

FOCUS

Best Hip-Hop, R&B, Gospel Named

Performers honored at BET awards

(AP) — Mary J. Blige, Kanye West, Jamie Foxx and Chris Brown were all double winners at the annual BET Awards in Los Angeles.

Blige won female R&B artist during the June 27 ceremony. And in a tie, she, West and Foxx shared the prize for video of the year. Blige won for "Be Without You," which features Terrence Howard, who was named best actor.

West and Foxx won the video honor for "Gold Digger," which was also chosen as best collaboration. The megahit also won a Grammy this year.

"Love to all black people," a jubilant Foxx told the Shrine Auditorium crowd.

"Y'all are stepping up black music," West said. "This is the best music right here, and we've got to keep on giving it to them like that."

Brown took home viewer's choice, for his "Excuse Me Miss," and best new artist.

Chaka Khan, who was recog-



Jamie Foxx (right) and Fantasia perform during the 6th annual BET Awards in Los Angeles. (AP photo)

nized for lifetime achievement, accepted the honor in star-studded style.

"I am so honored to be honored by my people. This means everything to me," she said as Stevie Wonder, Prince, India.Arie and Yolanda Adams joined her on stage

for a five-song celebration.

The 53-year-old singer was among a dozen performers, including Blige, Foxx, Brown, Beyonce, Busta Rhymes, Gospel duo Mary Mary and rapper T.I.

T.I. won the male hip-hop artist trophy and dedicated it to every-

one "who been told they can't do it."

Prince, who closed the show with his song "3121," won for male R&B artist.

"This was unexpected; I appreciate it nonetheless," he said.

The night's most touching mo-

ments came when Mary Mary dedicated the song "Yesterday" to survivors of Hurricane Katrina and when Harry Belafonte, 79, accepted a humanitarian award.

"This award doesn't just touch vanity," Belafonte said. "It is a validation of what I stand for, what Paul Robeson stood for. It's a validation of what W.E.B. Dubois stood for, what Malcolm X and Dr. King stood for."

Damon Wayans hosted Black Entertainment Television's performance-packed awards program, which recognizes the best in hip-hop, R&B, gospel and music videos, as well as athletes and actors.

NBA star LeBron James and tennis star Venus Williams were named best athletes. "Hustle & Flow" star Taraji P. Henson won best actress, and the best group was Black Eyed Peas.

Missy Elliott, who recently signed on to star in the big-screen version of her life story, won for female hip-hop artist, and Kirk Franklin for gospel artist.

"So many people owe BET a lot," Franklin said before the show. "Every African-American who's in music, television or film, BET has got us into this. And there's a lot of us."



Star Jones Reynolds

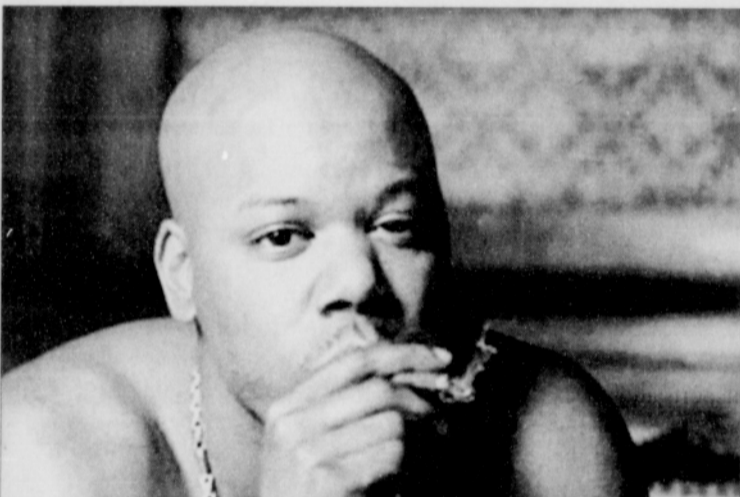
'The View' Boots Star Jones

(AP) — Star Jones Reynolds was booted from "The View" last week, one day after surprising ABC and Barbara Walters by saying on the air that she wouldn't be returning to the daytime talk show in the fall.

ABC had decided against renewing Reynolds' contract months ago and the show was planning to let Reynolds announce it, according to Walters. Reynolds could say whatever she wanted to about why she was leaving, "and we would back her up," the longtime ABC newswoman said.

Walters didn't discuss on the air why Reynolds, an original cast member who's been on the show for nine years, wasn't being asked back. She said earlier that research showed audience members were turned off by Reynolds' dramatic weight loss and glitzy wedding to banker Al Reynolds in 2004.

Reynolds later retorted that TV ratings and her book sales indicated this wasn't true.



Too Short will perform at the Roseland Theater.

Bringing His Funkiness to Town

West Coast rapper lays foundation

It's called a moment of clarity. For raunchy rapper Too Short, it came during a solo road trip from Las Vegas to Los Angeles and back. That epiphany helped Short turn over a new leaf for his upcoming album, due in the fall. "What's My Favorite Word?"

Okay, so maybe Shorty the Pimp hasn't gone all "Donahue" on us, but the Oakland rapper, who has made a multiplatinum career out of talking dirty, does feel like he's gone back to his signature formula for the new album.

