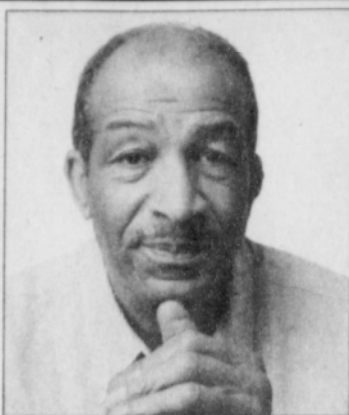


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Noel Callahan as Louis (left), Master P as Percy Miller, Erica O'Keith as Jodi and Romeo appear in a scene from Nickelodeon's 'Romeo.' (AP photo)

Rapper L'il Romeo Launches New Show

(AP) — When Lil' Romeo and his father, Master P, decided they'd make a TV show, they had little doubt about which network they wanted it on.

"SpongeBob SquarePants' and 'Fairly OddParents' are my favorite shows," says the rapper, who recently turned 14. The programs, featuring the animated adventures of a bumbling ocean sponge and a boy with equally bumbling fairy godparents, are Nickelodeon's most popular series, regularly landing in the cable Nielsen ratings' Top 10.

"But now," he adds playfully, "the best show on Nickelodeon is going to be 'Romeo.'"

The show (8:30 p.m. EDT Saturdays) follows a teenage wannabe rap star and his less-than-enthusiastic father, with Romeo and hip-hop impresario Master P more or less playing themselves.

To do that, the TV Romeo must go behind the back of his music executive-father, something similar to what the real-life Romeo did when he used to sneak into his father's recording studio.

On one of those clandestine visits, he brought a recording engineer with him who cut a record, then played it for his father when he returned from a business trip.

"He came home and heard the song and said, 'Who is this?'" Romeo recalls with a chuckle.

After it was revealed that it was Master P's eldest son, a star was born - but not without some trepidation from his father, who Romeo says would have preferred that he spend his time concentrating on school.

Britney Reaches Out 'In the Zone'



Britney Spears

(AP) — Is 21-year-old Britney Spears trying to attract a more mature audience with her upcoming album, "In the Zone"?

No, the pop singer says. "The record label wanted me to do certain kinds of songs, and I was like, 'Look, if you want me to be some kind of sex thing, that's not me,'" she tells Esquire magazine in its November issue. "I will never do that. I'm still doing what I love to do."

Spears appears on the cover in a short white sweater and high heels, re-creating a famous pose by ac-

tress Angie Dickinson.

But she doesn't see herself as super-famous. "I'm famous, but I'm not famous like freaking Brad Pitt or Jennifer Aniston. But in my weird little head, I just think we're all here to inspire each other. We're all equal. We just bounce off each other and show the world what we can do."

Spears said if she didn't have a career in music, she "probably would have gone to college and become a schoolteacher."

"That was my dream, because I love kids," she said. "Either that, or an entertainment lawyer."

Jay-Z says 'Black Album' is his Last

(AP) — Jay-Z says he'll launch his last nationwide promotional tour with a performance at Madison Square Garden on Nov. 25.

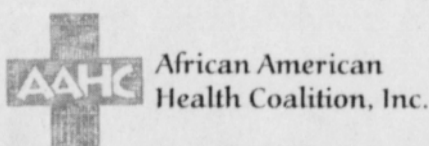
The concert, produced by Clear Channel Entertainment, will benefit the Hip-Hop Summit Action Network and the Shawn Carter Scholarship Fund. Jay-Z's new al-

bum, "The Black Album," will be in stores on Nov. 28.

"'The Black Album' is my last solo album because I want to go out while I'm hot and strong," the 33-year-old rapper said. "The success of my recording career has opened up other opportunities for me which I want to now focus on."



Jay-Z



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Schedule of Activities

9am	Doors open	12pm	Gospel Choir
10	Opening Drum Ceremony	12:30	Wellness Walk
10:30	Keynote Speaker: Joyce Dougherty, Ph.D., R.D.	1-1:30	Salsa Dancing
11-1pm	Gourmet Cooking Demo	1:30-3:30	Gourmet Cooking Demo
		3:30-4	Salsa Dancing

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ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

Myriad of Talent
Roseland Theater welcomes Peter Frampton with Joe Bonamassa at 8 p.m. Oct. 29; Twiztid with Wolfpac, the R.O.C. and Society One at 8 p.m. Nov. 5; Less Than Jake with Fall Out Boy at 8 p.m. Nov. 12; and B.B. King at 7:30 p.m. Nov. 23. Tickets are on sale now by calling 503-224-8489.

Spooky Season
Portland Parks and Recs sponsors a Halloween Dive-In Movie at Columbia Pool, 7701, N. Chautauqua Blvd. at 6 p.m. Oct. 24. Tickets are \$2 for kids and \$3.50 for adults; an all ages Monster Mash costume party is at the Matt Dishman Community Center, 77 NE Knott, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Oct. 24; A not so spooky Boo To You exhibit is designed for younger kids from 11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Matt Dishman Community Center on Oct. 25; Little One's Halloween Delights gives kids a chance to make their own decorations at the Dishman Center from 12:45 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. Oct. 25.

Coming Home to the 80s
Revel in a chance to drink in class and smoke in detention at McMenamins Kennedy School's first ever Homecoming Dance! This 80s party has prizes for best costume, a photographer, and a DJ spinning 80s hits. The dance is from 7 to 10 p.m. Oct. 23. Tickets, \$10, are available at the door. For more information, visit www.mcmenamins.com

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