

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

Bomb threat closes SM courthouse

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON

Daily Press Staff Writer

The Santa Monica Courthouse was evacuated and shut down Wednesday afternoon after an unknown man threatened to blow up the building, police said.

The man called the small claims court division about 2 p.m. to report there was a bomb in the building, said Santa Monica Police Department Lt. P.J. Guido.

Courthouse personnel immediately evacuated the building, which was filled with hundreds of people including employees, judges, jurors, prisoners and lawyers.

A Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department's arson and explosives team searched the building, but no bomb was found.

"They were looking for something out of the ordi-

nary, but they found nothing," said Sheriff's Deputy Johnie Jones.

The search was over by 3:30 p.m. Judge Alan Haber, the presiding judge over the westside district of the Los Angeles Superior Court, ended the court day in the middle of the afternoon.

Sources in the courthouse said the man who made the bomb threat may have been a plaintiff in small claims court who was upset at the outcome of his case Wednesday morning. There were several cases heard in small claims court on Wednesday, one of which was against the Santa Monica Police Department alleging harassment. However, the case was not heard because the plaintiff had not properly served the defendants. The plaintiff, who was visibly upset, was ordered to step outside of the courtroom and wait for a court clerk to discuss his case with him.



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

While waiting for the Santa Monica Courthouse to reopen, Los Angeles County Public Defender Michael Demby, left, instructs people that the facility is shut down because of a bomb scare.

appear, Judge Pro Tem Alan Freedman rescheduled the hearing for Feb. 10.

Even though her attorney has advised her to not speak to the press, Armitage called the Daily Press on Wednesday evening and left a voice mail message that she didn't have car trouble, but instead has been instructed by her attorney not to go to court or have any further contact with her past clients.

See PHOTOGRAPHER, page 5

West L.A. couple fights to recoup money from wedding photographer

Newlyweds initiated city attorney's investigation

BY ANDY FIXMER

Daily Press Staff Writer

Tracy and Danielle Baum's dream wedding turned into a nightmare when their photographer failed to give them any photos of the event.

Now they are trying to get their money back from Juli Armitage, who is facing criminal charges for allegedly defrauding 17 couples, including the Baums, out of thousands of dollars worth of wedding photographs.

"It was a great day full of great memories, and she shattered our dream of having albums of that day to share with our relatives and future generations," Tracy Baum said. "It's a tragedy and a travesty of justice."

The Baums, who live in West L.A., won a small claims judgment against Armitage for about \$4,500 last year, but they have yet to be paid any of the money.

Armitage was supposed to appear in court Wednesday to answer to a judge why she hasn't returned the Baum's money.

But she didn't show up.

Instead, she called the court to say she was having car trouble and was stuck in Ventura County. She told the court she would appear at 10:30 a.m. When she didn't

Former mayor Feinstein storms out of council meeting

Councilman gets 'long' end of the straw

BY ANDY FIXMER

Daily Press Staff Writer

Santa Monica City Councilman Mike Feinstein stormed out of Tuesday's council meeting before it ended because he wasn't picked to work on a task force, his colleagues say.

Feinstein, the former mayor, is reportedly upset the City Council voted to draw straws in deciding who will serve on the "East-West Task Force," which has been formed to investigate parking issues along the city's boulevards.

He reportedly accused the council of abdicating their elected role to make rational decisions to a chance of fate,

according to witnesses. Councilmen Herb Katz, Bob Holbrook and Ken Genser picked short straws. Feinstein, however, got the long straw.

"He said, 'This is too important to draw straws. I want to be on this task

force and this is just too important to draw straws,'" Holbrook said. "I didn't see this task force living or dying without Michael on it, but I guess he did."

Feinstein was unavailable for comment Tuesday. An answering machine message

said he would be away from his office until Monday.

When the council started to discuss the appointments, Mayor Richard Bloom asked

See FEINSTEIN, page 5

Key West's homeless population in losing battle

BY ADRIAN SAINZ

Associated Press Writer

KEY WEST, Fla. — Richard Robinson sleeps on the street, having made his way down to this quirky island city in September with just a guitar, the clothes on his back and some stories.

"People see me singing or something and they laugh and give me some money or something," said Robinson, 35.

"People like me for some reason."

Robinson is unwillingly caught in Key West's campaign to rid itself of its roughly 2,000 homeless people. City commissioners have created a no-panhandling zone in its tourist-heavy downtown district, meaning those caught sleeping in storefronts or begging for change can get up to 60 days in jail and a \$500 fine.

Opponents say the law discriminates against the poor and violates constitu-

tional guarantees of free speech and assembly rights. But many city officials say the change is necessary, arguing that the homeless problem hurts local businesses and scares off tourists.

Homelessness has long been a problem in this city of 26,000, where well-paying jobs and affordable housing are in short supply. The homeless are attracted to the southernmost point in the continental

See KEY WEST, page 8

PISARRA & GRIST
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

When you need a Lawyer call for our **FREE** How To Hire A Lawyer handbook, our Family Law Handbook or The Entrepreneurs Handbook

Call Today (310) 664-9969

\$69.95 plus tax
Most cars

LIFETIME BRAKE SPECIAL!
(Replace shoes or pads with Raybestos products)

Pete's
Se habla Español

SANTA MONICA AUTO CARE
1820 LINCOLN BLVD.
(Between Pico and Olympic)
310-314-1688

www.santamonicaautocare.com

\$5.00 OFF
INTRODUCTORY MOMMY n' ME

(310) 453-1928
1901 SANTA MONICA BLVD.
IN SANTA MONICA

SANTA MONICA MUSIC CENTER
www.santamonicausic.com

ocean views steps to beach fully furnished kitchens

fitness center free maid service heated pool microwave housewares & linens in suite washer & dryer free reserved parking

The Best Locations in Santa Monica.

The choice is yours.



425 Broadway
(Near 3rd Street Promenade)

- in suite washer/dryer
- 24-hour staff
- rooftop pool, spa, & cabanas
- reserved parking
- maid service*
- hi-speed Internet*
- most dogs & cats welcome*
- state-of-the-art fitness center
- two voice lines plus fax line



1915 Ocean Way
(At the Beach)

- satellite TV*
- dry cleaning/laundry service*
- concierge
- porters
- continental breakfast
- executive board room
- sun terraces
- HDTV screening room

* breed restrictions apply / optional features



CITRUS SUITES
SANTA MONICA

Citrus locations:
1915 Ocean Way, Santa Monica, California 90405 (Beach, across from Shutters)
425 Broadway, Santa Monica, California 90401 (Downtown, 3rd Street Promenade)
1455 Fourth Street, Santa Monica, California 90401 (Downtown, 3rd Street Promenade)

For availability call 1-800-410-0409
(30 day minimum stay)
www.CitrusSuites.com

free in suite high speed internet in suite fax machine terraces

5000 nationwide
WHENEVER minutes®

free nationwide long
distance and roaming

only \$99.99
a month

Motorola V96
Only \$99.99
plus \$10.00 shipping

T-Mobile
authorized dealer

You now officially
have all the time
in the world.



Introducing T-Mobile. Get more® with the world's largest all-GSM network.

■ Infiniti Wireless 2914 Main St. Santa Monica 90405 (310) 452-9935 ■

got teeth?

visit David Taft, D.D.S.

310-315-3676

- 20+ years of experience
- Evening hours + emergency services
- Root Canals, Crowns, Veneers
- UCLA Graduate
- Most insurances accepted
- Cosmetic Dentistry

Dental Exam + Cleaning

\$45

(reg. \$129)
exp. 1/31/03

At Home Bleaching

\$99

(includes starter bleach)
exp. 1/31/03

UCLA Parkside Medical

2428 SANTA MONICA BLVD., SUITE 303 • SANTA MONICA

HOROSCOPE

Play the night away, Virgo



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 can make a dream a reality. Listen to what others say. A friend leads the way, breaking new ground and adding to the potential of what could happen. A friend inspires you to go for exactly what you want. Please don't hold back. Tonight: A must appearance.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★★ Reach out to others, taking a long-overdue risk. How you feel and what you might choose to do could be quite different. Take charge at work if you want to get something accomplished. If you don't, you'll have no one to blame but yourself. Tonight: Surf the Net.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ Let a partner or an associate make the right choice. Your vision of what might be workable could surprise you. Think twice about a decision you make. Not everything is as you think it is. In fact, information given to you on the QT might not be right-on. Tonight: Seek out your own answers.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★★ Listen to someone. This person might have a lot to share. Check out financial reservoirs and solutions more carefully. What sounds too good to be true just might be. Your research counts. Ask appropriate questions, and you'll get the scoop. Tonight: Follow a partner's lead.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ You will want to listen to someone you consider inspiring but not necessarily practical. Together you could become quite a team. You can understand and put into practical terms a lot of what this person presents. Let the libido energy flow. Tonight: Take it easy.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★★ Your playfulness comes out at work. When someone comes up with a wild scheme, you cannot help but say "yes." Work on the details. Your practical nature ensures the success of this particular project. Tonight: Play the night away.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ Someone might knock your socks off. You might not be exactly sure what you want to do about this case of love at first sight. Give yourself time, and trust that you will make the right decision. Deal with domestic matters that you can no longer avoid. Tonight: Order in.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ Continue a discussion that might have a stream-of-consciousness quality. You could discover that much more is tied up in a relationship than you originally thought. Explore together what lies between you. Tonight: Chat during dinner.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 19)

★★★★★ Money matters steal the limelight, especially as someone might have an enticing, but also costly, idea. You can find a way to make this work if you so decide. You have the creativity to find the path. Tonight: Your treat.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ Your personality helps shake up someone who might need to gain another perspective. Use your moneymaking skills to find the solutions to the constant dripping of funds out of your wallet. You will find the right answers. Tonight: Do something special.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★ Hold back some. Your vision might be extraordinary, but some of the details might not be totally worked out. Think in terms of making this idea as solid as possible. Reach out to a special friend whom you always see as an anchor. Tonight: Do something just for yourself.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ Aim for more of what you want. You find that friends will back you on an idea. Together you make a very strong team. Think carefully about what you need to do to realize a very special wish. Don't spill the beans about a secret. Tonight: Where the gang is.



QUOTE of the DAY

"It is the final proof of God's omnipotence that he need not exist in order to save us."

— Peter De Vries

Santa Monica Daily Press

Published Monday through Saturday
Phone: 310.458.PRESS(7737) • Fax: 310.576.9913
1427 Third Street Promenade, Suite #202 • Santa Monica, CA 90401

PUBLISHER Ross Furukawa ross@smdp.com EDITOR Carolyn Sackarison sack@smdp.com STAFF WRITER Andrew H. Fixmer andy@smdp.com REPORTER John Wood wood@smdp.com NIGHT EDITOR Patrick McDonald PRMcDonald@aol.com PRODUCTION MANAGER Del Pastrana del@smdp.com PRODUCTION ASSISTANT Alejandro C. Cantarero alex@smdp.com CLASSIFIED REPRESENTATIVE Mitch Troy mitch@smdp.com	CLASSIFIED REPRESENTATIVE Angela Downen angela@smdp.com CLASSIFIED REPRESENTATIVE Paula Christensen paula@smdp.com ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE William Pattnosh william@smdp.com ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE Rob Plubeni rob@smdp.com ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE Keri Aroesty keri@smdp.com CIRCULATION MANAGER Kiutzu Cruz kiutzu@smdp.com SPECIAL PROJECTS Dave Danforth dave@smdp.com STAFF MASCOT Maya Furukawa ross@smdp.com
--	--

LOCAL



Women of the year for 2002 selected, honored



Courtesy Photo

YWCA's "Women of the Year" honorees stand together at the annual dinner in their honor. They are (from left to right) Julia Brownley, Elisabeth Tarvin, master of ceremonies Jane Kaczmarek, Patrice Weldon and Karen Hill-Scott.

By Daily Press staff

Four women heavily involved in the Santa Monica community were honored on Tuesday for being YWCA's "Women of the Year."

The women are Julia Brownley, a Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School Board member; Karen Hill-Scott, a child development expert; Patrice Weldon, a volunteer at the Boys & Girls Club of Santa Monica and Elisabeth Tarvin, a longtime teacher at Carlsborg School in Santa Monica.

Brownley, a Santa Monica resident, has been on the school board since 1994 and is seen at many community functions, usually through her volunteer efforts on advisory committees. She is described as being a champion of children's educational rights and has spearheaded the board's involvement in academic reform, including class size reduction, adoption of cohesive and progressive instructional materials in literacy and mathematics. She's also been active in intervention programs to help bridge achievement gaps and social programs that assist students and families outside the educational environment. An MBA graduate of American University, Brownley is active in many organizations

including the League of Women Voters, the National Women's Political Caucus and the board of directors of Family Services of Santa Monica.

Hill-Scott is a child development expert who has had a wide-ranging career that blends university teaching, research, consulting and public service. She is the co-founder of Crystal Stairs, one of California's largest nonprofit child development agencies. Crystal Stairs was founded to provide safe, affordable child care to welfare and low-income mothers and families. Hill-Scott also teaches at UCLA's School of Public Policy and UCLA's Anderson Graduate School of Management. She has served on a number of boards and commissions. As president of her consulting firm, Hill-Scott provides content consulting for clients that include Discover Kids/NBC, the Disney Channel, Nickelodeon and the Jim Henderson Company. Dr. Hill-Scott lives in Ladera Heights.

Weldon, also known as "Miss P," is described as a source of compassion and inspiration to the Boys & Girls Club of Santa Monica, where she volunteers as the head of the club's kitchen, among other duties. Miss P has raised two chil-

See PLANS, page 7

surf report

Information compiled by Jesse Haley

Today we start to see a decline in size from earlier in the week as the west-northwest swell backs off.

Monday and Tuesday's head highs will give way to chest- and shoulder-level surf on average. A minor southwest swell also is on the rise today, so south side breaks with combination exposures could see some head high waves when the tides are best.

Thursday things trend further downward as swell continues to languish.

Water looks relatively clean, especially in the north, temperatures at a moderate low, in the high 50s.

