The Fortland Observer

# ENTERTAINMENT

The equation is simple. Multiply original, melodic, hard-core hip-hop by the Power Of 3, Epic's new rising-star rap phenomenon, and you get EVERYTHING - the Washington D.C. based crew's aptly titled debut album. Featuring the lethal lead single

"Best Of All The Worst," PO3's impressive introductory effort is a powerful mix of reality rhymes, bomb beats and streetsmart sensibilities.

"We're straight-up street but on the positive tip," says Daoud, who was born in Brooklyn, New York, moved with his family to Washington, D.C. (where Ouasim was born), moved again

to St. Croix, and later back to D.C.'s notorious inner city, still their permanent Power base. "Yeah, we rap on the real about the negative affects of the drugs, violence and crime that are killing Every Ghetto, USA," Quasim adds. "But we also school black kids to the fact that self-destructive behavior like that will kill them and the black community.

From phat old-school flavor to melodic hip-hoplr&b to straight-up hard-core and more, EVERYTHING delivers the diversified goods, PO3 style it avoids and/ or discredits the played (blunt-smoking, 40oz-guzzling, AK-47-blasting) gangsta rap clich8s, yet manages to capture the complex mood and mindset of ghetto life. CD highlights include: "Best Of All The Worst," a serious saga of social and cultural awareness, illustrating the Baptiste brothers' substantial writing and rap skills; "Nostalgia," a lustful scenario flexing female flesh fantasies; "Mahogany Rhodes," titled after a mountainous St. Croix area that still gives Daoud and Quasim inspiration; and "Don't Change," a rhythm and rap tour-de-force warning ghetto escapees to never forget where they come from.

Sharpening their skills and building up a loyal fan base, PO3 met hitmaker Chucky Thompson while shopping for a deal. Thoroughly impressed with the brothers' platinum potential, Chucky signed them to his Epic-distributed ChuckLife Productions.

"I have complete confidence in Daoud and Quasim," Thompson avows, "They are hip-hop's future."

Now, after patiently waiting their turn, PO3 finally has EVERYTHING to look forward to ... and the knowledge that from now on, the best is yet to come.

# Broadcast Premiere of Slaughter

The African Heritage Network 'Movie of the Month' series, hosted by legendary film stars Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee, presents the intense broadcast premiere of Slaughter, a hot summer action flick, starring football Hall of Famer Jim Brown, who provides non-stop action, powerful guns and brute strength, while seeking revenge for his parents' murder. AHN's "Movie of the Month" series is brought to you by AT&T. Slaughter aires on KWBP, July 27, 1997 at 11:30 pm.

"I would not even to this day say that Jim Brown ever became a great actor to what a great football player he was. One of the greats," said Ossie Davis, "I think Jim Brown, comes pretty close to making the true transition from athlete to actor. I can live with Jim Brown being the Black Richard Gere," added Davis.

With just as much action as any Steven Segal or Jean Claude Van Damme film, Slaughter is a action tale full of hand-to-hand combat and fancy karate kicking. Ex-green beret captain Slaughter (Jim Brown) leads an all-out assault against organized crime with the assistance of the U.S. Treasury Department, in search of his parents' killers.

Slaughter's ensemble cast includes: Marlene Clark, Rip Torn Stella Stevens and Don Gordon.

The African Heritage Network's hosts Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee, are one of the entertainment industry's most well-known and gifted couples. Their film, television and stage careers extend over 50 years.

AHN's "Movie of the Month" series is the first and only feature film package which focuses on movie showcasing African-American.



The African Heritage Network (AHN) "Movie of the Month" series hosted by Ossie Davis and Ruby Dee presents broadcast premiere of Slaughter for the month of July 1997. Hall of Famer, Jim Brown above) stars as exgreen beret captain

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# "Christmas Jn July" Sale

Christmas is coming in July, believe it or not! That's according to eight Northeast Portland businesses which have joined together to offer the first annual "Christmas in July" sales event, scheduled from Thursday, July 24 through Saturday, July

Shoppers can start their holiday shopping early and take advantage of the unique and unusual gift items available at the "Christmas in July" sale at the following participating businesses: JP's Custom Framing & Gallery, 418 NE Killingsworth; Looks Like Me Gallery, 5417 N. Williams Avenue; Naira & Kobo African Imports, 2232 NE Broadway; Reflections Coffee & Bookstore, 446 NE Killingsworth; Shades of Color Gallery, 1438 NE Alberta Street: Sheba House of Elegance, 2730 NE Broadway; Vessels, 2605 NE MLK Jr. Boulevard; and World Village Gift Emporium, 5126 NE MLK Jr. Boulevard.

Each store will offer its own unique selection of gift items, including ethnic ornaments, holiday collectibles and figurines, Kwanzaa items, and holiday cards and calendars. In addition, some stores will have special activities at their locations in conjunction with the sale. For details on these activities, or for more information on the sale, call Vessels, 249-1952, or Shades of Color Gallery, 288-8652



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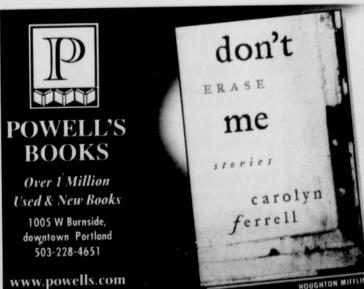
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In addition, a separate Friday Night Blues event will present Buddy Guy, Robert Cray Band and Paul DeLay Band on Friday, August 1.





Carolyn Ferrell's remarkable debut collection of stories, Don't Erase Me. including a story chosen by Tobias Wolff for The Best American Short Stories 1994, introduces a wholly original young voice to fiction by and about African Americans. Focusing her generous attentions on disenfranchised black teenagers, Ferrell gives pitchperfect voice to characters not often found in short fiction, and she brings them to life with penetrating

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