

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

LOTTO

SUPER LOTTO PLUS

30, 3, 28, 6, 23

Megamember: 19

Jackpot: \$10 million

FANTASY 5

20, 32, 16, 37, 30

DAILY 3

Afternoon picks: 3, 7, 3

Evening picks: 3, 9, 0

DAILY DERBY

1st Place: 05, California Classic

2nd Place: 6, Whirl Win

3rd Place: 01, Gold Rush

Race Time: 1:43.67



NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

Norway Is Different: Lena Skarning, 33, who calls herself a witch, won a government startup grant of the equivalent of US\$7,400 for her Oslo-based Forest Witch Magic Consulting business (but conditioned on her refraining from casting evil spells). Said the modest Skarning in October, "I'm (just) an ordinary witch who came up with an original business idea." And in November, a Norwegian court ordered the government to buy a 22-year-old, 4-foot-2 man a car because of his severe anxiety about riding public transportation due to his size, which has made him the subject of taunts ever since he was a child.



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"When Iraq is liberated, you will be treated, tried and persecuted as a war criminal."

— George W. Bush



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Delayed Aero Theatre opening 'coming soon'



File Photo

The Aero Theatre should re-open by this spring. American Cinematheque, a nonprofit arts organization, took over the Aero last April and planned to open it by the fall of 2003 but met with unexpected delays.

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON

Daily Press Staff Writer

Behind schedule by a few months, the new operators of the historic Aero Theatre hope to re-open the 65-year-old movie house this spring.

American Cinematheque, a nonprofit arts organization, took over the Aero last April and planned to open it by the fall of 2003. But a series of delays and unanticipated renovation work postponed the opening, said Barbara Smith, the director of American Cinematheque, who was at the Montana Avenue theater on Friday to assess the progress.

She said the work is expected to take 10 weeks, and much of the new equipment and theater chairs have been purchased.

Workers realized that the aging theater needed some serious attention once they got in there, particularly with the electrical wiring.

"I can't figure out how they showed movies there, it was a rat's nest of extension cords," Smith said. "And you need to have a lot of electricity for a good sound system."

See AERO, page 7

The daily grind



Del Pastrana/Daily Press

Nick Slezak waits his turn as his buddy Brian Allen works a set-up rail in a parking lot at the beach on a recent afternoon.

Trial against Santa Monica landlord begins

Tenants are suing for more than \$1M after 2000 assault

BY JOHN WOOD

Daily Press Staff Writer

who were apparently in the wrong apartment, reportedly demanded \$30,000 in cash and beat Starr.

Attorney Blaine Greenberg said the landlords of 17351 Sunset Blvd. should pay Starr and Serrano for lost wages and emo-

tional trauma caused by the assault because they knew from previous incidents the building was unsafe and failed to repair it. He said both the elevator lock and several fire doors in the luxury building were broken.

"If the defendants had spent \$1,950 to repair all the broken elevator floor key locks ... this attack would not have taken place," he said in his opening statement.

See LANDLORD, page 7



Wini Allard: 'A gutsy broad'

Community profiles is a weekly series that will appear each Monday and delves into the people who live, work and play in Santa Monica.

City librarian has earned national media attention

BY JOHN WOOD

Daily Press Staff Writer

When "Ms." magazine named Santa Monica's top librarian one of the year's "50 Women Who Fought and Won," Wini Allard wondered what all the fuss was about.

Sure, she'd refused to hand over pri-

vate library records to secret-service men without a court order. But Allard figured that's what any First Amendment-minded librarian would do.

"It seemed a lot of notoriety over just doing the right thing, as far as I'm concerned," Allard, 66, said Friday. "I didn't feel as though I'd gone out and fought a battle or anything."

Allard joked that the local press attention at the time of the incident and the recent magazine article constituted

See PROFILES, page 6



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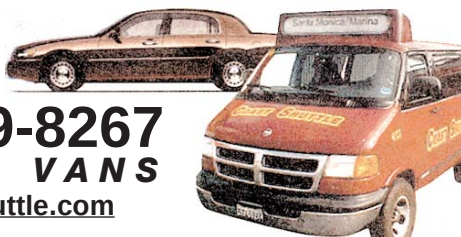
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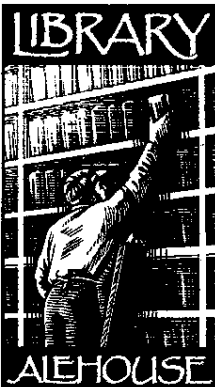
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Sag, prepare to work late

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

The stars show the kind of day you'll have:

★★★★-Dynamic ★★★★★-Positive ★★★-Average
★★-So-so ★-Difficult



ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ You might need to reorganize a project because of information that comes forward. Though you might grumble, you're right in your element, being a troubleshooter and a solution-finder. You resolve the issue effectively. Tonight: Bring extra work home.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ A partner might disappoint you, be it with a loan or some other type of commitment. You find ways around the issue with your unusual creativity and spontaneity. Detach if you feel upset. You won't find answers until you calm down. Tonight: So what if it is Monday?

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Build a relationship on a stronger foundation. You might wonder what happened to make an associate rear and react in such a manner. Remember that though you might be affected, his or her behavior could have very little to do with you. Tonight: Relax at home.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ You could be overwhelmed by impending confusion around you. Make it your job to sort through the problems and find more effective ways of handling these issues. Your calmness and questions help. You'll find your way through the maze! Tonight: Get together with a pal.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Deal with your finances before they deal with you! A risk will backfire right now, whether it involves money or love. Play it conservatively, if you can. Once you see what has happened, you gain insight into what NOT to do! Tonight: Pay bills.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Your smile is a winner to everyone except a key loved one or family member. Could this person be jealous? You cannot be popular with everyone all of the time. Use your creativity — be it at work or play — and you'll come out smelling like roses. Deal with those with whom you are popular. Tonight: As you like it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★ Step back and don't take anyone or anything personally. Someone who could be very close to you might say something deeply disturbing. You could also be misreading this person. Stay close to home. No adventures, please! Tonight: Get some extra sleep.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ You might need to have a long talk with someone in the know about finances, though this might involve work and not you. With this person you can put together a budget that will work. Brainstorm with others. Tonight: You're happiest with the crowd.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Accept responsibilities with your normal graciousness. Besides, you really do not have a choice. Adapt plans to the problem at hand; you will be able to resolve what someone else seems stymied by. Tonight: Prepare to work late.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Get needed information, and calm down yourself, as well as others. Whatever might disturb you can be alleviated with a different perspective or more information. Even your thinking transforms as a result. Tonight: Zero in on a movie.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Financial and emotional gains come by asking the right questions and perhaps becoming an even more independent thinker. Though they mean well, your friends could lead you down the wrong path. Tonight: Togetherness works.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Defer to others, especially around a boss or authority figure who could give a conflicted message. Be imaginative when dealing with associates or when in a meeting. Good ideas flow in this atmosphere. Tonight: The only answer is "yes."