Better size is expected Friday, when new swell is due.

Today's Tides:	
Low-	12:25 a.m. 2.24'
High-	6:37 a.m. 6.05'
Low-	2:09 p.m. -1.14'
High-	8:40 p.m. 3.69'

Location	Wednesday	Thursday	Water Quality
County Line	3-4'/Fair	3-4'/Fair	A
Zuma	3-4'/Fair	3-4'/Fair	A
Surfrider	1-3'/Fair	1-3'/Fair	D
Topanga	2-3'/Fair	2-3'/Fair	A
Breakwater	3-4'/Fair	3-4'/Fair	A
El Porto	4-5'/Fair	4-5'/Fair	A

The Surf Report is sponsored by:

Today's Special:

1/3 lb.
Bacon Burger
\$8 tax included

Includes:
Pickles or coleslaw,
french fries or salad
and drink

The Best!

K U A A I N A

The Tastiest Hawaiian Sandwiches

119 Broadway, Santa Monica
310.394.0100

Store Hours:

Open
Daily from
11 a.m. to
10 p.m.

The Q Line

It was reported over this past weekend that another Starbucks is opening a shop on the Third Street Promenade. That makes it one for every block. There's a Starbucks on Wilshire, another at Center Court and now one's going in between Santa Monica Boulevard and Broadway. Its location is within feet of two businesses that serve coffee and pastries.

In fact, there are more than a dozen coffee houses on the Third Street

Promenade. It appears that Santa Monicans can't get enough java.

This week, Q-Line wants to know "Do you think the Promenade needs another Starbucks? Why or why not?"

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.

"FRESH SEAFOOD FOR LESS"

Caspian Grill

NOW OPEN FOR LUNCH

Fish & Chips

\$4.95 w/coupon 12PM - 4PM

Call us for your office party.

205 Broadway, Santa Monica, California 90401
(310) 395-5695 FAX (310) 396-9808

TAXES

All forms • All types • All states

AUDITS • BACK TAXES • BOOKKEEPING • SMALL BUSINESS

SAMUEL B. MOSES, CPA
(310) 395-9922

429 SANTA MONICA BLVD. STE. 710, SANTA MONICA 90401



OPINION

LETTERS

Understanding fair housing practices

Editor:

The rambling, incoherent attack on the Vivanco family and Mexican-American immigrants by Tony Street that appeared in the Jan. 27, 2003, issue of your newspaper was so gratuitously malicious, overtly racist and completely irrelevant to the facts of the Vivancos' fair housing lawsuit that it does not dignify a response from either the Vivanco family or the dedicated civil rights attorneys handling this important, precedent-setting litigation.

As one of several respected community organizations already on record supporting the Vivanco family and Aricka Traylor in their federal court case, Mothers for Justice would like to reply on behalf of the Vivancos to the abusive diatribe published by Tony Street in response to a front-page article that he seems not to have even read or understood.

Mr. Street devotes most of his ill-conceived tirade to vilifying the Vivancos for supposedly having more children than they can afford and making the same specious accusation against all Mexican-American immigrant families. Nowhere in the article about which Mr. Street claims to be commenting, or in any court papers filed in the fair housing litigation, is there any evidence that the Vivancos are unable to support their children. In fact, Candido and Elvira Vivanco are caring, devoted parents who take excellent care of their four offspring and always have. Mr. Street's bizarre accusations about being unable to afford children simply have nothing whatsoever to do with the facts of the case now pending in federal court.

Given Mr. Street's egregious misunderstanding of the Vivanco-Traylor litigation and the urgent need for improved public education about fair housing rights and responsibilities, Mothers for Justice would like to explain what this case is about and why it is so important. Simply put, the owner of the property on which the Vivanco family apartment is located has allegedly discriminated against both the Vivanco family and an Africa-American mother of five children on the basis of their familial status and race in the rental of a dwelling unit. In short, the owner of the property in question, Ms. Jaroslava Liska, has allegedly discriminated against the plaintiffs because they are non-white and have children.

This kind of discrimination is illegal under numerous municipal, state and federal laws. For example, the federal Fair Housing Act of 1968 makes it illegal to (1) refuse

to rent a dwelling because of race, national origin and familial status, (2) discriminate in the terms, conditions and privileges of the rental of a dwelling because of race, national origin and familial status, (3) make statements with respect to the rental of a dwelling which indicate a preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, national origin and familial status and (4) coerce, intimidate, threaten or interfere with any person in the exercise or enjoyment of rights guaranteed by the Fair Housing Act of 1968, 42 U.S.C. §§ 3604(a)-(c) & 3617. In other words, landlords cannot, as a matter of federal law, exclude existing or prospective tenants on the basis of race or because they have children.

The fundamental civil rights enshrined in this federal statute are also codified in parallel state and municipal laws. These laws collectively give tenants in Santa Monica what may be the most comprehensive protection from invidious discrimination that are enjoyed in any city in this country. This should be a source of great pride for Santa Monica residents because such protection represents the special commitment of our progressive city to the ideal of equality under law, perhaps the single most important principle of American constitutional democracy.

Although these laws promise equality to all, ignorance too frequently obstructs the fulfillment of that promise. Landlords often do not realize they are prohibited from arbitrarily excluding children and non-whites from their buildings. They are ignorant of their mandatory legal duties. Tenants and applicants for rental units often do not know they have the legal right to insist on equal treatment. They often do not fully appreciate their rights under law.

Mothers for Justice support the Vivanco family and Aricka Traylor in their recently filed federal fair housing lawsuit in the hope that their challenge to allegedly racist and discriminatory rental practices will set an important precedent in the Pico neighborhood that will educate landlord and tenants about their respective rights and responsibilities under law and help preserve the precious ethnic diversity that has so enriched the larger Santa Monica community.

**Irma Carranza
Maria Loya**

**Co-chairs, Mothers for Justice
Santa Monica**

More of the same is exactly what we want



TITTINGER'S TAKE

By Michael J. Tittinger

Comedian Lewis Black was sure the Apocalypse was near, he said during a recent routine, when he saw a Starbucks smack across the street from ... yes, another Starbucks. There must be a lot of Alzheimer's patients in town, he reasoned, where people leaving one Starbucks get excited to see another one across the street.

The Onion, a popular satirical newspaper, reported last year that the coffee shop chain had "suddenly and unexpectedly closed its (then) 2,870 worldwide locations to prepare for what company insiders are calling 'Phase Two' of the company's long-range plan." The article suggests the company is secretly carrying out a plan for world domination, trading in their "JavaJackets" for "Starbucks-insignia armbands."

Earlier this week, the Daily Press reported that yet another Starbucks will be setting up shop on the Third Street Promenade. Reporter Andy Fixmer seemed to be incensed with the latest global domination news ("Starbucks conquers the last block on the Promenade," Jan. 25). Reporting the new location will mark the 12th Starbucks in Santa Monica, Fixmer writes "and if that's not enough

saturation, the gourmet coffee retailer will have locations on all three blocks of the Promenade."

Slamming the Starbucks franchise is nothing new; their world domination had been forecasted for some time now. They make for an easy target, what with their snooty French coffee names, world music soundtracks and poser clientele pretending to read obtuse classics while keeping one eye on their cell phones.

But where exactly does all the vitriolic hatred come from, as backlash against the coffee shop chain seems to swell with every grand opening? Yet, if one were to draw a composite sketch of the typical Santa Monica resident, I guarantee they would be holding a familiar white coffee cup emblazoned with a green mermaid insignia and nestled in a JavaJacket.

I think we all need to take a sip from our Latte Grandes and catch our breath. The continuing expansion of Starbucks is not a sign the Apocalypse is near, nor does it signify the end of Western civilization, as we know it. The fact is, coffee shops are thriving in America like never before and the current obsession in this country with all things caffeine is not entirely Starbucks' making.

Caffeine has become the social drug of choice for a nation that's growing increasingly uncomfortable with its past cultural acceptance of recreational drug use, cigarettes and alcohol. What started with teens drinking Jolt Cola in the '70s, and continued with them downing Mountain Dew in the '80s, has given birth to a caffeinated nation — congregating around our coffee

cups and slurping cans of Red Bull.

Aside from the throngs of early-morning traffic in their parking lots, do Starbucks franchises really wreak havoc in their respective neighborhoods? More locations would seem to help alleviate the congestion concerns if anything. Would residents prefer more bars and clubs with rowdy patrons howling into the night and urinating in back alleys?

In the typical coffee shop, we have a gathering place that promotes interaction among area residents without the distractions of a blasting jukebox, a sports game on television and video games beeping to be fed more quarters. The coffee shop is a place where one can think, either in solitude or out loud; can express his or her opinions on the day's events over drinks no more harmful than an iced tea.

Here is a place where Santa Monicans can sit and converse and actually hear themselves think, a place where residents can talk about the crises in Iraq and North Korea and not have to pause when Shaquille O'Neal dunks a basketball. Here is a place where our neighbors can read and work and be out among each other; a place where one can sit outside and enjoy the Santa Ana winds or the surrounding mountains and think poetically.

The fact that Starbucks just keeps opening up more locations simply tells us that we want more locations, whether we want to admit to it or not. Business is all about supply and demand, and we are apparently demanding more of the same. We can keep right on bashing them while we decide between a Café Mocha and a

Caramel Frappuccino.

Where the deep-seeded resentment towards the coffee shop chain comes from is hard to say. Do we blame the proliferation of cookie-cutter franchises in general for sounding the death knell of typical mom and pop businesses? Is it Starbucks' fault that their devoted clientele affords them the luxury of running several shops along the Promenade when the specialty bookstore Midnight Special can't make rent and has to relocate?

Do we blame franchises like Starbucks and McDonald's for killing the soul of our city, putting more idiosyncratic coffee shops and burger joints on life support? Or is there a sense of self-loathing among us for frequenting these establishments when we know the effects their success will have on these businesses we claim to hold so dear?

In a sense, we are being hypocritical by professing more Starbucks is not what we want for our city when it's exactly what we want each and every morning in our little white cups with sleeves.

Regardless, the coffee shop chain is a part of our city's modern culture, and we all made it happen.

"Whether it's economical or if it's feasible, that's up to Starbucks," says Councilman Herb Katz. "I'm amazed at how many coffee houses there are in L.A. and Santa Monica to begin with, but it works."

(Mike Tittinger is a freelance writer who lives in 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.

LOCAL



Photographer still on the hook for wedding photos

PHOTOGRAPHER, from page 1

"I can't see writing anything now because you don't have any information," she said in her message. "But if you have to put something in, go ahead."

She said the next time she is scheduled to appear in court will be Feb. 24 for criminal proceedings levied by the Santa Monica City Attorney's Office.

The Baums filed a complaint with the city attorney's office in August 2002, more than a year after their wedding. The consumer affairs division investigated the complaint and found many more couple who also had not received their photos or money. The city attorney's office filed charges in December against Armitage, alleging that she promised wedding photography packages but didn't provide the goods to more than a dozen couples.

The complaint, filed in Los Angeles Superior Court, lists 17 separate couples who claim Armitage collected thousands of dollars from each of them, but didn't provide photos of their wedding or never showed up to the wedding at all.

Armitage has denied those allegations. If convicted of all 17 misdemeanor citations, Armitage faces a maximum penalty of 17 years in jail and a \$17,000 fine.

Armitage said she went to every wedding and provided each couple with contact sheets, which show the photos she took. The couples selected the photos they wanted in their photo albums, but because of personal family problems she was unable to put the albums together, she said.

She accuses the city attorney's office of only making matters worse.

After receiving a search warrant on Oct. 1, the city attorney's office seized Armitage's negatives and computer hard drives as evidence. Because the city won't return her belongings, Armitage said she cannot complete the work.

Deputy City Attorney Adam Radinsky has previously said Armitage had plenty of opportunity for more than a year to make good on the wedding contracts.

"We would so like to prevent other people from engaging or doing any business with (Armitage)."

— TRACY BAUM
Plaintiff

"It doesn't make sense to blame the city now for not being able to finish her work," he said. "There were any number of times when she could have made good on these contracts and she didn't."

Two weeks after their wedding, the Baums said Armitage told them her camera was damaged and the shutter had stayed two-thirds of the way open during their July 15, 2001, wedding. They said she promised to salvage as many photos as possible.

But then they said Armitage stopped returning their calls, and rarely answered their e-mail messages.

"My initial feeling was that she must be so overwhelmed because this is her career and all these weddings she ruined, but I found out she was still working," said Danielle Baum.

The couple is furious Armitage hasn't tried to make things right by turning over the negatives or paying back the money.

"We would so like to prevent other people from engaging or doing any business with her," said Tracy Baum.

Feinstein accuses council of abdicating its duties to fate

FEINSTEIN, from page 1

his colleagues to raise their hands if they were interested in serving. Katz, Feinstein and Holbrook all raised their hands.

As Bloom was about to move on, Genser chimed in and said he too would like to be considered for the task force. Genser said he's interested in planning issues and believed he could add a lot of technical expertise to the task force.

"I'm also interested in making sure the task force makes progress expeditiously," he said. "And stays focused on what its mission will be."

Genser has been critical of Feinstein's leadership in another task force focusing on the downtown core, which Genser has previously said is moving too



Mike Feinstein

slow and is off track.

Holbrook said Feinstein made a motion that he, Genser and Katz serve on the task force.

"When Michael expressed his fervent desire to be on this thing, I thought I'll back down, but when he put forward his choices in that

motion, I wasn't going to back down," Holbrook said. "It was kind of an insult. Herb and Ken have been on every task force that came down the line in the past couple of years so if anybody deserved a turn it was me."

After the straws were drawn, Feinstein continued to object. Bloom finally ruled Feinstein was out of order, Genser said. Bloom moved on to the next item on the council's agenda.

"We went on to the next thing and Michael sat there for a few minutes," Genser said. "Then he stood up and informed us he didn't want to sit with us any longer and he was leaving. Then he walked off in a huff."

"And the mayor said, 'All right, goodnight then,'" Holbrook said. "And off he went."

