

# Arts ENTERTAINMENT

The Portland Observer

## Star talent makes 'Lou Rawls Parade of Stars' a 'Best Bet'

Plans are well underway for singer Lou Rawls to lead an all-star cast in his annual "Parade of Stars" television special to benefit The College Fund/UNCF. The four-time Grammy award winner promises this year's celebrity roster will make the program one of the most enjoyable broadcast specials of the year.

Television viewers across the nation can expect another dose of star-studded entertainment on January 11, from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m., as Rawls convenes a new group of contemporary stars, rising newcomers and seasoned pros. They will take center stage at The Palace in Hollywood and at historic Apollo Theater in New York City to stimulate public and corporate giving necessary to further education at UNCF-assisted colleges and universities.

Peabo Bryson, one of the most popular male vocalists in contemporary music and a five-time Grammy nominee, will co-host the program from New York, while the versatile Sheryl Lee Ralph--the one-time Dreamgirl and current mom of "Moesha"--along with David "Baywatch" Hasselhoff, will join Rawls as co-hosts from Hollywood.

Each of these venerable stars will introduce an array of talented artists for what promises to be an exciting evening of entertainment.

Blackstreet, a creation of renowned producer Teddy Riley, will be among the star-studded line up



Some of the stars participating in this National College fundraising program include: Take 6 (pictured with Lou Rawls left), Tevin Campbell and Ann Nesby (above), Blackstreet (above right), and The Isley Brothers (below right).

and will deliver a funkified version of hip-hop that has put the "super-group" in a category by itself.

Take 6, winners of seven Grammy awards and five Doves (gospel music awards), will make their third appearance on the "Parade of Stars" and showcase their distinctive a capella style.

While his meteoric rise to stardom was predicted when he was a teenager, the proof is here today in Tevin Campbell's latest release, Back To The World. After a brief hiatus from recording, the popular singer--now a young adult--will give television viewers a new, mature sound.

Those sounds will contrast with

those of veteran vocalist Shirley Caesar, the first lady of gospel music. A multiple recipient of the NAACP Image Awards, Caesar's appearances on the "Lou Rawls Parade of Stars" is exceeded only by the show's name-sake.

Since its inception in 1979, the "Parade of Stars" has continually highlighted a diverse group of entertainers. The seventeenth annual show, which will broadcast on network affiliates, independent and cable stations across the country, will keep that tradition alive.

"Over the years, these entertainers have made it very easy for viewers to tune in to hear our messages

about The College Fund," says host Rawls. "Their performances and sincere pitches have made the show a fund-raising success."

Rawls is predicting another successful show with the likes of contemporary stars such as Jody Watley, Keith Sweat and Jennifer Holliday, who are currently atop Billboard music charts. The legendary Isley Brothers, the only group in history to continue making the contemporary, pop and R&B charts for four decades, will also make the upcoming program memorable.

In addition, rising stars CeCe Peniston, Ann Nesby, Maxi Priest, Shaggy, and Norman Brown are cer-

tain to add to the viewing pleasure.

All of their efforts will be needed to help the "Parade of Stars" exceed its current fund-raising total of \$144 million in cash and pledges since its inception.

Other stars scheduled to appear on the "Parade of Stars" include Deborah Cox, Dru Hill, Eric Benet Band, For Real, Impromp-2, JoJo, Lebo M, Soul 4 Real, The Mighty Clouds of Joy, Mista, Rayvon, The Braxtons, cast of Smokey Joe's Cafe, Vinny Brown, and Wendy Williams.

Since the founding of the College Fund in 1944, more than 300,000 men and women have graduated from UNCF colleges.



### Friday the 27th

No Reel Name, 7 p.m. Edgefield Winery (Troutdale) Free.

Delmark Goldfarb, 7:30 p.m. Cafe Lena, Free.

The JGB Band with Jerry Garcia Band members, 9 p.m. Roseland Theater, \$15.

Marigold, Red Footed Genius, 9 p.m. Berbat's Pan, \$5.

