



ASK DEANNA! Real People, Real Advice

Ask Deanna! is an advice column known for its fearless approach to reality-based subjects!

Dear Deanna!

I broke up with my boyfriend over something silly and now I regret my actions. I thought he was cheating on me with my best friend but they were actually buying me a gift. I said some horrible things to both of them and they're not speaking to me. I want to get back with him but I think he is looking at my friend because she seems more mature than me. What should I do if they start dating? I know it's my fault but it's going to tear me apart.

Made a Mistake
Atlanta, GA

Dear Mistake:

You obviously have trust issues if you can't feel secure with your mate or your friends. Your foolish tongue has caused you to lose your relationship and your friend. The only thing you can do is apologize to both parties and ask your boyfriend for another chance. If he says no and goes with your buddy, then you learned a valuable lesson and if they'll do this in your face, you didn't need them anyway.

Dear Deanna!

I allowed myself to get pregnant because my boyfriend convinced me that we would be together and we were going to get married. Now I am almost ready to deliver the baby and he has changed his mind. He moved out of my house and now he's not working and living with his mother. I am so upset and don't know what to do. How do I handle this situation?

Anika
Online Reader

Dear Anika:

You lost your sense when you decided to fall for the oldest trick in the book. There is no way you should've become pregnant without a husband and a plan. You're getting ready to be stuck with a baby, a bill for 18 years and a stupid looking dead beat dad. You need to look at your resources, get your money and education together and grow up. When the baby is born, have a DNA test, get your child support and be ready to raise your child and keep it moving.

Dear Deanna!

My mother is being taken advantage of by her best friend. My mother is retired, has plenty of money saved up and she's enjoying the finer things in life. Her best friend is a moocher and makes my mom pay for everything. My mother is lonely and doesn't have any friends so she thinks nothing of it. This woman is going through her money left and right and I know she's going to look up and one day be broke. How do I get through to her?

Concerned Daughter
Oklahoma City, OK

Dear Daughter:

Your mother is enjoying life and her friend. Before you place judgment or get in the middle of things ask your mom if she's preparing for a rainy day. If she is, you can rest assured that she knows what she's doing and is planning her finances wisely. You're on the outside looking in and have no idea of their friendship. You can calm down and chill and let your mom and her girlfriend do their thing and feel secure knowing that if she needs you, she'll let you know.

Write: Ask Deanna! Email: askdeanna1@yahoo.com
or 264 S. LaCienega Blvd. Suite 1283 Beverly Hills, CA
90211 Website: www.askdeanna.com.

Lil Jon signs new digital venture

Special to Sentinel-Voice

NEW YORK — Lil Jon, who was in musical limbo after his longtime record label TVT Records went bankrupt earlier this year, has reached an agreement that frees him from his TVT obligations while entering into a new venture with digital entertainment company The Orchard, which is purchasing TVT's assets.

Lil Jon will work with the Orchard's Brand Entertainment Group to develop "lifestyle-oriented marketing and promotion programs," as well as serve as a consultant for some of Orchard's artists, labels, and branding opportunities, according to a joint statement from both parties.



LIL JON

As part of the deal, Lil Jon withdrew his objections to TVT's sale to Orchard. In return, Orchard released Lil Jon from any contractual obligations left over from TVT and allowed him the rights to

the master recordings of his upcoming album, "Crunk Rock." The Orchard also will digitally issue Lil Jon's back catalog, for which he will provide new material, according to the statement.

That means Lil Jon is still free to sign to another label as an artist.

"It's about time I get what's owed to me from the situation I was stuck in," Lil Jon said in a statement to The Associated Press. "It's unfortunate things have turned out the way they did, but artists deserve to be compensated fairly by their labels for the work they do, and that wasn't happenin'. In my case, I'm happy to finally be a free man and make a new start!"

According to Orchard, it has purchased most of TVT's assets, except for a few that are being challenged, for between \$4.5 million and \$6 million.

Lil Jon, together with his cohorts the East Side Boyz, has sold millions of records and helped fuel the crunk music wave a few years ago. His hits include "Get Low," and he's produced smashes like Usher's "Yeah" and Ciara's "Goodies." The Atlanta-based musician also has his Crunk!!! Energy Drink and a wine line.

The Orchard, based in New York, distributes and markets millions of songs and videos through a variety of companies.

Show part of Combs's push to rule TV

NEW YORK (AP) — Sean Combs aims to conquer the airwaves. His latest series, "I Want to Work for Diddy," premiered 9 p.m. EDT Monday on VH1, adding to a pair of Combs-produced reality shows on sister network MTV — "Run's House" and "Making the Band," which returns Aug. 13. "It's all part of my strategic plan to take over TV: Diddy TV," he said by phone.

The new show arose from his need for a personal assistant, and a realization that conventional recruitment methods weren't finding the suitable replacement.

He put out the word through the media that he was welcoming candidates.

Then he created a competition-style TV series for choosing a winner from 13 finalists vying for the job.

"But the show isn't about just seeing if I could find someone to work for me. It's about people chasing their dreams," he said. "I don't say it in a cocky way, but I take pride in being one of the best at doing what I do," which, of course, encompasses a multi-pronged entertainment empire.

Combs sees himself serving as an inspiration, particularly for young African-Americans, "to show them that they can do more things than shoot basketball or rap."

On the series, a panel of judges makes the initial eliminations, Combs said, with him entering the picture toward the finish.

The candidates "had to fight to get to me," he explained. "To get to me is like getting to the Wizard of Oz. They had to prove them-

selves. They had to walk down the yellow brick road."

"I Want to Work for Diddy," which he said has wrapped production, may sound a bit like Donald Trump's "The Apprentice."

That's okay with Combs.

"My show has a whole different style and a whole different energy," he noted. "But if 'The Apprentice' helped to open up the door for this show, then so be it."

And while he called Trump a friend and business giant, he didn't hesitate when asked who would be more fun to work for.

"Oh, definitely, me," Combs said with a laugh.

Snipes ordered to repay feds

Special to Sentinel-Voice

OCALA, Fla. — Actor Wesley Snipes must reimburse the government in prosecution costs for his tax conviction.

According to court documents, U.S. District Court Judge William Terrell Hodges ruled last week the action film star must reimburse the government about \$217,000.

Snipes, star of the "Blade"



WESLEY SNIPES

trilogy and "White Men Can't Jump" among other movies, had objected to the cost.

A message left with Snipes' attorney was not immediately returned Tuesday.

A jury convicted Snipes in February of three counts of willfully failing to file his income taxes. He has appealed the convictions and his three-year prison sentence.

10th Annual Teen Choice Awards

Chris Brown was the big music award winner at this year's 10th Annual Teen Choice Awards. Brown took home Choice Music Male Artist, Choice Music R'n'B Artist, Choice Music "R'n'B Track for Forever," Choice Hook-up for his duet "No Air" with Jordin Sparks and Choice Music Rap/Hip-Hop Track, "Shawty Get Loose," with Lil Mama featuring T-Pain and Brown. The ceremony took place at the Universal Studios' Gibson Amphitheatre on Sunday.

