

FREE

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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No charges filed yet in connection with Maran murder

Teen-ager expected in court this month

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON
Daily Press Staff Writer

The 15-year-old arrested for her role in Deanna Maran's murder in November is scheduled to appear in court in two weeks, but whether she'll face charges is unclear, according to the Los Angeles Police Department.

Detectives assigned to the case are still interviewing dozens of people who may have information about the stabbing death of Maran, who died after she was violently attacked at a Nov. 17 party at an upscale Westwood home. Authorities don't have enough evidence yet to file charges against the 15-year-old, who police say had a role in Maran's murder but are unsure in what capacity.

The teen-ager, who lives in Brentwood, was released to her parents shortly after she was questioned by police Nov. 18 — the day after Maran's stabbing.

The juvenile's half-sister, Katrina Sarkissian, is believed to be the person who actually stabbed Maran, a 15-year-old Santa Monica High School student who had a nearly perfect grade point average and was involved in many sports and extracurricular activities.

But police didn't prosecute Sarkissian because she collapsed during questioning and died a few hours later, reportedly from a drug overdose. Results from Sarkissian's autopsy are still pending.

LAPD spokesman Jack Richter said the district attorney's office and LAPD detectives have been discussing the case in the past few weeks, but are no closer in

determining whether the 15-year-old will be charged with anything, or if she'll be tried as a juvenile or as an adult.

"There are so many people to be interviewed and there are probably 30 different versions of what happened."

— JACK RICHTER
Los Angeles Police Department

"If they are going to charge somebody, they want to make sure they charge them with the right crime," Richter said. "In her defense, as well as the victim's, they want to make sure they do this properly and just do a good job."

Richter added that because detectives have already taken more than a month to investigate the crime, it could be Jan. 17 — the scheduled court date — that the district attorney's office and the police file charges against the 15-year-old.

"There are so many people to be interviewed and there are probably 30 different versions of what happened," he said. "In a party situation, you might have indi-

See MARAN, page 3



Jason Auslander/Special to the Daily Press

Thousands of Nebraska Cornhusker fans showed up at the Santa Monica Pier on New Year's Day. The crowd held a pep rally for their college football team, which is playing the University of Miami today in the Rose Bowl in Pasadena for the national championship. Above, fans gather for the rally. Below, fans show their pride and support in the sand.



Local business owners not impressed with sales

BY ANDREW H. FIXMER
Special to the Daily Press

The holiday shopping season is getting mixed reviews from area businesses, who had hoped the local economy — ravaged by slumping sales and tourism — would rebound under a consumerism frenzy.

Local business organizations and the City of Santa Monica spent about \$118,000 on a "Shop Santa Monica" advertising campaign intended to keep

residents buying locally. The ads appeared everywhere from cable television to city buses; from local newspapers to bumper stickers on all municipal vehicles; from flyers to citywide mailers.

Though officials say it would be nearly impossible to gauge how effective the advertising campaign has been, city employees said they will discover how good or bad the season was when the sales

See SALES, page 3

California raises minimum wage, second highest in the nation

BY JIM WASSERMAN
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO — Thousands of California's hotel, restaurant and store employees will see a little more money in their first paycheck of the New Year, with an 8 percent increase in the minimum wage.

California, for the second straight year,

hiked its minimum wage by 50 cents per hour, bringing hourly salaries to \$6.75. Only Washington State now has higher minimum pay, entering 2002 at \$6.90 an hour.

"This certainly brings us closer to a living wage than we've ever been in the past," said Susan Gard, spokeswoman for the Industrial Welfare Commission. "It offers some relief for some of the most

marginalized workers in the state at a time when they really need it."

But many employers consider the raise — \$1.60 an hour higher than the federal minimum of \$5.15 — as another business burden.

"It's ludicrous after the year we've just had to do such a thing right now," said Jeff King, co-founder of King's Seafood Co., which operates 12 restaurants in the state.

King said the increase leaves him no choice in hiking all his workers' salaries. He said restaurants are already paying more for electricity and worker's compensation, while suffering from September's terrorist attacks and economic doldrums.

