

Judge: Explain why Parks can't testify vs. Outkast

DETROIT (AP) - A federal judge last Thursday ordered that a doctor for civil rights pioneer Rosa Parks explain why Parks cannot testify in a lawsuit she brought against a rap group that used her name without permission.

Parks' lawsuit claims the 1998 song "Rosa Parks" by OutKast constituted false advertising and infringed on her trademark rights. The Detroit resident alleges OutKast and

record company BMG exploited her name for commercial purposes.

Lawyers for the defense have asked to interview Parks to explain claims that she suffered emotional and mental distress because of the song. But Parks' lawyers said the 91-year-old woman suffers from an unspecified medical condition and her doctor does not recommend that she testify.

U.S. Magistrate Judge Donald A. Scheer said during a Thursday hearing that Parks' doctor must release records relating to her medical condition and explain why she cannot be questioned by the defense.

Scheer also excluded OutKast from the lawsuit - leaving only BMG as a defendant - because the individual members were not named in the suit, and the

group's name was incorrect. The civil rights hero wants her name removed from future versions of the record. She also is seeking unspecified damages.

OutKast has argued that the song is neither false advertising nor a violation of Parks' trademark rights and is protected by the First Amendment.

Only the title of the song, which is about the entertain-

ment industry, refers to Parks by name. The song's chorus is: "Ah-ha, hush that fuss. Everybody move to the back of the bus."

Parks made history in 1955 when she was arrested for refusing to give up her seat to a White man on a Montgomery, Ala., city bus. Her arrest triggered a 381-day boycott of the bus system by Blacks and led to court rulings desegregating public

transportation nationwide. Parks lost the first round of the OutKast lawsuit in federal court, but a three-judge panel of the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Cincinnati reinstated part of the lawsuit last year. Her claims of defamation and interfering with an ongoing business relationship have been thrown out. A jury trial is scheduled to begin Jan. 10.

Bin Laden kin disputes Moore film

PARIS (AP) - A half-brother of Osama bin Laden says he enjoyed most of Michael Moore's "Fahrenheit 9/11," except for what he called "inaccuracies" about his family.

"It's a moving film," Yeslam Binladin, a Geneva-based tycoon and one of the al-Qaida leader's 54 siblings, said in an interview with the French magazine VSD.

"I even laughed at times," said Binladin, adding, "but a lot less when he states errors or inaccuracies about my family, knowing perfectly well that he's deceiving the public."

In the film, Moore says

President Bush tried to cover up his family's longtime business and personal ties to the family of Osama bin Laden and other prominent Saudis because many of the hijackers were from Saudi Arabia.

One of his main points is that the U.S. administration helped 142 Saudis - including two dozen members of bin Laden's family, fly out of the United States two days after the Sept. 11 attacks, even though commercial air space was closed.

"That's false and can be verified by anyone," said the Saudi-born Binladin, who intentionally spells his name differently from Osama, the

prime suspect in the Sept. 11 attacks. "They benefited from no exceptional authorization to leave American territory."

A recent 9/11 panel report states that the chartered flights took place starting Sept. 14, once airspace had reopened.

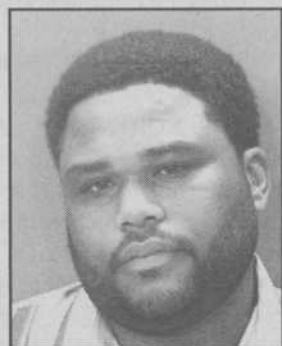
Binladin, who has lived in Geneva for many years and has Swiss citizenship, told the magazine that his U.S.-based family members flew into Geneva on Sept. 20 before taking off again for Saudi Arabia.

The movie also states that several family members attended a 2001 wedding of (See Bin Laden, Page 12)

Cops: Anderson assaulted woman

Actor Anthony Anderson was charged last week with aggravated rape of a woman who police say was assaulted after being lured into a production trailer on a Memphis movie set. According to the Shelby County Sheriff's Office, Anderson, 33, and Wayne Witherspoon, 42, attacked the woman, a movie extra. The woman told cops that Witherspoon forcibly removed her clothes once she was inside the trailer. She told investigators that Anderson, who was already in the trailer at the time, joined the assault,

according to a graphic criminal complaint. The woman told cops that Anderson and Witherspoon "both assaulted her with their hands and took pictures of her while she was nude." A witness told officers that he heard the woman screaming and managed to unlock the trailer's door. At that point, the naked woman ran from the vehicle, which was parked on the grounds of the Shelby County Corrections Center, where scenes from director John Singleton's "Hustle & Flow" were being shot. Anderson and Witherspoon were released from the Shelby



ANTHONY ANDERSON County Jail after each posted \$20,000 bond. The actor, who has appeared in "Barbershop" and "Malibu's Most Wanted," is starring in Singleton's flick, a movie about a fledgling rapper.

The image shows a computer monitor displaying the Nevada Power website. A hand is pointing at a button that says "PAY POWER BILL". There are two sticky notes on the monitor: one says "Tennis lessons today." and the other says "Pay Power Bill". A coffee cup is on the desk in front of the monitor.

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