

**FREE**

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2003

Volume 2, Issue 70

# Santa Monica Daily Press

*A newspaper with issues*

## LOTTO

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### FANTASY 5

15, 16, 29, 33, 36

### DAILY 3

Afternoon picks: 4, 0, 5

Evening picks: 2, 7, 9

### DAILY DERBY

1st Place: 07, Eureka.

2nd Place: 10, Solid Gold.

3rd Place: 04, Big Ben.



### NEWS OF THE WEIRD by Chuck Shepard

■ The D.C. public school system admitted in December that it had continued to pay out \$5 million in employee benefits during the year to ex-employees who had already left the government (and other parts of the District government were suspected of doing the same thing).



### THOUGHT OF THE DAY

If you want a place in the sun, prepare to put up with a few blisters.



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## New owner sought for Main Street property

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON  
Daily Press Staff Writer

A new owner could soon take over one of the most controversial and largest development sites in Santa Monica.

Developer Howard Jacobs, who owns property on the north end of Main Street which has been approved for a residential and commercial complex, confirmed Friday that he has had some "bites" on his \$27 million listing.

"There are some active negotiations," he said, adding he didn't want to elaborate on them until a deal is closed.

Jacobs, who has been battling City Hall for nearly four years to get the project approved, put the property up for sale in November,



Courtesy photo

**A model of what the project at the corner of Main and Bay streets could look like when developed. Howard Jacobs has put the property and plans up for sale.**

shortly after he received the last approval he needed from the state's Coastal Commission.

Along with the price tag comes all the approvals and conditions

given by the Santa Monica City Council to build the 170,000-square-foot, four-story, 133-unit housing and retail development.

Jacobs, who has developed

seven other properties in Santa Monica, said he wasn't planning on selling the Main Street property, but his circumstances have changed.

"We think the timing is right and the market is strong," he said. "Just like anything else, during the process things change in people's lives. It's the right time for me."

"I don't think it's a surprise ... a lot can happen in a person's life," Jacobs added. "It's personal and business combined."

When City Council members approved the project last February, they thought Jacobs would be the developer. But as one City Councilman said, once the property is approved for development, it

See MAIN, page 7

## Local school district gets a B plus for fitness

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON  
Daily Press Staff Writer

Santa Monica and Malibu kids are starting to shape up.

According to results from a recent state-mandated fitness test, elementary students in the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District improved nearly 25 percent in 2002 over the previous year, said Chris Corliss, a district employee in academic services.

Fifth graders saw the most dramatic differ-

**"We are trying to pull together fitness, nutrition and knowledge."**

— CHRIS CORLISS  
SMMUSD employee

ence as they passed five or six of the six physical fitness tests given to them by the state.

The test, given to fifth, seventh and ninth graders in 90 percent of California school dis-

tricts, measures physical fitness in six areas: cardiovascular endurance, percentage of body fat, abdominal strength, endurance and overall flexibility. The tests included a one-mile run/walk, push-ups, curl-ups, trunk lifts, sit and reaches and body mass index.

To be considered physically fit, the state requires students pass all six tests, which places them in the "healthy fitness zone."

However, the local school district believes the state's requirements are too stringent. It

See FITNESS, page 7

## Pier pylons rotting, to be replaced

*First phase will cost about \$850K and replace 15 pylons*

BY ANDY FIXMER  
Daily Press Staff Writer

The salt water has taken its toll on the extensive system of braces that support the Santa Monica Pier, spurring the city to launch an ambitious \$850,000 repair effort.

Wooden beams below the middle section of the pier haven't been replaced since the 1980s, when the pier was rebuilt after a massive storm destroyed sections of it.

Now those pylons, as the major beams are called, have been weakened by the constant exposure to salt water and they must be replaced, city officials said.

"Just during the normal course of aging and wear and tear on the structure, some things have to be replaced," said Mark Richter, the city's director of economic devel-

See PIER, page 8

## A higher view



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

Temperatures soared into the 80s this past weekend, which inspired many to take in the summer-like weather on the Backbone Trail in the Santa Monica Mountains.

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## Fish FaCTs:

Q: What's the worlds largest fish?

A: The whale shark. It is over 50' long  
and weighs several tons.

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## HOROSCOPE

### Scorpio, tonight play away



#### JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

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

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

### Happy Birthday for Monday, Feb. 3, 2003

You discover that much more is happening at a far more hectic pace than you might have imagined this year. Just when you think you can hang back, matters go a little haywire. Realize that the nature of this year will be active, with your strong drive zeroing in on what you want and desire. Many forces will push you toward the finish line. You do need to be careful with spending, as you could find it much easier to spend than in prior years. If you are single, romance will float through your door, causing you to think twice, especially before September. If you are attached, don't expose your relationship to a fire walk. Deal with problems lovingly. PISCES helps you make money.



#### ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★ Step back. Separate gossip from the truth. You'll be a lot more effective at work and with other projects as well. Gain a discerning ear. Someone might be putting up quite a struggle to cover his or her true motives. Read between the lines. Tonight: Get some extra zzz's.



#### TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Others don't necessarily agree or disagree, though a partner could take a very strong stance or express intense feelings. You might opt to go with the flow rather than cause yourself a problem. You actually might not care about this issue. Tonight: Dinner for two.



#### GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Speak to the group. Speak to others. You don't realize it, but others do hear you and do care. Re-evaluate a situation carefully, especially if a volatile tone develops. Others might push inadvertently. You, however, set the ultimate tone. Consider your options. Tonight: Work late.



#### CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Your ability to gain a perspective sets you apart from many. Consider your options more carefully than you have in the past. You might want to understand or question why a co-worker creates so much uproar. Walk in his or her shoes for answers. Tonight: Relax to a favorite piece of music.



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

★★★★ Revise your thinking with the help of a partner. Brainstorming proves rewarding and dynamic. A flirtation could develop into something more if you let it. You find that a new friend is far more intense than you realized. Be careful here. You're dealing with hot stuff. Tonight: Togetherness counts.



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

★★★★ Let others reveal their cards. You could be surprised by what you hear and by what develops. You might be a bit stunned by the strength of your own personal reaction. You don't necessarily have to give a knee-jerk reaction. Think long-term. Tonight: Go along for the ride with another.



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

★★★ Make an extra effort to get your work done. You could be overwhelmed by what goes down between you and a loved one. Be careful of exactly which words you choose, because, ultimately, they could be tossed back in your face. Remember what type of situation you need to work in. Tonight: Burn the midnight oil.



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

★★★★ Listen well to news that comes your way, especially if you have financial concerns. You have a tendency to live it up and be a bit of a wild thing at times. Why not now? Let your creativity flow, both professionally and personally. Tonight: Play away.



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

★★★★ Your temper could blow a good thing. Consider options more carefully that surround a real estate or domestic matter. Caution and self-discipline pay off. Get the facts. Taking a stand doesn't have to have so much fire energy attached to it. Tonight: At home.



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

★★★★ You might want to think before you leap into action right now. Though certain matters seem clear and talks lead to a similar conclusion, you still could be off-base. Take your time. You will not regret sitting on impulsiveness right now. Tonight: At a favorite haunt.



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

★★★★ Others might be hot and fiery; you need to think and be the reasonable one. Review your personal finances with greater care and precision. How you feel about a friendship need not be decided right now. Remember, associates might not be themselves. Tonight: Your treat.



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

★★★★ You do make a difference. If you notice that someone reacts very strongly to you, understand just how strong you might be coming off. Let go of negative, and use your positive assets to get more of what you need. Charm others. Tonight: Whatever knocks your socks off.



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# LOCAL



## Gavel II Gavel

From the people's court in the Santa Monica Courthouse

By Andy Fixmer

### Collection service takes the wrong guy to court

A collection agency took Kamran Towfigh to Santa Monica Small Claims Court last week, but it got the wrong guy.

The collection agency has been trying for the past five years to track down a Los Angeles attorney who uses the name Kamran Towfigh as one of his aliases, said Dan Cobb, the collections agent.

But the social security number the service was given by the attorney was wrong, so when the service tracked down a man by the same name, it thought it had finally got the debtor.

"This is all our fault, he's not the right guy," Cobb said. "This is his name, but it's the wrong social security number."

The real Kamran Towfigh felt so harassed by the collection agency he filed a counter-suit against them.

However, since he is not the Kamran Towfigh the collection agency is looking for, Judge Pro Tem Alan Freedman ruled that as long as the collection agency stopped sending threatening letters to him, he has no legal standing in the matter.

"If they continue to harass you, you might have a claim," Freedman said. "Should this not stop, then you can pursue some type of action."

### Saleswoman sues Robinson's May for commissions

A temporary holiday perfume sales associate took Robinson's May to court last month to recover \$1,236 in lost wages and commissions.

Suzanne Bachli said Robinson's May officials instructed her to ring up her perfume sales under other associates' identification numbers, giving them commissions on sales she had closed.

When she complained about the practice on Dec. 15, 2002, she was fired from her job, she testified.

Angela Price, manager of employee relations at Robinson's May, said they fired Bachli because she couldn't understand that commissions weren't given on sales and there were no other positions available at the store.

Judge Pro Tem Linda Gradstein found that Bachli had been properly notified by Robinson's May officials before she was hired that commissions wouldn't be awarded and she would be paid \$6.75 an hour for her work. As a result, the judge found for Robinson's May.

After the ruling, Bachli asked Gradstein how she would collect the money from Robinson's May.

"Don't you understand?" the judge said. "You don't get paid anything more. You don't get another dime. They paid you up until your last day of work, so that's it."

### S.M.-UCLA employee who didn't punch the clock gets no pay

A judge ruled last week that a hospital worker can't get paid if he didn't fill out the proper paperwork.

Obioma Iwobi took Santa Monica-UCLA Hospital officials to small claims court last week for allegedly not paying him for six days of work.

Iwobi admitted he forgot to fill out his hours on the hospital's time card, which are required to be submitted to a supervisor before he left for the evening. But he said he still worked six, 11-hour shifts that he wasn't paid for. He said the hospital owed him \$1,300.