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1427 Third Street Promenade, Ste. #202 • Santa Monica, CA 90401 • www.smdp.com

PUBLISHER

Ross Furukawa ross@smdp.com

EDITOR

Carolyn Sackarison sack@smdp.com

STAFF WRITER

John Wood wood@smdp.com

ADVERTISING SALES MANAGER

Rob Piubeni rob@smdp.com

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Steve Averill steve@smdp.com

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Rob Schwenker schwenker@smdp.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Del Pastrana del@smdp.com

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

Alejandro Cesar Cantarero II alex@smdp.com

ADMINISTRATIVE TRAFFIC MANAGER

Heather Rich heather@smdp.com

CLASSIFIED REPRESENTATIVE

Mitch Troy mitch@smdp.com

CIRCULATION MANAGER

Robert DeAmicis robert@smdp.com

CIRCULATION

Keith Wyatt keith@smdp.com

CIRCULATION

Glenn Bolan glenn@smdp.com

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Dave Danforth dave@smdp.com

MASCOT

Maya Furukawa maya@smdp.com

LOCAL



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Citizen cops to graduate

By Daily Press staff

The 19th class of the Santa Monica Police Department's Citizen Police Academy will graduate its first television star this month.

Longtime Santa Monica resident and patron of the SMPD's mounted patrol unit, June Lockhart, who starred in "Lassie" and "Lost in Space," will graduate with 17 other classmates on Wednesday, Jan. 21, at Shutters on the Beach Hotel at 6:30 p.m.

The SMPD Citizen Academy began on Wednesday, Oct. 29, 2003. The academy, which is run by SMPD's community-relations unit, is offered twice a year and is free to Santa Monica residents, students or employees.

The 11-week program, one night per week for three hours, gives participants an overview of the department's functions, responsibilities and operational procedures. Classes are taught by police officers, police executives and highly specialized non-sworn employees of the SMPD.

Included in the course are demonstrations, discussions, lectures and personal participation in mock exercises. Units involved include the defensive tactics team, metro team, K-9, traffic enforcement and internal affairs. Participants also receive an extensive tour of the new Public Safety Facility, where a majority of the classes were held.

Catoe riding the big bus dream

By Daily Press staff

John Catoe, former head of Santa Monica's Big Blue Bus, has elevated his status in the transportation world.

Catoe, now deputy CEO of the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, has joined the governing board of WestStart-CALSTART, further expanding the scope of North America's leading advanced transportation organization.

In addition to operating the nation's largest natural-gas bus fleet, LACMTA also is known as a national leader in terms of the development of Bus Rapid Transit systems. BRT is viewed as a cost-effective means of providing high-volume transit service in a cost-effective manner. The LACMTA is the nation's third largest transit district and serves as transportation planner and coordinator, designer, builder and operator for a population of more than 9.6 million people in the region with the nation's worst air quality.

"Making transportation options cleaner — more efficient — and more of a total solution for the residents of our region is the LACMTA's commitment," said Catoe. "Our goal and our charter is better mobility across the spectrum. Whether it's in improved drive systems for our buses or enhanced services for our riders, such as Metro Rapid, we see tremendous synergy and value in linking with WestStart-CALSTART and its innovative programs and partners in these areas."

Mr. Catoe has 22 years of public-transit experience. He belongs to the American Public Transportation Association, the American Society for Public Administration and is vice chair of the California Transit Association.

"John Catoe is a transit industry leader and will be right at home on a board made up of advanced transportation innovation leaders," noted John Boesel, president & CEO of WestStart-CALSTART. "Given that we are headquartered in Pasadena, it makes a tremendous amount of sense that we partner with the LACMTA given its leadership in BRT and alternative-fueled buses."

WestStart-CALSTART currently serves a key advisory role to the Federal Transit Administration on BRT issues and is actively involved in helping companies develop and deploy clean and efficient drive systems for transit and other heavy-duty vehicles. It operates the Hybrid Truck Users Forum in a partnership with the U.S. Army's National Automotive Center, and sponsors a major conference on clean, heavy-duty vehicles each spring — the next one Feb. 25-27 in Rancho Mirage, Calif. WestStart-CALSTART is also a leader in helping organize and launch "Clean Mobility Centers," transit-linked locations that provide commuters with additional options such as bikes, electric scooters and car sharing.

WestStart-CALSTART is a fuel-neutral, participant-supported organization of approximately 115 organizations, dedicated to expanding and supporting a high-tech transportation industry that cleans the air, creates jobs and improves energy efficiency.



Today should see fair to good conditions with 5-8 foot head high to 3 foot overhead.

OUTLOOK: Good conditions should continue throughout the week until Thursday.

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MONDAY	5:32 AM	6:23 PM	12:43 AM	11:21 AM
TUESDAY	6:49 AM	7:06 PM	1:24 AM	12:15 PM
WEDNESDAY	8:31 AM	7:48 PM	2:07 AM	1:41 PM
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The Q-Line

Last week, a very well organized group of school supporters filed an amendment to the city charter that would mandate City Hall fork over a minimum of \$6 million annually to the local school district, which faces severe budget cuts from the federal and state governments.

School supporters have continuously thanked the City Council for financially helping the district out in past years, but they want to ensure they get more money to keep local schools top-notch. Voters most likely will be asked in November if taxpayer money should be dedicated to

the schools. City officials, however, aren't too keen on the idea of not having control over the cash.

So this week, Q-Line wants to know, "Should the schools have a set amount of money put aside every year or should the discretion be left up to the City Council?"

Call (310) 285-8106 with your response before Thursday at 5 p.m. We'll print them in Friday's paper. Please limit your comments to a minute or less. It might help to think first about the wording of your response.



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LETTERS

'A liar is a liar'

Editor:

The cartoonist could use the same motif for different people. For instance, "A Bush is a Bush" or "A Schwarzenegger is a Schwarzenegger." Well, you get the idea (Funny Paperz, SMDP, Jan. 7, page 4).

I think Pete Rose should definitely consider a career in politics. After all, he already has the foremost and main prerequisite down pat — his willingness to lie to the public over a long period of time. I know at least one political party who would snap him up in a heartbeat. Maybe Pete will never be elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame, but he could well be elected to high office in present-day America.

