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July 28, 2000

Lissa Muscatine, White House Press Office
Via fax: 202-456-7805
RE: Chelsea Clinton

Dear Ms. Muscatine:

Globe is publishing a story on Chelsea Clinton and seeks comment.

Sources tell GLOBE that Chelsea is complaining that the high profile she is maintaining to support her dad at the White House and her mom on the campaign trail is robbing her of time to find a boyfriend and enjoy college.

Sources further say that though Chelsea loves her parents she blames them for forcing her into a lifestyle that leaves little time for good clean fun.

The story also notes that Chelsea is shy by nature and is uncomfortable in the limelight.

Should you wish to comment, our deadline for this story is Monday, July 31 at 3 p.m. EST.

Sincerely,



Steve Herz

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Via fax: 202-456-7805
RE: Chelsea Clinton

Dear Ms. Muscatine:

Globe is publishing a story on Chelsea Clinton and seeks comment.

Further to previously faxed request for comment, we would like to note that sources tell GLOBE Chelsea has said her parents are "ruining my life."

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Sources further say that though Chelsea loves her parents she blames them for forcing her into a lifestyle that leaves little time for good clean fun.

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Steve Herz

7/27/00

Chelsea is taking off the fall semester to experience and enjoy the final months of her father's Administration and to spend time helping her mother and father in their various activities. She will graduate from Stanford on time in the spring of 2001.

1ST STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

Copyright 2000 News World Communications, Inc.
The Washington Times

July 17, 2000, Monday, Final Edition

SECTION: PART A; NATION; INSIDE THE BELTWAY; Pg. A8

LENGTH: 1253 words

BYLINE: John McCaslin; THE WASHINGTON TIMES

BODY:

DIDN'T INHALE

We reported in our most recent column that a group of 20-something Libertarians gathered at a popular Washington coffee shop for a smoke-in to commemorate the first daughter's reported use of tobacco.

Uncorroborated stories said that Chelsea Clinton had been spotted smoking up a storm at the coffee shop over the Fourth of July weekend, and the Libertarians - through various competitions, like blowing the best smoke rings - wanted to emphasize that adults are old enough to make their own decisions regarding smoking and health, without government intrusion.

No sooner did our item appear and Hillary Rodham Clinton's spokeswoman, Lissa Muscatine, called to say that Chelsea not only didn't inhale, she didn't puff.

"She wants no part of smoking, she doesn't smoke, she hates smoking," Ms. Muscatine says, saying reports to the contrary are unfair and "totally wrong."

"This is something she feels very strongly about," the spokeswoman says of the first daughter. "She is vehemently against smoking."

And if that isn't proof enough, Ms. Muscatine points out that Chelsea "is a vegetarian" for heaven's sakes.

LAME DUCHESS

As for Hillary Rodham Clinton's amazing stamina of late - what with juggling first lady duties with a full-time Senate campaign - spokeswoman Lissa Muscatine concedes that Mrs. Clinton's White House obligations have become fewer and far between.

"The bulk of her time is spent on the campaign," says Ms. Muscatine, adding that Mrs. Clinton is careful to block off a certain number of days when back in Washington "to catch up on her sleep."

President Clinton announced last week that the first family won't be taking its customary summer vacation this year to allow for Mrs. Clinton's continued campaigning.

SCALY TOMATOES

During the past year, 100 million acres of genetically engineered crops were planted in the United States, a crop that concerns one congressman.

Rep. Dennis J. Kucinich, Ohio Democrat, says many Americans aren't aware they're consuming genetically altered crops, and points to possible allergenicity, toxicity, transfer of antibiotic resistance, and unintended side effects that come with the new technology.

He wants labeling regimes so Americans know if the food they are eating is genetically modified.

"There is one product which has been talked about, a flavor saver tomato which takes a gene from a flounder and shoots it into a tomato to make the tomato more weather resistant," notes the congressman.