See GAVEL II GAVEL, page 6

## surf report

Information compiled by Jesse Haley

The new moon Saturday brought extreme tides; highs getting up near six feet and lows dipping negative. This morning, building northwest swell shows, adding size as the day wears on.

We also have some west wind swell coming in, so well-exposed spots may show some overhead surf.

As swell fills in today, we should see continually improving consistency, regular sets hitting as soon as early evening.

Given the strength of the new swell and the angle, most spots should stay in chest- to shoulder-high waves, with occasional plus sets.

Surf remains decent, plenty of fun sets with only a slight decrease in size.



### Today's Tides:

Low- 2:47 a.m. 1.82'  
High- 8:48 a.m. 6.15'  
Low- 4:03 p.m. -1.13'  
High- 10:23 p.m. 4.00'

| Location    | Monday    | Tuesday   | Water Quality |
|-------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|
| County Line | 3-4'/Fair | 3-4'/Fair | A             |
| Zuma        | 3-4'/Fair | 3-4'/Fair | A             |
| Surfrider   | 2-3'/Fair | 1-3'/Fair | C             |
| Topanga     | 3-4'/Poor | 2-4'/Fair | A             |
| Breakwater  | 4-5'/Fair | 3-4'/Fair | B             |
| El Porto    | 4-6'/Fair | 4-6'/Fair | A             |

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## The Q Line

The school board last week voted to place a flat \$225 tax proposal on the June 3 ballot. That means every parcel owner in Santa Monica and Malibu would pay \$225 a year, despite the size of the property. Owners of monster mansions in Malibu would pay the same as condo owners in Santa Monica.

There were other proposals that would have taxed people more based on the size of the buildings on their properties. For instance, one of the proposals that was shot

down was a charge of \$60 per year, plus 7 cents per square foot.

This week, Q-Line wants to know, "What tax proposal would you support? Will you vote in favor of the flat \$225 tax scheduled for the special election?"

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



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## OPINION

### LETTERS

#### Silverstein has no idea

Editor:

Ed Silverstein has done it again (Daily Press, 1/29/03). He has written yet another bitter essay in which he finds fault in all of those who might manage to take a stand in life on either side of the fence.

It was only two weeks ago he lambasted Sean Penn for his visit to Iraq as self-serving and narcissistic when in actuality Penn decided to go and see for himself what this pending war was really all about. Now Mr. Silverstein has decided all liberalism is too extreme and would prefer instead we join him on the fence top where we can do nothing and just sit and bitch about what we find fault in on either side.

His writing is at times as absurd as it is comical. Mr. Silverstein, you state, "Too many liberals descend from their ivory towers to tell the rest of us how to live, then at the first hint of darkness, retreat to safety, sipping hundred dollar cabernet and feeling good about themselves for giving a few bucks to that poor panhandler who is at that very moment shooting it into his veins, prolonging his misery and shortening his life."

First of all, this bastion of liberalism you have painted doesn't at all look like my one-bedroom down on Pico and Ocean avenues. And, secondly, I don't know where you shop for wine (you should really try Trader Joe's they have some great deals). But I will tell you I see a lot of things down here by the beach. I walk each day to work early by the women's rehabilitation center on Ocean Avenue across from the Rand Corp. There is a procession of some 20 or so homeless women who wait daily in the morning sun up against the building. I have seen the face of shame on some as our eyes never meet. I have seen mental illness while some murmur out loud to themselves, and I have seen stoic self-pride as others stand tall waiting quietly for the center to open. But, I have never seen a one "shooting their veins."

Your broad-stroke essays are just what's wrong with your writing style. You never support any of your diatribes with parenthetical data or even examples but rather lie solely in fictitious anecdotal little stories of absurdity. You write further that you feel liberals to be "condescending" and attack them for wanting to just "throw money" at problems. Well, some liberals have other names as well, such as altruistic and philanthropic, and I don't mean the kind that donates just to the Getty. I never once thought it to be condescending when man, woman and child alike give their free time on many a hot Saturday morning to clean our beaches under the auspice of Surf Riders or Heal the Bay. It may be futile, but at least they did something. I did not see condescension on the face of the skinny, long haired kid who stood in the rain in front of Albertson's on Lincoln Boulevard with a clipboard trying to register voters during the elections. At the very least ... he did something. You ironically go on to suggest that "it is far better to cherry pick the ideas that seem to be grounded in reality," and yet you offer us none.

Todd Work  
Santa Monica

#### Thanks for nothing

Editor:

A big thank you to Irma Carranza and Maria Loya of "Mothers for Justice" for setting me straight! (Daily Press, 1/30/03) I had no idea that it was illegal for landlords to discriminate against renters (or prospective renters) based on race, national origin, familial status, etc., etc. Hecky darn! Is that was this is all 'bout? Shoot, this dumb old cracker sure doezzz feel stupid!

Where do I sign up to volunteer to protest against that evil, racist, capitalist landlord that has the nerve to manage her property as she sees fit? I know — let's go to her condo and hold a candlelight vigil in hopes that she (and all landlords) will come to understand why it's a good thing that they foot the bill for raising the families of their tenants by being forced to rent at one-third the market rate.