Marilyn Brennan
Santa Monica

Taxpayer money should be spent on taxpayers

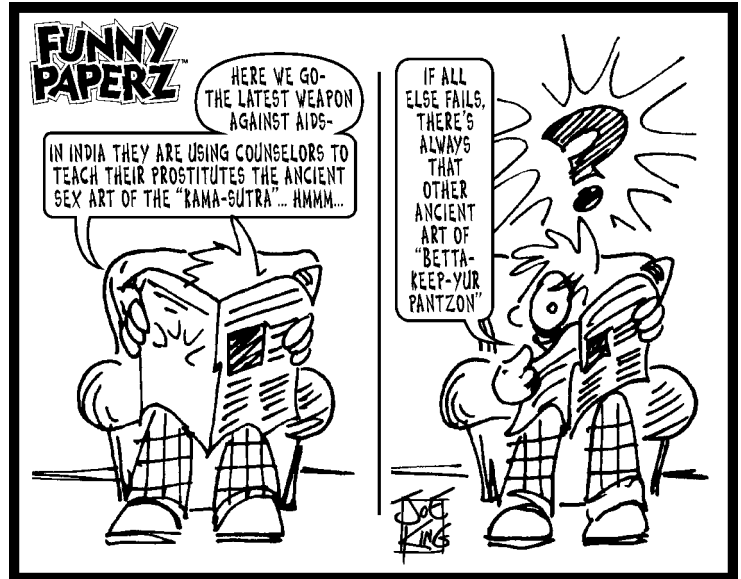
Editor:

Bill Bauer's article on Friday analyzing SMRR strategy (SMDP, Jan. 2, page 4) was very revealing. Bill's observations that SMRR is pandering to the labor unions because the unions are providing money and campaign workers should be a wake-up call for all Santa Monica residents.

The SMRR-controlled City Council is spending millions of our tax dollars not to reduce gun violence in the Pico neighborhood, or to improve the quality of life for the residents of our city, but on social-service programs for non-residents and to curry favor with big labor.

For example, SMRR backed the recent school-parcel tax, which raises taxes on homeowners and raises rents for tenants allegedly because the city did not have the money to help our school children. But at the same time, SMRR strongly supports spending millions to develop low-income housing for the union hotel workers, also known as potential campaign workers and SMRR voters. The city is developing low-income housing projects at the former Gallegos Restaurant on Broadway and 15th Streets, and the former Jewish Community Center at 26th Street and Santa Monica Boulevard. They will tear down Shakey's Pizza at Berkeley Street and Santa Monica Boulevard to build another high-density low-income housing project.

Vivian Rothstein, a highly paid organizer for the hotel employees and restaurant employees union (H.E.R.E.) will present another increased minimum-wage proposal to the City Council on Jan. 13. She will probably ask the SMRR council to place on the November 2004 ballot a proposal that will compel a higher minimum wage and



Member: AAEC, NCS, SCCS.

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which will cost over \$3 million a year to administer. Yet the SMRR-run council will probably say there is no money in the budget for schools. This is just more political pay back for the union's generosity and support for SMRR politicians. Instead of spending \$3 million to administer the union proposal, I would support a proposal to compel the city to give a percentage of the general fund every year to support our local schools. As a tenant, my position is our tax money should be spent on Santa Monica residents, not on non-resident social services or a union payoff.

Mike Rosenfeld
Santa Monica

Opinions expressed are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff. Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters will be published on a space-available basis. It is our intention to publish all letters we receive, except those that are libelous or are unsigned. Preference will be given to those that are e-mailed to sack@smdp.com. All letters must include the author's name and telephone number for purposes of verification. Letters also may be mailed to our offices located at 1427 Third Street Promenade, Suite 202, Santa Monica, 90401, or faxed to (310) 576-9913. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content.

Dreams, not personal improvements, are what should be resolved



HIP TO BE SQUARE

By Caroline Bodkin

Ahh, New Year's. Time to feel better. Time to throw away last year's Bingo card, call for a new round, wipe away last year's should-haves and locate your resolve. Resolutions. So that by Dec. 31, 2004, or hopefully even sooner, whatever is annoying you now just might be resolved.

I must have sat down six different times to write down my New Year's resolutions. When I woke up Jan. 1, I was giddy and relieved because on that day, regardless of the status quo, "life as you want it" is required to feel possible. And if things are possible, we can resolve to do them. Can I make it to the gym three or more times a week this year? It's possible, so let it be resolved. Let that, and all our other "resolution" stand-bys be announced once more: Exercise, eat right, call old friends, remember birthdays, clean house, organize shoes, study vocabulary.

In other words: Get by.

Is that it? I resolve to get by? I resolve to feel okay? Make minor improvements? I guess ...

Shouldn't the things we resolve to do matter more? Or are resolutions simply maintenance tools to help our jalopy as we ride on the crooked road to bigger places? If so, when did we decide to begin the journey? When do we allow ourselves to dream of those big, far-off places?

Last weekend I met my friend Daria's grandparents. We were visiting friends in Tucson, and so we spent some time with Carlo, her Italian-born, first-generation American grandfather and his wife, Alexandria. We were invited to their home, unmistakably the realization of someone's long-time-formulating dream home. It stood high on the skyline and overlooked the whole city. Its balcony offered 270 degrees of city lights, descended down to the pool and was side-lined by citrus trees. The inside boasted Italian-born tile and could host 100 or more laughing guests, drinks in hand, conversation candid.

It was a dream turned reality. A big place and much, much more than a resolution achieved.

Carlo's story: When Carlo was 15, he arrived in United States, unable to speak English, with a suitcase, \$50, and a letter of recommendation (written in Italian). He found a job as a waiter, first in D.C.,

then in San Francisco where he spotted and wooed his now-wife of 61 years. He followed his nose to Alaska to mine for gold before leaving to serve in WWII. After returning, he started two businesses that failed, then another that succeeded, and went on to support what has become a strong and growing family.

When Carlo was 15, he dreamt of something he could never have actually imagined as a picture, as the thing it finally became. Whatever his dream was, I could see that it had come true.

So what were you doing when you were 15? I was running for cheerleader.

Sitting down for the sixth time to write my resolutions, I thought "Caroline, where did your risk-taker self go? When was the last time you set out, not knowing where you would land but sure that you had the strength to arrive?" Many of our ancestors, mine included, arrived without a final destination, on a boat passing through Ellis and moving on into this land where they worked and it worked in return. I think of my other friend, Lindsey, whose mother left Korea at 16 bound for Kanab, Utah.

Yeah, Kenab. Where?

Exactly.

They struggled day by day, one opportunity to the next. Learned the language, deciphered the codes, failed, got back up again, and lived and loved in the mean-

time. They didn't know what they'd do, but they believed they could do it, and they weren't scared to try. Carlo could never have described the life he's led since he left Italy, it could never have been itemized and listed in resolution form. His life has been one of dreams of big places.

Describe America from Italy at 15? No. Dream? Yes.

I went back a last time to my own list of resolutions, stared at the page, tried to remember why I was making a to-do list of things I should do naturally.

Why don't we make lists of dreams, even if they're crazy or impossible? Maybe it's time to give up what we think we should become and leave the page blank for the things we could never describe.

Yes, exercise is great, the calling of old friends is healthy. Minor improvements make each day better. But personally, I don't want to be the thing I set out to be. I want a surprise. Even if it's hard.

If we allow ourselves to dream of being something we cannot yet imagine, we might achieve something we never thought we could.

Anyway, I gotta go to the gym.

(Caroline Bodkin lives in Los Angeles and wonders daily if she'll miss her calling.)

OPINION



Shaken, not stirred is how a new Californian responds to a quake

The recent earthquake still rumbles in my mind. For starters, it was my first one ever. Tell me: Did it have to be California's strongest since 1999?

