

ENTERTAINMENT

Missy Elliott wins MTV video of the year

NEW YORK (AP) - There were no big winners at the MTV Video Music Awards - Missy Elliott's "Work It" won two awards, including video of the year, while Justin Timberlake, Coldplay and Beyonce had three apiece.

As usual, the most memorable moments had nothing to do with the moonmen trophies.

Twenty years after the first MTV Video Music Awards, not much has changed - Madonna still makes jaws drop and cheeks blush. Just like her first time, the superstar upstaged everyone at the 20th annual MTV Video Music Awards, only she had help Thursday night from the latest generation of video divas, Britney Spears and Christina Aguilera.

Proving they've come a long way from their Mouseketeer days, the young pop tarts



Missy Elliott accepts the MTV Video of the Year Award for "Work It" during the MTV Awards Thursday at New York's Radio City Music Hall. She is surrounded by people who collaborated on the video. (Below left) Rapper 50 Cent with date, actress Vivica Fox.



gave a gyrating, writhing tribute to Madonna to open the show. Dressed in the same kind of white bustier wedding dress Madonna wore while performing "Like a Virgin" during MTV's inaugural awards broadcast in 1984, Spears and Aguilera sang a cover of the not-so-innocent tune.

Then, while Madonna sang her new "Hollywood" in a masculine, all-Black groom's outfit, she shared an openmouthed kiss with both Aguilera and Spears. The two smooches rivaled the Michael Jackson-Lisa Marie Presley kiss at the awards in 1994 on the shock meter.

It was all in a night's work for MTV's annual extravaganza, where mere music takes a back seat to wacky antics, barely there outfits and eye-popping performances.

Besides the bump-and-grind number by

Madonna, Spears and Aguilera, there was 50 Cent's performance of "P.I.M.P.," during which he was joined onstage by Snoop Dogg, the ubiquitous Bishop Don Magic Juan, members of his G-Unit posse - and a bevy of half-naked women.

"Today is the anniversary of Martin Luther King's 'I Have a Dream' speech - isn't it nice to see that his dream has finally come true?" cracked host Chris Rock after 50 and company left the stage.

Eminem, who won one moonman for best video from a film for "Lose Yourself," poked fun at himself and his verbal tussle with a smart-mouthed puppet at last year's awards show.

"I got into this little anger management program ... and today I stand before you a changed man," said Eminem, onstage with the puppet "Special Ed" from the Comedy

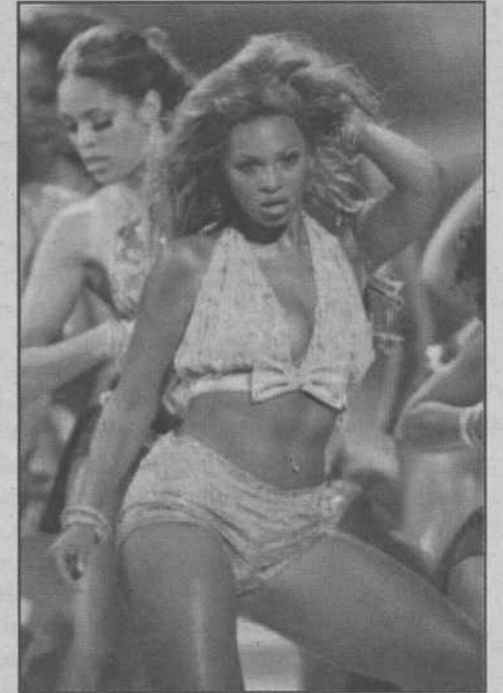
Central series "Crank Yankers."

"Working with Ed has taught me that puppets, just like people, have feelings too," Eminem said gently - before attacking the puppet for repeatedly talking over him.

More people were familiar with Missy Elliott's "Work It," the most-nominated video, which had eight nods. The music clip was loaded with special effects, dancing and surreal images. It won the evening's first award, for best hip-hop video, which Elliott picked up after participating in the Madonna tribute.

Beyonce's sexy video "Crazy in Love," featuring her boyfriend Jay-Z, won three awards. She gave a showstopping, hip-shaking performance with dozens of dancers, garnering a standing ovation from the crowd.

Nominated for seven awards was Justin Timberlake's "Cry Me a River" video, which takes a not-so-subtle dig at ex-girlfriend Spears; the video features Timberlake exacting revenge on a cheating Spears look-alike.



Destiny's Child member Beyonce shows lots of skin while showcasing her singing and dancing skills during the awards show.

Judge: Brown a 'role model' —punishes singer with fine

ATLANTA (AP) - Calling Bobby Brown a role model, a traffic court judge on Friday ordered the singer to pay \$1,450 in fines for charges including possession of less than an ounce of marijuana.

Brown, 34, entered no contest pleas to the marijuana charge as well as having no proof of insurance. He pleaded guilty to driving without a license and speeding.

Accompanied by his lawyer, Maurice Bennett, but not his wife, singer Whitney Houston, Brown paid \$800 for the marijuana charge, \$150 for the speeding and driving without a license charges, and \$350 for driving without proof of insurance.

Brown wore jeans and a white T-shirt and was in leg shackles when he appeared in Atlanta traffic court to answer charges from his arrest in the city last November.

Despite Brown's history of legal problems, Judge Calvin Graves praised the singer, who lives in Alpharetta, Ga., as a good role model who has "a wonderful wife" and comes from a good family.

Earlier Friday, Brown was released after serving seven days in DeKalb County Jail. He had been sentenced last week to serve 14 days in jail after he was arrested for a probation violation from an earlier drunken driving conviction.

As part of the agreement with the DeKalb County sheriff, Brown had to undergo a drug assessment at an Atlanta-area facility after his appearance in traffic court.

Brown still has to serve the remainder of last week's sentence - 60 days of house arrest and 200 hours of community service.

He was ordered to serve 30 hours of community service by Graves, but that sentence will run concurrently with the community service ordered by DeKalb County State Court Judge Wayne Purdom.

The singer previously served 26 days in a Florida jail in 2000 for an earlier probation violation.

Brown left R&B group New Edition in the late 1980s for a solo career. His hits include "My Prerogative" and "Every Little Step."

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