Satan's Pilgrims, The Maroons, Svelt, Vehicle, Underpants Machine, 9 p.m. LaLuna (fourth anniversary show), \$6.

Flat Back Tomatoe, 10 p.m. Mt. Tabor Pub, Cover.

Kerosene Dream, Boys Next Door, 10 p.m. Dublin Pub, Cover.

The Flatirons, 10 p.m. The 1201 Lounge & Cafe, Cover.

Curtis Salgado Band, (3:30 p.m. Key Largo, Cover.

Dan Balmer Group, 8:30 p.m. Heathman, Free.

Tony Pacini Quartet, 9 p.m. Brasserie Montmartre, Free.

Leroy Vinnegar & Friends, 9 p.m. Atwater's, Free.

### Saturday the 28th

Lisa Miller, 2 p.m. Music Millennium NW, Free.

Peter Yeates, Boys Next Door, 7 p.m. Dublin Pub, Cover.

Brian C. Alive and Well, 7 p.m. Edgefield Winery (Troutdale), Free.

Sweaty Nipples, Shovel-Jerk, Allegro, 9 p.m. LaLuna, \$6.

Village Idiot, Fall From Grace, Henry's Child, Thy Interfal, 10 p.m. Satyricon, \$5.

Tracy Klass and Friends, 10 p.m. Mt. Tabor Pub, Cover.

Radio Flyers, Rellyner Band, 10 p.m. Ash St. Saloon, \$3.

3 Leg Torso, 8:30 p.m. Conduit, 918 S.W. Yamhill St., Suite 401, \$4.

Mary Kadderly Combo, 8:30 p.m. Heathman, Free.

Tony Pacini Quartet, 9 p.m. Brasserie Montmartre, Free.

Leroy Vinnegar & Friends, 9 p.m. Atwater's, Free.

Dave Freisen Quartet, 9 p.m. Jazz de Opus, Free.

Dan Raphael, 9:30 p.m. Cafe Lena, Free.

Rubberneck, 9 p.m. Berbat's Pan, \$7.

Curtis Salgado Band, 9:30 p.m. Key Largo, Cover.

Bazuka Jazz, 10 p.m. 1201 Lounge & Cafe, Cover.

### Sunday the 29th

Add-X, Mind Virus, Monochrome, Nobody, 10 p.m. Satyricon, \$5.

Banjo 2, 10 p.m. Ash St. Saloon, \$3.

Deep Love with DJ Gravy, 9 p.m. Berbat's Pan, \$3.

Mike Horsefall, 7:30 p.m., Heathman, Free.

Charles Crosman Duo, 8 p.m. Brasserie Montmartre, Free.

Dan Balmer Trio, 8:30 p.m. Jazz de Opus, Free.

## The Preacher's Wife

### Jingle Bells from heaven

BY FRED HEMBRY

At holiday time when my Ho, Ho, Ho, is Ho, Ho, hum, I can always turn on the tube, or pop in a tape to watch my favorite holiday classic, THE PREACHER'S WIFE will now be part of my holiday archives.

The movie premise is simple. A preacher, Henry Biggs (played by Courtney B. Vance), married to a FINE Whitney Houston (my girl plays the part of Julia Biggs). This unusually lucky character is blessed with a beautiful son, Jeremiah (played by Justin Pierre Edmund). The marriage has hit a christmas time slump, including his sermons. To cap it off, He has seen the red-felted bottom of the collection plate too often.

His faith is a bit tired. In a rare ecumenical moment, the man of God is seen praying. As holiday hope-junkies know, this is the "cue angel" Scene. In plops angel first class, male fatale Denzel Washington, who plays the part of Dudley.

Dudley is obviously sent to help the reverend turn things around. The movie, (directed by Penny Marshall) has a soothing stage feel to it. Most of the scenes are shot surrounding the Pastor's home which adds to the effect. Perhaps the most heart-warming aspect of the film is the church. It was until recently, a focal point of American culture. With each church interior scene, I could almost smell the warm sent of varnished seasoned mahogany. This film is rich with church culture that is quite refreshing.