When my computer started to shake in front of me and the office blinds started to sway back and forth, banging their metal hinges against one another, a feeling of alarm and dread rushed through my body. I stood only long enough to be reminded of how I felt on the cruise ship my family and I took years ago from Florida to the Bahamas. Then ... I sat and waited.

"That was a long one," my colleague, a California native, said about a minute later when it sort of felt like the earth had stopped moving. She casually turned on the office television so we could learn that it had been 6.5 in magnitude.

Over the next couple of days, we heard more of the earthquake's outcome in the epicenter northeast of San Simeon, and the devastation in surrounding areas such as Paso Robles where buildings were destroyed, cars demolished and, more importantly, two women lost their lives. My thoughts and sympathy go out to their families and friends.

Although one of my colleagues was disappointed that he hadn't felt the quake in his car on the way to work, others who have lived through earthquakes over the course of their lives wondered why they had responded with such unease to this recent one. Other veterans felt nauseous for the rest of the day after it occurred. Could've been the numerous after shocks, but I'm doubtful.

The fact is, unless perhaps you're a seismologist, most of us don't know when an earthquake is going to strike. But when it does — and when the ground starts to move underneath you — it's odd. Take it from someone with a new perspective.

A stranger in the washroom about an hour after the quake said: "This was a roller. Just you wait until your power goes out and things are a lot bumpier, sweetie. The jolts are pretty rough, and

you don't want to be in an older building. That's when it's really scary."

"Great," I said as I smiled weakly and washed my hands next to her. I made a mental note: Avoid old buildings.

Yet, as I returned to my desk, I thought back to the day when my brother and I were driving up a windy mountain road to go snowboarding. "You must always respect the mountain," he told me. "We must always respect Mother Nature."

Family and friends gathered in the San Bernardino Mountains to enjoy their natural surroundings on Christmas Day. Then a mudslide struck their celebration, and many lives were lost. Who was respecting whom in Iran on Dec. 26? At last count, the earthquake had buried over 30,000 people.

Certainly, my brother isn't suggesting that he is showing disregard when, as a ski enthusiast, he goes cat skiing. Is he?

When friends and I flipped while white-water rafting because the current was particularly strong, should we not have challenged the unsettled rapids a second time? Where's the fun in that?

I think of the young teenage surfer who lost her arm to a shark in October. Her plan was to get back in the water, on her surfboard, as soon as possible. I've been told she has. I hope so.

Apparently it was only a matter of time before the next earthquake hit here, and therefore it was only a matter of time for me to experience my first. Another California friend told me that earthquakes are just something you accept as part of living in California. You exist with them. And he's right. But each time I live through another, for one quick moment my heart will skip a beat and I will have the nearest door or table in my sight. Just in case.

(Amy Perritt is a new resident of Santa Monica and a free-lance writer on the side. E-mail her at aperritt@hotmail.com.)

Guest Commentary

By Amy Perritt

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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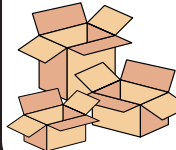
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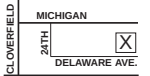
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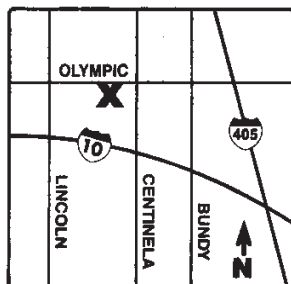
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PROFILES, from page 1

her "15 minutes of fame." In reality, Allard, a widower and grandmother who lives in Century City, is content as a community force who operates largely behind the scenes.

The Harvard-educated librarian has worked in Santa Monica for 13 years. She moved to Los Angeles from Detroit as a young mother so her husband William could take work as a landscape architect. Though William passed away five years ago from stomach cancer, Allard still keeps their Century City townhouse and appears as excited as ever about books. She is an avid reader.

For Allard, there's plenty to look forward to.

In the fall of 2005, the new \$52 million Santa Monica main library is scheduled to open, complete with state-of-the-art equipment and ecologically astute facilities. Asked if she's excited to be at the helm with the new building less than two years off, Allard said, "Oh my goodness, yes. I think it's going to be such a landmark in this city."

Here, the Daily Press asks more about Santa Monica's resident bookworm.

You've become a national champion of First Amendment rights. How'd that happen?

"We're very conscious. We talk about it a lot. If someone comes in asking for

information about a library user, we have a routine. They're referred to the administration, and I get in touch with the city attorney.

"I also have been adamant that they must have a court order to release information. Sometimes it feels a little uncomfortable to be quite so rigid, but I feel I have a responsibility. And I have had a lot of positive response from the community, people saying they appreciate that I've done that. So I will continue to take that stand."

Can you tell us more about your interaction with the government?

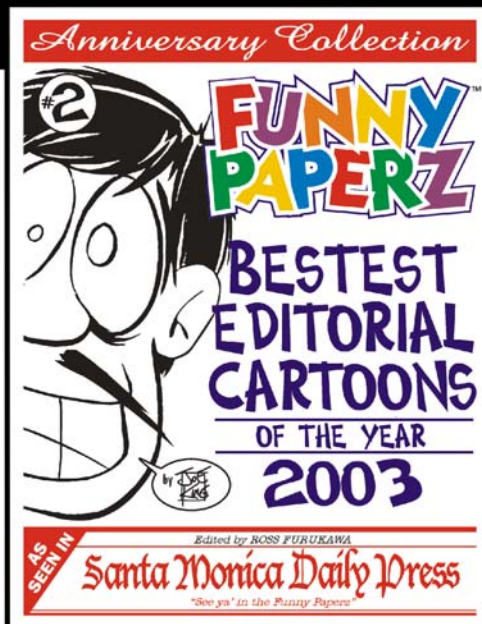
"I'm not supposed to, but I will. There was only one, and it was shortly after 9-11. ... It was the Secret Service. I must say that was a little off-putting, to have the Secret Service come in and say, 'We need this information.' So I said, 'Fine, you'll have to have a court order.'

"They were back within 24 hours with a court order. The unfortunate thing is the individual they were looking for was not in our records, so I felt it was a moot point ... But I feel that what one person reads is no one else's business.

"Now (officials are) concerned about people carrying almanacs. ... It can get really absurd then, that they could arrest someone for wanting to carry around an almanac because they may be a terrorist.

"I was at a state workshop about the Patriot Act ... and an FBI man said, 'I don't understand it, don't you people want us to help stop terrorism?' So they're entirely missing the point. Of

See PROFILES, page 8

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LOCAL



Aero Theatre will remain a single-movie house

AERO, from page 1

The Aero Theatre, under the operation of Chris Allen for 11 years, ran 35 millimeter films. American Cinematheque, which is pumping several hundred thousand dollars into the renovation, will show 70 millimeter movies.

There will be new seats, a larger movie screen, state-of-the-art sound and projection systems, and many new features, Smith said. The symbolic marquee that stands above the theater located at Euclid and Montana Avenues will remain intact, as well as the theater's art-deco interior.

