

Jackson to perform in Fukuoka, Japan

The Associated Press

HUIJ TEN BOSCH, Japan — Fans got a fleeting glimpse of Michael Jackson when he arrived Tuesday in Japan and was whisked to a hotel at a theme park.

The superstar flew from Taiwan to the southern island of Oahu.

At the airport, he waved several times before boarding a bus. About 25 taxis filled with reporters and fans followed the bus on its two-hour trip to the hotel.

When Jackson stopped at toll booths, women put their heads out of taxi windows and screamed, "Michael, Michael!"

The 35-year-old Jackson was to perform Friday and Saturday in Fukuoka, on Kyushu about 560 miles southwest of Tokyo.

He continues his "Dangerous" tour as he faces allegations back home that he sexually abused a 13-year-old California boy. Jackson denies the allegations.

Tubularman



By Boomer Cardinale

Fritch



By Critch

Lovett - the next Abe Lincoln?

The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Julia Roberts' new husband, Lyle Lovett, reminds her of her childhood fantasy man: Abraham Lincoln.

"Stoic, regal, gentle ... that could be Lyle," she said.

Roberts' first interview in two years is in the October issue of Vanity Fair. She appears on the cover wearing a revealing dress of black lace and strategically placed knit fabric.

Roberts recalled visiting Washington when she was 7 and "had an enormous crush on President Lincoln. ... That face is a great face."

She married Lovett on June 27 after a whirlwind romance.

"We had only taken flight over the last little while," she said when asked how long she had known Lovett. "We were both giddy and excited to get together and get married."

Roberts is filming "Pelican Brief" with Denzel Washington.

JUST THE BEGINNING



By Jason Brown

Jordan visits amusement park

The Associated Press

FAIRFIELD, Calif. — Michael Jordan played miniature golf and video games during a holiday visit to an amusement park with his two children and friends.

The basketball superstar also took a few hoops, took a turn in a batting cage and rode a train Sunday at the Scandia Family Center. He and his entourage left in a limousine after several hours.

The group turned some heads at the park about 40 miles northeast of San Francisco.

"It's hard not to notice someone like that, but people probably thought, 'Nah, it can't be him' and just walked away," said Mike McCormack, a maintenance manager who escorted Jordan's party throughout the park.

Congresswomen confront male attitudes

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Freshman Rep. Leslie Schenk, D-Calif., is pressing for a measure to whittle away at tax breaks, arguing her case before the House Rules Committee.

Rep. James Quillen, a 30-year veteran of Congress, smiled down at the Hill newcomer, who wore a red suit.

"I don't agree with you on this," drawled Tennessee Republican, "but you certainly keep the place up."

Schenk comments explain why many of the women sent crashing into the nation's premiere boys club last November wonder if Capitol Hill isn't operating in a bit of a time warp with the way men treat women.

Women more than doubled their numbers in the House last November, and now hold 47 of the 435 seats. Five new women have joined ranks of the Senate, adding to the two who were there before.

It's been tough going, at times, for these women, who report an occasional, subtle standard on Capitol Hill, an institution steeped in tradition and long dominated by men.

There are men who will figuratively pat you on the head and tell you, 'It'll be all right,

little lady,'" Byrne said.

"Out in the real world," added Rep. Lynn Schenk, D-Calif., "we took care of a lot of these basic issues between men and women years ago. But this place has been so insulated, the shock waves of the '70s and '80s haven't quite reached here."

"Out in the real world we took care of a lot of these basic issues between men and women years ago."

— Rep. Lynn Schenk, D-Calif

The most glaring case, in their eyes, happened during the floor battle on the Hyde amendment, which bans Medicaid abortions for poor women.

Women who were handling the fight lost a humiliating battle, and attributed it in part to the failure of male colleagues who run the place to help out. Some contend that if it had been a man's fight, other men would have jumped in to assist.

During that contentious debate, Rep. David Obey, D-Wis., told freshman Rep. Corrine Brown, D-Fla., to "shut up" when she questioned his effort to help the abortion rights cause.

"Would Obey have told a male colleague to shut up?" the women asked themselves.

Rep. Carolyn Maloney, D-N.Y., voted against President Clinton's budget bill the first time it came before the House, opposing it as a tax-heavy package that didn't cut enough spending. She took unrelenting flak.

The attitudes tend to seep through the rest of the Capitol Hill compound, the women say. For instance, many of the new congressional women still get stopped by police and door-men, while male colleagues breeze right past security stops. The presumption, women say, is that females aren't members of Congress.

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