Ms. Liska and any previous owners of the building in question should take pride in the fact that they have helped raise the Vivacano family's four children. She should take solace in the knowledge that although she has to pay market rate for everything she has, that the V family was lucky enough to get a rent-controlled apartment in Santa Monica that allowed them to provide a good life for their four children. Hell, maybe Ms. Liska should have to pitch in and pay for their college education, too!

Forget the sacrifices Ms. Liska had to make to purchase that property (maybe she could have bought a house instead of a condo). Forget, the cost and headache of doing business in this city. Forget all that.

The important thing is that the V's were able to raise a family of four children. And, damn it, they are ENTITLED to live in that apartment complex!

No matter the allegations (conveniently ignored by the "Mothers") that the V's were operating a business out of their apartment. No matter that, what neighbor (let alone a white kid) in their right mind would actually go on record and get involved publicly if they didn't like another tenant of an identified minority group. Never mind that a reasonable person would have to agree that a single mother of five regardless of her race is by definition irresponsible and therefore would not be a first choice rental candidate for a smart business person. Never mind all that.

So thank you again, Mothers. Thank you for assuming that I was referring to Mexican-Americans in my letter, when the fact is that I never mentioned any particular race of people (interesting that you would assume that. I only wish I could be as open-minded as you obviously are). Thank you for labeling me a racist when you have no idea what my ethnic background is (you didn't assume I was white, did you?). Thank you for informing me that the V's have not two, but four children so that my

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point is made even more clear — who can afford four children in Los Angeles if you have to live in a rent-controlled apartment? And, if you can afford four children in Los Angeles, then what are you doing IN a rent-controlled apartment? Thank you!

Tony Street  
Santa Monica

#### History should teach a lesson about war

Editor:

In Steve Roberts' Jan. 31 letter, he seems most anxious to go to war against Iraq. By the tone of Mr. Roberts' letter I presume he is either now in the military or getting ready to join our troops in the Mideast.

If Mr. Roberts is too old for the service, then I presume he has close relatives now in the military. I also presume that Mr. Roberts has previously served our country and in fact was in combat so he knows first hand what happens when the shooting starts.

Before Mr. Roberts and President Bush commit our nation to a preemptive strike against Iraq, I suggest they carefully review what President Eisenhower did in 1954. Then when preventive war with the Soviet Union was seriously presented as a police option to President Eisenhower, he replied that this "was contrary to every principle upon which our nation was founded and which it continues to profess."

Since only a limited number of our youth are in the armed forces, perhaps the hawks of today should read former President Herbert Hoover's opinion made in 1954: "Older men declare war. But it is youth that must fight and die. And it is youth who must inherit the tribulation, the sorrow and the triumphs that are the aftermath of war."

Whether we should allow the U.N. inspectors to continue their work, the wisdom of Winston Churchill in 1954 would be most appropriate today. Churchill commented that "it is better to jaw-jaw than to war-war."

Finally, as to the facts regarding Saddam attacking his own people, I suggest Mr. Roberts and others with the same views read Stephen C. Pelletiere's article entitled, "A War Crime or an Act of War?" which appeared in the Jan. 31, 2003, issue of the New York Times.

Prior to Iraq's invasion in 1990 of Kuwait, our then U.S. Ambassador April Glaspie told Saddam, "(W)e have no opinion on the Arab-Arab conflicts, like your border disagreement with Kuwait." Glaspie's comments, combined with earlier similar statements from our State Department, probably led Saddam into thinking he had a green light to invade Kuwait.

But should we really be concerned about Saddam Hussein or any other tinhorn dictator posing a threat to the United States? I suggest that Abraham Lincoln in his address before the Young Men's Lyceum in Springfield, Illinois, on January 27, 1838, answered that question by noting, "At what point shall we except the approach of danger? By what means shall we fortify against it?"

"Shall we expect some transatlantic giant to step the ocean, and crush us at a blow? Never! If the armies of Europe, Asia and Africa combined, with all the treasure of the earth (our own excepted) in their military chest; with a Bonaparte for a commander, could not by force take a drink from the Ohio or make a track on the Blue Ridge in a trial of a thousand years. At what point then is the approach of danger to be expected? I answer, if it ever reach us, it must spring from amongst us."

Representative Daniel Webster in remarks in the House of Representatives on Dec. 9, 1814, asked: "Where is it written in the Constitution, in what article or section is it contained, that you may take children from their parents, and parents from their children, and compel them to fight the battles of any war in which the folly or the wickedness of government may engage it?"

Norman G. Axe  
Santa Monica

# LOCAL



## A helpful primer on your right to start over



### LEGAL VIEWS AND NEWS

By David Pizarra

In America we have a long and revered history of allowing people to re-invent themselves. Beginning with the founding fathers — and mothers — who built a new country from nothing, Americans, more than any other people, believe everyone deserves a second chance.

When the Constitution was drafted, this American trait of forgiving one's past mistakes was incorporated under Article I, § 8, ¶ [4], which provides that Congress shall have the power "To establish ... uniform Laws on the subject of Bankruptcies throughout the United States." What that means is that bankruptcy, the right to start over, is guaranteed to us as citizens.

