



LIFESTYLES, FOOD

Food and fun at Brighton Beach, C1, E1



SPORTS

Mets win, Yankees lose; Reds' Rose bumps ump, B1



Rose makes the catch

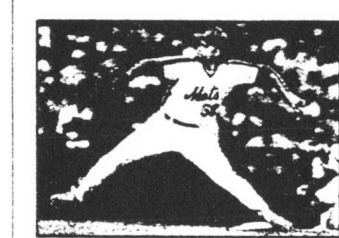
COMMUNITY ★ ★ ★ ★

- **Woodstock alumni return, remember, A11**
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THE REPORTER DISPATCH

WHITE PLAINS LAWYER SEEKS NEW JUDGE /A15

THE REPORTER DISPATCH
Sunrise EDITION



Fernandez: 2 runs in 7 innings.

**Mets rally
for 3-2 win;
Yanks lose
again, 1-0, B1**

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16, 1989

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Sassower wants new judge to hear case

Justice Fredman calls request in contempt trial unfounded

By Deborah Pines

Staff Writer

A hearing on whether White Plains lawyer Doris Sassower should be found in contempt of court for failing to appear at an earlier hearing was sidetracked yesterday when Sassower sought to disqualify the judge.

Claiming state Supreme Court Justice Samuel G. Fredman has "feelings of personal bias and prejudice" toward her, Sassower asked him to step aside.

Fredman refused, calling the request unfounded. But he allowed Sassower time to appeal his refusal to the Appellate Division of state Supreme Court.



White Plains lawyer Doris Sassower

If Sassower does not win a delay or a new judge, Fredman said he wants to proceed with the contempt hearing Aug. 30.

The hearing will examine whether Sassower should be punished for failing to show at a July 10 hearing before Fredman, and/or refusing to turn over the file of a former client, Evelyn Breslaw of New Rochelle, to Breslaw's new lawyer attorney, Harvey Landeau, of White Plains.

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Breslaw has been sued for divorce by her husband, Milton Breslaw.

Sassower was pleased with Fredman's decision to allow time for an appeal. Landeau of White Plains, denounced it as "yet another delay."

In a decision last month, Fredman called Sassower's no-show a "gross insult," which he said can't be accepted by courts with huge case backlogs.

Sassower, a former president of the New York Women's Bar Association, has responded to the contempt allegations by saying primarily that she never received word from Fredman refusing a requested delay of the July 10 hearing before she left the country for two weeks and that she turned

over Breslaw's file last month.

In arguing that Fredman step aside, Sassower's lead attorney, Marvin Frankel, of Manhattan, a former federal judge, cited incidents of "prior hostility" between Fredman and Sassower. Among them was a 1979 incident in which Fredman, then a matrimonial lawyer, questioned the appropriateness of the Westchester County Bar Association distributing a reprint of an article by Sassower.

Fredman denied any animosity toward Sassower. He said the 1979 complaint was directed toward the bar and not Sassower. He also noted that to be persuasive, Sassower's request that he disqualify himself should have come earlier in the case.