

Entertainment Briefs: Wednesday, September 16, 2009

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Pop star's adoption wish quashed

KIEV, Ukraine — Elton John will not be able to adopt a 14-month-old Ukrainian child because the pop star is too old and isn't traditionally married, Ukraine's minister for family affairs said Monday.

The pop singer toured a hospital for HIV-infected children in eastern Ukraine on Saturday as part of a charity project and said that he and his male partner, David Furnish, wanted to adopt an HIV-infected boy named Lev.

But Yuriy Pavlenko, the country's Family, Youth and Sports Minister, said adoptive parents must be married, and Ukraine does not recognize homosexual unions as marriage.

John and Furnish, his longtime partner, tied the knot in 2005 in one of the first legalized civil unions in the United Kingdom.

Pavlenko also said John was too old. The singer is 62; Ukrainian law requires a parent to be no more than 45 years older than an adopted child.

The Associated Press

'Basketball Diaries' author dies

NEW YORK — Jim Carroll, the poet and punk rocker who wrote "The Basketball Diaries," died Friday. He was 60. He died from a heart attack at his home in Manhattan, his ex-wife, Rosemary Carroll, told The New York Times.

In the 1970s, Carroll was a fixture of the burgeoning New York art scene, where he mixed with artists such as Andy Warhol, Patti Smith, Larry Rivers and Robert Mapplethorpe. His life was shaped by drug use, which he wrote about extensively.

Carroll also published several poetry collections. His 1980 album, "Catholic Boy," has been hailed as a landmark punk record.

"The Basketball Diaries," his autobiographical tale of life as a sports star at Trinity, a private high school in Manhattan, created his widest audience. The Associated Press

Colombian rocker is dad again

MIAMI, Fla. — Less than a week before his "Peace Without Borders" concert in Havana, Colombian rocker Juanes and his wife, Karen, welcomed their first son over the weekend.

The singer announced Saturday on Twitter that his wife had given birth to the couple's third child, a boy, Dante, in Miami.

Juanes, 37, posted Monday that the newborn and mother were doing well.

The Associated Press

Playboy chief files for divorce

TORONTO — Hugh Hefner said he waited more than 10 years to complete his divorce "because of the children."

"I stayed married not because it was a marriage — the marriage ended in 1998," he said. "I stayed because she wanted me to."

But now his twin boys are turning 18, so the 83-year-old Playboy magazine founder says, "Now is the time."

On Friday, Hefner filed for divorce from former Playmate of the Year Kimberly Conrad Hefner. The couple married in 1989 and were legally separated in 1998.

Since then, Hefner has lived with three girlfriends at the Playboy Mansion.

The ASSOCIATED PRESS

ON STAGE

'Avenue Q' going off-Broadway

NEW YORK — Hold that final curtain for "Avenue Q."

Producer Kevin McCollum says the Tony-winning musical, which had its final Broadway performance Sunday night, will move off-Broadway next month.

The show about twentysomethings in New York searching for life and love will begin performances Oct. 9 at New World Stages.

McCollum made the announcement from the stage of Broadway's Golden Theatre after what was to be the musical's last performance. Said the producer: "Avenue Q' is staying in the Broadway neighborhood." The closing-night audience cheered.

New World Stages is five blocks from the Golden Theatre in midtown Manhattan.

The ASSOCIATED PRESS



Art Adventures at the Fred Jones Jr. Museum

View photos from the event.

7 photos



Moore Public Library hosts Baby Story Time:

View photos from the event.

8 photos



Daily Published Photos: October 13, 2009

View pictures from The Oklahoman.

33 photos



Thunder vs. Phoenix Suns: Monday, Oct. 12,

Preseason NBA basketball game between the Oklahoma City Thunder and the Phoenix Suns at the

26 photos