It also means, however, that Congress can make the rules on bankruptcy — when you can do it, how often, what you can get relief for and what you can't. As part of the rule making that Congress has done, they have created different categories for bankruptcy. For consumers, there are two main chapters of bankruptcy: Chapter 7, which when a person says to their creditors (such as Visa, Mastercard, Ford Motor company) that they cannot pay the money owed, and they are asking the court to relieve them of the debt.

Chapter 7 provides IMMEDIATE relief to the debtor from the moment they file with the court. Additionally, it means that a person gets relief from most of their debts. Some debts are not dischargeable, which means the debtor will still owe the money. Examples are the IRS and state taxes, student loans and certain judgments arising from fraud.

In a Chapter 7 filing, the debtor can keep a large amount of their assets. The code allows for a person to keep their

clothing and personal items for the most part, as well as their home, if they can keep paying on it; their car, if they can keep paying on it, and tools and equipment for their business.

The effect of a Chapter 7 is that it stays on the debtor's credit report for 10 years and can be used as a basis for denial of credit or increased fees for borrowing money.

There also is Chapter 13, which is a repayment plan. This is very good for some people who have a regular paying job that they are secure in and are willing to live on a strict budget for three years.

In a Chapter 13, the debtor agrees to repay their creditors, who accept less than are they fully owed, over a three-year period. The catch is that the debtor must have a regular paycheck, live on a very strict budget and runs the risk of having their Chapter 13 converted to a chapter 7 if they miss one, JUST ONE, payment to the trustee, who is paying the creditors on the debtor's behalf.

The benefit to the debtor in a Chapter 13 is that they have repaid their debt, which makes it much more likely that they are going to be able to re-establish their credit with other banking institutions quicker.

Filing a general Chapter 7 should cost \$750 to \$1,000 for a basic consumer credit discharge, but it can certainly be more or less, depending on the complexity of the case. A Chapter 13 will cost about \$2,000, again depending on the complexity of the case.

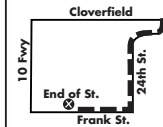
If you think that a bankruptcy will destroy your life, just remember that Henry Ford had to file for bankruptcy at the Detroit Automobile Company, prior to founding what is now known as Ford Motor Company.

Not bad for a second chance.

(David Pizarra is a partner in the Santa Monica law firm of Pizarra & Grist. He can be reached via e-mail at dpizarra@pizarra.com.)

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## LOCAL

### LOCAL BRIEFS

#### Chamber backs tax measure

By Daily Press staff

The Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce has announced that it will support a new proposed tax on property owners to fund the cash-strapped Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District.

The decision came last week when the chamber's board of directors unanimously voted to support the \$225 flat parcel tax, which will be voted on by Santa Monicans in a June 3 special election. The tax would bring in more than \$6 million annually to the district for six years.

The chamber's political action committee will devote its resources to the issue and attempt to make sure the measure passes at the polls.

The chamber board also voted to request that the city provide immediate funding to the school district, which has requested millions of dollars more than the \$3.5 million annual contribution. The district is estimating to be short about \$14 million next year as a result of cuts from the state.

"As a Santa Monica business owner and resident, I am willing to commit to paying the \$225 parcel tax at my home and my business in order to support our schools," said Dr. Michael Gruning, who owns Dr. Gruning Eyecare on Montana Avenue and also is the chamber board's chairman-elect. "I will encourage my fellow residents and business associates to do the same. The city also needs to provide increased and ongoing support to the school district."

It is unknown whether the chamber would have supported one of the other proposals that the district was considering, like the \$60 flat fee with a 7-cent tax for every square foot of developed property, or another proposal which called for a \$110 flat rate and a 5-cent tax for every square foot of developed space.

#### Thousands given out by Santa Monica foundation

By Daily Press staff

Liberty Hill, Santa Monica's largest public foundation, has announced its awards to 15 Los Angeles County "upstart start-ups."

The groups represent what the foundation considers promising new community organizations working to improve the lives of Angelenos from Santa Monica to East LA. The total amount awarded is \$235,000 — a 15 percent increase over last year.

Six of the grants were awarded to groups working to improve the criminal justice system, including the implementation of Proposition 36 and assistance to offenders and children of incarcerated parents.

#### Chamber looking for a 'good' business

By Daily Press staff

In light of recent corporate scandals, many people have begun to view business in a negative context. But not all businesses are bad, and the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce plans to prove it.

A group in Santa Monica has created an award to praise local businesses for the good things they do to protect the environment and build a better community. The sustainable quality award is given each year by a committee of the chamber and the City of Santa Monica.

The group is taking nominations for the 2003 award program. The deadline is Feb. 28.

To be considered for the award, a company must demonstrate commitment to the community in one or more of these categories: economic development, stewardship of the natural environment or social responsibility. A grand prize is given to companies that show excellence in all three categories. The award program recognizes voluntary activities by companies and organizations that contribute to cleaner air and water; waste and pollution reduction; conservation of energy and natural resources; job creation; improved wages and benefits; improved quality of life for residents and workers and a strong and viable local economy.

