

RELIGION

Mosque Loudspeaker Issue on Ballot

(AP) — A noise-ordinance change that would allow mosques to broadcast calls to prayer on loudspeakers will be put to a vote in a Michigan town after opponents gathered hundreds of petition signatures.

The more than 630 signatures submitted to the Hamtramck City Clerk's office were enough to force the City Council to rescind the amended ordinance or put it to a vote.

"We decided not to rescind the amendment, so it goes to the ballot," council president Karen Majewski said Tuesday night.

The council had voted unanimously last month to allow the Bangladeshi Al-Islah Mosque to broadcast the call to prayer five times a day.

The issue has divided this blue-collar city of 23,000, which once was overwhelmingly Polish and Roman Catholic but now has a sizable Muslim population.

It was not immediately known when the vote would be held in this enclave surrounded by the city of Detroit, but it is likely to be in the next few months.

In the meantime, Majewski said, the mosque can go ahead with its calls to prayer.

Young Mother New American Idol

Fantasia wins with Gospel-tinged performances

(AP) — An estimated 31.4 million people tuned in to watch Fantasia Barrino's tearstained victory at the conclusion of "American Idol." That was down slightly from the 33.7 million who watched Ruben Studdard beat Clay Aiken at the end of last season.

Barrino, who wowed viewers with her rich, gospel-tinged performance of pop tunes, including the Gershwin standard "Summertime," Wednesday for her 2-year-old daughter, Zion.

"I fought so that my child can have the best," said the

19-year-old single mother from High Point, N.C., who had a 1.3 million-vote edge over Diana DeGarmo when the results were announced.

Speaking to reporters backstage, Barrino said she "always had a dream, always wanted to sing, and it seemed I couldn't get my foot in the door."

She kicked it down in the



Fantasia Barrino reacts after she was announced the winner of 'American Idol' during the live finale in Los Angeles. (AP photo)

way she looks, to the way she sounds, to her personality. ... She's just got it."

DeGarmo, a bubbly 16-year-old from Snellville, Ga., vowed the contest wasn't necessarily over.

"I'm definitely recording an album," DeGarmo said backstage, adding with a smile: "And Fantasia, you better watch out because I'm coming with one."

Asked about those who might be critical of her single parenthood, Barrino replied: "I feel like a good mom. I'm a strong woman now. ... Don't look down on me. Pray for me because I'm trying."

The "American Idol" finale may seem like the Super Bowl of karaoke, but this year it truly reached the level of momentous sporting event proportions. Thousands gathered at the Greensboro Coliseum in Greensboro, N.C., to cheer for Barrino and at the Georgia Dome in Atlanta to support DeGarmo.

Everything, from her name, to the way she looks, to the way she sounds, to her personality...She's just got it.

- American Idol Judge Paula Abdul on talent contest winner Fantasia Barrino

four-month Fox TV talent contest, emerging from among 70,000 contestants to claim the title, a record contract and a shot at music stardom.

America got it "100 percent right," said Simon Cowell, the usually acerbic "American Idol" judge and music pro-

ducer who was among those who fell under Barrino's spell.

"There aren't many other artists in America right now that I'd prefer to have on my

label," Cowell said after the ceremony.

Judge Paula Abdul praised Barrino for having "everything, from her name, to the

Obituaries

Foster Parent Dies

Mae Fern Haynes

A funeral was held Thursday, May 27 in Vancouver Avenue First Baptist Church for Mae Fern Haynes, who died May 21 at age 73.

Mae Fern Warren was born July 27, 1930, in Linden, Texas. She moved to Portland in 1957 and was co-owner of Pink Pelican Record Shop and a foster mother for more than 100 children, many through Oregon Adult and Family Services. In 1989, she married Nathaniel.

Survivors include her husband; stepson, Nathaniel Jr.; brothers, Sylvain Warren and William Warren; one grandchild; and one great-grandchild. Her son Darzell Mack died in 1970.

Arrangements by Caldwell's Colonial Chapel.

Services for Former Jeff Student

Morzetta R. "Morzie" Baker

A funeral service was held Saturday, May 29, in Killingsworth Little Chapel of the Chimes for Morzetta R. "Morzie" Baker, who died of kidney disease May 22 at age 25.

Ms. Baker was born May 21, 1979, in Portland, where she lived all of her life. She attended Jefferson High School.

Survivors include her mother, Brenda Thompson; father, Melvin Baker; brother, Larry Summerfield; grandmother, Myrtle Kelsaw; and great-grandmother, Christine Culp.

Remembrances to the National Kidney Foundation.

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