"I think people will be very surprised," she said, adding Santa Monica residents have been calling her for months wondering when the project will be completed. "The neighborhood is getting ancy."

Smith also said the delays actually helped the renovation because planners were able to take their time and put more thought into what was needed.

American Cinematheque signed a 10-year lease with theater owner James Rosenfeld last spring. The American

Cinematheque recently restored the historic 1922 Egyptian Theatre in Hollywood and many of the films shown there will make it to Santa Monica.

Cinematheque presents at the Egyptian Theatre a diverse, year-round film series featuring rare, unusual films and videos from all over the world, Smith said.

By expanding its operation in Santa Monica, American Cinematheque hopes to broaden its audience by offering one-of-a-kind films.

The Aero's history is filled with twists and turns. In May 2000, a representative of Robert Redford announced to the Santa Monica City Council that the actor/director had plans to buy the theater and restore it as part of a planned chain of independent movie houses. Redford frequented the cinema when he was a young boy.

Theater fans were relieved the Aero, located on a street that is fast becoming the Rodeo Drive of Santa Monica, had been saved from conversion to a clothing store, as so many other small theaters have become. But Redford's plan later unraveled due to financial problems.

Rosenfeld then began his search once again to find the right operator for his theater. He approached American

Cinematheque in 1998 after visiting the Egyptian. But it wasn't until the end of 2001 that discussions between the two parties became serious.

Allen, the theater's former operator, had fallen behind on the \$10,000-a-month rent. The community rallied behind the Aero at several fundraisers that Allen held to keep the theater going.

At the time, the theater ran second-run blockbusters fans might have missed at big-name multiplexes, or independent films they might have missed elsewhere. But with only five or six people arriving for most showings, the theater's future was constantly at risk.

Trial will resume this week

LANDLORD, from page 1

adding, "This attack was not only predictable, but easily and inexpensively avoidable."

Attorney Gilbert Garcia, who represents Marvin Engineering, disputed claims that the \$4,500-a-month apartment was advertised to the couple as high security. He indicated that the gunmen would have gotten into the apartment by whatever means necessary.

"There were ... four people who were intent to get in — and they did," said Garcia, who was accompanied by Jennifer Lechter, a resident of the building and the company's director of real estate. Lechter also is the daughter of Marvin Engineering's co-owner.

What's more, although Starr and Serrano are suing for emotional damages and trauma, Garcia said no documents or medical records of those conditions exist. And Garcia said Lechter, who met with the couple the evening of the break-in, could see no visible effects of the assault.

The landlords are countersuing for a total of \$42,101 in losses, claiming they lost out on \$37,800 after the couple broke their two-year lease to rent a house in Venice and spent another \$2,301 on broker and move-out fees.

After opening statements, witnesses for the plaintiffs began to take the stand. By the day's close, fellow tenant Tamy Soussana, whose apartment was broken into three months before the assault, as well as a police officer and Starr had taken the witness stand.

The trial, which is being heard by Santa Monica Superior Court Judge Valerie Baker, will resume Tuesday. It is expected to last another 10 days.

Although the key issue in the case is whether the landlord was negligent in the

"This attack was not only predictable, but easily and inexpensively avoidable."

— BLAINE GREENBERG
Plaintiffs' attorney

security of the building, the details of the assault have at times taken center stage. During opening statements, Greenberg recreated the 20-minute ordeal, which he said began with two gunmen storming through the front door and the other two bursting through the patio door simultaneously.

Starr, Serrano and two female lunch guests were then tied up, and the three women were dragged to a back bedroom, where Serrano was groped and threatened with rape, Greenberg told jurors. Starr, whose head was covered with a blanket, was pistol-whipped by assailants, who also demanded \$30,000 in cash.

The gunmen might have had the wrong apartment, Greenberg said. During the course of the attack, they repeatedly called Starr "Matt," a reported drug dealer who also lived in the building but had fled in the middle of the night one month earlier for unknown reasons. The entire assault ended after Starr directed the gunmen to \$300 in his wallet, where they probably discovered his real identity, Greenberg said.

That's when the room got quiet, he told jurors.

"Oliver heard one of the men say, 'Be cool. Some motherf---er sent us to the wrong place,'" he said.

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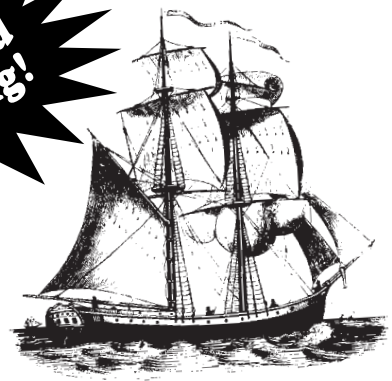
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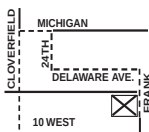
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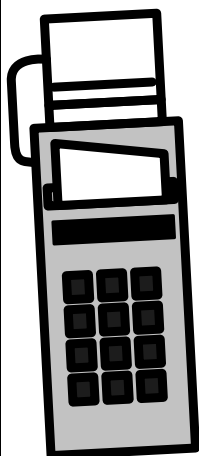


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LOCAL



PROFILES, from page 6

course we want to catch terrorists, but we also want to protect our rights and all the things we live here for. ...

"I thought it was a nice tactic to put us on the defense, that 'Why don't we want to fight terrorists?' But I guess that's quite typical."

What about "Ms." Magazine. How was that experience?

"There had been some information about this in the local papers. ... The reporter at "Ms." had heard about that, and they had heard about women taking stands. ...

"I did get a lot of response from people in the community. I had one person that called me and said, 'Thanks for being such a gutsy broad.' So I thought that was thanks enough. I love the idea of being a gutsy broad, although I'm not sure "Ms." would appreciate that."

You've worked in Santa Monica for 13 years. What do you like most about it here?

"I think the thing that I like most about the city is the concern of the community. I have never lived in a place where a community has been more concerned with the rights and the good of all, and I find that very impressive.

"I also love being this close to the ocean. I think it makes the city very special. ... Maybe because of the vastness of the ocean, it allows people to think in bigger terms than people in enclosed cities. That's kind of far-fetched, but I wonder."

What about the other side of the coin. What areas would you like to see improved?

"A lot of things I would like to leave just as they are. I think maybe the density and the inability to park and easily get where you want to go. ... That's one of the things that I'd like to see changed and improved.

How do you think that might be accomplished?

"Gee, I wish I knew. I think if I knew, I'd have a job for life, wouldn't I?"

"I think the emphasis is towards a walking city, but it's a hard thing to do. It's a hard thing to change people's mindsets — when people in Southern California are so accustomed to jumping in a car, they don't think about walking anywhere."

If you weren't the city librarian, what would you be doing?

"I'd probably be a reference librarian somewhere."

What about your dream job, what would that be?

"I think this is it. I love this job. I love this community."

