

Monday, June 15, 2009


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Celebrity Chatter: Babs Is Fighting Mad Over Internet Photos

Web Site Publishes Pictures Of Streisand's House

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Barbra Streisand is suing an amateur photographer over images of her Malibu mansion that appear on a scientific Web site.



The singer is suing **Kenneth Adelman** for \$10 million, claiming he has violated her privacy and is in violation of California's anti-paparazzi law.

The Web site in which the photos appear is not a celebrity stalking site, but an informational site which catalogues the California coastline and documents its erosion and development.

At issue are what the photos show to anyone with Internet access. The photo shows the "Streisand Estate, Malibu," and includes a view of the rear of the residence, swimming pool, patio, and French doors.

"Barbra Streisand, known for espousing pro-environmental views and criticizing those who don't, has sued the California Coastal Records Project, a landmark photographic database of over 12,000 frames of the California coast shot since 2002, asserting that the inclusion of a single frame that includes her blufftop Malibu estate invades her privacy, violates the 'anti-paparazzi' statute, seeks to profit from her name, and threatens her security. Other defendants in the case are the Project's Internet Service Provider, Layer42.net, and Pictopia.com, who provides finished prints of the photographs," says a statement on the CCRP's Web site.

Basically, Adelman believes he has a first-amendment right to publish the photos in the interest of eco-science and that Streisand's request to have the photographs removed is an effort to suppress free speech on the site.

The little Web site, which was formerly just a haven for erosion geeks, is now getting some noticeable attention.

Adelman believes that "it is not possible to provide the public with a complete record without the photographs of the coast that happen to include Ms. Streisand's estate. We do not believe in giving special treatment to wealthy coastal land owners."

But is Streisand's complaint more than from a wealthy coastal land owner? The singer contends in the Complaint that:

"People who wish to have contact with plaintiff do not always do so through legitimate channels which respect her personal space. Unfortunately, some people are prepared to resort to any means to secure that glimpse, or illicit photograph, which fulfills their desire to fell close to Plaintiff, or to make money at her expense. Thus, Plaintiff is often stalked by obsessed personalities who possess an unnatural urge to stake her out at all times..."



Streisand's complaint also says that she has taken painstaking measures to ensure that her domestic environment is shielded from such intrusions.

Another concern of Ms. Streisand's? You can request to purchase a copy of the photo and even have it enlarged to poster size.

Adelman's attorney, **Richard Kendall**, told the *Los Angeles Times* that the photographer's site is a "public-interest effort" and he is "not doing this for profit or stalking anyone."

The site says that Streisand, after becoming aware of the photographs of her estate on the Web

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site last November, sent a letter in February through her attorneys demanding that the site "immediately cease and desist from photographing and displaying and identifying photographs of Ms. Streisand's home."

Adelman refused.

After saying that the integrity and historical value of the Web site would be compromised if the photo was removed, Adelman received a second letter, which threatened legal action by the star, since she had not given permission for the photos to be displayed on the site.

At the opening of "The Producers" in Los Angeles, **Goldie Hawn** was asked her opinion of the lawsuit, in which she responded, "You go, girl." Hawn said she believed Streisand had every right to protect her privacy. Other celebrities who were queried said that while celebrities are in the public eye, they are not public officials and therefore should be left alone.

Meanwhile, a court date has been set for Aug. 28. If Streisand wins the lawsuit, she has said she will give the money to a charity.

Celebrity Spotting In Las Vegas

Jennifer Lopez and **Ben Affleck** bought plenty of baby togs at one of their favorite Las Vegas stops, The Venetian Hotel's Grand Canal Shoppes, on the upper floor of the hotel, according to a *Las Vegas Sun* columnist.

So what's up with that? Is there a little secret brewing before the big wedding?

At the high-priced Burberry's store, the manager told the *Sun* that they shopped on Memorial Day, "looking at all the kids' stuff. They bought a couple of things, all children's stuff – nothing for themselves." Kid's stuff at Burberry isn't cheap. Teddy bears go for more than \$200, while a onesie can fetch \$90. How about a \$395 diaper bag?

J. Lo's manager, **Benny Medina**, quickly cleared things up telling *TV Guide Online* that "she has a niece and nephew she shops for all the time. That's really all there is to it. And they were toddler clothes, not baby clothes," Medina said.

Meanwhile, the *Sun* also reported that Affleck spent some time at the big spender blackjack tables at the Venetian although his loss, according to Venetian sources, was "nothing significant."

Meanwhile, stories about **Bobbi Brown** and **Whitney Houston's** visit to Fun City hit the Strip.

Brown accompanied Houston to the "VH1 Divas Duets" show a few weeks ago in Vegas.

Our favorite *Sun* columnist Timothy McDarragh tells the story of Brown, bucks and the Bellagio Hotel.

"Seems that during their stay at Bellagio last week, a high-roller approached Brown and said he wanted to gamble with him. The unnamed man handed Brown \$5,000 for just that purpose. Brown promptly pocketed the money, turned around and left. The man called Bellagio security, who alerted Houston," according to McDarragh.

He says that Brown was found sitting alone at a bar. The group then went to Houston and Brown's private hotel villa where the misunderstanding was sorted out.

In case you were wondering, the man got his money back.

And what's this about Houston and Brown being in Israel?

It's true. Houston has said that they are visiting "friends and family" among the Black Hebrews, a community that moved to Israel in 1969.

Sandler's Wedding Bells

Adam Sandler will be hearing wedding bells at the end of this month, according to published reports.



He'll marry **Jackie Titone** who he began dating in January 1999, according to entertainment Web site E! Online. Titone has appeared in Sandler's movies "Big Daddy," "Deuce Bigalow: Male Gigolo," "Little Nicky," and can be heard in "Eight Crazy Nights."

Could a Hawaii wedding be in the works? Sandler is completing work on the island for another movie with "Wedding Singer" co-star **Drew Barrymore** entitled "Fifty First Kisses."

Off To London

Your favorite globe-trotting celebrity columnist is off to Europe to catch up with some big stars. We'll be taking a week off from writing *Celebrity Chatter*, but when we return, find out who we chatted up.

Michelle Solomon's gossip column, Celebrity Chatter, usually appears each Monday. E-mail us with questions or comments. Michelle.Solomon@CelebrityChatter.

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