

# Arts ENTERTAINMENT

The Portland Observer



Rhythm Shebop Jaz

## ON EDGE

**Recipe For Sensational music:**

**Combine:** Three young woman possessing unquestionable funkability with equal part mellow grooves and classic Rhythm & Blues influences. Add liberal amounts of hip-hop styling, seductive lyrics, funky break beats, sensual vocals and dramatic visual style.

**Yields:** One outrageous serving of On Edge.

**Chef's note:** No need to cook,

simply give disc a spin in your CD player, sounds guaranteed to satisfy most musical appetites.

Collectively known as On Edge and dubbing themselves the "Queens of Funk," Cincinnati, Ohio native Shebop, Atlanta, Georgia native Jaz and Orlando, Florida native Rhythm are serving up their own unique and spicy musical mix with the release of their self-titled debut album on Motown Records.

While one may be tempted to dismiss the trio as just another addition to the already crowded market of girl groups, take note: ON Edge's sound and style is anything but more of the status quo. From their outrageously, funky persona to the distinctly different and necessary vocal contributions of each group member, the trio offers up a debut album which accomplishes the ability to establish a unique personality for the group.

## All American Girl



"All-American Girl"-- Stand-up comic Margaret Cho stars as the wry and witty Margaret Kim, a free-spirited young Korean-American college student who is at constant odds with her more conservative, traditional extended family in "All-American Girl." The new half-hour comedy series airs Wednesdays at 8:30 PM (ET/PT) on ABC.

For Many generations now, brave and hopeful Asians have left their native countries to seek a better life in America, forever altering and enriching the social landscape from coast to coast. But for the first time, this fall, one Asian family will emigrate to yet another golden land of opportunity--that of primetime television.

Stand-up comic Margaret Cho stars in "All-American Girl," the new ABC comedy series focusing on the generational and cultural conflicts between a spirited young Korean-American woman and her more traditional family. Created by Gary Jacobs, the series is produced by Sandollar Productions, Inc. and Heartfelt Productions, Inc. in association with Touchstone Television. Cho, who recently won the Stand-Up Comic Audience Award at the 8th Annual American Comedy Awards,

plays Margaret Kim, a spirited young college girl living at home with her Korean parents in San Francisco.

Much of the show's premise is based on material from Cho's stand-up routine, which is heavily autobiographical. Spiked with wry commentary regarding parental attitudes and the social dilemmas of generation X'ers, it includes comic takes on her life experience as one of a minority and a person of color.

Executive producer Gary Jacobs is delighted to have the opportunity to break new comedic ground in "All-American Girl." Says he, "In bringing the Kim family to life, we hope to show some of the unique aspects of Korean-American culture, but at the same time the stories will demonstrate how many of their experiences are universal, and immediately comprehensible to all."

### NBA Stay In School Special To Air

Chart-topping musicians and the hottest television stars will appear in the annual NBA All-Star Stay In School celebration to be telecast Saturday, Feb. 11 from America West

Arena in Phoenix, Ariz. The one-hour special will be broadcast simultaneously by NBC, TNT, Nickelodeon and Black Entertainment Television (BET) at 9 a.m.