"Now, in God's green acres, tomatoes and flounders do not mate," he says. "What is happening is that genetic engineering is creating new possibilities which defy the laws of nature and God."

GONE BANANAS

A Senate briefing on Senate Resolution 2725 - The Chimpanzee Health Improvement Maintenance and Protection (CHIMP) Act - has been called for today by Sens. Bob Smith, New Hampshire Republican, and Richard J. Durbin, Illinois Democrat.

Mr. Smith calls the CHIMP act "landmark legislation which will provide permanent retirement in sanctuaries for chimpanzees no longer deemed useful in federal research laboratories."

CALLING HALLMARK

Offering his support for the many stepparents in this country who contribute to the lives of the children they help raise, Sen. Rick Santorum, Pennsylvania Republican, is proposing "Stepmother's Day."

He got the idea from a young constituent, Lizzie Capuzzi, who recognized the importance of her relationship with her stepmother, Joyce Capuzzi. The girl decided that the Sunday following Mother's Day would now be Stepmother's Day.

"It is wonderful that Lizzie Capuzzi holds so much love for her stepmother, and it is my hope that their relationship can be an example for other stepfamilies," says the senator.

NOT DOING A LOT

Vice President Al Gore and his fellow Democrats on both sides of Capitol Hill have spent the past week accusing the Republican-led body of being a "do-nothing Congress."

A label that doesn't bother Rep. J.C. Watts Jr., Oklahoma Republican.

"Do you know what it means when they accuse you of doing nothing?" asks Mr.

Watts. "It means we are not raising taxes. That means we are not spending enough of the surplus. We have not raided the Social Security surplus. We are not making government regulations burdensome enough."

He went on to cite other things the 106th Congress isn't doing, but we don't have the space to print it all.

* John McCaslin can be reached at 202/636-3284 or by e-mail at mccas1ftwtmail.com.

GRAPHIC: Photo, The senators' measure would provide retirement once this federal employee hangs it up.

LANGUAGE: ENGLISH

LOAD-DATE: July 17, 2000

7/7/00

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CHELSEA: puff piece?

BIG Tobacco might have a well-connected convert. **Chelsea Clinton**, whose mom banned cigarettes in the White House, was "smoking like a chimney" at the Xando coffee shop near DuPont Circle in Washington over the weekend, reports MSNBC.com's **Jeanette Walls**. "I can't believe she would do it in such a public place, especially now that she's out stumping for her mother's campaign," says Walls' source. "This is one of the most irresponsible pieces of journalism I have seen in my life," says Hillary's press secretary **Lissa Muscatine**. "It's totally untrue. The reporter should be ashamed of herself for running it."

3RD STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

Copyright 2000 St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Inc.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch

July 12, 2000, Wednesday, FIVE STAR LIFT EDITION

SECTION: EVERYDAY MAGAZINE, Pg. E4

LENGTH: 420 words

HEADLINE: PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

BYLINE: Compiled By Harry Levins; Post-Dispatch Senior Writer

BODY:

The "reunion tour" by Diana Ross and the Supreme wasn't really a reunion - and now, it may not be a tour. Ross says it's been canceled, but promoters insist that the tour will go on. It got off to a bad start when '60s Supremes Mary Wilson and Cindy Birdsong refused to join. Ross set sail with two nobodies and has been drawing - well, nobody.

In other misfortunes of the famous:

* Kim Mathers, 25 - she's the wife of rapper Eminem - is home from a Detroit-area hospital after treatment for a suicide attempt. The rapper has been accused of pistol-whipping a man he saw kissing Mathers last month.

* Actor Jean-Claude Van Damme has drawn three years of probation and a \$ 1,200 fine for driving with a buzz on - and without a license.

* A pricey Beverly Hills jewelry store has sued pop nonesuch Michael Jackson, accusing him of stiffing the store on a \$ 1.4 million watch.

