



Akon has been accused of tossing a fan off stage in NYC.

Police: Singer tossed NY fan

FISHKILL, N.Y. (AP) - Police are looking into a clash between Akon and a concertgoer that ended with the R&B star tossing the teen off the stage and onto another spectator who said she suffered a concussion.

Audience members said the trouble started when a spectator lobbed something at Akon during a recent concert at Dutchess Stadium and the 34-year-old singer asked the crowd to point out the culprit.

A security guard picked out a 15-year-old and sent him up to the stage, where Akon hoisted him onto his shoulders and flung him back into the audience, the *Poughkeepsie Journal* reported.

The boy landed on Abby Rosa, who told the newspaper she quickly felt a headache and blurry vision and was later diagnosed with a concussion. She said she has hired a lawyer and spoke to Fishkill police about the incident and that she wants an apology from Akon.

Fishkill Police Detective Lt. John Berlingieri said no criminal charges had been filed against Akon. And the singer's attorney, Benjamin Brafman, released a statement saying there was no basis for criminal charges.

But Berlingieri said police want to talk to the teen, whose name has not been released. A Fishkill town official told the newspaper the boy was not hurt and left the stadium after declining medical treatment.

Sunday's scuffle wasn't the first concert controversy for the platinum-selling Akon. Earlier this year, the singer did a sexually explicit onstage dance with a girl from the audience who was later revealed to be 14.

Akon apologized and said he didn't know the girl was underage, saying the April 12 concert in Trinidad was supposed to have been restricted to fans 18 and older.

His latest album, "Konvicted," has sold more than 1 million copies in the United States. Akon's hits include "Don't Matter," "I Wanna Love You" with Snoop Dogg and "Smack That" with Eminem.

Challenge

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undefeated when it comes to earning the top honor.

In addition to a high school division, the skins challenge also saw student branch out into games with "Hip Hop Space Wars," a product created by students in Shurn's game engine programming course. In previous years, skins participants expressed concerns over the lack of ethnic or cultural diversity and the stereotypical appearances of characters in video games. Recently, new products and applications have become available that allow individuals to create their own games. The students at Howard, through their partnership with Microsoft, are taking advantage of these opportunities and may soon change the face of gaming.

Both game and media skin development can net big money for skilled individuals. The students in this competition also made out pretty well with the top five teams taking home an Xbox 360. The high school students each won a Microsoft Zune media player.

Washington out of 'Anatomy'

LOS ANGELES (AP) - Isaiah Washington has lost his job on the hit ABC medical drama "Grey's Anatomy," five months after creating a furor with his use of an anti-gay slur.

Washington's contract option was not renewed for next season, series producer ABC Television Studios said last week.

"I'm mad as hell and I'm not going to take it anymore," Washington said in a statement released through his publicist, Howard Bragman. Washington did

not elaborate.

He drew fire after using the anti-gay epithet backstage at the Golden Globe Awards in January while denying he'd used it previously on the set against cast mate T.R. Knight.

Gay rights groups and cast member Katherine Heigl, who publicly denounced Washington, were among his most vocal critics.

"This is something that will have changed the scope of his life," Heigl told *Entertainment Weekly* last month.

Washington was "sorry

and embarrassed" for the mistake, she said.

Washington tried to make amends and said he was seeking therapy.

He also met with officials from the Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network and the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation and filmed a public service announcement in which he said "words have power" to hurt or heal.

The May finale of "Grey's Anatomy" opened the door for the departure of his character. Burke was on the verge

of marrying Dr. Cristina Yang (Sandra Oh), but her doubts at first delayed and then derailed their splashy wedding. Later, Yang found that Burke cleared out his favorite possessions from their apartment.

In May, Bragman said the actor intended to spend the summer working and not worrying about the show.

Washington intended to continue his charity work in Sierra Leone, which a DNA test showed to be his ancestral home, and work on an independent movie.

Snipes: Race a factor in charges

OCALA, Fla. (AP) - Actor Wesley Snipes is a victim of "unscrupulous tax advice" and is being selectively targeted for prosecution on federal tax evasion charges because he is Black, his attorneys argue in a motion to dismiss the indictment.

That's what Snipes has said all along about the charges.

In a June 4 motion to dismiss the indictment, Snipes' attorneys argue that prosecutors filed additional tax evasion charges against him and not against two co-defendants because they are "Caucasian, while Mr. Snipes is African-American."

A federal judge is still considering the motion.

The Oct. 17 indictment charges Snipes with fraudulently claiming refunds totaling nearly \$12 million in 1996 and 1997 for income

taxes already paid. The star of the "Blade" trilogy and other films also was charged with failure to file returns from 1999 through 2004.

The indictment said Snipes conspired with American Rights Litigators' founder Eddie Ray Kahn and tax preparer Douglas P. Rosile Sr. to file false refund claims based on a bogus argument that only income from foreign sources was

subject to taxation.

Snipes' motion says he should be counted among 2,000 people who relied on Kahn and Rosile for tax advice, not as one of their co-defendants.

The indictment said Kahn and Rosile, through American Rights Litigators, collected fees of up to 20 percent of refunds from fraudulent tax returns.

Rosile's attorney, David

Wilson, said Sunday his client never gave Snipes any tax advice.

"Mr. Rosile never met Mr. Snipes," Wilson said.

Kahn's attorney did not immediately return phone and e-mail messages seeking comment. There was no immediate response Sunday to calls seeking comment from Snipes' manager or a spokesman for the U.S. attorney's office.

Game claims innocence in fight

LOS ANGELES (AP) - The Game pleaded not guilty recently to punching and threatening to shoot a man during a pickup basketball game in South Los Angeles.

The 27-year-old rapper, whose real name is Jayceon Terrell Taylor, entered the pleas in Superior Court.

He is charged with three felony counts of making a criminal threat, possessing a firearm in a school zone and exhibiting a firearm in the presence of an officer.

Taylor, who remained free on \$50,000 bail, faces more than five years in state prison if convicted.

Prosecutors contend that during a Feb. 24 pickup basketball game, Taylor punched an opposing player, then pulled a gun from his red Cadillac Escalade and threatened to shoot him.

His attorney, Shawn Chapman Holley, did not immediately return a message seeking comment.

Arts & Community Events
City of Las Vegas Department of Leisure Services

Father's Day Concert

Woody Woods Orchestra

with vocalists *Sophia Lelis and Melanie Moore*

Sunday, June 17, 7 pm

(gates open at 6 pm)

Bring the family, blankets and/or lawn chairs to listen to classic jazz & blues standards and original compositions.

Picnics welcome
Free hot dogs, chips and beverages while supplies last.

Sammy Davis Jr. Festival Plaza

in Lorenzi Park

Free!
229-1087