

## NEWS CLIPS

### USDA TO ESTABLISH ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON SMALL FARMS

Secretary Dan Glickman has proposed to establish an Advisory Committee on Small Farms to gather and analyze information on small farms and ranches and advise him on actions to strengthen United States Department of Agriculture programs. The USDA is actively seeking nominations for 15 members to the committee: five members to 1-year terms, five members to 2-year terms, and five members to 3-year terms. Minorities, women, persons with disabilities and members of low-income populations are invited to apply. Nominations, due June 25, should include the following information: name, title, address, telephone number, organization and a completed Advisory Committee Membership Background Information Questionnaire (form AD755). The form is available on the Internet at: <http://www.usda.gov/oce/osfsd/advisorynotice.htm>. Nominations should be sent to Alfonzo Drain, Office of the Chief Economist, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Jamie L. Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, D.C. 20250. Interested, call (202) 720-3238 or (202) 690-0878.

### COCHRAN OFFICIALLY TAKES TYISHA MILLER CASE

According to Los Angeles' KNBC-TV, attorney Johnnie Cochran filed a "wrongful death" lawsuit on June 1 against the City of Riverside and the four police officers who fired into the car killing Tyisha Miller Dec. 28, 1998. "We made available to the authorities in Riverside a witness who observed these police officers high-fiving one another in joy and glee moments after they killed this young lady," Cochran said. The officers shot into Miller's car as she sat unconscious with an unloaded gun in her lap.

### PARKS, ALI, ROBINSON AMONG TIME'S TOP 100

Civil rights pioneers Rosa Parks, former heavyweight champion Muhammad Ali and baseball great Jackie Robinson were named among TIME Magazine's Top 20 Heroes and Icons of the Century. This list is the fifth in a series of six special issues profiling the 100 most influential people of the century. The list, published in the June 14 edition, also includes Princess Diana, The Kennedys and Bruce Lee. The final issue, Person of the Century, will be published in December.

### HITLER QUOTE SPARKS OUTCRY

NEW YORK (AP) — The use of a quotation from Adolf Hitler's "Mein Kampf" for a high school senior's yearbook statement has led to an outcry from parents and an apology from the student. Nicole Scuderi, an art major at Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School, chose the following quote for her yearbook, 550 of which were distributed two weeks ago: "The very first essential for success is a perpetually constant and regular employment of violence. — Adolf Hitler, Mein Kampf." Parents reacted quickly to the quote, including Ronny Bassan, whose son attends the performing arts school. "Need I elaborate what these kinds of hate statements can lead to, e.g., Columbine, Paducah, Jonesboro, etc.," she wrote in a letter to the school's principal, Paul Saronson, referring to recent sprees of school violence. Saronson said Ms. Scuderi, whom he described as an honor student incapable of violence, told him she had used the quote as "an antithesis of everything she was." Scuderi wrote a letter of apology, which was distributed to classmates last week.

### SLAIN CIVIL RIGHTS WORKERS HONORED

PHILADELPHIA, Miss. (AP) — Ben Chaney walked slowly down the rural Mississippi road to where his brother and two other civil rights workers were murdered 35 years ago. His face solemn, Chaney stopped at the place where the young men died at the hands of Ku Klux Klansmen, and remarked, "There is no monument and no markers." Chaney led more than 100 people Sunday to Neshoba County for ceremonies honoring James Chaney, Andrew Goodman and Mickey Schwerner. The group traveled by bus to re-create the historic "Freedom Rides" through the South during the push to register black voters. James Chaney, Schwerner and Goodman — all workers for the Congress on Racial Equality, which organized voter registration drives in Ku Klux Klan strongholds — were traveling down a Neshoba County road on June 21, 1964, when they were chased down and shot.

## Court aids discrimination victims

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Supreme Court made it somewhat easier Tuesday for victims of job discrimination to force their employer to pay extra damages as punishment, a decision advocates for both employers and employees found reason to praise.

