

That's a Rap

As this year comes to a close and the arrival of 2008 draws nearer, it's best that we look back on these 12 months and celebrate the departure of Old Man 2007. But forget his traditional robe and sash. This year he'll be rockin' some fresh white on white ones, an XLT, BAPE hoody and an MLB fitted cap as John Henry's kicks off the end of the year with their **2007 Rap It Up Party**. As you might have guessed, hip hop will be in the building, and a roster of area talent will hit the stage in order to satiate your desire for heavy beats and deft lyrical epigrams. Included in this gaggle

of artists is **ENDRI** and **James** – a duo that developed in Eugene over the past six years and has performed with artists such as E-40, Mike Jones and the Digital Underground. **Marv Ellis** and **DJ Billy** will also be in attendance, playing music from Ellis' latest album, *Underwater Not Underground*. Northwest natives **Mack Dub** and **Greenstate** will provide their left coast brand of hip hop that mirrors the musical influences and sounds of artists such as Snoop Dogg, Dr. Dre, DJ Quik and others. Their tracks, which include "Smoke Wit Me," "In The Spot" and "Playa Like Me," combine Cali-inspired production with

Northwest flow and content. Sharing the stage with Greenstate and Mack Dub is area rapper **A Sol**. Described on his MySpace page as the "illest vocalist and song writer," A Sol explores the darker politics that populate the hip hop industry as well as deeper introspective ruminations with a lightspeed delivery. Also, performances by **Allure**, **Cor One** and local breakdancing crew the **Raw Action Dance Squad** will take place with "special surprise guests" yet to be named. The 2007 Rap It Up Party starts at 9 pm Saturday, Dec. 29, at John Henry's. \$5. 21+ show.

– Zach Klassen

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