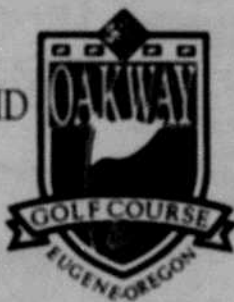


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Unsolved: Death is no mystery to mother

Continued from Page 1

abusing and killing his wife, Nicole Brown Simpson.

Also, local law enforcement now has more authority to intervene in domestic abuse situations than it did 10 years ago.

"A lot more officers work more effectively with the perpetrators and the victims," Inman said. "A lot of officers view it now as a crime and not just a domestic problem."

A Lane County sheriff can arrest an abuser regardless of whether the other person wants the officer to do that, said Earl McMullen Jr., detective sergeant at the police services division.

Further, third parties are now calling in domestic abuse situations more often, he said. "Neighbors are calling in to say that their neighbors are in a fight."

However, domestic violence is more violent today, McMullen said. There is still much work to be done before the problem is eliminated.

Women continue to feel trapped in their abusive relationships, for reasons such as lack of financial or emotional support, children, fear of retaliation, love and hope.

Just like Ruth Taylor and Catherine Nelson, who kept trying to work out the relationship

despite one-sided attempts.

In Ruth Taylor's case, the relationship ended when she was shot to death in her bathroom.

Now, Michael Taylor is being held at the Lane County jail pending trial for the death of his wife. He was indicted last Friday by the grand jury for intentional murder.

In Catherine Nelson's case, she is still classified as missing. However, McMullen, a Lane County detective, said he believes she was a victim of a homicide.

Christine Nelson's husband, Philip Nelson, is a "person of good interest" in the case, which means that there is not enough evidence to name a person as a suspect or make an arrest, McMullen said.

The disappearance of the former University employee is no mystery to her mother, Eleanor Horn. She said she believes her former son-in-law, Philip Nelson, killed her.

"I know she was killed by him," she said.

In a 1993 civil case, she sued Philip Nelson for killing her daughter and hiding her body.

The suit was settled out of court so Philip Nelson could not take claim of any insurance payments or her monies, Horn said.

"
A lot more officers work more effectively with the perpetrators and the victims. A lot of officers view it now as a crime and not just a domestic problem.
"

— Jennifer Inman
Community program director
for Womenspace

The case was not fully prosecuted because of exorbitant costs, said Daniel Gordon, Horn's attorney.

A \$5,000 reward is still being offered for any information leading to the arrest of Philip Nelson, Horn said.

Horn said she believes her daughter's body is somewhere in the Nevada desert where the couple was supposed to go on vacation, Horn said. The two had been separated before the trip, but Christine Nelson's therapist said it might help their marriage if they went on the vacation.

Wherever the body is, she just wants it to be found.

"I hope they find the bones someday," she said.

Students can 'adopt a block' for Olympic torch

FLAME: The torch will stop in Springfield first and pass through Eugene on May 5

By Melissa Lebahn
Community Reporter

United Way of Eugene officials are asking people to show community spirit and celebrate peace, diversity, friendship and human accomplishments when the 1996 Olympic Torch Relay comes to Eugene on May 5.

United Way's "Adopt-a-Block" is part of a program it is sponsoring for this event.

To "Adopt-a-Block" people just have to stand, scream, yell or wave flags and banners on a city block to help welcome the Olympic flame. The group with the largest number of participants will receive Olympic merchandise.

But the route going through the University is the only area that cannot be adopted by the community and can only be adopted by University students, faculty and staff. The deadline to register to adopt

one of these blocks is Friday.

The Olympic torch will first stop in Springfield and then move to Eugene where the torch bearer will begin the route directly through the University starting about 12:30 p.m. The torch will go from Franklin Boulevard down Agate Street to Hayward Field, where the torch bearer will run around it once in memory of Steve Prefontaine.

The torch bearer will then continue down Agate Street and make a left onto 18th Avenue to travel through the rest of Eugene. The Olympic flame will leave Eugene via 6th Avenue and be carried up Highway 99 by the USA Cycling Team.

United Way is the provider of community support and volunteer services for the Olympic Torch Relay.

For more information about "Adopt-a-Block," call United Way of Lane County at 484-6666 and ask for Doreen. For more information about the University's involvement, call Rosalind Cohen of University Housing at 346-5393.

Frenzied bidding to continue for pieces of Onassis estate

NEW YORK (AP) — After a frenzied, 10-minute duel between two telephone bidders, the desk on which President Kennedy signed the Nuclear Test Ban Treaty of 1963 was sold for \$1.43 million Wednesday.

By the time the hammer went down, cheers resounding through the sales room, the cost of the Louis XVI mahogany table had soared to 48 times its estimated sale price of \$30,000.

The treaty desk, which went to an unidentified European foundation, was the afternoon's top prize on the second day of Sotheby's auction of the belongings of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis. The day's sales raked in \$7 million in

stranger THAN FICTION

all, beating Tuesday's total take of \$4.5 million.

Legions of fans packed the auction house to bid on worn sofas, salt shakers and jewelry.

"This is the last opportunity people have to be a part of her life," said Larry Richmond, a Boston dealer. "You take Jackie's name out of this, and it's like any antique auction."

Winning bids were about 10 and 20 times the presale estimates listed in the catalog, which Sotheby's bases on the intrinsic value of the objects — few of which are antiques or unusual works of art — rather than on who owned them.

Another highlight of Wednesday afternoon's session was the sale of a small, leather traveling casket that once belonged to Marie Antoinette. Mrs. Onassis herself bought the trunk at auction in 1981.

It sold for \$118,000, far above the estimated \$25,000 to \$35,000. The bidder, John Maas, a London antique dealer, bought the tiny trunk for an unidentified American client.

The prices include Sotheby's commission, which is 15 percent of the first \$50,000 and 10 percent of anything above that amount.

Mrs. Onassis died in 1994. Her will directed her children, Caroline and John F. Kennedy Jr., and the John F. Kennedy Library in Boston, to choose whatever they wanted from her possessions, then sell the rest. Proceeds were to go to her estate.

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