

T H E O R A N G E C O U N T Y
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ONLINE WITH STEPHEN LYNCH



STEPHEN LYNCH

Curses, foiled again: Now *this* is embarrassing. My Jan. 1 column talked about the issues surrounding a computer experiment that was trying criminal cases. The Solomon Project, a system developed by Joseph Bonuso, a Ph.D. at New York University, was taking complex pieces of testimony and evidence and churning out an on-screen verdict. It was in the testing phase for possible use in courts.

Turns out Dr. Bonuso is not a doctor. Nor is his name Bonuso. Nor does the Solomon Project even exist. Joey, as his friends call him, likes to pull media hoaxes, as he did two years ago when he advertised a restaurant in New York that served dog.

He likes to send fake press releases, set up fake answering services and even set up fake computers (CNN sent a film crew to his office for its story) as a hobby. Heck, beats stamp collecting.