

Spring jumps with concerts

7.7.84

Major artists offer shows to suit tastes ranging from reggae to big-band music

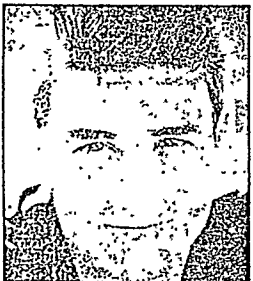
By GREG GADBERRY
Staff Writer



Ziggy Marley plays Friday in Waterville.



Pearl Bailey comes to Portsmouth.



John Wesley Harding plays at City Hall.

SPRING has arrived blooming with major shows: Ziggy Marley, the Kinks, Michéle Shocked, Melissa Etheridge and Pearl Bailey will visit the region's theaters for concerts.

The parade of shows begins Friday night in Waterville with Marley's concert with the Melody Makers. The show, at the Wadsworth Gymnasium on the Colby College campus, starts at 8.

Tickets are \$13 and are available at Ticketron locations, the Record Exchange in Portland and at student activities' offices at Bates College, Bowdoin College, Colby College and the University of Southern Maine.

Ziggy, son of the late Bob Marley, has shouldered a musical tradition his father established a generation ago.

The elder Marley's musical talent and political passions helped transform reggae from a little-known form of Jamaican street music into a globally popular and important art.

Although Ziggy is talented, critics have noted he has yet to dress his tunes in the passionate trappings that his father used. Even so, his concert in Portland last year was fun and energetic.

For more information, call the Colby student activities office at 872-3000.

Fans of new acoustic music may wish to stay in Portland and take in a music revue headlined by singer Shocked.

The show, Friday at the Portland City Hall Auditorium, begins at 8 p.m. Appearing with Shocked is songwriter John Wesley Harding and the Hawaiian-based band Poi Dog Pondering.

Shocked's recent success has been astounding. Three years ago, Shocked was singing her funny, yet often melancholy, folk music on street corners and at small folk concerts. Her first commercial success came after an entrepreneur used a pocket cassette deck to record Shocked singing next to a campfire at a Texas folk festival.

That recording became a fast-selling album in England. Since then, Shocked has made two studio-produced albums which critics have praised for their sensitive, tongue-in-cheek lyrics and their simple style.

Shocked, it seems, can't help poking fun. Her most recent single, "The Greener Side," was made into a video full of pictures of flexing, barely-dressed male body builders.

With "The Greener Side" video, Shocked parodies videos made by male singers that are generally full of writhing, half-naked women.

Tickets for the Shocked show are \$18.50 and \$16.50 and are available at Ticketron locations, Strawberries Records and Tapes locations, at the Record Exchange in Portland and by calling Teletron at 1-800-382-8080.

If you want music a little smoother from veterans a little older, steer to the Portsmouth (N.H.) Music Hall for Saturday's show by Bailey and Louie Bellson.

Calling the husband-and-wife team of Bellson and Bailey jazz legends would be hackneyed. Let's say instead that Bellson and Bailey are stylists who created some of big band music's most beautiful and enduring compositions.

Probably less is known about Bellson than about his famous

The Aqua Velvas had them hopping on a weeknight. See Night Notes, page 16.

See CONCERTS
Page 15



Michelle Shocked: In less than three years she's made it from sitting around Texas campfires to Portland's City Hall — and beyond.

Peter Darley Miller photo