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EM READY TO FIRE BACK AT CAREY: ARTIE LANGE HELPS LOCALS 8:42AM

By John "Sminty" Smyntek DETROIT - (YN) - You knew this was coming. Allnewsweb.com reports Eminem is getting ready to heap revenge upon Mariah Carey. The back story: It began with "Bagpipes from Baghdad," a rap in which Eminem claimed to have been having sex with Mariah and demanded her back.

Carey hit back with the song "Obsessed" and its video clip that had her in drag and looking suspiciously like she might be at least trying to look like Eminem. What next? This from Em's homey, 50 Cent: "No one does offensive like Eminem and I don't wanna know what he might have in store for her lyrically or in the visual...it's going to be a nasty surprise."

But it might not be necessary.

"All the speculation about who I'm playing in the video, it's not accurate," Carey told MTV.com. Since

http://www.mtv.com/news/articles/1615108/20090701/cannon_nick.jhtml Nick Cannon and the video's director, http://www.mtv.com/news/articles/1616389/20090716/carey_mariah.jhtml Brett Ratner, have also said that the song and video aren't about Eminem, maybe it is just a crazy coincidence.

So who thought to put Carey in drag for the video? Ratner has said that Carey was the brain behind the getup, but the singer said that it was actually her hubby, Cannon, who thought up the idea to dress his ultra-feminine wife as a man. "Well, I live for a disguise, but ... I love the anonymity of it," she said. "But actually it was Nick's idea." One more bit of Eminem housekeeping: Em's younger brother, Nate Kane, agreed to plead guilty to operating a vehicle while impaired and will face sentencing on August 26th. He will also have his driver's license revoked. He will likely be ordered to community service and mandatory alcohol screenings.

A HELPING HAND FROM ARTIE

Think the rogue-ish voices on Sirius/XM's Howard Stern program don't have hearts? Guess again. While reading Artie Lange's book, titled "Too Fat To Fish," Ross Niskar realized he had more in common with the Stern radio show regular than he ever imagined.

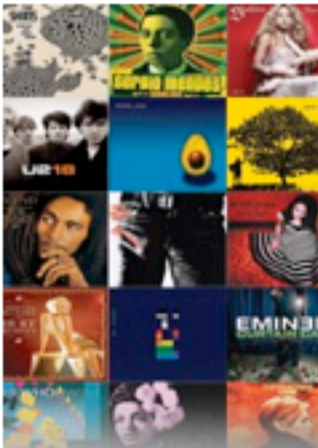

A 1999 diving accident left Ross's brother, Adam Niskar, paralyzed. The Niskar family established the Friends for Adam Niskar Trust shortly after the accident to assist with the mounting medical expenses and the cost of modifying Adam's living environment.

Ten years after, Ross Niskar read Lange's bio and learned Lange's father was also paralyzed.

So?

"I wrote a letter asking him whether we might collaborate on an event that would promote his autobiography and also benefit my brother," said Ross Niskar. "Days later, Artie called me personally. It was unbelievable, a true long shot. He offered to perform for free."

Beginning July 31, fans and supporters can purchase tickets to see Artie Lange perform at 8 p.m. Friday, Oct. 9, at the Detroit Opera House, 1526 Broadway, Detroit. Comedian and Southfield native Mike Young will open the show. Tickets are \$30-\$60, available through Ticketmaster at 248-645-6666. Proceeds are not tax-deductible. For more information about the event, or the Friends for Adam Trust, visit HYPERLINK "<http://www.friendsforadam.com>" www.friendsforadam.com.

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