

Suspect pleads not guilty to 1974 bombing attempt

LOS ANGELES (AP) — A mother of three accused of planting bombs as a member of the radical Symbionese Liberation Army (SLA) 25 years ago pleaded innocent yesterday to attempted murder charges.

A judge ordered Kathleen Ann Soliah, 52, to be held on \$1 million bail on murder conspiracy charges.

The defense requested lower bail, saying she was not likely to flee because she is devoted to her friends and family, dozens of whom attended the hearing.

"There is no doubt that in the time since the crimes were committed, she has become a loving wife, a mother and a friend to many," Judge Larry P. Fidler said.

However, prosecutors have charged her with "a particularly abhorrent crime" that could have killed police officers as well as innocent bystanders, the judge added.

Soliah is accused of placing pipe bombs under two Los Angeles police cars in retaliation for a 1974 shootout with police in which six SLA members were killed. The bombs did not go off. If convicted, she faces a maximum sentence of life in prison.

The SLA was a radical group that made headlines in the 1970s when it kidnapped heiress Patricia Hearst, who was later jailed for taking part in an SLA bank robbery.

At a brief news conference after the hearing, defense attorneys again proclaimed that Soliah was innocent.

"She knows she wasn't there, and she knows she didn't place bombs under police cars," defense lawyer Stuart Hanlon said. "That's the truth that will come out at trial."

Soliah, 52, had spent 23 years as a fugitive before FBI agents acting on a tip from the TV show "America's Most Wanted" captured her last month in St. Paul, Minn.

In Minnesota, she was known as Sara Jane Olson and living as an actress, a doctor's wife and the mother of three girls. Some of Soliah's longtime friends from Minnesota testified in her favor.

"Her life is with her children and her husband and also those of us in the community," said James Johnson, an elder at the church the Olson family attends. "There's no way she would run from that."

"I would stake my reputation that she would not flee," said Andrew J. Dawkins, a Minnesota state representative and a friend of the Olson family for the past 20 years.

The prosecutor, Deputy District Attorney Michael Latin, had initially asked for bail to be set at \$10 million.

"The true facts in this case are that she is accused of planting bombs to kill police officers, some of whom are in this courtroom today," Latin said. "Their families were almost without them for the rest of their lives."

"She knows she wasn't there, and she knows she didn't place bombs under police cars."

— Andrew Dawkins
Minnesota state representative

Settlement ends estate trial

GALVESTON (AP) — Facing the prospect of testimony about an alleged affair by their client, lawyers for four-time congressional candidate Donna Peterson settled their case yesterday against the estate of her millionaire husband.

Estate attorney Douglas L. Poole said he believes plans to detail the affair and show forgery of a contract between Webber and Peterson led to the settlement.

Michael Catt, a lawyer for Peterson, disagreed.

"We were excited about trying the case," he said. But he added that Peterson and her

lawyers were "extremely satisfied" with the settlement.

Webber, 68, died on Dec. 5, 1997, in a beach house on Galveston Island. It was just 98 days after the couple married and less than a month after he filed for divorce in Louisiana, where he married Peterson.

An autopsy determined that Webber died of a heart attack. But because Webber had cuts on his right wrist and a razor resting on his abdomen, the Galveston County medical examiner's office did not rule whether the death was natural or the result of suicide or even homicide.

Book

Continued from Page 1

"If he [Barrett] had perceived this to be a serious question at the time, he might not have done this," he said. "[But] if we [journalists] only wrote about people we didn't know, we wouldn't write any stories."

Barrett also addressed the perception he was profiting from his friend's troubles as a journalist.

Walraven said covering other's misfortunes often was a necessity in journalism.

"If you're in the journalism business, you're paid to report on the missteps of others," he said. "We (journalists) try to keep that to a minimum, but we are paid to be observers and messengers."

COMMISSION

Continued from Page 1

University organizations in with the communities of Bryan and College Station," he said. "Both complement each other, and it is important to celebrate together."

Gustavo de Sousa, ISA president and a senior food science major, said the festival is going to be a good opportunity for people to experience other cultures.

"We want to celebrate and make everyone aware of the huge amount of diversity we have on campus and in our community," de Sousa said. "A&M does a wonderful job of bringing in many different students, and we would like to celebrate that."

"History has shown that humanity progresses most when cultures are exposed to each other."

Leap of faith



Seth Cole (left) a senior agricultural business major, catches 7-year-old Justin Hyman as he jumps from the Lawrence Sullivan Ross statue on the Texas A&M campus Wednesday afternoon. Hyman was touring the campus as part of the Central Baptist Church School-Age Mother's Day Outing.

GARAGE

Continued from Page 1

"This new system would work well for the residents, but I'm not sure about the faculty and staff," Albritton said. "We (residents) might have the better end of the deal."

The Southside Garage holds around 2,000 spaces. Of these, 100 are used by staff members.

Wine said the first concern is getting students parking spaces closer to where they live.

"Our next concern is how to provide cheaper options for lower paid staff," Wine said.