"Marginally profitable restaurants will go out of business," he said. "Hold off for a while until putting another nail in the

See WAGES, page 3



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Pico Blvd. Locations:

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- Subway
- Lazey Daisey
- Chevron
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- Tom’s #1 Family Restaurant
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- Eddie’s Liquor
- Discount Tire

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You can find more copies in these areas:

- Montana Avenue Commercial Zone
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- Wilshire Boulevard
- Lincoln Commercial District.
- Major Hotels on Ocean Avenue
- Retail businesses on the Boardwalk and Santa Monica Pier districts
- Commercial zones on Pico and Ocean Park Boulevard

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ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Opportunity strikes out of the blue. Someone provides you with a warm welcome. Refresh your relationship by spending lunch or dinner with this person. Great ideas develop during friendly discussions in the next few weeks. Re-organize travel plans or your schedule. Tonight: Work as late as need be.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Your efforts are met with approval and applause. Express your ideas 100 percent, with full confidence that you will be well-received. Your words carry a nearly magical overtone. At the moment, your kindness and creativity work as a magnet in all realms. Tonight: Don't get caught up in someone's mood.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Deal with fundamentals and basics right now. You might be tempted to spend or indulge someone. Your upbeat behavior creates excellent results. Break past traditional elements. Your efforts help you make a good impression right now. You hit the bull's-eye! Tonight: Hang close to home.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Speak your mind. You might want to review an important matter or two with those who work with you. If funding appears to be a problem, brainstorm away with those you respect. Good ideas occur through respecting others' ideas. Tonight: Speak your mind.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Your instincts guide you with an investment that might involve co-workers or an independent venture. Your gut feeling suggests which way to go. Follow through, listening to your inner voice. Don't gamble with an emotional situation. Tonight: Balance your checkbook first.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Reaching out for others, scheduling meetings and pushing a venture ahead please you to no end right now. Success occurs through your avant-garde thinking and your ability to get the job done. A child or loved one shares with you more of what's happening. Tonight: Whatever makes you smile.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ You decide on a low profile while you handle some very important matters. Words do not speak as clearly as actions. Remain sure of yourself and avoid tossing out ideas. Let your imagination lead you. Add that extra spark to a personal relationship. Tonight: Play it low-key.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Aim for what you want, and success becomes you. Review a situation carefully. Reach out for someone. If making a choice, detach and assume the high road. Spend time with family in an animated discussion. Pressure builds financially. Tonight: Where your friends are.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Stay on top of your work, but also understand just how much you can handle. One-on-one relating pushes you in a new direction. Financial options open up slowly. Suggest different ideas. Expenses easily go out of whack. Pressure builds quickly. Tonight: In the limelight.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Information comes forward that encourages you to make an adjustment. Think in terms of gain and a different type of thought pattern. Don't allow your mood to interfere with relationships or work. Join in on someone's convivial mood. Tonight: Think through your responses.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Deal with each person today as if he or she is the most important person in your day. You'll find that others respond and the sense of cooperation grows within your workplace. A child or family member responds to your inquiries. Speak your mind. Tonight: Don't worry if a friend does a reverse flip.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Consider your priorities involving work and a new direction. Allow someone to open doors. Your playfulness comes out with both friends and loved ones. Start sharing your more internal thoughts. Others welcome your feedback. Understanding takes you far. Tonight: Sort through invitations.



WEATHER

Today ... Partly cloudy with a high 62°F. Winds from the north northwest at 8mph.

Tonight ... Clear with a low of 46°F. Winds from north at 4mph.

Tomorrow ... Sunny High—64°F Low—45°F



QUOTE of the DAY

“Stop crime at its source.
Support planned parenthood.”
— Robert Byrne

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Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

Christmas trees are being discarded at various locations throughout Santa Monica for the city to pick up and recycle. This week, Lincoln Park was the drop-off site.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Elkin to raise cash for UCLA medical center

By Daily Press staff

Bel Air resident and Westside community supporter Marvin Elkin has been appointed chair of the Foundation Advisory Board at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center. He will begin his appointment this month.

