

BROWARD PLUS

WESTON INCIDENT

Charges dropped against Dolphin Randy McMichael

Randy McMichael's future with the Miami Dolphins has cleared up now that he won't be charged in a domestic violence case.

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Miami Dolphins player Randy McMichael will not be prosecuted for a domestic violence case that resulted in the arrest of him and his pregnant wife in June.

The decision from the Broward State Attorney's Office comes about a week after prosecutors decided not to charge McMichael's wife, Cawanna.

Prosecutor Brian Trehy said charges are rarely brought in cases in which both parties have been arrested.

"That obviously complicates things," he said.

The McMichaels were arrested at their Weston home on June 29 after he called 911 to say that she had hit him. Cawanna, 21, admitted that she slapped him while he was getting sick after a night of celebrating his 25th birthday.

Randy McMichael had been arrested on a charge of aggravated battery on a pregnant woman, a second-degree felony that is punishable by up to 15 years in prison. Cawanna McMichael was arrested on a domestic battery charge.

Randy McMichael told investigators his wife hit him with her hand and she fell to



McMICHAEL

the ground when he pushed her.

After dropping the charges against Cawanna McMichael, Trehy took a more detailed statement from her.

"He was just simply pushing her away, and not with any great force, per Cawanna's statement," Trehy said.

"The facts as she spelled them out did not support our charging Randy McMichael with any criminal violations," he said. "I felt like there was no likelihood of conviction."

He said McMichael's celebrity status had nothing to do with the decision.

The decision was met with relief from the team and attorneys for both McMichaels.

"We obviously are pleased with the state attorney's decision. This shows Randy did nothing criminal and neither did Cawanna," said Adam

Swickle, Randy McMichael's attorney.

"We always believed it was a family matter and that it was something that should have been kept in the family."

Steven Swickle, Cawanna McMichael's attorney, said she had always supported her husband. "She never wanted it to come to this."

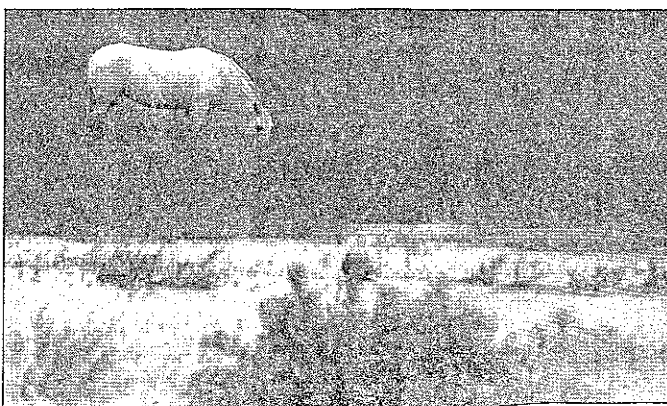
Trehy said Cawanna McMichael has said that the couple is undergoing counseling.

McMichael does not face any penalties from the Dolphins.

"He obviously is not going to be suspended for any games, which was a possibility if he had pleaded guilty or would have been convicted of any charges," said Drew Rosenhaus, McMichael's agent.

The Associated Press contributed to this report.

WET WEATHER



J. PAT CARTER / AP

IN PEMBROKE PINES: A horse grazes in a water-logged field at Flamingo Road and Sheridan Street.

Rain-soaked ceilings

BSO FIRE-RESCUE

New fire chief meets the press

BY HANNAH SAMPSON
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Sharing the spotlight with his new fire chief at a press conference Tuesday, Broward Sheriff Ken Jenne sent out a thank-you to the person who made it possible for Chuck Lanza to take the top post in the county's fire-rescue department.

"I once again want to thank Steve [Shiver]," who Jenne described as a friend, "for giv-

emergency management after a confrontation with Shiver over the county's terrorism readiness plan.

"It's been a long and arduous journey," said Lanza, who lives in Cooper City.

Tuesday's event was a celebration of a new direction for Lanza, who started his firefighting career more than 25 years ago, and for BSO's Department of Fire Rescue and Emergency Services,