DIVORCE LAW

THREE THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT GETTING DIVORCED:

1. It doesn't have to be scary, ugly and painful
2. It doesn't have to cost a fortune.
3. A good lawyer calls you back with straight answers - TODAY

PISARRA & GRIST
310 / 664 - 9969

PANINI GARDEN
A BREAKTHROUGH IN THE WORLD OF SANDWICHES

**Come In & Experience
Our Grilled or Cold Panini
Sandwiches, Our Superb Salads
& Breakfast Crepes Daily**



Panini Party Platters • Weekly Specials • Everything Fresh & Made to Order
Order Online at: www.paninigarden.com • Open for Breakfast • Dine-In Garden Patio • We Deliver

Open Daily from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.

2715 Main Street • Santa Monica • (310) 399-9939 • Fax (310) 314-2634



Santa Monica Daily Press

We Print on 100% recycled paper!

So if you recycle your paper,
chances are you're reading it again.



**NOW OPEN
FOR LUNCH**

New Hours 11:30am til Closing — No Cover Charge

Santa Monica's Longest Running Comedy Store

Pint O' Funny Thursday Night @ 8 pm

O'Brien's
Irish Pub & Restaurant

2941 Main St., Santa Monica • (310) 396-4273 • www.obriens-frobar.com

Pub Quiz Wednesday Night 8pm
winner receives a \$75 Gift Certificate

TAOS INDIAN TRADING CO.



Exceptional Native American Art

Custom Silversmithing & Jewelry Repair

403 Santa Monica Blvd., Santa Monica
310.395.3652 • www.taostrading.com

From show room to living room in one easy step.

electraflame™

Just plug in
an **electraflame™**
electric fireplace
to add warmth
and ambiance
in any room
in your home
today.



NEW! See it now.

\$50 OFF Each COMPLETE Electric Stove
*Offer applies to selected items. This offer may not be combined with any other offer, coupon or discount. Coupon MUST be presented at time of initial purchase. NO EXCEPTIONS.

\$100 OFF Each COMPLETE Electric Fireplace
*Offer applies to selected items. This offer may not be combined with any other offer, coupon or discount. Coupon MUST be presented at time of initial purchase. NO EXCEPTIONS.

BQs • FIREPLACES & ACCESSORIES • GLASS & CUSTOM SCREENS • WEATHER VANES • GAS LOGS • HOME ACCENTS & MORE

"We have everything your hearth desires."

PAYKEL
FIREPLACE FIXTURES

1820 Broadway • Santa Monica • 310.315.9310 • FAX 310.315.9301
Look for us on the World Wide Web @ www.paykel.com
Store Hours: Tuesday - Saturday 9am to 5pm

FAMILY OWNED SINCE 1921



Paddington's

TEA ROOM

**"Home of L.A.'s Most Famous
English High Tea"**

Since 1986

Open 7 Days – 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

ZAGAT'S 2001 AWARD OF DISTINCTION

**355 S. Robertson Blvd.
Beverly Hills
(310) 652-0624**



STATE

Lawsuits threaten landmark California consumer law

BY JESSICA V. BRICE
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO — California consumer advocates, angry about alleged deceptive business practices, have long used a landmark state law to go after tobacco companies, drug manufacturers and even athletic shoe maker Nike Inc.

But the 70-year-old consumer protection law, championed by some as the nation's most powerful, is under attack after a handful of private attorneys filed thousands of lawsuits against business owners, seeking millions of dollars in settlements, mostly from ethnic and immigrant business owners.

The controversy has rekindled legislative attempts to amend California's Unfair Competition Law. And this time, critics say they have the publicity they need to push the changes through the Legislature.

"Now they've gone too far," said Assemblyman Robert Pacheco, R-Walnut, who has sponsored a bill to amend the law. "Now they're reaching down to the bottom of the money barrel and targeting minority business owners."

Enacted in 1933 to protect businesses, the law, also known as Business and Professions Code 17200, was later expanded to protect consumers against price-fixing, false advertising and other deceptive business practices.

It's the only law of its kind, allowing plaintiffs to act as "private attorneys general" to sue on behalf of the public even if they haven't been directly harmed or affected by the alleged wrongdoing.

In one prominent case, San Francisco activist Mark Kasky sued sneaker maker Nike Inc. in 1998, accusing the company of lying when it denied reports that workers were mistreated at its Asian factories. The U.S. Supreme Court has said it will consider whether Kasky has the right to sue Nike under the law.

Business leaders say the law encourages frivolous lawsuits, while consumer attorneys say there's nothing unique about California's law that makes it susceptible to abuse.

"On one hand, California may be the minority in that it allows private attorneys to act as attorneys general, but the law is less generous than other states," said Charlie Harak, an attorney for the National Consumer Law Center, in Boston. "Other states allow claimants to get damages and attorney fees, California does not."

But business owners say California's law is flawed for one reason: It allows attorneys to file lawsuits even if the business did nothing illegal.

"It's ridiculous. They've stretched this law to the point it has to break," said Tom Swingle, who co-owns G.T. Automotive in Los Alamitos. Swingle was sued based on a warning from the state Bureau of Automotive Repair for improperly writing up a customer invoice.

"Think of the implications. It's a minor violation by a regulatory agency and it was never intended to say my business is unlawful," Swingle said. "If that were the case, it would mean that every building contractor who's gotten a notice of correction and every company whose driver has gotten a traffic ticket could be sued."

California Attorney General Bill

Lockyer has launched investigations into a number of private law firms accused of filing thousands of lawsuits to obtain millions of dollars in settlements.

Among them is the Beverly Hills-based Trevor Law Group, which says it has filed between 2,000 and 5,000 suits on behalf of a one-man, for-profit organization called the California Watch Enforcement Corp. Many of the suits were based on violations posted on the Bureau of Automotive Repairs Web site.

Trevor attorney Shane Han testified recently at a legislative hearing that the

"Now they've gone too far. Now they're reaching down to the bottom of the money barrel and targeting minority business owners."

— ROBERT PACHECO
Assemblyman (R-Walnut)

corporation, which shares the same address as the law firm, gets its income solely from 17200 lawsuit settlements.

One settlement offer from the Trevor Group, printed on red paper and sent to defendants, read: "either pay even money to fight in court or settle out of court and get on with business."

Long Beach-based law firm Brar & Gamulin is also being investigated for misusing the law. Lawyers from the firm didn't return calls for comment.

Brar & Gamulin allegedly filed hundreds of lawsuits against Southern California nail salons, claiming their practice of using the same bottle of nail polish on multiple customers is unlawful.

Those lawsuits are filed on behalf of the California Watchdog Association, a one-man company that has not registered with the secretary of state and has not filed taxes, according to the Franchise Tax Board.

Some lawmakers and supporters of lawsuit reform say the problem needs to be fixed by changing the law.

"If a private attorney is going to take on the responsibility of a public district attorney, even though they have never been elected to perform that job, then there needs to be more limitations on what cases are allowed to move forward," said John Sullivan, president of the Civil Justice Association of California, a group out to change civil liability law.

At least eight bills have been introduced in the last five years aimed at limiting who can use the law, but all were killed or stripped before making it out of their house of origin.

"There's always been a strong opposition to amending the law simply because trial lawyers don't want to hinder their ability to file lawsuits," Pacheco said.

Pacheco's bill proposes to restrict plaintiffs from filing suit unless they can show they have "suffered distinct and palpable injury."

STATE



Senator proposes terms to salvage Coastal Commission

By The Associated Press

SACRAMENTO — Legislative appointees to the California Coastal Commission would serve fixed four-year terms under a Senate amendment Tuesday, not two-year terms as proposed in an Assembly bill.

The Senate Natural Resources and Wildlife Committee approved the amendment and advanced the

bill on a party-line 5-3 vote.

The author, Sen. Sheila Kuehl, D-Santa Monica, doubled the terms proposed in her original bill and the Assembly version to further insulate commission members from legislative influence.

That influence was the reason the current commission structure was overturned by a state appeals court last

month. The court found that allowing legislative leaders to appoint and remove commission members at will violates the constitution's separation of powers clause by giving the Legislature control over an executive branch agency.

An Assembly committee approved that chamber's version of the bill Monday.

Second lawsuit filed against California State Lottery

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A judge allowed two allegations to stand in a suit claiming 7-Eleven convenience stores sold scratch-off lottery tickets even though the top prize already had been won.

Superior Court Judge Malcolm Mackey's Tuesday ruling left intact the allegations of unfair competition and false advertising and rejected other claims.

Messages left after business hours for Dallas-based 7-Eleven Corp. representatives were not immediately returned.

The lawsuit was filed last June by Larry L. Luckey.

Dinner highlights good works and deeds

WOMEN, from page 3

dren, as well as two step-children and her deceased brother's three children. Miss P also contributes her time to her church, the Windsor Hill Community Learning Center and Upward Bound, as well as local hospitals, among others. In the past five years, she has donated more than 3,000 hours of volunteer service.

Tarvin has been a teacher at Carlsborp School for more than 18 years and has dedicated her life to children and teaching them the joy of helping others. Through her early volunteer work with organizations that feed and clothe homeless youth, Tarvin realized more people needed to be included. She is the founder of the Carlsborp Services Program, established in 1996 to support a variety of local organizations and to involve both students and parents. Tarvin continues to volunteer for numerous

He is represented by attorney Kevin P. Roddy, the same lawyer who represented San Francisco teacher Amy Stanley, who sued the state for selling California Lottery Scratchers even though there was no chance of winning a top prize.

Roddy's firm, Seattle-based Hagens-Berman, has filed similar lawsuits against lotteries in Arizona and Washington.

Stanley's October 2000 lawsuit was dismissed in early 2002 and is under appeal. Sacramento Superior Court Judge Ronald Robie ruled that state law requiring the California Lottery to abide by rules on truthful

advertising wasn't specific enough to be enforceable.

The government can only be sued under special circumstances for violating laws that businesses and individuals must follow.



briefs

WESTSIDE/CENTRAL

It Pays To Share The Ride

Sharing the ride saves money, time and your nerves. Now with Rideshare Rewards it can also earn you \$120 in gift certificates. Call 213-922-2811 for details.

Now Hiring - Metro Bus Operators

Set your future in motion by becoming a Metro Bus operator. Earn up to \$18.41 an hour with medical, dental, vision and retirement benefits. Call the hiring hotline at 213-922-DRIV (3748).

Metro Rail Expands Night Service

Catch the late show at Grauman's Chinese Theatre or stay to the end of a concert at Staples Center and still take Metro Rail home. Beginning Sunday, October 20, Metro Rail will run an hour later in the evening.

Regional EZpass - The New Way Around LA

L.A. County's new Regional EZpass is already proving to be popular with transit users. It costs \$58 (\$29 for seniors/disabled/Medicare), is good on the Big Blue Bus, Metro Bus and Metro Rail, and most other bus service in the county.

Metro Goes Back To School

Be aware of school age children around Metro buses and trains as the 2002 school year gets underway. More than 50,000 students ride the Metro system each day getting to and from school.

If you'd like to know more, please call us at 1-800-464-2111, or visit www.mta.net

WSP/FE-006

EXTRA!! EXTRA!!

SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS AT NEWSSTANDS AROUND THE CITY!

Readers and customers can find the Daily Press in permanent newsstands at these locations:

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| • 17th Street and Montana Avenue | • Santa Monica Courthouse | • Lincoln Boulevard and Pico Boulevard |
| • 14th Street and Montana Avenue | • Arizona Avenue and Second Street | • Lincoln Boulevard and Strand |
| • Montana Avenue, between 14th-15th Streets | • Arizona Avenue and Fifth Street | • Main Street and Kinney |
| • 7th Street and Montana Avenue | • Three newsstands at the intersection of Arizona and Fourth Street | • Main Street and Strand |
| • 3rd Street and Wilshire Boulevard | • Broadway and Lincoln Boulevard | • Main Street and Ocean Park |
| • Ocean Avenue and Wilshire Boulevard | • Broadway and 10th Street | • Main Street and Ashland |
| • Wilshire Boulevard, between 22nd-23rd Streets | • Colorado Avenue and Second Street | • Montana Avenue and Lincoln Boulevard |
| • 14th and Santa Monica Boulevard | • Santa Monica Boulevard and Lincoln Boulevard | • Montana Avenue and Euclid Street |
| • Wilshire Boulevard and Lincoln Boulevard | • Lincoln Boulevard and Broadway Avenue | • Montana Avenue and 16th Street |
| • Colorado Boulevard and 3rd Street | | |

WATCH FOR FUTURE NEWSSTANDS AT A LOCATION NEAR YOU!

DID YOU KNOW?: A baseball ball has exactly 108 stitches, a cricket ball has between 65 and 70 stiches.

"Retail Therapy"
75-90% off

SALE!
until Friday
20%, 50% & 75%
OFF

From Gap
to Gucci...
L.A.'s hottest
resale store!

GREAT LABELS
Designer Resale

310.451.2277

Open 7 Days
1126 Wilshire Boulevard, Santa Monica



PUT THIS ON YOUR COFFEE TABLE!

Celebrating SMDP's Anniversary!

CHECK OUT THESE REVIEWS—

"HOT POTATOS & HAM BONES!"
The Publisher

"WHY DOES HE ALWAYS PICK ON ME?"
The Councilman

"JOE'S WORK IS THE SECOND THING I LOOK FOR EVERY DAY."
The Peace Activist

Anniversary Collection

#1 **FUNNY PAPERZ**

BESTEST EDITORIAL CARTOONS OF THE YEAR 2002

Edited by BOB PURUKAWA

Santa Monica Daily Press
"Born in the Daily Press"

CHECK OUT THESE TOPICS—

Attack On America
Fighting City Hall
Crime & Punishment
The Homeless
Local Views

The Middle East
National Headlines
Property Rights
Holidays
Memorials & Tributes

-110pp, signed by the Artist/ -Softcover \$15/-CD \$10/-Both \$20

MAIL CHECK OR MONEY ORDER PLUS \$3 P&H TO:
JOE KING, 2801 OCEAN PARK BLVD., #300, SANTA MONICA, CA 90405

NATIONAL

Bishop will appear in anti-war commercial

BY BOBBY ROSS JR.
Associated Press Writer

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — A high-ranking Methodist bishop will appear in an anti-war commercial aimed at persuading President Bush, a fellow Methodist, that a U.S. attack on Iraq would violate "God's law."