Wini Allard, city librarian

As the city librarian, Allard oversees Santa Monica's main library and its three branches. A devoted protector of the First Amendment, Allard is also overseeing the new main library construction, a project expected to cost \$52 million and be completed in the fall of 2005.

Salary: \$115,000.

Background: Before coming to Santa Monica in 1991, Allard worked for 12 years with the County of Los Angeles Public Library system.

Education: Undergraduate studies at University of California, Los Angeles. Masters in Library and Information Science from the University of Michigan and Masters in Public Administration from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government.

Family: Widower with two children and two grandchildren. Daughter, Michelle, is 34. Son, Scott, is 32.

Born: Jan. 3, 1938, in Detroit, Mich.

Residence: Culver City townhouse.

Hobbies: Reading — anything, but especially mystery novels — and traveling.

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STATE



Some Hispanics who participated in boycott lost their jobs

BY DEBORAH KONG
AP Minority Issues Writer

SAN JOSE — A chef at a Mexican restaurant, Alvaro Tejeda skipped work Dec. 12 to protest the repeal of a California law allowing undocumented immigrants to apply for driver's licenses.

Tejeda expected he might receive a warning, or get demoted. Instead, he says, he was fired the next day.

Advocates say they've heard from dozens of workers like Tejeda who claim they lost their jobs because they missed work to join the one-day economic strike. Though it's been tough getting by without a job, many who were fired say they believe the boycott was a success, and some are hoping to join similar actions planned for May and December.

"The more we are, the more we'll be able to make ourselves be heard," said Tejeda, a 23-year-old, undocumented Mexican immigrant who lives in San Jose. "We have to support each other."

Tejeda's former employer, El Torito Restaurant, issued a statement saying employees were terminated because they violated a company attendance policy. Tejeda says he told his supervisor ahead of time he might observe the boycott.

It's unclear how many people participated overall; organizers estimate tens of thousands joined throughout the state.

Salvador Sandoval, a founder of Latino Focus in Redwood City, said his group has received about 150 phone calls from people who lost their jobs after the strike. Hispanic organizations have held commu-

nity workshops to help people find new jobs and get training and legal help, said Sandoval who has spoken at five such meetings.

If their employer has a leave policy, employees cannot be denied a day off from work because they plan to engage in political activities, said Tomas Margain, a San Francisco attorney who spoke at one of the workshops.

But most workers he talked to didn't ask for, or were denied, time off that day and may have little recourse, he said. Some mistakenly believed their employer supported the boycott, while others thought they were secure because so many co-workers were missing work. Some just decided to take a risk.

Organizers of the boycott say they have been trying to help workers get their jobs back. In Northern California, activists heard from more than 400 people who lost their jobs, and all but 30 were reinstated after advocates spoke with their employers, said Nativio Lopez, president of the Mexican American Political Association. In Southern California, the group has heard from about 20 employees; half got their jobs back, he said.

"With the literally tens of thousands of workers that participated, it's a minute number of people," Lopez said. "With every social movement, there's always a byproduct of direct action."

The economic strike underlined the importance of immigration issues in this state, where one in four residents is foreign-born. Critics have said allowing illegal immigrants to get driver's license is "a

"The more we are, the more we'll be able to make ourselves be heard. We have to support each other."

— **ALVARO TEJEDA**
Mexican immigrant

free pass" that could allow terrorists and other criminals into the state.

Though Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger signed legislation repealing the driver's license law, he has indicated he is willing to consider a similar bill if it had more security safeguards.

Tejeda, who has lived in the United States for eight years, said police have impounded his cars four times after finding he had no driver's license and no insurance. Each time, he had to pay about \$800 to get his car back and \$600 in fines.

"There are a lot of times we have to take our child to the doctor. Sometimes we live far away from our jobs. At night sometimes there are no buses. We have to drive," Tejeda said. With driver's licenses "the government would have a better eye on us."

Undocumented immigrants weren't the only ones in the protest.

"It's important to show those people that do not have documents that the rest of us are there supporting them," said Gustavo Torres, who skipped work at a

window manufacturing plant in Hollister, a city about 90 miles south of San Francisco.

He was one of about 30 workers who joined the strike after a supervisor told them to "get together" and "support your cause," Torres said. "We had the feeling he supported us."

Instead, many were fired, he said. The company did not return calls from The Associated Press.

Activists will advise people to ask for a day off well ahead of the next strike, said Isabel Villavicencio, an organizer with San Jose-based Community Volunteers. They're also compiling a list of activities — not buying grocery or gas, for example — that people can choose from, without risking their jobs, Sandoval said.

Though she lost her job at a fast food restaurant after the strike, Nicolasa Chacon of Menlo Park said she's determined to join the next action.

"I will tell our people to gain courage and participate in the boycott," she said. "We have to take the risk."

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NATIONAL

Unemployment rate drops to 5.7 percent, but job growth flat

BY LEIGH STROPE

AP Labor Writer

WASHINGTON — The nation's unemployment rate dropped to 5.7 percent in December, the lowest level in 14 months, as frustrated jobseekers gave up their searches with hiring at a near standstill.

The anemic report, released Friday by the Labor Department, raised new fears about the strength of an economic recovery that is producing so few new U.S. jobs. Businesses overall added just 1,000 new American jobs last month, the department reported, far fewer than economists had expected.

"Take your pick: awful, sobering, pathetic," lamented Bill Cheney, chief economist at John Hancock Financial Services.

The 5.7 percent jobless rate, down 0.2 percentage point from November, was the lowest since October 2002. The decline didn't reflect new hiring, but frustrated workers, almost 310,000, who left the labor force. The government's rate counts only people actively seeking work.

"The rate is going down, but it is going down for the wrong reasons," Cheney said. "That doesn't make you feel really good about the state of the jobs market."

The report halted Wall Street's 2004 rally, sending stocks sharply lower as investors cashed in profits from the market's recent advance. The Dow Jones industrial average closed down 133 points and the Nasdaq was down 13 points.

Job growth is expected to be a key issue as November's presidential election nears, and President Bush could be vulnerable. The economy has lost about 2.3 million jobs since he took office, giving him the worst job creation record of any president since Herbert Hoover.

Bush seized on the lower jobless rate as reason to be optimistic about the economy.

"We want more people still working," the president said at a small business forum. "But nevertheless, it is a positive sign that the economy is getting better."

Economists disagreed.

"Neither business nor potential employees have confidence in the economy," said Sung Won Sohn, chief economist at Wells Fargo & Co.

Analysts are looking for monthly payroll gains of 300,000 or more for sustained job growth, and the economy remains far from that mark. December marked the fifth consecutive month of payroll gains, however slight.

Businesses are being "squeezed by intense competition" from other countries and are holding down costs by working their existing employees harder, hiring temporary workers or shipping jobs overseas, Sohn said.

For example, blue jeans-maker Levi Strauss & Co. closed its last two U.S. sewing plants Thursday. About 800 workers at the 26-year-old San Antonio plants lost their jobs.

