

# Santa Monica Daily Press

*A newspaper with issues*

## LOTTO

### FANTASY 5

5, 12, 7, 1, 27

### DAILY 3

Afternoon picks: 6, 9, 2

Evening picks: 9, 5, 6

### DAILY DERBY

1st Place: 11, Money Bags

2nd Place: 9, Winning Spirit

3rd Place: 2, Lucky Star

Race Time: 1:40.12



## NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

National Geographic TV reported in January on designer-breeding of dogs, with emphasis on the not yet officially recognized species of Labradoodle. Breeding decisions must be carefully made because, say experts, some interspecies pairings create unhealthy offspring. For example, mating a pug with a Pekingese would likely create a dog whose eyes would fairly easily dislodge from their sockets, and a Newfoundland-Saint Bernard match-up would produce a dog particularly vulnerable to hip dysplasia. On the other hand, Yorkipoos and schnoodles appear to be safe, and the Labradoodle is a low-allergy, lightly shedding version of the Labrador retriever.



## QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Never get into fights with ugly people because they have nothing to lose."

— Unknown



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## Mystery photo



Mike Tittinger/Daily Press

Cooperation is key in locating this Santa Monica landmark. As part of a weekly contest, the Daily Press will give away a free prize to the first reader who can accurately describe where the photo was taken. E-mail answers to sack@smdp.com.

## Y's Women of Year all doing their part

By Daily Press staff

The YWCA Santa Monica/Westside has tapped a diverse foursome as their outstanding women of the year.

Architect Kristina Anderson, maintenance worker Manuela Mata, immigration expert Gloria Curiel Parker and attorney Christine Schanes will be singled out for their contributions to their respective communities on Thursday, April 1, at the annual Women of the Year dinner at the Loews Santa Monica Beach Hotel.

Anderson, an architect and entrepreneur, graduated from the Ball State University School of Architecture with a degree in

architecture and environmental design. She was the lone woman in her graduating class.

In 1969, she then entered into the male-dominated field of architecture and has continually offered the city her services. She is a member of the board for Upward Bound House, which provides transitional housing for homeless children and their parents. As the chair of the Santa Monica Rotary Literacy Committee, she introduces second-grade girls to architecture and raises funds to buy school books.

Anderson is also a member of the Board of Trustees at the Santa

See WOMEN, page 7

## Crossing picketers gets more harrowing

BY JAMIE WETHERBE

Special to the Daily Press

While they contend morale is still high, the enduring tensions and worries that accompany a four-month strike are beginning to take a toll on the embattled grocery store workers walking the picket lines each day.

Increasing concerns about finances and job security have coincided with reports of increasingly aggressive tactics to dissuade shoppers from breaking the lines and dividing the union.

If picketers choose to harass shoppers — the more memorable the experience — and the less likely shoppers will be to continue to cross the picket lines, said Richard Cowan, the secretary and treasurer

**"The strike will last one day longer than (the grocery stores) want it to last."**

— BRUNO RAINIERI  
Vons employee

for Santa Monica's Unified Food and Commercial Workers Union.

"Customers will give every cock-eyed excuse (for crossing the picket lines)," he said, adding that those who do choose to cross only

See STRIKERS, page 6



Mike Tittinger/Daily Press

Sealing the deal, Stephanie Negriff, the director of transportation services for Santa Monica, extends her best wishes to Juan Torres after Big Blue Bus officially donated a "retired" education bus to Sinaloa Science Center in Mexico, of which Torres is a representative.

## A token of goodwill

BY MICHAEL TITTINGER

Daily Press Staff Writer

**BUS BARN** — Call it a lesson in environmentalism, a lesson in goodwill or a lesson in generosity. But to the tiny Mexican town of Sinaloa, the Big Blue Bus' donation of a retired education bus on Friday was a lesson in compassion that transcended borders and cultural differences.

A humble ceremony was held here at dusk befitting the gesture of goodwill, as Juan Torres, the executive director of the Sinaloa Ecoregion

See BIG BLUE BUS, page 6

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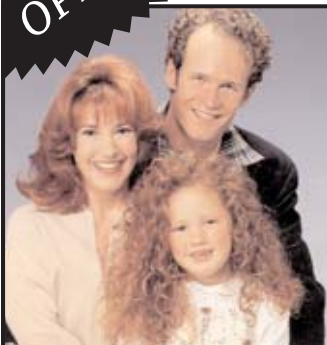


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## Follow the music, Sagittarius



**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)

★★★★ Say what you mean, and mean what you say. A little clarification might be necessary so that someone doesn't get the wrong idea. Good feelings flow around a friendship. Join your pals by water and/or where there is music. Tonight: Swap jokes.

### TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Expenses could be overly demanding. You create a change when you least expect it. Your creativity emerges with others and in a brainstorming session. Before you go shopping or off to do something else, make sure your checkbook is balanced. Tonight: Indulge, indulge and indulge.

### GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Sometimes you are so full of energy and ideas, others cannot resist you. Let your energy help those who might not be as spirited as you. Let a special person know you care, though it might be in a very Gemini way. Try to be a little less intellectual, please. Tonight: The world is your oyster.

### CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ You could be a bit off right now. It's important to realize this and take a needed nap or rest. In fact, you might want to take this weekend as lazy days. You're a lot happier than you thought you would be. Tonight: Pull the shades. Don't answer the phone.

### LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Gather your friends together and go with the moment. You have no problem with spontaneity, but a partner or sweetie could become jealous. You, the skilled Leo, can handle the problem. Be careful with feelings. Tonight: Be where the party is.

### VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Stay on top of responsibilities, even if you have a devil-may-care attitude (for now). You could observe that a partner or close loved one is changing, yet opt to do nothing about it. Give this person space to grow. Tonight: A force to behold.

### LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ You can and will kick back while others see a situation differently. Enlightening them might be too much work. Just do your thing; take a day trip or visit a museum or art show. The change of pace will make you smile. Tonight: Opt for a new adventure or place.

### SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ You might not want to deal with a flirtation or a child who is so unpredictable that it unnerves you. Why would you? Stay with the tried and true, even a dear friend who understands you. Love becomes unstable, at best. Tonight: Be a duo.

### SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Answer the phone, and you'll get an invitation. When someone knocks at your door, you'll get a surprise. Think more carefully and decide who you really want to be. Sort through your admirers. Tonight: Go where there is music.

### CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Your nurturing way makes a difference to a loved one who is shook up. Express your caring, and you'll discover that it is mutual. Be cautious with funds and what is in your pocket. Someone could raid your wallet or purse. Tonight: Rent a movie.

### AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ You inspire others more than you realize. Be more active in sharing that gift, especially with friends. Someone near you might need your care. A simple word, card or action makes a big difference. Tonight: You might make some of us blush.

### PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ You will be happiest at home, but on the other hand, you could be overwhelmed by a family member and his or her demands. As a result, you toss your hands in the air, looking for solutions. Work on your independence. Tonight: Make it an easy night at home.

## Santa Monica Daily Press

Published Monday through Saturday

Phone: 310.458.PRESS(7737) • Fax: 310.576.9913

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## LOCAL



## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

## Residents chime in on antenna placement

By Daily Press staff

City officials plan to make a law that regulates what can be built on public rights of way, namely cell phone companies and their reception antennas.

City Hall is in the process of drafting what's called a "Right-of-way Management Ordinance." The proposed ordinance will regulate the access of public streets, sidewalks and alleys by private utilities and wireless companies for the purpose of installing facilities, including overhead antennas. The proposed ordinance is designed to regulate the aesthetic placement and design of facilities in the right of way, establish siting preferences, preserve the integrity of the right of way and reduce inconvenience to the public during excavation and construction.

A scheduled workshop for Feb. 11 at 10 a.m. will offer an opportunity for the public to learn more about the ordinance before it goes before City Council on Feb. 24.

The meeting will be held at the Ken Edwards Center, 1527 Fourth St., meeting room 103.

## Housing Authority now under one roof

By Daily Press staff

Beginning on Monday, Feb. 2, all city housing production and preservation staff and services of the housing and redevelopment division will be located at 2121 Cloverfield Blvd., suite 100.

The move will provide enhanced customer service since housing production and preservation will be located with the Housing Authority (Section 8) office. The city's redevelopment office will move to City Hall. All phone numbers will remain the same. For more information on housing and redevelopment services call Philip Castillo at (310) 458-1975, ext. 5818.

## Can we talk? Art exhibition mulls it over

By Daily Press staff

The art of conversation may be lost, but it will be revisited in an upcoming art exhibition.

The Santa Monica College Pete & Susan Barrett Art Gallery will present "Dialogue: The fine art of conversation," a premier exhibition of fine art paintings and their relationship to the lost art of letter writing, Feb. 17 through March 26.

"Dialogue" features original paintings, found letters, poems, insights and writings from more than 50 internationally acclaimed artists who have been asked to explore the relationship of the written message to painted, visual narrative. The artwork will be included in a larger exhibit slated to tour the nation in July and will be in a soon-to-be-published book, "Dialogue: The fine art of conversation."

The opening reception will be from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Feb. 20. It will be preceded by a 5 p.m. lecture by guest curator Mark Murphy, whose San Diego-based firm, Murphy Design, has authored the exhibition.

"This exhibition allows the public to connect with the artists and their featured letters and provides an opportunity to capture a glimpse of the artist's vision for his or her individual painting," Murphy said.

"This exhibit is literally a dialogue in an abstract way," said Marian Winsryg, SMC Art Gallery director and art professor. "I've always been intrigued by unique ways to look at how art is used in our time."

The artists were assigned to find a written personal document — such as a letter, note, valentine, greeting card, or love letter — and paint a complementary visual narrative.

"The visual can serve as the cause of why the letter had to be written, a result of the letter, a future prognosis of what the letter might have caused, or a visual interpretation of the letter based on (the artist's) emotion, movement, influence or cause," Murphy said.



Look for 3- to 4-foot — waist- to shoulder-high waves, occasionally reaching 6-foot sets. Generally, poor to fair conditions overall.

Outlook: On Saturday, we should see an increase in NW wind swell as NW ground swell slowly loses steam and S swell also backs down through the day.

