

Murder ends life of rap star

Continued from 10A

buzzing on the East Coast before 7 a.m.

"Snoop's (Doggy Dogg) manager called me from the hospital to tell me about B.I.G.'s death," said Jay Howell, CEO of C&J Concert Promotions in Charlotte. Howell is the national tour director for The East-West Fresh Fest Tour which stars Snoop (real name Calvin Broadus). The tour was to stop in Charlotte March 22, but has been rescheduled until sometime in April.

"The tour is such a big tour. A lot of people on the tour were friends of Biggie, especially Lil' Kim," Howell said. "It's going to take a minute for everyone to get their thoughts together. Kim was a close, personal friend of Biggie."

According to some sources, Snoop was not. Snoop, Dr. Dre, Ice Cube, Too Short and the late Tupac Shakur - gunned down in a similar fashion six months ago - are West Coast rappers. B.I.G., Jay-Z, Redman and Wu Tang Clan

are East Coast rappers. An alleged feud between the groups has been linked to the deaths of Shakur and B.I.G.

Howell thinks the feud is more mind game than reality.

"The whole thing has been blown out of proportion," Howell said. "The guy that shot Biggie may not have even known him. I don't think it was planned."

"For people to tie the rivalry into this is wrong," he said. "This is not a rivalry. It's between the people who listen to the music. There is no rivalry between the artists. Tupac and Biggie had a personal thing. It was not an East Coast - West Coast thing."

B.I.G. paid little attention to the feud. Nor did he respond to a vicious attack Shakur released called "Hit 'Em Up."

"Me addressing it would just leave the door open for somebody to say something else," B.I.G. said. "And I felt that if I

can do a whole double album - 22 songs - and say nothing about that, that was gonna show people that B.I.G. doesn't care about nonsense. I'm stronger than that."

B.I.G. was born in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn. He grew up in the streets, giving in to them by becoming a crack dealer.

"Everything happened on the strip I came up on," he said. "And it didn't matter where you went - it was all in your face," he said "We were seeing people get shot all the time."

B.I.G. pulled himself from the environment when tapes he made of himself rapping over scratched back beats got in the hands of an editor of The Source magazine. That editor passed the tapes on to Combs.

B.I.G. made several guest appearances on other artists' works - Mary J. Blige and Supercat - before releasing Ready To Die, an album chronicling his rise from drug dealer

Sounds.....

'Love Jones' has lots of good stuff

Continued from 10A

The soundtrack runs the gamut of the musical spectrum. How else could you explain the inclusion of Cassandra Wilson's wonderfully moody "You Move Me" or Duke Ellington and John Coltrane's "In A Sentimental Mood." That's how good this soundtrack is before you get to the folks that are suppose to be

pop and r&b stars.

There's plenty of other good stuff. Farris' "Hopeless" is a splendid mix of r&b and alternative. Hill's "The Sweetest Thing" rambles somewhat, but its further proof she's got a set of pipes that need to be featured on a complete CD of music. Maxwell offers a sensual mix of his "Sumthin' Sumthin'" jam from his monster Maxwell's Urban Hang

Suite CD.

If the movie is anywhere near as satisfying as the soundtrack it should be a monster hit.

Rating:

- ☆☆☆☆ Classic;
- ☆☆☆☆ Excellent;
- ☆☆ Good;
- ☆☆ Fair;
- ☆ Why?;

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Instilling her motto, "do your best, to be your best, to achieve success," in all the children that she touches, our Educator of the Month proves daily, her dedication to aiding children in accomplishing their best. She is generally the first to arrive on the Brisbane Academy campus, and most often, the last to leave. She worked in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg School System for 19 years prior to coming to Brisbane.

A native Charlottean, Carolyn was educated in the Charlotte-Mecklenburg system, attending Biddleville Elementary, Northwest Jr. High and Independence and Garinger High Schools. She received her B.A. in Education from Johnson C. Smith University and has begun her Master Courses in Administration at UNC-Charlotte.

She is very involved in her community as a member of Sigma Gamma Rho, and is past Anti-Basilus, and is President of West Charlotte Recreation Center (City Parks & Recreation).

Carolyn and her three children, Carita Lynn, Jamie Apollo, and Rosalyn La-Shonda attend Mt. Carmel Baptist Church.

When away from school and teaching, she enjoys cooking and just making people happy. She often portrays Harriet Tubman during Black History Awareness events.

Ms. Faulkners' goal is: To be an "ambassador" of education by instilling in children that they have a purpose in life and the only way to fulfill that purpose is by obtaining their education.

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