Ex-Spice Girl Geri Halliwell has infuriated Rome's Catholics by dirty-dancing with a papal impersonator at Rome's Gay Pride fest, says New York's Daily News. She did the deed after Pope John Paul II denounced homosexuality.

From our fecundity files:

* Melanie Griffin (Mrs. Antonio Banderas) tells the Ladies Home Journal she's taking fertility drugs at age 43.

* Rapper T-Boz of trio TLC tells www.thatglow.com that one thing about her pregnancy frightens her: "I'm scared I'm gonna get it back, what I put my mama through."

* Pregnant actress Thandie Newton ("Mission: Impossible 2") tells the Daily News she'll give birth at home without benefit of drugs. Hubby is director Oliver Parker.

* Jane Leeves (Daphne on "Frasier") expects her first in January, says USA Today. Hubby: TV exec Marshall Coben.

* Expecting twins in September is actress Cathy Moriarty, says People mag. Hubby: financier Joseph Gentile.

A spokeswoman for Hillary Clinton denies an msnbc.com report (cited in this space) that Chelsea Clinton has been seen puffing cigarettes. The spokeswoman says tartly, "It is emphatically not true. She doesn't smoke, she hasn't smoked, and she wasn't smoking in a Washington coffee shop. In fact, she's vehemently against smoking."

On this day

On July 12, 1690, William of Orange's Protestants defeated James II's Catholics in the Battle of the Boyne in Ireland.

Today's birthdays:

Artist Andrew Wyeth 83

Comic Bill Cosby 63

Gospel singer Sandi Patti 44

Figure skater Kristi Yamaguchi 29

Actor ("Malcolm in the Middle") Erik Per Sullivan 9

GRAPHIC: PHOTO Photo - Jane Leever expects to increase the population.

LANGUAGE: English

LOAD-DATE: July 12, 2000

6TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

Copyright 2000 Chicago Sun-Times, Inc.

Chicago Sun-Times

July 07, 2000, FRIDAY, Late Sports Final Edition

SECTION: NEWS; SNEED; Pg. 4

LENGTH: 663 words

BYLINE: Michael Sneed

BODY:

Scoopsville . . .

Dateline: The White House. . . . Who will financial guru Alan Greenspan endorse for the presidency?

To wit: Sneed hears President Clinton asked Greenspan that question at a private party for Bill Daley here Thursday evening.

The question? Standing at a podium, President Clinton spotted Greenspan next to the buffet table and asked: "Does this mean you are endorsing Al Gore for president?"

The response? Retorted Greenspan, "No, it means I am endorsing the man standing to the left of you (Bill Daley)."

The downshot: The retort netted nervous laughter. Stay tuned.

The Daley fete . . .

The White House send-off for Commerce Secretary Daley, who leaves to head Al Gore's campaign, was attended by former U.S. Rep. Dan Rostenkowski, whom Clinton singled out for praise before kissing his daughter Gayle. The only Chicago alderman in attendance was Ed Burke (14th). Noted for his absence was U.S. Sen. Dick Durbin (D-Ill.), who is rumored to want the Gore veep spot.

Among the glitterati: the entire Daley family, including the mayor, Tim Degnan, Jerry Joyce, Jack Sandner, Neil Hartigan, Washington Post Co. Chairwoman Katharine Graham, and members of Clinton's cabinet, including Janet Reno and Madeleine Albright.

Smoke 'em . . .

If the rumor is true that Chelsea Clinton is smoking, you can bet her defense is a la her father's: She didn't inhale.

Word circulated in the gossip network that Chelsea was spotted smoking "like a chimney" at a coffee shop in Washington last weekend.

Buckshot: President Clinton and wife Hillary are adamant anti-smokers and have spearheaded anti-tobacco campaigns.

The downshot: "I have never seen it (Chelsea smoking)," said a top Clinton source. "And I have been with them in a lot of places. The president has horrible allergies, and I can't imagine her making life difficult for him. But then again, she probably didn't inhale . . . like her father when he was accused of smoking pot in college."