Variable NW winds up to 10 knots are expected on Saturday morning, building in the afternoon. Winds are mainly light in the morning on Sunday.

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One of the artists in the show is Nathan Ota, an SMC adjunct art professor. The others are Shino Arihara, Stefanie Augustine, Shawn Barber, Melinda Beck, Cathie Bleck, Doug Boehm, Chris Brown, Cynthia Von Buhler, Marc Burckhardt, Steven Carsella, Stephanie Dalton Cowan, Joseph Daniel Fiedler, Ann Field, Barry Fitzgerald, Vivienne Fleisher, Douglas Fraser, Arthur Giron, David Goldin, Joseph Hart, Headcase Design, John Hendrix, Jennifer Hewitson, Daniel Hyun Lim, Michelle Hinebrook, Peter Hoey, Jordin Isip, Erik Jahnke, Anita Kunz, Don Kilpatrick, Joshua Krause, Phillippe Lardy, Tim Marrs, Larry Moore, Joel Nakamura, Christopher Silas Neal, Chris Pyle, Tifenn Python, Red Nose Studio, Maria Rendon, Rachel Salomon, Ward Schumaker, Whitney Sherman, Matt Stallings, Ricardo Stampatori, Gary Taxali, Gina Triplett, Ryan Wallace, Gord Wiebe, Nicholas Wilton and Minky Woodcock.

Gallery hours are noon to 5 p.m. Tuesday through Friday and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday. The gallery is located at SMC's Madison campus on Santa Monica Boulevard at 11th Street. The gallery will be closed March 9.

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# OPINION

## MVPs of business world deserve star treatment

As millions of Americans watch the New England Patriots take on the Carolina Panthers, every minute of the game will be scrutinized, from all angles and with action replays. But, amid the cheers of victory and cries of disappointment, you won't hear a whisper of complaint from fans about the players' multi-million dollar salaries — \$3.8 million on average for starting quarterbacks, and far more to exceptional players. No one doubts that the players have earned it, that the MVPs are indispensable to their teams, that it is morally proper to reward achievement.

But that spirit of justice disappears by springtime, when corporations file their financial statements. It is then that we learn how much America's CEOs got paid last year. In a ritual now sadly as commonplace as Super Bowl parties, CEOs are annually reviled as overpaid fat-cats. Astonished at pay packages as large as that of Dell Inc.'s Michael Dell — America's third-highest paid CEO in 2003

— people ask themselves: "How can the work of a paper-pusher be worth \$82 million a year?"

The answer is that successful CEOs are as indispensable to their companies as Super Bowl winning quarterbacks are to their teams. They earn their rewards.

How big an influence can one man have on the fortunes of the entire corporation? Consider the impact of Jack Welch on General Electric. Before his tenure as CEO, the company was a bloated giant, floundering under its own weight. Splintered into dozens of distinct and inefficient business units, GE was scarcely making a profit. Welch turned it around. He streamlined and reorganized the company's operations and implemented a sound business strategy yielding more than \$400 billion worth of shareholder wealth.

In business, as in football, success requires long-range thinking. But CEOs must project a game plan in terms not merely of a single game or season, but of years and decades. A biotechnology company, for example, may spend 15 years and billions of dollars developing a new cancer-fighting medicine. Success is impossible without the business acumen of its CEO. For years before a marketable product exists, he must raise sufficient capital to sustain the research. What long-term business model will attract venture capital? Should the company accept partial short-term sponsorship from a large drug manufacturer in exchange for a modest royalty on the

drug in the future — or risk going it alone and possibly running out of funds? It is on such decisions that a company's success is made — and lives of cancer patients may depend.

In order to be successful in the long range, the CEO's strategy must encompass countless factors. He must devise a game plan to grow the business in the face of competitors, not only from its own league, but from all the leagues in the world. The CEO calls the plays, but for a team of tens (and sometimes hundreds) of thousands of workers. All of the actions of every employee and every aspect of the business must be coordinated and integrated to produce the cars, computers or CAT scanners that yield profits to the company. It is the CEO who is responsible for that integration.

To successfully steer a corporation across the span of years by integrating its strengths toward the goal of creating wealth, requires from the CEO exceptional thought and judgment. Excellent CEOs are as rare as NFL-caliber quarterbacks. And in the business world, every day is the Super Bowl. There is no off-season or respite from the need to perform at one's peak.

Given the effect a CEO can have on a company's success, we can understand why their compensation packages can be so high. One way employers (like team owners) reward excellence is through bonuses. For many CEOs, bonuses amount to a large portion of their earnings. And as with quarterbacks, the CEO's pay package is calculated with an eye on the competition. Companies pay millions of dollars to a valuable CEO, one who they judge will produce wealth for the shareholders, in part so he will not be hired away by a competitor.

Americans can see with their own eyes the merits of star quarterbacks. Though the efforts of CEOs are not televised on Monday Night Football, their achievements are just as real and have a profound benefit to all our lives. Just as we admire a quarterback's athletic prowess and understand the importance of rewarding him accordingly; so we should learn to appreciate the work of successful CEOs and recognize that they too deserve every penny of their salaries.

*(Elan Journo is a writer for the Ayn Rand Institute in Irvine, Calif. The Institute promotes the philosophy of Ayn Rand, author of Atlas Shrugged and The Fountainhead. Send reactions to reaction@aynrand.org).*

### Guest Commentary

By Elan Journo

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## LOCAL

# Striking a blow: Shoppers grow weary of intimidation

STRIKERS, from page 1

care about convenience. "They really don't care about anyone else."

While many of the city's residents have supported the union's effort, serving as allies, others are reportedly being targeted as union-busters, or enemies.

Maria Molina said she was recently harassed upon leaving Vons at Lincoln Boulevard and Broadway with a full cart.

"(The strikers) said I was stupid and a moron," recalled Molina, who added that she usually does shop elsewhere in order to avoid the consternation and verbal jabs of picketers, "but we have to eat and we can't go to restaurants all the time."

Jennifer Gibson, who is walking the line outside the Albertsons at Lincoln and Ocean Park boulevards where she is employed as a clerk, doesn't hold much sympathy for shoppers the likes of Molina.

"The shoppers coming in and crossing the picket lines just don't care," she said.

Gibson said that she has asked customers who do cross the line to shop at other grocery stores, including Ralphs — where the picket lines have been pulled — or Trader Joe's. While picketers don't view this as harassment, she contends, some customers apparently do.

"It's too much of a hassle," said Mary Beth Irwin, adding that she only crosses the picket lines when she has an emergency or needs something for her baby. "It's ridiculous. (The strike) has gone on way too long."

"People feel guilty for going to the supermarket."

The frustration of picketers finding themselves pinching pennies as the contentious grocery store strike stretches into its fourth month is understandable.

Gibson said she's used to making more than \$130 a day as an Albertsons clerk, a job she's held for about eight years. Like many grocery workers on strike since October, she's been earning just \$40 a day — a maximum of \$240 a week — on the

picket line.

"We've had a lot of people lose their house or car," she said this week, adding that the union has started offering loans in order to keep the strikers above water, at least temporarily.

"I'm very fortunate. My sister is my landlord," Gibson said. "She lets me pay what I've got."

Gibson said picketers are also making ends meet through help from the city and its residents. Food banks have donated groceries, and some Santa Monicans have dropped by with cash donations or even an occasional lunch.

Despite this extra assistance, there has been some inevitable break in the ranks, as some picketers have left the lines for other jobs. While Gibson estimates her store has lost approximately 25 percent of their picketers, Santa Monica union officials estimate a member-loss of less than 5 percent overall.

One silver lining for area strikers is that they are under less pressure than their counterparts outside of the city's borders. While some unions have cut back on strikers' benefits, Cowan said this isn't the case for Santa Monica's union — which also covers parts of Malibu, Culver City and West Los Angeles.

However, Cowan admits the union may have to cut back on medical benefits down the road.

The picketing of hundreds of Vons, Ralphs, Pavilions and Albertsons stores has affected thousands of workers in Southern and Central California, a strike which mainly resulted from health care discrepancies between the unions and supermarket corporations.

Still, most picketers walking the line insist morale is still high.

"The strike will last one day longer than (the grocery stores) want it to last," said Bruno Raineri, 56, who's been working in the produce department at Vons for 40 years.

## Donating its bus to science

BIG BLUE BUS, from page 1

Foundation took custody of the bus and prepared for its journey south of the border over the weekend. The bus, its sides stripped of the transit company's familiar lowercase white lettering, will be used to transport Mexican students at the nonprofit science center Centro de Ciencia de Sinaloa to field trips at the Gulf of California, where they will be able to study ecology and science firsthand.

"It feels great to provide this bus that will be used as an educational tool in our sister city of Sinaloa," said Stephanie Negriff, the director of transportation services for the City of Santa Monica, just prior to cutting a ribbon stretched across the open and welcoming bus door.

Today, the bus will be driven well beyond its customary 51-square mile service area for good.

The bus was first purchased by Big Blue Bus in 1985 and was in service for the better part of 14 years, averaging more than 72,000 miles annually. Buses are typically "retired" when the cost of maintenance is deemed to be no longer cost-effective.

For the past four years, the bus was dubbed "an education bus," used primari-

ly to shuttle Santa Monica-Malibu school district students to the Big Blue Bus yard off Colorado Avenue in order to allow them to participate in the company's Student Art Program. The art program instructs students on such things as the environmental benefits that result from using public transportation, as well as such practical lessons as learning to read a bus map.

"On behalf of the city of Sinaloa, I'd like to extend my many thanks to Santa Monica and the Big Blue Bus," Torres remarked through an interpreter. "This bus is gonna help educate a lot of children."

The relationship between the Big Blue Bus and the science center in Sinaloa was sparked through the Pacific Roundtable on Sustainability, and international group of cities committed to sound environmental practices.

"Donating this retired bus to the Sinaloa Science Center will help young people learn about science and the environment," said Negriff. "It supports our commitment to support youth, education and transportation."

The estimated value of the donated bus was believed to be around \$4,000.



# Santa Monica hears the roar of Women of Year

WOMEN, from page 1

Monica Methodist Church and serves on the Executive Board of the Santa Monica College of Associations.

