

# Destiny's Child rocks the House



LV Sentinel-Voice photo by Ramon Savoy

Lead singer of Destiny's Child, Beyoncé, does her best to hype herself and the crowd at the House of Blues.

**Jocelyn Scott-Roach**  
*Special to Sentinel-Voice*  
 Local act Purple Reign and R&B group Destiny's Child were the stars of the first KLUC 18-an-over night at the House of Blues last Friday.

Purple Reign kicked off the concert with a barrage of old hits made by the Artist formerly known as Prince. Despite a less than enthusiastic audience Purple Reign gave the audience a full dose of provocative songs and dance moves created by the Artist himself.

Several times his two sexy dancers, who did much more than dance, joined the lead singer on stage.

Their alluring moves made the performance a lot better for the men in the audience.

The most ironic aspect of the show was that the group



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Clad in cowgirl getups, Destiny's Child gave a lukewarm performance at the teen party.

sung every famous Prince song except "Purple Rain."

After a lot of dirty dancing and even more erotic Prince hits, the crowd was officially ready for Destiny's Child to rock the house.

The bit of excitement that the audience had built during the Purple Reign performance began to fade during the hour long intermission. KLUC tried to appease the standing audience by playing some of their favorite hits. That seemed to work.

Again the crowd was dancing and anxiously awaiting gems of the evening. When it was finally time for Destiny's Child to perform, the audience went wild.

Wild was a good way to describe the outfits worn by

the girls. From the red bandanna and indigo denim motif prevalent in their outfits, it was apparent that the group thought they were performing in the wild wild west.

Misguided outfits weren't all that flawed the group's performance.

Twice in the performance the group put away their microphones and lined up to dance to other artist's music. Aaliyah wasn't performing, but her song was playing and the four girls on stage were dancing to it. Destiny's Child did sing some of their own hits like "Get on the Bus," "No No No" the original version and the remix.

The performance was on it's way to getting better when

the group sang their new hit "Bills, Bills, Bills." The audience loved it and they were singing as loud as the stars.

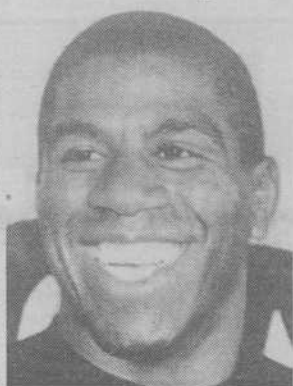
The temporary satisfaction totally disappeared once the song ended and the group said good night.

The audience waited two hours and only got 25 minutes of Destiny's Child. Hopefully, in the future the 18 and over Las Vegans will get what they deserve. That is, a shorter intermission and a longer performance.

July 31, KLUC will host it's second 18 and over night. The concert will star R&B prince Tyrese, soulful R&B group Silk, and rap legend Naughty by Nature.

## Event funds scholarships

Los Angeles—Magic Johnson is hosting his 14th Annual "A Midsummer Night's Magic" benefit from July 30 to Aug. 1. He's planned a star-studded event beginning with the Whitney Houston concert on Friday, July 30, a Mardi Gras and Casion Party on Saturday, July 31 at the Sony Studio Backlot and a Celebrity Basketball Game along with the NBA All-Star Game featuring talents such as Gary Payton, Allen Iverson, Ray Allen, Jalen Rose, Baron Davis and NBA Rookie of the Year, Vince Carter. Proceeds will benefit the Magic Johnson Scholarship Foundation and the Tom Joyner Foundation Scholarship Fund. These scholarships will help our youth obtain higher education that is too often unaffordable for them. For info, call 888 MAGIC-05.



MAGIC JOHNSON

## Wood

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 Nelson convincingly portrayed a teenage Mike who has a good head on his shoulders, but often fumbles with his would-be lady love Alicia (Malinda Williams) due to his raging hormones. Unfortunately, the characters of Roland and Slim weren't as developed as Mike.

Perhaps, the script failed actors Taye Diggs and Richard T. Jones who portray these characters as men in their late 20's and actors Trent Cameron (Roland) and Duane Finley (Slim) who portray the characters in their teen years. Their characters are reduced to foul-mouthed, trash talkin' booty chasers.

Sure, we know they become successful young men, but it's quite hard to believe as opposed to Mike's success. It's difficult to harshly criticize this film because it's obvious that screenwriter/director Rick Famuyiwa, the son of Nigerian parents, sincerely wanted to make a heartfelt

coming-of-age story. However, Famuyiwa needed to develop many characters of this film beyond one-dimensional stereotypes. Certainly, there's limited time for development in a movie, but a few well-crafted lines can tell us so much.

Famuyiwa also needed to "go outside the lines" in terms of plot. Even though a happy ending is appropriate here, the "getting there" doesn't have to be so formulaic.

Furthermore, Famuyiwa, perhaps, wanted to give his dialogue some "authentic flavor" by having characters say the "n" word innumerable times, but every time I hear an African-American actor uttering that hateful word, outside of denouncing it, I'm both ashamed and angry.

On the other hand, I applaud Famuyiwa for writing a story about middle class African-Americans in a black neighborhood that doesn't dwell on gangs and drugs, but yet it doesn't ignore the fact they're present.

Although women are often reduced to sex objects in this male coming-of-age story,

Famuyiwa has some scenes showing the guidance that women sometimes give men

in the area of respect and responsibility.

Although *The Wood* isn't

one of the best-acted or well-plotted films on becoming a man, it's enjoyable at times.

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