

WORLD AND NATION

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Edwin Moses booked after vice squad sweep

United Press International
LOS ANGELES — Track star Edwin Moses, an Olympic gold medalist and Sports Illustrated's athlete of the year, Monday faced misdemeanor charges he propositioned a prostitute and possessed a small amount of marijuana.

Moses was one of 82 men arrested Sunday during a Sunset Boulevard vice squad sweep in Hollywood. He was released after being booked on the misdemeanor charge on his promise he would appear at a Jan. 29 arraignment.

A citation, the equivalent of a traffic ticket, also was issued for marijuana possession. The amount allegedly carried by Moses was "very small," police said.

Alan Dahle, a deputy city attorney, said detectives presented their case to prosecutors and misdemeanor charges would be filed today.

Neither Moses nor his agent, Gordon Baskin, could be reached for comment on the charges.

The misdemeanor count of soliciting an act of prostitution carries a

possible six-month jail sentence and \$500 fine.

Moses, married and recently named co-winner of Sports Illustrated's Athlete of the Year award with gymnast Mary Lou Retton, won the gold medal in the 400 meter hurdles in the 1976 and 1984 Olympics and has not lost in seven years and 109 races.

He also is the holder of the world record for the 400-meter hurdles with a time of 47.02, and was the 1983 winner of the Sullivan Award, the equivalent of the Heisman trophy for amateur athletes.

Police said Moses, who lives in Laguna Hills, about 50 miles south of Los Angeles, approached a female undercover officer and offered her money for sex.

"He was booked for soliciting an act of prostitution and later released on his own recognizance," said Sgt. David Young.

The female officer was part of a so-called "trick task force" working to deter prostitution in Hollywood, Young said. Soliciting an act of pros-

titution is a misdemeanor and carries a \$500 fine and/or six months in jail.

"He had a small amount of marijuana on him," William Booth said. "We did not book him for it. It was much, much less than an ounce."

His arrest surprised sports people who know Moses.

"I just heard it on the radio," Larry Ellis, coach of the American Olympic track team, said Monday. "I really can't react, because I don't know all the facts."

"He has impeccable character. He's an outstanding young man. He's shown tremendous leadership and impressed people by his demeanor."

Track and field promoter Franken called the arrest "a surprise" and said, "The guy's a perfect example of the way to conduct yourself. It doesn't make sense. It's out of character."

"You can think of other people rousing around — not him."

Louisiana Supreme Court reverses blue law decision

United Press International
NEW ORLEANS — The Louisiana Supreme Court ruled 4-3 Monday the state's controversial Sunday blue law forces retail stores to compete fairly and should remain in effect.

The law also guarantees most workers a day of rest as intended by the Legislature, the court said.

The ruling reversed a district court judge who had struck down the Sunday closing law as unconstitutional, saying it was vague and discriminatory.

Attorneys had argued that even experienced law enforcement officials could not tell what merchandise was legal to sell under the blue law. But the Supreme Court said the terms of the law can be deciphered "with the help of a dictionary and common sense."

Three New Orleans-area department stores — K-mart, Gaylord's and Home Depot Inc. — contested the law which forbids the Sunday sale of clothing, building supplies,

furniture, home and office appliances and new or used automobiles or trucks.

The department stores argued it is not fair to require them to close on Sundays while drug and grocery stores are allowed to open and sell similar merchandise.

Confused Louisiana officials have shut down stores and made arrests on some Sundays but not on others, attorneys said. Enforcement of the blue law was abandoned in the New Orleans area during the Christmas shopping season.

"The conscious exercise of some selectivity in enforcement is not in itself a federal constitutional violation," the Supreme Court said. "It must be shown that the selection was deliberately based upon an unjustifiable standard such as race, religion or other arbitrary classification."

The century-old law, most recently revised in 1962, was meant to inhibit unfair competition and promote the welfare of state residents by guaranteeing them Sundays off,

the Supreme Court said.

"There is no indication that the statute purports to do anything other than provide a day of rest for the state population employed in places of public business," the court said.

The high court said the dividing line for Sunday sales is whether the product is "necessary for the daily physical, intellectual or emotional subsistence of a human being living a contemporary lifestyle such as, for example, foodstuffs, medications, newspapers or periodicals, books and restaurants; or the item is of such a nature that it can be bought at a later date with no harm to the physical, mental or emotional well-being of the individual, such as furniture and appliances."

The cases were remanded to the district court for further proceedings.

The closing law has also been ruled unconstitutional by a federal judge in New Orleans.

