Gigliani lights fuse, Hans Benn's New Year's treat

No snap, crackle, pop
of hot new fireworks in New York.

By Tim Weiner
Associated Press

NEW YORK - The First of the Tiger service to Chinatown on Wednesday with a salute to the traditional bond of friendship between the two communities. City Hall banners featured the image of Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and a tiger to honor the Chinese New Year.

"It's a Chinese as a family. 'Here's a China, in the United States," said a woman who asked to be identified as Ms. Chang, "and we're not doing it in a way that's going to hurt anyone, just as they would in China.""I'm Chinese, but I'm not a Christian," she said.

It's like Christmas, but not with tree, or a Christmas with no decorations," said Ms. Chang.

New vice president of the United Chinese Association, Jon Viscardi, said the event will be held at the New York Hilton hotel.

Community leaders and residents from the Chinatown neighborhood are expected to attend the event.

Another neighbor also has more than a dozen neighbors, who have set up a tree in front of their home, but that's not for everyone, I know that."I'm sorry," she said.

The city's mayor, Charles F. Guire, said there are "no shortage of suppliers for the season."I'm Chinese, but I'm not a Christian," he said.

Before the 1998 New Year's Eve, the New York Fire Department warned of the dangers of fireworks in the city and encouraged residents to join in the festivities.

"It's a great tradition," said a woman who asked to be identified as Ms. Chang. "It's a way to bring the community together."I'm Chinese, but I'm not a Christian," she said.

The event was organized by the New York City's Department of Cultural Affairs, which said it will continue to monitor the situation and take appropriate action.

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In the Chinatown Fire Department's Pacific North West region, officers and firefighters were on the lookout for any suspicious activity.

"It's the Chinese as a family, in the United States," said a woman who asked to be identified as Ms. Chang. "It's a way to bring the community together."I'm Chinese, but I'm not a Christian," she said.

Coast to Coast

California

Former star wrestler awarded $3.5 million

SANTA ANA, Calif. (AP) — The city of Los Angeles was ordered to pay $3.5 million to a former world-class wrestler who was kept away from his gym for two years, according to a settlement reached last month by a state judge.

The jury awarded him $20,000 for future medical care and $200,000 for emotional distress.

Anger was venting on California State University Fullerton campus on Tuesday, as the school was preparing to go back to class after the holidays. It is not clear whether the incident will affect the school's decision to make the payments.

Anger, who was a star in his high school days, was driving home from a trip to Hawaii and stopped to have dinner at the Sailor's Steak House. He was arrested and taken to the Oxnard Police Department.

"The settlement doesn't mean much to me," he said.
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The Hawks, Lions put perfect records on the line

By Tony Wright

Iowa's basketball team takes its unblemished record on the road this week, as Big Ten road tests against Penn State and Michigan State mark the start of the stretch run. The Hawkeyes' performance against Penn State was against the same Spartan team that handed Iowa a 30-point loss last season.

In-state team, Penn State has yet to lose a home basketball game in the Bryce Jordan Center so far this season. The Nittany Lions have maintained a perfect Big Ten record. One of the streaks will come to an end, as Penn State hosts Iowa tonight at 7:05 P.M. on ESPN.

Both teams are coming off hard-fought losses on the road last weekend. Penn State traveled Michigan State, and Iowa visited Ohio State. The Nittany Lions pulled out a 71-59 victory Saturday at East Lansing.

Ohio State knocked off Iowa in overtime, 80-79, behind 26 points from guard David Blount. Iowa’s 21-point loss to the Buckeyes is the largest loss ever in Iowa’s 21-point loss to the Buckeyes.

The Hawkeyes saw a 14-point, second-half lead disappear against the nation’s finest at the Tigers’ storied assembly with as many as 6,000 empty seats.

Iowa senior point guard David Mabrey imposed the 1997-98 season’s promising team to make the perfect record against the same Ohio State team that handed Iowa a 30-point loss last season.

Iowa’s 21-point loss to the Buckeyes is the largest loss ever in Iowa men’s basketball history.

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LaFrentz/ Senior returns with a terror

Continued from Page 2B

LaFrentz could have played a week ago at Missouri and probably would have made a difference in the Hawkeyes' defeat by the Tigers. But Bill Williams said before the team went to Missouri that LaFrentz was not ready to come back from an injury he suffered early in the first half against Iowa State.

"I knew I could have done some things to eat up the game, as good as I was disappointed," LaFrentz said. "I had a great game on Tuesday against Illinois. I shot 11-of-20 and had 22 points. I think I would have made a difference in the game."

"I'm just taking the approach I'm getting better each day and feeling good," Williams said. "The team is doing well and he's doing as much as he can to get back."

LaFrentz missed were the only games he has missed in his career. games since arriving at Kansas from Rocky Mountain High in Colorado. While he missed one game last season due to a sprained ankle, he has missed only 36 games in his four years of basketball in Allen Field House, like the Rock Hawks basketball.

"I'm not sure if I was ready," the 7-foot senior said. "I'm just taking the approach I'm getting better each day and feeling good."

Like last year, Kansas coach Roy Williams said, "I'm not sure if I was ready. But the absence of LaFrentz may have accelerated the growth of some of our younger players."

Williams said that he would have made a difference in the games he missed.

"I'm just taking the approach I'm getting better each day and feeling good," Williams said. "The team is doing well and he's doing as much as he can to get back."

Basketball

LaFrentz/ Senior returns with a terror

Continued from Page 2B

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