

ENTERTAINMENT

'Unconditional Love,' Low-rent film stinks

By Tammy D. McMahan
Special to Sentinel-Voice

There's good news and bad news about the film Unconditional Love. The good news is that it inspired me to not give up my dream of being a screenwriter. The bad news is that my inspiration arose from the fact that the movie was so utterly horrible that I thought anything I write has to be better. In fact, this film is so incredibly awful that it's not even worthy of distribution by way of the direct-to-video route.

The story begins with a voice over by Patrice

Sommers (Tracey Ross) who is recalling how her life changed so dramatically twelve years ago. At that time, Patrice was a brilliant graduate student, computer whiz and bookstore employee. She's pursued by the lovelorn, kindhearted bookstore owner Mario (Adrian Zmed). She has long rebuffed him because she's waiting for that man who will give her "unconditional love." The story then switches to Joe Kirkman (John Kennedy Horne), an investigative reporter for a Los Angeles weekly newspaper. He's

investigating an apartment complex operated by a slumlord. Kirkman is pursuing this story when he reunites his mentor and best friend Linda Cray (Sheryl Lee Ralph). She informs him that she's on the trail of a hot story. The film returns to the wistful Patrice. She's working away in the bookstore and chatting with a friend about her desire for unconditional love. Joe overhears and with considerable macho bravado asks her out for a date. Patrice accepts and the romance begins. The hearts and (See Review, Page 15)

Jones likes idea of downloading Internet music

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Quincy Jones says there's only one downside to the prospect of downloading music over the Internet — he'd buy too much of it.

"I'll say 'I don't know anything about it, but I'll take some of that, some classical music, 'The Mysterious Voices of Bulgaria,' all of that,'" he says. The Grammy-winning musician and record producer says he is eager to

forego record stores because "our current system of music distribution is so archaic."

"I don't know what it means, but the changes are certainly here," Jones, 65, told Sunday's Daily News.

"When computers can document what your taste is all about, and they come to your house every Saturday knowing what you like, they'll own you," he said. "They'll get all your money."



QUINCY JONES



Photo special to the Sentinel-Voice

L-R: Will Smith, Mariah Carey, Michael Jordan, Blair Underwood, and Lauryn Hill will appear at the 30th NAACP Image Awards.

Awards honor Black America's brightest

Special to Sentinel-Voice

Gospel-pop star Kirk Franklin and his Nu Nation choir and rap pioneers Run DMC will open the 30th NAACP Image Awards, which airs at 8 p.m. Thursday, March 4 on FOX. The ceremony convened under the theme, "30 years of Celebrating, 90 years of Courage."

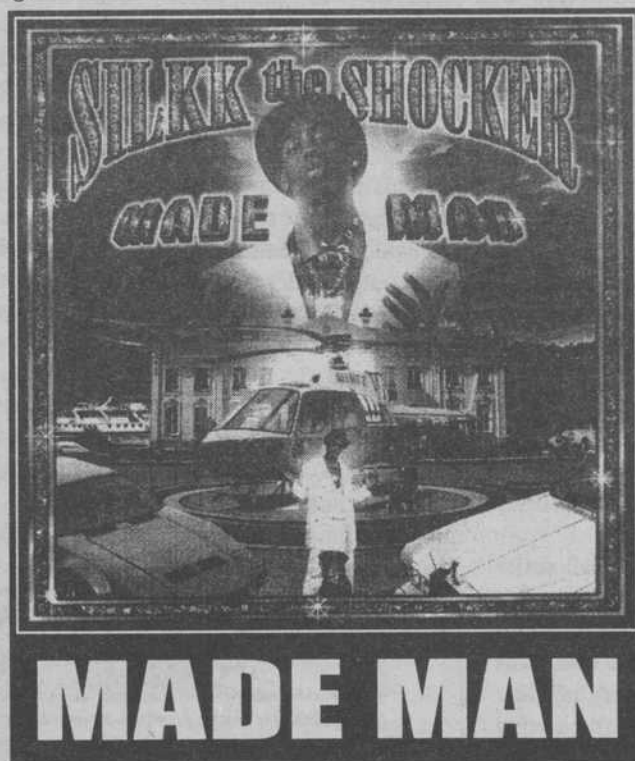
Songstress Mariah Carey and actor Blair Underwood will host the show, which honors the accomplishments of individuals who have worked to create positive images of African-Americans in the arts.

George Benson and Eric Clapton will

pay tribute to B.B. King, who is set to be inducted into the Hall of Fame with blues classic, "Rock Me Baby." Hall of Fame inductee Kathleen Battle will perform "Guide My Feet."

Other artists performing, presenting or receiving awards include singers Brandy, Mya and Lauryn Hill, the Children of the World Mass Choir, actors Harry Belafonte, Morgan Freeman, Shemar Moore and Will Smith, actress Victoria Rowell, rapper-actress Queen Latifah, comedian Chris Tucker and former basketball superstar Michael Jordan.

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