

# WORLD EXCLUSIVE: HORROR OF MURDER CHARGE PARALYMPIAN

## His experts will search the house

**EXCLUSIVE**

by **Lewis Panther**

PISTORIUS is to send his own forensic team into his luxury home as he fights to clear his name.

He will pay them to comb every inch of the large property in an exclusive gated community where Reeva Steenkamp was fatally shot. They will move in after police experts have finished.

The Blade Runner was said to be "numb with shock and grief" as he waits behind bars for his next court appearance.

His uncle, Arnold Pistorius, said the family "strongly refutes" the murder charge.

He added: "They had plans together and Oscar was happier in his private life than he had been for a long time."

During his last hearing the chief magistrate suggested Pistorius was getting preferential treatment because he is being held at a police station instead of prison.

But his lawyers argued for him to be remanded to Brooklyn police station near his Pretoria home, to allow them better access.

At the next hearing on Tuesday they will plead for him to be released on remand.

## Shock of an entire nation

by **Pamela Owen**

AS a South African it was impossible not to feel an overwhelming sense of pride and emotion whenever I watched Pistorius run.

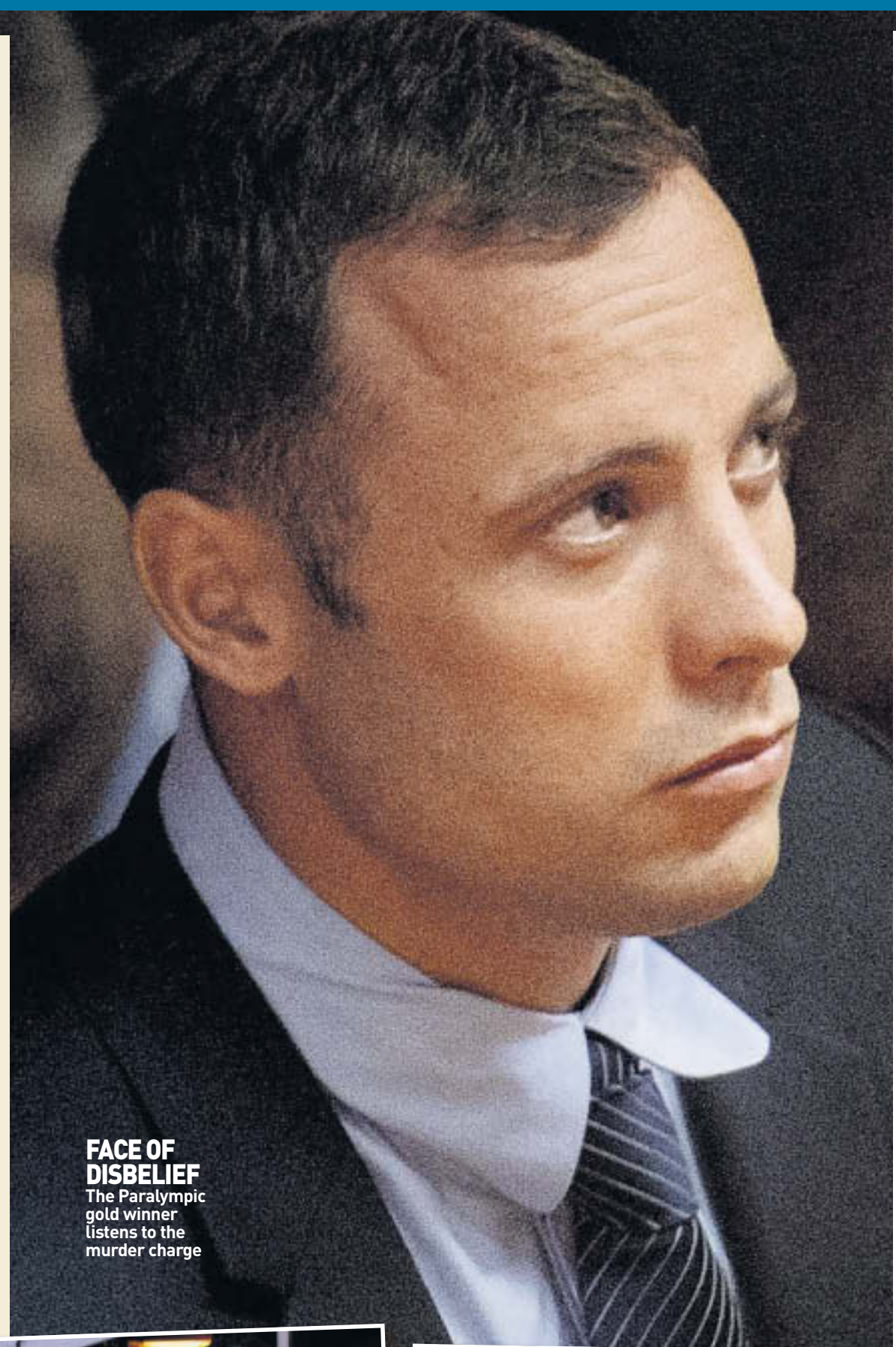
Every time he crossed the finish line, I wanted to break down and cry because, to us, he is no ordinary hero.

He is the Blade Runner – our legend. A man who achieved the impossible and went on to become the first double amputee to compete in the Olympic Games. But now that has all been overshadowed.

The effect this story has had on my family, friends and the entire nation is unbelievable. We are a country of very few heroes, so the ones we do have become almost god-like.

And when they let us down, like cricketer Hansie Cronje, for match fixing, and rugby player Joost van der Westhuizen, for drugs, they have a spectacular fall from grace.

