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CELEBRATING CESTA ALUMNI SUCCESS - April 2007

Greg Anderson (Writer/Producer)



2007 has proven to be a golden year for Gregory Anderson. In May of this year, Warner Brothers / Asylum Records will release the music / film compilation **American Dream** starring the rapper Mike Jones, which Gregory produced. Greg's screenplay is the basis for the Sony Screen Gem's project **Stomp the Yard** starring Hip Hop / R&B sensations Chris Brown and Ne-Yo, which stayed at the #1 spot at the Box Office for two weeks straight. Recently, it was announced on HBO by Bryant Gumbel (Real Sports) that Gregory and his company Tri Destined Films optioned the rights to the **Life Story of Bev Kearney**, the world-renowned track coach from the University of Texas who took her team on a miraculous quest for success, coaching them to the Collegiate and U.S. National (Pre-Olympic) championships, all from her hospital bed, after a horrendous accident almost caused her demise. As well, Gregory is currently the writer and Associate Producer of **Compton Christmas Treez** being produced by Gotham Entertainment, the producers of the MTV / Paramount film: "Martin Lawrence Live: Runteldat" and is in development on the project **Saturday** which is set as the debut film for comedian Dexter Tucker (brother of Chris Tucker) and will also star hip hop chart-topper Paul Wall.

While studying at Harvard University during the summers, Gregory, independently produced and theatrically distributed a film with his Florida A&M University classmates (Rainforest Films): called **Troit**, which landed them at the #34 spot of the Top 500 Film Distributors of 2000 listed by the *Hollywood Reporter* (August 2001), and resulted in the picture being in the Top 50 highest grossing Independent Films of that Year according to *Daily Variety* (July 30, 2001). Soon after that release, he wrote, Co-Produced, and distributed **Pandora's Box**, also highlighted in *Variety* and *Hollywood Reporter's* Top Lists, which was eventually picked up by Columbia Tristar. The independent "theatrical" distribution of the Master P film **Lockdown** followed. After being one of the producers of the Sony Pictures Entertainment release **Motives** starring Vivica A. Fox, Gregory's work as a writer and producer was then showcased in the Columbia Tristar release: **Troit: The Escort**.

As the President and Co-Owner of Tri Destined Films with ND Brown and Trey Haley, Gregory spearheads several projects including **Comedy Kids / Comedy Teens** a stand-up comedy project (which Gregory was also a writer) featuring child stars from Nickelodeon, Disney, ABC Family, Fox Kids, and several hit films including "Daddy Day Care" and the upcoming "Benchwarmers". His company and President of Television Ron Deshay, in conjunction with Andrea Wiley (Writer / Executive Producer, The Jamie Foxx Show, The Parkers, The Steve Harvey Show, Fresh Prince of Bel Air, etc) and Jacque Edmonds (Cuts, All about the Andersons, Moesha) recently wrapped a pilot for the TV show **Walking in the Light** hosted by Cookie Johnson and Pauletta Washington (Magic Johnson and Denzel Washington's wives). There are several projects in development including **Foolishy In Love**. Considered a hip-hop "What's Love Got to Do With It", the story is a biopic about the dangerous love affair between football legend Andre Rison and Lisa "Left Eye" Lopez of the hit female group TLC. In the summer of 2006, Gregory wrapped two films made for the Home Entertainment market: **Soul To Go and The Caretaker**. Members of Tri Destined Studios include Ron Deshay (Senior Producer - "American Idol", Director - BET's hit show "College Hill") and Ben Stephens (Creator of the MTV/Magic Johnson show "Who's Got Game").

While studying at Harvard during the summers, Anderson participated in the play: "Hunger and Thirst" at The Hasty Pudding Theatre, home of the oldest theater company in America. Through it all, Anderson stayed involved in community service projects. For many years he has been a motivational speaker, giving speeches at events including Walt Disney's Compact Awards and the Martin Luther King Holiday Convocation. (From FAMU website - <http://www.famu.edu/index.cfm?a=alumni&p=greaandersonbio>)