In her spare time, she volunteers as building commissioner for the Executive Board of the Westside Economic Collaborative and serves on the Advisory Board of the Center for Healthy Aging and the Government Affairs Committee of the Santa Monica Chamber.

Close to 30 years ago, Mata made a promise to care for the homeless and poor, and in 1987, she provided 30 burritos and coffee for those in need. News began to spread about the "Burrito Lady," and Mata had Bear Stearns and Korn Ferry International employees and their friends and families chipping in. Caters soon started donating time, money and kitchens to help Mata feed the less fortunate.

Mata, who works as a housekeeping/maintenance worker, now provides meals every other Sunday and each Thanksgiving and Christmas to thousands of people. She also treks four times a year to a village beyond Tijuana to deliver food, clothes and other necessities to women and children.

Parker, an immigration law expert and motivational speaker, appears weekly on Univision-KMEX Channel 34 morning news to answer immigration questions for call-in listeners.

In 1989, Parker co-founded the annual Latina Youth Conference at Santa Monica College, which brings together 300 to 400 Latina students to hear motivational, female speakers who encourage them to stay in school, avoid teenage pregnancies and focus on their future.

**For 75 years, the YWCA Santa Monica/ Westside has provided community service programs to women and children. Proceeds from the Women of the Year dinner support community service programs.**

Parker served on the Santa Monica Women's Commission and as a chapter president at the Mexican American Political Association.

She is also active in the local chapter of the League of United Latin American Citizens, the Mexican American Bar Association of Los Angeles County and the American Immigration Lawyers Association.

Schanes, an attorney for the past 34 years, has worked as deputy attorney general for the California Attorney

General's Office and as senior attorney for the Atlantic Richfield Company.

Schanes earned a law degree from American University Law School — where she was on the Law Review — and her Ph.D. from the University of Notre Dame. She also has been featured in "Who's Who in America" and "Who's Who in American Law."

In 1987, Schanes, along with her children Chrissy and Patrick, co-founded Children Helping Poor and Homeless People — an educational outreach program conducted by children and teens with adult advisors.

CHPHP's goal is to help end hunger, poverty and homelessness and now involves thousands of children and adults and serves tens of thousands in California, Oregon, Colorado and Arizona.

As co-director of CHPHP, Schanes has received the "Daily Point of Light" award from the National Points of Light Foundation and letters of support from President George W. Bush, President George Bush and Sen. Diane Feinstein. She's also received a commendation from Gray Davis, a Presidential Service Award Citation from Bill Clinton and features on local and national television, radio and print media.

For 75 years, the YWCA Santa Monica/Westside has provided community service programs to women and children. Proceeds from the Women of the Year dinner support community service programs.

## Technology solves Old West crime: Cattle rustling

BY JULIANA BARBASSA

Associated Press Writer

**FRESNO** — Cattle rustling has been around ever since there have been cows and unscrupulous cowboys, but cutting-edge DNA technology promises to change some of the old patterns.

DNA testing helped convict John Baker, a Tulare County rancher accused of altering brands and documents to keep cows that he claimed had wandered into his property from neighbors' lots.

"Having DNA evidence was conclusive," said William Yoshimoto, an attorney with the Tulare County District Attorney's Office and project director for the Agricultural Crime Technology Information and Operations Network. "We could try to show how the brands had been altered, but you really can't alter a cow's DNA."

Baker's crime was old-fashioned, but what investigators did to prove it was unprecedented in California.

They took DNA samples from Baker's bull, a cow belonging to neighboring rancher John Rodgers, and from a calf born to the cow.

Analysis of the samples by a lab in the University of California, Davis gave conclusive evidence that Baker's bull had sired the calf, and that the cow had been on Baker's ranch for over a year.

**"Having DNA evidence was conclusive."**

— WILLIAM YOSHIMOTO  
Attorney

Baker was sentenced in Tulare County Superior Court on Jan. 8th by Judge Joseph Kalashian on 11 counts of grand theft of cattle, one count of forgery, and one count of altering a brand. He got 60 months of formal probation, a year in county jail and an order to pay a restitution of \$22,000 to five cattle ranchers.

Baker's case came to light in 2001, when a state brand inspector who examines proprietary marks burnt into a cow's flank found a funny-looking brand. It read

"dH," but the letters seemed to have been altered — the H looked like it had been an h, with an added leg. So inspector Joey Evans asked Baker, who had put the cow up for sale, for proof of ownership.

Baker submitted an invoice for that cow, but when the sales yard matched it to the original 1996 invoice, they realized the document faxed by Baker had been forged.

Days later, the Beresford Corporation, whose ranch shares a fence with Baker's Shiloh Ranch, discovered one of their cows in his fields. The animal originally carried the Beresford "dh" brand — but someone had stamped Shiloh Ranch's "S/R" on top.

Cattle theft has been rampant, Yoshimoto said, especially since high-protein diets have sent the price of beef soaring in the last year. Cattle thieves now use tractor-trailers to haul their goods; it was time investigators moved on to new technology as well.

DNA testing has been used in other states before — Washington rancher Matthew Goodwin pleaded guilty in Spokane County Superior Court to livestock theft and forgery in a similar case — but this was the first time it was used in California courts.

### Sustainable Quality Award

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The Sustainable Quality Awards honor businesses and organizations that make Santa Monica a better place to live and work. Awards are given to companies that demonstrate commitment to the community in one or more of the following three areas: economic development, stewardship of the natural environment, and social responsibility. Winners will be honored at the May 4th Chamber Luncheon.

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# STATE

## Mural designed to draw attention to missing and murdered women

BY LAURA WIDES  
 Associated Press Writer

**LOS ANGELES** — Amnesty International unveiled a mural this week honoring hundreds of missing and murdered women in Juarez, Mexico, as part of a growing effort to force police to put an end to the crimes.

Organizers hope the mural conceived and painted by graffiti artists will boost interest in a Valentine's Day march in Juarez led by Hollywood activists to protest the slayings.

Jane Fonda, Sally Field, and Christine Lahti are among the actresses who have agreed to attend the march south of the border near El Paso, Texas.

"I'm going to help bring attention to the 300 women victims who were murdered, tortured, raped and disappeared in Juarez, and to ensure the perpetrators will be brought to justice," Fonda said.

The march is co-sponsored by Amnesty International and the nonprofit V-Day Foundation, led by playwright Eve Ensler, author of the "Vagina Monologues." The foundation combats worldwide violence against women.

The mural dedicated Thursday is 8 feet high and 40 feet wide and features canvas panels of a young girl cowering under a blanket below dark phantoms. Among its other images are the Virgin Mary and a skull with flowing black hair dotted with roses.

"When we first started talking about it, I didn't know all the crazy facts," said an artist who goes by the name Axis, one of four people commissioned to do the mural at the art space "Headquarters," off Hollywood Boulevard.

"Then we each read about the killings, and it's still hard to believe stuff like this is happening," he said.

Mexican authorities estimate nearly 300 women have been killed in the last decade in the border town. Amnesty International puts the number closer to 400.

Most victims were poor and ranged in age from 14 to 20. Many worked at factories in free-trade zones along the border, making equipment and clothing sold in this country.

Police have convicted only one man in the crimes. Their investigations have been criticized by Mexico's National Human Rights Commission.

Outrage has grown in recent years in part because of

efforts by Amnesty and V-Day. Last year, Amnesty co-sponsored a conference on the issue with the University of California, Los Angeles.

Amnesty has also presented scarves printed with images of victims' hands to actresses like Salma Hayek who pledged their support. Several plays and documentaries have told the stories of the families. More film projects are in the works.

**"I'm going to help bring attention to the 300 women victims who were murdered, tortured, raped and disappeared in Juarez, and to ensure the perpetrators will be brought to justice."**

— JANE FONDA  
 Actress, activist

"These are girls who come from poor backgrounds and work late shifts because of it," said Hayek, who met with the mural artists Thursday. "They've been disappearing for a decade now. It's incredible that we haven't been able to solve this very tragic mystery."

Ensler's group has staged protests and plans to donate proceeds from February and March performances of "The Vagina Monologue" to help the families.

Rep. Hilda Solis, D-El Monte, visited Juarez last fall and attributed the growing activism in Los Angeles to the large number of Mexican Americans in the region.

"We understand what's going on," Solis said.

Earlier this month, Mexico's attorney general announced the creation of a special prosecutor's office to investigate the killings. Organizers of the upcoming march believe more public pressure is needed.

"The more people we get into the streets of Juarez on Feb. 14, the more possible justice will be," Ensler said.

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## NATIONAL



# Plaintiffs wonder when Exxon Valdez case will end

BY RACHEL D'ORO

Associated Press Writer

**ANCHORAGE, Alaska** — Roland Maw might be excused for being a bit skeptical about a federal judge's order that Exxon Mobil Corp. pay nearly \$7 billion in punitive damages and interest for the 1989 Exxon Valdez oil spill.

Maw, a fisherman whose livelihood was hurt by the spill, and thousands of other Alaskans have waited so long for resolution that this week's ruling seems like just another chapter in a convoluted case, particularly with Exxon planning to appeal.

Plaintiffs, like legal experts, said that it's long past time to make some real progress although no one expects that to happen soon.

"The mood among fishermen is let's get this thing to the U.S. Supreme Court and get it settled. People need to have some sense of closure," said Maw, executive director of the United Cook Inlet Drift Association, which represents 550 salmon fishing outfits.

In the ruling issued Wednesday, U.S. District Judge Russel Holland ordered Exxon to pay \$4.5 billion in punitive damages to 32,000 fishermen, Alaska Natives and others affected by the nearly 11 million gallon spill in Prince William Sound. The judge also imposed interest estimated at about \$2.25 billion.

Exxon has already spent \$3.2 billion on cleanup, settlements and other fees and penalties.

Wednesday's order is the latest ruling in a case that's bounced between the federal court and the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals since Exxon appealed a \$5 billion verdict delivered by a federal jury in 1994. The appellate court, citing the original verdict as excessive, has twice sent the case back to Holland, most recently in August after the U.S. Supreme Court found that a \$145 million punitive dam-

**"The mood among fishermen is let's get this thing to the U.S. Supreme Court and get it settled. People need to have some sense of closure."**

— ROLAND MAW

Director, United Cook Inlet Drift Association

age award against State Farm Insurance was excessive.