The 15-member volunteer board oversees fund-raising activities for the medical center, which is currently building a \$231 million replacement hospital. Elkin will lead an ambitious campaign to raise major funds for the project.

Earlier this year, Elkin and his wife, Simona, served as community co-chairs for the medical center's 75th Anniversary Gala in Beverly Hills, which featured Johnny Mathis and raised a record \$700,000 for the rebuilding project.

In addition to Santa Monica-UCLA, the Elkins are actively involved with several Santa Monica organizations, including the Boys and Girls Club, YWCA and Santa Monica College.

Santa Monica Family YMCA to host basketball challenge

By Daily Press staff

The Santa Monica Family YMCA will host the inaugural ROY NAYLOR 2-on-2 Basketball Challenge for boys and girls ages 5 through 14 on Saturday, Jan. 12, 2002 at 10 a.m.

The basketball challenge is named in honor and memory of Roy Naylor, a dedicated and longtime benefactor of the Santa Monica Family YMCA. The Santa Monica facility recently completed a \$9 million addition, which includes a new gymnasium, education center with computers, teen center and more. Tours will be conducted throughout the day.

Having just celebrated its 100th anniversary in Santa Monica and coinciding with the recent renovation, the Santa Monica Family YMCA will open its doors to the community for a grand opening celebration Jan. 14-25.

For more information on the grand opening, memberships, as well as after school and weekend youth programs, contact the Santa Monica Family YMCA at (310) 393-2721. The Santa Monica Y is located at 1332 6th Street.

How to beat the high cost of education

By Daily Press staff

Two free seminars on "9 Ways To Beat The High Cost Of College" will be held on Tuesday, Jan. 8 from 6-7 p.m., and from 7:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Santa Monica Main Public Library Conference room on the corner of Sixth Street and Santa Monica Boulevard.

This seminar will cover many topics, including how to possibly double or even triple your eligibility for financial aid, how to locate and apply for every need-based scholarship, grant, and low-interest loan that your child may be eligible for, and how to pick the colleges that will give you the best financial aid packages.

The speaker will be Raymond B. Dietz, a well-known college funding expert. The seminar is free, but reservations are required. For reservations and information, call (310) 477-8803. Be sure to indicate which session you will attend and the number of people in your group.

Maran shrine destroyed

MARAN, from page 1

viduals who are intoxicated and their memory can be impaired.

"For as long as it has taken so far, you can imagine how difficult it must be to determine what happened."

Based on eyewitness accounts and sources, what happened was a verbal fight between two teen-agers at a high school party got out of hand and resulted in the death of an adored, young girl. Always one to make sure things go right, Maran fought with the 15-year-old because she was reportedly breaking potted plants and other property at the home where the party was being held. After Sarkissian showed up to pick up her half-sister, she allegedly attacked Maran while she was pinned down by another girl. Maran was

stabbed with an unknown object, however some reports indicate that the weapon was a broken beer bottle. Once partygoers noticed blood coming from Maran's body, her friends drove her to Santa Monica Hospital where she died shortly after midnight.

A memorial for Maran was held Nov. 26 at Santa Monica High School's Greek Theatre which focused on non violence. Just weeks later, a shrine dedicated to Maran outside of her parents' Ocean Park home was destroyed by a car. Police are investigating the incident, which they consider to be an intentional act.

"We are looking at the fact that someone drove on the sidewalk to intentionally hit it," said Lt. Frank Fabrega. Police say witnesses at the scene describe the car as an early 1990s gold Thunderbird.

'Shop Santa Monica' pays off for some local businesses

SALES, from page 1

tax revenues are fully received in a few weeks.

"The city won't have any financial information for a while. Sales tax revenue takes a while to come in and be analyzed," said Judy Rambeau, city spokesperson. "Any information we could give now would be purely anecdotal."

Chamber of Commerce officials agree, saying more time is needed before any financial data will be available.

"We don't know for sure just yet, but there were a lot of people on the streets and in the shops," said Kathy Dodson, executive director of Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce. "So that means the anecdotal evidence is at least good."

Business owners said sales were down drastically this season, even though many had not finished crunching their sales numbers.