The 30-second commercial, featuring Bishop Melvin Talbert and actress Janeane Garafalo, is expected to be broadcast beginning Friday to New York and Washington viewers of the CNN and Fox cable news networks, said Stephen Drachler, a United Methodist spokesman in Nashville.

Talbert, former bishop of Seattle and San Francisco, teaches at Vanderbilt University Divinity School in Nashville. He is the chief ecumenical officer of the United Methodist Church, which has an estimated 8.4 million U.S. members.

"Iraq hasn't wronged us," said Talbert, who joined a 13-person delegation of religious leaders on a five-day peace mission to Iraq that ended Jan. 3. "War will only create more terrorists."

TrueMajority, an advocacy organization started by Ben and Jerry's co-founder Ben Cohen, produced the commercial. It is sponsored by the National Council of Churches.

"It basically raises the issue of letting the inspectors do their work," said Bob Edgar, the council's general secretary and a former Democratic congressman from Pennsylvania.

In a statement, Talbert criticized the Bush administration's push toward war to remove Saddam Hussein.

"No nation under God has that right," Talbert said. "It violates international law. It violates God's law and the teachings of Jesus Christ."

Consultant sponsors contest to fix U.S. health care system

BY REBECCA COOK
Associated Press Writer

SEATTLE — A \$10,000 prize can be yours! All you have to do is fix America's ailing health care system.

A health care consultant in Seattle is sponsoring the contest to spark new ideas and start a debate about health care reform.

So far about 100 people and groups have entered, including doctors, lawyers, a Los Angeles venture capital firm and the daughter of a Navajo healer.

"We need to start talking about our health care system. It doesn't work," Kathleen O'Connor said.

Nationwide, 41 million people lack health insurance, according to 2001

Census Bureau figures.

The deadline for completed plans is July 1; entry fees range from \$10 for senior citizens and students to \$500 for corporations. O'Connor has recruited eight judges from across the country and is looking for a ninth. All are from various professions with experience in health care.

"I'm not interested in ideological purity or elegant design," said contest judge Ed Howard, vice president of the Alliance for Health Reform. "I want something that works."

O'Connor said she will pay the winner with money from entry fees and, if necessary, from her own pocket.

The top three entries will be forwarded to the state's congressional delegation.

Tourists say homeless aren't much of a public nuisance

KEY WEST, from page 1

United States because of its warm weather and tourists with loose cash who wander Duval Street, the main drag.

"We've always had panhandlers on Duval since I can remember, just not as aggressive," said Commissioner Jerry Anthony, who voted for the measure.

The Key West law is part of a national trend of new anti-panhandling laws. Ordinances calling for panhandlers to be arrested and fined have been passed in Providence, R.I.; Fresno, Calif.; Huntington, W.Va.; Eugene, Ore.; and Las Cruces, N.M.

Key West, widely known as the longtime home of Ernest Hemingway, attracts many tourists with its laid-back, worry-free image.

The city is known for its tolerance. It has a large homosexual population and is a popular destination for gay tourists. Its anti-discrimination ordinance stands out from those in most cities because it includes protections for transgender people.

The city's reputation is the source of

its "One Human Family" slogan.

"One Human Family" does not include criminals or people who don't want to earn their way in society," said Tom Oosterhoudt, a city commissioner who sponsored the no-panhandling measure. "The fact is people that own businesses and own houses also have rights."

The island city essentially banned homeless people from an area that includes the famous Duval Street bars Sloppy Joe's and Hog's Breath, several hotels and restaurants, and the main stop for a popular tourist train.

Many tourists said the homeless aren't such a nuisance, and some are sympathetic.

"We have homeless people up north who have to huddle up against warm buildings," said Geoff Smith of Cooperstown, N.Y., who said the city should not have banned the homeless. "It's warm down here. I don't think you need to worry about homeless people in Key West."

NATIONAL



Bush's tough talk could complicate diplomacy

BY TOM RAUM
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — In the nuanced world of diplomacy, President Bush speaks in blunt terms: dead or alive, good or evil, with us or against us. A more difficult task will be to match his stark rhetoric with the hard evidence against Iraq being demanded by doubting allies and skeptical Americans.

It's now up to Secretary of State Colin Powell to persuade the U.N. Security Council next week that the Bush administration does, in fact, have the goods on Saddam Hussein, as Bush suggested in his withering attack on the Iraqi leader in the State of the Union speech broadcast around the world.

"If this is not evil, then evil has no meaning," Bush said after cataloguing Saddam's alleged accumulation of weapons of mass destruction and atrocities against his own people. Bush cast the United States as ready to lead an army to strike down Saddam "for the safety of our people and for the peace of the world."

The president kept up the line of attack on Wednesday, telling a Grand Rapids, Mich., audience that mere containment of Saddam was no longer an option. "You don't hope that therapy will somehow change his evil mind," he said.

Bush's tendency to draw moral distinctions has caused alarm among Europeans and other allies and could complicate Powell's efforts next week as he lays out his case.

In fact, Bush has a history of speaking in stark black and white terms — only to pull back if things don't work out as planned.

After the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks, he vowed to get Osama bin Laden, "dead or alive." But the suspected mastermind of those attacks remains at large — and is seldom mentioned at the White House these days. He wasn't in Tuesday night's speech.

"It's apparently Osama bin Forgotten," said Sen. Byron Dorgan, D-N.D.

Also missing: the "axis of evil," Bush's 2002 State of the Union characterization of Iraq, Iran and North Korea. The phrase hasn't been heard much since the disclosure last fall that North Korea was restarting its nuclear weapons program — and the administration's pursuit of a diplomatic course with Pyongyang alongside a military one with Baghdad. "Different threats require very different policies," Bush said.

Bush's strong rhetoric "appeals to the American public, strengthens his position at home and helps persuade the American people of the necessity of going into Iraq. So domestically, it's certainly a plus," said Lee Hamilton, who was the Democratic chairman of the House International Relations Committee during the 1991 Gulf War.

"But on the international level, the strong division of right and wrong and the heavy sense of moralism undoubtedly

makes the diplomats' chores more difficult. And it leads to an exacerbation of the feelings between the countries," said Hamilton, director of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars.

Several polls after Tuesday night's speech suggested that Bush made some headway in boosting support for military action in Iraq, especially among Republicans.

Sandy Berger, who was President Clinton's national security adviser, welcomed some of Bush's tough language. "He did make the argument very strongly that Saddam has not complied, and I think he put it in terms that were more under-

"We have not seen any reason so far to undercut the inspection process. The inspections are useful, they are efficient and effective."

— SERGEY LAVROV
Russian ambassador

standable to people and more focused."

Even so, Berger said, "there was no effort in that speech to make it clear that we would rather do this through a broad coalition."

Bush's steely resolve won praise from other Republicans. "It is obvious the president is showing incredible moral leadership," House Majority Leader Tom Delay, R-Texas, said Wednesday.

But that could also spell trouble.

"When you put things in moral terms, that limits your ability to negotiate," said Stephen Hess, a presidential scholar at the Brookings Institution and a former White House speechwriter. "If it's evil, you can't go for half of evil. That's why we're in a world that deals in nuance."

Bush recapped his administration's case but left it up to Powell to offer specifics in his Feb. 5 Security Council presentation. Powell was expected to share sensitive intelligence evidence, including satellite photographs allegedly showing Iraqi efforts to remove evidence from sites and hide it from weapons inspectors.

So far, skeptical allies remained skeptical, unswayed by Bush's doomsday rhetoric.

"We have not seen any reason so far to undercut the inspection process. The inspections are useful, they are efficient and effective. And they certainly should continue," Russia's ambassador to the United Nations, Sergey Lavrov, told reporters in New York.

What would it take to change his mind? "We would like to see undeniable proof. OK?"

live and local
six days a week
Your only source of daily news in Santa Monica
Call today for a great affordable advertising rates to propel your business to the next level.

Santa Monica Daily Press 310-458-PRESS (7737)
1427 Third Street Promenade Santa Monica

PEBBLES
B O U T I Q U E

Main Street's
Newest and Hottest Boutique

**Clothes!
Gifts!
Collectibles!**

2400 Main Street, Santa Monica
310.314.6472

RELAY FOR LIFE
American Cancer Society

TEAM CAPTAIN'S WANTED

2nd Annual Santa Monica Relay For Life
Santa Monica College, Corsair Field
July 26 and 27, 2003

The Team Captain is a leader who forms a team, works with the Relay Committee, and is the central organizing person for their team and for the Relay event itself.
We need team captains to make this relay work!!!!

Team Captains responsibilities:

- Organize a team of 18-20 people and distribute team member's packets
- Attend the Captain's meetings (there will probably be 2 including one where registration fees will be collected)
- Attend the Bank night 2 weeks before the event (Bring the money raised by your team)
- Create a team name and select your team's campsite
- Be enthusiastic and urge team members to Fundraise. Most of the money will come from fundraising.

The next team captain's meeting for Relay For Life will be held at the Ken Edwards Center, 1527 4th Street, Room 100B, Santa Monica. The meeting will be on Wednesday, February 5, 2003, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Parking is free.

For more information:
Please call Tracey Mayer at the American Cancer Society
(310) 348-0356 option 3/ext. 246
tracey.mayer@cancer.org

DID YOU KNOW?: It is not true that the Great Wall of China is the only man-made structure that can be viewed from space - many man-made objects, including the Dutch polders, can be viewed from space.



INTERNATIONAL

World reacts to Bush's State of Union speech

BY JILL LAWLESS

Associated Press Writer

LONDON — World leaders cautiously welcomed President Bush's promise to give proof Iraq has illegal weapons programs, but some nations feared Washington leaned too strongly toward war.

A spokesman for Prime Minister Tony Blair — Bush's strongest ally against Iraq — on Wednesday praised the president's State of the Union address for bluntly stating the case for disarming Saddam Hussein.

And Blair himself echoed Bush's allegation that there was evidence to link Saddam with the al-Qaida terrorist network.

"We do not know of evidence linking Iraq to al-Qaida in circumstances concerning the Sept. 11 attack," Blair told the House of Commons. "We do know of links between al-Qaida and Iraq. We cannot be sure of the exact extent of those links."

Kuwait's defense minister said Bush was right to call Saddam dangerous and did not rule out U.S. troops using his country as a launch pad — even if an Iraq attack was not sanctioned by the United Nations.

Sheik Jaber Mubarak Al Sabah's comments were the clearest Arab endorsement yet of the U.S. position on Iraq and reflected growing frustration with Saddam in the region.

But Arab League chief Amr Moussa said Bush's speech did nothing to undermine appeals that U.N. inspectors should have more time to judge whether Iraq no longer has weapons of mass destruction, as it claims.

"This calls for requesting complete cooperation from the Iraqi government regarding the inspectors and vice versa," Moussa said.

European countries, largely skittish of a war with Iraq, seemed encouraged by Bush's announcement that Secretary of State Colin Powell will present the U.S. case against Iraq next week to the U.N. Security Council.

Still, German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder reiterated that only the council could approve a U.S. attack. "We will not let up in our efforts to resolve this conflict without a war," Schroeder said during a trip to Mexico.



House of Commons TV/Associated Press
British Prime Minister Tony Blair speaks during Prime Minister's Questions at the House of Commons, in London, Wednesday, in this image made from television. Blair leaves for Washington Thursday for talks with President Bush which will center around the situation in Iraq.

France, too, welcomed Powell's presentation but stressed the matter was then up to the Security Council.

Swedish Prime Minister Goeran Persson said Bush's speech showed the president was serious about having "the international community behind him."

In Moscow, Foreign Ministry spokesman Alexander Yakovenko repeated Russia's push for diplomacy.

"As before, we see no grounds for any use of military

force," he said — although President Vladimir Putin said Tuesday he might toughen his stance on Iraq if Baghdad hampered weapons inspectors.

The European Union is split on Iraq: Belgium, Sweden and Finland back France and Germany's anti-war stance; Spain, Italy, Portugal and others lean toward the pro-American camp.

Italy said Wednesday that U.S. airplanes could use Italian bases for refueling and other "technical" purposes in a possible war.

Dozens of European Parliament lawmakers briefly held aloft "No War" protest signs Wednesday as the 626-member assembly opened a debate on the Iraq crisis.

There was loud applause when Javier Solana, the EU's foreign policy representative, declared military action should be up to the United Nations, not Washington.

"The whole process of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction has to be dealt with at the U.N. Security Council," he said.

"It has to lend any legitimacy to the matter. We have to work day and night to avoid armed conflict and to disarm Saddam Hussein without using armed force."

Solana also backed calls for U.N. arms inspectors to have more time.

The Saudi daily Okaz urged Iraq to abide by Security Council demands to surrender nuclear, chemical and biological weapons so as "not to give America any pretexts to surprise it with a war, whose dangers no country in the region will be spared."

"We tell Iraq frankly: Enough provocation, procrastination and delaying," Okaz said in an editorial Wednesday.

Scandinavian nations clung to hope of a peaceful solution.

"He still opens up for Saddam Hussein to come to his senses and hand over his weapons of mass destruction," said Danish Foreign Minister Per Stig Moeller.

And Norway's foreign minister, Jan Petersen, said he did not see the address as a declaration of war.

"The message in the address is that it puts tremendous pressure on Saddam Hussein, but it is important to note that Bush is still following the U.N. route," he said.

Humanitarian crisis averted in southern Africa

BY RAVI NESSMAN

Associated Press Writer

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa

— A serious humanitarian crisis in southern Africa appears to have been averted with the delivery of hundreds of thousands of tons of food aid to hungry people, a top U.N. relief official said Wednesday.

The World Food Program had estimated that more than 15 million people in six southern African countries were in danger of starvation because of poor harvests last year.