Holland's resulting order sparked hope and frustration among plaintiffs and incredulity among lawyers who specialize in punitive damages litigation.

Among plaintiffs closely watching the case is Gary Kompkoff, chief of the Native village of Tatitlek.

The village is about seven miles from Bligh Reef, where the Exxon Valdez ran aground March 24, 1989. Plaintiffs argue that Exxon knew that tanker Capt. Joe Hazelwood was a relaxed alcoholic but still allowed him to take charge of the vessel.

The crude oil spill contaminated more than 1,200 miles of shoreline and killed thousands of seabirds and marine populations. Kompkoff said that robbed scores of Alaska Natives of critical food sources such as herring, sea lions and ducks necessary to maintain their subsistence lifestyle.

Subsistence harvest levels have rebounded, but Kompkoff and others are traveling farther for similar catches.

"People have to understand the importance of our subsistence lifestyle, how devastating it was to see so many resources damaged and destroyed," Kompkoff said. "After 15 years, it's time for Exxon to own up to the damages. It's time that they pay. So I admire Judge Holland for sticking to his guns and sticking to his beliefs."

Many in legal circles, however, criticized Holland, saying he blatantly ignored directives made clear by the higher courts. They were more surprised by the amount of the ruling than the delay in resolving

the case — uncommon but not unheard of in matters of this magnitude.

"It's preposterous. The judge is obviously thumbing his nose at the Court of Appeals," said Andrew Frey, a New York attorney who filed a friend-of-the-court brief in the State Farm case. Frey said the Supreme Court's action in that case is the latest to rein in huge punitive damage awards.

"It's become harder to justify these large awards," Frey said. "I can't imagine that the 9th Circuit will let this stand. I wouldn't be surprised if the 9th decides the amount itself. This ruling doesn't count for anything. It's just one man's opinion."

Tina Imre, a Los Angeles appellate

lawyer, said she could see the case winding up before the U.S. Supreme Court.

"The question is, how much punishment is enough when someone is negligent, as in this case. The bottom line is, do they deserve that much punishment?" Imre said. "We haven't heard the end of this."

But Ed Susolik, a Santa Ana, Calif., plaintiffs attorney in punitive damages cases, said Holland's ruling was "absolutely appropriate" in light of the State Farm decision.

"What the U.S. Supreme Court said is that someone like Judge Holland is supposed to review the record and evaluate how reprehensible the defendant's conduct was," Susolik said.

"In this case, Judge Holland did that and found that Exxon exhibited a reckless disregard for the health and safety of others and that the plaintiff class of fishermen and others had financial vulnerability. Exxon is in a complete position of power over them."



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## NATIONAL

# 'Snowmobile capital' is coping with changes to Yellowstone winter plan

BY BECKY BOHRER

Associated Press Writer

**WEST YELLOWSTONE, Mont.** — Getting a table at Jackie LaFever's sports bar and restaurant is easy this winter. So is finding a room at Vernetta Steele's motel — or most that are still open in town.

This town just outside Yellowstone National Park is much quieter than normal, and for many residents, the mood is bleaker.

While snowmobiles still cruise the powdery streets of the self-proclaimed "snowmobile capital of the world," the numbers are far below those in previous years. Residents blame it on a federal judge's ruling that reversed Yellowstone's snowmobile rules just hours before the start of the season in December and on the confusion and uncertainty that have surrounded the issue for months.

"Just tell them: Yellowstone is open and West Yellowstone is open," LaFever says from behind the bar at Bullwinkle's Saloon & Restaurant.

Perhaps none of the towns around the park are feeling the economic pinch as much as West Yellowstone, which historically has been the most popular gate for entering Yellowstone in winter.

Town officials are trying to figure out what happens to West Yellowstone and its businesses if U.S. District Judge Emmet Sullivan's ruling withstands an appeal.

"We have many questions we need answers to before we can start out on a plan," says Marysue Costello, executive director of the West Yellowstone Chamber of Commerce.

The not-knowing is the worst part, says Bill Howell, whose business includes snowmobile rentals, a hotel and restaurant. "I haven't really thought about next year," he says. "How can you?"

Howell was among those who invested in cleaner-burning, quieter snowmobiles to meet new park standards under a Bush administration plan that was set to take effect this winter. That plan set limits on the type and number of snowmobiles that could enter the park. Sullivan, however, ordered the Park Service to reinstate a Clinton administration plan that phases-out the machines in favor of mass-transit snowcoaches.

Now Howell is stuck with too many machines.

All snowmobiles entering Yellowstone this winter need to be part of a guided trip. Commercial guides like Howell get a set number of machines they can bring in each day. Howell, whose total fleet numbers 137 machines, says his limit in the park is 35 a day, but there haven't been many takers so far.

"I haven't been able to fill those all days because people aren't coming," says Howell, who also rents machines to people who want to ride snowmobiles outside Yellowstone. "You can't survive with what they're proposing."

Kent Swanson agrees. He says he may have to file for bankruptcy if he can't generate more revenue and attract more riders.

On average, Swanson says only about half his 46-snowmobile fleet is rented each day. Oddly enough, Swanson says he got back in the snowmobile rental business after a two-year absence specifically

because of the Bush administration plan.

Gene Hansgen's family made plans to visit West Yellowstone before Sullivan's December decision. He says he came anyway, because other family members had already booked flights.

**"I think people are resistant to change but I think this will be more in keeping with what the park was created for."**

— BETSY ROBINSON

Tour guide

"I came in with a bad attitude," the 68-year-old enthusiast from Orem, Utah says. "But we had a good time" seeing the park as part of a guided tour.

Conservationists say the season is a rare treat — a chance for visitors to see Yellowstone without the buzz of so many snowmobiles.

"I think once things settle down, it will be good for the economy," says Betsy Robinson, a guide based in Bozeman who takes trips into the park. "I think people are resistant to change but I think this will be more in keeping with what the park was created for."

Scott Carsley, a snowcoach operator, says his business has been good this year and believes it will improve under the current rules. "But we're a small segment of the winter economy here," he says.

In town, many business owners paint a different picture.

Some restaurants like The Gusher have scaled back hours. A few motels are closed. And the Food Roundup, a local grocery, recently laid off three part-time workers and a full-time worker.

Linda Heyes, coordinator of job and social services, says job openings have been down "dramatically."

Vernetta Steele is drafting a new marketing plan in between minding the front desk and doing other tasks at her Big Western Pine Motel. Steele, who also has a restaurant, has also had to lay off workers.

She is thinking about remodeling the motel and making a few other changes, too, as she looks to cater to other groups of visitors. Her backup plan: to sell.

"This is beyond belief," says Steele, whose reservation book is filled with nearly empty pages. "I can't grasp it myself but I believe it's true because I'm running out of money."

Mayor Jerry Johnson, himself a snowmobile rental operator, bristles at the suggestion his town hasn't diversified much beyond snowmobiling — particularly snowmobiling in the park.

"Those who say we need to diversify need to open their eyes," he says. Attractions he and others mention include skiing, snowshoeing, snowcoach rides and snowmobile trails outside the park.

"The economic impact is not overblown," he says from his shop, where black snowsuits hang unused against a wall.

"It will be interesting," he says, "to look at West Yellowstone in five years."

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## NATIONAL



# Holster idea could bolster former cop's portfolio

BY REBECCA BOONE

Associated Press Writer

**BOISE, Idaho** — After 21 years in law enforcement, Mike Lowe had racked up his fair share of equipment mishaps.

While running after a suspect, he saw his gun bouncing along the ground and realized it had jostled out of his holster. While struggling with an attacker he saw the weapon fall to the floor. The holsters that did hold the gun securely, Lowe said, made it difficult to quickly reseat the weapon if nonlethal force was needed.

Finally fed up, Lowe decided to design a new holster himself. The result, dubbed "The Professional," has drawn interest from law enforcement agencies around the nation and could be available in March.

"I got tired of waiting for the manufacturers to come out with something better," Lowe said, "so I just started thinking of a better way to do it."

Lowe, who eventually left his job as an instructor with the Boise Police Department to start Tactical Design Labs, hit on the idea while sitting at his kitchen table.

He was looking at his gun, imagining all the ways it could be secured inside a holster, when he reached out and pressed on the bowl of a spoon lying nearby. The spoon's handle lifted off the table. He pressed again and had a flash of insight.

A simple lever mechanism could secure the gun from inside the holster — instead of the outside strap used by many models, Lowe decided. The release button could be positioned to encourage a correct firing grip and covered with a protective sheath, making it harder for criminals to defeat.

"The problem with many holsters is they rely on a strap or hood that snaps closed. Most children recognize how to defeat a snap," he said.

Other secure holsters require that the wearer first push down on the gun before drawing, or use an unnatural forward motion to free the weapon. That, says Lowe, can force an officer to shift his grip after he draws the gun to have a proper shooting hold. Many more holsters combine the retention methods, making them more secure but requiring that officers learn a series of movements.

"Most often, police officers will draw their gun prematurely because of the difficulty with holsters," Lowe said. "But as the situation progresses, they may not need the gun and want to use nondeadly force instead. So then you need to holster the weapon and have it secure."

Placing a gun in a holster with multiple safety features can use up valuable seconds in a confrontation, said Lowe.

"I've known officers who have had to throw their guns away because a suspect was rushing them and they needed to have their hands free for nondeadly force," he said.

Lowe's holster is made out of hard plastic and has a cylinder — called a finger tray — running alongside the barrel.

Inside the cylinder is a button that releases the holster's grip on the gun's ejection port. When an officer draws the weapon, Lowe said, he uses an index finger to hit the button and pulls the gun free, leaving the hand in

a natural firing position.

Engineer and co-inventor Tony Senn refined Lowe's idea. Plastic can expand or contract with temperature changes, so Senn began a series of tests to ensure the holster would not grip the gun too loosely or tightly. He made sure the material would not be weakened by the cleaning solutions and oils used on guns.