"This season was a lot of small sales instead of larger ones. Our biggest problem this year was with confusing signs at the parking garage," said Marie Scott, owner of Art One located on the Third Street Promenade. "Usually at Christmastime we do a lot of large sales. This year it was mostly little, inexpensive items."

Scott said most of her holiday customers this year were tourists, and she doesn't think the advertising campaign brought in a lot of business to her store.

"Maybe they went to the malls. Maybe they didn't want to buy art," said Scott. "There were a lot of people on the Promenade, just not in my shop."

At Shiva Imports, also located on the Promenade, local residents did most of the buying, leaving the shop's owner wondering where all the tourists went.

"Last year after the Rose Bowl a lot of

people were walking around after the parade," said shop owner Naren Patel. "This year they never showed up."

And Patel said the tourists that did show up were afraid to buy metal items out of fear of having them taken away at airport security checkpoints.

"When people did buy they always wanted to know if they can get it through security," he said. "Many of our ornaments were very popular but they have some sharp edges and people didn't know if they could take them home (on an airplane)."

Patel said overall sales at his Indian-themed knickknacks store were "very unimpressive" this season, and predicted trends would not improve until the end of February.

"Unemployment is very high and people are afraid to spend money right now," he said. "But things are starting to change, mostly from government work and construction contracts with the federal government."

While sales at The Candy Baron didn't improve, they weren't far off from previous years. At all three store locations around the Los Angeles area, sales remained at past seasonal levels.

"All our stores stayed busy. We're always busy. When all the numbers are in, we may even be up a little," said Promenade store manager Mandy Fuentes.

Even with good sales this season, the Candy Baron still plans to move off The Promenade to a new location on Santa Monica Boulevard by the middle of the month.

"This whole September 11th thing really didn't hurt us too much," she said. "Maybe it's because we're a comfort food or an impulse buy, but people still bought candy."

Pay hike 19th time for state

WAGES, from page 1

coffin of the hospitality industry."

This year's hike marks the 19th time that California raised its minimum wage since it was established at 45 cents an hour in 1943.

State employment staffers estimate the number of workers affected by the New Year's raise at somewhere around 600,000 people. Most are under 25 years old.

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- 3rd Street and Wilshire Boulevard, northeast corner; in front of Surla Table
- Ocean Avenue and Wilshire Boulevard; in front of the Bank of California building
- Wilshire Boulevard, between 22nd-23rd Streets; in front of Manhattan Bagel
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- Wilshire Boulevard and Lincoln Boulevard; in front of Baja Fresh
- Colorado Boulevard and 3rd Street; in front of Santa Monica Place
- Santa Monica Courthouse

Watch for future newsstands at a location near you!



NATIONAL

Los Angeles man reports shark attack off Maui

By the Associated Press

OLOWALU, Hawaii — Olowalu beaches reopened Wednesday after a one-day closure following a shark attack on a California man about 100 yards offshore, authorities said.

Thomas Holmes, 35, of Los Angeles suffered a two-inch cut and several scratches on his back side in the Tuesday incident and was expected to recover from his injuries, Maui police Sgt. Don Simpson said.

"I pounded his nose. I got two good shots at him."

— THOMAS HOLMES
Attacked by shark

The man was able to swim to safety and was in good condition when he came onshore, Simpson said.

Holmes said he and his girlfriend were snorkeling about 1 p.m. in 40 feet of water when they saw the shark and began swimming toward shore. The shark caught up with him.

"I pounded his nose. I got two good shots at him," said Holmes, adding that his injuries required about 35 stitches.

Holmes and witnesses described what appeared to be a tiger shark about six feet in length, Simpson said.

Police closed the beach to swimmers after the incident and referred the matter to the state Department of Land and Natural Resources.

Body of woman run over three times robbed in Vegas

By the Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — The body of a Las Vegas woman killed New Year's Day when she was hit by three vehicles was robbed before police arrived, authorities said Wednesday.

Las Vegas police said a white compact car and a dark sport utility vehicle each drove away after striking 42-year-old Lynette Spiller on a busy street near her home about 5:20 p.m. Tuesday.