Any business that is a member of the chamber of commerce or has a business license in Santa Monica may apply. Self-nominations are encouraged. Nomination forms are available at [www.SMSQA.com](http://www.SMSQA.com). Winners will receive awards at the chamber luncheon on May 6 and will be recognized again on May 17 at the Santa Monica Festival.

For seven years, the chamber and the city have honored organizations and businesses, large and small, private and non-profit that contribute to the community.

#### GAVEL II GAVEL, from page 3

Human resource officials from the hospital said they hadn't found any records of Iwobi working those days. They said Iwobi had been paid through Oct. 2, 2002 — the day he had been fired from his job, which was taking patients' vital signs.

"I think he must have gotten his dates mixed up," said Peter Miller, a hospital human resources official.

Iwobi, a black man who appeared to be in his mid-20's, said he didn't get his dates mixed up. He said his supervisor is to blame because she allegedly discriminated against him and was never around when it was time to leave.

"My supervisor didn't like me," he said. "She said people like me don't deserve to be paid for work. She discriminated against me."

Judge Pro Tem Alan Freedman ruled that if Iwobi hadn't taken the time to fill out his hour cards, then he couldn't be paid for the hours he claims to have worked.

"You say you didn't fill out the forms and go to a supervisor because she was never there," Freedman said, "so you're telling me that in a hospital that's open 24 hours there wasn't a supervisor around to turn in your time sheets?"

"I just find that hard to believe," he added. "I don't think you have proved your case."

## LOCAL



# Local lawsuit levied by Jacobs still pending

MAIN, from page 1

doesn't matter who develops it.

"The conditions are supposed to go with the land, not the owner," said City Councilman Ken Genser. "It's not a city issue. The same conditions will apply to whomever buys the property."

The development site occupies the entire block bounded between Neilson Way and Main Street, and Bay Street and Bicknell Avenue, as well as another parcel across the street. The larger site, on the west side of Main Street, used to be the location of the Pioneer Boulangerie Bakery.

**"We are always ready to discuss a meaningful settlement, but they want us to drop the lawsuit, which is not a settlement."**

— HOWARD JACOBS  
Developer

The approved project has gone through at least four major revamps in the past 3 1/2 years, when Jacobs first purchased the property. He has had every aspect of the property put under scrutiny — everything from the height and width of the buildings' elevators to how the potted plants on the top floor will be watered, to the color of paint and kind of materials that will be used for the exterior.

Jacobs' investment not only includes millions of dollars in plan preparations and the price of the property itself, but also hundreds of hours spent in the public review process.

Jacobs had envisioned the ground floor of the buildings' retail space to have neighborhood-serving stores and upstairs would be luxury apartments for rent.

But the public review process was only part of the delay. Jacobs said the planning department — known for its bureaucratic red tape and slowness — spent too long preparing a crucial document that reviews impacts to the neighborhood.

So Jacobs filed a lawsuit against the city in 2001 claiming it has cost him millions of dollars because it dragged its feet in completing the environmental impact review of the project. The report was completed several months after the supposed deadline.

Jacobs has said in the past that the delay has cost him nearly \$3 million because he was sitting on land that he had to pay for and the city delayed him his right to get a return on his investment in a timely manner. Jacobs has said that he pays \$115,000 a month for the mortgage, insurance and maintenance of the property.

The lawsuit is moving forward but Jacobs said he's open to making a deal. The city, however, isn't budging so far.

"We are always ready to discuss a meaningful settlement, but they want us to drop the lawsuit, which is not a settlement," he said. "If and when the city wants to talk about a settlement, (we) stand ready."

Genser wouldn't comment on the case because it's pending.

The development will be the largest project Main Street has seen in years. Supporters of it say it will clean up a section of Main Street that has become blighted since the Pioneer Boulangerie Bakery was abandoned. But some neighbors say the development is too big, will ruin the character of the area and create too much traffic.

# P.E. programs could be cut from school district

FITNESS, from page 1

bases its students' level of fitness cumulatively and compares the scores to previous years, Corliss said.

"We had set up preliminary targets in the school," he said. "It's very good compared to other school districts, and over last year, our fifth grade is much better."

Last year, the school district got a below average grade for student fitness. But that seems to be changing.

"We are improving every year," Corliss said. "District-wide we showed a 15 percent increase in the number of students who met five out of six tests or six out of the six tests."

In the fifth grade, 57.5 percent of the students met the school district's target of fitness. Last year, only 32 percent met the requirements.

Seventh grade only saw a slight improvement, with 41 percent meeting the district's expectations. In 2001, 39.4 percent met the requirements.

"There is a tremendous amount of work to do in this area," Corliss said. "It's not anything I would like to see."

The ninth grade showed an 18 percent improvement — with 55 percent meeting

the target in 2002 and only 37 percent making the grade in 2001.

The district's overall target was to get 56 percent of its students to pass at least five of the six tests. The goal last year was 47 percent, Corliss said.

Throughout the state last year, only 25 percent of students achieved six out of the six tests.

"We are doing a lot better than other districts in the state," Corliss said. "We as a district just started a theme to focus on fitness."

The district has new health-related curriculums in the classrooms, new playgrounds at the elementary schools and a new gym facility at Santa Monica High School.

"We are trying to pull together fitness, nutrition and knowledge," Corliss said.