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FBI arrests fake KGB agent

United Press International
AUSTIN — The FBI said Monday it has arrested a man who claimed to be a Soviet KGB agent while collecting \$46,000 from an Austin lawyer whose son was aboard an oil drilling ship that sank in the South China Sea in 1983.

FBI agent-in-charge Al Robinson said Bratislav Lalic, 33, a Yugoslavian national from Chicago, was arrested Friday in San Antonio on charges of interstate transportation of stolen property.

Robinson said attorney Douglas

Pierce, 59, had already paid the suspect \$46,000 and traveled across the United States to negotiate with the man who identified himself as a Soviet agent attached to the Soviet Embassy.

The suspect allegedly told Pierce his son was in captivity in Vietnam and would be returned to the United States if enough money was paid.

Pierce's son, John D. Pierce, 30, was aboard the Glomar Java Sea when it sank Oct. 25, 1983.

Robinson said an eight-page affidavit file in U.S. District Court in

Austin alleged that Lalic, who has a lengthy arrest record, told Pierce he was a Soviet agent and could find Pierce's son.

"The father came to us, and cooperated with us in the investigation," Robinson said.

"He was to meet the man Friday night in San Antonio and pay him (an additional) \$28,000, and then travel with him to meet his son."

The money was not paid and the man was arrested, Robinson said.

Mexico in for heated elections

United Press International
Mexico may be in for a long, hot summer in 1985 as congressional elections are scheduled throughout the nation and seven states will select new governors.

Congressional races do not usually arouse as much interest in Mexico as mayoral and gubernatorial elections.

But every election this year may lead to incidents of violence, political observers said, because of the public's disenchantment with the economy and the party in power.

In the border state of Coahuila, a dispute over the outcome of the Dec. 3 mayoral elections resulted in two reported dead, 80 injured, closing of the international bridge at Eagle Pass for about a week during the Christmas holidays and continued, isolated acts of vandalism.

The states of Sonora, Nuevo Leon, Campeche, San Luis Potosi, Guanajuato, Colima and Queretaro will be electing governors in 1985. Congressional elections will be held throughout the nation.

The elections in Nuevo Leon, which borders on Texas, and Sonora, across from Arizona, will be of particular interest to Mexico watchers in the United States.

Civic, political and religious leaders are worried about the upcoming elections and are issuing public statements denouncing politically-motivated violence.

President Miguel de la Madrid has called for honesty in elections. In a report to the nation he reiterated his pledge to continue a campaign of "moral renovation."

Chihuahua Gov. Oscar Ornelas Kuchle called a news conference to warn all potential demonstrators there will be no repeat in his state of the violence that has rocked Coahuila.

Ivan Garcia Solis, leader of the Unified Socialist Party of Mexico, speaking in Mexico City, said the only way to avoid violence is for the government to respect election results.

David Orozco Romo, leader of the Mexican Democratic Party, said the government can prevent violence by learning to "accept the democratic

game, with all its implications, including the loss of political positions" by the dominant Revolutionary Institutional Party (PRI), which has ruled Mexico with an iron hand for the past 54 years.

The primary violence in Mexico, said a Roman Catholic auxiliary bishop in Mexico City, Genaro Alamilla Arteaga, is fraud "and electoral fraud are the source of all other violence."

Leaders of the conservative National Action Party (PAN) throughout Mexico have been the most vociferous in their charges of electoral fraud. PAN claimed victory in Piedras Negras, across the Rio Grande from Eagle Pass, and in Mondova, 30 miles south. PRI claimed otherwise. PRI leaders of the state legislature certified their candidates as winners.

A similar situation occurred in Juarez, across the border from El Paso. PAN state representative candidate Juan Saldana won the July 3, 1983 election with 62 percent of the vote, but the election was nullified for alleged "irregularities."

In December of 1984, the PRI-dominated state legislature ruled against Saldana and called for a new election. PAN members were indignant. The PAN mayor of Juarez announced he would go on a hunger strike until 44,000 people, the number who voted for Saldana, sign a protest petition. He took Mayor Francisco Barrio only six hours to get the required signatures.

PRI would have lost its two-thirds majority in the 14-member state legislature if Saldana had become the fifth PAN state representative to win election. It takes a two-thirds majority to pass major legislation in Chihuahua.

PAN is expected to make a strong effort in 1985 to win as many of the congressional seats as possible. Leaders have pledged to fight "for a true democracy in Mexico."

The economy and corruption are the two principal issues on the minds of most Mexicans. PAN is expected to capitalize on these issues to make important gains in Northern Mexico. The region apparently is leaning to the right in its attempt to change political direction.

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