

Arts & ENTERTAINMENT



2011
Gabriell Mekail Harper
is graduating from Wilsonville High School

Rihanna Brings Voice to Victims

Defends songs with violent edge


(AP)--Rihanna is defending her latest music video, which opens with a man being shot in the head.

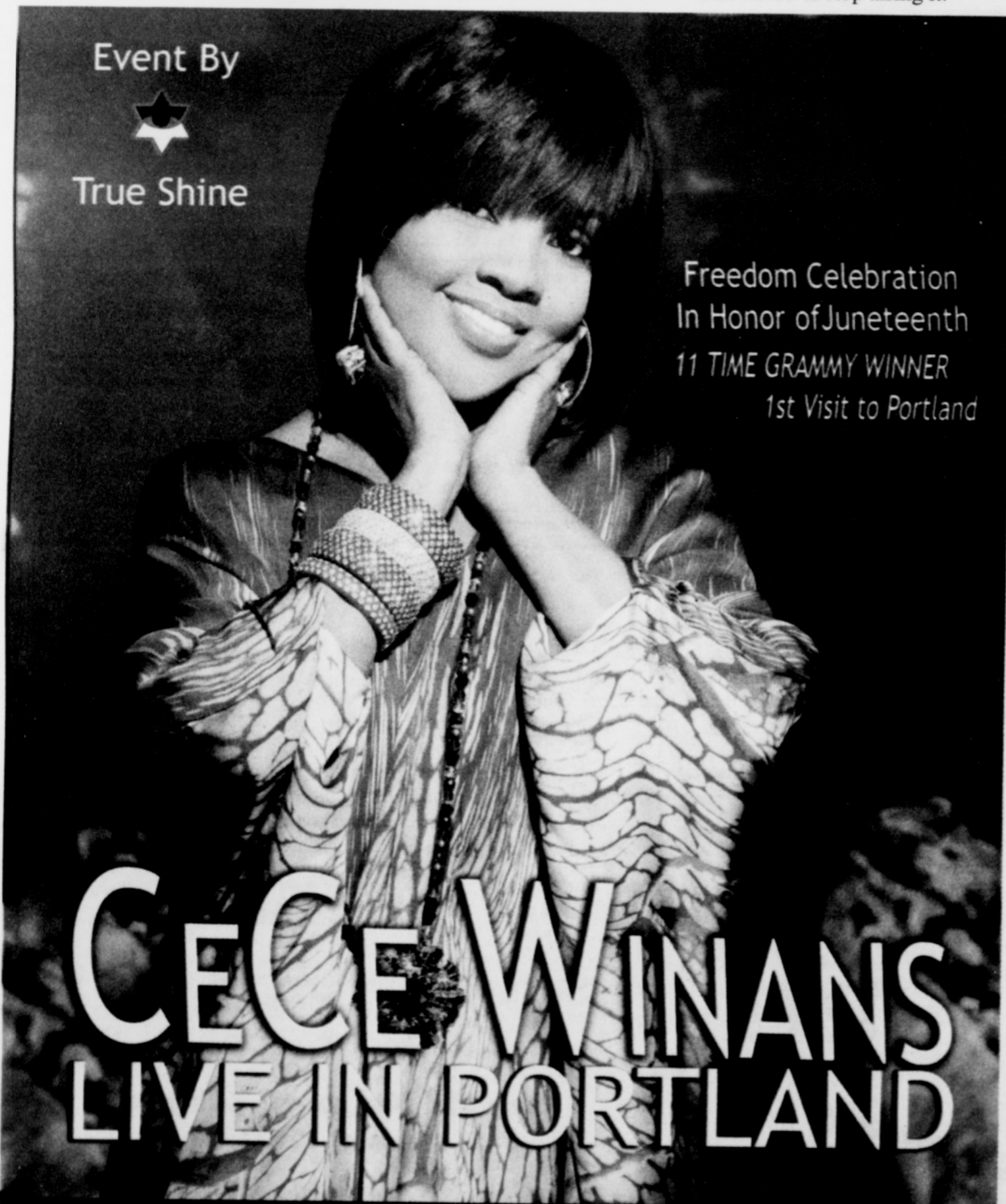
"Man Down," which premiered last week on BET, is a song about a girl who shoots her abuser in public. The video also portrays sexual assault.

The Parents Television Council called the clip "disturbing" and asked BET to stop airing it.



Rihanna performs in New York's Rockefeller Center during a May 27 NBC Today Show broadcast.

Event By

True Shine



Freedom Celebration
 In Honor of Juneteenth
 11 TIME GRAMMY WINNER
 1st Visit to Portland

CECE WINANS LIVE IN PORTLAND

**JUNE 16 2011 7PM
 NEW BEGINNINGS**

3300 Northeast 172nd Place Portland OR 97230
 Tickets at www.ticketwest.com 800-992-TIXX
www.trueshineentertainment.com 503-501-1864

But on Thursday's "106 & Park," BET's music video countdown show, Rihanna said the video is "art with a message."

"We just wanted to hone in on a very serious matter that people are afraid to address, especially if you've been victimized in this scenario," Rihanna said.

BET says it will continue to play the video, explaining that the network "has a comprehensive set of standards and guidelines that are applied to all of our content" and that Rihanna's video "complied with these guidelines and was approved for air."

Rihanna, who was attacked by then-boyfriend Chris Brown in February 2009, says she doesn't agree

with violence.

Brown attacked Rihanna on the eve of the Grammys. He pleaded guilty to a felony and was sentenced to five years' probation.

"I've been abused in the past and you don't see me running around killing people in my spare time," she said.

But the 23-year-old says rape happens too often and those victims need a voice.

"If I can be a voice for so many that aren't heard, then I win twice," she said.

The Grammy winner says she didn't intend to make a controversial music video. She was hoping to display her acting skills and create "something raw and artistic."

Armed and Dangerously Creative

Armed with scissors, glue and plenty of sass, some of Portland's best crafters are ready to go head-to-head in the ultimate SCRAP smack-down.

Four pre-qualified contestants will compete against one another for who can come up with the best craft creations under dramatic timed "bouts," using only the materials selected for them. To make it even more challenging, audience mem-

bers also can bid on craft items that contestants must use as part of their designs.

The Rebel Craft Rumble will be held Wednesday, June 15 at 6:30 p.m. at the Clinton Street Theater, 2522 S.E. Clinton St. General admission is \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. This rowdy event is for adults, 21+.

SCRAP is a local nonprofit that allows reuse of materials into affordable arts and crafts supplies.