

Missing Oscars Resurface in Los Angeles Trash Bin

Academy Awards directors say they hope the three award statues that remain missing will be found soon.

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Two men who worked for the trucking company hired to deliver Academy Awards statues were arrested for stealing the 55 Oscars, all but three of which were found over the weekend beside a trash bin by a man scavenging for valuables.

Police said Monday the two men hoped to profit from Hollywood's most valued trophy.

Bruce Davis, the Academy's executive director, said the 52 statues recovered look fine and some probably will be awarded Sunday. If any are "nicked or dinged, they will not be used," Davis said.

Police said the Oscar theft was an inside job involving two 10-year employees of Roadway Express, the company hired to deliver the statues.

Anthony Keith Hart and Lawrence Edward Ledent, both 38, were arrested Saturday and booked for investigation of grand theft. They were being held on \$100,000 bail each. It wasn't immediately clear if they had attorneys who could comment.

Anonymous tips received Saturday led police to the suspects, but detectives

would not elaborate.

"They did it for profit. They thought they could make money," police Detective Marc Zavala said.

In one of the oddest presentations in Oscar history, officers wheeled two carts loaded with the statues into a news conference by police Chief Bernard Parks. Officers slipped on rubber gloves to remove six of the Oscars from their packaging and set them on a table.

Detectives and Academy officials said

"(The thieves) did it for profit. They thought they could make money."

MARC ZAVALA
Los Angeles Police Detective

they did not know the whereabouts of the other three Oscars. The gold-plated statues are 13 1/2-inches tall and weigh 8 1/2 pounds each. The 55 statues cost about \$18,000 to manufacture.

The Oscars were shipped March 3 from manufacturer R.S. Owens of Chicago and arrived at Roadway Express' warehouse in Bell, Calif., on March 8.

It is the same community where 4,000 Oscar ballots were misplaced at a postal facility earlier this month, forcing

the Academy to print new ballots and extend voting by two days to this Thursday.

Jon Gerloff, security manager for Roadway's western division, said the company believes Hart and Ledent made off with the statues the same day the shipment arrived.

With some Oscars already in the Academy vaults and the new statues being made by R.S. Owens, organizers now have far more than they will need for the big night.

"We have enough for about three years," said Academy President Robert Rehme.

The Academy was just glad to have the statues back and remained hopeful the missing three would be found.

FUNDING

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ing North Carolina further into the budgetary red. Congress also has already provided the state with \$1.9 billion in disaster funds from federal agencies.

But this would be the first funding targeted specifically at helping farmers pay off loans and infrastructure repair.

Ed Bissette serves on an a select legislative committee on tobacco funding and runs a tobacco farm near Nashville.

He attributed the budget controversy to political maneuvering, as legislators concerned with getting re-elected in November were dragging their feet when it came to providing relief aid to farmers. He said, "The political thing is being taken out on the farmers' back."

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CULTURES

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"I was told that I was (picking up a Southern accent)," Zachary said of her family and friends' reaction to her speech. "(They) said that I sounded country."

Even when Southerners and Northerners find common ground with pronunciation, confusion ensues again over what to call certain items.

And notorious in this name game is the pop-soda battle.

Neal calls carbonated beverages "pop" and said Southerners reacted like he was speaking gibberish.

"There were a lot of times when people said, 'You said what?'" he said.

The term "toboggan" also sparks a debate. Northerners use the word referring to a sled, while Southerners use it referring to a hat.

Additional connotation differences stem from the North's "traffic light" and "jimmies" to the South's "stop light" and "sprinkles."

Kimberly Bell, a freshman from Franklin, said she was proud of her Southern lifestyle and her accent.

"(Northerners) always try to change the way we talk," she said.

Bell had a run-in her first week at UNC when a Northerner made fun of her accent.

Southerners seem to believe that Northern students should follow the "when in Rome ..." principle.

"They chose to come to school here, and this is how we talk here," Bell said. "They don't have to adjust; they just

have to deal with it."

Would You Like Grits With That?

While Southerners take pride in their culinary uniqueness, Northerners find themselves thinking twice about some of the dishes.

Students find themselves questioning and adjusting to barbecue because what Northerners consider an event — complete with foods cooked in a charcoal grill — is something altogether different in the South.

"I'm thinking ribs, chicken and hamburgers," Zachary said she thought as she was introduced to Southern barbecue. "I get some mixed-up pork slop. I was like, 'What the hell is this?'"

But Northerners who dine at the Top of Lenoir for a couple of choice nights can be introduced to other items featured predominantly in Southern cuisine including hush puppies, okra, black-eyed peas and the South's trademark — grits.

Bell takes offense to the disgust some Northerners find in Southern cuisine.

"I don't like it when people make fun of grits or okra," Bell said. "I get defensive when someone says something about the South because it's talking about my upbringing."

And one of the biggest differences between the cuisines is what they're washed down with.

While sweet tea flows freely at most Southern eateries, Yankees might be hard-pressed to find the native nectar.

Most Northern restaurants only serve hot tea or unsweetened iced tea, leaving customers dumping their own sugar packets into their drinks.

In that first sip of sweet tea, some Northerners have not been as won over as Southerners to the brew.

"Sweet tea is unbelievably ridiculous," Neal said. "It doesn't go with my taste buds."

Courting — Southern Style

Northerners and Southerners also differ in the way they dress, date and spend a Friday night.