Ruling 7-2 in the case of a woman denied a promotion because of her sex, the court said job-bias victims can collect so-called punitive damages without having to show their employer's conduct was "egregious."

But by a separate 5-4 vote in the same case, the justices said employers cannot be forced to pay such damages if a manager's discriminatory conduct runs counter to the employer's good-faith efforts to run a bias-free workplace.

"This is a good decision

for employers, in particular the part ... that says employers' anti-discrimination policies should be taken into account," said Robert E. Williams of the Equal Employment Advisory Council, an association of about 300 large corporations.

Patricia Ireland, president of the National Organization for Women, said the ruling means that if employers "know or should know that they've violated the law in discriminating against you, then they can be hit up for punitives."

Regarding the part of the ruling that protects employers with anti-bias policies, she added, "If they take all those steps in good faith ... isn't that what we want?"

But Jeffrey L. Needle of

the Association of Trial Lawyers of America said he was concerned that some courts may free companies from having to pay punitive damages even if their anti-bias policies are inadequate.

At issue was the availability of damage awards intended to punish or deter misconduct. A federal appeals court said such awards are never available unless an employee can prove the employer's conduct was egregious.

But the Supreme Court ruled that standard is too high and is not required by a federal anti-bias law known as Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, which bars employment discrimination based on race, sex, national origin and religion.

Since 1991, the law has

allowed victims of intentional discrimination to collect up to \$300,000 in punitive damages if they show their employer acted with "malice or with reckless indifference" to their rights.

In a pair of rulings last year, the court made it easier to win sex-harassment lawsuits and compensatory damages against employers. It said employers can always be held responsible for harassment, a form of discrimination, that results in tangible professional injury such as firing or demotion.

Tuesday's decision ordered a federal appeals court to restudy the case of Carole Kolstad, who is seeking punitive damages from the Chicago-based American Dental (See Victims, Page 5)

## Boy receiving cadaver's bone spared amputation

HOLLYWOOD, Fla. (AP) — Less than a year ago, 6-year-old Adam Johnson faced a grim situation: Either lose his arm to amputation or lose his life to cancer.

Happily, doctors came up with a third option.

A pioneering transplant operation nine months ago had the youth tossing a baseball around during a news conference Monday at Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital. Adam, who lives with his family in Nassau, Bahamas, now wants to become a professional basketball player.

"I would like to thank the almighty God and the staff of the hospital," said Adam's overjoyed father, Anthony

Johnson.

Back in September, doctors removed most of Adam's humerus, the upper arm bone, because of a tumor the size of a grapefruit.

The doctors then replaced it by taking the humerus from a dead child and fused it with a piece of Adam's own fibula, the thin bone that runs from the knee to the ankle.

In extremely rare circumstances, surgeons have successfully transplanted part of a patient's fibula to another part of the body, fusing it to whatever healthy tissue is left in the cancer-ravaged bone.

However, the fibula can fracture because of its narrow diameter.

In Adam's case, the

surgeons decided to form a composite: They used part of Adam's fibula, with its blood supply and growth cartilage intact, and a cadaver bone to add strength and stability.

Cadaver bones commonly are used in transplant surgery. But surgeons said this is the first time a live bone, with its blood supply intact, was combined with a cadaver bone so the transplant would grow along with the patient.

If the transplant continues to grow, Adam should have a full-size arm when he grows up, surgeons said. If he had received only a cadaver bone, he would forever have the arm of a little boy.

"A recent test has shown that the growth cartilage and

blood supply to the transplanted fibula remain intact," said Dr. Michael Jofe, who led the 11-member surgical team. "There's already been evidence that the bone is growing."

"It's not anything necessarily new and different, but it's really a new twist on old ideas," said Dr. Mark Thomas Scarborough, a member of the surgical team and chief orthopedic oncologist at Shands Hospital in Gainesville.

Doctors did not need to give Adam anti-rejection drugs because his own tissue was used in the procedure. They estimate there is a less than 10 percent chance the cancer could return.

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