

Schnitzer tells court he wanted to be a sole parent

Former girlfriend seeks role in child's life

By AIMEE GREEN
The Oregonian

Jordan Schnitzer was adamant that he never intended to let his former girlfriend be a part of his 5-month-old son's life, unless they were still romantically involved.

Schnitzer — the prominent Portland developer who is fighting to keep his ex from seeing the son they created through in vitro fertilization — told a Multnomah County Circuit judge that he wanted to be the sole parent of his first and only son, who was born through a surrogate.

"I've gone through a contentious divorce," Schnitzer said during about an hour of testimony Wednesday. "... The whole point of doing this is so I could have my son."

Schnitzer's account followed the testimony of his former girlfriend, Cory Noel Sause, 37, testified that she and Schnitzer, 65, had agreed that he would have full custody of the boy, but that she would be known as the child's mother and be a part of his life.

In a battle that has pitted two of Oregon's most influ-

ential and wealthiest families, Sause is asking a judge to undo a December ruling that declared Schnitzer the "sole and exclusive parent" of the boy.

Schnitzer asked a judge for the designation a day after the boy's birth without mentioning Sause by name. He said the child was created by his "sperm and donor eggs, which were the exclusive property of the petitioner (Schnitzer)." Sause found out that Judge Beth Allen had designated Schnitzer as the exclusive parent roughly a month later. She filed papers in March seeking to reverse that decision.

'No strings attached'

While they were dating, Schnitzer said, Sause offered him her eggs with "no strings attached" — as she wrote in a text. He recounted that she told him she "took a life" and wanted to help "create a life."

In 2004, Sause killed 21-year-old Patrick Kibler and seriously injured his 14-year-old brother while she was driving drunk in Lake Oswego. Sause — who was a law student at Lewis & Clark College at the time — served three years and three months in prison.

Sause disputed Schnitzer's characterization of her reasons. She testified that she



Submitted Photo
Cory Sause wants to be legally recognized as the mother of Jordan Schnitzer's son.

could see how much Schnitzer — the father of two grown daughters — wanted a male heir, and she thought donating her egg would mean the boy would have a mother and another extended family in his life. Sause said the boy wouldn't get that if Schnitzer went through with his plans to use an anonymous donor.

Schnitzer said he instructed his lawyer, Jeff Nudelman, to draw up a document outlining the terms of Sause's egg donation. Nudelman did and emailed the contract for Sause to sign, which she said she dropped off with Schnitzer's receptionist in June 2014. Sause said she assumed Schnitzer signed that copy.

The contract states that Schnitzer has "full jurisdiction custodial rights over the future deposition of male embryos" and that he would "relinquish any claim to or jurisdiction over any female embryos" that might be created. In other words, Schnitzer wanted a son and Sause would have rights to any female offspring.

The contract also states that Sause would be able to meet any son born and, if it was determined to be in the best interests of the child, "may have in (sic) active role in the life of the child." The reverse would be true for Schnitzer if a daughter were born, the contract says.

Sause has pointed to this contract to show that she was always supposed to be a part of the boy's life.

Never signed contract

But Schnitzer said he never signed the contract and that he told Sause so. He said he had lots of problems with it. For one, the contract calls for the pair to go to a mediator to settle any disputes that might arise. Schnitzer said he never would have agreed to that.

"Disputes? I'm going to get in a situation with my son where I've got to go to mediation... No way," Schnitzer said.

Schnitzer said instead of having his lawyer revise the

contract so that it was to his liking, he relied on egg donor consent forms from Oregon Health & Science University that Sause signed, relinquishing her rights to the eggs.

"My assumption was they were good enough for OHSU," Schnitzer said of the forms.

Both Schnitzer and Sause are Lewis & Clark Law School graduates.

Much of Wednesday's hearing relied on some of the thousands of texts Schnitzer and Sause sent each other over two years. Schnitzer's attorneys pointed to texts supporting his side — that as Sause wrote in a text: "It was always my intent and wish to give you the gift of life, a son, with no strings attached..."

Upon suggesting that the boy move in with her sister, Caitlin Sause, and not herself immediately after the birth, Sause texted "Caitlin's got that breeder instinct."

But Sause's attorney also questioned Schnitzer about text messages he sent her. In one text, Schnitzer updated Sause on the surrogate's pregnancy, writing: "Everything is fine with your baby."