Fast reaction by humanitarian workers and aid agencies and generous aid from donor countries has averted a serious famine in the region, said James Morris, the head of the WFP and the U.N. special envoy to the southern Africa hunger crisis.

"Food has been put in place over the last several months in such a way that starvation, death has not occurred, and that's something to celebrate," he told journalists in South Africa following a trip to affected nations.

Morris, however, expressed concern about the ongoing AIDS pandemic ravaging the region.

The WFP estimated it will have delivered more than 1.4 million tons of food aid by March to needy people in Zimbabwe, Lesotho, Malawi, Zambia, Swaziland and Mozambique.

The agency will do a new study in February to see what aid is required over the next year, but Morris predicted that a comparable amount of food would be

needed over the next 12 months.

Following their recent visit of the region, U.N. aid officials were cautiously optimistic of a good harvest in April in Zambia and Malawi.

"We don't have that same optimism for Zimbabwe," Morris said.

The hunger crisis in that nation, once the bread basket of the region, has been blamed on erratic rains and agricultural chaos caused by the redistribution of white-owned commercial farms to blacks.

The nation's commercial farming sector has been nearly destroyed, he said.

Though more acres were farmed this year, they were planted by communal farmers, who are only a fraction as productive as large-scale farmers, he said.

"The loss of the commercial farm industry ... the loss of that production is enormous," Morris said.

Even with good weather, officials estimate Zimbabwe's harvest will fall 1.1 million tons short of the nation's need.

Zimbabwe's economic crisis has decimated the government's hard currency reserves, making it hard for it to buy grain abroad. And the government has refused,

despite pressure from aid officials, to relax its monopoly on importing grain, which has made it illegal for private grain brokers to bring in food to sell, Morris said.

Morris also appealed for a massive global effort to fight the AIDS pandemic that is killing thousands of productive people, wrecking the livelihoods of millions more and laying the groundwork for future famines.

He was especially concerned about the future of the 2.5 million AIDS orphans in the region.

Chief proposes counterfeit-proof uniforms

BY MARK STEVENSON

Associated Press Writer

MEXICO CITY — Mexico City's police chief is suggesting a new dress code for his officers: counterfeit-proof uniforms.

Chief Marcelo Ebrard said Tuesday that the new suits could help end a disturbing trend of crooks masquerading as cops.

"This is an idea or plan that is still under study, so there are no details yet on how it would be carried out," said police spokesman Omar Cruz.

Police uniforms can be legally obtained at stores and from street vendors throughout Mexico City, offering impostors an ideal cover for committing crimes.

Ebrard proposes giving the roughly

30,000 officers under his command new uniforms with distinctive features that could not be reproduced.

One solution would be to make police uniforms with a special cloth unavailable to the public, he said.

The idea has come up before. Several years ago, officials proposed sewing microchips into the seams of uniforms — a plan that was never carried out, Cruz said.

It's unclear whether new uniforms would work: Most Mexico City residents fear police so much they're unlikely to get close enough to check for counterfeits.

The problem also goes beyond uniforms. Some crooks create police cruisers, outfitting them with lights and sirens and fake serial numbers at a cost of about \$700, the Reforma newspaper reported

Wednesday.

Even real cops can pose a problem: The same paper carried a report of two municipal officers arrested for stealing about \$35 from pedestrians and the detention of a federal officer for kidnapping.

The proposal for new uniforms is among of series of safety initiatives in the huge capital city, where former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani was recently engaged as an anti-crime consultant for \$4.3 million.

To make the police force more professional, Ebrard plans to have officers take law courses at the Mexico City campus of the National Autonomous University, one of the nation's best colleges.

Police are only required to have a ninth-grade education to get on the force.

SPORTS



Sources: Lions to interview Steve Mariucci this week

BY LARRY LAGE
AP Sports Writer

DETROIT — The Detroit Lions plan to interview former San Francisco 49ers coach Steve Mariucci by the end of the week, a source within the league said Wednesday.

The source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said Lions chief executive Matt Millen made contact with Mariucci to set up a meeting

after Millen fired coach Marty Mornhinweg on Monday.

Millen was not available for comment Wednesday.

"The process continues," Lions spokesman Bill Keenist said.

Mornhinweg, who served as offensive coordinator under Mariucci with the 49ers, was fired after a month after the Lions finished 3-13. Mornhinweg had a record of 5-27 over his two seasons, the

worst two-year stretch in team history.

On Monday, Millen said he hoped Mariucci would be a candidate for the job.

"I spoke to Steve after he was let go, and I would like to speak to him again," Millen said then.

Mariucci, who was born and raised in Iron Mountain, Mich., had a 60-43 record in six seasons with the 49ers, and he guided the team to the playoffs four times.

Mariucci clashed with 49ers

owner John York, however, and the team fired Mariucci three days after a 31-6 loss at Tampa Bay in the divisional playoffs. Mariucci had one year left on his contract.

While Mariucci had just a 3-4 postseason record, he had won

three times as many playoff games as the Lions have since winning the 1957 NFL title. Detroit beat Dallas 38-6 in the divisional playoffs on Jan. 5, 1992, and lost to Washington in the NFC championship game.

Raiders coach: Barret Robbins incoherent on eve of Super Bowl

BY JANIE MCCAULEY
AP Sports Writer

ALAMEDA — Barret Robbins was incoherent and didn't know where he was the night before the Super Bowl, Oakland Raiders coach Bill Callahan said Wednesday in his first public comments about the troubled All-Pro center.

Robbins, who has a history of depression, spent Super Bowl Sunday in a San Diego hospital after disappearing from the team's hotel the night before. Callahan would not reveal Robbins' current whereabouts.

The 6-foot-3, 320-pound lineman reportedly had stopped tak-

ing his medicine for depression. He missed a team meeting, a position meeting and a walk-through practice Saturday, Callahan said.

"I was fearful something wrong was occurring," said Callahan, who decided to bench Robbins on Saturday night, then later chose to send him home.

The Raiders lost to the Tampa Bay Buccaneers 48-21.

Robbins could not make flight arrangements from San Diego to Oakland because his wallet and identification were missing, Callahan said.

A man who says he was among a group that drank with Robbins on the day before the

Super Bowl told the San Francisco Chronicle that heavy drinking left the Raiders' center despondent and suicidal.

"He was crying and totally depressed about his life and the pressure he was under," said Cartier Dise, who owns a vehicle customizing business that has provided rims and wheels for the vehicles of Raiders players.

"This guy was messed up. All he could think about was his family, his two daughters," Dise told the newspaper. "He was talking about killing himself, saying he was disappointing people and he had a lot of people to support financially and he was letting them all down."

Seles wins in Tokyo



Koji Sasahara/Associated Press

Monica Seles of the United State returns a ball against Ai Sugiyama of Japan during a second round of Toray Pan Pacific tennis tournament in Tokyo Wednesday. Seles beat Sugiyama 7-5, 5-7, 6-1.

Baseball union takes first step toward collusion grievance

BY RONALD BLUM
AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK — Baseball players have taken the first step toward a possible collusion grievance against owners.

Michael Weiner, a lawyer for the players' association, filed a request last Thursday for management documents about negotiations with free agents during this offseason.

The request was confirmed to The Associated Press on Tuesday by a pair of baseball officials who spoke on the condition they not be identified. Players asked for "documents that would reflect inter-club communications and communications between the commissioner's office and clubs about free-agent negotiations," one of the officials told the AP.

Several agents told the union in November and December that their clients received similar offers from several different teams, three agents said earlier this month on the condition they not be identified.

Union officials asked them to maintain the records of the bids, and the agents said the union was contemplating a grievance. Baseball's labor contract says teams may not act in concert with regard to free agents.

Owners were found by arbitrators to have conspired against free agents following the 1985, 1986 and 1987 seasons, and management settled those cases in 1990 for \$280 million.

Under baseball's labor contract, grievances must be filed within 45 days of the alleged violation. By filing the document request last week, a grievance would

cover events starting in early December.

Union head Donald Fehr declined comment. Rob Manfred, management's top labor lawyer, confirmed receipt of the document request and denied the collusion allegations.

"Our view is that any suggestion that there was any improper activity in this market was ludicrous," Manfred said Tuesday. "The market was characterized by extensive competitive bidding for top free agents."

"Moreover, there are important external factors that one would have expected to have an impact on the market, including baseball's economics, the economy generally and the new agreement."

Manfred said owners would respond to the document request "in due course."

Baseball's new labor contract, agreed to last summer, increases revenue sharing in 2003 and places a luxury tax on high-payroll teams, factors that have combined to decrease spending by some clubs.

Agents have pointed to the relative lack of bidders for high-profile free agents such as Greg Maddux, Jim Thome and Ivan Rodriguez, but management cited aggressive bidding for free agents by the Philadelphia Phillies, New York Yankees, New York Mets, Boston Red Sox and Chicago Cubs.

Any collusion case would be heard by baseball's independent arbitrator, currently Shyam Das. If owners are found to have violated the anti-collusion provision, damages could be substantially higher than they were in the 1980s.

COLLECTABLE HALL OF FAME JERSEYS



**Large
Selection
of Authentic
Jerseys
Available**

**Mention ad
receive 15% off
1st jersey**

(310) 863-5435
ballerkickz.com

COMICS

The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



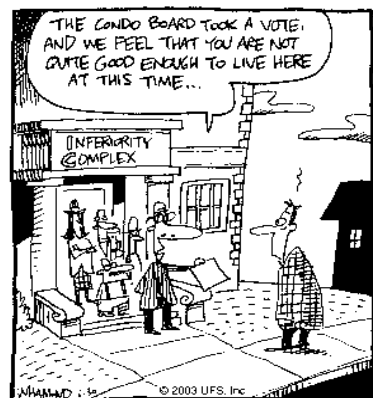
Natural Selection® By Russ Wallace



edge city by TERRY & PATTY LABAN



Reality Check® By Dave Whammond



Speed Bump® By Dave Coverly



CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Eschew away
 - 2 Stash
 - 3 Empha-size
 - 4 Aquatic monster
 - 5 Camera support
 - 6 "Gun-smoke" star
 - 7 Deceived
 - 8 Likely
 - 9 Cut the blades
 - 10 Wedding promise
 - 16 Sister of Meg
 - 19 Subvert
 - 20 Allowed
 - 21 Worry
 - 22 CBS founder
 - 24 Sub system
 - 25 Will Smith film
 - 26 Go out
 - 27 Nephritic
 - 30 Turn aside
 - 32 Handle
 - 33 Knight address
 - 34 Promi-nent, in a way
 - 38 Cower
 - 41 Heavy smoker?
 - 42 Pound parts
 - 43 Respon-sibility
 - 44 Leave
 - 45 Budget amount

M	A	P	S	Q	U	I	C	H	E
E	C	R	U	U	N	C	O	O	L
S	H	I	N	A	D	E	P	T	S
H	E	N	G	R	I	T			
			T	R	I	T	E	P	
B	A	S	I	N	S	C	O	R	E
A	T	O	M			R	I	G	S
J	O	U	S	T		B	O	N	E
A	P	T		A	D	O	P	T	
			C	H	O	W		S	O
T	A	B	R	I	Z		D	O	O
A	V	I	A	T	E		O	U	Z
R	A	B	B	I	S		S	T	E

Yesterday's answer

- 22 Golf goals
- 23 Out of the wind
- 28 Immedi-ately
- 29 More protracted
- 30 Volcanic dust
- 31 Try to win
- 35 Ordeal
- 36 Give — for one's money
- 37 Nuisance
- 38 Haddock's cousin
- 39 Regret
- 40 They have power

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.50 (check/m.o.) to Thomas Joseph Book 2, P.O. Box 536475, Orlando, FL 32853-6475

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11				12					
13				14					
15				16					
17				18				19	20
21				22				23	
24				25				26	
27				28	29			30	31
32				33				34	35
36				37				38	39
40				41				42	
43				44				45	

1-30

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-3168! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.



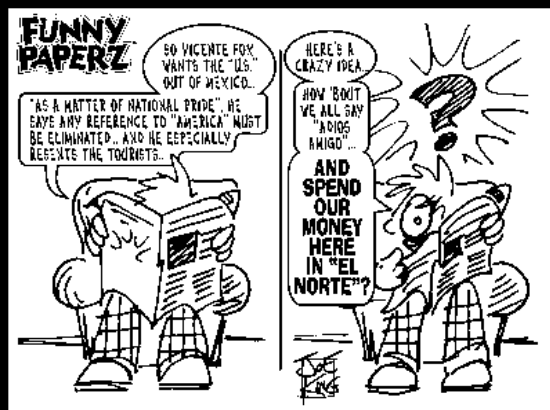
NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

Hospital keeps dead baby as collateral

■ Arab News reported in December that a hospital in Jidda, Saudi Arabia, had refused to hand over the body of a deceased baby until after father Wajeeh Suleiman (of Turkey) pays his bill of about \$48,000 (U.S.).

■ Ng Lai Ping, 39, complained in October that an official at Hong Kong's Central Library had demanded that she stop breastfeeding her child in public and gave as the reason signs posted at various places in the building, "No Food or Drinks."



CLASSIFIEDS



Santa Monica Daily Press

Why advertise weekly when you can advertise DAILY?

Classifieds

\$3⁵⁰ per day. Up to 15 words, 20 cents each additional word.

Call 310-458-7737 and promote your business opportunities to our daily readership of over 15,000.

CLASSIFICATIONS:

Announcements
Creative
Employment
For Sale
Furniture
Pets
Boats

Jewelry
Wanted
Travel
Vacation Rentals
Apartments/Condos Rent
Houses for Rent
Roomates
Commercial Lease

Real Estate
Real Estate Loans
Storage Space
Vehicles for Sale
Massage
Services
Computer Services
Attorney Services

Business Opportunities
Yard Sales
Health and Beauty
Fitness
Wealth and Success
Lost and Found
Personals
Obituaries

Creative

CULVER CITY art studio for rent. No live-ins or musicians. Daily shoot space available. (310)614-5592.

