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Cape May Jazz Festival gets Dizzy

By **NICOLE PENSIERO**
For the Courier-Post

The Cape May Jazz Festival kicks off tonight and runs through Sunday with a theme that honors bebop master Dizzy Gillespie, one of the greatest jazz trumpeters.

More than 20 acts will entertain the estimated 8,000 attendees at this bi-annual event, said Carol Stone, one of the longtime organizers.

"We're very excited about this festival," said Stone. "It's a high-energy weekend. Both the visitors and the musicians love coming down here. We get a lot of people who come back time and time again."

The jazz festival — the 18th held in nine years — begins tonight at Convention Hall with 7:30 and 9:30 concerts featuring Gillespie's friend Herbie Mann and Jasil Brazz. Mann, a renowned jazz flutist, pioneered the concept of "world music" by exploring the rhythms of Africa, India, Cuba, Jamaica and Brazil. He was named *Downbeat* magazine's top jazz flutist for 13 consecutive years.

A special panel discussion — "Dizzy Gillespie: The Man and His Music" — is on Saturday from 11 a.m. to noon at Cape May Convention Hall. Musicians, including Slide Hampton, Phil Woods, Paquito D'Rivera and Earl May, will join Mann on

the panel.

Other highlights of the event include:

■ The Don Carn Quintet with Jeannie Brooks on vocals, 9 tonight, Savannah Key, Marquis de Lafayette Hotel.

■ Arturo O'Farrill's Afro-Cuban Band, 9 tonight, Congress Hall Ballroom.

■ Son Seals, 9 tonight, Cabanas.

■ The Dizzy Gillespie AllStar Alumni Band featuring Slide Hampton, Paquito D'Rivera and

Claudio Roditi, 7:30 and 9:30 p.m., Saturday, Convention Hall.

■ A stand-alone Jazz Brunch, noon to 3 p.m., Sunday, Pelican Club. Music will be provided by the Gil Lewis Organ Trio. Tickets are \$19.95. Call (609) 884-3995.

Complimentary shuttle buses will run tonight and Saturday from 6:30 p.m. to 2 a.m. along Beach Drive, where most of the acts will perform at various ven-

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Flutist Herbie Mann kicks off the festival tonight with two shows.

**PAQUITO
D'RIVERA**

