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Civil rights trial begins

Klansman denies shooting

SOUTH BEND, Ind.

Avowed racist Joseph Paul Franklin concluded testimony in

Final arguments were sche-duled for Tuesday and U.S. Dis-trict Judge Allen Sharp said the case would go to the all-white eight-man, four-woman jury ab-

lot of a Fort Wayne parking motel on May 29, 1980. Prosecu-tors claim he was angered after seeing Jordan in a bar with a black, but I hate the race as a

white woman

Sharp said Monday trying the rranklin concluded testimony in his trial by saying he was not in Fort Wayne, Ind., on the night he allegedly shot civil-rights leader Vernon Jordan. Final arguments was matter as a civil rights case in

In the only day of defense testimony, Franklin denied he had shot Jordan, had bragged about it to fellow jail inmates, or was even in Fort Wayne in 1980.

out noon. Franklin is charged with violating Jordan's civil rights by shooting him in the back in the murdering two black joggers in Utah, reaffirmed his hatred of

whole," Franklin said. "I don't believe in race mixing or anything like that.'

Court-appointed defense attorney J. Frank Kimbrough asked Franklin if he shot Jordan, 44, who was president of the Urban League at the time of the attack.

'No, I did not," Franklin said. He also accused the government of planting two prisoners near him to gain information and said they and another pris-oners lied when they testified last week he had bragged about shooting a "nigger bigwig." He said he did not talk to

Frank Sweeney, an inmate who said he met Franklin at a prison in Springfield, Mo., because "I knew he was a plant.'

"Have you ever said the words, 'I shot Vernon Jordan?"" Kimbrough asked.

I haven't," Franklin said. "If I had, they would have recorded it on a tape recorder.'

His testimony contradicted that of the inmates, and of a motel employee who said she spoke with Franklin in Fort Wayne about the time of the Jordan shooting. Mary Howell said she met a

motel guest, whom months later she recognized from pictures as Franklin, and he voiced a deep hatred of blacks.

The prosecution produced Fort Wayne motel registration cards for the week of the shooting and FBI experts said the signatures were Franklin's. He denied signing the cards. Franklin, a member of the Ku

Klux Klan and the American Nazi Party, has been linked to a string of 11 racial slayings across the country in 1980.



ARENCH'S

SCHOOLS

Volcano could erupt again

United Press International VANCOUVER, Wash. — Sci-entists issued an eruption alert for Mount St. Helens Tuesday, saying the volcano would likely exhibit a mild "domebuilding" eruption within 24 hours. But

they did not rule out the possi-bility of an explosive event. Larry Voshall of the Washington State Department of Emergency Services said a re-striction zone around the peak known as Volcanic Hazard Zone No. 1 was closed. The area encompasses 69,000 acres around

today with ash, the wind trajectories are northeast in a path east of a line from the mountain the volcano would erupt within to Stampede Pass and north of a three weeks.

line from the mountain to Ephrata, blowing from 10 to 55 knots, depending on the alti-tude," Voshall said.

"Seismicity and rates of de-"Seismicity and rates of de-formation in the crater have accelerated sharply within the last 24 hours following a pattern observed shortly before other recent eruptions," said Kathy Cashman, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Geological Survey. "Based on this comparison, the expected eruption will prob-ably begin within the next 24 hours," she said.

hours," she said.

the volcano and down the Tou-tle River Valley. "If an eruption should occur "The alert, issued at 7:30 a.m PST, came 18 hours after scien-tists predicted the volcano would erupt within four days. Last week, the USGS predicted

Officials to drop illicit sex probe

United Press International WASHINGTON — Federal authorities investigating allega-tions of illicit sex and drugs on Capitol Hill are about to drop the sex probe because of a lack of evidence, Justice Department sources said Tuesday.

They said, however, authorities are still examining allega-tions about cocaine dealing in Congress — a matter that has been before a federal grand

into the sex allegations have been unable to obtain any evi-dence that would warrant a cri-minal prosecution.

The Post added, however, that Joseph Califano, the newly appointed special counsel to the House ethics committee, is gear-ing up his own investigation into the allegations of sex as well as narcotic violations.

The Post said sources say Califano's inquiry is expected to take several months to complete.



jury. One source said the FBI talked to many people in the wake of allegations from three former Capitol Hill pages that members of Congress had solicited sex from boy pages, but nothing conclusive was found.

The Washington Post re-ported Tuesday that FBI agents conducting field investigations

The newspaper said the Jus-tice Department believes it is too early to evaluate charges of drug abuse - including allegations that a drug ring involving Capi-tol Hill aides distributed cocaine

to members of Congress. Those charges have been the focus of a grand jury investigation for the past few months.



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