

Expert investigates Spokane mayor's computer

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SPOKANE — Photos and documents from a gay Web site that are on Spokane Mayor James E. West's City Hall computer were put there deliberately, a computer expert said.

The affidavit from Josiah P. Roloff of Global CompuSearch LLC, refuted West's contention that much of the material was automatically placed on his computer while he surfed Web sites like Gay.com.

In an affidavit filed Friday in Spokane County Superior Court, Roloff said an index of West's computer files provided to The Spokesman-Review newspaper included a history file showing 56 visits to the Gay.com site.

"The history file shows heavy usage and visits to the Gay.com site by the computer user," Roloff's affidavit said, "including some visits requiring the user to enter a user name and password."

Gay.com requires that personal

profiles be "consciously selected" by the computer user, Roloff said.

"The Gay.com site will not display personal profiles and the images included on the profiles absent the computer user's affirmative choice to view a certain profile," according to the affidavit.

Roloff is working with lawyers for The Spokesman-Review newspaper, which since May 6 has been seeking access to the records on West's taxpayer-provided computer as part of its investigation into whether he abused his office by offering young gay men public appointments and jobs in exchange for sex.

Roloff's affidavit appeared to conflict with assertions by West's lawyers and a city attorney that approximately 1,800 photos and documents, many of young gay men, were inadvertently downloaded to West's computer.

West faces a Dec. 6 recall battle over the abuse of office allegations.

West, a longtime Republican state senator and opponent of gay rights, has acknowledged that he was a closeted homosexual, but has denied breaking any laws.

In a high-profile public records battle, he is trying to keep the public from seeing some of the files on his laptop computer, saying in a sworn affidavit that they contain material that would be "highly offensive" to citizens.

After hearing oral arguments on Oct. 12, Adams County Superior Court Judge Richard Miller is expected to rule later this month whether West's computer files should be released.

Lawyers for West said Friday the mayor has already admitted he visited Gay.com.

"This appears to be part of an ongoing effort by The Spokesman-Review to keep the West story alive until the recall election occurs," West's lawyers said.

The lawyers also wondered whether

Roloff's company was the "forensic entity" the newspaper hired to identify West's activities on the gay Web site.

"This raises the issue as to Mr. Roloff's disinterest and objectivity," said lawyers Bill Etter, Susan Troppmann and Carl Oreskovich in a written statement.

Newspaper attorney Duane Swinton said Roloff was not the computer expert the newspaper hired to pose as a teen-age boy during online chats that eventually snared West.

Roloff based his affidavit on his familiarity from other computer forensic cases with Gay.com, the source of many of the disputed files on West's computer.

He disputed the conclusions in a Sept. 22, 2005, letter from a city lawyer to Spokesman-Review attorney Duane Swinton about how the images got on West's city computer.

In that letter, Milton Rowland said he'd discussed West's computer with

the city's information systems director and the documents "were almost certainly placed on Mayor West's computer without his knowledge, and likely without his having even visited all the Web pages represented."

That's not accurate, Roloff said in his affidavit.

If images from Gay.com are contained in West's Internet cache file, this means the computer user "affirmatively viewed the images by clicking on profiles displayed by Gay.com," he said.

Troppmann told Judge Miller that West didn't deliberately download material from gay Web sites to his city computer.

"These are Internet cache files — information on your computer you don't put there," Troppmann said at the Oct. 12 hearing in Ritzville. "There are hundreds of people's identities at stake here some of them are local."

Lynch: Believes 'Peace-Creating Experts' aid in obtaining world peace

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introduced him to the technique.

Lynch said in an interview with the Emerald that he has never tried another form of meditation, and while other meditation techniques focus on contemplation and concentration, transcendental meditation allows the person to experience a wholeness because it goes beyond the surface.

Oregon has six transcendental meditation training centers throughout the state, in Seaside, Salem, Lake Oswego, McMinnville and two in Portland. Training for the technique is a \$2,500 four-day course.

Lynch is founder of the David Lynch Foundation, a non-profit organization dedicated to consciousness-based education and world

peace and one that strives to provide students with the opportunity to learn the meditation technique.

Lynch said things get better when people know themselves and the calmness of life.

