

Entertainment Briefs

WOMAN TO SETTLE SUIT WITH HALLE BERRY

LOS ANGELES (AP) - A woman who sued actress Halle Berry over an auto accident has agreed to settle the case out of court, attorneys said. Berry, 32, was sued by Hetal Raythatha for negligence after their cars collided at an intersection in February 2000. The lawsuit claimed Berry, who left the accident scene, was under the influence of drugs or alcohol, allegations the actress has denied. Both women were injured. Berry suffered a gash on her forehead that needed stitches and Raythatha suffered a broken wrist. The actress pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge of leaving the scene and was ordered to pay \$13,500 in fines and to serve 200 hours of community service. Raythatha's attorney, Gloria Allred, and Berry's lawyer Marty Singer said Friday that the suit had been resolved but declined to reveal the terms.

NEW ORLEANS AIRPORT MAY HONOR LOUIS ARMSTRONG

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — New Orleans International Airport may soon bear the name of the city's most famous native son: Louis Armstrong. The new name - Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport - could be in place in time for the late trumpeter's 100th birthday on Aug. 4, Mayor Marc Morial said this week. A number of jazz musicians, educators and historians have recommended renaming the airport as a fitting celebration of Satchmo's centennial, the mayor said. Morial has asked the New Orleans City Council to pass an ordinance making the proposed name official. "The Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport will celebrate the achievements of one of the undisputed greatest cultural ambassadors of the 20th century," the mayor said in a letter to the Aviation Board's chairman.

SINGAPORE BRAND JANET'S ALBUM STEAMY, BANS IT

SINGAPORE (AP) — Singapore has banned Janet Jackson's latest album, "All For You," because of lyrics deemed too steamy for the conservative Southeast Asian city-state. Government censors imposed the ban because the song "Would You Mind" has "sexually explicit lyrics," the Films and Publications Department said in a statement. The album's distributor, EMI, has filed an appeal against the ban, said EMI Singapore senior marketing executive Angeline Teo. Authorities also banned Jackson's previous album, "The Velvet Rope," because of its references to homosexuality and other issues considered touchy in the tightly controlled country. Singapore has a long history of banning Western popular songs, dating to Peter, Paul and Mary's 1963 hit "Puff, the Magic Dragon," which censors believed referred to marijuana.

BIG PUN PLACE NIXED BY BRONX CITY COUNCIL

NEW YORK (AP) — A City Council committee has decided not to approve a measure that would have named a Bronx intersection after rapper Christopher "Big Pun" Rios because of its discomfort over some of the lyrics. The 28-year-old singer, who weighed nearly 700 pounds, died of a heart attack on Feb. 7, 2000. He was the first Latino hip-hop artist to go platinum with sales that topped more than 1 million albums. His fans collected 7,000 signatures requesting that the intersection of 163rd Street and Rogers Place in the Morrisania section be renamed Big Pun Place. The council committee voted on the measure Wednesday, saying it objected to the profanity and references to violence and drug dealing in some of the lyrics.

MORGAN FREEMAN DONATES MONEY TO SCHOOL

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP) - Actor Morgan Freeman has donated \$250,000 to establish a chair of performing arts at a college preparatory school for girls. The endowed teaching position at the Hutchison School will honor Freeman's wife, Myrna Colley-Lee, and their granddaughter, E'Dena Hines. Hines, 18, will graduate from the school this year. "We feel this gift is important because the high school theater experience allows students to gain confidence and to explore their talents," Colley-Lee said Friday. "We have seen this firsthand through E'Dena's involvement." Freeman is best known for his roles in "Driving Miss Daisy," "The Shawshank Redemption," and "Along Came a Spider." Actor and director Anne Marie Caskey has been selected to fill the position. Caskey taught at the school for 10 years before taking this year off to work in California.

ENTERTAINMENT

Fraser back battling ancient undead

By Kam Williams
Special to Sentinel-Voice

Mummy Returns joins that small set of sequels which is actually an improvement over its original. The 1st Mummy, which opened precisely two years ago, was a surprise hit which earned over \$400 million at the box office.

Writer/director Stephen Sommers has wisely opted to protect his franchise by giving fans a fitting follow-up rather than cashing in on a 'take the money and run' retreat.

Sommers succeeds by scripting a thoroughly new adventure, played out on a grander scale, employing the next generation of dazzling, computer-generated imagery. Continuity has been maintained by bringing back the principal cast while embellishing the cinematic canvas with a host of colorful characters and more spectacular special-effects.

So not only does The Mummy Return, but so, too, do leads Brendan Fraser (Bedazzled), Rachel Weisz (Enemy at the Gates), John Hannah (The Hurricane),

Arnold Vosloo (1492), Oded Fehr (Deuce Bigalow: Male Gigolo) and Patricia Velasquez (Turn It Up). Significant additions to the cast include WWF superstar 'The Rock' (as the evil Scorpion King) and nine year-old Freddie Boath (as Alex), each making a big-screen acting debut.

The film is, nonetheless, carried by Brendan Fraser, who reprises his role as legionnaire Rick O'Connell, a recklessly gallant, lovable lunthead. The 'happy to be typecast' Fraser has by now perfected that trademark treatment, fashioning an impressive career out of playing virtually the same "Who me?" character in a string of films from Encino Man to George of the Jungle to Blast From the Past to Dudley-Do-Right to The Mummy to Bedazzled and now back for more Mummy.

This sequel, set in 1933, eight years after the events in the original, was shot on location in Morocco and England. As our story opens, Rick has by now married Evelyn (Ms. Weisz) the archeologist-in-distress whom he saved during the first go-round. The couple has settled in London to raise Alex, their feisty son, cut from the same cloth as his



Two highly skilled — and highly placed — members of the royal entourage spar for the King of Egypt in Universal Picture's new release, "The Mummy Returns."

fearless father.

But soon, a sequence of unfortunate events leads to the resurrection of Imhotep (Mr. Vosloo) and the family finds itself again facing the full force of the wrath unleashed by this 3,000 year-old corpse. "Oh, I hate Mummies," Rick whines propheti-

cally. Brace yourself, from the inception, for an onslaught of wave after wave of spine-tingling scourges: carnivorous, wall-crawling, pygmies, squadrons of skeletal attackers, hordes of canine-headed creatures, scarab beetles, snakes, tarantulas and scorpions.

It all builds to a showdown back in Egypt with The Scorpion King, a long dormant warrior who sold his soul for military might some five millennia ago.

Suspended in time, in a nowhere land between the living and the dead, The Scor-

(See Mummy, Page 11)

LAS VEGAS JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION

Sunday, June 10, 2001
Sammy Davis Jr. Plaza

Sponsorships & Vendor Booths Available

Join area businesses and thousands of attendees for Juneteenth on Sunday, June 10th. This important community event will be promoted through KECF radio, The LV Sentinel-Voice, the Las Vegas Review Journal and more! Single vendor booths are available and there is a number of sponsorship opportunities offering great exposure through media and at the event.

For information contact Diane Hughes
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