Focus



Kanye West (left) takes the stage at the MTV Europe Music Awards as the Best Video award is presented to Justice and Simian for 'We Are Your Friends.' In a tirade riddled with expletives, West said he should have won the prize for his video 'Touch The Sky.' (AP photo)

Following in a Legend's **Footsteps**

John Lee Hooker Jr. celebrates in Vancouver

Bluesman John Lee Hooker Jr. will build on his legendary father's legacy but strike out in his own bold direction when he performs selections from his latest recording, "Cold As Ice," live at Vancouver's Cascade lounge, 15000 S.E. Mill Plain Blvd., Saturday, Nov.11 at 10 p.m. For more information or tickets call 360-254-0749.

Hooker, whose father was an architect of modern American blues in the 1940s and '50s with hits like "Boogie Chillen," "I'm in the Mood" and "Crawlin' Kingsnake," has evolved into a formidable blues figure in his own right - as evidenced by a Grammy nomination and a Handy Award for his 2004 release, "Blues with a Vengeance.

Armed with a clever and topical sense of songeraft, a compelling vocal attack and a solid backup crew, Hooker infuses "Cold As



Blues scion John Lee Hooker Jr. celebrates his latest recording 'Cold As Ice' live Saturday at Vancouver's Cascade lounge, 15000 S.E. Mill Plain Blvd.

Ice" with the best elements of the old school and recasts them for newer, younger, 21st century audiences. The results are traditional and edgy at the same time.

Kanye Crashes Music Awards Stage

When favorite tice and Simian for "We Are Your interview with The Associated video is not nominated

named Best Hip Hop artist, but still I was jumping across canyons." came off as a sore loser at the MTV Europe Music Awards in loses credibility," West said. Copenhagen, Denmark.

pointed at not winning for Best star-studded event hosted by Justin the 2004 American Music Awards, Video that he crashed the stage Timberlake in the Danish capital. Thursday in Copenhagen when the award was being presented to Jus- the "Touch The Sky" video. In an win a trophy.

Friends.

The Sky," because it "cost a million sic Award. (AP) -- Rap star Kanye West was dollars, Pamela Anderson was in it.

"If I don't win, the awards show

The rapper grabbed the Best Hip West apparently was so disap- Hop award earlier in the night in a a meltdown at an awards show. At

Press in August, he expressed his In a tirade riddled with exple- displeasure that the clip, an elabotives, West said he should have rate Evel Knievel spoof, didn't get won the prize for his video "Touch nominated for an MTV Video Mu-

> "It didn't get any nominations, but it's one of the most memorable videos of the year for me," he told

It's also not the first time he's had West bitterly complained backstage West has a particular affinity for that he was robbed when he didn't



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DJ on Thursday, Friday & Saturday -- Sunday is free Karaoke Pool

Denzel's Book Gives Credit to Mentors

Celebrates people behind

people

(AP) - Denzel Washington says his path to becoming an Academy Award-winning actor was paved by people like an English teacher and a barber he knew as a child. Washington's

new book, "A

Hand To Guide Me," gathers together essays by more than 70 entertainment, sports, business and political leaders who tell the stories of their own childhood mentors.

"It's a celebration of the people behind the people - those who don't get the recognition who influence the Bill Clintons or the Jimmy Carters or the George Steinbrenners of the world," Washington said Thursday in a phone interview from New York, where he is promoting the book.

Both former presidents and the New York Yankees owner are joined in the book by celebrities from rocker John Mellencamp to actress Whoopi Goldberg to Atlanta Falcons quarterback Michael Vick.

The book is a fundraiser for the Atlanta-based Boys and Girls Clubs

of America. In Washington's own story, he writes that he took inspiration as a child from a counselor at the clubthen just the Boys Club — in his hometown of Mount Vernon, N.Y., a high school English teacher who had students read the New York

Times every morning. He also found a mentor in a barber at a shop where he earned money sweeping.

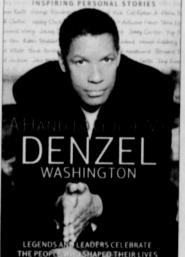
He said he hopes the book will inspire adults to "find themselves in it and reach out" to a child who may need a simi-

> lar guiding hand. "We all have the potential to help out and inspire young people and to make an impression upon them," Washington said.

Washington, who is making no money

the proceeds will go to the Boys that going to his childhood club in next appears in "Deja Vu," a sci-Mount Vernon.

Washington, who won the Os- Nov. 22.



from the book, said 60 percent of car for Best Actor in 2002 for "Training Day" and for Best Supand Girls Clubs, with a quarter of porting Actor in 1989's "Glory," ence fiction thriller that opens

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