Entertainment Briefs

DON CHEADLE MISTRUSTFUL **OF INTERNET'S POWER**

NEW YORK - Don Cheadle wants to make it easier to reach out and touch him - but not too easy. The co-star of "Swordfish" and last year's "Traffic" said he'd like to start a Web site for his fans, because he hasn't always liked how they've contacted him. "It would involve what I'm doing now and what's going on and how to get in touch with me," Cheadle said. "Because I was getting a lot of mail at my house, a lot of fan mail at my house, and some fan sent me a letter with the last six addresses that I have lived in the letter." But the 36-year-old actor admits he's not the most computer savvy guy. "I don't know much about it. I mean, I want to know more, but I don't want to get more involved," he said. "I'm kinda mistrustful of the conduit that the Internet is, and all that access, because I feel like you're being as watched as you are watching.'

STARS ANNOUNCE MTV ANTI-BIAS SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

NEW YORK - Rap star Method Man says he feels discrimination almost every time he gets on an airplane and settles into a first class seat. He drew laughs of recognition from members of Destiny's Child and the Dave Matthews Band, who were together late last week to announce an anti-bias scholarship program being organized by MTV. "I don't know whether it's in the job application for flight attendant to be rude to certain people," he said. "I didn't win my ticket on a game show." The three artists, along with actress Mena Suvari and ex-boxer Muhammad Ali, will each pick a student for a \$50,000 scholarship. The winners must demonstrate an interest in civil rights, which MTV is highlighting in a public information campaign.

OPRAH WINFREY BUYS 42-ACRE ESTATE FOR ESTIMATED \$50 MILLION

LOS ANGELES - Talk show host Oprah Winfrey bought a 42-acre estate for an estimated \$50 million, making it one of the most expensive private homes in the country. The Montecito estate, located south of Santa Barbara, includes a 23,000-square-foot main house and smaller guest and gate houses, the Los Angeles Times reported Sunday, citing local real estate and other unnamed sources. The estate has ocean and mountain views and also features a barn, herb and flower gardens, an orchard, two ponds and a lake. The sellers bought the property in 1998 for \$14 million before embarking on an ambitious renovation. Winfrey reportedly fell in love with the Santa Barbara area in April while shooting photos for her magazine, O. Winfrey, also owns a penthouse in Chicago and a farm in Indiana. Forbes magazine pegs her worth at \$800 million. Winfrey, 47, has won multiple Emmy Awards for her daytime talk show, which she has owned and produced since 1988.

JUDGE OKS INFRINGEMENT LAWSUIT AGAINST CHUCK BERRY

ST. LOUIS (AP) - A federal judge has ruled that Johnnie Johnson can proceed with his lawsuit against Chuck Berry. Johnson sued the rock, 'n' roller last November seeking millions of dollars in past royalties for songs Johnson says he co-wrote with Berry, including "Roll Over Beethoven" and "Sweet Little Sixteen." Berry's attorneys were seeking a dismissal of the case and cited a three-year statute of limitations on copyright claims. Judge Donald J. Stohr ruled last week that Johnson may attempt to show why the statute of limitations should not apply. Stohr also ordered Berry to turn over all of his financial records showing the royalties he has received over the years. Johnson alleges he often composed the music on piano, then Berry converted it to guitar and wrote the lyrics. Berry even wrote the classic "Johnny B. Goode" as a tribute to Johnson. In March, Johnson was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame's "sideman" category, along with Elvis Presley guitarist James Burton.

The LAS VEGAS SENTINEL-VOICE

June 21, 2001 / 9 Jolie brings video game to life Popular 'Tomb Raider' character subject of movie

By Kam Williams Special to Sentinel-Voice

Do you know what Lara Croft looks like? Do you even know who Lara Croft is? Any kid could tell you because this fearless, female action hero is the virtual mega-star of several generations of her own computer game. Over twenty million copies of this interactive best-seller have sold in Gameboy, Nintendo, Sega, Sony, CD-Rom and, I'm sure, every other cyber format. Guns-ablazing, this uppercrust adventurer travels the world in tight, teeny-weenie, outfits, fueling the fantasies of every adolescent who ever took hold of a joy stick.

But for all of her popularity, until now, Lara Croft has never amounted to any more

than the limits of animation have allowed. Finally, the game's creators decided to tap Oscar-winner Angelina Jolie (for Girl, Interrupted) to flesh out, pardon the expression, the popular cartoon phenom for her first feature film

The result is Lara Croft: Tomb Raider, an overblown, action-only, visual spectacular which ought to satisfy that target audience of adolescent, computer game addicts. There's just sufficient depth to the movie's superficial plotline to make it all worth the rollicking ride. The story, adapted to the screen by director Simon West (Con Air), unfolds a lot like Raiders of the Lost Ark only without the charm or clever asides.

In the original computer game Lara's task is to find the three pieces of the Scion, an ancient artifact which has special powers when reassembled. Her quest takes her around the world, from Calcutta to Peru to the pyramids in Egypt. In the movie, the artifact is a magical triangle called the All-Seeing Eye but it only has two halves. Our heroine is in a race to possess it with the oft-rumored, never exposed Illuminati, an evil, secret society bent on world domination.

A parallel subplot involves locating Lord Croft, Lara's long-lost father, played by Jolie-s real-life dad, Jon Voight. Although Lord Croft has been missing since 1985, a convenient 'Back to the

Future' contraption called the Time Storm, aids Lara in her attempt to locate him. But this tangential back story seemstacked-on, as if needed to supply an emotional tweak missing from the primary plot

Somehow I suspect that fans of this film will only remember Tomb Raider for its stunning action sequences played out on the famed 007 soundstages of Pinewood Studios in London. Other elaborate sets, computer generated images and breathtaking locations in Cambodia, Iceland and England combined to yield a fairly flashy finished product.

The Croft 83 room mansion, outfitted with loyal man-(See Review, Page 10)

