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Condemned man denied operation

United Press International

HUNTSVILLE — A death row inmate, who charged prison officials delayed surgery to correct a temporary colostomy because he was a condemned man, was sent for medical re-evaluation Tuesday.

Prison officials said missed communications must have caused the delay in treatment for Calvin Williams, 23, and he was sent to the prison wing of John Sealy Hospital in Galveston for re-evaluation Tuesday.

Williams was stabbed twice in the torso last April 20 by two other inmates who claimed self-defense and were never prosecuted.

Williams' injuries made it necessary for doctors to perform a colostomy, which temporarily diverted his excretory tract through his stomach wall into a bag he wears around his waist.

Williams, who was convicted of burglary and murder in the 1980 death of a woman travel agent in Houston, said he was assured at the time the colostomy was temporary and that permanent corrective surgery would be performed eventually.

He said he was sent to John Sealy last Nov. 27 for the surgery but was returned to Huntsville a week later. He said he received no satisfactory explanation from Texas Department of Corrections doctors.

"I asked them why they didn't operate on me and they said they were going to wait until I got my sentence commuted to life," Williams said.

Williams said the delay in the corrective surgery has caused him considerable pain and embarrassment.

TDC officials said Williams' discharge from John Sealy was the result of "miscommunication" between their staff and the Galveston hospital and said Williams will get medical help.

Doctors said a colostomy is not life-threatening and that

many people live with permanent colostomies.

TDC officials in the past have acknowledged condemned killers did not receive the same medical care as other prisoners.

Under sweeping prison reforms ordered by U.S. District Judge William Wayne Justice of Tyler, who still presides over unfinished business in the 12-year-old Ruiz v. Estelle case, TDC agreed to end such discrimination.

The published reports about Williams' allegations caused the TDC to reschedule him for surgical evaluation, said Dr. Armond H. Start, chief of the state prison's medical division.

"I think there must have been some misunderstanding as far as I can tell," Start said, "some miscommunication between the staff (at John Sealy) and our medical staff. He was discharged from the surgery clinic and that was a misunderstanding without question."

A spokeswoman for John Sealy denied the death sentence was the reason Williams was returned to prison.

Linda MacDonald said Williams' surgery was considered "elective" and that the hospital schedule "was too full" to accommodate him in November. She said it was the responsibility of TDC to reschedule his surgery.

Williams said he only eats one meal a day because of his condition. He has lost about 9 pounds and is down to 154 pounds.

"Everybody looks at you like you're a freak," he said. "Most of the talk now is about my bag."

Williams charged prison guards order him to tuck in his shirttail, knowing full well that he cannot because of his condition.

He also said he is being punished for talking to reporters. He said guards restrict his time in the shower although he needs more time to properly clean his two open wounds.

Judge dismisses suit of Houston gay activist

United Press International

HOUSTON — A federal judge Tuesday dismissed a gay rights activist's lawsuit against the City of Houston charging police violated his civil rights by arresting him for interfering with officers in 1982.

U.S. District Judge James DeAnda ruled Ray Hill, 43, a leader in the Houston homosexual community, did not suffer a civil rights violation and that Hill deliberately provoked his own arrest.

Hill had sought \$150,000 damages and a court ruling that the ordinance allowing arrests for interfering with officers at a scene was too broad and therefore unconstitutional.

DeAnda ruled there was no evidence supporting Hill's argument he was arrested in part because of his sexual preference. DeAnda also ruled there was no evidence supporting Hill's claim the ordinance was misused against gays.

Hill's suit said he was arrested on the class C misdemeanor charge after trying to help another man who was having some difficulty with police at a traffic jam.

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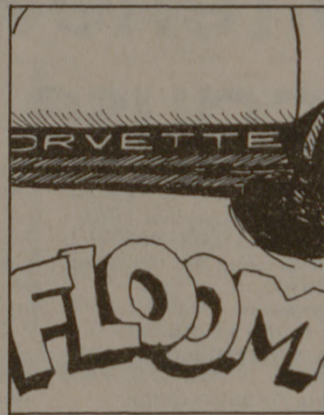
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R.I.



Nimoy guards Spock's fate

United Press International

HOLLYWOOD — They blew away Mr. Spock in "Star Trek II," and if Leonard Nimoy doesn't find the pointy-eared Vulcan in "Star Trek III: The Search for Spock," the sci-fi series will self-destruct.

Nimoy, who has played Spock from its television beginnings back in 1966, is searching for himself inasmuch as the multi-talented actor-producer-writer-poet is directing the second sequel of the outer space movies.

Future sequels hinge on whether Spock is found. If not, scrub the series. Who needs "Star Trek's" other spacemen clowning around without the emotionless Vulcan who evokes so much affection from earthling moviegoers.

As spacemen go, Spock is supreme, far more acceptable than such cutie pies from the far stellar reaches as Yoda, E.T. and that hairy sap Chewbacca, the inarticulate Wookiee from "Star Wars."

"Star Trek" without Spock makes as much sense as "Dallas" without J.R., who is a spacy character himself.

Nimoy won't say if Spock is reVulcanized, reincarnated or whatever happens to born-again Vulcans.

"We can't divulge that," said Nimoy with a wry grin. "It was difficult for him to direct himself as Spock?"

"That would be a giveaway, wouldn't it?" The grin broadened.

Will Spock reappear on another life plane or as an image in a time warp? Maybe as a shade who, like the ghost of Jacob Marley, tells Commander James Kirk to scrap the starship Enterprise?

