

People

John Denver files for divorce, joint custody

ASPEN (AP) — John Denver has filed for divorce and asked for a temporary restraining order to bar his wife of three years from entering his home.

Not granting the order would result in "irreparable injury or damage," the 47-year-old singer said in court documents filed Tuesday.

Denver's filing said the marriage is "irretrievably broken." He asked for joint custody of the couple's 2½-year old daughter, Jesse Belle.

Cassandra Delaney Denver, 30, currently has custody of the child although her whereabouts are unknown, according to documents. She is believed to be living with friends in Aspen.

The couple married in Aspen on Aug. 12, 1988, and separated Oct. 16 of this year. It is his second marriage.

Liz's husband faces trial

CORONA, Calif. (AP) — A judge has ruled that actress Elizabeth Taylor's husband must stand trial in a 1987 drunken driving case.

Riverside County Municipal Court Judge Michael F. Flynn on Wednesday ordered Larry Fortensky back to court Jan. 29 for the start of his trial on misdemeanor drunken

driving charges.

A defense motion to dismiss the case was rejected.

Fortensky, 39, was charged with one count of drunken driving and one count of having an open container of alcohol — two cans of beer. If convicted, he faces up to a year in jail.

Taylor, 59, and Fortensky, her eighth husband, were married in October.

Hammer to host awards

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Rap star Hammer, winner of five American Music Awards early this year, will host the 1992 presentation next month.

The 19th annual awards show, produced by Dick Clark, will be a three-hour prime-time special on ABC on Jan. 27, the show's publicist said Wednesday.

Nominations will be announced Dec. 17.

Thirty awards will be presented in seven categories: pop-rock, country, soul-rhythm & blues, rap, heavy metal, adult contemporary and dance music.

Early rock DJ honored

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Little Richard was joined by singers and disc jockeys of the 1950s and 1960s to honor a man who helped make them great.

Disc jockey Alan Freed, who coined the phrase "rock 'n' roll" but was implicated in the 1960s payola scandal, was posthumously awarded a star Tuesday on the Hollywood Walk of Fame.

"This man was great. If the record was good, he played it," regardless of the performer's race or color, said Little Richard

as he stood next to the star imbedded in a Hollywood Boulevard sidewalk.

Freed's 1950s program in Cleveland, called the "Moon Dog Show," pioneered rock 'n' roll. His broadcast career ended in the 1960s when hearings by the U.S. House of Representatives implicated him in the scandal of accepting payment from record companies for playing their records on the air.

Freed, who died in 1965 at age 42, has the walk's 1,945th star.

2 Live Crew members at war

MIAMI (AP) — Luther Campbell says two disgruntled members of his 2 Live Crew blew their money and denied he owes them at least \$1 million in royalty payments as they claim in a lawsuit.

"They go and spend their money stupidly — buying cars, going partying, squiring girls all around the United States," he said Tuesday. "I'm not responsible for no grown man or what he does with his money."

A lawsuit filed against Campbell in Dade Circuit Court by David Hobbs and Mark Ross was made public Tuesday, accusing him of copyrighting their names without permission and other contract violations.

At least 6 million copies of 2 Live Crew's biggest hits were sold, but Hobbs and Ross are broke, their attorney says.

"They are living with their mothers. Neither has enough money to fly to Miami to attend hearings," said attorney Richard Wolfe.



Denver