The meditation technique was started by Maharishi Mahesh Yogi in 1958 and was a household name by the 1970s. The technique claims to be neither a religion nor a philosophy, which allows it to be learned and practiced by people from all walks of life without conflicting with personal beliefs, according to the official transcendental meditation Web site.

Peg Rees, associate director of the University's Physical Activities and Recreational Services (PARS), said the great benefits of meditation

are indisputable, but that PARS could no longer offer meditation classes specifically.

The University stopped teaching meditation classes after spring term 2005.

"Every yoga class we offer has some meditation," Rees said, adding that it's a valuable discipline. "We just couldn't justify offering it as a stand-alone course."

Rees said there is no physical balance, movement or strengths involved to evaluate a student's progress in meditation.

PARS is offering a Yoga/Meditation class next term at the Student Recreation Center that will be firmly rooted in meditation practices.

Jude Kehoe, a licensed practical

nurse and certified healing touch practitioner, teaches a six-week meditation class at the University Health Center that is free to staff and students.

"I'm teaching a lot of different techniques," Kehoe said. "All are oriented towards clearing the mind and focusing your mind on breathing."

Lynch cited Maharishi's prediction that with a large enough group of transcendental meditation program-trained "Peace-Creating Experts," world peace can be achieved.

Harmony will spread through a population if a number of people equal to the square root of 1 percent of the population practices transcendental meditation, Lynch said.

Applying that equation to the world, 8,000 "Peace-Creating

Experts" are needed to bring coherence and peace to the whole world, Lynch said.

According to the TM Program Web site, more than 600 studies have been conducted on the TM technique showing that Maharishi's program is "by far the most effective remedy for the ills of modern life."

"We need money — a wealthy well-wisher who says, 'I'm going to back this thing'," Lynch said. If \$1 billion were put into a savings account, the interest alone would sustain consciousness-based education, Lynch said.

Contact the people, culture,
faith reporter at

bmcclenahan@dailyemerald.com

Public Presentations

by candidates for Sr. Vice President and Provost

All candidates will speak on

**"Challenges and Opportunities
for American Research Universities
During the Next Decade"**

Question and Answer period following presentation.

Thursday, November 10

4:00 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. — Browsing Room

Second candidate: Linda P. Brady, Dean and Professor of Political Science
College of Humanities and Social Sciences, North Carolina State University

5:15 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. — Gerlinger Lounge

Informal interaction

Monday, November 21

4:00 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. — Gerlinger Lounge

Third candidate: Name to be released one week prior to presentation

Faculty are invited to an Academic Forum with the candidates in the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art lecture room.

Friday, November 11 — 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. — Linda P. Brady

Tuesday, November 22 — 3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. — Candidate 3

Accommodations for people with disabilities will be provided if requested in advance.

Please call (541) 346-3039.

Don't Talk With Strangers

By C. Wilsey

It's a warning we've heard since childhood: strangers are dangerous. But now that you're in college and seeking the perfect internship or career-track position, the rules have changed. You need to talk with strangers—and a lot of them—to find a job.

The Career Fair is designed to help you do just that. It's a great place to connect with

people about your dreams, goals and professional future. This year, the UO Career Center has gathered representatives from more than 70 companies and organizations for the November 10 event.

But you don't want to go in unprepared. This afternoon's Career Success Seminar, "How to Make the Career Fair Work for You," can help you prepare for conversations with these potential employers. The 90-minute workshop begins at 4:00 p.m. today in the EMU Alsea Room. Research strategies, appropriate dress,

what to bring, one-minute introductions, and important questions to ask employers will be covered. You will also learn about techniques such as: the walkabout; lineage mileage; the key to the treasure room; lasting impressions; and the critical last step. Knowing the format of the Fair ahead of time will ease any anxiety you might have about entering a room filled with dozens of companies for which you might want to work.

Preparation, planning and practice are the keys to making the Career Fair work for you. Your only "job" at the Career Fair is to explore potential career paths, meet company representatives, and learn how your collegiate experience might contribute to the goals and missions of the organizations present. You can make that process easier by attending today's workshop and learning techniques that will help you talk more easily with company representatives.

Career Success Seminars

**How to Make the Career Fair Work for You
TODAY, November 8
4:00-5:30 p.m. in the EMU Alsea Room**