

## 50 Cent avoids jail time in tiff with concert-goers

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (AP) - 50 Cent will avoid jail time for allegedly trampling two women and punching a third during a concert last year if he stays drug-free and doesn't commit any crimes for two years.

If he meets the conditions set by Judge Robert Kumor at a hearing Friday in Springfield District Court, assault and battery charges will be dropped. If he doesn't, he could spend time in jail.

The 28-year-old rapper, whose real name is Curtis Jackson, acknowledged the facts were sufficient for a

guilty finding.

He had been charged with three counts of assault and battery.

During a surprise concert at Springfield's Hippodrome club last May, someone in the crowd sprayed 50 Cent with water. He removed his gold chain, handed it to someone, then jumped off the stage into the crowd, witnesses said. The rapper's bodyguards also jumped in.

Two women said Jackson kicked and trampled them. Another woman said he punched her in the face.

Jackson, who lives in

Farmington, Conn., wore a gray double-breasted suit and silver tie. He didn't speak and left court through a back door, disappointing a crowd of fans.

The judge ordered Jackson to undergo random drug testing for two years.

Kumor also ordered him to get anger management treatment and banned him from carrying a gun in Massachusetts. He must pay the three women for their out-of-pocket medical expenses and produce an anti-violence public service announcement.

## Bradford

(Continued from Page 1)

addition, she said McCarran's commitment to the community is evident with the latest in public art displays.

The wing includes two large murals, one by Bradford the other by local artist, Roy Purcell, along with 12 large-scale paper plane reproductions that were entirely designed by Clark County School District students. Bradford's mural is positioned directly above gates D-23 and D-22.

The mural image is not the one that usually enters visitors' minds when Las Vegas is mentioned. Bradford's mural shows the foothills, horses, and vibrant colors of the shrubs and rocks, giving viewers a glimpse of the beauty of the desert.

Bradford said he put on canvas the images he sees through his eyes.

"I wanted everyone else to have that same vision I see when I step out my door," he said.

Bradford's vision will be seen by millions of visitors. Sanchez cites the traffic in 2003 at McCarran numbered over 41.5 million and said each of the new 11 gates is projected to accommodate up to 450,000 passengers a year.

"I focused on three main areas here in Las Vegas: Valley of Fire, Mt. Charleston area and, also, the Red Rock area. My intent was to show a different side of Las Vegas," Bradford explained.

Employed at Young Electric Sign Company, Bradford, in almost an irony, creates neon and light signage for local hotels. He designed the Buffalo Bill's sign that is out at Stateline.



HAROLD BRADFORD

"My undergraduate degree is in graphic design and graduate degree is in fine arts," he said. "I work as a designer for [Yesco], that's my day job," Bradford explained.

Although he's worked for his company for 20 years, his true passion is in his painting. The process to create such a magnificent piece took months of hard work and dedication. Bradford's passion for art and his commitment to the McCarran mural is evident as he describes the project.

"I started last January [2004], and I didn't finish until last August. It took me nine months to complete the project. I rented a warehouse studio near the airport. I had 15 panels... the frames were made of steel. I wrapped the canvas around the steel frames, 8 feet by 10 inches. Each panel, I painted separately," he explained.

Bradford grew up in New

Orleans, where as a kid he tiptoed around the house mimicking his father's sketches and doodle pictures. Back then, he probably never imagined his unique talent would bring him to such a phenomenal level as an artist, or maybe he did.

"I've been painting all my life. As a kid, I used to watch my father sketch. My father is my inspiration for what I do today," Bradford said.

His paint brush seemed to capture his emotions bringing life to each once-white canvas. The windows of his soul seem to shine through each image. Bradford attempts to push the envelope. He paints images that some may feel, indeed questionably so, are extraordinary for a Black artist.

"They assume that because we're Black we have to have a certain direction most of us follow. But the Black experience is a lot more diverse than people re-

## Chappelle: I'm not crazy, I'm not smoking crack

NEW YORK (AP) - Comedian Dave Chappelle wants to set things straight: "I'm not crazy, I'm not smoking crack," he tells *Time* magazine in an interview more than a week after his hit Comedy Central show was suspended and the rumors started to fly.

"I'm definitely stressed out," said Chappelle, who took off last month to South Africa for a "spiritual retreat," leaving his fans — and even his agent and publicist — wondering where he went.

"You hear so many voices jockeying for position in your mind that you want to make sure that you hear your own voice," he said.

"So I figured, let me just cut myself off from everybody, take a minute and pull a Flintstone — stop a speeding car by using my bare feet as the brakes."

After Comedy Central announced that the planned May 31 debut of the third season of "Chappelle's Show" had been postponed, the magazine *Entertainment Weekly* reported that Chappelle had checked himself into a mental health facility in South Africa.

"I'm not in a mental facility," said Chappelle, who also said he did not have a drug problem but had consulted a psychiatrist for one 40-minute visit.

The 31-year-old comedian said he fled

to stay with friends in Durban because he wasn't happy with the direction of the show, which is behind only "South Park" as Comedy Central's most-watched program.

"There's a lot of resistance to my opinions, so I decided, 'Let me remove myself from this situation,'" Chappelle said.

Comedy Central president Doug Herzog told *Time* that the star has "complete creative freedom."

He has told staff he believes there won't be a "Chappelle's Show" in 2005, but leaves the option open for the comedian's return.

Chappelle, whose wife and two children live in Ohio, said he hopes to start up the show again, but did not indicate when he would return.

Comedy Central had inked a reported \$50 million deal to keep "Chappelle's Show" for two more seasons, and the comedian hinted to *Time* about struggles associated with the power and fame that come with that kind of success.

"If you don't have the right people around you, and you're moving at a million miles an hour, you can lose yourself," he said.

"Everyone around me says, 'You're a genius, you're great, that's your voice,' but I'm not sure that they're right."

alize," Bradford continued.

"I want them (people) to be inspired when they look at my work. I want them to feel that compassion for life, because tomorrow isn't promised."

Bradford said he puts spirituality in all that he paints and credits God and his faith for his success.

"Everything is done in threes — three areas, three horses, three sheep. It has to do with my spiritual beliefs. Because without the Lord,

none of this would be," he explained.

"I wonder sometimes why the Lord chose me. There are so many people with talent, and I wonder why me," he said, adding, "I feel so blessed."

After he described the magnitude of the recent job he completed and his approach to his art, Bradford immediately shifted the attention to his children.

"The most important thing is that I have a lasting

legacy. My kids will be so proud because their daddy left something they can enjoy for years to come," he continued.

Bradford is widely known for his depictions of the Buffalo Soldiers. His work can often be seen at exhibits and galleries in town. Left of Center art gallery is currently displaying his works. His work has been reproduced in various forms for sale, on cards, posters and other print productions.



Sentinel-Voice photo by Ramon Savoy

## MUSIC MEN

Trumpet master Rick Braun, shown blowing his flugelhorn while jamming on stage with contemporary jazz icon, saxman Rick Braun, and string-slinging guitarist Peter White, during the 90 minute "Jazz Attack Tour" concert Friday at Sunset Station Hotel & Casino's outdoor amphitheater in Henderson.