



Coast Guard cutter named for Alex Haley

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The late author Alex Haley, who won the Pulitzer Prize for his novel "Roots," will soon have a distinction earned by no other journalist: His name will adorn a Coast Guard vessel.

The Alex Haley, formerly a 283-foot Navy ship named the USS Edenton, has received a \$20 million overhaul at the Coast Guard's shipyard in Baltimore. On July 10, Transportation Secretary Rodney Slater, who oversees the Coast Guard, will commission the vessel along with Adm. James Loy, commandant of the Coast Guard.

A number of actors from the TV miniseries "Roots" have been invited to the ceremony at the shipyard.

While Haley is best remembered for the novel, he spent 20 years in the Coast Guard, rising from ship's steward to become the first head of the Guard's public affairs office.

His shipmates, realizing the quality of his writing, would pay Haley 50 cents to ghostwrite love letters to their girlfriends.

Francine Everett, early film star, dies

NEW YORK — Francine Everett, an entertainer known for her roles in the all-black films of the 1930s and '40s, has died at a nursing home in the Bronx.

Ms. Everett became familiar to audiences for her play in low-budget independent black films like "Keep Punching" in 1939, "Big Timers" in 1945 and "Dirty Gerty from Harlem U.S.A." in 1946. She also worked with Sidney Poitier in "No Way Out," her final film, in 1950.

The entertainer was well known for her vocal abilities, which brought her featured voice roles in more than 50 short musical films of the 1940s. She also modeled.

Everett retired from show business in the 1950s and worked until 1985 as a clerk at Harlem Hospital. She died May 27.

USDA may establish committee on small farms

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Secretary Dan Glickman has proposed establishing an Advisory Committee on Small Farms to gather and analyze information on small farms and ranches and advise him on actions to strengthen U.S. Department of Agriculture programs.

The USDA is actively seeking nominations for 15 members to the committee: five members to one-year terms, five members to two-year terms and five members to three-year terms.

Minorities, women, persons with disabilities and members of low-income populations are invited to apply.

Nominations, due June 25, should include: name, title, address, telephone number, organization and a completed Advisory Committee Membership Background Information Questionnaire (form AD755).

The form is available on the Internet at <http://www.usda.gov/occe/osfsd/advisorynotice.htm>. Nominations should be sent to Alfonso Drain, Office of the Chief Economist, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Jamie L. Whitten Building, 1400 Independence Ave. SW, Washington, D.C. 20250. For information call (202) 720-3238 or (202) 690-0878.

Attorney Johnnie Cochran takes Tyisha Miller case

LOS ANGELES — According to Los Angeles' KNBC-TV, attorney Johnnie Cochran filed a "wrongful death" lawsuit on June 1 against the city of Riverside and the four police officers who fired into the car killing Tyisha Miller Dec. 28, 1998.

"We made available to the authorities in Riverside a witness who observed these police officers high-fiving one another in joy and glee moments after they killed this young lady," said Cochran.

The officers shot into Miller's car as she sat unconscious with an unloaded gun in her lap. — *Minneapolis Spokesman*

Rosa Parks, Muhammad Ali among Time's Top 100

Rosa Parks, the mother of the civil rights movement; world boxing champion Muhammad Ali and baseball legend Jackie Robinson were named among TIME Magazine's Top 20 Heroes and Icons of the Century. This list is the fifth in a series of six special issues profiling the 100 most influential people of the century.

The list, published in the June 14 edition, also includes Princess Diana, the Kennedys and Bruce Lee. The final issue, Person of the Century, will be published in December. — *Washington AFRO-American*

Foundation laid for mosque in Ghana

The first bricks for the Nation of Islam's mosque/school and training center were laid May 18 by Mother Khadijah Farrakhan, Nation of Islam Chief of Staff Leonard F. Muhammad, a delegation of Nation of Islam officials, and chiefs and imams from nearby Muslim communities.

The facility will be located in a community called Galilea on the edge of Weija Lake on the outskirts of Accra, an area of development where the population of Muslims is increasing.

"The timing of this ground-breaking ceremony could not have been better," said Dr. Mohammed Chambas, Ghana's deputy minister of education, citing the opening of the fifth African-African American Summit, which began a day earlier. "Our ability to take advantage of expanded trade and business relations will depend on the education and training we give to our people, particularly our youth. That's why this project is important." — *Final Call*

Internet site on reproductive health launched

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Harvard School of Public Health recently announced the formal launch of a new Internet site designed to provide continuously updated information and a global debate about major reproductive health issues.

The Global Reproductive Health Forum site, <http://www.hsph.harvard.edu>

See Briefs on A10

Volpe's other 'victim' lost in Louima scandal

By TOM HAYS
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — He was there, too.

Patrick Antoine was inside the 70th Precinct station house bathroom with Officer Justin Volpe only moments after Volpe had tortured another prisoner in a grimy stall — one of the most notorious brutality cases in city history.

An unsuspecting Antoine had asked to use the bathroom, and then listened as Volpe admitted to him that he'd lost control that morning while quelling a Brooklyn riot. Despite the encounter with the notorious patrolman, few people have heard of Antoine.

"I love my private life," Antoine, 38, said at the modest Brooklyn home he shares with his cousin. "I don't want anyone to know anything about me."

