

## Entertainment Briefs

### DENZEL WASHINGTON ENJOYS BEING BAD GUY

VENICE, Italy (AP) - It's no more Mr. Nice Guy for actor Denzel Washington, who gets his first shot at cinematic villainy in "Training Day." The Oscar winner plays the evil half of a good cop/bad cop duo in the film, which premiered Sunday at the Venice Film Festival. He told reporters in Venice he thoroughly enjoyed his first go-round as the bad guy. Ethan Hawke, in Venice with wife Uma Thurman, portrays the young, moralistic policeman that Washington's character tries to corrupt. Advance word on "Training Day" has noted that Washington uses the "n-word" throughout the film. Washington told reporters it had slipped out when he was working on a scene and director Antoine Fuqua decided to keep it. Both Washington and Hawke spent a lot of time getting into character in south-central Los Angeles, where the film is set. Washington stressed that his corrupt persona in "Training Day" is not a reflection on the Los Angeles Police Department and said he has a lot of respect for police officers.

### FATHER OF WYCLEF JEAN KILLED IN ACCIDENT

SOUTH ORANGE, N.J. (AP) — The father of hip-hop star Wyclef Jean died after becoming pinned between his garage door and one of his son's cars in what investigators believe was a bizarre accident, police said. The Rev. Gesner Jean, 60, a Newark minister, suffered severe chest injuries and died at a hospital Monday night. Police believe Jean, 60, may have been sitting in the driver's seat of the 1991 Bentley and that the car moved forward somehow after he got up and stepped in front of it. Police were still investigating the cause of the accident but said Tuesday that the car was not malfunctioning and they have found no evidence of foul play. Wyclef Jean is a founding member of the group The Fugees.

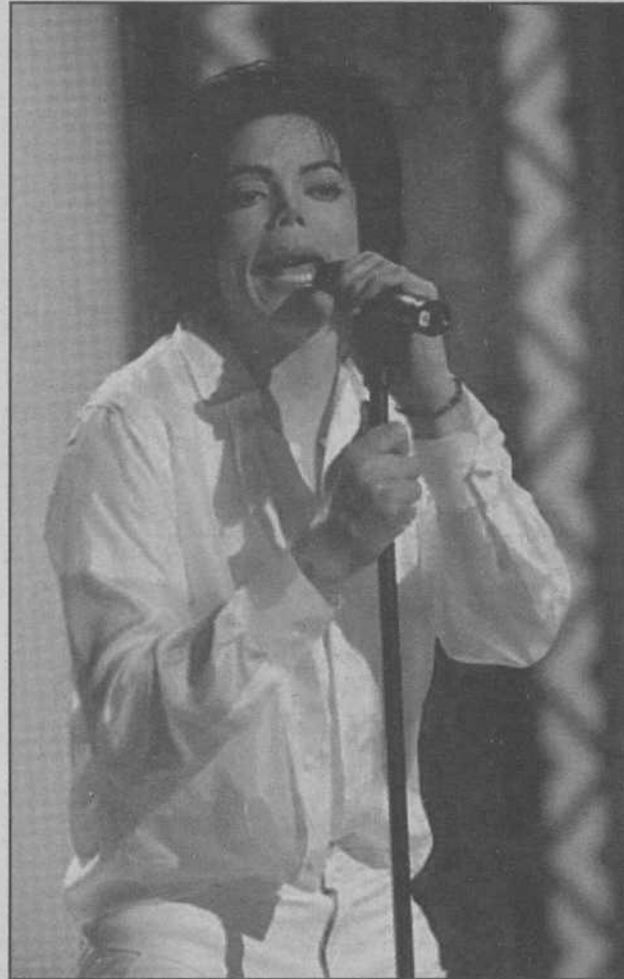
### RAPPER JUVENILE FACES LARGE PROPERTY LOSS

MANDEVILLE, La. (AP) - The rapper Juvenile is doing well on the charts but not on his mortgage payments. The Bank of New York foreclosed on its loan on the rapper's Mandeville home on Aug. 29 after Juvenile failed to make any of the monthly \$2,329 payments due since April, court records show. The bank authorized the St. Tammany Parish Sheriff's Office to seize the \$315,000 property and sell it at auction. Juvenile, whose real name is Terius Grey, apparently stopped making his payments shortly after his gated community's management group sued him for violating subdivision rules by parking his tour bus on the street and leaving a fleet of sports cars and four-wheel drive vehicles in his back yard. The suit was settled this summer after he agreed to follow the rules. Juvenile's newest release, "English Project," was No. 8 on the pop charts on Friday. He's also known for his hits "Back that Thing Up" and "Ha."

