

# Arts & ENTERTAINMENT

## Repeat Hits for Soulja Boy

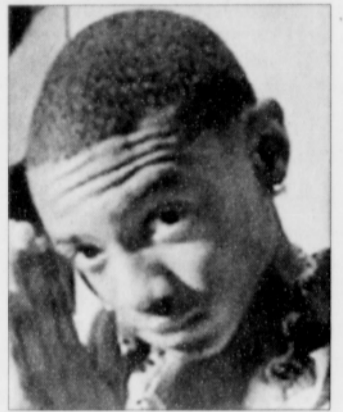
### Teen rap star defies critics

(AP) -- Even though Soulja Boy had the world doing his eponymous dance two years ago thanks to the No. 1 sensation "Crank That (Soulja Boy)," the teenage rap star was still dismissed as a lightweight and even a joke in some rap circles, and some wondered if he would be able to match the success of his smash hit.

At one point, Soulja Boy did too.

"I went through that phase," said Soulja Boy, whose debut album "souljaboytellem.com" went platinum. "I didn't want to be a one-hit wonder. But I put into my head that I wasn't going to top 'Crank Dat.' That's what made me hot, but I'm going to keep making hits."

That's all he has been doing lately with the release of his second CD, "iSouljaBoyTellem." Though his first single "Bird Walk" fell flat, the 18-year-old rapper re-



Soulja Boy bounded strong with his top ten Billboard pop hit "Kiss Me Thru the Phone," featuring Sammie, and the catchy "Turn My Swag On," which is also rising on the Billboard pop charts. Several remixes of Soulja Boy's "swag" track also includes some of rap's elite, from Jay-Z to Lil Wayne to Young Jeezy.

"I'm just creating real-life situations," he says. "I'm really trying to talk to my girl on the phone and hopping out the bed and turning my swag on, putting my jewelry on and brushing my teeth. It's all real for me."



## Taiko Drum Fanfare Unites Performers

Alumni performers return as guest artists to launch Portland Taiko's 15th anniversary season with A to Z, a reflection on the ensemble's songs from their early years to more recent. From subtle nuance to explosive boom, performances premiere on Friday, May 16 at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. at Lewis & Clark College, Fir Acres Theatre. For tickets, call 503-205-0715.

## OMSI Summer Film Festival Opens

With most memorable of IMAX features

Bringing together 16 remarkable, thought-provoking films designed to celebrate the IMAX experience, the 2009 OMSI Film Festival has kicked off at the Oregon Museum of Science and Industry.

For the next seven weeks through June 28 some of the world's most memorable IMAX films will be shown on the five-story screen of the OMNIMAX Dome Theater.

Among the films scheduled are two that are exclusive to the festival and making their Portland debuts: Mystic India and Sharks.

Narrated by Peter O'Toole, Mystic India reveals the rich culture of India by telling the incredible true story of 11-year old Neelkanth who, in the late eighteenth century, walked barefoot for seven years and 8,000 miles across the Indian subcontinent.



The rich culture of India is told in 'Mystic India,' the true life story of an 11-year-old boy who walked barefoot across the continent. The film is one of 16 remarkable IMAX films featured over the next 8 weeks at OMSI.

Sharks, a Jean-Michel Cousteau presentation, is a unique round-the-globe expedition documenting the life of the ultimate predator.

In addition to these new-to-OMSI movies, other outstanding IMAX films to be featured include: Everest, Amazon, Hurricane on the Bayou, Solarmax, Alps, Lewis & Clark, Dolphins, The Living Sea, and Mystery of the Nile.

Current OMNIMAX favorites Wild Ocean, Adrenaline Rush and Sea Monsters are also part of the festival.



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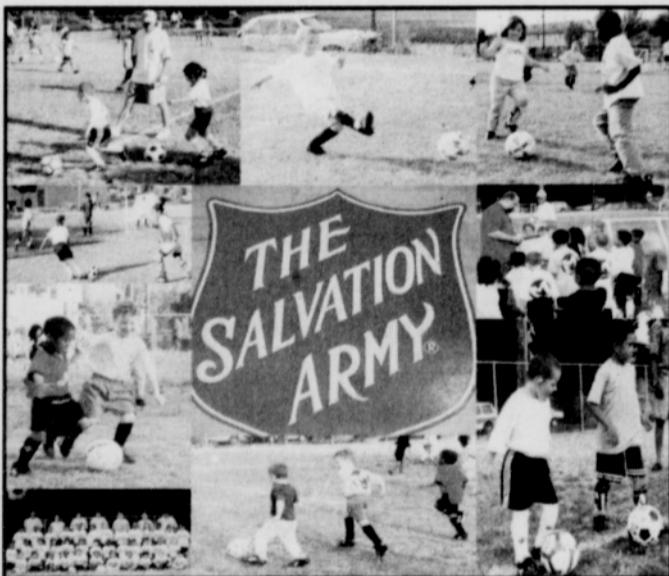
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