

Entertainment Briefs

JACKSON RETURNS ANTIQUES TO SETTLE LAWSUIT

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Michael Jackson returned several antiques to settle a lawsuit with a gallery that accused him of not paying part of a nearly \$380,000 bill, attorneys said Monday. Kamad Enterprise, which owns Mayfair Gallery, claimed Jackson still owed \$128,875 toward \$378,875 worth of merchandise he purchased in May, according to Saul Reiss, an attorney for the company. Jackson agreed to return items that included a Chinese chest, a mirror, clocks and a barometer, from that sale and a past sale, Reiss said. Jackson's attorney, Brent Ayscough, confirmed the settlement and said Jackson did not pay the company any money to settle the case. He said he did not know the exact dollar value of the returned items but that it was "in the neighborhood" of the disputed amount. Mayfair Gallery sells mostly 19th-century European furniture.

CAM'RON OUT OF HOSPITAL AFTER BEING SHOT

NEW YORK (AP) - Cam'ron, who is recovering from a gunshot wound suffered in an apparent carjacking in Washington, said would-be thieves shouldn't expect him to give up his ride so easily. The 29-year-old rapper was wounded early Sunday when he refused to give up his Lamborghini at a traffic light after leaving a nightclub. When he attempted to drive away, the gunman fired a single shot that passed through both of his arms, Lynn Hobson, a spokeswoman for Cam'ron's label, Diplomat Records, said Sunday. Cam'ron was treated at Howard University Hospital and released Sunday afternoon. "People are foolish if they think I'm going to lose my head and give up anything to anyone just because someone threatens me," Cam'ron, who was back home in Harlem, said in a statement Monday. "I'm doing OK. It takes more than a botched carjacking to keep me down." The rapper, whose hits include "Hey Ma" and "Oh Boy," will release his latest album, "Killa Season," in February. He also plans to release a film by the same name.

RAPPER-ACTOR STICKY FINGAZ ARRESTED ON GUN CHARGE

NEW YORK (AP) - Sticky Fingaz, the rapper turned actor, has been arrested on a charge that he left an unlicensed handgun in a Manhattan hotel room, police said. The performer, whose real name is Kirk Jones, surrendered to police Tuesday morning. He was in custody that evening and was awaiting arraignment on one count of criminal weapon possession. Police said Jones checked out of the Flatotel, a Manhattan luxury hotel, Monday night. Hotel staff found a 9mm pistol in the room and called police. Jones, who was a member of the rap group Onyx, was later identified as the room's last occupant. Jones, 35, wasn't licensed to carry the weapon, said police Detective Kevin Czartoryski. The actor's agent, Michael Greenwald, didn't immediately return a phone message. Jones was featured in the 2004 movie "Flight of the Phoenix." He appears in the FX TV series "Over There," about American soldiers in Iraq. He plays a character named Smoke who enlists in the Army to avoid a prison sentence.

RAPPER DMX FACES PRISON AFTER GUILTY PLEA

NEW YORK (AP) - The rapper DMX faces 60 days in prison after he pleaded guilty Tuesday to violating the conditions of his release following a car crash last year at John F. Kennedy International Airport, officials said. The rapper, who has acted in films including "Never Die Alone," "Romeo Must Die" and "Cradle 2 the Grave," is scheduled to be sentenced Nov. 17. DMX, whose real name is Earl Simmons, pleaded guilty last December to reckless endangerment and acknowledged he was taking Valium when he smashed his sport utility vehicle into a gate at Kennedy Airport in June 2004, after telling a parking lot attendant he was a federal agent. Simmons was sentenced to a conditional discharge, meaning further violations within a year could land him in jail. He also was fined and ordered to forfeit his 1998 Ford Expedition. Since then, the rapper has been cited twice for traffic violations, once involving driving a car at 104 mph near his Westchester County home one week after his last sentencing.

Jackson denies having secret kid

Special to Sentinel-Voice

Janet Jackson says she is not a mother. In a terse statement released Wednesday, the 39-year-old singer denied a former brother-in-law's claim that she has a "secret" 18-year-old daughter.

"I do not have a child and all allegations saying so are false," Jackson said in a statement released to the syndicated "Access Hollywood" TV show.

A call to Jackson's publi-



JANET JACKSON

cist by The Associated Press Wednesday wasn't immediately returned.

On Friday, Young DeBarge, the brother of Jackson's ex-husband, James DeBarge, said Jackson and his brother had a child named Renee that was living with Rebbie Jackson, Janet's oldest sister.

"James and the Jackson family kept everything real close, real tight," Young DeBarge said on New York

radio station WQHT, known as Hot 97.