Senn even adjusted the opening in the bottom of the finger tray to make sure it was wide enough for a quarter. That way, Senn said, if an officer accidentally dropped some change inside, it would fall to the floor rather than jamming the release button.

The holster was nearly complete, but Senn still had one concern. He feared the design was just too ugly for traditional-minded cops.

A faux basketweave leather finish was added to mimic the

look of the holsters already popular with law enforcement.

"Without the basketweave, it looks a little Luke Skywalkerish so a cop for 30 years was going to say no," Senn said.

Sgt. Dave Douglas, a range master with the San Diego Police Department is waiting for some of Lowe's holsters to arrive.

After a friend at a marksmanship training school in Texas mentioned the holster, Douglas decided to test the product for his department.

"My first impressions are that it's well designed and does everything that we'd require it to do: protecting the gun, being able to present the gun rapidly and the draw sequence is easy," he said. "We'll test them here at the range and then send them out with a few officers in the field to see how they do."



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## NATIONAL

# Bucking the trend: Wyoming lawmakers out to protect logo

BY MEAD GRUVER  
Associated Press Writer

**CHEYENNE, Wyo.** — The silhouette of a bucking horse with lowered head, kicking rear legs and a hat-waving cowboy on its back is ubiquitous in Wyoming, evoking six-shooter-and-calico-dress drama of the Old West.

It's stamped on the license plate, pressed on University of Wyoming gear, stenciled on military equipment, even woven into the carpet in the governor's office. Businesses use it too: from Jackson Hole Ski Corp. in Teton Village to Wild, Wild West Cowboy Cookie Cutters in Cheyenne.

But if you're not authorized to display the bucking horse, beware.

Secretary of State Joe Meyer and Gov. Dave Freudenthal have asked the Legislature to front \$1 million to wage a legal battle with the Texas Stampede, a Dallas organization that holds an annual rodeo for children's medical charities, if it does not stop using the logo. Lawmakers will consider the proposal when they meet next month.

"It represents Wyoming," summed up Meyer, a former attorney general and University of Wyoming roommate with Vice President Dick Cheney.

"There is such a pride of ownership in all the citizens of this state. UW has used it forever. Certainly our troops over in Iraq have it on their uniforms. It's simply us.

"It's similar to looking at the single star and thinking of Texas and the pine tree and thinking of Vermont. It is that significant to us as an identification."

The Texas Stampede filed with the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office a few months ago for ownership of the logo. Wyoming opposed the filing and the Texas Stampede, which was established in 2001, responded by saying Wyoming had abandoned the mark.

The Trademark Trial and Appeal Board is not expected to rule on the matter for perhaps another six months. Wyoming could take the matter to federal court if it disagrees with the ruling or before then, in which case the board would likely defer to the judge in the case.

The Texas Stampede and Wyoming logos are virtually identical. The only difference is the Texas Stampede logo faces left and the Wyoming logo right, and chaps are depicted on the Texas Stampede cowboy.

"Of course you can have arguments ... having the horse face a different direction or some other type of thing," Meyer said. "We've won all those battles."

"We want everyone to understand, and say it: We own it. It's ours. And that's a condition of retaining the right to a copyright."

He said he hates to see either Wyoming or the Texas

Stampede pay attorney's fees, especially if the charity's money would otherwise be helping disabled children.

A Texas Stampede spokeswoman declined to comment.

But Ted Stevenson, a patent and trademark attorney in Dallas, is not as confident as Meyer that Wyoming has a case. He explains that there are two types of trademark cases: infringement and dilution.

**"We want everyone to understand, and say it: We own it."**

— JOE MEYER  
Secretary of State

"In an infringement case you've got to prove that consumers are confused. I don't think it's likely that anyone going to the Texas Stampede is confused and thinks it has to do with Wyoming because of the logo," he said Thursday.

Making a dilution case requires a logo to be famous. "Like Coca-Cola \_ all over the world almost," he said.

"It may be famous within the state of Wyoming," he said. "But probably outside I think they would have a very hard time proving they have a famous mark."

Wyoming doesn't necessarily have a problem with people using the bucking horse logo. It just wants people to get permission.

As of December, 593 businesses had agreements with the state to use the logo. Although the agreements do not cost anything, they usually are not awarded outside Wyoming and proposals must be submitted for review.

Another 126 businesses in Wyoming and 17 outside the state were licensed to use the logo in their products. The licenses are also free but subject to both approval and a 6.5-percent royalty for businesses in Wyoming and a 7.5-percent royalty for businesses outside the state.

Meyer says Wyoming earned upward of \$100,000 in royalties last year.

This is not the first time Wyoming has fought for the right to the bucking horse and rider.

In 2001, McNeese State University in Lake Charles, La., bowed to pressure from Wyoming and changed its bucking horse logo to make its front feet raised instead of its rear feet. The same year, New Mexico Highlands University in Las Vegas, N.M., changed its bucking horse logo by taking the hat out of the cowboy's hand and putting it on his head.

The logo goes back to at least World War I, when it was part of an insignia worn by the Wyoming National Guard. The Wyoming Military Department has since used the logo in Korea, Vietnam and Iraq.

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## NATIONAL



# A wealth of ideas keeps institute churning along

BY RICHARD BENKE  
Associated Press Writer

**SANTA FE, N.M.** — Two decades ago, a group of Los Alamos-affiliated scientists came down off the mountain with the same idea — in fact, an idea factory — that has drawn scientists from around the world and won strong support from business.

The Santa Fe Institute, celebrating its 20th anniversary this year, was born of a fervent wish among a broad range of scientists that some day they might work together on some of the world's seemingly unsolvable problems.

Twelve years ago, SFI added a business network that further broadens the base. Now the faculty totals 65, and the science board includes five Nobel laureates. But nobody is resting on those laurels.

"We are very interested in new frontiers," SFI president Robert Eisenstein said. "Essentially everything we do here is interdisciplinary research, highly hybrid ... We like to be out on the edge. We like to take risks."

At November's business network conference, attended by representatives from more than 70 entities in the public and private sector including about 50 of 55 SFI member businesses, delegates heard talks on complex systems, including the water flows of Bali, and came away with new hopes for sprouting profits.

Microsoft senior researcher Gordon Bell said the work being done here on viruses — computer vis-a-vis biological — is of interest to Microsoft, which joined SFI's business net within the past year.

Researchers say they have found striking similarities between the two brands of virus, so having both the biological side of the sciences working with the computer side provides data for both.

"Perhaps one of the big values is as a network," Bell said. "The people they (SFI) attract and the problems they go after are just very useful. I think when you bring that collection of people together, you really redirect. Everybody goes away thinking quite differently about what they're doing. I'm really a fan of the place."

John Deere & Co., best known for agricultural equipment, has been integrally involved at SFI for years.

"SFI gives businesses an excellent place to network with a broad range of cutting edge ideas and science," Roger Burkhart, a member of Deere's technical staff, said from his office in Moline, Ill.

Deere sent Burkhart to SFI to work on computer models that mimic natural systems, such as the apportionment of Balinese water flows, but which also may have applications in business for systems management.

Steve Lansing, an SFI faculty member visiting from the University of Arizona, has spent years in Bali studying the evolution of the island's terraced rice paddies and gravity-driven "water temple" delivery system that evolved on cultural, religious and economic scales all at once.

Over centuries, the Balinese figured how to terrace rice paddies to maximize use of natural water flows and, therefore, rice production. The water flow is rich in

volcanic nutrients. But under the so-called green revolution of the 1970s, agriculture officials ordered dangerous increases in nitrogen to speed crop growth.

The problem: Nitrogen was already ample in the natural water flows. Excess chemicals started killing the coral offshore, and changes in water flows brought in pests.

Computer modeling showed where the plan went wrong and helped start a turnaround. Lansing, who brought the business net up to date in November, has been training local Balinese agriculture and water managers, who will finish solving the problem first for 200 communities along two rivers — then maybe for the rest of the island, and all Indonesia as well, he said.

"Ecology simulation studies show that Balinese rice paddy ecosystems will self-organize," Lansing said by phone from Tucson. "They'll easily find their right ways to the solution of water allocation and pest controls."

Lansing, who began as an anthropologist in Bali, has branched out at SFI.

"I've become much more of an ecologist," he said.

Given the institute's many-branched approach, such change is inevitable. Even desirable, SFI president Eisenstein would add.

"Change is good," he said.

Back in the early 1980s, meeting for lunches in a Los Alamos National Laboratory cafeteria, the founders all had the same dream, according to Murray

Gell-Mann, who was one of them.

"There was only one subject that we ever took up," Gell-Mann recalls, "which was founding a splendid scientific institute in Santa Fe. It wouldn't be a government lab. It wouldn't have anything to do with weapons and would have very little classified work, if any."

"It could be very friendly to people all over the world," said Gell-Mann, who won the 1969 Nobel Prize for physics.

When this collective vision was sorted out in 1984, the founders agreed the institute's focus would be almost entirely theoretical, using state-of-the-art computing not for its own sake but for cutting the knot of complex and evolutionary systems with computer modeling and simulation.

While organizers agreed there would be some math and physics work, SFI would study the broadest range of science, including "all kinds of biology and many kinds of social and behavioral science, maybe even history," Gell-Mann said.

The SFI formulators decided against giving graduate degrees or having a large permanent faculty. Instead, they invited visiting fellows, which, since nobody turned down the chance, has brought hundreds of scientists to SFI's hilltop retreat, too high and isolated for the city's din to disturb high-powered thinking.

"We didn't want a university," Gell-Mann said. "What we wanted was an institute that would do research on a really transdisciplinary basis. We would not have departments. People would form research groups irrespective of discipline."



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# NATIONAL

# Hearty welcome for Powell in an embattled country

**BY GEORGE GEDDA**  
Associated Press Writer

**WASHINGTON** — It was just under a year ago when Secretary of State Colin Powell told the world that failure to deal forcefully with Iraq's doomsday weapons could be a fatal mistake.

To some in Washington, Powell's political stature has been diminished because the weapons he warned about in his U.N. Security Council speech have failed to materialize more than nine months after the Iraq war.

It has not been an easy time for him. His weekend visit to the former Soviet republic of Georgia offered him a welcome respite, albeit brief, from the Iraq issue.

