

ENTERTAINMENT

Enemy of the State fast-paced, slick tale of conspiracy

By Tammy D. McMahan
Special to Sentinel-Voice

"It's not paranoia if they're really after you," as a sound bite goes for the film *Enemy of the State*.

Indeed, *Enemy of the State* is a fast-paced, visual thriller that proves true the worst fears of any paranoid conspiracy theorist. That is, Big Brother is watching you and he can destroy your life.

Will Smith (*Men in Black*) stars as Robert Dean, a hotshot D.C. labor lawyer, who has it all. He's confident, intelligent and wealthy.

He has a loving family. The last thing on his mind is a Congressional bill which would allow a powerful government agency, the National Security Agency (NSA), to utilize high technology to surveil anyone the agency chooses without permission. Dean's wife Carla, portrayed by Regina King (*How Stella Got Her Groove Back*), rails against the invasion of privacy the bill represents.

Dean ignores his wife's warning, stating that this law



REGINA KING

couldn't affect him.

He's wrong. Dean has unknowingly been drawn into a web of high tech government conspiracy that came about due to this very bill.

When Dean was shopping for a gift for Carla, a school chum (Jason Lee) on the run from NSA operatives, deposits an incriminating tape into Dean's shopping bag. The tape shows the deadly lengths that Reynolds (Jon Voight), a State Department official who is on loan to the NSA, will go to ensure that the bill is passed.

When Reynolds and his



LISA BONET

NSA cronies realize that Dean may have the tape, they wreak havoc with their staggering, technical resources. Dean's life is destroyed.

He loses his job due to a government smear campaign. His wife kicks him out of the house because she thinks he's having an affair with a former flame, Rachel, portrayed by Lisa Bonet (*Angel Heart*).

His credit cards are denied. Even his clothes are bugged. His only hope at clearing his name and getting his life back is a man named Brill (Gene Hackman), a reclusive high tech wizard.

(See *Enemy*, Page 13)



Photos special to Sentinel-Voice by Linda R. Chen

Will Smith stars as attorney Robert Clayton Dean who unknowingly possesses information about the death of a U.S. Congressman, in Touchstone Pictures' action thriller "*Enemy of the State*," produced by Jerry Bruckheimer and directed by Tony Scott.

Winfrey, partners to form cable network for women

NEW YORK (AP) — Three of the most successful women in television are banding together to form Oxygen, a cable network aimed at women.

Former Nickelodeon president Geraldine Laybourne's company, Oxygen Media, announced last week it will team with Oprah Winfrey and producer Marcy Carsey to create the new channel, which will provide entertainment, news and sports programming.

Oxygen would compete with Lifetime, the only established cable channel that caters directly to women. Lifetime, already seen in 72 million homes, has provided mainly movies and reruns but recently added women's basketball and original programs to broaden its appeal.

Oxygen is expected to make its debut on Jan. 1, 2000. It has already signed a deal with cable giant Tele-



OPRAH WINFREY

Communications Inc. to deliver Oxygen to 7 million homes.

Laybourne helped build

the Nickelodeon children's network into one of the most successful channels on cable and later served as president of Walt Disney Co.'s cable channels. She left Disney in May to form Oxygen Media, a cable TV and online company geared toward women and children.

Under the deal, Winfrey's production company, Harpo Entertainment Group, and Carsey-Werner-Mandabach Co. will take stakes in Oxygen Media — joining other big-name investors, America Online Inc. and Disney's

(See *Network*, Page 13)

Hollywood shutting black movies out of lucrative foreign market

By William Reed
Special to Sentinel-Voice

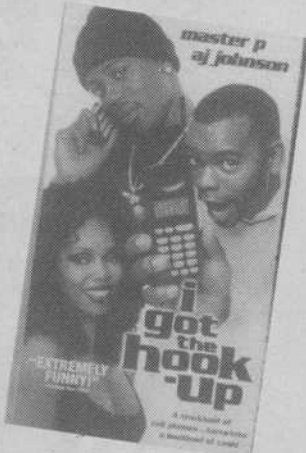
American culture exerts a powerful influence across the globe. Movies are a driving force behind the influence.

But rarely are African-American-focused films played in foreign markets, although blacks support the motion picture industry in droves, buying 25 percent of movie industry products.

For filmmakers, foreign box offices is where it's at. That audience is growing at a rate of about 6 to 7 percent annually — three times as fast as the domestic market — and black movies don't seem to figure into the money equation. U.S. movie distributors took in \$5.85 billion from foreign box offices last year.

Actually, it makes good business sense for Hollywood executives to go where they feel the money is. Ten years ago, 70 percent of the industry's revenue came from American movie-houses. The foreign market didn't have multiplex theaters then.

The bottom-line now shows the overseas market helped the epic disaster film



"Titanic" gain two times more than the \$600 million it earned in the American market.

While there are 63,000

movie screens overseas — compared to about 32,000 in the United States — the

(See *Movies*, Page 13)

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- COMING ATTRACTIONS -

THURSDAY	Dec. 3rd	John Earl's Boogie Man Band	10pm-2am
FRI. & SAT.	Dec. 4th & 5th	John Earl's Boogie Man Band	9pm-2am
LATE NIGHT BLUES	FRIDAY & SATURDAY	James Ferris Blues Band	2am-5:40am
SUNDAY	Dec. 6th	Charlie Tuna's Good Cookin' Band	10pm-2am
MONDAY	Dec. 7th	Al Ek & The All-Star Jammin' Session	10pm-2am
TUESDAY	Dec. 8th	Jimmy Mack Blues Attack	10pm-2am
WEDNESDAY	Dec. 9th	The Ruffnecks	10pm-2am

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