

Rolling Stone

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In Brief:

Ludacris hoops it up, Kenna tours with Fischerspooner



Battleground bound

LUDACRIS will perform at the finals for the Nike Battlegrounds, a street basketball tournament, in New York on August 9th. The event will air on MTV on September 6th . . . KENNA will open for FISCHERSPOONER on their fall tour, which launches in September . . . SEPULTURA will cover U2's "Bullet the Blue Sky" on their new album, *Roorback*, due August 26th . . . *The Very Best of the GRATEFUL DEAD* will compile seventeen of the band's songs, from "The Golden Road" to "Touch of Gray." The set is due on September 16th . . . FLOYD CRAMER and CARL SMITH will be inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in Nashville on November 5th

Clothing maker 205 Flava Inc. claim that they paid "American Idol"-winner RUBEN STUDDARD to wear their threads on the show, a violation of "Idol"'s regulations . . . LITTLE FEAT's August 22nd show in St. Louis will be filmed for a DVD. The show is the first of a forty-two-date tour . . . CROSS CANADIAN RAGWEED will host the Red River Tribute honoring WAYLON JENNINGS on September 19-20 in New Braunfels, Texas . . . RAY CHARLES' hip injury has forced the R&B legend to cancell all of his remaining tour dates through the end of the year. The singer plans to take some time off before working a gospel album and a collection of duets . . .

MYA, VANESSA CARLTON and TWEET will perform at the third annual Pantene Pro-Voice Concert tomorrow in New York City . . . BLACK REBEL MOTORCYCLE CLUB will launch a twenty-four-date tour on September 3rd in Sacramento . . . SUGAR RAY will begin a thirteen-date tour on August 15th in Louisville, Kentucky . . . **WILLIE NELSON, ERYKAH BADU and LUCINDA WILLIAMS have contributed songs to *Don't Mess With Texas Music*, a charity CD to benefit a music programs in Texas schools . . .** ARETHA FRANKLIN has joined the lineup for the September 4th concert to mark the kick off of the 2003 NFL season in Washington, D.C. . . . GARY ALLAN will release *See If I Care* on September 30th. The album features a guest spot by Willie Nelson on "A Showman's Life" . . .