

Disney on Ice, presents Happily Ever After, featuring Hercules

There's not a house of couture in Paris whose client roster can match the pantheon of personalities parading in and out of Arthur Boccia's backstage workrooms. Whether creating resplendent gowns for Greek gods and goddesses or designing fashions for a parade of Disney stars, it's all kept in proper proportion by Boccia and his small army of seamstresses, drapers and fitters in Feld Entertainment's newest skating production, Disney on Ice presents Happily Ever After featuring Hercules.

Narrated by Mickey and Minnie Mouse, the live, on-ice extravaganza showcases memorable moments from some of Disney's most popular animated classics, including Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs, Aladdin, Cinderella, and the production's main feature, the classic of the classics, Hercules.

More than 150 costumes, ranging from humble to heroic, otherworldly to outrageous, are showcased in this star-studded spectacular. However,

it was four of Hades' henchmen from the main feature Hercules, a quad of towering Titans that presented Boccia's greatest creative challenge. Standing an impressive 10 to 12 feet tall, the Titans' imposing heights are enhanced by three-to four-foot stilts worn by the performers. The costumes are made of orthopedic foam, a lightweight yet durable material that can be sculpted into various shapes. The basis of each costume is a wire form. Then the foam body parts are added and covered with fabric, painted and finely detailed. The process takes three to four weeks.

In contrast, Hercules' earthbound humans, the hunky hero himself and his feisty female friend, Meg, were the easiest to costume. Both wear exquisitely proportioned tunics. (No, the Greeks did not wear togas; Greeks wore tunics.) The couple's costumes were designed after extensive historical research and a perusal of Greek mythology.

Hercules' archrival, Hades, storms

onto the ice in attire befitting an underground cult figure. An iridescent cape underline in brilliant reds, oranges and yellows is used to accentuate his fiery temper. At the other end of universe, Zeus, king of the gods, is really outfitted. The exceptional hand-embroidery on his tunic took two people two-and-a-half weeks to complete.

Stories are also told in design details," said Boccia, who has created the costumes for numerous Feld Entertainment spectaculars. "The characters' costumes - the colors, the choice of fabrics, the accessories, the jewelry - help to convey their personalities."

Whether it's a pair of chiffon harem pants that work equally well for travels aboard a magic carpet, a gravity-defying skating death spiral, or a beautifully beaded ball gown for Minnie Mouse, Boccia's design brings magical, memorable movie moments to life on ice in vivid color.



Dorian Harewood Returns on the Action Series "Viper"



Dorian Harewood returns to the award-winning, weekly, one-hour, hit action series, Viper, for a special guest-starring role in the upcoming episodes, "Seminar From Hell," airing in syndication the week of February 1, and "Hell Hath No Fury," scheduled to air the week of April 26 (check local listings). He reprises his role as Dr. Julian Wilkes, the brilliant engineer who originally created the amazing crime-fighting Viper/Defender automobile.

Viper, currently in its third season, chronicles the adventures of the top secret task force known as the Viper Project. Dispatched by the government to combat crime, the Viper Project possesses a stunning weapon: a super high-tech automobile that morphs from a Dodge Viper into a fully-loaded, heavily armored machine known as the "Defender." The trusted team

placed in charge of the powerful car consists of world-class driver Joe Astor (James McCaffrey), detective Cameron Westlake (Heather Medway), mechanic Frankie Waters (Joe Nipote) and FBI agent Sherman Catlett (J. Downing).

In the episode "Seminar From Hell," Julian Wilkes (Harewood) returns to host a private presentation to a convention of mayors from across the country on the car's incredible abilities, unaware of the trouble that awaits him. In "Hell Hath No Fury," Wilkes is caught in the middle when members of a secret experimental project he worked on in the past start disappearing one by one.

Harewood is instantly recognizable to fans as a result of his many appearances in television and motion pictures. He is perhaps best known for this role as Simon Haley (father of author Alex Haley) in the classic miniseries "Roots," as well as his award-winning portrayal of Olympic Champion Jesse Owens in "The Jesse Owens Story." Harewood's other television work has included appearances on "Seventh Heaven," "The Trials of Rosie O'Neil," "Strike Force" and the highly acclaimed NBC series "I'll Fly Away," for which he won the NAACP Image Award for Best Actor in a Dramatic Series.

In addition to his impressive television credits, Harewood has also graced the big screen in feature films including Stanley Kubrick's "Full Metal Jacket," "Sudden Death" with Jean-Claude Van Damme, "Against All Odds," "The Falcon and the Snowman" and "Pacific Heights." He also recently appeared in the prestigious remake of the 1957 classic "Twelve Angry

Men." Rounding out Harewood's varied performing background are a number of live theater productions. He has starred in the Tony Award-winning musical "Kiss of the Spider Woman," "Two Gentlemen of Verona," "Jesus Christ Superstar," "Over here" and most recently "Crumbs From The Table of Joy," for which he won his third NAACP Image Award.

