

THE VOICE-TRIBUNE

Copyright 2005, The Voice-Tribune, Louisville, Ky., Vol. 19, No. 40, 26 pages, 3 sections

Thursday, December 29, 2005

Hitting the big screen

Louisville native Woodson makes first feature film, a police comedy

By JACOB GLASSNER
Staff Writer

Several years ago, Shane Woodson was struck by inspiration at a Los Angeles restaurant.

After filling a pile of napkins with scribbled notes, "Cain and Abel," his first feature film, was born.

"I couldn't write fast enough," said Woodson, 33, a Louisville native who has lived in Los Angeles since 1999. "It got a hold of me and never let go."

Over the next three



Shane Woodson

ventures of undercover cops Malcolm Cain and John Abel. Although the film is set in this century in Los Angeles, it has a 1970s feel to it.

Abel, played by Woodson, and Cain, played by well-known television actor Terrence Flack, dress in '70s garb and drive a '69 Chevy Impala with flames on the side.

While Abel idolizes Hutch from "Starsky & Hutch," he's no role model.

He and his partner are on the take, but they have good

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weeks, he continued writing the movie that he eventually would produce, direct and star in.

"Cain and Abel" is a comedy that follows the misad-

Weekend
Weather
WAVE 3
STORMCENTER

THURSDAY



Rain
early

High 45
Low 37

FRIDAY



Woodson makes first feature film

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hearts.

"They're like kids with badges and guns," said Woodson.

Rap icon Flavor Flav also lends his talents to the film as street informant Slim Jim.

"He immediately fell in love with the project," said Woodson. "He really believes in the film."

Woodson, whose birth name is Joshua Woodson Oglesby, has acted in theater, film and TV and recently had a three-show stint on the soap opera "Passions."

He caught the acting bug while a student at Atherton High School, and his directing credits include "The Dodge," a play by his father, writer Joseph Woodson Oglesby, which was nominated for a Pulitzer Prize.

Woodson made "Cain and Abel" through Mercury Rising Films, a production company he founded in 2001 with Christy Oldham.

Although the 91-minute film was shot in 42 days, it was a three-year project. Woodson spent about a year re-working his script, which went through about 12 drafts.

"One thing I know from acting is your script is your blueprint and it has to be perfect; it has to be right," he said.

The film was finished in September, and Woodson has submitted it to film festivals and is shopping it around. A couple of distributors are interested in purchasing it.

And there just might be a "Cain and Abel II." Woodson has an outline in the works; his company also has plans to shoot a script his father wrote and a script by Oldham.

Woodson's primary source of income is his acting, and as a descendent of legendary film pioneer D.W. Griffith, he has film in his blood.

"I knew this is what I had to do," he said. "This is my calling."

For more information, visit