But nutrition may be difficult to instill into the young minds of Santa Monica's children as McDonalds and Taco Bell are both served on Samohi's campus.

And fitness could be difficult to maintain as well — with looming cuts from the state, the school district finds itself about \$14 million short. One of the items proposed to be cut is elementary physical education, Corliss said.

"We are going to lose what we have worked on for five years," he said.



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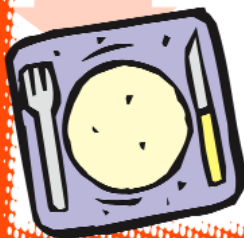
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## LOCAL □ STATE



# Entertainment industry angered over software

BY GARY GENTILE  
AP Business Writer

**LOS ANGELES** — Last June, Utah software developer Breck Rice met with movie directors to pitch a new program that could insert product placements into movies, make a New York skyline resemble Tokyo and even drape a modest negligee over Kate Winslet during her nude scene in "Titanic."

The program, called "MovieMask," was designed to digitally alter films in large part to make them more family friendly, skipping violent or sexual content and toning down language.

To demonstrate, Rice showed the directors a demo tape. The swords in a fight in Rob Reiner's "The Princess Bride" were changed to light sabers. Jack Nicholson's lips in "A Few Good Men" were altered and a voiceover added to change a rant using an offensive term to "you funny people."

The directors were furious. "It was heated. The directors did feel threatened," said Warren Adler, associate national director of the Directors Guild of America, who attended the meeting.

That meeting solidified the battle lines between Hollywood and a growing business dedicated to sanitizing films and television programs.

On one side are a chain of video rental stores and a number of software programs and devices serving an audience that has grown tired of gratuitous sex and violence and foul language peppering films aimed at teenagers.

"In the privacy of your own home, consumers have whatever liberties they want

to take with property they own or have paid for the rights to use," Rice said. "No studio or no director should be allowed to tell parents how to protect their kids."

Film studios and directors say they are sensitive to those concerns, but say the issue is about violating copyright and protecting the director's right to say "cut."

"What this is about is the fact that the filmmaker and the copyright owner have the right to send their product out into the world and decide what they're saying and what they're presenting," Adler said.

The debate has erupted into a flurry of legal actions.

In August, the owner of a "CleanFlicks" video store in Colorado that rents sanitized video tapes and DVDs fired the first shot, suing the Directors Guild of America after word circulated that the DGA was planning its own suit. The suit asks a federal judge to find that the editing practices are protected under federal copyright law.

Last September, the Directors Guild filed a countersuit against video stores that carry the edited films as well as software companies that do the editing. The suit named additional defendants, including Trilogy Studios, makers of MovieMask, ClearPlay and others.

In December, eight Hollywood studios joined the lawsuit, alleging that the companies violate trademark law when they rent or sell an altered movie in the original packaging.

CleanFlicks uses a proprietary system to identify what it considers objectionable material, including the use of God's name in vain, and alters the physical videotape or DVD before it's rented or sold.

## Pier repairs on-going effort

PIER, from page 1

opment. "There are a number of pylons that will have to be replaced over the coming years to retain the pier in good operating condition."

City officials said the pier is still completely safe because it's built in a way that if one brace or pylon is weakened, other pylons are able to bear the added load.

"The pier structure is built on a system of redundancy," Richter said. "Multiple pylons are cross-braced in many ways so that one section always supports many other sections too."

Portions of the pier have been roped off to make sure heavy vehicles aren't parked over weakened areas of the structure, said Linda Sullivan, a member of the Pier Restoration Corp., which partners with the city to manage the pier.

"It's not that they don't want people walking on it, they just don't want cars parked on it," she said.

Construction on the first phase is scheduled to begin after Labor Day weekend this year, when the tourist season traditionally dies down. It's estimated 15 of the roughly 1,400 pylons will have to be replaced this year, costing the city \$850,000.

The primary section that will be replaced is in the middle of the pier, a 200-foot-long section where the amusement park ends and the Harbor Patrol building begins, Richter said.

"That is a section of the pier that was not rehabbed 15 years ago when portions of the pier were replaced," Richter said. "Each end section was rebuilt and we

used concrete pylons. And those continue to be in good shape."

Officials said the construction is necessary even though the city is going through difficult budget years with mounting multi-million dollar deficits.

"I hope they don't cut that because if you don't maintain the pier now, down the road you'll have millions of worth of damages," Sullivan said.

Santa Monica City Councilman Ken Genser said its necessary the city continue to ensure its infrastructure is maintained.

"The pier requires constant maintenance," he said. "It's just something that takes a lot of attention and an on-going effort."

During construction, officials will assess how many more of the pylons need to be repaired and how much more maintenance will be needed, Richter said.

"It would be done in phases so that no one section of the pier would ever be closed or access across the pier would ever be closed," Richter said. "We're looking at a sequenced four-year program of varying pylon replacement based on the area that is being worked on."

Instead of replacing the wooden pylons with concrete or metal braces, city officials have decided to go with wood, which is both cheaper and easier to install — especially since the rest of the support network is already made of wood.

