



Thomas Bruder was one of three New York officers acquitted of assault charges against Abner Louima. Thomas Weise (middle bottom) was also acquitted. (Below) Charles Schwarz wasn't so lucky. The jury found him guilty of the sodomy attack.



# Cops face more charges

NEW YORK (AP) — With two convictions already in hand prosecutors say they will continue to pursue charges against other police officers who they say lied about the assault of a Haitian immigrant to protect one of their own.

"It's not over," prosecutor Kenneth Thompson said last week after a jury found Officer Charles Schwarz guilty of holding down Abner Louima while Officer Justin Volpe sodomized him with a broken broomstick in a precinct bathroom.

The verdict was returned in Brooklyn federal court two weeks after Volpe pleaded guilty to the attack that prompted a national outcry and widespread demonstrations against police brutality.

Three other officers were acquitted Tuesday on charges they violated Louima's civil rights following his arrest at a nightclub on Aug. 9, 1997.

Schwarz and two of the acquitted officers, Thomas Wiese and Thomas Bruder, still face charges they

conspired to obstruct justice by claiming Schwarz was never in the bathroom. U.S. Attorney Zachary Carter said he expects that case to go to trial, but didn't say when.

"I think it's piling on," said Bruder's attorney, Stuart London. "Enough is enough."

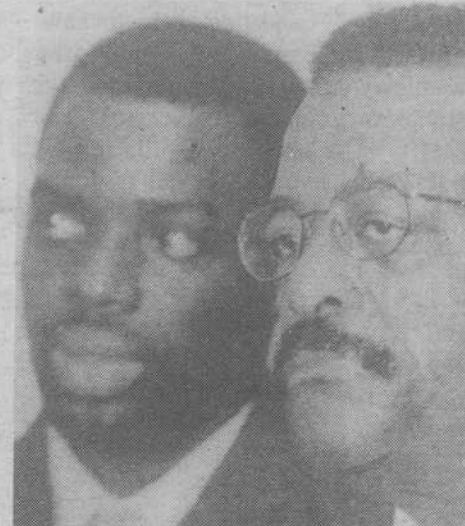
The jury of eight whites, three Hispanics and one black deliberated 18 hours over three days in federal court. The 33-year-old Schwarz sat impassively as the verdict was announced.

Schwarz, like Volpe, could get life in prison. His attorney, Stephen Worth, said he would appeal.



THOMAS WEISE

"I'll say something that I've never said before: The jury reached the wrong



Abner Louima (left) with attorney Johnnie Cochran await more charges on cops.

perpetrator of one of the most horrific sexual assaults in modern history — as not credible.

Louima, 32, was not in the courtroom for the verdict but said later the decision fell short of what he had hoped for. "I am confident in the end that complete justice will be done in my case," said Louima, who is suing the city for \$155 million. "I hope what comes out of my case is change."

Schwarz was acquitted of beating Louima inside a police car prior to the bathroom attack. Also cleared in that attack were Wiese, 35, and Bruder, 33. Their sergeant, Michael Bellomo, 37, was acquitted of lying to cover up the arrests of Louima and another Haitian man, (See Louima, Page 3)

will be done in my case," said Louima, who is suing the city for \$155 million. "I hope what comes out of my case is change."

Schwarz was acquitted of beating Louima inside a police car prior to the bathroom attack. Also cleared in that attack were Wiese, 35, and Bruder, 33. Their sergeant, Michael Bellomo, 37, was acquitted of lying to cover up the arrests of Louima and another Haitian man, (See Louima, Page 3)

## African National Congress just misses electoral majority

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa (AP) — The African National Congress won solid control of South Africa's parliament, but final election results Monday showed it failed to win the power to change the constitution.

The ANC came up just one vote shy of the two-thirds margin needed to unilaterally amend constitution.

The ANC had denied suggestions by opposition parties that it wanted to do so to amass greater power.

The ANC, which has governed since winning the nation's first all-race election in 1994, took 266 seats in the 400-member National Assembly — a 14-seat gain.

Brigalia Bam, head of the Independent Electoral Commission, read the certified results Monday to

the heads of political parties and other officials, including South Africa's president-in-waiting, Deputy President Thabo Mbeki.

Referring to lines by the poet W.B. Yeats, Mbeki said the world feared that the "center cannot hold" in South Africa.

"But the center has held, the center has held in favor of democracy. It has held in favor of the people of South Africa freely stating what they think," Mbeki said.

Taking its place as opposition leader in the National Assembly, with 38 seats, will be the mostly white Democratic Party.

Inkatha Freedom Party, whose leader Mangosuthu Buthelezi is mentioned as a possible deputy president in Mbeki's cabinet, took 34 seats.

The New National Party — the successor to the party that ruled during apartheid — lost its role as second largest party and dropped to fourth place, with 28 seats.

Bearing out Mbeki's remarks about a strong centrist vote, only 20 seats went to special interest and extreme right or left wing parties.

Seven parties returning to the National Assembly will be joined by six new ones — including the Federal Alliance led by the controversial former rugby head, Louis Luyt; an Asian interest group, Minority Front; and the left wing Azanian People's Organization that boycotted the 1994 vote.

A top ANC official said the party was "very happy" (See ANC, Page 16)

## Artists bring soul to House of Blues

Lee Brown  
Sentinel-Voice

The House of Blues will become the House of Rhythm and Blues for one week as top-flight R&B crooners from '60s and '70s take the stage beginning Saturday.

Al Green, a 9-time Grammy award winner and member of the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, performs at 9 p.m. Saturday inside the Mandalay Bay club.

Set for Sunday's 8 p.m. show are the Dramatics, the Stylistics, the Chi-Lites, the Delfonics with Major Harris and Cuba Gooding & The Main Ingredient.

James Brown, the "Godfather of Soul," tops off the week with an 8 p.m. show on Friday.

"At all our seven venues, our theme is diversity," said Anjali Raval, corporate



Grammy award winner Al Green to perform Saturday.

publicist for the House of Blues. "Although we're the House of Blues, we're not stuck with the stigma of being just a blues club. We have all different types of music from the best of the blues to R&B to rock to reggae to jazz. The House of Blues is a venue for all music."

Green began his music career singing gospel. The Forrest City, Ark. native

began touring at age 9 with the Green Brothers, a quartet comprised of his father and brothers. His debut album "Green Is Blues" in 1970 set the benchmark for what would become a stellar career. Though involved in secular music, Green kept his church ties, becoming a pastor. He is a pastor at the (See Artist, Page 9)