

Mother, brother of Oscar-winning actress slain, suspect arrested

AFP, Chicago

The mother and brother of Oscar-winning actress and chart-topping singer Jennifer Hudson have been found shot dead at the family's Chicago home, according to Hudson's publicist and authorities.

A Chicago police department spokesman said the murders appeared to be the result of a domestic incident, but would not identify the victims.

Hudson's personal publicist Lisa Kasteler confirmed that the victims were Hudson's mother, Darnell Donnerson, 57, and her brother, Jason Hudson, 29.

Donnerson suffered a gunshot wound to the head. Hudson was shot in the chest, according to the Cook County Examiner's Office.

There were no signs of forced entry to the home, according to Joseph Patterson, deputy chief of patrol of the Chicago Police.

Neighbours reported hearing gunshots at Donnerson's home in the gritty Englewood neighbourhood on the city's South Side between 8:00 and 9:00 am Friday, but no one raised the alarm until around 3:00 pm, authorities said.



AP, RENO, Nevada

Barack Obama and John McCain venture into the next-to-last weekend of their testy presidential campaign with the same target winning the rest of the West.

Once reliable Republican territory, much of the West has seen its politics and demographics shift over the last decade. Three states considered still in play to varying degrees Nevada, Colorado and New Mexico could be vital if the electoral math gets tight.

Obama was resuming his campaign in Nevada on Saturday with rallies in Reno and Las Vegas before holding one at night in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The Democrat put aside political events on Thursday night and Friday to spend time with his grandmother in Hawaii, whom he described as gravely ill.

McCain, pivoting from his three stops in Colorado on Friday, will also be pushing hard in New Mexico on Saturday. He is holding

rallies in Albuquerque and in Mesilla, farther south.

As the collapsing economy consumes voter attention, McCain has seized a line of attack that Obama is poised to deepen the problem by raising taxes. He said in Denver that Obama won't target the rich but rather the middle class by putting it "through the wringer."

Obama counters that he would lower taxes for most wage-earners and that McCain's tax plan favours wealthy corporations. He has tagged McCain as being out of time and ideas.

Polls show the path to the winning tally of 270 electoral votes is trickier for McCain, a Republican weighed down by the economic crisis and an unpopular incumbent president.

Obama, wary of overconfidence among his backers, is charting multiple winning paths. That's where 19 electoral votes

out West factor into the equation. Nevada, with five votes, is posing the toughest challenge for

Obama; the race is a tossup. Colorado is competitive, though Obama has a slight edge in polls in the state that offers nine votes. Obama is more deeply favoured to win New Mexico's five votes.

President Bush carried all three states in 2004. Obama, the front-runner nationally with 11 days until the election, is focusing his time on plucking away states Bush won four years ago.

Obama could win the White House by hanging onto all the states that Sen. John Kerry won four years ago and then sweeping the three Western states getting attention this weekend.

McCain, though, has mounted comebacks before. Political momentum can change fast.

Part of the West's demographic change includes larger numbers of Hispanics, a traditionally Democratic-leaning group that has posed a challenge for McCain. The most recent Gallup poll showed

Obama leading among registered Hispanic voters, 61 percent to 29 percent.

Sad Obama says goodbye to ailing grandmother

AFP, Honolulu

A heavy-hearted Barack Obama Friday said goodbye to his ailing grandmother who brought him up, who he said may not live the 10 days until the presidential election.

The Democratic nominee grabbed some precious time with Madelyn Dunham, 85, in her apartment complex in Hawaii, after stepping off the campaign trail for a day and a half and flying halfway across the Pacific to his native state.

He spent a total of seven hours with Dunham, who he affectionately knows as "Toot" after arriving in Hawaii on Thursday, and was due to hit the campaign trail again in Reno, Nevada on Saturday.

At one stage in the morning, a somber looking Obama emerged from the building for a solitary walk around his boyhood haunts, trailed by a lone Secret Service agent, before spying some reporters and heading back in an SUV.

US sanctions firms for alleged sales of arms technology

AFP, Washington

The United States has imposed sanctions on companies from China, Russia, Venezuela and other countries for allegedly violating its ban on sales of technology that could help Iran, Syria or North Korea develop sensitive weapons systems.

The State Department announced in the Federal Register that "13 foreign persons," meaning companies, "engaged in activities that warrant imposition of measures" under its Iran, North Korea and Syria Non-Proliferation Act.

The United States says the sanctions are meant to punish the firms for sales that have "potential to make a material contribution to the development of weapons of mass destruction or cruise or ballistic missile systems."

It did not in this listing link firms to specific equipment or alleged destination countries.

The companies and organisations targeted were: China Xinchidai Company; China Shipbuilding and Offshore International Corporation; Huazhong CNC; Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps; Korea Mining Development (North Korea); Korea Taesong Trading (North Korea); Yolin/Yullin Tech (South Korea); and Rosoboronexport of Russia.

UN chief outlines 5-point nuke disarmament plan

AFP, United Nations

UN chief Ban Ki-moon outlined steps Friday to advance the goal of a nuclear-free world, including a call on Russia and the United States to resume talks on cutting their nuclear arsenals.

"The world would welcome a resumption of bilateral negotiations between the United States and Russian Federation aimed at deep and verifiable reductions of their respective arsenals," he said in an address here to the East-West Institute, an independent international body focusing on security issues.

The UN secretary general also called on signatories of the nuclear

Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) to fulfil their disarmament obligations and consider negotiating "a nuclear-weapons convention, backed by a strong system of verification."

"The United Kingdom's proposal to host a conference of nuclear-weapon states on verification is a concrete step in the right direction," he noted.