Conger line . . .

Darva Conger, the latest Playboy cover girl, attracted an audience at a party at Circus on Wednesday night, which included . . . ESPN Radio host Bill Simonson.

Simonson's assault following a recent Sox game made headlines. Although he was not seated in the VIP section, he was not at a loss for words. A top Sneed snoop claims Simonson was telling folks he thinks the Sox incident has been swept under the rug and that shady stuff was going on because no charges have been filed yet.

Oh yes -- Simonson, in true sporting fashion, was drinking Miller Lites while he told his tale.

I spy . . .

Golf Goliath Tiger Woods was spotted dining at Morton's in Westchester and chewing the fat with a few of his pals. All eyes are watching for a Michael Jordan; Woods outing, which the duo is planning . . . Rocker Dave Matthews was spotted at Tavern on Rush's outdoor patio last weekend eating pizza and soaking up sun . . . former Gov. Jim Edgar was eyed early this week at Fred Hoffmann's Snuggery in Union Station munching popcorn.

Taste 'em . . .

Gulp! With myriad food concessions to choose from, singer Taylor Dayne ordered out for lobster and rice pilaf from Hugo's Frog Bar to take back to her hotel following her performance at Taste of Chicago.

The Magic Jeannie . . .

Actress Barbara "I Dream of Jeannie" Eden still has the magic touch. She cheered the Cubs to a 3-0 victory against the Pittsburgh Pirates July 3 with a rendition of "Take Me Out to the Ball Game" that brought Wrigley Field to its feet. Eden is appearing at the Apollo Theatre in the female version of Neil Simon's "The Odd Couple," which opens July 11 and runs through August 13.

Sneedlings . . .

Fergie, the Duchess of York, has pulled the plug on sending her daughter to school in Switzerland due to a recent school scandal. Thought you'd want to know. . . . Today's birthdays: Shelley Duvall, 51; Joe Spano, 54; Ringo Starr, 60; Billy Campbell, 41; Vonda Shepard, 37, and Alan Dixon, 73.

↓
Lissa

ANDER BERRYWAY

By John McCaslin

Choking with Chelsea

A youthful group of twenty-somethings, the majority Libertarians, gathered at Dupont Circle North's Xando's last evening for a smoke-in to commemorate the first daughter's recent choice to use tobacco.

Various interns and staffers, hailing from Capitol Hill and beyond, organized the impromptu event after learning that Chelsea Clinton had been spotted smoking up a storm at the popular coffee shop over the Fourth of July weekend.

The event was open to cigarette, cigar and pipe smokers. Nonsmokers also were welcome to join the group in the restaurant's smoking section. Tobacco trivia questions were asked and competitions such as best smoke rings were held. Free matches also were available to commemorate the event.

"We are not necessarily condoning smoking. We want to emphasize that an adult's decisions regarding health and morality should be left to that person only and not to the government or any other outside authority," said one smoke-in organizer.

Under Chelsea's father's administration, the tobacco industry has faced some of the toughest anti-cigarette lawsuits and legislation in history. But it's Chelsea's mom, Senate candidate Hillary Rodham Clinton, who is the family's most ardent foe of tobacco use.

Go figure

Republican leaders in Congress are trying to make sense of rumors that Patricia Godley, the Clinton administration's assistant energy secretary, is about to be named chief Washington lobbyist for Enron, the Houston-based energy company and top patron of GOP presidential front-runner George W. Bush.

During his career, Mr. Bush has secured more than \$500,000 from Enron's employees.

Pay and pray

Democrats on Capitol Hill continue to wrestle with how to rep-



Chelsea Clinton has ignited a reason to celebrate for pro-smoking activists.

rimand Rep. James A. Traficant Jr., the Ohio Democrat who vows to vote to elect House Speaker J. Dennis Hastert, Illinois Republican, in the next Congress.

