

Our grasses



Jacky climbs high in India

World beauties in Mexico



The Island Leisure Land

WHEATON, Ill. (AP): A judge has ordered a 17-year-old to pay a \$750 fine and perform 120 hours of community service for contaminating salad dressing with semen and returning it to a suburban Chicago high school's cafeteria.

DuPage County Judge Terence Sheen also placed Marco Castro on two years probation Wednesday and ordered him to write a letter of apology to Wheaton North High School officials. Castro must complete his community service work for an agency that works with AIDS patients.

Sheen called the prank "beyond stupid." "If you prove to me you're worthy of another chance, in two years, then I will give it to you," Sheen said.

Castro pleaded guilty to misdemeanor disorderly conduct in connection with the Dec. 6 incident. He admitted taking a bottle of ranch salad dressing from the school cafeteria to the bathroom and ejaculating into it, and then returning it to the cafeteria where juniors and seniors eat lunch.

Students reported Castro, and the senior was expelled from Wheaton North. There were no reported cases of illness following the incident.

Castro told police he thought of the prank after watching a movie filled with crude stunts.

"I have no explanation for what I did," Castro said in court. "I felt bad after I did it."

Harry Smith, Castro's attorney, noted that the teen already had been punished, including missing the end of his senior year and humiliating himself and his family.

"It has not been without consequences," Smith said.

Can you identify those panties, ma'am?

FORT COLLINS, Colo. (AP): Police are asking Colorado women a rather delicate question: Are these your panties? As part of an investigation into widespread underwear theft, police have invited women to view photos of about 1,300 undergarments stolen from laundry rooms near Colorado State University.

Chih Hsien Wu, 43, is suspected of stealing \$6,000 worth of undergarments between Sept. 23 and May 18. He was arrested on suspicion of felony theft, and his bail was set Wednesday at \$15,000. It was not known whether he had an attorney.

Police issued the invitation as part of an effort to see how many victims there are.

But they won't get to reclaim their undergarments — at least not yet. Police say that once the case is closed, the victims can reclaim their underwear — if they still want it back.

Alleged robber asks teller to call cops

STEPHENVILLE, Texas (AP): After demanding money, an alleged bank robber apparently had second thoughts because he asked the teller to call police and said he would be waiting outside on the curb, authorities said.

When Philip Stuart Martin, 45, was arrested Wednesday outside First Financial Branch Bank, he had no weapons, was not physically or verbally abusive and appeared sober, said police Capt. Jason King.

Martin apparently had walked to the bank and did not have a car, King said.

Martin was charged with robbery and remained in the Erath County Jail in lieu of \$30,000 bond Thursday.

Police have talked to Martin but are still trying to figure out why he asked the teller to call authorities, King said.



Salad dressing semen spawns trouble



"This was a very unusual, non-typical situation," King said.

King wouldn't say how much money was taken.

Cairo customs prevents snakes on a plane

CAIRO, Egypt (AP): Customs officers at Cairo's airport on Thursday detained a man bound for Saudi Arabia who was trying to smuggle 700 live snakes on a plane, airport authorities said.

The officers were stunned when a passenger, identified as Yahia Rahim Tulba, told them his carryon bag contained live snakes after he was asked to open it.

Tulba opened his bag to show the snakes to the police and asked the officers, who held a safe distance, not to come close. Among the various snakes, hidden in small cloth sacks, were two poisonous cobras, authorities said.

The Egyptian said he had hoped to sell the snakes in Saudi Arabia. Police

confiscated the snakes and turned Tulba over to the prosecutor's office, accusing him of violating export laws and endangering the lives of other passengers.

According to the customs officials, Tulba claimed the snakes are wanted by Saudis who display them in glass jars in shops, keep them as pets or sell them to research centers.

The value of the snakes was not immediately known.

Man gets 5 years for blowing up toilet

BRIDGEPORT, Conn. (AP): A man once called one of the Internet's most notorious pirates of music and movies was sentenced Wednesday to five years in prison for blowing up a portable toilet, prosecutors said.

Bruce Forest, 50, was charged last year with a series of toilet explosions in 2005 and 2006. But under a plea agreement, Forest admitted only to

blowing up one toilet in Weston in February 2006. No one was injured in any of the blasts.

His defense attorney and his wife said the incident was completely out of character for Forest. They said he had been addicted to painkillers initially taken for migraine headaches caused by a severe fall about 10 years ago. A prescribed drug intended to wean him off the painkillers caused psychotic episodes, they said.

Forest was an Internet pirate in the late 1990s, said J.D. Lasica, a San Francisco writer who dubbed Forest "Prince of the Darknet" in his 2005 book "Darknet: Hollywood's War Against the Digital Generation."

His wife also discounted those claims. She said he actually worked with the federal government to tighten safeguards against piracy.

Prosecutors said Forest began a string of bombings in Weston where he blew up portable toilets in 2005 and 2006. He was also charged in explosions at the former Fitch School in Norwalk and at an abandoned gas station in Weston.

Most of the explosions occurred at night in isolated areas, but the last blast in Norwalk occurred during the day in a heavily populated area, authorities said. The explosives involved a mixture of chemicals, police said. Prosecutors said they were detonated by an assault rifle.

Woman gives birth in car for second time

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP): If a pregnant

Stephanie Green asks for a ride to the hospital, beware: She has a history of giving birth in cars. On Tuesday, Green had a baby while en route to a hospital. Doctors had planned to induce labor Thursday, but baby Zaria had other plans.

"I thought I was going to make it this time, but she changed all that very quickly," Green said.

Green's other daughter, 17-month-old Semajai, was born in a car after Mom got stuck in traffic.

Tuesday's first contraction came around 7 a.m., and Green called friend Shanika Lewis for a ride to the hospital. They were on the highway just blocks from a Raleigh hospital about an hour later when the contractions got more intense.

"We saw the exit on Lake Boone Trail and said, 'We are almost there,'" Green said. "But the water broke, and then out came the baby. Yep, we are not going to make it — yet again."

Lewis, who works at a hospital, helped with the delivery until emergency workers arrived.

Man reunited with wallet after 37 years

BLOOMINGTON, Ind. (AP): A man who lost his wallet in 1970 got it back after 37 years with everything still inside. Workers renovating the Musical Arts Building on Indiana University's campus found the wallet sandwiched between two cinder block walls three weeks ago. An IU physical plant employee recognized John Mitchell from some of the pictures inside and contacted Mitchell's son.

"I was in bed asleep, and he said, 'They found your wallet,'" Mitchell said. "Well, that just blew my mind 'cause I didn't remember losing one."

Mitchell, who was employed as a welder during the building's construction, said the wallet must have slipped from his pocket while he was working on some steel beams. The building was completed in 1971.

Among the other items found in the long-lost wallet were Mitchell's driver's license, two credit cards, a Moose membership card and a layaway ticket for a \$6 belt.

"There was a bunch of stuff in there," Mitchell said. "It was just plump, full of trash."



A Lufthansa 747-400 and a United 757-200 are on a simultaneous landing approach on the parallel runways 28L and 28R at SFO. The real runway separation is 225 meters. Due to the telephoto distortion, the Jumbo 747 being three times larger than the 757 and being behind it, gives us this fantastic optical illusion that they are flying inches from each other!!!

Best of our e-mail junk



Why cats don't like to get wet