Bush "has all but declared 'mission accomplished' on an economy that is still not generating jobs and that is losing manufacturing jobs each and every month," Democratic presidential hopeful Wesley Clark said. "I think it's time that George W. Bush loses his job so that we can put the American people back to work."

Weak holiday hiring by retailers and continued job losses in the nation's factories held back overall job gains in December.

Businesses have added just 277,000 new jobs since July, the report showed, cutting earlier estimates of growth in October and November.

The jobs market "is now much slower to react to the performance of the economy," which is undergoing structural changes through technology, productivity and increased outsourcing overseas, said John Challenger, chief executive officer of Challenger, Gray and Christmas, an employment research and recruiting firm.

He doesn't think another hiring boom will occur until the next economic cycle, sometime near 2008.

"Temporary jobs, the category with the most consistent growth, is not the kind of job to build a strong economy around," Challenger said.

Employment in the nation's stores, malls and even gas stations dropped by 38,000 last month, and manufacturing continued a 41-month slide by losing 26,000 jobs.

The nation's factories have been on life support, and the sector shed about a half-million jobs in 2003.

The federal and state governments also reduced their payrolls last month, as did banks and mortgage companies, reflecting the uptick in mortgage interest rates.

Some areas of the economy added jobs last month. Employment continued to rise in the services sector in temporary employment services, education and health care. Construction companies also added to their payrolls.

To find jobs, people are having to make concessions such as lower pay or relocating, said Dale Klamfoth, regional vice president of DBM, a career counseling and job placement company.

They're having to "compromise and be a lot more flexible about compensation, locations and positions," he said.

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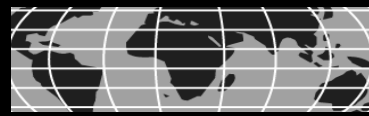


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WORLD BRIEFLY

Rally supports beef industry

By The Associated Press

MABTON, Wash. — As the government planned a weeklong round of cattle-killing in response to a mad-cow case in this town, hundreds of residents crammed into a school gymnasium Saturday to show their support for the beef industry.

About 350 people attended a rally that featured booths offering literature about mad cow disease and T-shirts encouraging people to eat beef. Many more stopped by for free food; organizers gave away ribs, hot dog and more than 1,000 hamburgers.

"I'm more afraid of someone at a restaurant not washing their hands than I'm worried about this," said 75-year-old Frances Sonner, at the rally with her older brother, Clarence.

Mabton, in south-central Washington, is home to the Sunny Dene ranch, where a Holstein with mad cow disease lived before it was slaughtered Dec. 9. Post-mortem tests on the cow, which was born in Canada, revealed it had the disease, prompting dozens of nations to ban U.S. beef until its safety could be ensured.

Pope cancels service

By The Associated Press

VATICAN CITY — In the latest sign of concern over his frail health, Pope

John Paul II has canceled his traditional Ash Wednesday service at a Rome basilica, the Vatican said Saturday.

For decades, John Paul, 83, would open the Catholic church's solemn Lenten period with a ceremony in St. Sabina's Basilica, a 5th-century church on Rome's Aventine Hill. During the service, the pontiff would smudge ashes, a sign of penitence, on the foreheads of clergy and lay people.

But the Vatican said that this year the afternoon ceremony won't be held.

Instead, the pope will preside over a prayer ceremony, which will include a blessing and smudging of the ashes on the faithful in a Vatican auditorium the morning of Ash Wednesday, Feb. 25.

The change eliminates the taxing drive from the Vatican across Rome to the Aventine Hill and the transfer from cars to the wheeled decorative chair he has been used to get around.

"Masterpiece" unsponsored

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The flow of corporate money to PBS has increased after a three-year dry spell, but a sponsor has yet to be found for "Masterpiece Theatre," the public television network's president said Saturday.

PBS has committed to funding the venerable drama series for two years in the absence of a sponsor, President Pat

Mitchell told a meeting of the Television Critics Association.

Exxon Mobil Corp., which had given "Masterpiece Theatre" \$300 million over 35 years as sole sponsor, will end its association with the program after this spring.

"I have no answer on why we haven't been able to attract an underwriter to replace Exxon Mobil, except for the obvious answer it's a pretty high price tag," Mitchell said.

"We are all concerned and unhappy about it," she said, vowing the series will continue for the next two years "no matter what."

Britain and Iraq clash

By The Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — British soldiers and Iraqi police clashed Saturday with armed, stone-throwing protesters in south-eastern Iraq, killing six people. At least one was killed as he tried to throw a grenade at soldiers, the British military said.

In Baghdad, a senior U.S. military officer acknowledged for the first time that a U.S. Army medevac helicopter that crashed last week near Fallujah, killing all nine soldiers aboard, was probably shot down.

And north of the capital, the U.S. military said it was investigating allegations that soldiers killed four Iraqi civilians who tried to pass a convoy this month in

Tikrit, Saddam Hussein's hometown.

In the clash with British soldiers, the trouble started in Amarah, 200 miles southeast of Baghdad, when hundreds of Iraqis angry over a lack of jobs gathered in front of the office of the U.S.-led coalition to demand work.

Iraq war planned early

By The Associated Press

CRAWFORD, Texas — Former Treasury Secretary Paul O'Neill contends the United States began laying the groundwork for an invasion of Iraq just days after President Bush took office in January 2001 — more than two years before the start of the U.S.-led war that ousted Saddam Hussein.

"From the very beginning, there was a conviction that Saddam Hussein was a bad person and that he needed to go," O'Neill told CBS's "60 Minutes" in an interview to be aired Sunday night.

The official American government stance on Iraq, dating to the Clinton administration, was that the United States sought to oust Saddam.

But O'Neill, who was fired by Bush in December 2002, said he had qualms about what he asserted was the pre-emptive nature of the war planning.

"For me, the notion of pre-emption, that the U.S. has the unilateral right to do whatever we decide to do, is a really huge leap," according to an excerpt of the interview that CBS released Saturday.

Time will tell on Clark, Lieberman decision

BY WILL LESTER

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Democratic presidential candidates Wesley Clark and Joe Lieberman took a calculated risk when they decided to bypass Iowa's first-in-the-nation caucuses, a move that either will prove visionary or misguided.

Only the next few months will tell.

Clark, a late entry into the presidential race, decided he didn't have the time to amass the organization necessary for Iowa's far-more-involved precinct caucuses, an effort Clark campaign chairman Eli Segal said would have been a "fool's errand."

Lieberman, the 2000 vice presidential nominee, courted voters in Iowa periodically last year then decided in September the competition from Dick Gephardt and Howard Dean was too tough.

With the focus on Iowa and its Jan. 19 contest, the candidates competing there have grabbed much of the national spotlight, while Clark and Lieberman spend the chunk of their time crisscrossing New Hampshire for the Jan. 27 primary.

