

# Jackson To Protest Rollback Of Affirmative Action

SAN FRANCISCO - Civil rights leader Jesse Jackson and supporters plan to protest any move by the University of California to dismantle affirmative action even if it means going to jail, a spokesman said

recently. Jackson and his supporters plan to attend a July 20 meeting in San Francisco at which the University of California's governing Board of Regents will discuss proposals to curtail

preferential policies for women and minorities at the university. "They plan to protest any action and they are fully prepared to engage in civil disobedience," said Frank Watkins, an official of the National Rainbow Coalition,

a group headed by Jackson. He said the San Francisco Chronicle accurately quoted Jackson Friday as saying that he and his supporters would go to the meeting "fully prepared to go to jail."

admissions policies by Jan. 1, 1997. Connerly, who is black, argues that they lower academic standards at the nine-campus university system which has 162,000 students.

will urge other members to do likewise.

Jackson and other supporters of affirmative action see the proposals as an attempt to eliminate gains in civil rights made since the 1960s.

Jackson told the Chronicle that admissions to the University of California touch at the heart of the civil rights cause.

"So much of our struggle revolves around how youth are treated," Jackson was quoted as saying. "California is the battleground in the quest for social justice in the 1990s, just as Alabama and Mississippi was in the 1960s."

## London police chief claims Blacks carry out most muggings

London's police chief set off a storm of protest on Friday after claiming most muggings in the capital were carried out by young black males.

Sir Paul Condon, the Metropolitan police commissioner, broke a long-standing taboo by urging community leaders to "grasp the nettle" and recognise the problem.

"In the past there has been an understandable sensitivity about talking about these things," Condon told the Daily Telegraph. "My fear is that sensitivity can lead to inertia."

Despite protests from black people, civil rights groups and opposition politicians, Condon won the full backing of Home Secretary Michael Howard, the minister in charge of police.

"I fully support Sir Paul Condon's initiative. He must be free to air all the issues he sees fit in the fight against crime," Howard said. Condon also won the backing of the Police Federation, the body representing rank and file officers.

Federation chairman Fred Broughton said: "We reject the idea that the commissioner or the police is racist. We are trying to look at who is committing crime and where."

Condon said muggings in London had risen to almost

23,000 from 13,000 in five years and in a recent police survey, eighty percent of the victims described their attackers as black males in their teens or early twenties.

"For us to be over-sensitive now would be negligent. It is a difficult course to steer, but we have to grasp the nettle and ask the rest of the community to help us and do their bit," Condon said.

In a letter to community figures asking for their support, Condon said: "It is a fact that very many of the perpetrators of mugging are very young black people, who have been excluded from school and/or are unemployed."

But Paul Boateng, a black member of parliament for the opposition Labour Party, immediately attacked Condon's letter as unhelpful and challenged the police's statistics as being based on perceptions rather than facts.

"You can produce the same facts that show that the overwhelming majority of City (London's financial district) fraud is committed by white middle-aged upper class males," Boateng, Labour's legal affairs spokesman, said.

Community groups called the letter unhelpful and misleading. Civil rights campaigners claim white people are more likely to report a mugging if it is carried out by someone black, thus

distorting the true picture.

Bernie Grant, another black Labour MP, was also critical. "People will just think that every young black person is a mugger because the Metropolitan Police Commissioner says so," he said.

## Woman Rules Pele's Daughter Appeals For Recognition

RIO DE JANEIRO - A woman who won a legal battle to prove she is the "love-child" of Pele appealed Sunday to the former Brazilian soccer superstar to end years of silence and accept her as his daughter.

"I am your daughter. You've known that for four years. I want to know why you're carrying on like this," said Sandra Machado who earlier this year won a four-year Brazilian court case, including DNA tests, to prove her link to Pele.

Machado, a 30 year-old unemployed shop assistant, told the daily Folha de Sao Paulo newspaper she first met Pele at a DNA test in 1991. "He was nice. He gave me a four-leafed clover."

Despite a judge's ruling in

April that Machado was Pele's daughter, the former star, who is now sports minister in the Brazilian government, has refused any contact. Machado said her mother, a maid, had an affair with Pele when he was a player in Santos, a town on the Brazilian coast. But the star refused to take responsibility for the pregnancy, she said.

"I would give up my right to the legacy if he would help me study," said Machado who, under Brazilian law, stands to inherit part of Pele's fortune along with his three recognized children.

She intends to write a book about the lack of a father figure in her life.

"There's no trauma or hatred within me," she said. "There's simply a void."

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