Antoine has gotten his wish. He is the forgotten victim in a case dominated by the well-publicized ordeal of another Haitian immigrant, Abner Louima.

Antoine was the victim of what his lawyer, Alan Abramson, calls "garden variety" police brutality — a beating that never would have come to light if not for Louima's horrific allegations.

"Without Louima, no prosecutor would have spent the time to develop the case," Abramson said.

Allegations that abusive cops routinely escape punishment have fueled an ongoing federal investigation of the New York Police Department. Records show that only a fraction of the thousands of complaints filed against police each year result in disciplinary action.

Louima's case was another matter.

In the midst of a federal trial,



Abner Louima, far left, testifies during the trial against former New York City Police Officer Justin Volpe, far right. Louima was not the only prisoner tortured by Volpe, says Patrick Antoine, another Haitian immigrant. Patrick said he too was beaten by Volpe. Volpe also admitted to Patrick that he had beaten Louima.

which ended last week, Volpe made headlines by confessing in a guilty plea that he had rammed a stick into a handcuffed Louima's rectum inside the Brooklyn police station's bathroom on Aug. 9, 1997. Volpe and an accomplice in the assault, Officer Charles Schwarz, are in custody awaiting possible life sentences.

Volpe said he was in a blind rage because he thought — mistakenly — that Louima had punched him as police tried to disperse an unruly crowd outside a nightclub. Few people noticed that Volpe also pleaded guilty to beating Antoine on the street and falsely arresting him to cover it up.

Like Louima, Antoine is a recent Haitian immigrant. Both

are natives of Port-au-Prince and have filed multimillion-dollar lawsuits against the city.

But the similarities seem to end there.

Louima, who suffered severe internal injuries, has hired O.J. Simpson lawyers Johnnie Cochran Jr., Barry Scheck and Peter Neufeld. He's appeared at anti-brutality rallies with the Rev. Al Sharpton. And he's received \$2,000 a month from the government as it has pursued his case.

Antoine testified last month at the federal civil rights trial of Volpe and four other officers but has otherwise kept a low profile. He agreed to a brief interview last week but refused to be photographed.

Sitting in a small white stu-

co house, a set of porcelain Pharaoh busts in the living room window, Antoine acted like a shy child trying to shake off a bad dream.

He spoke in a near whisper and broken English about "trying to get myself free of what happened." He prides himself on working at a Queens deli, which requires him to rise at 3 a.m. for a long commute.

"Two buses each way," he said. "Every day."

At work, Antoine fends off most questions about whether he's the other victim in the Louima case.

"Some people, I say, 'It's not me,'" he said.

Antoine lost some of his precious anonymity after what he

See Louima on A13

Police can search cars for drugs, court says

By LAURIE ASSEO
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON — Police generally do not need a warrant to search a car they have reason to believe is carrying illegal drugs, the Supreme Court said today.

The court ruled in a Maryland case that a search warrant is not required even if police had plenty of time to get one after receiving a tip that a car would be carrying drugs.

The court reinstated Kevin Darnell Dyson's conviction of conspiracy to possess cocaine with intent to distribute.

Dyson was arrested early in the morning of July 3, 1996, in St. Mary's County. At 11 a.m. on the previous day, police received an informant's tip that Dyson would return to the county that night in a rental car after going to New York City to buy cocaine.

The informant gave a description and license number of the rental car, and police confirmed with the rental company that the car had been rented to Dyson.

Police stopped Dyson and searched his car at about 1 a.m., finding 23 grams of crack cocaine in a bag in the trunk. Dyson was convicted after a trial judge ruled the police could search his car without a warrant once they had reason to believe it contained evidence of a crime.

A mid-level Maryland appeals court reversed, saying the search was

unlawful because police would have had time to get a warrant.

Today, the Supreme Court ruled in an unsigned opinion that the police did not need a warrant.

The Constitution's Fourth Amendment generally requires police to get a warrant before conducting a search, but the court established an exception

in 1925 for automobile searches.

The justices noted they ruled in 1982 and 1996 that once police have reason to believe a car contains contraband, they can search it without having to show some emergency existed.

All nine justices agreed the police did not need a warrant in Dyson's

case. But Justice Stephen G. Breyer dissented from the result, saying the court should not reverse the lower court without hearing arguments in a case where the defendant's lawyer did not file a response to prosecutors' appeal.

The case is Maryland vs. Dyson, 98-1062.

Lyons ordered to pay \$5 million

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TAMPA, Fla. — The Rev. Henry Lyons, former president of one of the nation's largest black church organizations, was ordered to repay \$5.2 million Friday for bank fraud and tax evasion.

Lyons, already serving 5 1/2 years in state prison for bilking companies and stealing from charities, also was sentenced by a federal judge to four years and three months behind bars. But the



Lyons

See Lyons on A13

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INDEX

OPINION A6
SPORTS B1
RELIGION B6
CLASSIFIEDS B11
HEALTH C3
ENTER C7
CALENDAR C10

This Week In Black History...

June 24, 1896 — Booker T. Washington receives an honorary master of arts from Harvard University.

June 26, 1950 — The first African American delegates are seated at the American Medical Association's annual convention.