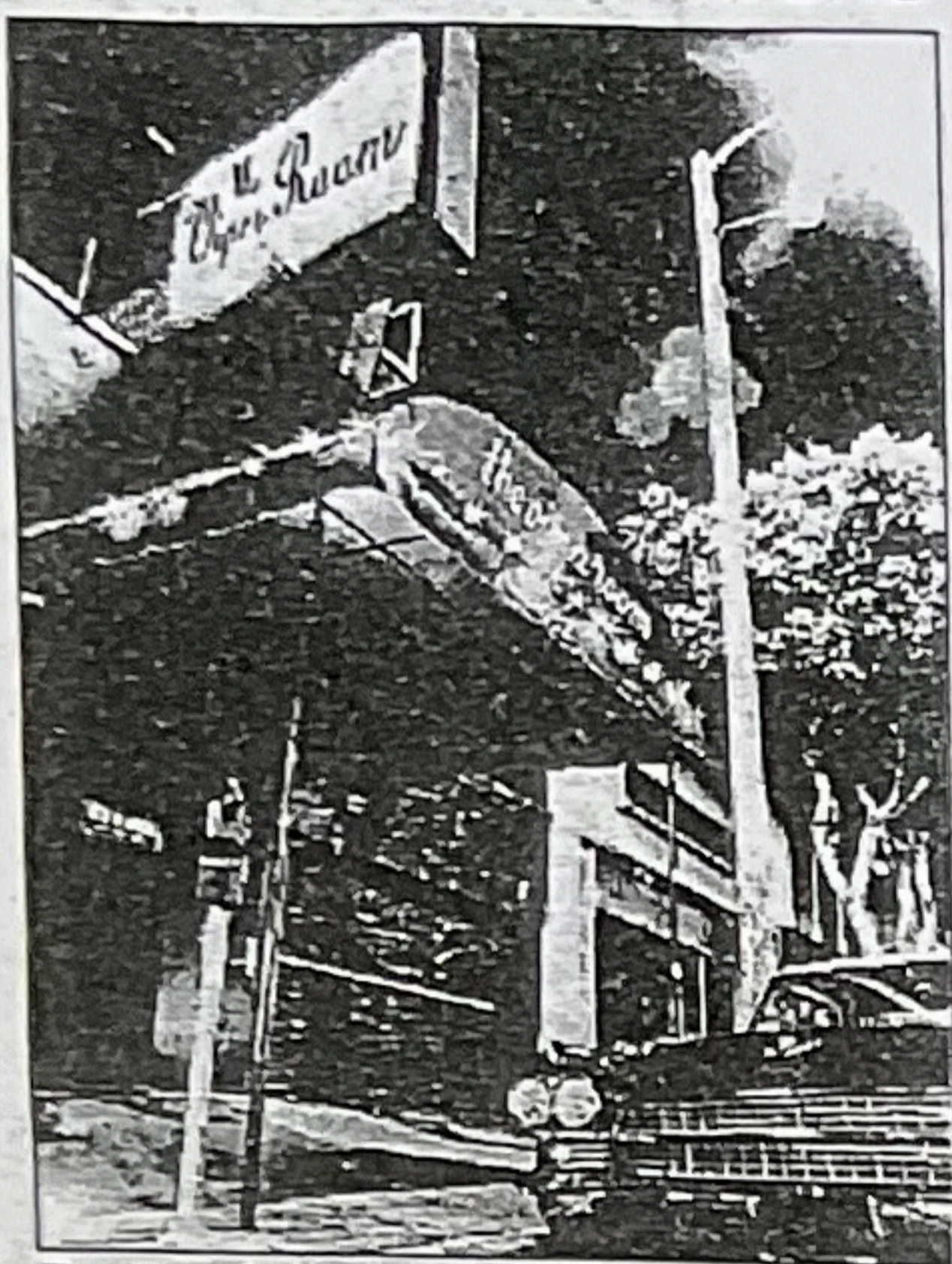


Ha! BY CHRISTINA LANDERS

Win or lose, even after the gavel strikes, the verdict is rarely the end of a case. More often, it just signals a new phase in the litigation.



The Viper Room, Johnny Depp's hip hotspot, was the scene of an alleged theft that led to a confrontation in Santa Monica Superior Court.

For the second time, Verdicts & Settlements is continuing its coverage of this increasingly important phase of litigation — post-trial developments. Welcome back to Ha!

Each month, Ha! will feature reports on who got in the last jab in a case. Here we'll tell you how big verdicts got slashed, which parties were stuck with fat cost bills and who won a new trial.

And what better way to start the column off than a paparazzi photo fight.

Lovebirds (Do Not Disturb)

A Santa Monica jury recently decreed that a photo of aging rocker Mick Jagger kissing dewy actress Uma Thurman isn't worth a thousand words, or \$600,000, either. *Einhorn v. Viper Room*, SC044441 (L.A. Super. Ct. Oct. 5, 2001).

Jagger's bodyguards and Viper Room bouncers allegedly confiscated and destroyed film that celebrity photographer Russell Einhorn snapped in actor Johnny Depp's West Hollywood club. Einhorn shot a photo of Jagger kissing Thurman in a booth at the club following a musical set by

the band the Wallflowers, featuring lead singer Jakob Dylan, Bob Dylan's son.

The verdict, handed down by a Santa Monica jury Oct. 5, reversed a \$600,000 Beverly Hills jury award for Einhorn in 1998. In that first trial, before Superior Court Judge Judith Stein, the jury awarded Einhorn almost the entire amount he sought for the lifetime value of the photo.

The event in question took place in 1996. Einhorn claimed he was wrestled to the ground and his camera and film confiscated by a Viper Room security employee after he snapped the smooch photo. He also claimed the club's security staff allowed a member of Jagger's entourage to take and destroy the film.

Einhorn alleged that the photograph was worth \$800,000 and that The Viper Room was solely responsible for the incident.

In the first trial, the jury found in favor of Einhorn and awarded him \$600,000. Michael Schonbuch, attorney for the defense, was granted a

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