There's talk of expelling Mr. Traficant from the caucus and stripping him of his seniority, all as rumors continue to fly that the outspoken lawmaker eventually will jump the Democratic ship.

In the meantime, Mr. Traficant goes on doing what he does best — delivering, all sides agree, the most popular, if not sensible, one-minute speeches on the House floor.

This week, for instance, the congressman explains, only as he can do, the latest billion-dollar U.S. aid package to Russia.

"Uncle Sam gives billions to Russia," he begins, "Russia uses our money to build missiles and warships, Russia then sells those missiles and warships to China, China then aims those Russian-made missiles, built with American cash, back at Uncle Sam."

"Now if that is not enough to ignite our plutonium."

Not the queen

Reporter's question yesterday: "Has that recommendation formally reached your desk?"

Attorney General Janet Reno:

"I don't know what you mean by 'formally,' but I have it."

Queen for a day

Attorney General Janet Reno departed last evening for Great Britain, to lecture at Runnymede, where in 1215 the barons of England forced King John to grant Magna Carta and limit the powers of the king.

Upon arrival, Miss Reno says, she will "reconfirm the debt we owe to those who caused King John to sign the Magna Carta and ... how much our Constitution owes the Magna Carta."

"It's wonderful to thumb through the pages and see some of the very specific, just logistical things that the barons wanted, and some of the grand ideas that they supported," she says. "The law gets very complicated sometimes, and lawyers certainly know how to confuse the English language by their legalese."

Fueling the IRS

"It probably didn't help," says conservative Heritage Foundation President Edwin J. Feulner, "that when our audit began, the head of the IRS was Margaret Milner Richardson, a friend of the Clintons and a onetime fund-raiser for the Democratic Party."

"And it probably didn't help," he adds, "that when the original auditor came to the Heritage Foundation two years ago, he stepped off the elevator and came face to face with an array of publications. Prominently displayed was our paperback book, 'The Flat Tax: Curbing the IRS.'"

Conventional fare

Nominations are not in contention

And there's nary an issue to mention:

Crowning Bush and Al Gore Will be such a big bore, So why even have a convention?

— F.R. Duplantier, director of America's Future

• John McCaslin can be reached at 202/636-3284 or by e-mail at mccasl@twtdmail.com.

We're listening

Echelon, the supersensitive snooping network operated worldwide by the United States, with British assistance, is based at Menwith Hall Station, England. It uses major downloading posts at the Joint Analysis Center, Molesworth, England, and Bad Abiling Station, Germany, as well as other sites around the world.

"The military downlinks only have access to military-related information, Bosnia, Kosovo, Montenegro and these places," an intelligence source tells us.

"However, at the [National Security Agency and the White House], they have links into economic intelligence that gives the United States and England incredible power over the global economic status and overall picture of the European financial markets."

The U.S. government does not acknowledge the existence of Echelon, a vacuum for millions of telephone calls, faxes and e-mails. Its satellites and ground-based listening posts home in on communications based on "hearing" key words or certain telephone numbers.

The powerful Echelon has been in the news this year. A former Canadian intelligence agent claims it eavesdrops on average citizens and creates files on the innocent. Paris has begun an investigation to determine if the Americans and British are using Echelon to spy on French companies.

The National Security Agency, this country's electronic eyes and ears, briefly broke out of its shell in March. In a letter, the NSA assured members of Congress that it does not violate U.S. law by intercepting domestic communications.

Still, some in the intelligence field with whom we spoke are not so sure.

Said a second intelligence source: "It is quite an incredible system and it clearly has the capability to monitor line-to-line telephone conversations as well as cellular phones. It can also derive specific information from anything in a microwave transmission to a simple computer message. It is used primarily for national-level strategic intelligence collection. However, I am not unconvinced that economic data is not collected by this system."