Zachary said New Yorkers had taken a liking to black and gray wardrobes, sporting urban chic, and Southerners' closets tended to be more colorful.

Northerners said it took time to adjust to searching the racks for clothes in North Carolina.

"The options are so small here," Zachary said.

Neal said a difference in the social life was also apparent. He encountered an extra step in the dating process when he came to UNC known as "just talking" — a dating phase referring to when two people had no binding commitment to each other but were interested in getting to know one another.

"This is not a stage in the North," Neal said. "Up North you're either dating or you're not."

... You Might Be a Redneck

Before Northern students even set foot in Chapel Hill, they had stereotypes about "Southern rednecks."

And Southerners had their beliefs about "damn Yankees," which makes the Yankee minority and the redneck majority destined to collide.

"There's always that preconceived notion that Southern accents make

Southerners sound dumb. That's what I've been taught," Zachary said, adding that UNC has disproved this belief.

Bell said this was an unfounded stereotype. "I just talk this way because that's the way I grew up," she said.

Neal said he also heard the preconceived notions Northerners had about their Southern brethren, like the "good ol' boy, rednecks and Southern Belle."

Bell said some UNC Northerners should consider the golden rule when poking fun at Southern traditions.

"I'm very proud of where I'm from," she said. "If I were to go up there, I wouldn't cut down the way they do things."

But the stereotype can be thrown in the other direction as well. Rudeness and other generalizations are pinned on UNC's Northerners. "I don't think they are as courteous," Bell said. "But I know there are exceptions to the rule."

Zachary said although stereotypes were often tossed back between the two regions, Northerners found themselves wanting to get away from the urban hustle and bustle. "Everyone in New York wants to come to the South for just a little bit of time," she said.

Sweet Home Carolina

"As a Northerner, I feel like an outsider," Neal said of being part of the 18 percent of Northern students at UNC.

Waligora's diagnosis of the South is a bit brighter. "I actually want to stay here and live here," she said. "People are just so much nicer here."

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FEES

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state legislature should be providing.

"They keep coming to the students for (things like) faculty salary increases and capital improvements," she said.

Osterweil said that while most students supported the referendum to make improvements to the Student Union, they were not volunteering to pay for the improvements.

LICENSING

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about the WRC's available resources.

"There is a fundamental difference in the business plans of these two companies," he said.

But other committee members were more open to the WRC's objectives and thought the committee was expecting more from the WRC than the FLA.

TOURS

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Sen. Robert Shaw, R-Davidson, said the campus visits helped him visualize the capital facilities problems that both faculty and students faced. "When you see actual rooms and actual equipment, when you talk to students and faculty, it's a good time investment," he said. "You can't get that from a slide."

Sen. Tony Rand, D-Cumberland, the other committee co-chairman, held a

"(Students) can want things the state legislature should pay for," she said.

Sophomore Sam Atkins said the unusual increase in fees came at a poor time in relation to the recent tuition increase. "I don't think such a high increase is needed at all," Atkins said. "I think things like (Student Union improvements) should come from the state legislature and not student fees."

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"We are applying to (the WRC) a different standard than we did with the FLA in regards to structure and governing," committee member Don Hornstein said.

Committee member Nick Didow said, "The challenge for the committee is our advice to the chancellor in joining either one, both or neither."

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similar opinion. "Not only does the legislature need to see (where improvements need to be made), but the people of North Carolina need to see the legislature seeing it," he said.

Jeff Nieman, president of the UNC Association of Student Governments and a nonvoting Board of Governors member, said he approved of the tours. Nieman said. "The committee members are now armed with their observations."

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Coca-Cola

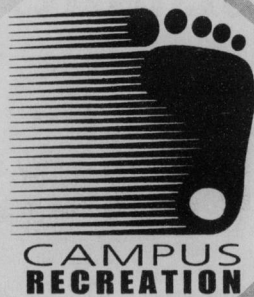
CAMPUS RECREATION UPDATE

Intramural Sports

The **final SPORTS Agent meeting** of the year is tonight, 7pm, Woollen 301.

Entries are now being accepted for **Wallyball** and it's time to start training for the **annual Splash and Dash Plus Triathlon**.

Employee Intramurals: Saturday, Human Subjects vs Kim Wipes, Gummers vs Bookheads, 10am. Winners meet for the championship at 11am.



Women's Lacrosse Club Tournament

Come see the **UNC Women's Lacrosse Club** compete in their tournament this weekend at Finley Fields. The tournament will be held on Saturday and Sunday and promises to provide great lacrosse action. Teams will be represented from along the east coast including Penn State University. Come out and support UNC Club Women's Lacrosse. For game times and further information please contact Karen Imgrund at 968-9511 or email at kimgrund@email.unc.edu.

Upcoming Home Sport Club Events include:

Aussie Rules Football Clinic Saturday, March 25th
All Day Ehringhaus Field
contact: Daylian Cain 932-7289 daylian@hotmail.com

Women's Soccer (Heels vs. Rams) Sunday, March 26th
1:00pm Finley Fields

contact: Caroline Hope 933-4876 chope@email.unc.edu
contact: Jennifer Cooke 914-2282 jrcooke@email.unc.edu

Come enjoy Carolina Sport Clubs action. For any questions about the UNC Sport Clubs Program or for a list of all 40 clubs and contact numbers please call 962-1013 or email Sport Club Director Steve Bradley at smbradle@email.unc.edu. **GO HEELS!**



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