Police said Spiller may have been jaywalking, but said the drivers of the first two cars could be charged with felony hit-and-run.

A third car also hit the body and stopped. The unidentified driver was not issued a summons.

Police said that while the body was pinned under the third car, passers-by combed through Spiller's purse, wallet and backpack.

Detective Doug Nutton said one person later gave police Spiller's identification card, saying it had been found elsewhere.

Nineteen-year-old sworn in as mayor in Pennsylvania

By the Associated Press

MERCER, Pa. — Christopher Portman planned to spend his first night as mayor having dinner at home with his parents and watching his girlfriend lead cheers at a high school basketball game.

The 19-year-old Republican was sworn in Wednesday as the first teen-age mayor of this western Pennsylvania borough with 2,391 residents.

"I'm thrilled and ready to take on this job," said Portman, a freshman at Westminster College in New Wilmington, about 15 minutes away. He will earn \$1,875 a year.

Mercer's mayor doesn't have much power, serving mostly as a tiebreaker for borough council votes and as overseer for the police.

Portman said he hopes to start a private group to raise community revitalization money and fine-tune zoning to "maintain the Victorian setting of the community."

"I look at this position as being more the goodwill ambassador of this town," said Portman, who is majoring in broadcast journalism.

Portman defeated 55-year-old Councilman Kenneth Vernon and another young candidate, John Kish, 19, in the Republican primary. He also won the Democratic nomination with a write-in vote.

"I'm so thrilled that Chris ran, and he's a wonderful person — a good young man from a wonderful family," said 78-year-old John "Jerry" Johnson, the outgoing mayor. "I held the Bible for him ... was glad to."

INTERNATIONAL



Argentinian leader ready to ditch free-market policies

BY TONY SMITH
Associated Press Writer

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina — A populist senator became Argentina's fifth president in two weeks Wednesday, pledging to ditch free-market policies that he said had left Argentina "without a peso."

Eduardo Duhalde, a 60-year-old former vice president and two-term governor of the country's richest province, Buenos Aires, donned Argentina's blue-and-white sash of office and raised the golden scepter in an ornate ceremony in the Casa Rosada government palace.

He was chosen by Congress late Tuesday to serve out the term of his unpopular predecessor, Fernando de la Rúa, through December 2003.

Wednesday's inauguration ceremony followed a night of protests by an indignant public, exhausted by nearly four years of recession and recent weeks of social unrest. Some Argentines were angry that Duhalde had not been chosen by a popular vote.

"Elections now!" thousands of pot-banging demonstrators chanted as they swarmed onto the capital's streets overnight. By daytime the protests had largely ended.

Duhalde's election was confirmed by 262 lawmakers with 21 against and 18 abstentions in a marathon session of Congress. The legislators also scuttled earlier plans for a March presidential election.

Over the coming days a flurry of announcements of cabinet positions and economic policies was expected.

Duhalde became the fifth president to take office in this economically crippled South American nation of 36 million people since Dec. 21, when de la Rúa was ousted by street violence resulting from his belt-tightening policies.

Duhalde has the unenviable task of turning round the wrecked economy that is unable to pay the country's \$132 billion public debt and calming Argentina's most serious political and economic crisis in decades.

The new president from Argentina's largest party lashed out late Tuesday at free market policies he blames for the current economic woes.

"The financial crisis is without precedent," he said. "We have been left today without a peso."

"My commitment, starting from today, is to do away with an exhausted economic model ... and to lay the foundations of a new model that can help our market recover and ensure a better distribution of wealth," he said.

Industrial production has stalled. Unemployment has spiraled to near-record levels topping 18 percent, pushing thousands of Argentine families into poverty.

In two tumultuous weeks, two interim presidents briefly took the helm. A more permanent caretaker president, Adolfo Rodríguez Saa, was to shepherd Argentina through to March elections but quit Sunday just a week into office, amid fresh street protests.

