

NEWS CLIPS

STROHMEYER'S ATTORNEYS SAY CALIFORNIA TEEN'S RIGHTS NOT READ

Attorneys for 19-year-old murder suspect Jeremy Strohmeier are attempting to strike as trial evidence sections of the California teen's tape-recorded confession because they say their client was not read his rights and denied a request for a lawyer.

Strohmeier's attorneys, Leslie Abramson and Richard Wright, representing the 19-year-old have also filed a motion to have physical evidence taken from Strohmeier's home be kept from the jury. Strohmeier, who is being held in the Clark County Detention Center, is charged with the murder and sexual assault of a 7-year-old Sherrice Iverson, found strangled May 25 in a bathroom stall of the Primm



STROHMEYER

Valley hotel in Primm, 43 miles south of Las Vegas. He faces a possible death sentence when he goes to trial April 20 before District Judge Don Chairez.

SECOND PART OF STUDY TO EXAMINE ETHNIC GROWTH DIFFERENCES

The second phase of a study examining the ethnic and environmental differences that influence growth is now underway at the Baylor College of Medicine in Houston. The first phase found differences among ethnic groups in bone and muscle growth starting during pre-pubescent years. "African-American children were found to have higher muscle and bone mass than Whites," said Dr. Kenneth Ellis, a professor of pediatrics at Baylor College of Medicine. "We believe this may be a genetic difference and may help tell us why more Whites than Blacks suffer from osteoporosis later in life." "We found that Hispanic and White children, in terms of bone and tissue mass, were almost identical," Ellis said. "However, Hispanics did have a higher incidence of obesity and a higher percentage of body fat." In the latest phase, researchers will be looking at the children's dietary records, and their level of physical activity.

NEW WATCHDOG GROUP TO MONITOR HIRING OF BLACK COACHES

A new national watchdog committee has been formed to monitor whether or not Black coaches are fairly treated. Washington, D.C.-based Sports Perspectives International is working with the Black Coaches Association on selecting committee members, SPI President Charles S. Farrell said. Farrell said the dearth of new Black coaches at the end of last year's football season demonstrates the need for such a committee. "It is unacceptable for that to take place again this year," Farrell said. "The majority of the players in big-time college football are Black, as are the players in the NFL. We simply must have some equity in the coaching ranks." In addition to the BCA, the association has invited the Rainbow/PUSH Coalition, the NAACP and other civil rights organizations to serve on the committee. "We want those who will be doing the hiring and firing to know that they cannot operate in a vacuum," Farrell said. "We want them to know that there are possible repercussions in cases where we feel discrimination took place." For information contact Farrell at (202) 882-9265.

SURVIVING SEXTUPLETS TO GO TO HOWARD FOR FREE

The five surviving Thompson sextuplets have been guaranteed a free college education, thanks to four-year scholarships given Monday by Howard University. By the time each of the 7-month-old Thompson babies: Emily Elizabeth, Richard Linden, Octavia Daniela, Stella Kimberly and AnnMarie Amanda, enter the Washington D.C.-based college, the scholarships will be worth \$314,000. Linden and Jacqueline Thompson were the first black parents in the United States to have sextuplets but they and their newborns were virtually ignored until septuplets, born last month to the McCaugheys, an Iowa couple, sparked stories about the lack of attention given to the Thompson family. Since then, First lady Hillary Rodham Clinton has visited the family and gifts have poured in by the bundle. The Freddie Mac Foundation has already promised the family a house, and Chevrolet has donated an Astro minivan.

Arkansas native writes grant, wins award

Special to Sentinel-Voice

How many teens do you know that wrote a proposal to restore and enhance a neighborhood playground and won a \$25,000 Housing and Urban Development grant to do so?

Meet Eddie Armstrong.

Thanks to the 19-year-old Little Rock, Ark.-native, youngsters in his community who dangle from the shiny new monkey bars or shoot

basketballs on a playground with a beautiful landscaping.

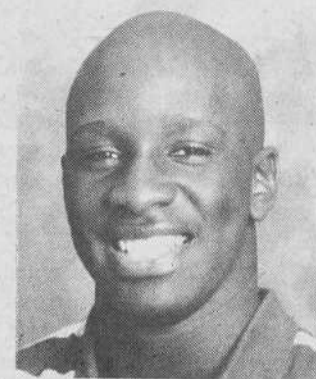
Armstrong is Boys & Girls Clubs of America's 1997-98 National Youth of the Year.

A political science major at the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville, Armstrong earned the honor due his commitment to community service, academic excellence and dynamic leadership skills. Sponsored by The Reader's Digest Association, Inc. and

administered by B&GCA, the youth of the year national scholarship program has been around since 1946.

Raised by his mother after she left an abusive and alcohol-dependent husband, Armstrong never let excuses or obstacles stop him from achieving.

One morning Armstrong's mother gathered 7-year-old Eddie, his 8-year-old sister and



EDDIE ARMSTRONG

Tribunal: Abu-Jamal's human rights violated

By Ken Morgan

Special to Sentinel-Voice

An international tribunal found law enforcement officials, including U.S. Attorney Janet Reno, guilty of conspiring to deny former Black Panther Mumia Abu-Jamal his rights in a meeting recently.

"We find in fact those charged are guilty of criminal conspiracy to deny Mumia Abu-Jamal's human rights and we call for his immediate release, exoneration and

compensation," said the 25 international tribunal judges representing a broad assembly of human rights advocates from around the world.

Though symbolic, the International Family and Friends of Mumia Abu-Jamal and a coalition comprising more than 100 international and U.S.-based non-governmental organizations said the tribunal was held to make a point.

Pam Africa, who heads the coalition, said, "We wanted to take it to another level... to the

world court and the United Nations to show the worldwide support for Mumia and the human rights violations committed against him."

Defendants included Pennsylvania Governor Thomas Ridge; the Pennsylvania Supreme Court; the Department of Corrections; Philadelphia Mayor Edward Rendell; Philadelphia Court of Common Pleas Judge Albert Sabo; Philadelphia District Attorney Lynne Abraham; the Philadelphia Fraternal Order of Police; the Philadelphia Police Department and the FBI.

Jamal has been on Pennsylvania's death row since 1981 despite evidence supporters say points to his

innocence. He is accused of killing a Philadelphia police officer.

Some of the most compelling and moving testimony at the tribunal came from Veronica Jones, a young prostitute who in 1981 said she originally was intimidated by the Philadelphia police to finger Mumia in the crime.

Presently Mumia's appeal for a new trial is before the Pennsylvania Supreme Court and is expected to be heard sometime next spring.

Those interested in finding out more about Mumia Abu-Jamal's case can contact the International Family and Friends of Mumia Abu-Jamal at 215 476-8812.

Farrakhan

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told *The Final Call*, the Nation of Islam's publication. The next morning the Muslim leader's desire to go to Jerusalem was "kindled again," but that decision was finally overridden.

"My mission was a mission of peace," Farrakhan said in a TV interview. "And after seeing all the ugly stories on TV and radio, I felt that if my presence would incite the passion of the hatred of the Israeli people for me, it would be better that I leave than my presence incite an incident with possible international repercussions."

In the emotional first meeting between the two men, President Arafat expressed his appreciation to Farrakhan for his long-standing support for the Palestinian cause.

In addition, he complained of dozens of incidents of "Israeli violations and non-compliance with (peace) agreements (already) signed."

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TIMOTHY C. WILLIAMS

Timothy Williams is a member of the Nevada & Illinois State Bar, practicing primarily in personal injury cases.

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