**FACE OF DISBELIEF**  
The Paralympic gold winner listens to the murder charge



DATING: Pistorius with nationally-acclaimed beauty Reeva and, right, the runner with Justin



by **Pamela Owen**

THE best friend of Oscar Pistorius told yesterday how the Paralympic hero called him moments after his girlfriend was shot and later sobbed: "My baba, I've killed my baba. God take me away."

Businessman Justin Divaris, who introduced model Reeva Steenkamp to the London 2012 double gold winner, said Pistorius phoned him first instead of emergency services.

Speaking exclusively to the Sunday People, Justin, 27, said: "It's all very sad. Oscar called me at 3.55 am saying that Reeva had been shot."

"I said to him, 'What are you talking about? I don't understand you?' He then repeated himself – 'There has been a terrible accident, I shot Reeva'."

"Next thing his neighbour picked up the phone and told me it was true and told me to get to Oscar's home."

"I was in total shock. I asked the neighbour, 'Is she OK?' Did the gun go off by accident?" She replied, 'No. She's not OK. You need to get here.'"

Justin and his girlfriend Sam dashed to 26-year-old Pistorius's luxury home on the security-patrolled Silver Woods estate in Pretoria, South Africa, in the early hours of Valentine's Day.

The police had already arrived and were holding the double amputee superstar – nicknamed Blade Runner because of his state-of-the-art artificial limbs – in his garage.

Justin, chief executive of luxury car sales firm Daytona Group, said: "It was very traumatic. By the time we got there it was already a crime scene and we weren't allowed in the house."

"But we could see Reeva through the door lying there covered in blankets and towels at the bottom of the stairs."

**Sobbing**

"I think Oscar planned to take her to the hospital but the neighbour had covered her in towels."

"Oscar was being detained in the garage but they allowed me access to speak to him. He was totally incoherent and just kept saying, 'My baba, I've killed my baba. God take me away'. He must have been sobbing there for a whole hour."

"I was with him for 10 minutes and asked him exactly what had happened but he couldn't answer and just kept repeating the same thing."

Justin added: "It is so sad. I introduced Reeva to Oscar. She was a really good friend of mine too and actually had been a friend longer. She is a best friend of my girlfriend."

"I don't understand exactly what happened but the truth will come out."

Reeva, who had been dating Pistorius since November and is said to have complained he was becoming possessive, had arrived at his house at 7pm.

Several hours before the shooting, wealthy neighbours complained to the estate's security guards about loud noise coming from the house and asked them to stop it.

Reeva, 29, is believed to have been sitting on a toilet when she was hit four times – in the arm, head, hip and finger – by three bullets fired through the bathroom door.

It is believed she was still alive as Oscar carried her downstairs and tried to revive her.

Blood stains were found on the walls, indicating her heart was pumping.

It is claimed Oscar was still holding Reeva in his arms and performing mouth-to-mouth when paramedics arrived. Neighbours said they heard

# Oscar called me at 4am...he said there had been a terrible accident. I got there and could see Reeva covered in towels

**- BLADE RUNNER'S BEST FRIEND YESTERDAY**



MODEL: Reeva was voted one of sexiest

her last breaths before she was pronounced dead by the paramedics.

Forensic officers have removed the bathroom door as evidence.

Reeva's parents June and Barry were being treated for shock by doctors at their home in Port Elizabeth.

Justin's girlfriend Sam, who runs a catering company with June, said: "I'm trying to focus on keeping them calm at the moment but they have taken it very, very badly."

"Barry is in bed and we've got some tablets from the doctor. It's been a terrible, terrible shock."

"The detective said she was shot at close range and it wasn't a burglary."

Reeva was voted one of the top 100 sexiest women in South Africa.

She graduated with a law degree but made a career change after being scouted by model agents and became

the first face of cosmetics giant Avon South Africa.

She moved from Port Elizabeth to Johannesburg and appeared on the cover of FHM magazine.

Reeva, a keen horse rider, broke her back in an horrific fall six years ago, suffering injuries so severe that she had to learn to walk again.

Last night an episode of South African reality TV series Tropika Island Of Treasure, in which Reeva starred, went ahead as planned.

**Insecure**

A pal said Pistorius had become increasingly possessive in recent weeks.

The friend said: "Reeva mentioned that Oscar was quite possessive and insecure."

"When she was at events he'd call her incessantly. I think she was starting to get annoyed with it."

"She had planned to go home that night but had sent a message to one of her housemates to say she was staying with

Oscar. That was the last time anyone had heard from her. I'm devastated I will never see her again."

"She was such a kind and beautiful person, both inside and out."

"Her parents won't be able to cope without her. She was going to build them a house and take them on holiday."

"It is so tragic. It is a loss to everyone who knew her."

Pistorius, who was born without fibula in both legs and was amputated below the knee at 11 months, sobbed when he appeared in court on Friday.

He is accused of premeditated murder, which carries an automatic life sentence.

The runner, who became the first double amputee to compete in the Olympics where he reached the 400-metre semi-finals at London 2012, will reappear in court on Tuesday.

A court official said he was being held in a police station instead of jail because of his fame, not his disability.

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## Pal predicts gun tragedy

by **Lewis Panther**

A FOOTBALLER friend of Oscar Pistorius said the shooting was a tragedy waiting to happen.

Cops have quizzed ex-South Africa player Marc Bachelor in the wake of the killing.

Marc, 43, told how the Paralympic star allegedly threatened to break a businessman's legs in November in a row over a teenage girl they had both been seeing.

No action was taken after Oscar and his lawyer persuaded the man against court action.

Marc said: "Reeva was a very good person. It's tragic."