Although from the Peronist Party that dominates Congress, Rodríguez Saa failed to secure support from warring party factions for his plan to create 1 million jobs with a public works program and to kick-start the stalled



Associated Press

Angry jobseekers set fire to a tires barricade outside the mayor's offices in Lomas de Zamora some 20 miles south of Buenos Aires, Argentina on Wednesday. With unemployment over 18 percent, Argentina's new President Eduardo Duhalde is expected Friday to outline his new economic plan, which could include breaking the country's decade-old currency peg, issuing \$2 billion to \$3 billion more in negotiable bonds to add liquidity to the market, and easing banking withdrawal limits, local newspapers reported.

economy with an extra currency alongside the peso and the U.S. dollar, both widely used here.

A veteran of the populist left-wing of the Peronists, Duhalde gave few clues as to concrete policies for saving Argentina from bankruptcy and staving off a slide into social chaos and anarchy.

"The financial crisis is without precedent. We have been left today without a peso."

— **EDUARDO DUHALDE**
President of Argentina

The tone he set was clear: The new Argentina would stand against unbound free market economics, and against kowtowing to international banking and finance.

Duhalde promised "a program of national salvation" to restore the peace, vowed to uphold his predecessor's pledge to create 1 million new jobs and a social safety net

for the unemployed.

Mindful of the enraged protests of the normally docile middle class that evicted de la Rúa from office, Duhalde also pledged to protect Argentines' savings. His unpopular predecessor had limited weekly cash withdrawals to \$250 in a Dec. 1 clampdown.

Duhalde, who ran second to de la Rúa in a 1999 election, has been a fierce critic of Argentina's last decade of free-market reforms that brought growth, but often failed to close the gap between the few rich and the legions of poor.

Duhalde's province, home to a third of Argentina's 36 million people, racked up millions of dollars in debt under his administration.

Martin Redrado, chief economist of Buenos Aires think-tank Fundacion Capital, said Duhalde's economic plan was "a leap into the unknown."

"I think he will move Argentina toward a more protectionist economy ... away from free market policies we have seen in last 10 years," said Redrado. "We are talking about a shift."

After nearly four years of recession, Argentina is in its worst crisis since the interruption of democracy by a 1976-83 dictatorship. The restoration of democracy sent the military back to the barracks and left Argentina's political elites to feud for power. So far, there have been no rumblings from the military in the current crisis.

'Ice melting' between neighbors; Pakistan and India

BY LAURINDA KEYS
Associated Press Writer

KATMANDU, Nepal — Foreign ministers from India and Pakistan shook hands, smiled and chatted Wednesday and one Pakistani official said the "ice is melting" between the nuclear-armed neighbors.

But violence persisted, with an attack outside a legislative building in the Indian part of disputed Kashmir.

The encounter between the two men at a regional summit in Nepal was the first direct contact between the two nations since India accused Pakistan of complicity in the deadly attack on India's Parliament last month.

Since then, both nations have moved thousands of troops toward the border, sent home half of each other's diplomats and halted bus, train and air service between their countries.

Suspected Islamic militants detonated two grenades Wednesday near the state legislature in Jammu-Kashmir state, and police said one policeman was killed and 24

others were wounded. Jammu-Kashmir is India's part of the disputed Kashmir region.

"Afghanistan has changed. I assure you the face of Pakistan will also change one day."

— **ATAL BIHARI VAJPAYEE**
Indian prime minister

In the northern Indian city of Lucknow, Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee compared his neighbor with Afghanistan.

"Afghanistan has changed. I assure you the face of Pakistan will also change one day," Vajpayee told a gath-

ering of social workers. "Terrorism will not last for long. This fight against terrorism should be the last fight."

India has said neither the foreign ministers, nor Vajpayee and Pakistani President Gen. Pervez Musharraf, will have bilateral meetings during the summit. Heads of state in the region are to meet as group over the weekend.

However, Pakistani government spokesman Ashfaq Ahmad Gondal said "The ice is melting. The very fact that both countries agreed to come to the summit is a very positive step."

