

# FOCUS

## American Idol Winner



Ruben Studdard, from Birmingham, Ala., (above) won a close contest over Clay Aiken, from Raleigh, N.C., in the American Idol competition last Wednesday in Universal City, Calif. Studdard and other American Idol 2 finalists will perform in Portland on Aug. 27. Tickets go on sale next week.



## Jazz Violinist Objects to Casinos

Jazz violinist Regina Carter isn't a fan of the casinos in her hometown of Detroit. (AP Photo/Jim Cooper, File)

(AP)—Jazz violinist Regina Carter isn't a fan of the casinos in her hometown of Detroit.

"Bringing gambling was not the move," Carter told The Associated Press in a recent interview. "In my mind, it didn't really benefit the city financially."

The first of Detroit's three casinos opened in 1999. Although they've been credited with creating thousands of jobs and generating millions of dollars in revenue, Carter doesn't believe the casinos have improved the city economically.

"When you think about gambling in

Atlantic City or in Las Vegas, people are going to those cities. They're going to see the shows. There's more than just the gambling, there's an attraction to those cities," she said. "In Detroit, no one's coming there out of Michigan. The people there who are gambling live in Detroit, and a lot of them there can't afford to gamble, so we're making money off of people that can't afford to lose any."

Although Carter is a Detroit native, she lives in New York City. Her latest disc, "Paganini: After A Dream," was released in April.

## Five More Years of Airtime for Oprah

### Talk show host has decided not to retire

(AP) — Television's top talk show host, Oprah Winfrey, has had second thoughts about retiring.

Winfrey extended her contract with King World Productions by two more years, taking her through the 2007-2008 television season, and agreed to make more shows over the next few years than planned.

At her last contract extension, Winfrey, 49, had said she would quit her show after the 2005-2006 season.

"It's fulfilling being able to do this kind of television," Winfrey said, "and I believe continuing to have a voice and a platform to speak to the world is still the right thing to do."

After a few years of decline, ratings for "The Oprah Winfrey Show" have increased this year. She's also watched her one-time protegee, Dr.



Talk show host Oprah Winfrey will continue her talk show through 2008. (AP Photo)

Phil McGraw, start his own successful talk show.

Despite Winfrey's plans to call it quits, Roger King, CEO of King World, said he never stopped asking her to stay. He said he sensed a change after Winfrey went to Africa last year to help the poor.

"I think she came back reinvigorated, knowing that her vision is right, and she wants to stay with it,"

King said.

Winfrey had planned to cut back from 145 original shows a year to 100 in 2004 and 75 in 2005. Now she will do 130 shows per year for the last four years of the deal, King said.

Tim Bennett, president of Winfrey's company, Harpo Productions, said an increase in ratings among young people for the first time in several years played a part

in Winfrey's decision.

"The most important thing is she feels like she is truly making a difference and that the audience she is speaking to is listening in substantial numbers," he said.

Several ABC stations in large markets, including New York, Los Angeles and Chicago, have already renewed "The Oprah Winfrey Show" for those extra two years.

## Berry Breaks Arm Filming Thriller Scene

### No word on when actress will return to the set

(AP) — Oscar-winning actress Halle Berry broke her right arm while filming a scene for the supernatural thriller "Gothika" in Canada.

Berry, 34, was filming "one of the more physically demanding scenes" when she was hurt last week, said Joe Everett, a spokesman for the Warner Bros. production.

Everett did not have details of the scene.

Berry broke her ulna, a long



Oscar-winning actress Halle Berry suffered a broken arm last week while filming a physically demanding scene for her new role in the supernatural thriller "Gothika."

bone in the forearm, and was treated at a Montreal hospital and released, Everett said.

The movie was in its fifth week of a nine-week shoot. It was unclear when she might return to the set. Berry plays a criminal psychologist who wakes up to find that she is accused of murdering her husband and is a patient in the asylum where she works.

"Gothika" is set for release in October.

Berry won the best-actress Oscar for her role in 2001's "Monster's Ball."

She suffered an eye injury while filming an action sequence in Spain for 2002's James Bond movie, "Die Another Day."

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