

Entertainment Briefs

JIMI HENDRIX GUITAR EARNS \$87,000 AT AUCTION

LONDON (AP) — A vintage guitar that once belonged to Jimi Hendrix brought \$87,000 at an auction of some of the rock legend's belongings. Hendrix owned the Epiphone guitar from 1967-70 and played it frequently, said his one-time girlfriend Kathy Etchingham, who sold many of the items at Bonhams & Brooks auction house in west London. Noel Redding, a bass player in the Jimi Hendrix Experience, provided the rest for Thursday's auction. "Jimi had music coming out of every pore," Etchingham said. "One minute he'd be eating his breakfast, the next he'd say, 'Hey,' pick up the guitar and play the riffs in his head." A muslin stars-and-stripes shirt sold for \$26,000, and a black pen Hendrix used to sign a recording contract went for \$5,800. The sale brought in \$272,000 overall. A telephone bidder paid \$41,000 for a set of stacked amplifiers that had been expected to sell for about a third of that price. A catalog photograph showed the amplifiers onstage at the Woodstock music festival, and Hendrix is also believed to have used them in the last tours before his 1970 death.

MARION "SUGE" KNIGHT SET FOR AUGUST RELEASE FROM PRISON

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Marion "Suge" Knight, the rap mogul who co-founded Death Row Records, is scheduled for release on Aug. 9 from a federal prison in Oregon where he is completing a sentence for violating probation. Knight was paroled on April 20 from Mule Creek State Prison in Lone, Calif., after serving half of a nine-year term for violating probation on assault charges. He then was transferred to a federal prison in Sheridan, Ore., to finish the remaining months of a federal probation violation sentence that had been running concurrently with the state sentence, said Ransom Ali, executive assistant to the warden at the Oregon facility. Knight will be on supervised release after he leaves prison in August, Ali said. Knight was on probation for state and federal charges the night of Sept. 7, 1996, when he was involved in a fight at a Las Vegas hotel. Hours after the fight, rap star Tupac Shakur was shot to death in a drive-by attack as he rode in Knight's car. The following February, Knight was sentenced to nine years in prison for violating the terms of his probation by taking part in the fight.

BOB MARLEY FILM TO BE SHOWN IN JAMAICA

KINGSTON, Jamaica (AP) — Roger Steffens says he's shown his independent film, "The Life of Bob Marley," to thousands around the world, but never in Marley's homeland of Jamaica. He'll present the 80-minute video on June 29 during International Reggae Day celebrations in Kingston. "It feels good to give something back to Jamaica after all she has given me," said New York-born Steffens, who's researched Jamaican music for more than 30 years. His collection of reggae memorabilia takes up six rooms and the garage of his Los Angeles home. Steffens has written extensively on the history of Jamaican music and Marley's band, the Wailers, and is the co-author of the biography, "Bob Marley: Spirit Dancer." Marley died of brain cancer in 1981 at age 36. Steffens became intrigued with Jamaican culture during the early 1970s. He is now writing the biography on Bunny Wailer, one of three surviving original Wailers.

POITIER VISITS BAHAMAS HOMELAND, VIEWS PARLIAMENT

NASSAU, Bahamas (AP) — Oscar-winner Sidney Poitier paid tribute to his homeland with a visit to the Bahamas' parliament. "My mother is a Bahamian. My father is a Bahamian, as am I," Poitier told the House of Assembly on Wednesday. "And all that I am, I've received from them and a country that has today given me the opportunities, and to my grandchildren, that I have never dreamt of." Poitier, who was born in Miami, grew up on Cat Island before leaving for the United States. He has been visiting the Bahamas to act as a narrator for a government-produced documentary on the country's Independence Day. The country will celebrate its 28th year of independence from Britain in July. Poitier won a best-actor Oscar for 1963's "Lilies of the Field." The 74-year-old actor was knighted in 1968.

ENTERTAINMENT

Duo talented enough to forgo raunch

By Dianna Saffold
Sentinel-Voice

Recently at my favorite venue, the House of Blues, I experienced what I attribute to millennium madness—Cedric and Joel Hailey, commonly known as KC & JoJo: twentieth century R & B sex symbols—this I consider madness.

Backed up by percussion, drums, lead and bass guitars, and three very talented backup singers, KC & JoJo were also known in the 90s as one half of the soul/hip hop quartet, Jodeci.

Fan-declared sex symbols, they were dressed casually, too casually for sex icons. KC, hair corn rolled to the back, wore a sleeveless T-shirt that he would soon discard and red denim pants held up on that "tiny" body by a ruby studded belt, while JoJo wore the popular shiny-look denim outfit.

KC opened the show,

drawing sensual moans and groans as his passion for the song spread throughout the captivated crowd. Caught up early, KC reached for the sky, grinding out the fervor-filled lyrics.

With a swift motion, he stuffed his microphone down his pants— and off he strolled and on JoJo rolled. JoJo jumped right into this heated pool of sexuality, rolling on the floor downstage, enabling the eager crowd to stroke his bald head. These moves took them into a stream of hits.