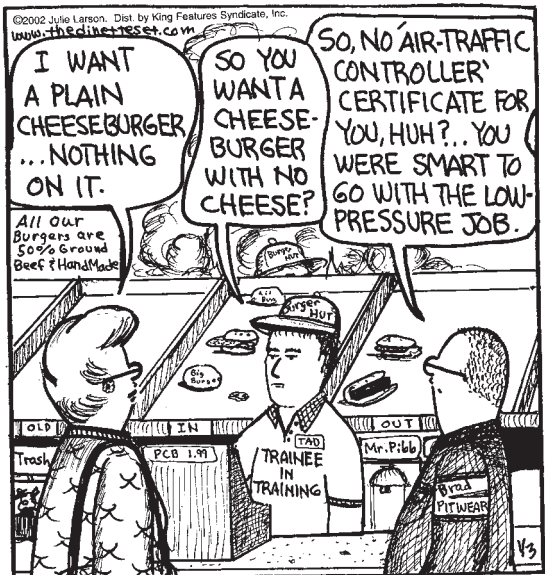
The summit of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation being held here this week has been delayed for three years because of the border conflict between India and Pakistan and because of the military coup that brought Musharraf to power.

Both nations are part of President Bush's coalition against terrorism, and Musharraf has been praised in Washington for reversing his support of the Taliban regime in Afghanistan.



COMICS

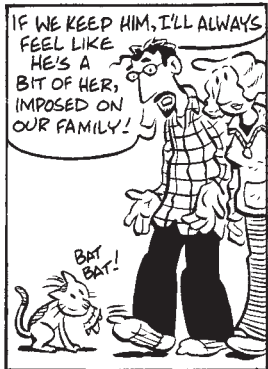
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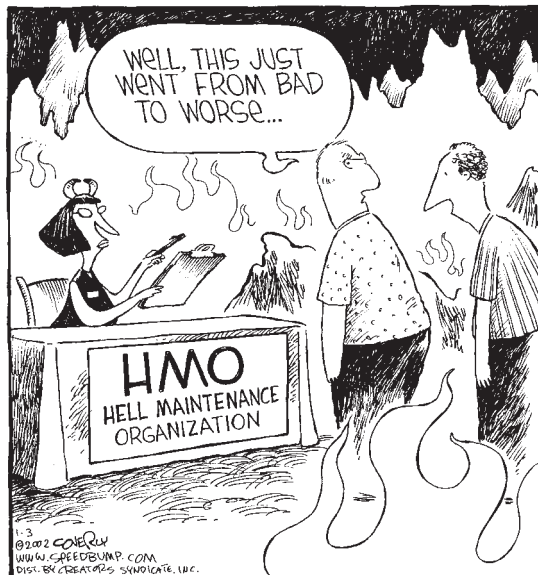
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CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Tailed toy
 - 5 Discards
 - 11 Stratford's river
 - 12 Fill the trunk
 - 13 Not lax
 - 14 Cleopatra's love
 - 15 Converts to code
 - 17 TV's "—Haw"
 - 18 Learning methods
 - 22 Make broader
 - 24 Actress Aimee
 - 25 Altar words
 - 26 Swiss canton
 - 27 Salamanders
 - 30 Strips for breakfast
 - 32 "Tiny Bubbles" singer
 - 33 Blond shade
 - 34 Frequent flier units
 - 38 French eatery
 - 41 Coworker of Drew
 - 42 Hosts
 - 43 "Step —!"
 - 44 Finds another purpose for
- DOWN**
- 1 Singer Smith
 - 2 Notorious czar
 - 3 Grid score
 - 4 Menu choice
 - 5 Fresh reaction
 - 6 Nicaraguan fighter
 - 7 Fingers
 - 8 Fuss
 - 9 Bit of word-play
 - 10 Bond, for one
 - 16 Longing
 - 19 Soccer field edge
 - 20 Continental currency
 - 21 Dermis
 - 22 Flag waver
 - 23 Concept: Prefix
 - 28 Namely
 - 29 Evening bash
 - 30 Emeril catchword
 - 31 "I, Robot" writer
 - 35 Flag seamstress
 - 36 Give out
 - 37 Poses
 - 38 Saloon
 - 39 Dudgeon
 - 40 Dallas sch.