### AALIYAH ALBUM TOPS BILLBOARD CHART

NEW YORK (AP) — Aaliyah fans showed their appreciation for the late singer in the record stores, pushing her record to No. 1 on Billboard album chart. Aaliyah's self-titled third album sold 306,000 copies in the week after her death, according to Soundscan, which monitors record sales nationwide. The album was already certified gold, but had sold only 62,000 copies in the week before she died, Soundscan said. The 22-year-old singer and actress was killed Aug. 25 when a small plane carrying her and eight others plunged shortly after takeoff. There were no survivors. She was heading to Miami from the Bahamas, where she had been filming a video.

## ENTERTAINMENT



Superstar Michael Jackson wowed throngs inside Madison Square Garden during his 30th anniversary concert Friday.

## Michael Jackson erases all doubts

NEW YORK (AP) — Michael Jackson's 30-year career as solo artist has encompassed everything from the truly brilliant to the utterly bizarre. The same could be said about his star-studded anniversary concert - a surreal, yet undeniably captivating evening.

Friday's concert - the first of two shows at Madison Square Garden - marked Jackson's first performance on U.S. soil in more than a decade, during which time he's seen his once-dominant presence on the American music scene decline.

But if there was any doubt about Jackson's star power, it was erased as a capacity crowd - some of whom had paid up to \$2,500 per ticket - waited anxiously for a glimpse of the King of Pop. Though the night's lineup included the likes of Britney

Spears, Destiny's Child, Ray Charles and Liza Minnelli, it was Jackson who created the most frenzy, even before uttering a single note.

When Jackson made his way to his seat, dressed in a white, glittery jacket with his favorite accessory - Elizabeth Taylor - on his arm, he drew crazed screams and applause so intense it drowned out Samuel Jackson as he introduced the night's first performance.

The concert kicked off with two of R&B's brightest young stars, Usher and Mya, singing Jackson's "Wanna Be Startin' Somethin'" in an extravagant, jungle-themed dance number. Though Usher has modeled himself as Jackson's heir apparent, he lacked Jackson's spark, while Mya's lightweight voice could barely be heard over (See Jackson, Page 11)

## Gamesmanship aplenty in relationship film

By Kam Williams  
Special to Sentinel-Voice

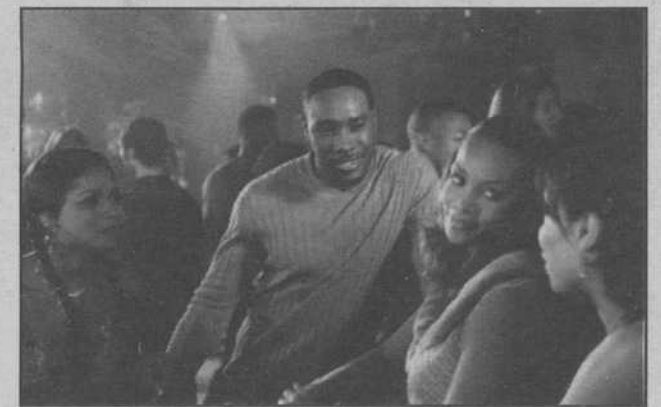
What's the difference between what a girl tells her guy and how she really feels about him? And how do men manipulate women towards their own evil ends? This 'who's playing who' premise is the point of departure for the sneakily selfish hijinks of *Two Can Play That Game*, a bawdy comedy based on the presumption, "Do unto others BEFORE they get a chance to do unto you."

The film is the latest of that bourgeois black genre typified by such relationship-oriented stories as *Waiting to Exhale*, *How to Be a Player*, *Booty Call*, *The Best Man* and *The Brothers*. These oft-vicious and vindictive affairs invariably feature an ensemble cast of characters running a gender gauntlet in an all out assault on the opposite sex.

The play-by-play of this particular battle-of-the-sexes is narrated by Vivica Anjanetta Fox (*Booty Call*) in her capacity as Shante' Smith, the ringleader of a clique conniving to hold onto their men during the soon-anticipated annual outbreak of Spring Fever. Shante', a highly successful business executive, has it all going on and lords it over her girlfriends as the one with the least to worry about when it comes to infidelity. Incessantly breaking character to addressing the audience di-

rectly, ala Ferris Bueller, this self-assured sister delineates her supposedly foolproof secrets for keeping a boyfriend satisfied.

That man, Keith, is played by the cut-and-trim Morris Chestnut, the chocolaty hunk who has handled similar roles recently in *The Best Man* and *The Brothers*. The successful Keith doles out high-priced legal advice by day as an attorney. But after hours, he turns to his motor-mouthed (See Game, Page 15)



Morris Chestnut and Vivica A. Fox, second from right, play love interests in "Two Can Play That Game."

As you go through life, you meet maybe a handful of people who are memorable. People who have a gift, who develop that gift, and who use it for the good of others. Meet one of them now.

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