Employment

APARTMENT ASSISTANT Managers team needed. Best pay & benefits. Fax resume to (310)451-1628.

EXPERIENCED SERVICE Deli Counter Person/Food Prep. FT/PT. Friendly, good customer service skills. Must be able to work weekends and evenings. Call Richard 8am-10am (310)452-6604 or fax resume to (310)452-3364.

MANAGER WANTED Vintage Clothing Store in Toga. Must be reliable, responsible, organized, enthusiastic & self-motivated. Full time. Good pay. Contact Marina at Hidden Treasures (310)455-2998

PART TIME counter help wanted for Santa Monica small business. (310)451-9785

PART TIME/ Full Time front office help wanted for busy Santa Monica Chiropractic Office (310)998-5899 or fax (310)998-5896

RETAIL ASSISTANT MANAGER Retail clothing store. Experience a prerequisite. Excellent starting salary. Call Robert (310)576-6980 or Fax resume (310)260-4813

THE DAILY Press is seeking a full time circulation manager. The position requires early hours (2am to 7am), six days per week. Candidate must be motivated, efficient and possess a desire to win. Must have reliable transportation and clean driving record. Long term position, aggressive pay. Fax resume and cover letter to 310-576-0913, or call 310-458-7737 x 104.

For Sale

LINCOLN 1994 Continental. Excellent condition, low miles, full power. \$5,500.00 or B.O. (310)477-1680

Baby Stuff

"SNUGGLE NEST" For safe co-sleeping. Opened and washed, but never used. \$25 (original price is \$50 to \$60) Contact Nina at (310)395-7321.

Furniture

7 PIECE Bedroom Set. All brand new! Wood sleigh bed, mattress set, nightstand, and more. Moving and must sell List \$2500. Giveaway \$795. (310)350-3814.

BRAND NEW couch & love seat. Overstuffed, light green. \$500-993. (310)829-3948

Furniture

BEDROOM FURNITURE: Full size dresser with large mirror, two bedside tables. Old, but good condition, \$75. Contact Nina at (310)395-7321.

CHERRY SLEIGH Bed. Solid wood. Still in box. List \$795. Sacrifice \$295. (310)350-3814

ITALIAN LEATHER Sofa & Loveseat. Brand new, still in crate from designer home show. List \$3000. Sacrifice \$995. Must sell! Will deliver! (310)350-3814.

KING DOUBLE Pillowtop Mattress Set. Brand new, brand name. Must sell! List \$895. Sacrifice \$295. (310)350-3814

QUEEN DOUBLE Pillowtop Mattress Set. Plush, name brand, still in plastic. Warranty. Was \$595. Sacrifice \$175. (310)350-3814.

QUEEN ORTHO Mattress Set. New, still in plastic w/warranty. Must sell. \$125 (310)350-3814.

Jewelry

NIGHT FASHION ACCESSORY Light up/Sparkling/Flashing Necklace. Convenient for disco clubs, concerts, spiritual, personal fun. Available in a cross and a heart. Teddy Bear backpacks available also. Feel love for yourself or love for someone else. (310)358-6535.

Wanted

CASH FOR ANTIQUES, COLLECTIBLES, ESTATE JEWELRY, DISHES, PHOTOS, X-MAS DECORATIONS, 40 YRS. OR OLDER BUYING ESTATES OR ONE ITEM. (310)393-1111

CLASSIC & SPORTS Cars. American, English or European. Running or not. Cash paid. Sportscar LA (310)398-2198

For Rent

MONTANA: DISCOVERY Ski Mt./Georgetown Lake. Large 4 Bedroom house. Great views. Ski, snowmobile, ice fish, snow shoe. \$1200 a week (310)899-3777.

For Rent

20TH & PICO \$1050.00 1bdm, 1st flr, new crpt, Indry, pkgng. (310)273-6639

BRENTWOOD \$750.00 Charming upper unit, hardwood floors, laundry on premises. Unit has formal kit, crpts, lrg clsts, fridge, stove. Will consider pets

Get phone # address Free. No Fee. We have others from \$550.00 EQ. Housing Opportunity logo. www.apartmenthunterz.com (310)276-4663

For Rent

BEVERLY HILLS ADJ. \$1550.00 Vintage 2 story 1920's duplex. Master Bedroom, ent. ctr., 2 BDR/1BA, living rm, eat-in kitchen, bright, Mexican tile, faux fireplace, lots of archit. detail, hrdwd flrs. Permit Street Prkng.

Get phone # address Free. No Fee. We have others from \$550.00 EQ. Housing Opportunity logo. www.apartmenthunterz.com (310)276-4663

BEVERLY HILLS ADJ. \$1175.00 Close to Malls, on Sweetzer, Bright 2BDR/1BA, Indry, prkng, d/w, stove, Water & Trash incld, newly finished hrdwd, fresh paint, small pet OK.

Get phone # address Free. No Fee. We have others from \$550.00 EQ. Housing Opportunity logo. www.apartmenthunterz.com (310)276-4663

BEVERLYWOOD ADJACENT \$525.00 Bachelor in quaint smaller building. Fresh paint and carpet. 1 year Lease, no pets. (310)396-4443 ext. 102.

Elly Nesis Company, Inc. www.ellynesis.com

BRENTWOOD \$1250.00 Trad. 2BDR/1BA Upper, Newer crpt, fridge, stove, Indry & prkng. No pets.

Get phone # address Free. No Fee. We have others from \$550.00 EQ. Housing Opportunity logo. www.apartmenthunterz.com (310)276-4663

BRENTWOOD ADJ. \$1650.00 Gorgeous 2 BDR/2BA. A/C, Alm, D/W, firepl., hrdwd, High Ceilings, microwave, fridge, stv, controlled access, walk in clsts, pet ok, roman tub.

Get phone # address Free. No Fee. We have others from \$550.00 EQ. Housing Opportunity logo. www.apartmenthunterz.com (310)276-4663

CONTEMPORARY \$1550.00 2bdm/2.5ba 2-story townhouse w/fireplace, balcony, high ceilings, gated entry, 2 car gated parking. Fireplace, stove, dishwasher, laundry facilities, 1 year lease, no pets. (310)396-4443 ext. 102

Elly Nesis Company, Inc. www.ellynesis.com

MDR PENINSULA: \$2000 2bdm/2ba, no pets, freshly painted, new carpets, D/W, stove, refrigerator, 2 fireplaces, walk-in closets, 2 car parking. SHL Management (310)870-1757.

For Rent

CULVER CITY \$650.00 Quiet, single, remodeled building, pool, landscape, blcny, crpts. Convenient to shopping, premises, dishwasher, fireplace, refrigerator, stove.

Get phone # address Free. No Fee. We have others from \$550.00 EQ. Housing Opportunity logo. www.apartmenthunterz.com (310)276-4663

FREE RENTAL Lists & No Fee Rentals. Sullivan-Dituri Company. 2111 Wilshire Blvd. Santa Monica, CA 90403.

GLENDALE \$825.00 Remodeled 2BD/2BA near the Glendale Galleria, complete renovation, air cond., crpts, stv, swimming pool.

Get phone # address Free. No Fee. We have others from \$550.00 EQ. Housing Opportunity logo. www.apartmenthunterz.com (310)276-4663

HOLLYWOOD Starting @ \$1025.00-1050.00 Contempo 1BDR/1BA Pet ok, living room, new crpt & paint, Jacuzzi, gated underground prkng. Upper & lower units avail., only some have fireplaces!

Get phone # address Free. No Fee. We have others from \$550.00 EQ. Housing Opportunity logo. www.apartmenthunterz.com (310)276-4663

HOLLYWOOD Starting @ \$1275.00-1350.00 Contempo 2BDR/2BA, pet ok, living rm, new crpt & paint, jacuzzi, gated underground prkng. Upper and lower units avail., only some have fireplaces!

Get phone # address Free. No Fee. We have others from \$550.00 EQ. Housing Opportunity logo. www.apartmenthunterz.com (310)276-4663

LOS FELIZ \$1075.00 2+2, Courtyard sundeck, bckryd w/ lots of trees, exclusive professional bldg, A/C, crpts, D/W, Fridge, stv, sauna, no eviction, bad credit OK.

Get phone # address Free. No Fee. We have others from \$550.00 EQ. Housing Opportunity logo. www.apartmenthunterz.com (310)276-4663

MAR VISTA \$1995.00 3bdm/2ba. Ground level, patio, stove, dishwasher, new carpet, spacious, 3 pkg. spaces (310)534-3543/3.

For Rent

MARINA PENINSULA \$2,595.00 Very large 2bdm/2ba with huge loft, high ceilings, roof top patio and balcony. Unit overlooks the Grand Canal and the Silver Strand. 2 car parking. 1 year lease, no pets. (310)396-4443 ext. 102

Elly Nesis Company, Inc. www.ellynesis.com

MDR: Marina City Club: 1 mo. free rent. 2BDR/2BA. CTS Plaza Level. Marina view, full amen., nu paint & crpts. \$2575.00 (310)273-4073

MID-WILSHIRE \$675.00 Newer 1BD/1BA, new crpt, blinds, freshly painted & clean gated prkng. Indry facil. on premises, blcny, stv, gated entrance/ controlled access.

Get phone # address Free. No Fee. We have others from \$550.00 EQ. Housing Opportunity logo. www.apartmenthunterz.com (310)276-4663

MID-WILSHIRE \$675.00 Charming, 1BD/1BA Indry facilities on premises, gas range, hrdwd, garbage disposal, stove, cable television.

Get phone # address Free. No Fee. We have others from \$550.00 EQ. Housing Opportunity logo. www.apartmenthunterz.com (310)276-4663

N. HOLLYWOOD \$985.00 2BDR/1BA, new crpt, new appliances, all new, gated prkng, A/C, blcny, stv, lrg clsts, pool, no pets, wlk to shops.

Get phone # address Free. No Fee. We have others from \$550.00 EQ. Housing Opportunity logo. www.apartmenthunterz.com (310)276-4663

NEW STUDIO Apartments available from \$1295.00 to \$1355.00. Six blocks from the beach. Three blocks from Third St Promenade area! (310)656-0311. www.breesesuites.com

PALMS \$925.00 2BDR/2BA Upper unit, beautiful tree lined street, quiet bldg, mint condition, light, crpt, covered prkng.

Get phone # address Free. No Fee. We have others from \$550.00 EQ. Housing Opportunity logo. www.apartmenthunterz.com (310)276-4663

SANTA MONICA \$2700.00 Spacious 3 Bdrm/3 full Bath. Top floor, high ceilings, sunny, bright, double patio, views of Santa Monica Mountains. Quiet neighborhood, North of Wilshire. Security parking available. (310)451-2178

For Rent

PASADENA \$700.00 Tranquil 1BDR/1BA, new carpet and kitchen flooring, Indry facil. on premises, air conditioning, blcny, crpts, refg., stv.

Get phone # address Free. No Fee. We have others from \$550.00 EQ. Housing Opportunity logo. www.apartmenthunterz.com (310)276-4663

PASADENA \$725.00 Spacious 1BDR/1BA, beamed ceilings, very private hardwood floors, lrg clsts, Upper unit, air conditioning.

Get phone # address Free. No Fee. We have others from \$550.00 EQ. Housing Opportunity logo. www.apartmenthunterz.com (310)276-4663

S.M. \$1700.00 On 18th near SM Blvd. 2bdm, 1.5ba. Townhouse. Appliances, wetbar, fireplace, private patio, 2-car garage. Info: (310)828-4481.

SANTA MONICA \$1550.00 N. of Wilshire, contemp., spacious 2BD/2BA, stove, dishwasher, prkng, pet OK, W/D in unit, mini-blinds, fridge.

Get phone # address Free. No Fee. We have others from \$550.00 EQ. Housing Opportunity logo. www.apartmenthunterz.com (310)276-4663

SANTA MONICA \$650.00 Immaculate Unit, new carpet, original ceramic tile in kitchen and bath sperate kitchen, laundry, facility, refg. stove, street prkng, pets OK.

Get phone # address Free. No Fee. We have others from \$550.00 EQ. Housing Opportunity logo. www.apartmenthunterz.com (310)276-4663

SM \$1,150/\$1,250 1bdm/1ba, utilities/parking/refrig, laundry, included. Walk to beach and Main St. Russell (310)396-1439.

SM \$1250.000 1bdm, upper. Brand new building. Microwave, dishwasher, refrigerator, stove, berber carpeting, large balcony, parking. Available now! 1347 23rd St. (310)899-9917.

SM \$1350/\$1450 1bdm/1ba, hardwood/carpet, utilities/parking/refrig included. Balcony, ocean view, walk to beach/Main St. Russell (310)567-6108.

VENICE/SM \$895.00 Large corner studio, secure building, parking, pool, 235 Main St. Senior citizen 62+ only. (310)261-2093.

W. LA \$1050.00 Spacious 1 bedroom apartment. 1616 S. Bundy Dr. (310)497-4411.

CLASSIFIEDS

For Rent

SM \$2,400.00 Townhouse Condo in condominium complex with beautifully kept grounds. 3bdrm/2.5ba. New carpet & paint. Very large unit w/private patio, private entry, gated subterranean parking, fireplace, dishwasher, stove and storage room. 1 year lease, no pets. (310)396-4443 ext. 102

Elly Nesis Company, Inc.
www.ellynesis.com

SM 2BDRM/1.5BA \$2150.00 Prkg, wood flrs, newly remodeled, french doors, no pets. (310)261-8989

SM 2BDRM/1.5BA \$2200.00 2 story, wood floors, newly remodeled, french doors, prkg, no pets. (310)261-8989

STUDIO CITY \$1000.00 1BDR/1BA New w/d in each unit, new bbq and sun patio w/ fountain, central air & heat, mirrored wardrobe doors.

Get phone # address Free. No Fee. We have others from \$550.00 EQ. Housing Opportunity logo.
www.apartmenthunterz.com (310)276-4663

STUDIO CITY \$850.00 Contempo lower 1BDR/1BA, cat ok, D/W, gorgeous bldg, gated prkg, patio, A/C, tiled kitchen, new lino bath.