"We're saying nothing," Nimoy said, "except the picture deals with Spock's presence. I hope it works. We'll know June 1 when the picture opens."

Nimoy spent \$16 million and 49 shooting days on his film, devoting 10 weeks to pre-production, not counting script development, and another 16 weeks in post production — a year of his life.

Paramount's choice of Nimoy

for director came out of the blue.

"I had a play or pay deal for two other jobs at the studio," Nimoy explained. "That means they had to come up with two pictures for me in a specified time or pay me anyhow. The first one was the TV movie, 'A Woman Called Golda.' (opposite Ingrid Bergman and for which he won an Emmy nomination)

"No second project was ready. When they asked me about 'Star Trek III,' all I could think of was to direct. I was 17 years behind my schedule to direct and I liked the idea.

"I began my career in theater in the '50s. I did TV in the '60s and '70s, and was side-tracked by success playing Spock."

Nimoy did manage to direct his one-man show, "Vincent" (Van Gogh), which he played on stage in 35 cities and on cable television. He also directed episodes of "The Powers of Matthew Starr" and "T.J. Hooker."

He says the reactions of the "Star Trek" cast were curious.

Suddenly cast members from themselves taking direction from one of their own kind.

Nimoy wondered how William Shatner (Commander Kirk), DeForest Kelley (Dr. McCoy), George Takei (Sulu), Walter Koenig (Chekov), James Doohan (Scotty) and Nichelle Nichols (Uhura) would accept him as boss after rubbing elbows with him as fellow actor.

"They were a little chary at first," he said. "They wanted to check me out. Shatner said publicly he was concerned because he and I used to compare notes and present a united front to the producers and directors. Now he felt alone and insecure."

"Two or three weeks into the picture we had our moments feeling each other out and reaching agreements. One day he said, 'I gotta talk to you about my scene.' It was the first time he totally opened up to the director. It was a nice feeling."

"When we finished shooting I got a wonderful response of gifts and letters from the cast."

Star set for on-camera face lift

United Press International

HOLLYWOOD — Soap operas reach the ultimate plot twist when an actress has a real face lift operation on camera and in character.

Jeanne Cooper, a 10-year veteran of "The Young and the Restless," will undergo cosmetic surgery in a hospital operating room March 12 as the cameras grind away.

Eight or 10 days later viewers will see Jeanne, in the character of Kay Chancellor, a wealthy dowager, have the plastic surgery.

The operation will be performed by Dr. Harry A. Glassman, but his patients won't recognize him in his operating clothes, cap and mask. Anyhow, the cameras will be focused on his hands and Jeanne's face.

An actor has been hired to play Dr. Glassman in pre-operation and post-operation shots.

The idea for including the surgery in the show was all Jeanne's. She planned to have the operation last December, unhappy that it would keep her out of the show for seven weeks.

Then she suggested having Kay undergo the face lift, too, allowing Jeanne to continue in her role during recuperation and adding yet another dimension to her character.

"I know who I am and anything I put on my face after the operation I put there myself," she said. "Previously other people contributed to it."

Her reference was to an unhappy 30-year marriage, which recently ended in divorce.

Jeanne did not reveal her age, but it can be safely placed well over 50. Her face is affixed with the usual number of crows feet, wrinkles and lines of middle years. She is a handsome woman with a twinkle in her eye.

"Since I influence so many people who watch the show I thought it would be a good idea to have Kay undergo the operation," she said.

"I'm doing it the right way and I want other women who are thinking about cosmetic surgery to go about it as carefully as I have. I checked out four surgeons before I settled for Dr. Glassman, who I think is the best."

"I'm having a total face lift in several stages. Actually, it will take a whole year. But the first operation is the one that will be integrated into the show next month."

It turned out that Jeanne underwent cosmetic eye surgery several years ago.

"I had 65 stitches," she said. "I followed doctor's orders and applied ice packs to my face 24 hours a day and in five days I was back on the show."

Curiously, regular viewers of "The Young and the Restless" won't detect a dramatic difference in Jeanne's appearance once the surgery is completed

and the swelling and bruises diminish.

The reason must be credited to the magic of the show's makeup specialists who apply lifts to either side of Jeanne's face. These are pulled up, pulled back behind and under her hair to pull her facial skin taut, eliminating wrinkles and lines and knocking a dozen years off her appearance.

After the decision was made to include Jeanne's surgery in the show, her beauty secret and the lifts was revealed on the television screen to the astonishment and re-creation of viewers. The response was heavy and immediate.

"The reaction of viewers was terrific," Jeanne said. "When they saw me without the lifts they thought they were looking at Kay's older aunt."

Women of all ages wrote and called to learn more about cosmetic surgery.

Jeanne will bear the cost of the operation, not the producers or network. She explained that if anything goes wrong their insurance coverage would not be involved.

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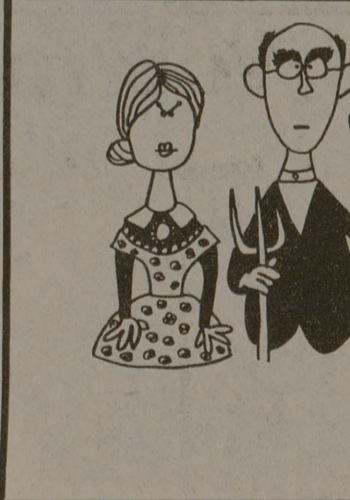
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