She said fees for the contract spots have increased from \$240 to \$348, which could pose a financial problem for some staff members. Wine said they are looking into changing Parking Lot Area 25 on Lewis Street into a parking option for staff and possibly student leaders from the band, Corps of Cadets and Resi-

dence Hall Association.

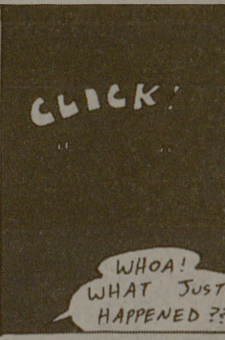
Wine said they would prefer not to number the entire lot so students would still be able to use the lot after 5:30 p.m. She said prices for this lot would range from \$132 to \$264 depending on whether or not the space is numbered.

She said the Southside Parking garage is the most popular garage, and it has a one-year waiting list. Wine said they have not considered changing other garages because each garage is different, and therefore, they all do not share the same problems.

"We are trying to gather information and develop a plan to implement some time this fiscal year," Wine said. "We are talking to representatives of everyone that will be impacted to get input."

Wine said students who have purchased contract spaces for the fall in the Southside Parking Garage will be notified that this possibility exists.

NUTZ



BY R. DELUNA

Chelsea Street Pub & Grill
Post Oak Mall
Entertainment Karaoke
and YOU!
Featuring **Reed Boyd**
Tuesday - Saturday
9pm • No Cover
Lunch • Dinner • Spirits • Daily!

EL CHICO
SINCE 1930 FINE MEXICAN FOOD

Weekly Drink Specials!

Monday
Domestic Long-neck Bottles 99¢

Tuesday
Margaritas 99¢

Wednesday
Draft Beer 99¢ mugs, \$1.99 goblets

Thursday
Margaritas 99¢

Friday and Saturday
Largoritas (tall margarita) \$4.49

Sunday
Draft Beer 99¢ mugs, \$1.99 goblets

Muncho Luncho
All you can eat, M-F, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. \$5.99

Wednesday Enchilada Special \$4.99
20% Discount w/ student ID on Sundays after 5 p.m.

1912 S. Texas Ave.
College Station, TX 77840

693-6684

The Battalion
105 YEARS AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Kasie Byers, Editor in Chief
Sallie Turner, Managing Editor
Veronica Serrano, Executive Editor
Mark McPherson, Graphics Editor
Riley LaGrone, AggeliLife Editor
Matt Webber, Night News Editor
Sallie Turner, Photo Editor

Guy Rogers, Photo Editor
Kyle Whitacre, Radio Producer
Veronica Serrano, City Editor
Noni Sridhara, Campus Editor
Caleb McDaniel, Opinion Editor
Doug Shilling, Sports Editor
Ryan Williams, Web Master

STAFF MEMBERS
City - Carrie Bennett, Sameh Fahmy, Ryan West, Suzanne Brabeck & Stuart Hutson.
SPORTS - Jeff Webb, Santosh Venkataraman, Michael Rodgers, Ruth Stephens & Reece Flood.
AGGELIFE - Assistant: Stephen Wells; Aaron Meier, Scott Harris, Brian Fleming & Michael Maddux.
OPINION - Tom Owens, Jeff Becker, Mark Passwaters, Marc Grether, Chris Huffines, Megan Wright, Aaron Meier, Beverly Mireles & Ryan Alan Garcia.
PHOTO - JP Beato, Mike Fuentes, Terry Roberson, Bradley Atchison & Anthony West.
GRAPHICS - ASSISTANT: Gabriel Ruenes; Wagner & Jeffrey Smith.
CARTOONISTS - Ruben DeLuna.
COPY EDITORS - Amy Daugherty, Mariam Mohluddin, Mandy Cater Graeber & Aaron Meier.
PAGE DESIGNERS - Manisha Parekh
RADIO - Andrea Bragdon, Paul Breaux, Amy Campbell, Francis Fernandez, Jason Pugh & Stephen Landin & Logan Youre.

NEWS: The Battalion news department is managed by students at Texas A&M University in the Division of Student Publications, Department of Journalism. News offices are in 013 Reed McDonald Building. Newsroom phone: 845-3313; Fax: 845-2681; battallion1.tamu.edu; Website: http://battalion.tamu.edu
Advertising: Publication of advertising does not imply sponsorship or endorsement by The Battalion. For campus, local, and national advertising, call 845-2696. For classified advertising, call 845-0569. Advertising offices are in 015 Reed McDonald, and office hours are 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. Fax: 845-2678.
Subscriptions: A part of the Student Services Fee entitles each Texas A&M student to pick up a single copy of The Battalion. For additional copies 25¢. Mail subscriptions are \$60 per school year, \$30 for the fall or spring semester and \$17.50 for the summer. Payment by credit card, call 845-2611.
THE BATTALION (ISSN #1055-4726) is published daily, Monday through Friday during the fall and spring semesters and Monday through the summer session (except University holidays and exam periods) at Texas A&M University. Periodicals Postage Paid at College Station, TX. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Battalion, 015 Reed McDonald Building, Texas A&M University, College Station, TX 77843-4200.