Georgians seemed delighted that this important man from the West was visiting their deeply troubled country. They felt that perhaps his visit could make a difference.

The Black Sea nation faces wrenching poverty and violent separatist movements that have uprooted hundreds of thousands of people. Corruption is prevalent. Some teachers are forced to live on \$10 a month. Despite its travails, the country has a reputation for showing friendship and generosity toward foreigners.

Powell awoke Sunday morning in Tblisi, the Georgian capital, to one of the most important days in the country's history. Mikhail Saakashvili, a 36-year old political wunderkind who led a successful uprising last November against an unpopular president, was taking office after a landslide election victory on Jan. 4.

Presidents-elect normally have the limelight to themselves on inauguration day; Saakashvili was willing to share his with Powell.

At the Georgian leader's insistence, Powell was at his side at three separate events on Sunday. One exception was the inauguration itself.

In addition to a private meeting, they held a joint news conference and appeared at a town hall meeting. For the two latter events, it was Powell and not the newly installed president who received most of the questions.

After the town hall meeting, a large crowd cheered Powell enthusiastically on his departure.

At a meeting with Georgians who rep-

resent civil society groups, one woman rose to tell Powell she had no question but simply wanted to meet him. Powell beckoned her to the podium and gave her a hug and pecks on both cheeks.

Georgians are looking for help wherever they can get it. A European Union flag was on display outside the parliament building, not because Georgia is a member; it just wants to join. Georgians also are showing interest in joining NATO but the country has a long way to go to qualify.

**“The Cold War is over, the  
Iron Curtain is down.”**

— COLIN POWELL  
Secretary of State

A number of questioners asked Powell about possible U.S. help to rid Georgia of unwanted Russian bases harboring an estimated 3,000 troops. Powell said he expects Russia to keep a promise to pull out.

Saakashvili, who has studied in the United States, said the Russian bases suggest a yearning by some nostalgic Muscovites to retrieve a territory Russia had dominated for almost two centuries.

On Sunday afternoon, Powell left Tblisi for Moscow, where he and Russian President Vladimir Putin each had kind words about the state of bilateral relations. On such issues as Iraq, Afghanistan and the Middle East, the two countries get on reasonably well but frictions are evident in other areas.

In a front page opinion commentary in *Izvestia* on Monday, Powell suggested that Russia has been straying from democratic principles and showing disrespect for neighbors such as Georgia.

Some Russians see American engagement in Georgia, including the dispatch of anti-terrorism trainers, as a threat. Also, the United States has opened two anti-terrorism bases to Russia's east, and to the west, it plans to develop crisis response military facilities in some former Soviet countries that are allies.

Powell brushed aside questions of hostile intent toward Russia.

"The Cold War is over, the Iron Curtain is down," he said. "Russia and the United States are now friends, not competitors."

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## WORLD BRIEFLY

### The jig is up in France for Juppe

By The Associated Press

**NANTERRE, France** — In a blow to President Jacques Chirac and his conservative government, a court Friday convicted a key ally and potential successor, former Prime Minister Alain Juppe, in a party financing scandal and barred him from office.

Pale and close to tears, Juppe rushed out of the packed courtroom by a back door, his illustrious political career in tatters, after the three-judge panel found him guilty of overseeing the systematic use of public funds to pay workers in Chirac's party.

The court in the Paris suburb of Nanterre sentenced Juppe, 58, to a suspended 18-month prison term for "illegally taking advantages."

Its sternly worded verdict — more severe than the eight-month suspended sentence sought by the prosecution — could doom any hope for Juppe, once one of France's brightest political stars, of ever ascending to the presidency.

Under French election law, the conviction automatically barred the legislator and mayor of Bordeaux from voting for five years and holding office for 10.

Juppe's lawyer, Francis Szpiner, said he would appeal.

### Israeli forces raid Bethlehem

By The Associated Press

**JERUSALEM** — Israeli forces briefly raided the West Bank town of Bethlehem on Friday and blew up the home of a Palestinian suicide bomber, an uncharacteristically restrained response to a Jerusalem bus bombing that killed 10 Israelis and wounded more than 50.

Israeli officials said they were tempering their reaction because any retaliation that worsens the plight of Palestinians "is not effective." The restraint also appeared to be an effort by Israel not to anger U.S. officials or invite international criticism ahead of a court case on its West Bank security barrier.

The suicide bombing Thursday ripped apart a bus as it passed near Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's official residence. The Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades, linked to Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement, initially claimed responsibility.

However, Hamas declared Friday that it sent the bomber, a Palestinian policeman from the Aida refugee camp on the outskirts of Bethlehem.

### Just the facts, Saddam

By The Associated Press

**WASHINGTON** — President Bush said Friday "I want to know the facts" about any intelligence failures concerning Saddam Hussein's alleged cache of forbidden weapons but he declined to endorse calls for an independent investigation.

The issue of an independent commission has blossomed into an election-year problem for the president, with Democrats and Republicans alike supporting the idea. Former chief weapons inspector David Kay has concluded that Iraq did not possess weapons of mass destruction, which Bush had cited as a rationale for going to war against Iraq.

Bush said he wants to be able to compare the administration's prewar intelligence with what will be learned by inspectors who are now searching for weapons in Iraq. There is no deadline for those inspectors, the Iraq Survey Group, to complete their work.

### Democrats want Scalia to scoot

By The Associated Press

**WASHINGTON** — Democrats are increasing their pressure on Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia to step aside from considering a case involving his friend, Vice President Dick Cheney.

The Supreme Court agreed last month to take up Cheney's appeal in a case that involves his refusal to disclose the identities of members of his energy task force. Three weeks later, Scalia and Cheney went duck hunting together in the marshes of southern Louisiana.

Scalia maintains there was nothing improper about the trip, but it has prompted more than 20 newspaper editorial demands for President Reagan's conservative appointee to stay out of the Cheney case.

Supreme Court justices, unlike judges on other courts, decide for themselves if they have conflicts, and their decisions are final.

### Sallie Mae on the hot seat

By The Associated Press

**WASHINGTON** — Sallie Mae, the nation's largest holder of student loans, disclosed an inquiry into its accounting by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The company said Friday in a brief statement that the SEC's inquiry concerned "year-end accounting entries" made by employees of one of its recently acquired subsidiaries.

"While the amounts in question appear to be less than \$100,000, the company and its audit committee take such matters very seriously and are taking all appropriate actions," the statement said.

SEC spokesmen declined to comment.

Reston, Va.-based Sallie Mae, formally named SLM Corp., was a federally sponsored company until 1997, when a majority of shareholders voted to sever its ties to the government.

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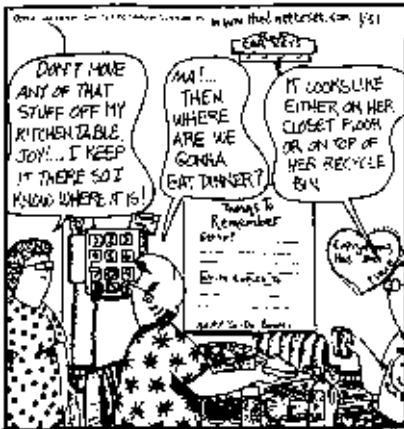
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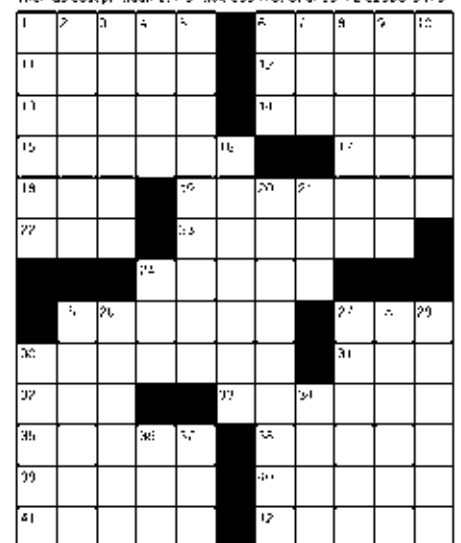
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RECEPTIONIST/LESSON COORDINATION DUTIES INCLUDE: GOOD PHONE SKILLS, LIGHT BOOKKEEPING, COMPUTER KNOWLEDGE, SALARY NEGOTIABLE, FT/PT, CALL 310-453-1928

TANNING SALON seeks p/t sales associate. Send resume to Arthur.Lewis@planetbeach.com 310-442-8261

THE DAILY Press is seeking Advertising Interns for the spring semester. This is a fantastic opportunity to jump into advertising. Flexible hours, college credit available. Email resume to ross@smdp.com.

TRAVEL AGENT FT or PT, Experience pref'd Amadeus- will train. Sal. plus comm. UK Consolidator- London Travel Center Call Dave 310-315-9100

WORK P/T No experience needed, evenings, \$8/hr, flexible schedule. Call (888)263-9886.