As you look through Too Short's extensive body of work, it is hard to miss the raw sexuality of many of his songs. And yes, his sex-raps are what his name is synonymous with, but there is more to his music that signifies

his importance to hip hop. His trademark funk sound is too often overlooked as laying the foundation for the so called West Coast Sound of hip hop.

Too Short brings his funkiness to downtown Portland along with Suga Free and Meezilini on Saturday, July 8 at 8 p.m. at the Roseland Theater. Tickets are available through any TicketsWest location by calling 503-224-8499.

CD is Lifetime 'Journey'

Singer, producer and songwriter Donell Jones returned to the music scene after a three year hiatus with the single "Better Start Talking," featuring platinum producer Jermaine Dupri.

Now Jones brings us his fourth studio album "Journey of a Gemini" which includes the smash singles "I'm Gonna Be," produced by hit makers, Tim and Bob and "Portrait of a Woman," which he co-produced.

"Journey" has not been an easy voyage. He has overcome several personal challenges in life which have allowed him to say he is more than a conqueror. One of those challenges was his battle with alcoholism, which he dealt with for quite some time.

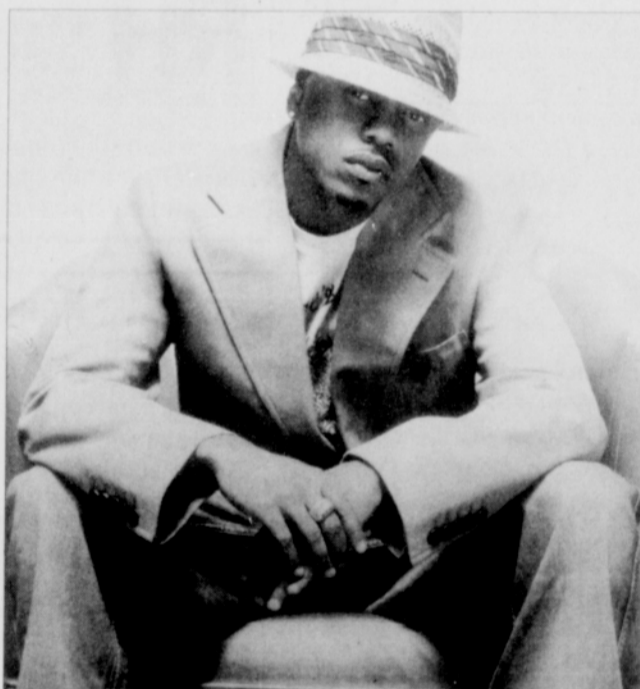
After months of fighting his battle, Donell checked himself into a rehab

clinic with the help of friends and family and obtained the necessary care that he needed for himself and his four daughters.

He said would like to serve as an inspiration to others and let them know it's ok to admit that there is a problem and "just listen to your heart and your family."

Jones grew up in Chicago. At the age of 11, he taught himself how to play the keyboard, started performing in his high school lunchroom and eventually, joined a singing group, a decision that helped him stay away from the dangers of Chi-town tough street life.

Years later, Jones got his first real break in the music industry, after meeting Untouchable Entertainment CEO and Founder Eddie F.



R&B Crooner Donnell Jones.

Through the Eyes of a Friend

Story of Coretta Scott King



A new printing of Coretta: The Story of Coretta Scott King by her lifelong friend Octavia Vivian commemorates the 140th anniversary of Juneteenth, the oldest national celebration of the ending of slavery in the U.S.

In this first biography of Coretta Scott King, with a foreword by Martin Luther King III, the reader meets a determined young girl who grew up in Alabama and worked her way through Antioch College only to discover that she was not allowed to teach in the white schools in Ohio. She pursued a musical career in Boston, where she met Martin Luther King, Jr.

First published in 1970 by Fortress Press, this commemorative edition has been thoroughly updated, includes a black and white photo gallery, and is full of warmth

and human interest, telling the story of Coretta Scott King from her childhood to her death in February 2006.

The book wins endorsements from some of the most respected leaders of our time.

"Coretta Scott King's commitment to justice and just peace was universal. We shall remember her as a great American civil rights activist and leader, but equally as one who openly and bravely opposed apartheid at a time when it was neither fashionable nor easy to do so. She occupies a hallowed place in the memory of freedom loving South Africans and Africans at large," said Nelson Mandela.

"Coretta Scott King was a loving mother, wife, a reliable sister, friend and a great American. This work will help us to know more about her resilience and her courage, and each of us can grow stronger from the knowledge," said Maya Angelou.

FRIDAYS ARE KIND OF BLUE... **89.1** www.kmhd.fm

"Sounds like the blues are composed of feeling, finesse, and fear."

Billy Gibbons ZZ Top



State Farm® Providing Insurance and Financial Services Home Office, Bloomington, Illinois 61710



Ernest J. Hill, Jr.

Agent 4946 N. Vancouver Avenue, Portland, OR 97217 503.286.1103 Fax 503.286.1146 ernie.hill.h5mb@statefarm.com 24 Hour Good Neighbor Service®



A wish changes nothing. A decision changes everything!



Kimberly Adams, Owner Mortgage Broker



Our Home Ownership and Mortgage ExpertsSM will **BENEFIT YOU** by delivering personalized home loan solutions to fit your needs. **Good or bad credit!** We're local. We care. Experience the difference! Call (360) 433-2466 Toll free 1-877-436-2466 apply online at www.dakahome.com

equal housing lender serving Oregon & Washington