

FOCUS

Alicia Keys

Turns 22, Celebrates \$10 Million in Sales

Singer is currently recording her second album

(AP) — Some people celebrate their birthday with a cake. Alicia Keys celebrated with a plaque recognizing \$10 million in sales of her debut disc, "Songs in A Minor."

The five-time Grammy Award-winner marked both milestones with a party hosted by her mentor, J Records founder Clive Davis.

Though she turned 22 on Jan. 25, the crowd of well-wishers sang

"Happy Birthday" to her four days later as she received the plaque from Davis.

With her long hair flowing from beneath a brown fedora, it appeared that Keys had taken out her signature braids. But when she removed the hat, the singer revealed the top of her hair - still in cornrows.

"They're always in there," she laughed.

Keys is keeping busy in the studio working on her sophomore album.

"Everything is going to be from my heart, which is how it always is

Singer Alicia Keys celebrated her 22nd birthday with a plaque recognizing 10 million in sales of her debut disc, "Songs in A Minor." (AP Photo)



Everything is going to be from my heart, which is how it always is going to be.

—singer Alicia Keys on her upcoming album

going to be," she told The Associated Press. "The basis of it is definitely going to be the same, but me as

an evolving person, it's always going to be new and different because I'm new and different."

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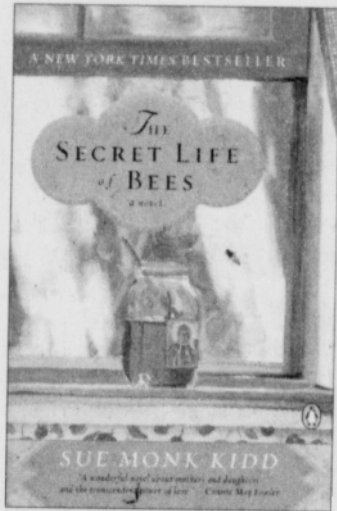
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'Secret Life of Bees' Creates a Buzz

Story tells of women's strength and rites of passage



The Secret Life of Bees, by Sue Monk Kidd. 320 pages, published by Penguin Books.

Sue Monk Kidd's ravishing debut novel, *The Secret Life of Bees*, is the story of Lily Owens, a girl who has shaped her life around one devastating memory - the afternoon her mother was killed when she was four.

Besides her harsh and unyielding father, Lily's only real companion is Rosaleen, a tender but fierce-hearted black woman who cooks, cleans and acts as Lily's stand-in mother.

One summer afternoon in 1964 in South Carolina - a place and time of seething racial divides - violence explodes and Rosaleen is arrested and beaten. Lily is desperate, not only to

save Rosaleen, but to flee from a life she can no longer endure. Calling upon her youthful darling, she breaks Rosaleen out of jail and the two escape into what quickly becomes Lily's quest for the truth about her mother's life.

They are taken in by three black beekeeping sisters, May, June and August. Lily is consumed by their secret world of bees and honey and of the Black Madonna who presides over this household of strong and wise women. Lily's journey is of painful secrets and shattering betrayals - but it is a passage that ultimately helps her

find the thing her heart longs for most.

The *Secret Life of Bees* allows the reader into a world apart - in a novel whose strong, irresistible voice catches up and doesn't let go.

The *Secret Life of Bees* is a mesmerizing novel about the divine power of women, of women with extraordinary gifts, coping with loss and finding forgiveness and especially learning to forgive themselves. It is the kind of novel women share with each other and that mothers and daughters will be sharing for years to come.

Magic Johnson Bounces Back into TV

HIV-positive basketball star will produce reality show about street ball

(AP) — Basketball great Earvin "Magic" Johnson is getting back into the TV game after fouling out in 1998 with his talk show.

Johnson said Wednesday he will produce and occasionally appear in the MTV reality show "Who's Got Game," documenting the lives of 12 street basketball players competing for fame and a \$100,000 prize.

Johnson said he's trying to play to his strengths as an athlete after the ill-advised attempt to be a comedian-interviewer on his own late-night talk show, which was pummeled by critics and canceled after two months.

"This is what I'm all about: basketball. I grew up playing street basketball. I wasn't myself in 'The Magic Hour,'" said Johnson, who will visit neighborhoods in cities such as Washington, New York, Chicago, Houston and Los Angeles in the next two months scouting for contestants.

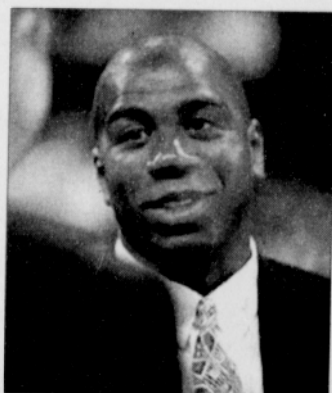
"I want the guys who are just street ballplayers," he said. "They're not as famous as guys in college and the NBA, but they're famous in their own neighborhoods or playgrounds."

Contestants will be limited to men over 18, but Johnson said he would consider a new version with women if the show succeeds.

Set to debut this summer, the show would include 10 episodes showcasing the history of the players, their interactions with each other off the court and ending with a basketball game.

Players would be eliminated from the teams after each show and the final episode would be a one-on-one competition, Johnson said. Besides the money, the winner will get his neighborhood court refurbished and renamed in his honor.

Johnson, who announced he



It's not about me. It's about the street ballplayers. This is their shot for everybody around the world to finally get to know them.

—Earvin "Magic" Johnson on the new reality show, "Who's Got Game"

was HIV-positive in 1991, helped the Los Angeles Lakers win five championships during his National Basketball Association career. Sub-

sequently, he's built a business empire including movie theaters, restaurants, shopping centers and a bank.

ASCC and Clark College Welcomes

"Sisters"

By Marsha A. Jackson

Production Sponsored by
The Multi-Cultural Students United
And S.P.O.T.S

Opens January 31, and February 1,2,7,8,9,13,14,15

Set in Atlanta, Georgia "Sisters" portrays an African-American executive who gets snowed in with her office cleaning lady on New Years Eve. A comedy that raises issues about internal racism and corporate stereotypes. Olivia and Cassie are two women stuck in a place they would rather not be with unfavorable company, each other.

The two women find that they have more in common then not and then...

Showtime 7:30

Tickets go on sale January 10, 2003

At the Clark College Bookstore

Or call (360) 992-2149

Buy and Reserve tickets with Visa or MasterCard
Performed in Decker Theater

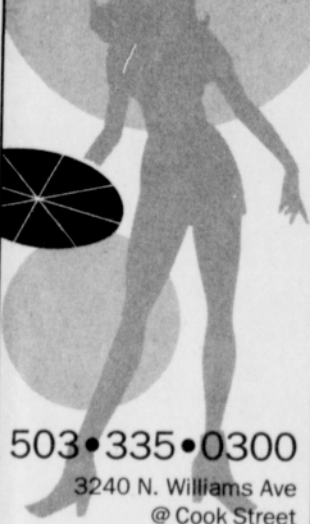
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