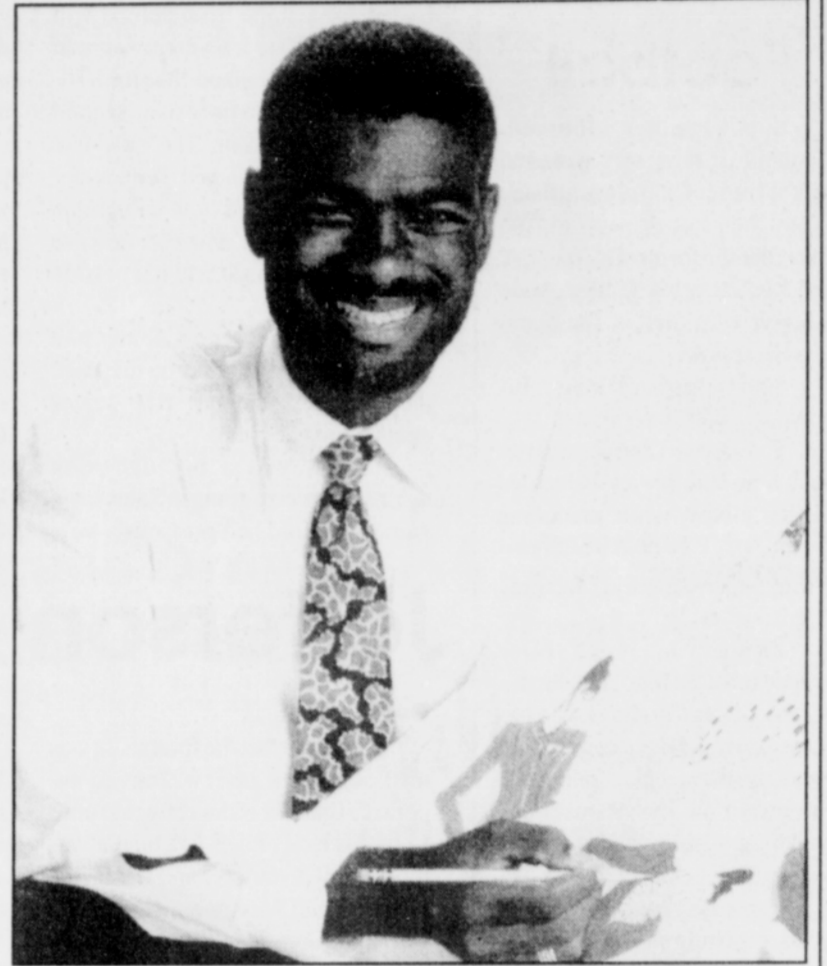
## Anthony Hankins Appointed First In-House Designer For JCPenney

JCPenney gets serious about fashion with the appointment of their first in-house designer, Anthony Mark Hankins. The twenty-five year old African American designer has been appointed to create a signature collection of ready-to-wear fashion that will answer the needs and capture the imagination of today's contemporary urban woman.

Accolades for Hankins started early: At the age of seven, he designed and stitched a suit for his mother to wear to a wedding, and the results were so spectacular, he started designing and sewing clothes for other women in the town. A native of Elizabeth N.J., Hankins started designing prom dresses, theatrical costumes and marching-band uniforms while still in high school. After graduating, he attended the Pratt Institute in Brooklyn, N.Y., then traveled to Paris to study at the Ecole de la Chambre Syndicale de la Couture. Later, he received hands-on training with fashion notables Yves St. Laurent, Willi Smith and Adrienne Vittadini.

Today, Hankins' success lies in creating a collection that is whimsical, spirited, but always carefully and deliberately coordinated: Each piece in the collection can be teamed with the coordinated top, skirt or pants to create several additional outfits. Unlike many designers whose inspiration comes from their favorite waif or glamour girl, Hankins' muse is his own mother. He designs for what he terms the "undeserved woman", real women living real lives whose body types are not always flattered by size 6 runway styles.

The Anthony Mark Hankins



Anthony Mark Hankins

Collection is inspired by the festive and vibrant colors of Brazil and Cuba. Multiseasonal looks burst with colorful prints and geometric designs, and evoke an undeniable ethnic feel, calling to mind a Latin carnival. The lively mix of prints, the flowing lines, the machine washable fabrics, the touch of elastic that offers "room for expansion" at the waist, and the easy mix and match versatility have made his line an undeniable hit with the JCPenney customer.

Priced affordable within the range of \$35 to \$95, Hankins' line is

both designed and manufactured in the United States. It is available exclusively in over 250 JCPenney department stores all across the country, as well as in the JCPenney Fashion Influences catalog and their other specialty catalogs.

Exuding a confidence and charisma unusual for this twenty five years, Hankins exuberantly proclaims, "I've designed these clothes to take the stress out of dressing... and with their intense colors and drama, they're going to take that working girl to a faraway place!"



The live show where Kids and parents play messy games and stunts from the hit shows Family Double Dare and What Would You Do?

TONS OF KIDS AND GROWN-UPS PICKED FROM THE AUDIENCE!

### Memorial Coliseum

SATURDAY FEB. 11

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Saturday, February 11  
10:00AM-10:00PM

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General Admission \$6\*

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\*Taxes will be added to purchase food and beverages.  
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