Schnitzer also sent Sause's mother a recording of the fetus' heartbeat, stating "This is your grandson."

Sause's attorney asked Schnitzer to explain why he'd

refer to his future son as the grandson of Sause's parents.

Schnitzer responded: "I've always made it clear to them the only way they would be grandparents (was) if Cory and I were together."

Bad relations

Neither Sause nor her parents have seen the boy since shortly after he was born. Schnitzer referenced bad relations that have surfaced "after they started screaming (at) me and threatening me with these lawsuits."

Sause's lawyer asked Schnitzer if he threatened to sue Sause's family after they included the boy's name among a list of surviving relatives in the March obituary of Sause's grandfather.

Schnitzer said his attorney sent the family a letter "asking them to retract" the boy's inclusion on the list. Upon further questioning, Schnitzer agreed that the letter did threaten a lawsuit over the issue for severe emotional distress.

Judge Katherine Tennyson, who is presiding over the case, hasn't made a ruling. The hearing is scheduled to continue for at least another day in July.

Schnitzer is a major benefactor of the arts and has led the campaign to preserve the Astoria Column.

CERT 'Train the trainer' course offered

The Daily Astorian

Clatsop County Emergency Management is offering a Community Emergency Response Team "Train the trainer" course to prepare residents to assist in emergency response activities.

The three-day training course is scheduled for 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday through Sunday at the Holiday Inn Express in Astoria.

The course is intended to provide the knowledge and skills necessary to organize, train and implement a CERT program, according to the county.

Graduates of the course will be qualified to teach the basic CERT course developed by Federal Emergency Management Agency Citizen Corps.

The course covers all of the topics in the basic CERT course and teaches participants how to teach these topics to other residents. It includes hands-on activities dealing with fire extinguishers, cribbing, first aid and basic search and rescue.

Participants will also learn how to set up and conduct the final exercise where students demonstrate proficiency in all course topics.

Registration is required, as well as prerequisite training and CERT team referral.

For more information con-

tact Clatsop County Emergency Management at 503-325-8645 or clatsopemd@co.clatsop.or.us.