Get phone # address Free. No Fee. We have others from \$550.00 EQ. Housing Opportunity logo.
www.apartmenthunterz.com (310)276-4663

VALLEY VILLAGE \$750.00 1BDR/1BA, super quiet bldg, bbq, vertical blinds, new crpt, very clean, pkg, Indry, gated entrance, stv. swimming pool.

Get phone # address Free. No Fee. We have others from \$550.00 EQ. Housing Opportunity logo.
www.apartmenthunterz.com (310)276-4663

VENICE \$1045.00 1bdrm/1ba w/hardwood floors, private balcony, skylight, stove, d/w. Close to Abbot Kinney, parking available. 1 year lease, no pets. (310)396-4443 X102.

Elly Nesis Company, Inc.
www.ellynesis.com

VENICE \$995.00 2bdrm/1ba Bright & airy. Quiet upper unit w/new carpet and paint. 2 car parking off street. Close to beach/shops/restaurants. 1 year lease, no pets. (310)396-4443 ext. 102.

Elly Nesis Company, Inc.
www.ellynesis.com

VENICE BEACH \$1125.00 Large 1bdrm/1ba apartments. Upper unit in large courtyard w/swimming pool, 4 blocks to beach. Gated private parking, laundry room, quiet neighborhood. (310)396-4443 ext. 102.

Elly Nesis Company, Inc.
www.ellynesis.com

VENICE BEACH \$1025.00 Single, totally remodeled w/hardwood floors and tile. New everything, must see to appreciate. 1/2 block to beach & close to Main Street. Parking included. 1 year lease, no pets. (310)396-4443 x102.

Elly Nesis Company, Inc.
www.ellynesis.com

For Rent

VENICE BEACH \$2,400.00 Residential loft, completely renovated. 1bdrm/2ba, oak wood floors, high ceilings, rooftop patio, balcony, 2 car parking, lots of windows, lots of storage. Great looking unit. 1 year lease, no pets. (310)396-4443 x102.

Elly Nesis Company, Inc.
www.ellynesis.com

VENICE BEACH \$2,695.00 Craftsman house, 2bdrm/1.5ba with 3 car parking. Hardwood floors and tile w/large deck. 1/2 block from beach. 1 year lease, no pets (310)396-4443 ext. 102.

Elly Nesis Company, Inc.
www.ellynesis.com

VENICE BEACH \$850.00 Large single 1 block from the beach. New carpet and paint, bright and airy. 1 year lease, no pets. (310) 396-4443 x102

Elly Nesis Company, Inc.
www.ellynesis.com

VENICE BEACH \$850.00 Single w/lots of charm and original hardwood floors. 1 block from the beach. Close to shopping and restaurants. 1 year lease, no pets, paid parking available. (310)396-4443 ext.102.

Elly Nesis Company, Inc.
www.ellynesis.com

VENICE BEACH \$995.00 Single w/ ocean view in historic brick building on the beach. Exposed brick walls. Lots of windows and light. Recently remodeled w/ new paint and carpet. 1 year lease, no pets. (310)450-1934

Elly Nesis Company, Inc.
www.ellynesis.com

W. HOLLYWOOD \$1450.00 Townhouse 2BDR/1.5BA. Front unit, new paint, new blinds, lots of kit. cabinets. Offstreet prkg, Indry facilities on premises, dishwasher, hrdwd flrs, refrigerator, stove.

Get phone # address Free. No Fee. We have others from \$550.00 EQ. Housing Opportunity logo.
www.apartmenthunterz.com (310)276-4663

WeHo \$750.00 Character, gas stove, fridge, carport, Indry, secure entry, new crpt, new lino flrs, Close to the Grove.

Get phone # address Free. No Fee. We have others from \$550.00 EQ. Housing Opportunity logo.
www.apartmenthunterz.com (310)276-4663

WeHo \$795.00 Spanish 1BDR/1BA, high ceilings, stove, fridge, crwn midngs, w/c, cat, carport.

Get phone # address Free. No Fee. We have others from \$550.00 EQ. Housing Opportunity logo.
www.apartmenthunterz.com (310)276-4663

WeHo \$750.00 Classic New York Style brick bldg, hrdwd flrs, PET OK, Stove, Ceiling fan, Crwn Molding, Close to shops and rest. Pkng avail.

Get phone # address Free. No Fee. We have others from \$550.00 EQ. Housing Opportunity logo.
www.apartmenthunterz.com (310)276-4663

For Rent

WEST HOLLYWOOD \$795.00 Great 1BD/1BA, patio, 2 units avail., patio, hrdwd floors, stv, fridge, Spanish style.

Get phone # address Free. No Fee. We have others from \$550.00 EQ. Housing Opportunity logo.
www.apartmenthunterz.com (310)276-4663

Furnished Apts/Condos SANTA MONICA \$795.00 Lower Unit, Part. Furn., safe neighborhood, bright, full kitchen, off of Wilshire Blvd., utils. inc., amenities include Street parking, Indry facilities, crpts, furnished, refrig., stv, storage.

Get phone # address Free. No Fee. We have others from \$550.00 EQ. Housing Opportunity logo.
www.apartmenthunterz.com (310)276-4663

Houses For Rent

VENICE CANALS House \$3,250 3bdrm/2ba. 2 car garage, canal front patios and views, fireplace. Great location! Repainted inside and out, new carpet downstairs, new wood trim, new garage door, new deck, new windows. 1 year lease. No pets. (310)396-4443 ext. 102.

Elly Nesis Company, Inc.
www.ellynesis.com

Commercial Lease

ABBOT KINNEY Design Offices, 1,2,3,4 decks, views, kitchens. 500-10,000sq.ft. 2 blocks from beach. Call for pricing. (310)399-9371

BY THE BEACH: Office or commercial. 1/2 block to beach or Marina Peninsula. In the Portnoy Building at 3401 Pacific. \$1250.00 Owner, Agent. (310)420-7862 or (310)480-7861.

OFFICE AVAILABLE in 5 office suite. 1121 4th St., SM. LA/ Library, (West), reception, copier, fax. \$825/mo. with secretary desk. Marcia, Agt. (310)394-4492.

SANTA MONICA Main St. \$500.00 to \$750.00. Space available for rent. Hottest location on Main St. Can be vendors like clothing, jewelry, candles, salts, etc. Call only (310)430-3595.

VENICE: LOFT office space. 900 or 1800 sq. ft. Parking & bathroom. Wood floors & skylights. 215 Windward. \$1900 or \$3900. (310)567-9262.

Vehicles for sale

1994 Ford Escort LX Compact Station Wagon - 106,000 miles, CD player, good condition, \$2,200. Contact Nina at (310)395-7321.

Massage

BLISSFUL RELAXATION! Heal your body, mind, spirit. Therapeutic, Swedish, Deep-tissue. Energy balancing. Non-sexual. Introductory specials from \$45.00/1hr. In/out. Lynda, L.M.T. (310)749-0621

ERIC: CERTIFIED Massage Therapist. (310)877-3412

EXQUISITE, INTUITIVE, strong and tender relaxing bodywork by mature European. Professional Lady Sonja (310)397-0433.

ITALIAN MALE Therapeutic/Sensual CMT 90/min, w/table, late night, in/out. (213)303-8773

Massage

MASSAGE ENJOY a really great, amazing and wonderful full body massage. Swedish, deep-tissue and Tantra. (Platonic only!) No time limit. Will come to you. 24/7 Cute, slim, fit, petite mature chocolate. 14 years experience. \$125/hour. Female diver w/car wanted. Dolly's pager (310)358-6535.

REVITALIZE & Rejuvenate. Body, Mind & Spirit with a therapeutic Swedish/Deep-tissue massage. Laura (310)394-2923 (310)569-0883.

STRETCH-U-OUT SENSUAL full body massage by athletic male. In/Out Eric (310)815-1222.

STRONG & SOOTHING professional/therapeutic bodywork. Intro: \$35/90min. Will also trade massage. Paul: (310)741-1901.

THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE, Swedish, Accupressure, Deep-tissue, Sports Massage, Reflexology. For apt call Tracy at (310)435-0657.

THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE. Swedish, Deep-Tissue, Sports Massage. Intro: \$35/hour. (CMT) Vldy (310) 397-7855

Announcements

ASSISTANCE LEAGUE OF SANTA MONICA
Visit our bargain bazaar at 1453 15th St. Very reasonable prices. (310)395-2338

"I sold it one day! When I put my futon for sale in the Daily Press, it took me one day to sell it...thanks!" -Nina Stewart, Santa Monica.

Services

USA MOVERS
WA CA NY IL IN TX FL
EAST COAST SPECIALISTS
FULL SERVICE MOVERS
LOCAL & LONG DISTANCE & STORAGE SINCE 1978
800-489-0495
SAVE MONEY WITH US

BEST MOVERS
No job too small
2 men, \$50 per hour. Fully insured. We make it EZ. Free prep. & boxes. Discount for handicap & seniors. Since 1975 Lic. T-163844
***30% OFF with this ad**
(323) 263-2378 or (800) 260-BEST

IRS-PROOF TAX Returns!! Returns prepared by experienced tax attorney. Jake@largerlaw.com or call Jake Larger (310)471-8773

Majestic Wood Floors
Hardwood Floors
• Installation
• Refinishing
• Repairs
Quality Work at a Great Price
Insured & Licensed
818-981-4049

Services

PRIVATE TUTOR: Ten years experience in science, math and english. Excellent references. PhD Call John (310)314-3370.

PSYCHIC DAVE - Future forecasting in love and money. Dave was a regular on "Beyond with James Van Praagh" (323)610-0161. psychidave@aol.com.

ROB
(actual photo)
Training • Massage
(310) 701-7371

SEX THERAPY Enhance desire, intimacy, passion and sensual pleasure. Surrogates & Training available. AASECT Cert. Bryce Britton, MS (310)450-5553

WILLIAM JONES Handyman. Carpet cleaning, minor plumbing, broken windows, hang doors, painting, stucco patch. (310)387-4834.

YOUR CEILING needs clouds? Walls need faux paint for European look? Call Brian at (310)264-1559

Business Services

HOW can you get the power of email working for your business?

Great Big Noise
www.greatbignoise.com

TURN FINE Art, collectibles, movie swag, and junk into cash. E-bay sales and tutoring. (310)780-7262.

Computer Services

NEED HELP with your PC &/or the internet? Call your computer helper. All welcome. (310)236-1474.

PC PARAMEDIC
Computer & Networking Services. Home/Small Business. Weekdays & Weekends. (310)576-7519.

Yard Sales

SATURDAY, FEB. 1st 9am to 2pm. 1321 Harvard St. Women's clothing, household items, misc.

Classified Advertising

Conditions :REGULAR RATE: \$2.50 a day. Ads over 15 words add 20¢ per word per day. Ad must run a minimum of twelve consecutive days. PREMIUMS: First two words caps no charge. Bold words, italics, centered lines, etc. cost extra. Please call for rates. TYPES: Check your ad the first day of publication. Sorry, we do not issue credit after an ad has run more than once. DEADLINES: 4:00 p.m. prior the day of publication except for Monday's paper when the deadline is Friday at 4:00 p.m. PAYMENT: All private party ads must be prepaid. We accept checks, credit cards, and of course cash. CORRESPONDENCE: To place your ad call our offices 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, (310)458-7737; send a check or money order with ad copy to The Santa Monica Daily Press, P.O. Box 1380, Santa Monica, CA 90406 or stop in at our office located at 1427 Third Street Promenade, Ste. 202. OTHER RATES: For information about the professional services directory or classified display ads, please call our office at (310)458-7737.

YOUR AD HERE

ADVERTISE!!!

Santa Monica Daily Press Classifieds

310.458.7737
Ask for Mitch

GOT AN OLD GAR?

RUN A CLASSIFIED AD FOR ONE MONTH
AND GET A SPECIAL DAILY RATE.
CALL FOR DETAILS:
310.458.7737



Toothpaste collector

By The Associated Press

SAGINAW, Mich. — Guests of dentist Val Kolpakov are discouraged from brushing their teeth — that is, with any of the more than 800 tubes of toothpaste in his collection.

Kolpakov started collecting toothpaste just 10 months ago. The Saginaw dentist said he's spent about \$3,000 to buy toothpaste tubes from Japan, China, India, Ukraine and his native Russia.

The collection now takes up half of one of Kolpakov's bedrooms.

"When I have visitors, they sleep there with the fresh scent of toothpaste," Kolpakov, 36, told The Saginaw News for a story Tuesday.

Kolpakov said his goal is to have his collection listed in the Guinness Book of World Records as the world's largest. He said that would mean squeezing past a German named Carsten Gutzeit, who claims on his Web site that he has 898 tubes but doesn't mention being listed in Guinness.

"I'm almost there. I'm pretty sure I have the most in the United States," Kolpakov said. "I'm moving really fast."

Kolpakov's oldest item is a Colgate tube from 1908.

He also has a used tube found in Germany during World War II and a 1960s-era Scotch whisky-flavored toothpaste that has "no more than 3 percent alcohol."

Jail for sale

By The Associated Press

TACOMA, Wash. — Yours for the taking: One 500-inmate jail. Covers 48,000 square feet. Includes 45 sinks, toilets and urinals. Estimated value \$6.2 million. Some disassembly required.

About \$300,000 to \$350,000 in disassembly to be exact, according to a Pierce County estimate.

That, plus shipping, would be the sole expense to the company, agency or municipality that removes the County Jail Annex, a windowless steel structure beside the County-City Building on a steep downtown hillside.

The annex, built in 1996, won't be needed once a new 1,000-bed jail is opened next month.

The structure might be of use to another city or county that needs a jail, said Scott Hogman, county construction projects manager. It could also be reborn as a basketball arena or vehicle maintenance garage, said Dan Cagle, county facilities management director.

Dick Ferguson, a county spokesman, said there had been four serious inquiries from Alaska and central Washington state. If no taker is found by the end of this spring, county officials say they'll sell parts of the building for salvage and demolish the rest.