**Vehicles for sale****OF SANTA MONICA****'02 Ford Escape XLT**

V6, Automatic A/C P/window  
P/lock, tilt, CD, white leather

(ID#2KB22246) **\$17,895**

**'02 Ford Explorer Sport**

V6, automatic, alloys,  
R/W/P/L, tilt, CD, roof rack  
(ID#2UB54578) **\$14,989**

**'02 Chev Tahoe L/S**

Dual A/C, CD, Dual P/seats,  
third seat, alloys, much more!  
(ID#193678) **\$23,985**

**'98 Honda CR-V**

Sport utility, 4x4,  
4-door, auto, A/C, CD,  
alloys, P/S, P/B, P/W  
(ID#WC107541) **\$11,895**

**'98 Ford Windstar**

V6, A/C, P/W, P/L,  
ABS, low miles  
(ID#WBA93645) **\$7,995**

PLUS TAX, LICENSE & DOCUMENT  
FEE ON ALL VEHICLES

**1230 Santa Monica Blvd.  
310-451-1588**

**Vehicles for sale****Claude Short  
Auto Sales Dealer****'01 DODGE  
DURANGO R/T**

VIN 544097 Loaded, Leather  
only 31K, 1owner \$19,995

**'94 JAGUAR XJ6**

VIN 687617 Pristine cond.  
6 disc changer wire wheels  
**\$10,000**

**'95 MERCEDES  
BENZ S-320**

VIN 280961 six disc changer  
Black beauty \$17,000

**'97 BMW 328i**

convertible VIN T98113 Super  
clean low miles \$18,500

**'98 DODGE GRAND  
CARAVAN LE**

VIN 530531 \$9000

**'03 DODGE VIPER**

VIN 500992 Rare red car w/  
black top 43 mls \$85,000

**'03 HONDA CIVIC LX**

1400 miles VIN 603898  
**\$14,000**

**2501 Lincoln Blvd.  
in Venice  
(310) 395-3712**

**Vehicles for sale****INFINITI  
of Santa Monica****★'03 Infiniti G35★**

4,600 Miles! Must See! Save  
Money, Fully Loaded (M22465)

**★'95 BMW 525i★**

Low Mileage, Mint Condition  
(GK84022)

**★'03 Infiniti G35 Sedan★**

DVD Navi, Prem whis, Loaded  
(v006982)

**★'00 Infiniti Q45★**

ANNIVERSARY EDITION!  
Hard to find (301468)

**★'02 Audi A8L★**

FULLY LOADED! Premium Whls.  
Bose Premium Sound (001079)

**★'02 Honda S2000★**

4-Cyl. 2.0L VTEC, Leather,  
6-Speed, Manuel (8767P)

**★'02 Lexus IS300★**

Sport Cross, LOADED! Prem  
Wheels, Leather (043651)

**★'00 Volvo V70 XC AWD★**

SE Wagon  
2.4L Turbo, Moon, alloys  
VALUE PRICED! (v707506)

**1401 Santa Monica Blvd.  
310-394-1888  
infinitiofsantamonica.com**

**Vehicles for sale****LOOK  
LEXUS/VOLKSWAGEN  
OF SANTA MONICA  
PRE-OWNED CENTER**

**As Low as 1.9%**  
*Financing on  
Selected Models.  
Limited Term OAC.*

**2001 LEXUS GS 430**

4D Sedan, 5-Speed Auto  
Moon Roof, Alloy Wheels  
(002870)

**2002 JAGUAR X-TYPE**

4D, Sedan, Automatic,  
Rear Spoiler, Moon Roof  
(C56605)

**2001 BMW X5**

4D SUV, Automatic, Leather,  
Moon Roof (H14719)

**2002 VW GOLF GLS**

4D Hatchback, 5-Speed  
Air Conditioning (016284)

**2001 LEXUS IS 300**

4D Sedan, 5-Speed, Leather  
Moon Roof (030352)

**1100 Santa Monica Blvd  
(310) 319-1661  
LacarGUY.com**

**Vehicles for sale****NewDeals 4  
NewYears!**

**'00 CAMRY XLE**  
TOYOTA CERTIFIED  
(Y00239166) \$14,750

**'01 VW PASSAT GLX**

Four motion, Low mileage  
(1E163146) \$19,775

**'00 LANDCRUISER**

Black, LOADED  
(40111676) \$33,995

**'01 HYUNDAI ACCENT**

AUTO, A/C, \$6,995

**'00 TOYOTA CELICA**

Moonroof, Alloys  
(Y00059710) \$13,995

**'02 MAZDA 626**

(25277385) \$11,775

**'99 AVALON XLS**

TOYOTA CERTIFIED  
(X4297250) \$14,950

**AD EXPIRES 1/31/04**  
All advertised prices exclude govern-  
ment fees and taxes, any  
finance charges, any dealer doc-  
ument preparation charges, and  
any emission testing charge.

**HURRY TO:  
832 Santa Monica Blvd.  
800-944-4157  
LacarGUY.com**

**For Rent**

3RD STREET PROMENADE  
Apts. Ocean views, remodeled  
units 1+1, \$1500-\$2000, 2+2  
\$2100-\$2500, 1453 3rd Street.  
MOVE IN SPECIALS!  
(310)862-1000.

**Casa Loma Apartment  
101 Dudley Ave. Venice  
NOW LEASING!**

Steps to the beach  
Singles and Studios  
\$695.00 to \$1095.00

MOVE IN SPECIAL  
FIRST MONTH FREE!  
(Requires S.D. & 1 yr. lease)  
**1-888-399-1166**

SANTA MONICA 1bd  
\$1500/mo. New tiles,  
appliances, hardwood floors,  
bright/airy, beautiful garden  
area. Franklin/Arizona  
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SEEKING NEWSROOM  
INTERNS FOR THE SPRING  
SEMESTER. FLEXIBLE  
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FOR THE ONLY DAILY  
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SANTA MONICA. IF  
INTERESTED, E-MAIL  
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ginners, first lesson FREE! Call  
Tom (310)422-2699.

**Auto Sales****Claude Short Auto Sales**  
Offering Quality Service to the Westside since 1927

Four Generations  
of  
Devoted Service

**2501 Lincoln Blvd.  
in Venice  
(310) 395-3712**

## CLASSIFIEDS

## For Rent

**ROQUE & MARK Co.**

2802 Santa Monica Blvd.  
310-828-7525

**SALES - RENTALS  
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT****RENTALS AVAILABLE****NO PETS ALLOWED  
SANTA MONICA****1451 Princeton \$995**

Lower 1 bed, new paint,  
stove, laundry room

**1437 Euclid \$1250**

Upper 2 bed, new carpet &  
paint, balcony, parking

**1810 Idaho \$1250**

Lower 1 bed, garage,  
gas stove, good closet space

**1523 Harvard \$1395**

Lower 2 bed, 1 \_ baths,  
new carpet & paint, balcony

**117 Strand \$1450**

Upper 1 bed, steps to beach  
remodeled kitchen, parking

**1236 Euclid \$1495**

Lower 2 bed, 2 bath,  
new carpet, fireplace,  
balcony, laundry rm.

**1224 12th St. \$1595**

Upper 2 bed, 1.5 bath,  
bright front unit, balcony

**1230 Berkeley \$1595**

Rear upper 2 bed, 2 bath,  
huge deck with views

**BRENTWOOD  
WEST LA****11615 Darlington,  
Brentwood, \$1090**

Upper 1 bed, new carpet &  
stove, recent upgrades,  
walk to San Vicente

**FOR MORE LISTINGS GO TO  
WWW.ROQUE-MARK.COM**

SANTA MONICA \$1195/mo  
Best neighborhood, nice lower  
front 1bd, 1ba. Appliances,  
reddecorated, private patio 1318  
Euclid #1 310-395-1495

SANTA MONICA \$1225/mo. 2  
bedroom/ 1 bath. Appliances,  
no pets, parking, 1935 Clover-  
field Blvd. #18 Santa Monica,  
Ca. 90404 Manager in #19.

## For Rent

SANTA MONICA \$1375/mo  
2bd, 1 ba lower, 19th St. near  
S.M. Blvd. Quiet 6 unit building,  
private patio, ample  
closets, appliances, gas range,  
dishwasher, refrig. available,  
will consider indoor cat. Info  
310-828-4481 9am-7pm

SANTA MONICA ADJ.  
Townhouse, \$2000/mo 2bd,  
2 1/2ba, vaulted ceilings,  
washer/dryer, parking  
310-391-8580

SANTA MONICA Cottage, r/s,  
crpt, bright, near beach,  
courtyard, eat-in kitchen, \$895  
www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA Duplex, dog  
ok, r/s, dishwasher, hrdwd flrs,  
yard, flex lease, \$1650  
www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA Duplex, up-  
per, r/s, balcony, gated, hrdwd  
flrs, near SMC, \$1200  
www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA shared apt.,  
pvt rm, dishwasher, laundry,  
near SMC, util incld, \$500  
www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA shared apt.,  
pvt rm, pvt bath, r/s, dishwasher  
Laundry, m to m, \$525  
www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA, crpt, lg  
closets, laundry, near SMC,  
spacious, quiet, \$975  
www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA, lg closets,  
blinds, bright, hrdwd flrs, near  
Pico, nice area, \$725  
www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA, lower, r/s, big  
unit, nice area, near SMC,  
prkng, \$1250  
www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA, r/s, crpt, near  
shopping, flexible lease, util.  
incld, quiet, \$800  
www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA, r/s, hrdwd  
flrs, laundry, near MGM, pool,  
prkng, \$900  
www.westsiderentals.com

SM 2+2 1/2 2 car garge, direct  
acces to unit, laundry room.  
Near Wilshire \$2600/mo.  
(310)439-2073.

WLA \$1390/MO. 2 Bedrooms, 1  
bath, hardwood floors, large  
kitchen (310)391-8880.

**Houses For Rent**

2BR 1BA House, 1507 18th  
Street, new paint & blinds,  
carpet. \$1500/mo NO PETS  
310-532-3876

TOPANGA LOCATION, Loca-  
tion. Trees, view, charm, priv-  
acy 2bdm, 1bath, 2 balconies,  
immaculate, washer/dryer. NO  
PETS, NO SMOKERS. \$2200/M  
310-455-1084

## Roommates

NON-SMOKING SWF desires  
room to rent or tiny apartment  
www.elizabethpope.net or  
(760)409-7376.

**Commercial Lease****SANTA MONICA  
OFFICES 6th ST.****ONE MONTH  
FREE RENT**

Remodeled: Mediterranean Design  
Near Promenade, Windows  
Parking, Garden Courtyard  
Janitorial, Utilities Included  
2-4 Rooms, Short/Long Term  
**\$1495-\$2450**  
**(310) 395-4620**

**1617 BROADWAY  
Individual Offices**

New building.  
All services included.  
Reception telephone answering.  
High speed T-1 Internet.  
Full use of conference rooms,  
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Parking. Flexible lease terms.  
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DENTAL OFFICE to share.  
Seeking aggressive dentist to  
start solo practice. Share quality  
Santa Monica location in a  
prestigious professional medical  
building. Available mornings un-  
til 1pm, all day Fridays and Sat-  
urdays. Call 310-315-3676.

MDR SHARE space. New suite,  
3 space in small Law Firm. Law  
Library, Conference Room, Re-  
ceptionist, Copier, DSL, Parking  
Available, 90 Freeway close.  
Starting at \$800. (310)553-  
0756.