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TV LISTINGS

THE DAILY ASTORIAN Evening listings TUESDAY

TUESDAY EVENING												JUNE 21	
A	L	6 PM	6:30	7 PM	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30	11 PM	11:30
2	KATU	(2) KATU News at 6		Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	The Middle	Black-ish	Uncle Buck (N)	Uncle Buck (N)	To Tell the Truth "Mike Tyson" (N)		KATU News at 11	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel
3	KOMO	(4) KOMO 4 News		Jeopardy!	Wheel of Fortune	The Middle	Black-ish	Uncle Buck (N)	Uncle Buck (N)	To Tell the Truth "Mike Tyson" (N)		KOMO 4 News	(:35) Jimmy Kimmel
4	KING	(5) NBC Nightly News	KING 5 News	KING 5 News	Evening	America-Talent "Auditions" Variety acts of all types audition to win \$1 million. (N)		Maya and Marty (N)		Maya and Marty (N)		KING 5 News	(:35) Tonight Show
5	KOIN	(6) KOIN 6 News at 6	CBS Evening News	Extra	Ent. Tonight	NCIS "Viral"		NCIS: New O. "Insane in the Membrane"		Person of Interest "return O" (F) (N)		KOIN 6 News @ 11	(:35) S. Colbert
6	KIRO	(7) KIRO 7 News	CBS Evening News	The Insider	Ent. Tonight	NCIS "Viral"		NCIS: New O. "Insane in the Membrane"		Person of Interest "return O" (F) (N)		KIRO News	(:35) S. Colbert
7	KGW	(8) KGW News at 6:00 p.m.		Live at Seven	Inside Edition	America-Talent "Auditions" Variety acts of all types audition to win \$1 million. (N)		Maya and Marty (N)		Maya and Marty (N)		KGW News at 11	(:35) Tonight Show
8	KRCW	(3) Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Modern Family	Modern Family	The Flash "The Fury of Firestorm"	Containment (N)	KGW News at 10	(:35) Two 1/2 Men	(:05) Two 1/2 Men	(:35) King of Hill		
9	KOPB	(10) Ask-Old House	Business (N)	PBS NewsHour		Genealogy Roadshow "Providence" (N)	The Greeks "Cavemen to Kings" (P) (N)	Frontline "Being Mortal"		BigJoy:JamesBrought.			
10	KPTV	(12) 6 O'Clock News		Family Feud	Family Feud	Hotel Hell "Lakeview Hotel" (N)	Coupled "Chain Reaction" (N)	10 O'Clock News		11 O'Clock News	Loves Ray		
11	KPDx	(6) Mike & Molly	Mike & Molly	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	FOX 12's 8 O'Clock News on PDX-TV	FOX 12's 9 O'Clock News on PDX-TV	The Walking Dead "Consumed"		The Walking Dead "Consumed"	"Crossed"		
12	KCPQ	(13) Name Game	Modern Family	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Hotel Hell "Lakeview Hotel" (N)	Coupled "Chain Reaction" (N)	Q13 News at 10		Q13 News at 10	Modern Family		
13	KIRO	(20) Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Family Guy	Family Guy	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Wrecked (N)	Big Bang Theory	Conan (N)	
14	KZJO	(22) Two and a Half	Two and a Half	The Simpsons	The Simpsons	Modern Family	Modern Family	Q13 News at 9		Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Friends	Friends
15	ESPN	(29) NCAA Baseball Division I Tournament Site: TD Ameritrade Park -- Omaha, Neb. (L)						SportsCenter		SportsCenter		SportsCenter	
16	ESPN2	(30) (5:00) WNBA Basketball Pho./Dal. (L)		30 for 30 Shorts	Jalen & Jacoby (N)	SportsCenter		ESPN FC	Jalen & Jacoby	Jalen & Jacoby	ESPN FC	UEFA Soccer Euro 2016 Spain vs. Croatia	
17	NICK	(31) SanjayCraig (N)	Henry Danger	The Thundermans	The Thundermans	NickyRickyDicky	School of Rock	Full House	Full House	Full House	Full House	Friends	Friends
18	DISN	(32) An American Girl: Grace Stirs Up Success (2015, Children)				K.C.Underc.	(:45) Stuck Middle	(:10) Girl Meets W.	(:35) Walk Prank	Liv and Maddie	Stuck in Middle	K.C. Undercover	Girl Meets World
19	FAM	(34) Pretty Little Liars "Did You Miss Me?"	"Pretty Little Liars "Hush ... Hush, Sweet Liars"	"Pretty Liar "Tick Tock, B*tches" (SP) (N)		"Guilt "Pilot"		Guilt "AmericanPsycho"		Guilt "#AmericanPsycho"		The 700 Club	
20	FMC	(35) Movie	(:40) FXM Presents	*** The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2 (12) Robert Pattinson.		(:10) FXM Presents	*** The Road (2009, Adventure) Guy Pearce, Viggo Mortensen, Robert Duvall.	(:45) FXM Presents					
21	LIFE	(36) Celeb Wife "Tracey Gold/ Camie Wilson"	Celeb Wife "Jenna von Oy/ Jill Zarin"	Celeb Wife "Robin Leach/ Eric Roberts"		Celebrity Wife Swap		Celebrity Wife Swap		Celebrity Wife Swap		Celeb Wife "Flavor Flav/ Dee Snider"	
