

FOCUS

Ashanti, Musiq Earn Soul Train Honors

(AP)—Ashanti and Musiq took top honors, while Mariah Carey and LL Cool J received career achievement awards, at the 17th annual Soul Train Awards.

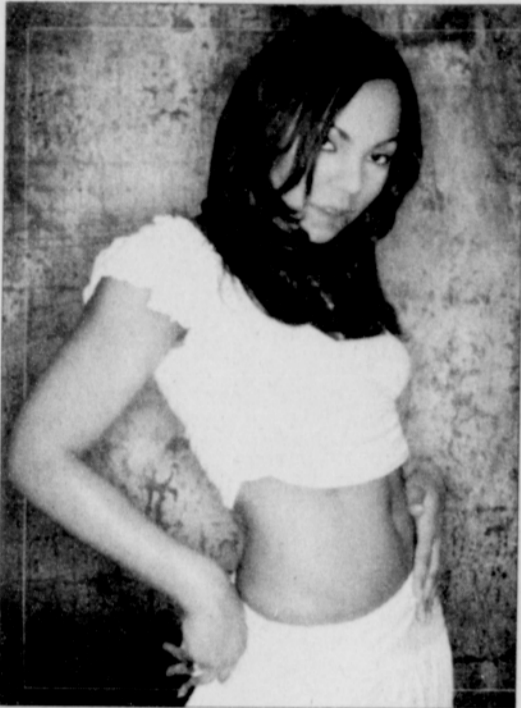
Ashanti won best female R&B/Soul Single Saturday for "Foolish" and best album for "Ashanti," beating out works by fellow Grammy winners Erykah Badu and India Arie.

Musiq won for best male R&B/Soul Single for the second year in a row with "Dontchange." He won best album in the same category with "Juslisen," beating Maxwell, Justin Timberlake and last year's winner Usher.

"I feel very, very very good," Musiq said. "I feel honored and I feel grateful."

"Bump, Bump, Bump," by B2K, featuring P. Diddy, won in the best single by a group or duo category, while B2K won for their self-titled album in the same category.

Queen Latifah and Arsenio Hall co-hosted the event, which featured award presenters Baby Face,



Ashanti



Musiq

Jennifer Lopez and Chris Rock.

Rapper Nelly won the Sammy Davis Jr. Entertainer of the Year Award.

"We've only been doing this a short amount of time, and you don't think you'll be receiving awards like that so early on in your career,"

Nelly said.

The Soul Train Music Awards celebrates artists in R&B, hip-hop, rap and gospel music.



Rosa Parks

Rosa Parks Undecided on Oscar Appearance

(AP)—A documentary about Rosa Parks has been nominated for an Oscar, but the civil rights pioneer hasn't decided whether she'll attend the academy awards.

She's been invited to attend the March 23 ceremony by civil rights attorney Morris Dees.

Elaine Steele, co-founder of the Rosa and Raymond Parks Institute for Self Improvement, said the 90-year-old Parks would like to attend, and "we'll see if we'll be able to go."

Parks is the subject of "Mighty Times: The Legacy of Rosa Parks," which is nominated for a best-documentary Oscar.

Toni Morrison to Collaborate on Slave Opera

(AP)—Nobel Prize-winning novelist Toni Morrison is collaborating on an opera based on the life of an escaped slave who tried to kill her family to avoid returning to captivity.

Michigan Opera Theatre and opera companies in Philadelphia and Cincinnati commissioned the work by Morrison and American composer Richard Danielpour. It's scheduled to premiere at the Detroit Opera House in May 2005, with mezzo-soprano Denyce Graves singing the title role.

"Margaret Garner" is based



Toni Morrison

on Garner's flight from Kentucky to the free state of Ohio in 1856. The story also inspired

Morrison's 1987 novel "Beloved."

When slave-hunters tracked down Garner, her husband and children, she slit her baby daughter's throat as part of a thwarted attempt to kill the family to avert a return to slavery.

She was found guilty of "destroying property" and returned to slavery.

"I wanted a work that had genuine resonance for Detroit," Michigan Opera Theatre general director David DiChiera said Wednesday.

About 83 percent of Detroit's 950,000 people are black.

P. Diddy to Open for Soul Food

(AP)—Sean "P. Diddy" Combs plans to open a restaurant in downtown Detroit, an associate of the hip-hop entrepreneur said.

The Justin's restaurant will open in four to eight months at a location yet to be determined, said Andre Suite, executive vice president of Justin's. Combs will have the final word on the location, he said.

"We want to be right where the rebirth is—one of the attractions in the downtown area," Suite said. There already are two Justin's,



Sean "P. Diddy" Combs will open a new Justin's restaurant in the heart of downtown Detroit. Combs is the owner of two other Justin's, one in New York and another in Atlanta.

the original in New York and another in Atlanta. The restaurants, which offer soul and Caribbean food, are named after Combs' oldest son.

