATROL" amusement ride, will build, place, service, and maintain each unit. Gross proceeds are divided; 25% for the local program, 5% for Crime Stoppers International, and



70% to O.R.E. Corp. Local businesses, which are asked 3. Jantzen Beach Bowl: 1704

PATROL" ride, receive recognition on a plaque that is placed at each 4. location and shows the amount of money raided.

following locations:

Street; Milwaukie, Oregon

97222. Contact: Donnie Pyle (503) 654-7719

Interstate Lanes: 6049 N. Interstate; Portland, Oregon. Contact: Kelly Sparano (503) 2859881

- Jantzen Beach Center. Contact: Bill Hennings (503) 289-5521 Kellogg Bowl: 10306 SE Main; Milwaukie, Oregon. Contact: Donnie Pyle (503) 659-1757 To date, "KIDS' CRIME PA- 5. Larry's Sports Center: Oregon City Shopping Center; Oregon City, Oregon. (503) 656-0321 6. Hong Kong Express: Oregon
  - City Shopping Center; Oregon City, Oregon. (503) 655-4821 For more information contact:

Robert Markowski, of O.R.E. Corp., at (915) 857-5997, or Officer Henry Groepper, at (503) 823-0830.





