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# Football Star Marries, Prays to End Prejudice

## Received threats before interracial ceremony

(AP) -- Before Boise State running back Ian Johnson married the girl he proposed to on national television, the couple prayed to end prejudice. Johnson and Chrissy Popadics, the cheerleader he proposed to after scoring the winning points in the Fiesta Bowl against Oklahoma, were married Saturday in a traditional ceremony at Cathedral of the Rockies First United Methodist Church in Boise, Idaho. Johnson, who is black, has said he received phone calls and about 30 letters, including personal threats from people who objected to his plans to marry his white fiancée. Johnson has not described the threats, and it is unclear where they came from.



Boise State running back Ian Johnson and cheerleading captain Chrissy Johnson look at their rings after getting into a limousine following their wedding Saturday

The ceremony began with the prayer and ended with the couple jumping over a broom—an African tradition signifying the couple jumping into a new life together. As they drove away in a stretch limousine, Johnson kissed his new wife and said, "Let's play ball," the Idaho Statesman reported. Johnson ran for a 2-point conversion on a "Statue of Liberty" to give the underdog Broncos a 43-42 overtime win over Oklahoma on Jan. 1 in Glendale, Ariz. Boise State finished the season 13-0 and No. 5 in the AP Top 25.

# Urban League Agenda Endorsed

(AP) -- The leading Democratic presidential contenders on Friday endorsed a National Urban League agenda that calls for mandatory early childhood education and universal health care for children. Hillary Rodham Clinton, Barack Obama and John Edwards each promised support for the Urban League's plan, which favors extending childhood education programs to children as young as age 3 and guaranteeing access for all to attend college. Clinton focused on the plight of young black males, and pledged to spend \$100 million over five years to match students with internship opportunities at businesses.



Obama proposed to expand nationally a program similar to one in Harlem, N.Y., that offers childcare, after-school programs, free medical care and guidance counseling to children and their parents. Edwards also backed the early-childhood education program. Democratic presidential hopeful Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-N.Y., speaks during the National Urban League conference in St. Louis. (AP photo)

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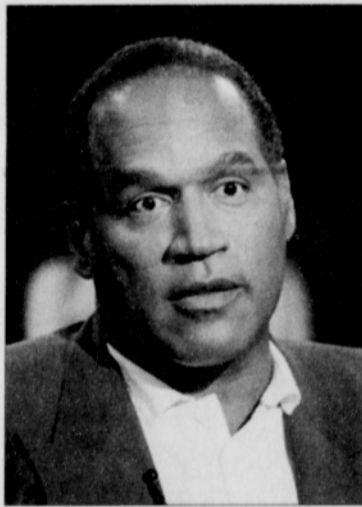
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# Goldmans Win Simpson Book Rights

## From Simpson's 'If I Did It'

(AP) -- A federal bankruptcy judge Monday awarded the rights of O.J. Simpson's canceled "If I Did It" book to the family of the late Ronald Goldman to satisfy a \$38 million wrongful death judgment against the former football star. The judge's decision pushed aside complaints from the family of Simpson's ex-wife, Nicole Brown Simpson, who was slain



O. J. Simpson

along with her friend Goldman in a 1994 knife attack. Lawyers for the Brown family had sought a greater share of possible profits from the book. Simpson, who now lives near Miami, was acquitted of murder in 1995 but lost lawsuits to both families. Fred Goldman, Ronald Goldman's father, choked back tears outside the courtroom and said he intends to release the book as a measure of justice to portray Simpson as "a wife-beater, as a murderer, written in his own words." "After 13 years of trying to get some justice, today is probably the first time we had any sense of seeing light at the end of the tunnel," said Goldman, who attended the hearing with his daughter, Kim. "It's gratifying to see." Simpson has maintained his innocence and insisted that most of the "If I Did It" manuscript was penned by a ghostwriter without his involvement. He was paid about \$630,000 even though the book was canceled last year amid public outcry.

# Ban on Permanent Bases in Iraq Passes

By a vote of 399-24, the House passed legislation last week introduced by Congresswoman Barbara Lee, an African American lawmaker from Oakland, Calif., to prevent permanent military bases in Iraq and bar U.S. control over Iraqi oil resources. Lee's bill declares that it is the policy of the United States not to establish any military installation or base for the purpose of providing for the permanent stationing of United States Armed Forces in Iraq and not to exercise United States control of the oil resources of Iraq and prohibits the use of funds for these purposes. "What this legislation does is simple. It does what the Iraq Study Group and other experts have recommended that we do. It makes a clear statement of policy that the U.S. does not intend to maintain an open ended



U.S. Rep. Barbara Lee, D-Calif.

military presence in Iraq and that we won't exercise control over Iraqi oil, and it backs that policy up with the power of the purse," Lee said.

# AME Zion Anniversary

The members of Community A.M.E. Zion Church, 3605 E. 13th Street, Vancouver, are inviting the community to join them for their 32nd church anniversary. The celebration "32 Years of Grace and Mercy"—Nehemiah 9:31, will take place at 7 p.m. each night from Wednesday, Aug. 22 through Friday, Aug. 24 and then on Sunday, Aug. 26 at 4 p.m.

Guest Speakers are evangelist Maggie Weaver of Lifeline Christian Church; Rev. Dr. Johnnie Pack of Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church; Rev. Clyde Lewis of Church Without Walls and Rev. Dr. James Faulkner of St. Paul Missionary Baptize Church in Seattle. For more information, phone 360-693-4566.

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