OFFICE SPACE. 235-340  
Sq Ft. Reasonable. 19th &  
Colorado Santa Monica  
310-453-4427

SM/OCEAN PARK: room avail-  
able in well located Chiropractic  
& Acupuncture office 3 days  
per/wk \$500/mo. Jasmine  
(310)392-9596.

**Real Estate**

**I WILL BUY YOUR  
MORTGAGE NOTE. CALL  
TODAY TO FIND OUT HOW  
YOU CAN CONVERT YOUR  
MONTHLY PAYMENTS INTO  
A LARGE LUMP SUM OF  
CASH.**  
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Homes and Units  
Realtor and Developer  
Call Today  
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houses, any area, any price,  
any condition  
Call (310)422-4933 .

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**\$10 OFF/AD THERAPY &  
RELAX 1227 LINCOLN BLVD  
#201 SANTA MONICA  
(323)630-9506**

BLISSFUL RELAXATION! Heal  
your body, mind, spirit. Thera-  
peutic, Swedish, Deep-tissue.  
Energy balancing. Strictly non-  
sexual. Introductory specials  
from \$50.00/1hr. Lynda, L.M.T.  
(310)749-0621

DEEP TISSUE THERAPY  
\$40/FLAT PROFESSIONAL  
AND NURTURING. I WILL  
ALSO TRADE MASSAGE  
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EXQUISITE, INTUITIVE, strong  
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Special Sensual full body  
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attitude, fun & playful! Outcall  
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Masseuse. You'll melt in my  
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soothing sensual touch, full  
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for Outcalls\*

## Announcements

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP  
meeting. Last Wednesday of  
the month; at Sunrise Assisted  
Living, Pacific Palisades call  
(310)573-9545/Linda.

**Business Opps**

ABSOLUTE GOLDMINE! 60  
Vending machines with excel-  
lent locations all for \$10,995.  
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LOCAL VENDING route 60 ma-  
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**SALES CONSULTANT:** Chan-  
nel or Enterprise Sales. Found-  
er of several 7 - 10 figure com-  
panies. www.aivaccents.com or  
call 310-739-3287

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GARAGE SALE, 3 Families  
Saturday 1/31 7am-2pm 1123  
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Etc.

YARD SALE Beautiful clothing,  
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FIT By the BEACH**

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All In One Great Program!

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*A Medical Day Spa for Women*  
Facials • Yoga • Pilates • Therapeutic Massage  
Pregnancy & Post-pregnancy services  
BRING IN A FRIEND FOR YOGA AND SHI'S FREE!  
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Dr. Lisa Masterson, M.D.

1333 Ocean Avenue in Santa Monica

TAI CHI/I-CHIUNG classes in  
Santa Monica call for info.  
(626)429-6360.

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**CENTURY WEST PROPERTIES**  
**EXCEPTIONAL WESTSIDE RENTALS**

**LEASING CENTER**  
**1437 SEVENTH STREET, SUITE 200**  
**SANTA MONICA**



**COMPLEMENTARY RENTAL LIST &  
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**WALK-INS WELCOME 10AM - 6PM DAILY**  
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## For Rent

**ENJOY LIFE ON THE 3RD STREET PROMENADE**  
**GREAT LIVE/WORK SPACE**

*Criterion Apartments*



300 Arizona Avenue, Santa Monica

Walk to the Beach ♦ Pedestrian Lifestyle ♦ Beautiful Studio Apts. from \$1,100 per month

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\*One year lease minimum term. Utilities, Stove, & Refrigerator included.

**MP**  
METROPOLITAN PACIFIC  
11111 - 11111 - 11111

## Pay tribute to a loved one.



**The Santa Monica Daily Press Obituaries.**

Call Mitch for details. 310.458.7737 ext. 111

## CLASSIFIEDS



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LOW WATER PRESSURE? RUSTY  
UNSAFE WATER? GETTING SCALDED?  
We specialize in Copper Repipe of  
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Senior Citizen Discount

**FREE** Estimates  
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**FREE** WATER HEATER  
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ALL WORK IS GUARANTEED  
ALWAYS A CLEAN QUALITY JOB!

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No job too small  
**2 MEN, \$59 PER HOUR**  
Fully insured. We make it EZ.  
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**HONEST & RELIABLE**  
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Experience**

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CEMENT WORK  
GUTTER CLEANING  
QUICK RESPONSES  
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Corporate & Private Events  
Negotiable Rates  
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Handyman Service  
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Free Estimates Fast Friendly Service

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**Expert Mold  
Inspection,  
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ness. (310)301-1926, pager:  
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California law requires that  
contractors taking jobs that  
total \$500 or more (labor or  
materials) be licensed by the  
Contractors State License  
Board. State law also requires  
that contractors include their  
license number on all  
advertising. You can check the  
status of your licensed  
contractor at [www.cslb.ca.gov](http://www.cslb.ca.gov)  
or 800-321-CSLB. Unlicensed  
contractors taking jobs that  
total less than \$500 must state  
in their advertisements that  
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All Work  
Guaranteed

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When You Get Ready to Fix Up, Call Us!

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COMPUTER HELP: Your office  
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Run an ad in the classified section of the Santa Monica Daily Press for 4 weeks and we'll guarantee that you'll find the perfect employee! Call for more details.

**Call Mitch at the Santa Monica Daily Press 310.458.7737 ext.111**



## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

# Halftime performer Kid Rock is feeling Patriotic

By The Associated Press

■ **DETROIT** — Kid Rock is performing Sunday during the Super Bowl XXXVIII halftime show, but he admits he's rooting for the New England Patriots to beat the Carolina Panthers in the end.

"I was actually going through my closet yesterday, and I found a Patriots jersey with 'Kid Rock' sewn on the back. It's kind of tough for me because I do have some strong connections to Carolina. But for some reason that red, white and blue just kind of gets me on the Patriots. So I'm kind of swinging that way," he said Thursday.

The Detroit rocker appeared at a news conference in Houston with fellow halftime performers Nelly and Sean "P. Diddy" Combs. He said he was leaving for two concerts in other states before returning for his performance at Reliant Stadium, the Detroit Free Press reported.

Kid Rock was asked whether he'd spend some of his limited time in Houston promoting the Motor City, which hosts the Super Bowl in 2006.

"Always," he responded. "When haven't I?"

■ **BALTIMORE** — Gidon Kremer left his \$3 million violin on an Amtrak train, but a quick-acting baggage handler retrieved the instrument and it was returned to its grateful owner.

Kremer, who's performing as a guest artist with the Baltimore Symphony Orchestra, took the train Wednesday from New York to Baltimore's Penn Station.

Before heading to Baltimore, Kremer learned that a violinist in the Kremerata Baltica, a chamber orchestra he founded in 1996, was sick and couldn't make an Asian tour scheduled to start in a few days.

"I was preoccupied with that from the moment I sat down on the train to the moment I got up as we approached Baltimore," he told The (Baltimore) Sun.

Accustomed to traveling with only a garment bag and his violin, Kremer also had a large suitcase with him

because he'll be leaving for the Asian tour from Baltimore.

Waiting at the station was Jeremy Rothman, the BSO's associate artistic administrator.

"I saw he had only two bags with him," Rothman said, "so I asked, 'Is this everything?' And I could see his face suddenly change."

The train was winding toward Washington by then with the unguarded cargo.

By the time the train pulled into Union Station, Amtrak officials were waiting. Baggage handler Mike Famiglietti secured the instrument, which was later picked up by Thomas Cirillo, a member of the Vilar Institute for Arts Management at the Kennedy Center, who offered to bring it to Baltimore's Meyerhoff Hall.

"I am incredibly grateful to all the people who helped me," Kremer said, cradling the returned violin.

Kremer asked the BSO to invite Famiglietti to one of his concerts, and he planned to attend Friday's performance, said symphony spokesman Greg Tucker.

■ **NEW ORLEANS** — Jamie Foxx has been placed on two years probation and fined \$1,500 after pleading guilty to a misdemeanor charge from a fight with security guards at a casino.

The comedian entered the plea Wednesday to disturbing the peace, District Attorney Eddie Jordan announced Friday. Foxx received a six-month suspended jail sentence besides the probation and fine.

The 36-year-old entertainer's sister, Deidre Dixon, pleaded guilty to a felony count of battery on a police officer with injury and to misdemeanor charges of disturbing the peace and resisting arrest.

She received a suspended sentence of five years in prison for the felony and one year suspended for the misdemeanors. She was placed on five years probation.

Criminal District Judge Frank Marullo fined Dixon \$1,500 and ordered her to pay \$13,000 in restitution to the officers involved.

As part of the plea agreement, prosecutors dismissed two felony battery counts against Foxx and one count against Dixon.

Foxx and Dixon were arrested April 26 in a fracas captured on security cameras at Harrah's New Orleans Casino. Police said the two and a group of their friends refused to show identification at the door, then went into the casino and refused to leave.

Authorities said that when police tried to handcuff Dixon, she struggled, freed one of her hands and began swinging the handcuffs still attached to the other hand, hitting a police officer in the face.

■ **MIAMI** — The 89-year-old pedestrian who was critically injured in a car accident involving actress Robin Givens is improving, police said Friday.

Doctors were able to save the foot of Maria Antonia Alcover, who was struck Wednesday as she inched across a busy city street, police spokesman Delrish Moss said.

Police initially worried whether Alcover would survive, but Moss said her condition is improving at Jackson Memorial Hospital.

Givens, a star of the 1980s TV comedy "Head of the Class" and the ex-wife of boxer Mike Tyson, struck Alcover as she was about to step onto the sidewalk, Moss said.

Givens, who was stopped, turned the corner when the light turned green, and her 2000 Mercedes sport utility vehicle swiped Alcover, who fell backward. The back wheel of the vehicle drove over Alcover's right leg, Moss said. Her leg and foot were damaged and she suffered internal injuries.

The 39-year-old actress received a ticket for failing to use due care when a pedestrian was in the crosswalk, which carries a fine of less than \$70, Moss said. He added that further charges were unlikely.

Givens' Los Angeles-based manager, Alan Iezman, did not immediately return a phone message Friday.

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