The UN symposium on the theme "The United Nations and security in a nuclear-weapon-free world" was also attended by International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) chief Mohamed El Baradei, US former secretary of state Henry Kissinger and Russian Ambassador to the United States

Sergei Kislyak.

El Baradei called for "concrete action" to speed up nuclear disarmament, noting that "The world cannot afford 27,000 nuclear weapons 20 years after the Cold War."

Some lamented that efforts to whittle down nuclear stockpiles have gained little traction.

"The goal of nuclear disarmament has remained a mirage," said retired General Ved Malik, a former chief of India's Army Staff.

Ban said that while most nations had opted to forgo the nuclear option and have complied with their commitments under the NPT, "some states view possession of such weapons as a status symbol."

Aid airlift after 47 die in fierce Yemen storms

AFP, Sanaa

Airborne rescue operations swung into action yesterday in Yemen after floods killed 41 people and six more died after being struck by lightning in fierce storms that swept the country, officials said.

The latest toll from emergency services and local authorities received by AFP said 41 people died in flooding fed by torrential downpours that hit the provinces of Hadramaut and Mahara on Thursday and Friday.

At least six aircraft took off from the Yemeni capital Sanaa on Saturday carrying tents, food and medicine for the Hadramaut capital Al-Mukalla and Mahara, airport officials said.

"Other airlifts are scheduled for later in the day," one official said,

adding that public and private organisations had joined ranks to help the victims of the disaster.

Authorities said four people were killed by lightning in the southern provinces of Tazez and Lahj, and a mother and son also died when struck by lightning in the Al-Mahwit region north of the capital Sanaa.

Rescue coordinators said that among the victims were seven people who perished in Al-Mukalla, the capital of Hadramaut, which is located on the shores of the Arabian Sea.

Both Hadramaut and Mahara were officially declared disaster zones on Friday.

Bad weather continued to batter southeastern coastal regions on Saturday as the aidlift into the stricken areas began.

SAY NO TO SMOKING



Indian custom car designer Sudhakar Yadav (2-R) sits inside a vehicle made in the shape of a cigarette in Hyderabad yesterday. Yadav made the cigarette car to support the recent ban on smoking in public places by the government of India.

PARTNER AND PEAK WITH TECHNOLOGY, VISION AND EXCELLENCE... AT BORDING VISTA, THE BEST AND THE BOLDEST IT VENTURE IN JOINT COLLABORATION.

Bording Group, a stock market listed leading company from Denmark, together with TechnoVista Ltd, a Mohammadi Group IT Company, launched beginning of 2007 the most ambitious IT off-shoring software company in Dhaka bound to create best of the breed e-business solutions for the international market. During the business venture Bording Vista has created successful partnership with European customers delivering high quality services by attracting the best human resources within the industry.

The Joint Venture Company, Bording Vista, is running with state of the art office in Dhaka managed by full-time locally stationed European CEO. Bording Group, being a Company having long standing customers in the European Union, now launches second phase of the venture. Bording Vista is looking for the most talented, motivated, dedicated DTP professionals, both experienced and freshmen from university, who want to be part of this international venture.

Human resources play a dominant role to meet the objectives of Bording Vista. The venture believes that success can only come when facilities and career opportunities, both locally and internationally, are provided for the employees. Thus giving high priority on Human Resources, Corporate Social Responsibility and long term employee partnership, we will set a new standard where the European way of managing business will be the common thread.

Bording Vista offers extensive training by European experts in tools and other relevant skill areas. The training will commence, locally and internationally, in development process and methodology.

In addition to DTP Professionals we are always looking for the best IT professionals for the Bording Vista Software Development Business Unit.

Team Leader Graphic Designer

As a Team Leader Graphic Designer you will produce different kind of graphic solutions, such as Magazines, Catalogues, Packaging, Manuals or both printed and on-line banners. You will do this as an integrated part of a team, but at the same time as the Team Leader. Each team member will cover different fields of expertise. You will manage tasks through completion with limited supervision and create high end quality solutions delivered on time under guidance from the Production Manager. You will supervise and guide the other members of the team and together with the Production Manager plan the weekly and daily work load.

You will report to the Production Manager of the department.

Responsibilities

- You will be producing different kinds of graphic productions (Desk Top Publishing).
- All tasks and activities performed with focus on best practice, quality and fulfilment of the given deadline.
- Coordinate project activities and Technical Project Management to ensure quality and meet timetables.
- Maintaining control of assigned projects.
- Communicate with other supervisors, managers and project team members.
- Technical supervisor for the team.
- Maintain necessary documentation in accordance with companies and clients' quality, process and documentation requirements.
- Guide other members of the team.
- Design and produce products based on written English specifications
- Approach work very structured and systematic manner.
- Consult with Team Manager to identify customer needs and include into project objectives.
- Perform other job-related duties and responsibilities as may be assigned by the Production Manager.
- Act as mentor for assigned interns and assist the Production Manager.
- Making sure that your team members are satisfied and have everything they need to succeed with their work.

Qualifications

- You are educated as a Graphic Designer or DTP-operator.
- In-depth knowledge of graphic production from school and from other workplaces.
- You are familiar with relevant graphic software - primarily Adobe Suite.
- You enjoy international environment.
- 1-5 years of experience from the graphic industry or other relevant industry.
- An open mindset willing to learn and gain experience.
- Ready to participate in a rapid business growth that will require a dedicated effort.
- Fluent skills both orally and written in English.
- Team player to the benefit of the department, project team and the company.
- People management experience.

Graphic Designer

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