Besides the restaurants, Combs owns the Bad Boy record label, the Sean John clothing line and a market research company.

Fortune magazine once estimated the Grammy-winning performer's annual earnings at more than \$50 million. Sean John did a reported \$325 million in sales in 2002.

Go to Paris without leaving Portland

Until March 23, the Portland Art Museum will feature "Paris to Portland: Impressionist and Post-Impressionist Masters in Portland Collections." The show includes 165 works drawn from private collections in the Portland area and has work by Cezanne, Renoir, Monet, Gauguin, Picasso and prints by Toulouse-Lautrec, amongst others.

Reparations Thursdays

David Park's new band, The Reparations, will play every Thursday at 9 p.m. with DJ Chill and special guest performers and DJs at The Red Sea, 318 S.W. Third Ave. Admission for those 21 and older is \$5.

PCC Kit Kat Klub Cabaret

The Portland Community College Theater Arts department presents the fabulous musical, the Kit Kat Klub, at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, March 7 through Sunday, March 9 and Friday, March 13 through Sunday, March 15. The show features an emcee that leads the audience through a wild and decadent journey into Berlin's Kit Kat Klub in 1929. The play follows the character of Cliff Bradshaw as he meets Sally Bowles and the girls of the Kit Kat Klub. The production contains mature subject matter that may not be suitable for younger audience members. Tickets are \$8 for general admission and \$5 for students and seniors. The play will be performed at the Performing Arts Center at the Sylvania Campus, 12000 S.W. 49th Ave. For tickets or information, call 503-977-4949.

City of Angels

Mt. Hood Community College students are showcasing their talents with a winter production of "City of Angels," a musical spoof of the private eye movies of the 40s. Written by Larry Gelbart, the creator of "M.A.S.H.," the show is the interweaving of two plots, one dealing with the writing of a screenplay in legendary 40s Hollywood, and the other involving the enactment of that screenplay. "City of Angels" debuts in the MHCC College Theater on Friday, March 7 at 8 p.m. For more information, call 503-491-7154.

The Faces of Art and Psychology

"Faces" by Gary Mac Smith will be showing from Friday, March 7 through March 28 at Portland State University's Littman Gallery.

ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

Smith is a Portland Psychiatrist specializing in individual psychotherapy. During the opening night of his exhibit on March 7 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. a panel discussion entitled "Art, Psychoanalysis and the Creative Process" will be held with members of PSU's Art and Psychology departments.

Margaret Cho 'Revolution Tour'

With the same unbridled, no holds-barred humor that has made her famous, Margaret Cho will tackle the axis of evil, her travels through Thailand's red light district, the explosion of child birth, bartering sex for household chores, revolutionizing your self-esteem, the joy of bodily functions, her loosed ex-boyfriend, and of course, her world-famous mother and much more that cannot be printed. Cho will perform in Portland on Thursday, March 13 at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall.

Portland Symphonic Girlchoir

The Portland Symphonic Girlchoir, a 170-member choir for girls ages six through 18, will host its annual Informance/Teacher Appreciation Concert, on Monday, March 17 at 7 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, located at Southwest 18th and Jefferson. Admission to the event will be a free-will donation to the Goose Hollow Family Shelter. For more information, call 503-226-6162.

Back to the Doo Wop days

High school friends from Detroit's North End, Levi Stubbs, Renaldo "Obie" Benson, Abdul "Duke" Fakir and Lawrence Payton began marveling their audiences with an infectious blend of pure vocal power and sweet harmonies in 1954. Once they signed with Motown Records in the 60s as the Four Tops, the group churned out hit after hit eventually ending with an induction into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. With 43 years of playing history, the group will play at Chinook Winds Casino on Friday, March 21 and Saturday, March 22 at 8 p.m. Tickets are \$25 to \$40 depending on seat location. For more information or to buy tickets, call 1-888-624-6228, or Fastixx at 1-800-992-8499.

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CALL FOR APPOINTMENTS

503-281-3949

Black Cultural Affairs Board Present:

1st Annual Ebony Ball

The Black Cultural Affairs Board at Portland State University is hosting the "1st Annual Ebony Ball" with one of the hottest DJ in Town (DJ OG One).

This is a formal dance in celebration of the last event for the calendar of Black History Month. "Sail the night away."

Portland Spirit (Fountain) @ Waterfront Friday March 14, 2003 Must Board by 10:30 p.m. and lasts until 2 a.m.

\$15 students, \$20 general, and \$25 at the door. Tickets are now on sale @ PSU box office, Ticket master, and on sale in the cafeteria everyday from 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.

If you have any questions please call or e-mail us:

Black Cultural Affairs Board

503-725-5660

bcab@mail.pdx.edu

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