

Novelist insists magazine misinterpreted her remarks

LONDON — Fay Weldon says a magazine misinterpreted her comment that rape "isn't the worst thing that can happen to a woman."

Pre-Beatles band reunites, prepares for U.S. concert

HARTFORD, Conn. — Forty-one years after Paul McCartney joined John Lennon's Liverpool skiffle band the Quarrymen, the not-so-famous members of the group are back together and ready to play again.



Paul McCartney

TOP OF THE MORNING

Folk legend to open school's new digs

By MARK GUARINO Daily Herald Music Critic

The new doors of Chicago's legendary folk music school will be opened by a legendary singer-songwriter.

Joni Mitchell, the Canadian musician who blended confessional poetry and jazz-structured folk, will perform at the new home of the Old Town School Of Folk Music Sept. 18, it was announced Wednesday.

She will be joined by Peter Yarrow of the longtime folk trio Peter, Paul and Mary.

"She's one of the best songwriters of the era and in terms of an acoustic and folk music influence, she fits it to a 'T,'" said Jim Hirsch, executive director of the Old Town School.

The intimate concert will be Mitchell's first in Chicago in more than ten years. She will be the first performer to play at the school's 425-seat hall, located at the Chicago Folk Center, 4544 N. Lincoln, Chicago. Tickets for the benefit and dinner are \$2,500 apiece.

The event — part of a weekend of workshops, performances and open house tours — will unveil the 41-year-old school's move to Chicago's Lincoln Square neighborhood.

Its long-time space in Old Town will remain as a children's center.

Costing \$7 million in renovations, the new site will include four floors holding classrooms, the concert hall, a resource

center, store and a public cafe.

"We will always do what we do but with the new venue, it will allow us to do it better," Hirsch said.

The weekend also will include concerts by Old Town alumni culminating with a Sunday reunion concert featuring Corky Siegel, Ella Jenkins, Jim and Janet Post, Bonnie Koloc and others.

Mitchell is currently working on a new album. She recently completed a West Coast tour with Bob Dylan and Van Morrison.

On July 18 and 19, the school will host a first-ever free music festival around the corner from the new site at Welles Park. It will feature roots-based musicians like Robbie Fulks, Honeyboy Edwards, Chris Smither and the Blazers.

For tickets or more information, call (773) 525-7793.



Joni Mitchell

Wounded rapper walks out of hospital against orders

NEW YORK — Rapper ODB from The Wu-Tang Clan ignored doctors and walked out of a hospital Wednesday after being shot in an apartment robbery. The rapper, whose real name is Russell Jones, left Interfaith Medical Center just after midnight. His back and arm wounds from the robbery were superficial, but doctors wanted to keep him overnight for observation. Jones, 29, was shot once Tuesday when two armed intruders entered the Brooklyn apartment where he was staying, police said.

Revived career renews suit against singer Isaac Hayes

MARIETTA, Ga. — As Isaac Hayes has revitalized his career, a Georgia woman has renewed her effort to collect on an \$88,000 loan. Doris Hall received a court order in 1989 that required Hayes to repay the loan plus nearly \$100,000 in interest, but she didn't pursue it because she believed the singer didn't have the means to pay, said her attorney, Lynwood Maddox. State Court Judge Robert McDuff revived the court order Monday. Hayes' assistant manager, said he plans to pay Hall back.



Isaac Hayes

Thursday's chuckle

Luck: what the lazy call the results of another's hard work.

Filmmaker sinks teeth into real Dracula story

Chicago filmmaker Luciano Sabar plans to set the record straight on Count Dracula. Sabar met recently in New York with Romanian officials to outline "Prince Vlad." Sabar says Dracula is based on a real person — Transylvanian Prince Vlad Tepes, a.k.a. Vlad the Impaler and Prince Vlad Dracul III.



Lauren is leading an unusual life these days. The soft-spoken, mild-mannered accountant is traversing the state's highways and byways in search of some voter recognition. Most of Lauren's days this summer will be spent attending various county fairs where he says he's "eat(ing) myself across Illinois."

Patriotic views: What movies do Americans most like to watch on Independence Day? A survey by Blockbuster indicates the most popular Fourth of July flick is (what else?) "Independence Day," followed by "Born on the Fourth of July," "Yankee Doodle Dandy," "Air Force One," and "Forest Gump."

Travelin' man: Minister Louis Farrakhan plans to travel to Great Britain within the next 30 days, but it's unclear exactly how he plans to get into the country. The Brits say they don't plan to let him in. The Nation of Islam leader says he wants to address Britain's black population to try to unite the various factions.

Road to recovery: Republican lieutenant governor candidate Corinne Wood has "flipped her wig," her aides say. That's literally true. She's no longer wearing the blond wig she sported for months to conceal the baldness caused by treatment for breast cancer.

A day in the life: Republican comptroller nominee Chris

Capitol quips: Gov. Jim Edgar gets our "Quote of the Day" honors for the irreverent way in which he acknowledged that the resignation of Lt. Gov. Bob Kustra leaves him and state Attorney General Jim Ryan as the two highest-ranking Illinois government officials. Edgar has a history of heart troubles, while Ryan underwent treatment for cancer. Or, as Edgar so "eloquently" put it, "We make quite a pair. We're a walking medical encyclopedia."

Kustra time: Edgar made a big deal of praising Kustra, who will show up today for his first day of work as president of Eastern Kentucky University. Edgar says he thinks Kustra was one of the more significant lieutenant governors.

What a concept: Going to the swimming pool may not be so scary anymore. Anyone who's gone through the trauma of buying a new swimsuit will appreciate www.callabay.com. The swimsuit maker's Web site allows customers to pick their favorite styles and fabrics, view the creation on a 3-D model and then download measurements. No sneering salespeople!

This column, which appears Tuesdays through Saturdays, was written by UPI's Marcy Kreiter and Greg Tejada. You can e-mail them at emkay@msn.com.

Star spends extra night in West Virginia

Associated Press

MORGANTOWN, W.Va. — It was a long, damp evening for Harrison Ford.

The star of "Six Days, Seven Nights" was stranded Tuesday night in Morgantown when thunderstorms forced his pilot to land

his helicopter at Hart Field. Ford was on his way home to Jackson Hole, Wyo.

His family was flying separately in a private jet and continued through the storm.

"It's a real pretty part of the country," Ford said. "Everybody's been pretty nice to us."

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