B	A	J	A		H	A	R	A	S	S
A	L	U	M		O	P	E	N	U	P
L	I	S	P		S	E	N	T	R	Y
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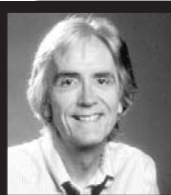
Yesterday's answer

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38	39	40						41		
42								43		
44								45		

1-3

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

Sex in the line of duty

• In September, two Pennsylvania state troopers got in trouble for receiving complete, \$60 prostitution services while working undercover, even though policy prevents such sex acts "except in a lifesaving situation or where officers' lives are at stake," according to a state police official.

• A barber from Scotland was flown at government expense to the Netherlands just to cut the hair of accused Pan Am Flight 103 bomber (and Scottish prisoner) Abdel Basset al-Megrahi in July because security policy prevents local civilians from doing it.

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BACK PAGE

Study shows camera can detect liars by their faces

BY RICK CALLAHAN
Associated Press Writer

A heat-sensing camera trained on people's faces was able to detect liars in a study that hints at a way of spotting terrorists at airports.

In six of eight people who lied, the high-resolution thermal imaging camera detected a faint blushing around their eyes that Mayo Clinic researchers said is evidence of deception.

Such facial imaging, they said, could provide a simple and rapid way of scanning people being questioned at airports or border crossings.

But other scientists questioned the significance of the findings, noting that the technique was tested on a small number of people. They also said the experiment fell far short of what is needed to reveal whether thermal imaging can work accurately and quickly in real-life situations.

"What they found is interesting, but it's more than a bit of a stretch for them to say this could be useful for mass screening," said Monroe Friedman, a professor of psychology at Eastern Michigan University.

The experiment involved 20 Army recruits. They were randomly assigned to either stab a mannequin and take a \$20 bill from its clothing, or not carry out this staged crime.

The recruits were then filmed with the thermal imager as they were subjected to the same questions, with the mannequin-robbers instructed in advance to lie about their theft.

The results appear in Thursday's issue of the journal *Nature*.

Six of the eight "robbers" showed the telltale heat patterns around their eyes. Eleven of the 12 other volunteers were correctly tagged as innocent.

"What they found is interesting, but it's more than a bit of a stretch for them to say this could be useful for mass screening."

— MONROE FRIEDMAN
Eastern Michigan University, psychology professor

Tests with a polygraph — popularly known as a lie detector — yielded similar results. Polygraphs measure blood pressure, breathing rate, sweating and other body changes.

James A. Levine, a study author and a Mayo Clinic endocrinologist, said the blushing seen around the robbers' eyes was the thermal signature of the primitive "fright-flight response" that arises when people lie.

Levine conceded the experiment was small but said the findings warrant "aggressive investigation" for potential security applications. His team is planning additional tests.

Frank Horvath, a professor of criminal justice at Michigan State University, was not impressed. He said the thermal imaging camera, like a polygraph, is only picking up physiological changes caused by anxiety. Such changes do not necessarily indicate guilt or innocence, he said.

And even if thermal imaging is comparable in accuracy to polygraphs, Horvath said it would not be suitable for rapid mass screenings. He noted that 25 percent of the test subjects who were lying eluded detection.

A demand note should be legible

By The Associated Press

HALLANDALE BEACH, Fla. — Never underestimate the importance of good handwriting.

A bank robber's badly written note sabotaged his robbery attempt Monday, causing the panicked man to instead hit another bank across the street minutes later, police said.

It all started when the man entered Bank United in this Fort Lauderdale suburb and handed the teller a note.

Unfortunately for the robber, the teller was unable to read the note and asked the man what he wanted, Capt. Chris Hock said.

Hock said the man then offered spoken demands, but the teller was unable to understand the man's mix of Spanish and English. A commotion ensued and the man hurriedly left the bank empty-handed.

Ten minutes later the man robbed a SouthTrust Bank across the street, using the same tactics with a more legible note. The teller gave the man some cash and he left. No one was injured and no one at the bank saw any weapons.

As of Tuesday, the robber remained at large.

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