Soulfully delivered lyrics captivated the crowd with their rhythmic rapture. Joined by KC, they performed their version of "If You Think I'm Lonely Now."

This is where KC removed that T-shirt, upsetting the delicate hormonal balance of their screaming female fans. "I Want To Do Right" brought KC out into the crowd on the shoulders of

who I assumed was his personal security.

Filling the atmosphere with one "sex me up" song after another, JoJo, reaching for the hands of his fans, was pulled from the stage into their waiting arms. He was eventually lifted back onto the stage as gently as he was removed. For this love, he threw sweaty towels into the hands of his fans. One man's garbage, another woman's treasure...

It was amidst all this excitement that they made a major announcement. This performance would be the last time we would see KC & JoJo on stage alone.

"Do you know what I'm talking about," shouted KC. The room roared in anticipation of a Jodeci reunion. When the duo shouted, "Jodeci 2002," it was like a dose of satisfaction to the eager throng. This announcement segued into their Jodeci

hits, 1991 through '94. "So You Having My Baby," began the medley of hits. Lisa Penniston, local Jodeci fan, was disappointed when they did shorter versions of their hits. "When they give it to me, I want it all," said Penniston.

OOPS, is that a pair of panties flying to the stage? Well, that certainly will be less for someone to remove. I had a feeling this night would mean more than a wet kiss at the door for somebody.

Any movement, no matter how it was delivered, sent the women into physical frenzies. KC at one point just stood there and licked his lips, causing orgasmic eruptions.

When the duo inquired, "have you ever been with your lover, he wanted to, you didn't, and he didn't know how to ask?" they had the answer— "don't go too fast, and let's take it slow— can you (See Duo, Page 9)

Hip-hop festival features plays, drama

NEW YORK (AP) — The second NYC Hip Hop Theater Festival examined the influence of hip-hop in a series of plays and other drama running during June.

"It's not about Shakespeare with rap," said Danny Hoch, a producer of the festival that is scheduled to run through June 30. Rather, many plays examine how hip-hop is perceived by the media and outsiders, Hoch said. "Some are about what the meaning of hip-hop is for African-Americans or Latinos or for white kids."

Hip-Hop Theatre Junction, a Washington, D.C.-based group that tries to help artists who want to use hip-hop in their work, and Hoch's one-man show, "Jails, Hospitals and Hip-

Hop," were among the acts on the festival's schedule.

Fifteen plays and other drama were scheduled for the festival, which opened June 14 at Performance Space 122.

In addition, groups in the festival gave free arts workshops at the Bronx Museum of the Arts. The idea is to introduce youth to theater by showing their stories can be told in a powerful and common language said Hoch, who also helped found the Active Element foundation, an organization that tries to build relationships among grass-roots youth activists.

"Hip-hop is a common language of this generation," he said. "It's such a part of American life and attitudes - all you have to do is turn on the TV - any channel."

BET

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Her comments: "Bobby Brown is the King of R & B!"

This comment coming on the tale end of her quick tongued check-in with a rather vociferous fan who egged her on to thank her partner.

In what seemed like a very genuine attempt to apologize for her recent past digressions, superstar Whitney accepted her award gracefully, appreciatively, and longwindedly. The network comments that the award was long overdue. Whitney was honored by musical greats like BabyFace, Luther Vandross, and Patti LaBelle herself, who packed the Paris Theatre of The Arts to not only honor BET fans, but to particularly honor the songstress, who has seen her share of, and may be seen at her share of award shows.

The ceremony itself focused on the contribution of the most popular of those in pop culture. Needless to say, the stars were out to take home their trophies. Whereas Winner of Best Female Hip Hop Artist, Eve donned her Sixers jersey, and helplessly gave Shaquille O'Neal a little fever, artists like Jay Z gave a little taste of things to come with excerpts from his upcoming release. A duet between Best Gospel Artist Donnie McClurkin and the great Patti LaBelle brought the house to its feet with Snoop's posse leading the beat and apparently households across the country tuned in to set "a ratings threshold in what has already been a stellar ratings season."

In hopefully what will not be their last visit to our backyard, BET's 1st Annual Awards honored the "Best Of" recipients in a "direct response to what (the) viewers have been asking (them) to do— honor and recognize the very entertainers whose careers have impacted for so many years" the lives of our communities across the country.



Sentinel-Voice photo by John Broussard

Best Gospel Artist Award was won by Donnie McClurkin who was escorted by singer Patti LaBelle.

Awards

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fice records by starring in Spike Lee's documentary film, "The Original Kings of Comedy." He is currently hosting a radio show in Los Angeles on KKBt-FM, 100.3 "The Beat," with motivational speaking and community involvement.

Harvey has ended his seven-year run as the host of "It's Showtime at the Apollo," and decided to do a sixth season the WB's "The Steve Harvey Show" for the Fall and will be hosting BET's "Gospel Celebration."

Harvey is committed to helping youth in detention

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