

# Jackson not 'manhandled'

LOS ANGELES (AP) - The state attorney general's office has concluded that Michael Jackson was not "manhandled" by sheriff's deputies who took him into custody last year on child molestation charges, CBS News reported Sunday.

The findings were contained in a three-page letter Martin A. Ryan, chief of the attorney general's California

Bureau of Investigation, sent to Santa Barbara County Sheriff Jim Anderson, CBS reported on its Web site.

A spokesman for the attorney general did not immediately return a call for comment.

Jackson told CBS' "60 Minutes" last year that he was "manhandled" by sheriff's deputies who deliberately handcuffed him in a way they

knew was "going to hurt" and that dislocated his shoulder when he surrendered to authorities at Santa Barbara Municipal Airport on Nov. 20.

After he was taken to jail, he said, he was placed in a feces-smear restroom for 45 minutes before being released.

The investigation "did not (See Jackson, Page 12)

## Vons

(Continued from Page 1)

Concerned by the grocery company's decision to leave the area, Las Vegas City Councilman Lawrence Weekly called a press conference early last Thursday to address issues raised by the closure. The store is located in his council ward. It opened in 1995.

"I just found out," said Weekly who learned of the closing the day before he held the press conference. Weekly said he held the news event to notify area residents and business owners and open dialogue on possible solutions to problems created by the loss of the store. He expressed concern for local residents who will likely have difficulty getting to major grocery stores located outside the neighborhood due to limited physical mobility or lack of transportation.

Additionally, he said that the building sitting empty would not be good for the neighborhood's appearance and could pose some "safety" issues.

Area housing developer and former City of Las Vegas Councilman Frank Hawkins was at the press conference. Hawkins said he sees the problem as "a private sector problem," rather than the city's problem. He did express concerns about inconveniences for nearby homeowners who shopped there.

The loss of an area employer was another major concern, but reportedly all employees will be relocated to other Vons stores.

Store Manager Charles Gray said only, "There are a lot of good people here," referring all questions to Vons'

public affairs personnel. Despite phone calls seeking answers, Weekly and his staff received only "sketchy answers" from Vons' corporate office. Several calls by the Sentinel-Voice to the public affairs office went unreturned.

Company officials said more stores in the city would be closed with plans set for the 2500 E. Desert Inn Rd at Eastern Avenue and 4020 S. Rainbow Blvd. at Flamingo Road stores.

Despite plans to close more than just the West Owens location, Urban Chamber of Commerce President Hannah Brown said this does not rest well with her or the interests of the chamber located across the street in the Nucleus Plaza.

"This is devastating," Brown said. "The Chamber is working hard to contribute to the area's economic development. The bad thing is we now have two major buildings sitting empty," referring to the nearby closed A.D. Guy Ambulatory Care Center for veterans at Martin Luther King and Owens. The chamber has plans to relocate its offices closer to Martin L. King and Lake Mead boulevards.

Developer John Edmond owns the plaza and fears the closure may have a long-term effect on his ability to lease space in the complex and a

shopping center he is slated to build on a vacant lot just east of the shopping center. But for right now, he said the financial impact to him would be minimal as Vons, the anchor tenant, will still pay rent. Other tenants in the complex are Auto Zone and Wells Fargo Bank. Edmond says it is too soon to know what options are available for a replacement tenant.



Cherry Banks, a disabled local who patronizes Vons, is disheartened by its closure. Reliant upon a cart for mobility, the closure creates a hardship.

Sentinel-Voice photo by Ramon Savoy



## MASTER PLAN

Las Vegas Grandmasters John Natividad (left) and Kraiguar Smith (right) were inducted into the Masters Hall of Fame earlier this month at the Newport Beach Radisson Hotel in California by Grandmaster Dan Sawyer and the MHOFF board of directors. The honor recognizes their many years and achievements in martial arts.

## Study links cancer tumors, Black women

NEW HAVEN, Conn. (AP) - Researchers at the Yale School of Medicine have concluded that Black women are four times more likely than White women to have a genetic mutation that makes their breast cancer more deadly.

The new study says that while Black women are less likely than White women to get breast cancer, they have a greater chance of developing aggressive tumors. There has been debate about whether breast cancer differences between Blacks and Whites are due to socio-economic status, health care or diet.

Beth A. Jones, an assistant professor of epidemiology and public health at Yale, said the study shows that race is clearly a factor in whether a tumor will be aggressive.

Data for the study was collected from 145 Black women and 177 White women who had breast cancer. Changes in a tumor sup-

pressor gene called p53 were analyzed. Mutations in the p53 gene have been implicated in the onset of about 50 percent of all cancers and are associated with poorer outcomes in breast cancer patients.

The study said that when variables such as income were controlled, African-American women were more likely to have mutations of the p53 gene than White women. Black women also tended to get their tumors at an earlier age than White women.

"The picture now coming down is that the tumors that do occur can be more aggressive in African-Americans," Jones said. "The implications are that early detection is very important, and African-Americans need to be particularly vigilant."

The study, published Monday in the online edition of the journal Cancer, will appear in the journal's Sept. 15 issue.

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