Inside the Ring

Bill Gertz

Rowan Scarborough

Officer shortage

The Army is running short on officers and is cutting corners on promotions to fill the gaps. That's the message sent out last month by Army Lt. Gen. David H. Ohle, the deputy chief of staff for personnel. Gen. Ohle gave a presentation to an infantry conference and made these points:

- The Army is extremely short of captains and to solve the problems the service has decided to promote more second lieutenants to first lieutenant and captain at a faster pace.

"Commanders were asked not to hold their captains from attending the career course," one defense official stated.

- The Army also is running short on majors.

"To fix that problem the next major [promotion] board will have a selection rate of 93 percent," an official told us. Gen. Ohle also said he did not believe the quality of officers would decline as a result of the higher selection rate for promotion.

- The Army is also running short on lieutenant colonels and colonels. Army officials have been directed to work with light colonels and colonels to find them an assignment that "is to their liking."

"The days of take this assignment or retire are over," the official said.

To deal with the problem of lieutenants leaving the service, all Army leaders have been asked to talk to lieutenants about staying in.

"Many lieutenants are getting out and saying they were never asked or had a discussion to stay in," the official said, noting that Army leaders have been directed to "change" in order to keep younger officers in. "Working 12- to 15-hour days in garrison every day doesn't help," the official said.

Gen. Ohle said the Army chief's goal of filling out all divisions to 100 percent can be met.

But doing so will be difficult. To fully staff all the divisions, it will require an additional 12,500 soldiers to meet the authorized amount now permitted by Congress.

Also, beginning Oct. 1, all retiring service members must wait six months after submitting a request before leaving.

"We used to work hard to get you retired in a week or two, if circumstances required it. Not under this regulation anymore," Gen. Ohle said.

Mrs. Cohen in China

Defense Secretary William S. Cohen has been having protocol problems after hastily adding his wife, Janet, to his weeklong trip to China and Australia.

Mrs. Cohen was put on the trip only three days before his arrival July 11, driving the bureaucracy-heavy Chinese military crazy.

First, there was a dispute over not allowing Mrs. Cohen to ride with her husband to the hotel because it would upset the rules laid down by Lt. Gen. Xiong Guangkai, the deputy chief of staff for intelligence in the People's Liberation Army.

Then on Wednesday, Mrs. Cohen was late in leaving the hotel and the defense secretary left her behind to avoid offending his Chinese hosts. Well, the Chinese insisted that Mrs. Cohen be there for the meeting and waited until she arrived before starting the session.

Later, the Chinese insisted that Mrs. Cohen, a former TV newscaster, visit China's government-run television station. Mrs. Cohen was hesitant, but agreed to go as long as her husband went along as her guest. This created huge problems for the Chinese, who had trouble figuring out the protocol for that event.

• Bill Gertz can be reached at 202/636-3274 or by e-mail at gertz@twtdmail.com. Rowan Scarborough can be reached at 202/636-3208 or by e-mail at scarbo@twtdmail.com.

20TH STORY of Level 1 printed in FULL format.

Copyright 2000 St. Louis Post-Dispatch, Inc.
St. Louis Post-Dispatch

July 7, 2000, Friday, FIVE STAR LIFT EDITION

SECTION: EVERYDAY MAGAZINE, Pg. E6

LENGTH: 427 words

HEADLINE: PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

BYLINE: Compiled By Harry Levins; Post-Dispatch Senior Writer

BODY:

Does anything go right for Bryant Gumbel? Lip-readers say that after the mike went off one morning last week on "The Early Show," Gumbel called a guest "a (bleeping) idiot." The guest was one Robert Knight; he had backed the Supreme Court's decision against gays as Boy Scout leaders.

In other Flaps of the Famous:

* Turkey has won an apology from Prince Ernst, husband of Princess Caroline of Monaco. The prince caused an international stir recently by urinating on Turkey's pavilion at the World's Fair in Germany. After initial denials, he has now taken out a full-page ad in a Turkish paper to apologize - and to explain that he really had to go.

* Soapster Ruth Warrick of "All My Children" has spurned an achievement award from the South Carolina Arts Commission. She's upset at a compromise that has left a Confederate flag on the grounds of the South Carolina Capitol.