22	ROOT	(38) (4:00) MLB Baseball Seattle vs Detroit (L)	Post-game	MLB Baseball Seattle	Mariners at Detroit Tigers Site: Comerica Park -- Detroit, Mich.			Post-game		Insider (N)	UFC Unleashed (N)		
23	FS1	(39) Soccer Copa America Centenario (L)				Copa Post-game	Fox Sports Live	TMZ Sports (N)	Best I Heard (N)	Fox Sports Live	TMZ Sports	Speak for Yourself	
24	SPIKE	(43) (5:00) *** National Treasure (04, Adv)	Diane Kruger, Justin Bartha, Nicolas Cage.	*** National Treasure: Book of Secrets (2007, Adventure) Jon Voight, Ed Harris, Nicolas Cage.				Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Sherlock Holmes Robert Downey Jr.	
25	COM	(44) Futurama	Futurama	Futurama		Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Tosh.0	Nikki Glaser (N)	Nightly Show (N)		
26	HIST	(45) Counting Cars	Counting Cars	Counting Cars	Counting Cars	Counting Cars	Counting Cars	Top Gear "City Saviors" (N)		(:05) CountCars 1/2	(:35) CountCars 2/2	(:05) Hunters (N)	(:35) Hunters (N)
27	A&E	(46) *** Walking Tall (04) Johnny Knoxville, Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson.		*** Saving Private Ryan (1998, War)		Matt Damon, Edward Burns, Tom Hanks.							
28	TLC	(47) My Giant Life "Big Girl in a Tiny Chair"	Little People, Big World	L.P. "Marriage Do's and Don'ts" (N)		Little Peo. "Little People, Big Goals" (N)		My Giant Life "Tall Freak" (N)		Little People "Little People, Big Goals"			
29	DISC	(48) Deadliest Catch "Raw Deal"	Deadliest Catch "Settling the Score"	Deadliest Catch "Trials by Fire" (N)		Deadliest Catch "Fire at Sea Part 1" (N)		(:05) Dark Woods Justice (N)		(:05) Deadliest Catch "Fire at Sea Part 1"			
30	NBC	(49) Airport Security: Colombia	America's Wild Spaces	America's National Parks		Airport Security: Colombia		Airport Security: Colombia		Airport Security: Colombia			
31	TNT	(50) (5:00) Limitless (11) Bradley Cooper.	*** Olympus Has Fallen (13) Morgan Freeman, Aaron Eckhart, Gerard Butler.	Animal "Stay Close, Stick Together"		Animal "Stay Close, Stick Together"		Rizzoli & Isles "Post Mortem"		Feed the Beast			
32	AMC	(51) *** Happy Gilmore (96, Com) Christopher McDonald, Julie Bowen, Adam Sandler.	*** Mr. Deeds (2002, Comedy) Winona Ryder, Peter Gallagher, Adam Sandler.	*** Fast Five (2011, Action) Paul Walker, Dwayne Johnson, Vin Diesel.		Chopped "Pancake Pop Power" (N)		Chopped "Chopped Desserts!"		Chopped "Leap Of Faith" (N)		The Fast and the Furious Vin Diesel.	
33	FOOD	(52) Chopped "Teen Tournament: Part Four"	Chopped	Chopped "School Spirit Spurs Home Search"		House Hunters (N)	House Hunters	Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		Chopped "Haricot Flair"	
34	HGTV	(53) Fixer Upper	Fixer Upper	Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper		Fixer Upper	
35	FX	(56) (4:00) *** The Wolf of Wall Street (13) Jonah Hill, Leonardo DiCaprio.		*** 2012 (2009, Action) Amanda Peet, Thandie Newton, John Cusack.								Runner Runner	
36	CNN	(57) Why They Hate Us	CNN Tonight With Don Lemon	Why They Hate Us		CNN Newsroom		CNN Newsroom		CNN Newsroom		CNN Newsroom	
37	FNC	(58) The Kelly File With Megyn Kelly	Hannity	The O'Reilly Factor		The Kelly File With Megyn Kelly		Hannity		On the Record			
38	CNBC	(61) Shark Tank	West "The Magnificent Six-Pack" (N)	Shark Tank		Shark Tank		West Texas "The Magnificent Six-Pack"		Paid Program	Paid Program		
39	BRAV	(63) Below "My Big Fat Greek Threesome"	Below Deck "Entrée-Vous"	The Real Housewives		Below Deck "Charter King" (N)		Below Deck "Charter King"		WatchWhat (N)	Southern Charm		
40	TCM	(64) Movie	*** You Were Never Lovelier (42) Fred Astaire.	(:15) *** Lifeboat (44, Susp) William Bendix, Walter Slezak, Tallulah Bankhead.		*** Marriage is a Private Affair (44) John Hodiak, James Craig, Lana Turner.							
41	SYFY	(65) (5:30) Piranha 3DD Danielle Panabaker.	Tremors 5: Bloodlines (15, Action) Jamie Kennedy, Ernest Ndhlovu, Michael Gross.	*** The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe (05) Liam Neeson, Tilda Swinton, Georgie Henley.									
42	RFD	(62) (5:30) Cattlemen	American Harvest	Horse. "Rescue Horse Rehabilitation"	Chris Cox	Rural Eve. News	Ag PhD	Cattlemen to Cattlemen		American Harvest		Product Showcase	

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