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July 27, 1995

"THE TRUTH SHALL SET YOU FREE"

NATIONAL NEWS

TEACHER PLEA BARGAINS IN KIDNAPPING CASE



HARRIS
New York teacher Glenn Harris - arrested on kidnapping charges after taking student Christina Rosado, 15, on a two-month cross-country trip - agreed to a plea bargain that keeps him out of jail and allows him to continue pursuing a relationship with her. Harris, 33, pleaded guilty to felony custodial interference. He was given a conditional discharge, meaning he will not be jailed if he stays crime-free for three years.

RODNEY KING SUED BY LAWYER

A lawyer who represented Rodney King in the videotaped beating case has filed suit against him, claiming King failed to pay nearly \$1 million for legal work. Attorney Milton Grimes of Newport Beach also wants \$1.4 million in damages; he says King defamed him in a television news program. Grimes says he and King had an oral agreement that entitled him to one-quarter of any judgment - or \$954,000 - on top of \$456,000 in fees that a federal judge ordered the city to pay directly to Grimes.

CONGRESSMAN'S SEX-ASSAULT TRIAL BEGINS

REYNOLDS
Rep. Mel Reynolds, D-Ill., began his trial in Chicago this week on state felony charges that he had sex with a 16-year-old female campaign worker and then tried to cover it up by arranging for false affidavits. Reynolds, 43, denies the charges and has called the campaign worker, Beverly Heard, now 20, a "sick, disturbed woman." She recanted her accusation six months ago and says she won't testify. Reynolds' lawyers say prosecutor Jack O'Malley, a Republican, is going after Reynolds for partisan purposes.

**BLACK CADET HONORED
POSTHUMOUSLY**
Johnson Whittaker, one of the first black cadets at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., was honored posthumously at the White House this week, more than 100 years after he was victim of a racist attack and expelled. President Clinton presented Whittaker's family with his belated commission as an Army second lieutenant and his Bible, seized in 1880 during his court-martial. West Point administrators had accused Whittaker of faking the assault to discredit the academy. Whittaker went on to become a lawyer and college professor before his death in 1931.

SCHOLARSHIP SET UP IN TARA'S BEHALF

Progress Made in Finding Beauty Queen Killers

By Victor S. Ingram

Tara Cleveland's death nearly 8-months ago galvanized a shocked and disgusted community. The one-time beauty queen left behind an assortment of friends and family members who remembered her as the vibrant, colorful, 24-year-old model whose tragic murder went unsolved.

On Tuesday, July 25, an announcement by Pabst Brewing Company brought Tara's memory back to the forefront. The brewing company set up a scholarship in Cleveland's behalf. The scholarship will be funded from the sales of the company's Ole' English 800 brand of malt liquor beer.

The company recognized Tara's devotion to civic activities and her tireless efforts at seeking the Miss

Nevada Beauty Pageant crown. North Las Vegas Police Detective Sergeant Joe Forti says progress has been made in finding suspects to the murder.

Her late model Camero was found abandoned on U.S. 95 between Searchlight and Boulder City on December 17, 1994. The vehicle was moved from the 2300 block of Carroll Street in North Las Vegas and driven to the freeway location. Police suspect Cleveland was killed at approximately 2:30 am.

Forti says new information available as a result of the case being aired nationally on America's Most Wanted has highlighted two Hispanic males as primary suspects. "Right now we're in the process of processing our paperwork to get indictments," says Forti.

The suspects are not located in the Las Vegas area and might require extradition from Mexico. The case was especially difficult, says the Sergeant, because there were no eyewitness accounts of the incident. Preliminary response to new evidence, however, provides new found hope in apprehending suspects.



TARA CLEVELAND

Keller Becomes First Non-African American Honoree For Committed 100 Men Helping Boys

By Victor S. Ingram

Clark County Sheriff Jerry Keller will receive the Committed 100 Men Helping Boys Humanitarian of the Year Award

for 1995. Keller receives the award in recognition of his contributions to others. Past honorees include retired Deputy Chief Larry Bolden, local pediatrician

Dr. Beverly Neyland, and Attorney Timothy Williams.

The organization, which primarily is African American in its membership, will make Keller the first non-African American honoree. Patterned after Big

Brothers and Big Sisters, the five-year-old organization provides mentoring for African American boys, ages 7-13. Organization president Willie Watson says Keller's off duty accomplishments

(See KELLER, Page 5)

Powell Leads Clinton In Presidential Race - Poll

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Retired Gen. Colin Powell narrowly leads President Clinton in a head-to-head race for president in 1996, according to a Time magazine/CNN poll released Saturday.

Almost a third of those polled said they would support the retired chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff if he ran as an independent in a three-way race including Republican presidential front-runner Bob Dole, putting him in a dead heat with the major party candidates, the poll found.

By a 44 to 41 margin, those surveyed supported Powell over Clinton in a two-way race if voting were held on the day of the survey, June 21 to 22. Ten percent of the 1,000 people questioned said they were unsure, and 5 percent said they would not vote.

In a three-way election, Clinton received 33 percent of the vote, compared with Powell's 29 percent and Dole's 27 percent, the poll reported.

A Dole/Powell ticket, however, would

be a team of Clinton and Vice President Al Gore by 47 to 43 percent, the poll reported.

Powell has not clearly indicated if he will run for the presidency or if he is a Republican or Democrat. Powell, appointed by President George Bush in 1989, has kept a high profile in the United States since engineering the U.S. military buildup in the Gulf War.

In the poll, 35 percent said they believe Powell is closer to the Republican Party than to the Democratic Party. Sixteen percent said he was closer to the Democrats, and 44 percent said they were unsure.

The poll, by Yankelovich Partners, has a 3 percent margin of error.



POWELL

"Girlfriends" To Perform



"Girlfriends" Mary "D" Oliver (L), Janis Carter (C), and Darcus Speed will make their debut Saturday, July 29th at the West Las Vegas Library Theatre. Photo by Victor Ingram

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