

FOCUS



Motherhood Art Featured at Milagros

Milagros, a boutique for babies and their mothers, will present a showing of pictures by Katie M. Berggren from July 28 through Sept. 24.

Berggren's work is described as fresh, whimsical and touching. Her delicate and detailed ink drawings are richly tinted with colored pencil and personality.

An opening art reception will be held on Thursday, July 28 from 5 to 8 p.m. Complimentary refreshments will be served and a giveaway is set to take place.

Milagros is located at 5429 NE 30th Street. For more information, visit milagrosboutique.com or call 503-493-4141.

Jackson's Property Must Be Returned

(AP) - The judge who presided over Michael Jackson's child molestation case ordered prosecutors Thursday to return to the entertainer hundreds of items seized by investigators.

The items, including computers, books and adult magazines, were gathered as evidence by authorities looking into allegations that Jackson molested a 13-year-old boy two years ago. Jackson, who was acquitted last month, was not in court.

"Anything you have seized that was not brought to court and was not contraband, should be returned to Mr. Jackson," Superior Court Judge Rodney Melville told Santa Barbara County District Attorney Tom Sneddon.



Michael Jackson and his father, Joe Jackson, center, leave the Santa Barbara County Superior courthouse with a security man on March 8 in Santa Maria, Calif. (AP Photo)

Items introduced in court as evidence also will be returned to Jackson after news media representatives have been given time to review them, Melville said. But the judge wouldn't allow reporters to see videotapes featuring Jackson or his accuser.

"Those have privacy issues and copyright issues," Melville said.

Jackson's attorneys have petitioned for the return of all items taken from the entertainer.

Sneddon argued against returning some items he labeled "contraband." He said those included syringes, the drug Demerol and prescriptions for various drugs, mainly antibiotics, that were in different people's names.

Studio to Produce Film on Notorious B.I.G.

(AP) - Fox Searchlight says it has secured the rights to a film about slain rapper Notorious B.I.G. that is to be produced by the artist's mother and his former managers.

The studio is in negotiations with Antoine Fuqua ("Training Day") to direct the biopic. Cheo Hodari Coker, who wrote the biography "Unbelievable: The Life, Death, and Afterlife of the Notorious B.I.G.," has been tapped to write the script, Fox Searchlight announced Tuesday.

The studio's president, Peter Rice, called B.I.G.'s life "a unique human story."

The rapper, whose real name was Christopher Wallace, was also known to fans as Biggie Smalls. He was gunned down March 9, 1997, after a music-industry party in Los Angeles. The case remains unsolved.

His mother, Voletta, said in a statement that while several documentaries have been made "about Biggie the rapper ... nobody knows Christopher the human being."

"He was somebody with feelings, somebody with a heart. Christopher was a son, a father and a good friend. It's time for people to



Notorious B.I.G.

know the real him," his mother said. B.I.G.'s former managers Wayne Barrow and Mark Pitts will produce the movie.

"Searchlight gave us the opportunity to really be able to come in

and tell the story the way it was supposed to be told," Barrow said. "It's not just a hip-hop film, it's a film of life and a film of love."

While plans for the movie are moving along, a Hollywood ending has yet to be reached in the legal case surrounding Wallace's death.

Earlier this month, a federal judge declared a mistrial in the wrongful death lawsuit that his family filed against the city of Los Angeles. The family alleges police officials covered up officers' involvement in the murder.

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