Viper is created by long-time collaborators and executive producers Danny Bilson and Paul DeMeo ("The Sentinel," "Rocketeer" and "The Flash"). Viper is a Pet fly Production in association with Paramount Network Television. The Paramount Television Group is part of the entertainment operations of Viacom Inc.

Give your safety seat a checkup.

1 Kids under 12 years should always ride in the back seat. Infants under one year ride in rear-facing safety seats.

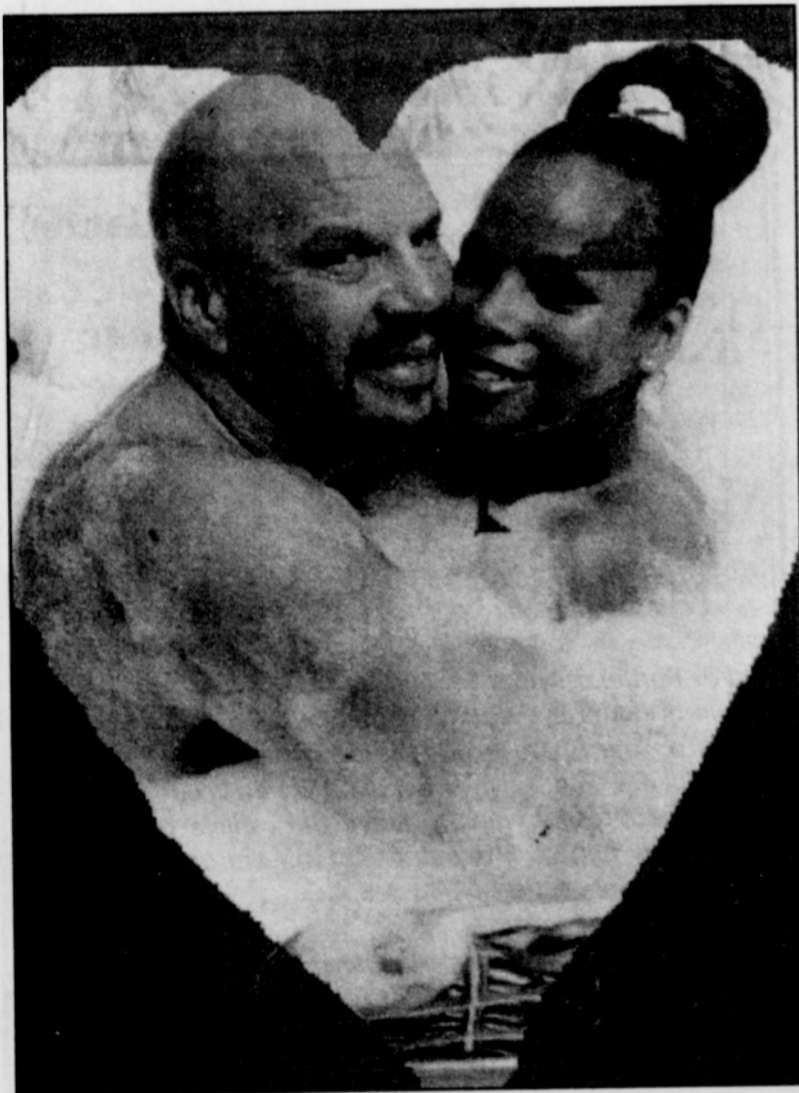
2 Read the safety seat's instruction manual very carefully - it can help you make sure you're putting your child in the right seat, the right way.

3 By Oregon law, all children under four years old and under 40 pounds must be properly secured in an approved child safety seat. To make sure yours is buckled in right, call the Child Safety Seat Resource Center at 656-7207 in Portland or 1-800-772-1315 statewide.

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Ebony's 10 Hottest Couples



Superjock Tom Joyner and fitness expert/author Donna Richardson share their sizzling love story as they are featured among the "10 Hottest Couples for 1999" in the February EBONY.

"There were fireworks outside, but more inside," says Richardson. Joyner and Richardson first met on the Tom Joyner Morning Show. Richardson designed a fitness program for him

and during their long fitness walks, they started sharing and caring. Joyner says Richardson "inspires and motivates" him and that she is sexy and makes him laugh. Valentine's Day 2000 is the wedding date.

Other hot couples in EBONY's popular annual presentation are Terry McMillian and Jonathan Plummer, Sean (Puffy) Combs and Kim Porter, Vivica A. Fox and Six

-Nine, and actress Jasmine Guy and investment broker Terrance Duckett.

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