Radar gun volunteers

By The Associated Press

SHAWNEE, Kan. — The Shawnee City Council has approved a program that will provide residents with radar guns to monitor traffic.

Under the program, approved with a 7-1 vote Monday, the Kansas City suburb will lend out up to eight radar guns at any given time and then follow up with warning letters to speeders. The aim is to curb speeding and identify where it occurs.

Volunteer participants will work in two-member teams, one to operate the radar gun and the other to record the speed, description and license plate number of the vehicles.

After two weeks, a log of violators will be turned over to the police, who will run the plate numbers and issue warning letters urging vehicle owners to slow down. No tickets will be issued.

The program will be re-evaluated in June, and all letters to car owners will be purged from police records.

Magic wand doesn't work

By The Associated Press

BETHLEHEM, Pa. — A woman who says she bought magic wands from a self-described psychic to erase negative thoughts says \$5,400 of her money was all that disappeared.

Joann Zansky, 57, said she paid a woman who claims to be a psychic \$1,800 for each of three wands.

"She was a terrific actress," Zansky said. "I believed her."

Zansky said she contacted Bethlehem police Friday after she became suspicious about the effectiveness of the wands.

"We're investigating," police Lt. Robert Righi said Monday. "Possibly it is some violation of consumer fraud."

No charges have been filed against the woman named in the complaint. A person who answered the phone at the woman's business said she was unavailable.

**Can't find the Daily Press in your neighborhood?
Call us. We'll take your suggestions.**

(310) 458-PRESS (7737)

SANTA MONICA SCENE °CALENDAR EDITION

THURSDAY, JANUARY 30, 2003

TODAY

Artful Science: The Social-Cultural Relationship Between Built and Natural Environments. Sam Francis Gallery at Crossroads School in Santa Monica presents an exhibition of drawings, paintings, photographs, and sculpture. Mon-Fri, 10am to 4pm through February 14. 1714 Twenty-First St., 2nd Floor, Peter Boxenbaum Arts Building. For more information please call (310)829-7391 ext. 425.

Ongoing support groups for people 55 and older. Current openings in Men's Group. Thursdays, 11:15 to 12:45. Center for Healthy Aging, 2125 Arizona Avenue. Sliding scale fee. No drop-in groups. Phone interview required. Call Information and Referral. (310)576-2550.

Dharma at the Clubhouse. A weekly book and multi-media study group, no fee. Applying studies of Buddhism-Dharma into our daily lives. Every Thursday night at the Clubhouse at Douglas Park, 25th & Wilshire. 7:30 to 9pm. Dan (310) 451-4368 www.santamonicakks.org

O'Briens Irish Pub, 2941 Main St., Santa Monica, pours A Pint of Funny, every Thurs., 8 p.m. FREE! (310)396-4725.

Gotham Comedy Night! Standup at Gotham Hall, 1431 3rd St. Promenade, Santa Monica; every Thursday, 7:30 pm, \$5.00 + 2 item min. 21/ over. (323) 525-5254

Senior Suppers - Discounted meals for people AGE 55 or older are served daily, from 3:30 p.m. To 7 p.m., in the cafeteria at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center, 1250 16th Street in Santa Monica. \$3.69 Info only: (310)319-4837.

Unurban Coffee House presents Komedly Crunch every Thursday evening. Showtime is 7pm. 3301 Pico Blvd. (310)315-0056

Gotham Hall presents Comedy Night! Featuring professional stand-ups. Every Thursday, 1431 3rd St. Promenade, 8pm. Admission is \$5 + 2 item minimum. 21 and over. (323)525-5254

FRIDAY

Santa Monica High School Theater Arts Department presents Romeo & Juliet. Friday and Saturday nights at 8:00pm. November 22nd through December 21st. \$10.00 for students, children, and seniors, \$15.00 for adults. Humanities Center Theater at Santa Monica High School, 601 Pico Blvd. For more information please call (310)458-5939.

Santa Monica High School Theater Arts Department presents Romeo & Juliet. Friday and Saturday nights at 8:00pm. November 22nd through December 21st. \$10.00 for students, children, and seniors, \$15.00 for adults. Humanities Center Theater at Santa Monica High School, 601 Pico Blvd. For more information please call (310)458-5939.

MAGICOPOLIS presents HOCUS POCUS! (Fish Bones Choke Us). The stage explodes with a colorful mix of Magic, Special Effects, Sleight of Hand, Comedy and Music that's sure to delight audiences of all ages. At MAGICOPOLIS, 1418 Fourth Street, Santa Monica. Fridays & Saturdays at 8pm, \$20. Saturday & Sundays at 2pm, \$15. For tickets call 310-451-2241.

Santa Monica Strutters, a FREE program sponsored by UCLA Healthcare's 50-Plus Program! Walking programs for adults 50 or older looking for safe, low-impact exercise in a comfortable environment. The Santa Monica Strutters meet Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, from 8 a.m. To 10 a.m., at Santa Monica Place, Fourth St. and Broadway Ave. in Santa Monica.

Senior Suppers - Discounted meals for people AGE 55 or older are served daily, from 3:30 p.m. To 7 p.m., in the cafeteria at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center, 1250 16th Street in Santa Monica. \$3.69 Info only: (310)319-4837.

MOVIE °GUIDE

LOEWS CINIPLEX BROADWAY CINEMA

1441 Third St. at Broadway
About Schmidt (R) 12:30, 3:30, 6:45, 9:45. **Two Weeks Notice (PG-13)** 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:45, 10:30. **The Hours (PG-13)** 11:15, 2:00, 4:45, 6:30, 7:30, 9:15, 10:15.

MANN CRITERION

1313 Third St.
Adaptation (R) 12:30, 3:45, 7:30, 10:35. **Confessions of a Dangerous Mind (R)** 1:00, 4:00, 7:05, 10:00. **Gangs of New York (R)** 11:30, 3:15, 7:00, 10:30. **Narc (R)** 11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:45, 10:40. **National Security (PG-13)** 11:15, 1:45, 4:15, 7:15, 9:45. **Darkness Falls (PG-13)** 12:00, 2:15, 4:30, 7:10, 9:30.

AMC THEATRE SM 7

1310 3rd Street
Just Married (PG-13) 2:00, 5:05, 7:50, 10:05. **The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers (PG-13)** 1:20, 5:00, 8:45. **Catch Me If You Can (PG-13)** 1:15, 4:10, 7:15, 10:15. **Chicago (PG-13)** 1:45, 4:30, 7:30, 10:10. **25th Hour (R)** 1:20, 4:15, 7:20, 10:15. **A Guy Thing (PG-13)** 2:15, 5:10, 7:40, 9:55. **Kangaroo Jack (PG)** 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15

LANDMARK NU-WILSHIRE

1314 Wilshire Blvd.
Nicholas Nickleby (PG) 1:00, 4:00, 7:30, 10:30. **The Pianist (R)** 12:30, 3:45, 7:00, 10:15.

LAEMMLE MONICA

1332 2nd St.
City of God (R) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00. **Far From Heaven (PG-13)** 1:30, 4:15, 7:10, 9:55. **Frida (R)** 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:05. **The Quiet American (R)** 1:45, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40.

AERO THEATER

1328 Montana Ave.
My Big Fat Greek Wedding (PG) 5:30, 7:30, 9:30.



BACK PAGE

The SUV: America's most popular and most protested vehicle

BY DAVID CRARY

AP National Writer

Call it the sport-utility paradox: With their high profile, both on the road and in the public imagination, SUVs have become the most coveted and most reviled vehicles in America.

Vandals target them; environmentalists and safety experts denounce them. Some clergy suggest they might be un-Christian, and new TV ads link them to terrorism. Yet at auto dealerships — in the countryside, the suburbs, the inner city — SUVs remain the nation's hottest-selling models.

"The reason sales figures are unaffected is that Americans don't like to be preached to by lifestyle police," said Eron Shostek, a spokesman for the Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers.

The popularity of SUVs has increased steadily over the past decade. They now comprise up to 25 percent of total U.S. vehicle sales, depending on whether so-called crossover models are included. Yet in recent months, SUVs have been the target of attacks notable for their variety and fervor:

■ As part of a campaign launched by syndicated columnist Arianna Huffington, TV ads aired this month suggesting that owners of gas-guzzling SUVs are indirectly assisting terrorists, who obtain financing in oil-exporting Middle East nations.

■ A group of evangelical Christian ministers launched a "What Would Jesus

Drive?" campaign, urging SUV owners to consider whether they could switch to more fuel-efficient vehicles to better preserve the planet.

■ Vandals, perhaps motivated by ecological concerns, damaged SUVs in several communities. They smashed windshields in King County, Wash., set fires at a car lot in Erie County, Pa., and spray-painted "No Blood For Oil" on SUVs in Newton, Mass. Some Internet-based groups offer hostile bumper stickers to be pasted on SUVs — "As a matter of fact, I do own the road," says one.

■ Long-running concern about the safety of SUVs was underscored this month by Jeffrey Runge, head of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. He said SUVs' rollover fatality rate is triple that for passenger cars, and — referring to SUVs with poor safety ratings — said, "I wouldn't buy my kid a two-star rollover vehicle if it was the last one on Earth."

Manufacturers say SUVs are safer than passenger cars in most types of accidents, and insist they are working hard to reduce the two most commonly cited hazards — rollovers and "incompatibility" that endangers people in smaller cars colliding with SUVs.

More so than safety, however, it is the SUVs' low gas mileage that has aroused widespread disdain.

One of the TV ads released this month by Huffington's campaign, the Detroit Project,

showed a man filling his SUV gas tank juxtaposed with footage of terrorist training. "Oil money supports some terrible things," the ad said. "What kind of mileage does your SUV get?"

Several TV stations refused to air the ads, which have kindled a backlash among some SUV owners.

"It is not gargantuan, nor is it a bauble; it fits our needs," wrote Tampa Tribune columnist Tom Jackson of his family's SUV.

According to federal figures, four-wheel-drive SUVs average 17.3 miles per gallon, and several large models — such as Chevrolet's Suburban and GMC's Yukon — get about 12 mpg. By contrast, the gas-electric sedans touted by environmentalists — the Toyota Prius and Honda Civic Hybrid — get 48 mpg.

U.S. automakers have pledged to improve fuel economy and develop their own hybrid vehicles, including SUVs. Shostek said manufacturers would move even faster if consumers demanded it.

"Right now," Shostek added, "consumers don't value fuel efficiency as highly as other attributes. Anytime gasoline is cheaper than designer bottled water, it's not a big deal."

It is a big deal — a moral question — to the pastors allied in the Evangelical Environmental Network, which started the "What Would Jesus Drive?" campaign.

"Jesus cares about what we drive," says the group, which acknowledges that reac-

tion to its campaign is mixed.

"Many people offered words of encouragement for starting this discussion," the group said on its Web site. "Many also asked us to check our sanity."

The so-called WWJDrive campaign is part of a broader effort by church leaders to lobby auto executives for greater fuel efficiency and reduced emissions.

"It's about far more than SUVs — it's about the future of the planet," said Paul Gorman, executive director of the National Religious Partnership for the Environment. "We seek to open a new conversation about cars and their effect on God's creation."

Gorman said he was unsettled by the SUV/terrorism TV ads; he worries that the SUV debate has become too polarized.

Jason Mark, director of the Union of Concerned Scientists' clean vehicles program, said SUVs have deservedly become the "poster child" in the debate over gas-guzzling. "They represent the worst," he said.

But Mark also said that environmentalists, rather than exhorting SUV owners to drive smaller cars, should pressure automakers to produce roomy, versatile vehicles that get far better gas mileage than today's SUVs do.

"Consumers aren't in a position to express their choice," Mark said. "The average SUV could go from 20 mpg to 40 mpg using available technologies, but the industry needs a nudge — Congress needs to act."

DID YOU KNOW?: In 1998, US states spent \$30 billion in funds on correctional services and \$24 billion on social welfare.

3 NEW Ways To Live, Love, Eat!



Weekend Breakfast

every Saturday and Sunday from 8am to 11am. All of your favorites, Wolfgang style!



Happy Hour

Monday through Friday from 4pm to 7pm. Selected Wines, Beers and Appetizers only \$2.95 each!



Jazz Night Every Tuesday

From 9 until closing, the swinging Gregory Alper Jazz Quartet plays LIVE. No Cover.

WOLFGANG-PUCK CAFE

1

One FREE Breakfast Entree

with the purchase of another breakfast entree of equal or greater value. One coupon per guest. Not valid with any other offer. Offer does not include tax or tip. Only valid at Wolfgang Puck Cafe - Montana Avenue location. Expires 1/31/03

2

One FREE Bar Appetizer

with the purchase of any beverage during Happy Hour, Monday-Friday. One coupon per guest. Not valid with any other offer. Offer does not include tax or tip. Only valid at Wolfgang Puck Cafe - Montana Avenue location. Expires 1/31/03

3

One FREE Dessert on Jazz Night

during Tuesday Jazz Night hours. No purchase necessary. One coupon per guest. Not valid with any other offer. Offer does not include tax or tip. Only valid at Wolfgang Puck Cafe - Montana Avenue location. Expires 1/31/03

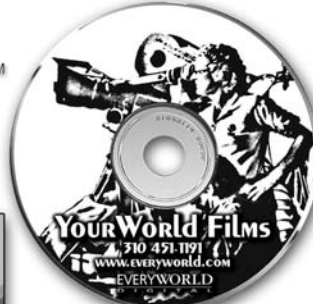
1313 Montana Avenue, Santa Monica (310) 393-0290

#1 FOR CUSTOM DVD VIDEO

SPECIALISTS IN
ARCHIVAL & DEMO-REEL DVDS

BETACAM SP™

AUTHORING, ENCODING
EDITING & GRAPHICS



3/4" i-matic

DVCAM™

AND MORE

WORLD-CLASS SERVICES
AT THE LOWEST PRICES

EVERYWORLD™
DIGITAL

900 WILSHIRE (9TH STREET)
SANTA MONICA
310 451-1191