



Fourteen people charged over fatal Sydney Airport brawl

Gangs Squad detectives have laid a murder charge against the second of three Outlaw Motorcycle Gang (OMCG) members who were re-arrested yesterday following investigations into an alleged fatal fight at Sydney Airport, bringing the total arrests to date to 14.

A 23-year-old man, an alleged member of the Comanchero OMCG, was charged with murder of Anthony Zervas, who was treated at the scene of the airport brawl but died later at Prince of Wales Hospital.

The 23-year-old was arrested by police at Campbell Street at Liverpool. Two other members also arrested on Tuesday include a 32-year-old man at Hake Close, Casula, and a 22-year-old man at Driftway Drive, Pemulwuy.

The 22-year-old Pemulwuy man was charged with murder while the 32-year-old man is still assisting with inquiries at Liverpool Police Station. A charge of murder is expected to be laid by police.

All three men were previously charged by police with riot and affray. To date 14 people have been charged in total by Strike Force Metter detectives. Further charges of murder are expected to be laid.

Strike Force Metter was established to investigate the incident and comprises detectives from the State Crime Command's Gangs Squad and Homicide Squad, along with officers from the Central Metropolitan Region.

Singer George Michael arrested after car crash

Pop star George Michael was arrested and questioned after his Land Rover car collided with a truck in Britain, reports said Saturday.

The singer, 46, was held on suspicion of driving under the influence of drink and drugs but was released without charge after five hours, the BBC said.

He was taken to the Lodden Valley police station near Reading in south-east England in the early hours of Friday morning.

Police confirmed the accident but would not say whether the singer and former star of 1980s pop band Wham had been involved.

"Officers were called at 1am on August 14 to a collision on the south-bound carriageway of the A34, approximately two miles north of the M4," a spokeswoman for Thames Valley Police said.

"It was between a silver Land Rover and an articulated lorry. The driver of the Land Rover, a 46-year-old man, was arrested at the scene.

"He was taken to Lodden Valley police station where he was questioned and released at 5.55am."

The truck driver told the Daily



Mail newspaper on Saturday: "He seemed completely disorientated, like he had no idea what was going on."

"He looked totally dazed and even tried to climb into the cab of my lorry," Laurie Rowe said.

"He hit me so hard that it knocked my rear axle two feet up in the air," he added. "When I stopped the lorry and got out to see what had happened, I didn't think he would have survived."

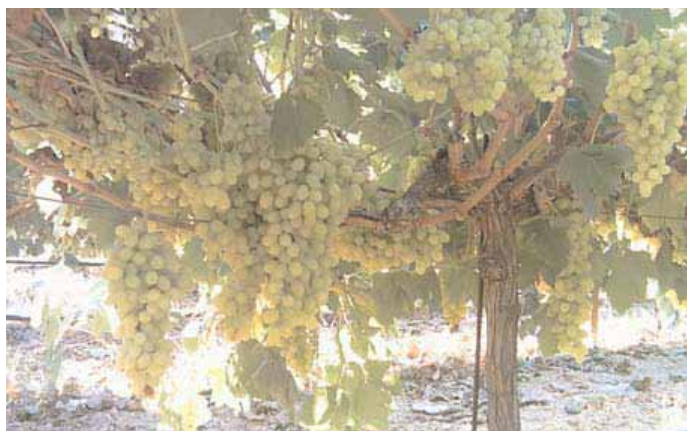
A spokeswoman for Michael

denied the reports, telling the Sun newspaper they were rubbish.

In 2006, Michael was found slumped over the wheel of his car and was subsequently given a two-year driving ban after pleading guilty to driving while unfit through drugs.

The star, who has sold more than 100 million records worldwide, with seven US number one singles, 11 number one singles in Britain and six number one albums, was also cautioned for drugs possession in 2008.

Gefra shipped first Greek grapes to European markets



The Greek seedless grape season is underway. In week 32 the first arrivals of white seedless from Crete reached rather slow markets in Germany, Holland and the UK. In week 33 all packing houses in the region of Corinth are expected to begin shipments. The weather has been exceptionally favorable so far resulting in a much needed good crop with fruit of superb eating quality. The last couple of seasons were marked by poor quality negatively affecting the Greek market share.

Amidst over supply and slow consumer demand the new crop breaths fresh hope for stimulating consumption.

The poor seasons of the past aggravated by the financial crisis have resulted in a reshuffle of the industry. The vast majority of fruit is now GlobalGal certified. New partnerships have been forged based on direct deliveries and sophisticated food safety requirements.

New varieties are underway like Crimson seedless. Excluding plausible weather related issues this



The new crop should be able to restore the past luster of the Corinthian Thompson

crop will comfortably outshine the competition and regain consumer confidence.

Wildfire threatens villages in central Greece

ATHENS, - A forest fire raged out of control in central Greece on Monday, burning isolated farm houses and olive groves and threatening villages, local authorities said.

Wildfires, mostly triggered by high temperatures, drought or arson, are frequent in Greece during the summer. Greece declared a state of emergency in 2007 during a 10-day blaze that killed 65 people.

On Monday, locals used hoses and spades to fight off the flames at the village of Prodomos, about 100 km (62 miles) west of the capital Athens.

Children and elderly residents were rushed to the village square as a safety precaution, the local mayor told Greek radio.

"I don't see how the fire can stop if the winds do not abate," mayor Constantine Kovanis said.

One fire-fighting plane, four helicopters, 26 fire engines and about 90 firefighters were dispatched to the scene but a fire brigade spokeswoman said strong winds made it difficult for fire-fighting planes to fly sorties.