



“Battle of the Sexes”: Ludacris’ seventh album is set to debut March 9.
Photo/MCT/ George Bridges/KRT

Ludacris Returns To Claim Southern Crown

BY NITESH K. DUTT
Staff Writer

Since 2000, Ludacris has released six albums that have gone platinum. His seventh album from his Disturbing tha Peace label, “Battle of the Sexes,” promises to be another top-seller.

Following his successful 2008 release, “Theater of the Mind,” Ludacris continues to blend his raunchy lyrics with fun-loving hip-hop beats. The album’s lead single “How Low” has instantly become popular in dance clubs from California to Atlanta.

With each album, Ludacris, whose real name is Christopher Bridges, grows as an artist. He offers what might be his best performance yet on this album with tracks such as “Tell Me a Secret,” “My Chick Bad,” “Party No Mo” and “Feelin’ So Sexy.”

As great as Ludacris is on this album, he adds value to the album by bringing an eclectic group of performers to the release. In addition to his fellow DTP label-mate, I-20, Ludacris brings in fellow southern MCs Nicki Minaj, Lil Scrappy, Gucci Mane, Trina and Flo Rida as well as Eve, Ne-Yo, Monica and Trey Songz.

While Songz, Monica and Ne-Yo bring a more soulful feel to the album, it is the other MCs that lend the biggest hand. Each adds a style that differs from Ludacris, and this adds vastly to the quality of the album.

Longtime fans of the Atlanta rapper will be more than pleased with this album, scheduled for release March 9.

BY SAÚL GALDAMEZ GONZALEZ
A&E Editor

The hit Broadway play “Chicago” will be performed for the first time on a Cal State East Bay stage the weekend of Mar. 5 and will run for two weeks.

Cal State East Bay’s Theatre Department has been trying to get the rights to the musical for years but were unable to because of the popularity of the play.

The department received the news last summer that they could produce it.

The cast is made up of 23 students who will be performing the original choreography from the Broadway show.

The actors will also be sticking to the original music and lyrics that have been performed for years.

The play is based on the book by Fred Ebb and Bob Fosse and is about how far people will go to have fame and fortune.

“I think it’s a really exciting show,” said Melanie Sutrathada, an actress in the play and a student at Cal State East Bay.

“Chicago” will be performed on the weekends of Mar. 5 and 12 8:00 p.m. with a 2:00 p.m. matinee on Sundays.

Tickets for the show are now available and can be purchased online and reserved at http://class.csueastbay.edu/theatre/Ticket_Reservations.php.

Photo/Courtesy of Department of Theatre and Dance



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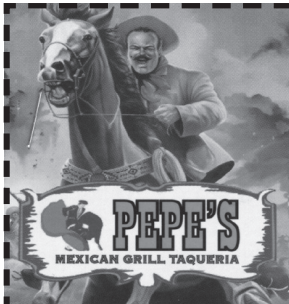
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