

Screams Lead to Children in River

Mother accused in drowning

(AP)—An Oregon mother was arrested Saturday in the drowning of her 4-year-old son after the boy and his 7-year-old sister ended up in the chilly Willamette River.

Residents saw the mother's car parked on the Sellwood Bridge near Portland and heard screams coming from the area. They called authorities and some jumped into boats to help search in the early morning darkness. After about an hour, a couple found the children downstream.

The boy, Eldon Jay Rebhan Smith, could not be revived; the girl was in a hospital and expected to survive.

"She's doing well," said Detective Sgt. Rich Austria of the Portland Police Bureau. "She has the will to live."

Austria said it was not immediately clear whether the children were pushed or fell into the river. They have not yet questioned the girl.

Police said the mother, Amanda Jo Stott-Smith, was taken into custody at a downtown parking garage several hours after her children were found. Stott-Smith, 31, threatened to jump off the garage's ninth floor before she was arrested, Austria said.

Stott-Smith faces aggravated



Amanda Jo Stott-Smith

murder and attempted aggravated murder charges, Austria said.

A police spokesman said he did not know if Stott-Smith had an attorney.

Stott-Smith's blue 1991 Audi was seen parked on the Sellwood Bridge before residents heard the children's screams.

"Had they not been awake at one in the morning," Austria said, "we would be investigating a case here with no children."

When police arrived, officers also heard screams on the river but couldn't find the children because it was dark, said Officer Greg Pashley, a Portland Police Bureau spokesman.

"As you look down into the darkness it's hard to see anything," Pashley said. "I can't imagine what it must be like to be a child in this cold river."



A photo of Jefferson High School from the year it opened in 1909 as the "World's Largest High School."

Jefferson Celebrates 100 Years

This year Jefferson High School turns 100 years old, which may be hard to believe because it doesn't look a day over 40.

To celebrate the anniversary of the school that was called "The World's Largest High School" when it first opened its doors, students, staff, alumni and friends will hold a three-day long reunion this week.

The events begin Thursday, May 28 with a golf tour-



Edward J. Perkins

namment at Riverside Golf and Country club, starting at 1 p.m. The \$150 registration fee covers golf, car, and dinner.

On Friday, May 29, Jefferson alum and former UN Ambassador Edward J. Perkins (class of 1947) will address the student body during the day and a dinner auction later that evening.

Perkins, who has been added to 100 Year Honor Roll of Outstanding Demos, has served in the Army and Marine Corps, and has had a long career in the

Department of State. He served as ambassador to various African nations, Australia, and the UN at various times between 1986 to 1996.

On Saturday, May 30, an all day reunion event will take place at the landmark school beginning at 11:30 a.m. It will feature performances by the Jefferson Dancers, the Alumni and Student Band, a bazaar, and a talent showcase.

For more information, go to jeffersoncentennial.com.

Simpson Appeals Robbery Conviction

O.J. Simpson has appealed to the Nevada Supreme Court to overturn his convictions for armed robbery and kidnapping during a Las Vegas hotel room confrontation with two sports memorabilia dealers.

The appeal arrived Tuesday at the Supreme Court in Carson City.

The former football star, actor and advertising pitchman asks the high court to throw out his conviction on grounds that include judicial misconduct, insufficient evidence, a lack of racial diversity on the jury and errors in

sentencing and jury instructions.

The document criticizes the trial judge, Clark County District Court Judge Jackie Glass, and accuses prosecutors of improperly asking questions about allegations of witness intimidation in front of the jury.

"Cumulative error... was so egregious and prejudicial that the defense could not get a fair trial," Simpson attorneys Yale Galanter and Malcolm LaVergne wrote in seeking the reversal.



O. J. Simpson

Lies Cited in Intent to Sue City

Mayor's former spokesman claims damaged reputation

(AP) -- Wade Nkrumah says he could take the stress, but not the lies.

The former spokesman for Portland Mayor Sam Adams filed notice that he intends to sue his former boss and the city, claiming Adams damaged his reputation by telling a television reporter that Nkrumah quit because of the heightened stress that resulted from the mayor's sex scandal.

The tort claim states that Nkrumah "made it clear to Adams that 'stress' was not an issue." Rather, the document says, "it was Adams lying as a public official."

Adams, 45, is under an Oregon Depart-



Wade Nkrumah

ment of Justice investigation after acknowledging he and Beau Breedlove had a sexual relationship and then lied about it when rumors surfaced at the start of the mayor's race. Adams admitted the lie a few weeks after taking office in January.

Adams has said Breedlove had just turned 18 when the two had sex in 2005.

Breedlove said the same, but acknowledged that the two kissed in a City Hall men's room when he was 17.

Nkrumah, who seeks \$162,489 and attorney's fees, resigned Jan. 26, less than a month into his job with Adams. The tort claims states that Adams damaged Nkrumah's business reputation by telling a television reporter that his spokesman quit because the job was "not what he signed up for in terms of stress."

Nkrumah's claim states that he made it clear he was quitting because Adams lied to him twice about the Breedlove relationship. It says the stress comment demeaned Nkrumah's ability to work under pressure.

The mayor's new spokesman, Roy Kaufmann, told The Oregonian that Adams would not comment on the lawsuit.

Obama Picks First Hispanic Supreme Court Judge

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a statement saying he looked forward "to working with both Democrats and Republicans on the Judiciary Committee to confirm Judge Sotomayor as the first Hispanic and the

third woman to sit on the court."

Senate Republicans pledged to give her a fair hearing, and some questioned whether she would base decisions on her personal feelings, rather than constitutional principles. Given her background, any effort to filibuster her nomination could carry political risks, since Hispanics are the fastest-growing segment of the population and an increasingly important one

politically.

Sotomayor would be unlikely to alter the ideological balance of the court, since Souter generally sides with the liberals on key 5-4 rulings. But at 54, she is a generation younger than Souter, and liberal outside groups hope she will provide a counterpoint to some of the sharply worded conservative rulings.

Introducing his choice, Obama said, "Along the way, she's faced down barriers,

overcome the odds and lived out the American dream that brought her parents here so long ago."

The president called on the Senate to confirm Sotomayor before the court begins its new term in October, and noted pointedly that she has already won Senate approval twice in her career. Seven of the Senate's current Republicans voted to confirm her for the appeals court in 1998.

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