Campaign headlines aside, Clark and Lieberman would be quick to offer the names of candidates who won Iowa but faltered in their quest for the nomination: Republican George H.W. Bush in 1980 and the two winners in 1988 —

**"In a multicandidate race like this you lose much less.
In Iowa, the top three candidates aren't necessarily
the same as in New Hampshire."**

— ANITA DUNN

Adviser to Democratic candidate Bill Bradley in 2000

Republican Bob Dole and a Democrat named Gephardt.

One Democratic strategist said the crowded, nine-person field makes the "skipping Iowa" strategy less risky.

"In a multicandidate race like this you lose much less," said Anita Dunn, an adviser to Democratic candidate Bill Bradley in 2000. "In Iowa, the top three candidates aren't necessarily the same as in New Hampshire."

Despite Democrat Jimmy Carter's historical use of the Iowa caucuses in 1976 to vault to the presidency, the state's caucuses are better known for winnowing the field than picking winners.

The role model for presidential candidates skipping Iowa is John McCain, the

Arizona senator who bypassed Iowa in 2000, then won a convincing victory over George W. Bush in New Hampshire. McCain's message, personality and biography won over many independent-leaning New Hampshire voters and he scored a landslide upset victory.

"By mid-summer (1999) we decided not to compete there (Iowa)," said John Weaver, a senior strategist in the McCain campaign. "We announced it in October. We also refused to participate in the straw poll in Iowa, which ended up being the death knell for some candidates."

Weaver said McCain's decision to skip Iowa allowed him "to put a significant amount of time in New Hampshire. We were able to put deep roots in the state."

Through the prism of McCain's move, Dunn said she didn't think Clark and Lieberman made a bad decision.

"They're leaving themselves open to the possibility that someone comes out of Iowa with an unexpectedly strong bounce ... like John Kerry," she said.

Based on his military record as a retired Army general, the Clark campaign identifies closely with McCain and his success in skipping Iowa. Connecticut Sen. Lieberman, who serves with McCain, has aligned himself with the Republican on several congressional issues.

But few candidates can match McCain's compelling story as a Vietnam POW and his kinetic personality that connected with voters and the media.

Of course the one caveat is McCain's fate after New Hampshire — he lost to Bush in South Carolina and eventually quit the race.

Both the Clark and Lieberman campaigns agree on the Iowa finish that suits their strategy best — a narrow Dean win over Gephardt with Kerry far behind.

That finish would prevent any of the three from claiming a big victory in Iowa — leaving Dean, with some vulnerability on national security, as the candidate for both Clark and Lieberman to challenge in New Hampshire.



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29 Dairy product
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32 Remnant
34 Left at sea
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38 Western evergreen

39 Handed over
40 Russian refusal
41 Scorch

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5 Scrooge cry
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7 Relaxed
8 Refused
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15 Jack Webb series
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20 Clamor
22 Binds
23 Conk out
24 Contribute letters

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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

“American Idol” Aiken returns to alma mater

The Associated Press

■ **CHARLOTTE, N.C.** — “American Idol” star Clay Aiken returned to his alma mater to present a \$20,000 donation to the school and perform during halftime at a men's basketball game.

The game between the University of North Carolina at Charlotte and East Carolina on Saturday was the first sellout of the season, and hundreds of teenage fans were waving signs in Aiken's honor.

Aiken, wearing jeans and a green No. 49 Charlotte basketball jersey with Aiken on the back, performed “The Way” and “Invisible” at halftime of Charlotte's 81-65 win over East Carolina.

“It's great to be back here,” Aiken told the crowd of

9,105. Aiken waived his appearance fee in exchange for the donation, was paid by private sponsors.

Aiken, who was runner-up in the popular “American Idol” television show last year, graduated from Charlotte in December. His first album, “Measure of a Man,” debuted No. 1 and went double-platinum.

■ **LOS ANGELES** — Actress Kim Novak, the blonde bombshell who was a top box office draw in the 1950s, says she stopped acting because she was disillusioned by Hollywood typecasting.

“I didn't want to stagnate as a person. I wanted to keep developing,” said Novak, who is the subject of a three-day retrospective by the nonprofit American

Cinematheque starting Friday.

“I got more into my painting and artwork. I felt that at least I was growing ... rather than sitting around Hollywood and waiting for a good script,” she said.

Novak, 70, who lives on an Oregon ranch with her veterinarian husband, last appeared on screen in 1991 in Mike Figgis' “Liebestraum.”

She worked with the industry's top directors in the 1950s and '60s, including Alfred Hitchcock (“Vertigo”), Billy Wilder (“Kiss Me, Stupid”), George Sidney (“Pal Joey”) and Phil Karlson (“Five Against the House”).

Novak is scheduled to attend Saturday's screening of her most popular film, “Vertigo,” at the Egyptian Theatre in Los Angeles.

Carolina Panthers move on to NFC Championship game

By Stephen Saux

The Carolina Panthers, in a thrilling double-overtime game, ended the St. Louis Rams' season Saturday and advanced to the NFC Championship game, where they will face the Philadelphia Eagles, who also won their game in overtime.

Carolina dominated the Rams for three and a half quarters with the help of backup running back DeShaun Foster, who filled in for injured Stephen Davis. With 6:29 left in the game and an 11-point lead, Panthers kicker John Kasey's 54-yard field-goal attempt hit the left upright. Those points could have been a knockout blow but turned out to be the spark St.

Louis needed to ignite their players and a quieted home crowd. The Rams quarterback, Marc Bulger, proceeded to orchestrate a 15-play scoring drive, which was capped by a 1-yard run by Marshall Faulk.

After a successful 2-point conversion, the Rams cut the Panthers' lead to just 23-20 with 2:39 left. Rams kicker Jeff Wilkens then recovered his own onside kick giving St. Louis a short field and plenty of time to win the game outright. Instead, coach Mike Martz elected to play for the tie, and Wilkens sent the game into overtime with a 33-yard field goal at the end of regulation. Martz's decision showed his lack of faith in his offense but also a great respect for the Carolina defense, which held the Rams to only 64

net yards rushing and caused three interceptions. As it turned out, one of those interceptions would set up Carolina's game-winning touchdown.

The Panthers took control first in overtime by driving down to the Rams 22-yard line. Kasey made a 40-yard field goal that would have won it, but the Panthers were called for delay of game. After two runs by the offense, Kasey came back on the field, this time from 45 yards, but was wide right. The Rams had their kicking woes also when Wilkens' 53-yard attempt fell short. Carolina was forced to punt in the ensuing drive, but after a Ricky Manning interception, quarterback Jake Delhomme threw a 69-yard touchdown strike to Steve Smith to end the fifth-

longest game in NFL history. It also ended a 14-game home winning streak for the Rams in the Edward Jones Dome. The capacity crowd sat stunned as the Panthers improved to 4-0 in overtime this year and won their first road playoff game in franchise history.

The Weekend's other games:

New England 17, Tennessee 14
Indianapolis 38, Kansas City 31
Philadelphia 20, Green Bay 17

This article is dedicated to Charlie Shannon, a beautiful human being that the world lost on Dec. 21.



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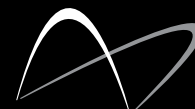
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