

ENTERTAINMENT BRIEFS

SNOOP DOGG WANTS TO GO MULTIMEDIA

NEW YORK (AP) — Rapper Snoop Dogg wants to go multimedia. He's launched a new record label, Doghouse Records, and has plans for a clothing line, an Internet business and a book deal. He also wants to star in and produce films. "Now is the time for me to have a record label because I've been a player for a long time and have played the game very well," he told the New York Post for Sunday's editions. "I feel like the direction I'm going in is good for people to follow. If I can lead the whole rap community, why can't I lead a whole record label?" The rapper says he plans to showcase new acts in home video movies and make their music available for download on his new Web site, www.bigsnoopdogg.com, which is under construction.

BOWIE, IMAN EXPECTING FIRST BABY

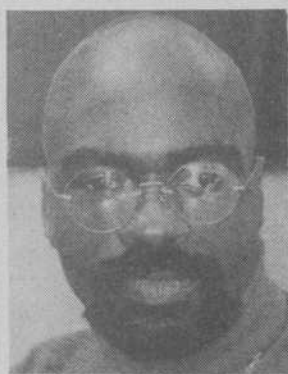
LONDON (AP) — Rock star David Bowie and his wife Iman said Sunday that they are expecting their first child in August. Bowie and Iman, a Somali fashion model, married in 1992. "It's been a long and patient wait for our baby, but both Iman and I wanted the circumstances to be absolutely right, and didn't want to find ourselves working flat out during the first couple of years of the baby's life," Bowie said. "This is a wonderful time in both our lives." Bowie also has a grown son — first known as Zowie but later as Joey — from his previous marriage. Iman had a daughter, Zulekha, from her marriage to professional basketball star Spencer Haywood.

CLASSIC MUSIC STAR WALKER QUOTES ELLINGTON IN WORK

NEW YORK (AP) — George Walker, named last week among this year's inductees into the American Classical Music Hall of Fame, quotes Duke Ellington — whom he will join in the hall — in his latest composition. Walker, 77, said he was immersed in classical music from a young age and first heard an Ellington tune when he was in college. It was "I Let a Song Go Out of My Heart," which he quotes in his new composition, "Tangents." The piece, for chamber orchestra, was commissioned by the Pro Musica Orchestra of Columbus, Ohio, which performed the premiere in January. It will be released on a CD with "Lilacs for Voice and Orchestra," based on the Walt Whitman poem "When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloomed." Others to be inducted into the American Classical Music Hall of Fame in April: pianist Leon Fleisher, soprano Beverly Sills, the Metropolitan Opera, philanthropist Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge, composer Edward MacDowell, conductors Eugene Ormandy and George Szell, composer Walter Piston and pianist Rudolf Serkin. Ellington was inducted into the Hall in 1998, its first year.

HURRICANE PRAISED AT BERLIN FILM FESTIVAL

BERLIN (AP) — Director Norman Jewison says he likes bringing controversial movies like "The Hurricane" to the Berlin International Film Festival because of its intellectual feel. "There is a political side to this festival that I find exciting," Jewison said at a post-screening news conference last Thursday. "People take films more seriously here." The film is based on the story of Rubin "Hurricane" Carter, played by Denzel Washington, a middleweight boxer twice convicted of a 1966 triple homicide. After



RUBIN CARTER

narrowly escaping the electric chair he was cleared by a federal judge in 1985 and released in 1988. Jewison defended his film against critics who say he skimmed over the real story's depth and complexity. "It is about one man's struggle and indomitable spirit," Jewison said. "It is the relationship between a young man and someone who gives him hope to fight again." Washington was nominated for an Academy Award for his role in the movie and attributed the lack of more nominations to the fact that the film only opened in December and is not yet well known in the United States.

Choreographer jazzes Judds' show with hip-hop

John T. Stephens III
Sentinel-Voice

Wynonna and Naomi Judd country music's first family, The Judds known for smooth velvet voices and eye-catching dance piece routines that have birthed a hipper, hotter form of country music.

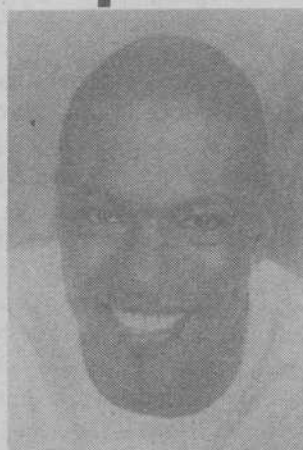
Country music's funkier than ever, with fireworks, intricate stage lighting, more choreography and fiery guitar riffs that would make the late Jimi Hendrix take notice.

