

WORLD AND NATION

Plea bargain may be offered in Belushi case

Associated Press
 LOS ANGELES — Former rock singer Cathy Evelyn Smith, accused of killing comedian John Belushi with a cocaine and heroin overdose, returned to Los Angeles on Tuesday and agreed to plead guilty to involuntary manslaughter, a prosecutor said.

The plea was not immediately entered, however, and her attorney, Howard Weitzman, raised the possibility that the plea bargain might collapse. Smith was indicted in 1983 on charges including murder.

"There was an agreement in principle," Weitzman said. "The details have not been worked out yet. I may have a different viewpoint of how I think the case should be resolved."

He suggested he would not complete the plea bargain if she had to serve prison time.

"I view her as more of a victim than a criminal," Weitzman said. "She clearly didn't intend to murder anyone. She was involved in her own drug problems, as was Mr. Belushi. This case is tragic enough without putting Cathy Smith in the position she is in."

Weitzman, the attorney who represented John De Lorean in his cocaine trafficking case, asked for postponement of her arraignment to give him time to study the indictment.

Smith remained in custody while trying to raise the money to post the

\$50,000 bail set by Superior Court Judge Robert K. Devich.

The announcement of the plea bargain by Assistant District Attorney Mike Montagna came just hours after Smith arrived in Los Angeles from Toronto after ending a 22-month challenge to extradition.

Her attorney in Canada, Brian Greenspan, had refused to comment on whether prosecutors had agreed to reduce charges in return for Miss Smith's decision to return to Los Angeles.

Greenspan did say negotiations with the Los Angeles district attorney's office "provided an acceptable basis for Miss Smith's voluntary departure."

Montagna said Smith had agreed to plead guilty to involuntary manslaughter and three counts of furnishing heroin and cocaine.

Outside court, Montagna said the district attorney's office was ready to proceed with a trial if the plea bargain did not work out.

Asked why he agreed to the plea, he said, "We've never taken the position that this was an intentional killing. That's one of the major considerations."

Maximum sentence for involuntary manslaughter, and the other counts would be eight years and eight months in prison, he said.

World War I pilot gets space tour

Associated Press
 HOUSTON — Smokey Cameron, a former deputy sheriff who rode shotgun on stagecoaches in Arizona when it was still a territory, the great-grandson of the famous Chiracahua Apache chief Cochise, the man who demonstrated his mule-skinning skills at 12 to a skeptical Teddy Roosevelt — may have been born in the horse 'n' buggy days but he's hooked on new frontiers in space.

Cameron has been talking about space and the space program for so long his friends in Dallas decided to do something about it, like give him a surprise trip to NASA's Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center in Houston for his birthday.

Smokey's not exactly a spring chicken. He celebrated his 99th birthday recently with friends at the Kensington Manor nursing home in Pleasant Grove. As soon as the cake and ice cream disappeared, he was anxiously heading south on Interstate 45.

Confined to a wheelchair during the daylong tour because of phlebitis in his legs, Smokey's guide in the exhibits area of the Visitor Center was shuttle astronaut Michael Coats.

"That's a space-age version of a stagecoach," Coats said, pointing to a duplicate of the lunar rover.

Smokey looked at the lunar rover, the rusted space capsule and the gallery of old spacesuits. "Wish I could go up with you sometime," he said.

Born in 1886 in the Arizona Territory, Smokey (that's not a nickname) was the son of a full-blooded Chiracahua who married Edith Tra-

vis, a missionary school teacher.

At 12 and with only three years of school, Smokey was driving freight wagons. Later he was a deputy to John Slaughter, the U.S. marshal at Tombstone. As a young man, Smokey, a trick rider and rodeo performer, and his wife, a trick shooter, joined a wild west show-rodeo and traveled throughout Europe and England.

The show happened to be in England when World War I started. Never one to shirk a fight, Smokey enlisted in the British air corps, then transferred to the American unit when the United States entered the war. One day while Capt. Cameron was flying his Spad biplane over France, he was shot down.

"In those days, you knew who you were shooting at," Smokey told four-time space shuttle astronaut Robert Crippen as the two traded tales sitting at the consoles in Mission Control. "I knew it was Ernst Udet who show me down and he knew who I was."

When World War I was over, Smokey returned to Arizona and the family ranch where his wife and two children were waiting. After a band of Indians stampeded the herd of Hereford-Longhorns, which killed his wife and children, he sold the ranch and went to Alaska where he worked as a lumberjack and forest-fire firefighter.

The trip to NASA was a highlight in a life filled with adventures, Smokey said.

Blackwell releases his list of worst dressed

Associated Press
 LOS ANGELES — Singer-actress Cher, described as "a plucked cockatoo setting femininity back 20 years," and rock stars Cyndi Lauper and Prince lent a musical touch Tuesday to Mr. Blackwell's 25th annual "Worst-Dressed Women" list.

Cher topped the list, followed by reigning Miss America Sharlene Wells, Patti Davis, Lauper, Diahann Carroll and Joan Collins in a tie for fifth, Victoria Principal, Barbra Streisand, Sally Field, Pamela Bellwood and, in another tie, Prince and the rock band Twisted Sister.

Blackwell, dapper in a multicolored bow tie and tuxedo, celebrated the silver anniversary of his list by festooning his ornate Edwardian home with silver helium-filled balloons.

Wells, No. 2, "looks like an armadillo with cornpads," he said, while President Reagan's daughter, Davis, in third place, "picks all the glamour of an old, worn-out sneaker."

Lauper, who sports orange hair and a punk wardrobe, "looks like the aftermath of the San Francisco earthquake," Blackwell said.

He described "Dynasty" stars Joan Collins, who topped last year's list, and Diahann Carroll at No. 5 as "two movie queens fighting for the tacky taste crown of the 40s."

No. 6 Principal, a star of "Dallas," was described as "everyone's 'Yankee Doodle Dandy,'" while Streisand, who was second on last year's list, improved to No. 7 with what Blackwell termed "the Al Capone look with electrocuted hair."

Of Sally Field, he said, "The Flying Nun takes a fashion dive," while Pamela Bellwood, who plays Claudia Carrington in "Dynasty," was described as "the living end of the endangered species."

Males who favor flamboyant garb are not new to Blackwell's list, which in years past has included Boy George, Dustin Hoffman in his "Tootsie" look, Milton Berle and Flip Wilson's "Geraldine" character.

Nancy Reagan was among Mr. Blackwell's fabulous fashion independents for 1984. Others include Priscilla Presley, Ann-Margaret, Raquel Welch, Princess Diana, Jane Wyman, Caroline Kennedy, Barbara Walters, Princess Caroline and, "believe it or not," Eva Gabor.

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