

Focus



George Clinton

Musician's Drug Search Called Illegal

(AP) — An attorney for funk music pioneer George Clinton said the musician was illegally searched by police in Florida before he was charged with drug possession. Clinton headed the funk bands Parliament and Funkadelic - and the collaboration later known as P-Funk - in the 1970s and 1980s is considered a father of the genre. In 1983, Clinton's solo record "Atomic Dog" rose to the top of the R&B charts.

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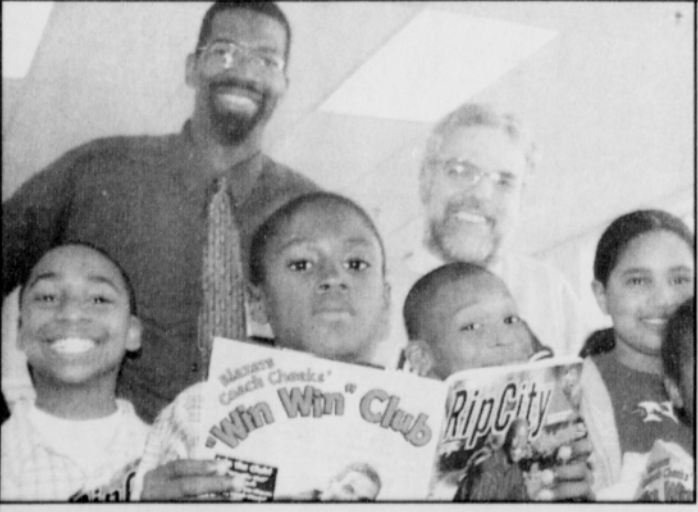
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Bobby Brown Charged with Hitting Whitney



Whitney Houston and her husband, Bobby Brown, perform during the "VH1 Divas" duets show last May. (AP photo)

Couple leaves court together

(AP) — Singer Bobby Brown was charged with battery in an Atlanta, Ga. courtroom last Wednesday, three days after he allegedly hit his wife, singer and actress Whitney Houston. Fulton County police spokesman Kurtis Young said Brown, 34, turned himself in. Brown and Houston left Fulton County Magistrate Court together after they and their attorneys met with police. Brown is scheduled to appear at a preliminary hearing Jan. 7. Brown's lawyer, Maurice Bennett, told

The Atlanta Journal-Constitution that his client and Houston were trying to work out the problem "as husband and wife." Houston, 40, declined comment, but her lawyer, Mark Trigg, echoed Bennett's comments, saying: "She is trying to resolve the matter privately." Houston told police Sunday that Brown had struck her on the left side of her face with an open right hand at the couple's home near Alpharetta. Brown then went to the airport for a flight to Los Angeles, the police report said. Police said Houston had a bruised cheek and a cut inside her upper lip. Houston and Brown have been married since 1992. They have a 10-year-old daughter, Bobbi Kristina.



Buju Banton

Reggae Singer Hit with Pot Charge

(AP) — Grammy nominee Buju Banton has pleaded innocent to marijuana charges in a Jamaican court. Police said they were conducting routine anti-drug raids in Jamaica's capital last week and found three fully-grown marijuana plants in the entertainer's home weighing 2 pounds. A police official initially said officers found 30 plants. Banton faces marijuana possession and cultivation charges that carry a maximum penalty of six months in jail and fines. He's scheduled to appear in court again Jan. 9. Banton's "Friends for Life" album was nominated Dec. 4 for best reggae album at the 46th annual Grammy Awards, set for Feb. 8 at the Staples Center arena in Los Angeles.



Magazine Rejects Eminem Apology

The Source Magazine is continuing to condemn Eminem, calling his second apology inadequate as the rap star tries to dismiss some racist rantings from the past as the result of youthful ignorance. Editors for the rap publication have invited Eminem to participate in a roundtable discussion of racism in hip-hop.

The Source says it has proof from actual recordings made that Eminem made racist and offensive tracks in 1993 when he was 21, not 16 as he claims. The magazine quotes Malik Zulu Shabazz, national chairman of the New Black Panther Party and former member of the Zulu Nation, of accusing Eminem of playing a game with

black people to get black money or credibility in a black industry. It quoted Grammy nominee Nikki Giovanni as saying, "I'm not a fan of Eminem and it was a profound disappointment. What's the purpose of this boy who's making a living off of a black art form being deliberately insulting?"

ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

What a View!
Take in the Portland lights from the Sternwheeler for Christmas through Dec. 28. Admission ranges from \$20 to \$65 for dinner, dancing and holiday brunches. For more information, visit www.sternwheeler.com or call 800-643-1354.

birthday party on Jan. 2 for Ozzie, the famous otter, who was conceived, born and raised by his mother in captivity. Birthday party guests receive cupcakes. For more information, call 503-226-1561 or visit www.oregonzoo.org.

Santa's Late
Find Santa at the Oregon Zoo's holiday simulator ride for the holidays through Dec. 28. Call 503-226-1561 or visit www.oregonzoo.org for more information.

Vroom!
The Portland International Auto Show is from Feb. 5 through 8 for domestic and imports, concept and economy cars, at the Oregon Convention Center, 777 N.E. MLK Blvd. General admission is \$8. For more information, call 800-322-4821.

Stack 'Em Up
Adult Lego enthusiasts will love the 2004 BrickFest Expo at the Oregon Convention Center. The exhibit will have themed displays and mosaics from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Feb. 15 for an admission of \$5 per person or \$20 max per family. For more information, call 503-297-5090.

Sax Flies West
Charles Gayle, a New York jazz saxophone street performer, will have a rare West Coast performance at Disjecta, 116 N.E. Russell St., on Jan. 10. Free.

Arts Benefit
The Talisman Gallery presents "Foot Square," benefiting Habitat For Humanity, through Dec. 28. For more information, call 503-287-9529.

Kwanzaa Gala
Bridge Builders is holding its seventh annual Kwanzaa Gala and Initiates Ball at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 27 at the Portland Center for the Performing Arts. Tickets are \$30. For more information, call 503-306-2960.

All New Christmas Carol
The Northwest Children's Theater and School presents the "All New Christmas Carol" at the Northwest Neighborhood Cultural Center, 1819 N.W. Everett St., through Dec. 24. Tickets are \$20 for adults. For showtimes and more information, call 503-222-4480 or visit www.nwcts.org.



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Tet Celebration
The Vietnamese community celebrates the year of the monkey with a traditional festival Tet and Lion Dance on Saturday, Jan. 17 at the Oregon Convention Center, 777 N.E. MLK Blvd. Festivities, games and music are from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. with a fundraising dance at 8 p.m. for a cost of \$25. For more information, call 503-780-0842.

Ozzie's Birthday
Join Oregon Zoo staff for a third

Trippin' through Town
Take a trip through time to find the hottest poetry, hip-hop and soul influencing Portland Wednesdays at the Ohm. \$7 cover. 31 N.W. First Ave.

Wild Party
Excite your child with a birthday party in the woods, meadow or near a pond, hosted by Portland Parks and Recreation staff. Themes include forest fairies, Indian legends, Lewis and Clark exploration, animal tracking, camouflage critters and more. Parties begin at \$100 for 10 children, including games, activities and favors. For more information, call 503-823-3601.

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