This film is a must holiday view, sure to bring one out of the Ho, Ho Ho, -doldrums.



## Anointed: Under the Influence

In just four short years, Anointed has risen from virtual anonymity to one of Christian Music's best known vocal groups. Since the release of their debut Myrrh recording The Call has received acclaim in Christian and mainstream markets alike. Now, with the release of their sophomore Myrrh recording Under The Influence, the next chapter in their musical career begins to unfold.

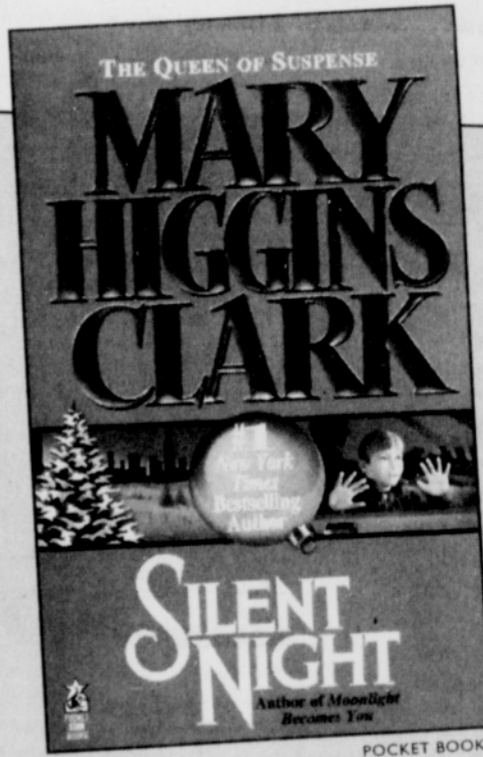
## Greg O'Quin 'N Joyful Noyze

Many great men and women--athletes, doctors, musicians--have risen from the struggles of the mean streets of inner-city America to achieve great things. And the common denominator has always been faith: faith that through hard work, perseverance and trust in God that something better lay ahead.

Totally contemporary in his approach and instincts, it's clear Greg has been profoundly influenced by a number of today's great producer/writers, including Babyface, Michael Jackson, Teddy Riley and David Foster.

In fact, Greg's music stands next to the best of the best, in both R&B and the church, and with up-to-the-minute, irresistible grooves, and an uplifting Gospel message, he brings to the table something uniquely his own.

"A lot of the kids in my neighborhood have gone to church and Sunday School with their parents, but have drifted away from that," says Greg.



"The brilliance of *Silent Night* is that [Mary Higgins] Clark is a real pro, and one of the few writing today who knows how to construct a holiday-time story that's genuinely thrilling and suspenseful."

--David Walton, *Detroit News*

available at  
**POWELL'S CITY OF BOOKS**  
1005 W Burnside, downtown Portland • 503-228-4651  
**POWELL'S BOOKS AT CASCADE PLAZA**  
8775 SW Cascade Avenue, Beaverton • 503-643-3131

**WANTED!**  
**VICTIMS OF CIRCUMSTANCE**

• Divorce • Just Repo'd • Tax Liens • Slow Payments • 1st Time Buyer • Garnishments • Bankruptcy • Collections • Bad Credit

**YOU'RE APPROVED\***  
With As Low As \$199.00 Cash Down and Current Employment

**CALL OUR GENIUS FINANCE COUNSELOR FOR FAST APPROVAL!**

**(503) 230-4929**

Just because you have bad credit doesn't mean you have to drive a bad car!  
**IF WE CAN'T FINANCE YOU... YOU MAY AS WELL TAKE THE BUS.**  
**HOME OF THE CADDY CORNER**

**VIC ALFONSO**  
**DISCOUNT USED CARS**  
28TH & NE Sandy, Portland 'O.A.C

**Advertise In**  
**The Portland Observer**  
Call 503-288-0033