Jackson and James DeBarge, a singer in the former R&B family group DeBarge, were married for three months in 1984, when Jackson was just 18.

Jackson secretly married Rene Elizondo Jr. in 1991. They separated in 1999. She is now dating Jermaine Dupri.

Young DeBarge, 28, is promoting his debut album.

Statue pays tribute to late rapper

Special to Sentinel-Voice

ATLANTA (NNPA) - The Tupac Amaru Shakur Center for the Arts recently unveiled the memorial bronze statue of hip-hop rap icon Tupac Shakur, making him the first rap icon to be immortalized in bronze. An emotional Afeni Shakur, his mother, welcomed more than 1,000 people to share the unveiling with her and other supporters of the memorial.

It has been nine years since the rap icon, poet, actor and activist was murdered in Las Vegas while riding with his friend and boss, Death Row Records CEO Marion "Suge" Knight.

The rap icon's legacy is well preserved partly because of the continuing effort of his mother.

The statue occupies the center of the 6-acre Peace Garden, surrounded by poetry and quotations from Tupac's body of work.

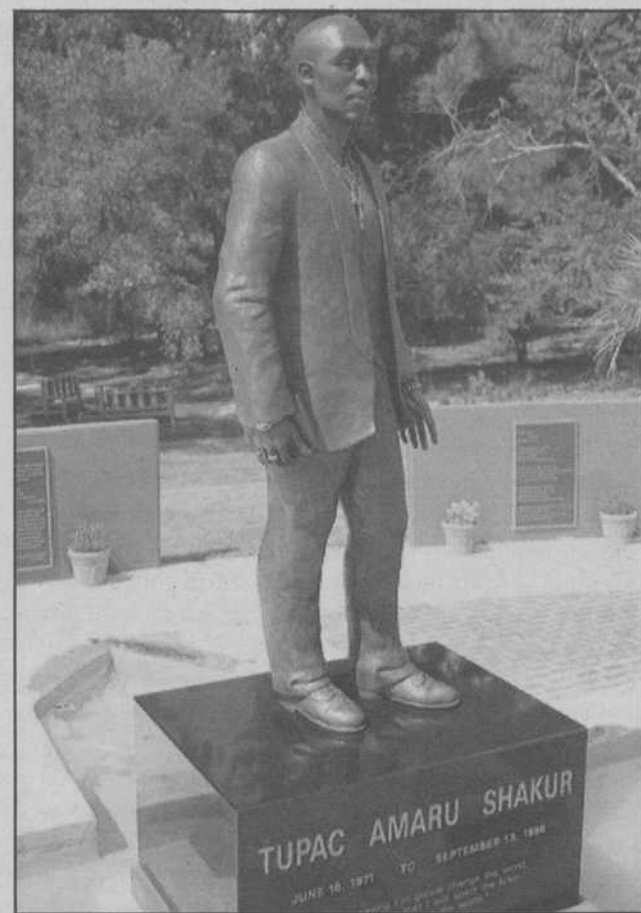
The 7-foot sculpture sits atop a 3-foot base and features the rap industry's top-selling superstar adorned in a suit (based on an outfit actually worn by him) and holding a copy of his famous book of poetry penned when he was only 19, "The Rose

that Grew from Concrete."

The statue was designed by noted sculptor Tina Allen who has been commissioned to immortalize great figures from African-American history.

At the unveiling, Allen said, "I was deeply moved to see so many people brought to tears upon first seeing the sculpture — it was clear that something very special had come into all of our lives through this remarkable young poet. Usually, people will applaud or cheer — but these people were reacting to Tupac's statue on an entirely different level. Every generation picks their own heroes — and from the incredible display of emotion I was blessed to witness ... this generation's hero is clearly Tupac Shakur."

Among Allen's work are the largest depictions in the world of Black legends, such as Alex Haley, Sojourner Truth, Dr. Charles Drew, Commerce Secretary Ron Brown, A. Phillip Randolph, Ralph Bunche, Malcolm X, Nat King Cole and Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (Allen created the bronze King memorial that stands at Carey and Martin Luther King in front



of the North Las Vegas resource center named for him.) Allen is classically trained and educated at the School of Visual Arts, NYC, the University of Southern Alabama, Pratt Institute, NYC, and the University of Venice, Italy.

In order to complete the Tupac Center, the foundation still needs an additional \$3 million, according to coordinators. For more information on the project, visit www.TASF.org and the official Tupac website at www.2PAClegacy.com.



FASHION PASSION

Nancy Justice (right), chief executive officer of A Link to Fashion, brought Amy Zerner (second from right), creator of the Spiritual Couture clothing line, to Las Vegas for a high tea at the Four Seasons. Next to them are models Valentina Collins (left) and Meda Butnaite.



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