

# TRIAL

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ers waited nearby. They were ordered to be available within 15 minutes in case jurors needed a question answered or announced that they have a verdict.

Sgt. Stacey Koon, officers Laurence Powell, Theodore Briseno and former Officer Timothy Wind are charged with violating King's civil rights in a beating that the government says was excessive.

Although the jurors have been sequestered at a hotel since Feb. 25, they knew when they were chosen that world opinion was focused on the case. All of them said they could put aside concerns about public reaction to their verdicts and decide the case purely on the evidence.

Acquittals on most charges in a state trial last year touched off three days of rioting in Los Angeles that left 54 people dead and \$1 billion in property damage.

"I don't think anyone should be condemned because of the threat of a riot," attorney Harland Braun told the jurors in a final argument laced with religious references and comparisons of the defendants to Christ being judged by Pontius Pilate.

"If you have the courage to vote not guilty on all these defendants, the public will understand," Braun assured them.

But a prosecutor called the defendants "bullies with badges" and urged jurors to convict them.

To convict on civil rights violations, jurors must find that the four men intended to inflict unreasonable force on King. In the state trial last year in suburban Simi Val-

**'If you have the courage to vote not guilty on all these defendants, the public will understand.'**

— Harland Braun,  
attorney representing charged officers

ley, specific intent was not a requirement to convict them of assault.

In a poll published Sunday by the *Los Angeles Times*, 33 percent said a repeat of last spring's deadly riots was inevitable if jurors acquit the four men.

And, although 75 percent of those surveyed voiced concern that another round of unrest could engulf their neighborhoods, 59 percent said they were very or somewhat confident that police would quickly quell it.

Sizable minorities of Hispanics (40 percent) and blacks (32 percent) said they would consider violence partially or totally justified if the officers were acquitted, and 19 percent of whites thought violence would be justified.

The newspaper interviewed 1,136 Los Angeles residents Wednesday to Friday. The poll had a margin of error of plus or minus three percentage points.

Police Chief Willie Williams increased the number of officers on city streets Sunday, and other law enforcement agencies began to prepare for any possible problems after the jury returns its verdicts. The California National Guard also plans to have 600 troops in area armories by Monday morning.

# Panel to discuss LA beating trial

To help people understand the federal civil rights trial of four police officers accused of beating motorist Rodney King, the law school has scheduled a panel discussion of the case today at 3:30 p.m. in the EMU Ben Linder Room.

Law school Dean Dave Frohnmayer will moderate the discussion of the following panelists:

- Law associate Professor Margaret Paris, who will explain how the police officers can be tried in federal court after acquittals in state court.
- Law associate Professor Lisa Kloppenberg, who will describe the nation's dual court system and actions King could take in a civil suit.
- Law Professor Wayne Westling, who will compare tactics lawyers used in the two trials, including the use of videotape.
- Eugene police Officer Marvin Re'voal, who will discuss proper police procedures, race relations with police and how the fury over the King case has affected other parts of the country.
- Emilio Hernandez, vice chairman of the state Commission on Hispanic Affairs, who also will discuss race relations with police and offer a cross-cultural perspective of the trial.

## ET ALS

### MEETINGS

**Incidental Fee Committee** will meet today at 3:30 p.m. in the EMU Board Room to discuss the budgets of the following organizations: Women in Transition, Recycling, Oregon Daily Emerald, Peoples Law School and University Theater. For more information, call 346-3749.

### MISCELLANEOUS

**Career Planning and Placement Service** will begin

interview bidding today for the following companies in Room 244 Hendricks: Beneficial Mortgage Company, State Farm Insurance Company, Sherwin Williams and J.C. Penny Co. There will also be an office orientation today from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. in Room 221 Hendricks. For more information, go to Room 244 Hendricks.

**Amnesty International** will have Western Regional Coordinator Magdelano Rose-Avila speak on the Bosnia conflict tonight at 7:30 in the EMU Ben Linder Room. For more information, call 683-4960 or 485-6361.

**Outdoor Program** will have a Raft Trip Initiators Clinic tonight at 7:30 p.m. in the EMU Outdoor Program room. For more information, call 346-4365.

**Fine and Applied Arts** will present mixed media show this week at the LaVerne Krause Gallery. Tonight there will be a reception from 7 to 9 at the gallery. For more information, call 346-3610.

**Academic Advising** will have Mariss Strange and students accepted in 1992 present "Applying to Medical School" tonight from 5 to 7 in Room 123 Pacific.

For more information, call 346-3211.

**Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Alliance** will have the opening reception of its art show tonight from 5:30 to 6 in the EMU Fir Room. LGBA will also meet for a mixer/social today from 4 to 6:30 p.m. in the EMU International Lounge. LGBA will also discuss "Straight Allies: Friends or Foes?" today from 3 to 5 p.m. at the Koinonia Center, 1414 Kincaid St. LGBA will also have a rally today from 12 to 1 p.m. in the EMU Courtyard. For more information on any of these events, call 346-3360.

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April 14, Wed - 6pm-10pm    April 24, Sat. - 9am-1pm  
 April 19, Mon. - 5pm-9pm    April 26, Mon. - 5pm-9pm  
 April 21, Wed - 5pm-9pm    April 27, Tues. - 6pm-10pm  
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Understanding the

## Rodney King Civil Rights Trial

**Monday, April 12, 1993**  
**3:30 p.m. EMU Ben Linder Room**  
**Moderator: Dave Frohnmayer**

Co-Sponsored by the Law School and the President's Office  
For information, call 346-3853