Anthony Thomas, a North Carolina-born choreographer raised in California, is the man behind The Judds hip-hop moves. His work with Wynonna Judd spans for four years and four albums.

"It starts with the song first — whatever musically is going on usually dictates the movement," said Thomas, describing his mindset for choreographing a country tune.

"Most artists have some idea on what they want — they convey that and turn me loose."

Thomas has not just been a country music choreographer. The past 12 years he's danced professionally, working with



ANTHONY THOMAS

the likes of Luther Vandross, Anita Baker, Tony! Toni! Tone!, Tevin Campbell and Janet Jackson.

The oldest of three siblings, he's also created dance moves for movies — "Toys" with Robin Williams, "Stay Tuned" with John Ritter and Pam Dawber, and Powerline in Disney's "The Goofy Movie" — commercials — Punchy in a Hawaiian Punch commercial — live stage presentations and music videos.

Thomas met Michael Jackson on the set of sister Janet Jackson's "Rhythm Nation" music video. "He asked me to show him a move from the 'Rhythm Nation'



Sentinel-Voice photo by Ramon Savoy

Anthony Thomas performs a dance routine with Ministers of Dance, a group he founded.

project and my mind went blank," Thomas said. "He's a real cool dude."

His work on Jackson's video earned him an MTV Award for best choreography in a video.

The Judds liked what they saw in Thomas during the 1990 American Music Awards when he danced with Jackson.

He choreographed performances for Wynonna Judd's award-winning 1996 "Revelation Tour," then took a four-year hiatus, during which he spent quality time in California with his wife

Karen and their two daughters.

"I'm really blessed to be on the projects I've been on," Thomas said. "It's God's gift to me. To be able to watch things a couple of times and pick it up."

Thomas and his newly formed dance group, "The Ministers of Dance," are presently stage dancers for the Judds' "Power To Change Tour." He's excited about the group which he's tabbed "MD."

"(MD is) made up of people I've worked with for years," Thomas said.

NFAA announces Astral career grant recipients

Special to Sentinel-Voice

MIAMI, FLORIDA — The National Foundation for Advancement in the Arts is proud to announce the recipients of the 1999-2000 Astral Career Grants. Two grants totaling \$400 were awarded in December 1999.

The 1999-2000 NFAA/Astral recipients are: Christina Fontanelli from New York, New York, and KT Niehoff from Seattle, Washington.

The NFAA Astral Career Grants are funded through an endowment created by the Philadelphia-based Astral Foundation, which ceased operation in 1991. The modest quarterly grants are awarded to composers, choreographers, pianists, vocalists and ballet dancers who need timely financial assistance in order to take advantage of a specific career opportunity. The next application deadlines for the 1999-00 NFAA/Astral Career Grants are March 1, 2000 and June 1, 2000.

Artists interested in receiving more information about the NFAA/Astral Career Grants should contact: NFAA/Astral, 800 Brickell Avenue, Suite 500, Miami, Florida 33131, (305) 377-1140, or visit our website at <http://www.ARTS>

awards.org.

NFAA is a nonprofit organization with its headquarters in Miami. Its

mission is to identify emerging artists and assist them at critical junctures in their educational and

professional development, and to raise the appreciation for and support of the arts in American society.

3 strikes
the few, the proud, the paroled.

from the co-writer of "FRIDAY" and the producers of "DUMB and DUMBER" comes an arresting comedy.

AN ABSOLUTE ENTERTAINMENT/NOTION PICTURE CORPORATION OF AMERICA PRODUCTION IN ASSOCIATION WITH LITHIUM ENTERTAINMENT GROUP BRIAN HOOKS, N'BUSHE WRIGHT
"3 STRIKES" FAIZON LOVE WITH DAVID ALAN GRIER STYLING TRACY WHITE MUSIC AARON ANDERSON ANDREW SHACK PRODUCER RICK FREEMAN EDITOR JOHN CARTER, A.C.E.
PRODUCTION DESIGNER THOMAS FICHTER DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY JOHN W. SIMMONS EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS JEREMIAH SAMUELS PRODUCED BY JULIO CARO BENNY MEDINA BRAD KREVOY
WRITTEN BY J. POOH
DIRECTED BY J. POOH

STARTS WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1st

CENTURY DESERT 16
Lamb Blvd. bet.
Sahara/Boulder Hwy
641-2500 STEREO

REGAL CINEMAS
TEXAS STATION
221-2283 STEREO

UNITED ARTISTS
SHOWCASE MALL
Next to MGM Grand
225-4828 STEREO