Horror novelist Stephen King is said to be delighted that his daughter has found love with another woman. King and wife Tabitha flew to Nashville last month for a "ceremony of union" between Naomi King, 30, and her 54-year-old theological school teacher, who goes by the single name of Thandeka.

Variety says the fourth Old Broad in a TV movie to be titled "Those Old Broads" will be Joan Collins, a kittenish 67. The three others are Liz Taylor (68), Shirley MacLaine (66) and Debbie Reynolds (68). The script was co-written by Debbie's daughter, Carrie Fisher. (If you must know, she's 43).

In other items about Women Of An Older Age:

* The ex-husband of feminist Betty Friedan, 79, tells the New York Post that she - not he - did the battering in their marriage. If she got some lumps, says Carl Friedan, 80, it's because he defended himself when she came at him with knives and kicked and scratched him until he bled.

* Longtime White House correspondent Helen Thomas, 79, has signed on as a columnist with the Hearst papers. In May, she quit UPI, her employer since the days of Camelot.

Tim Pool
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mg. editor
Arac Robbier
314-340-8111
Jon Sawyer
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news chief

Bad habits: Ron Wood of the Rolling Stones is in rehab, trying to shake off booze. ... Hot scoop from msnbc.com: Chelsea Clinton was seen chain-smoking in a Washington coffee shop. One anonymous source says, "I guess Chelsea takes after her dad in this department." She smokes cigars?

On this day

On July 7, 1949, the police drama "Dragnet" made its debut on NBC radio.

Today's birthdays:

Historian-author David McCullough 67

Beatle Ringo Starr 60

Actor Billy Campbell 41

Singer-songwriter Vonda Shepard 37

GRAPHIC: PHOTO AGENCE FRANCE PRESSE Photo - Joan Collins: at her age!

LANGUAGE: English

LOAD-DATE: July 7, 2000

Tim Poor

Can't defend it. I didn't edit. Just changed
people column. Our desk

8144 - Harry Levin

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VP NBC News-

Is Chelsea Clinton lighting up?

Plus: Crowe goes wandering; Celine Dion out of retirement

MSNBC

July 6 — Is Chelsea Clinton a smoker? A source insists that the first daughter — whose mother spearheaded anti-tobacco campaigns — “was smoking like a chimney” over the weekend at Xando, a coffee shop near DuPont Circle in Washington.

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Mark Wilson / Newsweek

"I CAN'T BELIEVE she would do it in such a public place — especially now that she's out stumping for her mother's [Senate] campaign," says the source. "It's particularly ironic since Hillary [Clinton] campaigned

so loudly against smoking. I guess Chelsea takes after her dad in this department." A spokeswoman for Hillary Clinton denies the story, saying that Chelsea is

"emphatically anti-smoking."

INTERACTIVES [Want some inside Scoop from America's premier online gossip columnist?](#)

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That wandering Crowe



Reuters file

Russell Crowe was spotted getting cozy with a fetching blonde — and it wasn't Meg Ryan.

Crowe attended a David Bowie concert in London last week with Ryan — whose split from her longtime hubby Dennis Quaid, has been blamed, by some, on Crowe. But Ryan left early and, according to reports, Crowe turned his attention to

another woman, Jenny Dempster, a 27-year-old researcher for the BBC. According to reports, Crowe invited Dempster back to his hotel for a drink.

"Russell got friendlier and friendlier as the night went on," Dempster told the British paper *The People*. "He was very flirtatious and kept stroking my arm and buying me drinks. His hands occasionally wandered where they shouldn't. If it had been anyone else I would probably have slapped him."

Crowe's spokeswoman was not available for comment, but Dempster said that she ultimately rebuffed Crowe's advances. "He tried to get too far too soon," she said. "I didn't want to be another conquest for him. But maybe we'll see each other again some time."

Notes from all over