"And concrete has its other problems," said Sullivan. "Because sea water is very corrosive, it can seep into the concrete and soak the re-bar making it rust."

## NATIONAL



# Business owners and customers ignore smoking laws

BY P. SOLOMON BANDA  
Associated Press Writer

**PUEBLO, Colo.** — Brian Falsetto watched as customers flicked ashes on the floor, into empty beer bottles and on water-soaked napkins, flagrantly defying “no smoking” signs on the walls inside Gray’s Coors Tavern. Falsetto, the owner’s stepson, seemed oblivious to the drifting smoke along the 95-foot-long bar. “We’re just the bar owners, not the enforcers of these Gestapo laws,” he said.

Owners of Gray’s and other taverns have joined some residents in a movement to repeal an ordinance that bans smoking in public places, including bars and restaurants. Organizers believe owners have the right to run businesses without government interference.

Campaigns are afoot to repeal similar laws in Tempe, Ariz., and Las Cruces, N.M.

“I enjoy a cigar from time to time,” pharmacy technician Brendan Brumbaugh, 37, said as he ate lunch at The Pantry Restaurant. “It’s a rights issue. If I go puff a cigar in a bar it’s illegal. It’s stupid.”

Nonsmoking ordinances began gaining widespread popularity in the mid-1980s as grocery stores and office buildings banned tobacco smoking and restaurants were required to set aside seating areas for nonsmokers.

More than 1,500 cities have similar restrictions, according to Berkeley, Calif.-based Americans for Nonsmokers’ Rights.

Laws that ban indoor smoking, including bars, gained popularity after California passed a law in 1994. The number of cities with similar ordinances has grown from seven in 1998 to 44. Delaware also has a similar law.

Other cities such as New York and Boston, Chicago and Denver are either considering or passing similar laws.

Health officials and nonsmoking proponents argue those who work in bars should not be exposed to secondhand smoke, which the Food and Drug Administration has concluded can cause cancer.

Bronson Frick, associate director of the Berkeley group, said it is rare to repeal a smoking ban because people generally like the smoke-free air.

In this southern Colorado city, the smoking ban in all

public places took effect Jan. 1. Violators faced fines of up to \$300.

It was suspended about three weeks later after opponents presented petitions containing more than 10,000 signatures to repeal the ban. The council can overturn the law or put the issue before voters. There is no deadline for action.

Opponents also are working to recall four council members who voted in favor of the ban.

A group that includes City Council members, health officials and opponents of the ban are meeting to work out a compromise, said David Galli, assistant city manager.

“My belief is that it is a public health issue,” said City Councilman Mike Occhiato, who supports the ban. “We will send it to voters and it will pass. Smokers are in the minority.”

In Las Cruces, the ban was suspended after opponents turned in the minimum 1,534 signatures on petitions seeking its repeal. An election is scheduled March 18.

Tempe, a suburb of Phoenix, tentatively plans to put the issue before voters in March 2004, city spokeswoman Mary Fowler said opponents turned in more than 12,000 signatures seeking its repeal.

Richard Bank, who is leading opposition to the voter-approved restrictions, wants the issue placed on the bal-

lot sooner and is trying to raise money to pay for an election.

“We’re not a bunch of people who want to blow smoke in people’s faces,” Bank said. “We’re a nonsmoking island surrounded by other cities that don’t have these laws. Bars are losing business to those other cities.”

Joe Losavio, a former district attorney helping the Pueblo group, said he is pleased that the residents are trying to fight the ban. “If one small community like Pueblo says, ‘We’re not going to take it,’ it might catch on across the country,” he said.

Losavio and other organizers insist that tobacco companies are not behind their efforts. But ban proponents such as Group to Alleviate Smoking Pollution (GASP) of Colorado said the tactics mimic other so-called grassroots efforts later discovered to be funded by tobacco companies.

Companies such as Philip Morris USA said they usually do not support individual campaigns but instead donate money to hospitality organizations.

Those types of organizations are supporting the efforts in the three communities fighting their bans.

“We do support reasonable restrictions and we don’t think an outright ban is the answer,” said Billy Abshaw, manager of media programs for Philip Morris.

### Smoking restrictions by year

By The Associated Press

Here’s a look at the increasing popularity of smoking bans, which include bars and restaurants, according to American Nonsmokers’ Rights Foundation. Business owners in three Western communities are fighting the bans, which they say go too far. Figures from 2002 are as of Dec. 9. Figures for the comprehensive bans are as of Jan. 15, 2003.

|                                      | 1998 | 1999 | 2000 | 2001 | 2002 |
|--------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Workplace                            | 105  | 114  | 125  | 164  | 178  |
| Restaurants                          | 49   | 59   | 71   | 98   | 122  |
| Bars                                 | 32   | 40   | 49   | 72   | 89   |
| Comprehensive (bars and restaurants) | 7    | NA   | NA   | 32   | 44   |

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## INTERNATIONAL

# Baghdad says will do 'best' to give Blix what he wants

BY CHARLES J. HANLEY  
AP Special Correspondent

**BAGHDAD, Iraq** — Just days before a crucial round of talks with chief inspectors, a senior Iraqi official said Sunday that Baghdad is "keen to resolve any pending issues" in the U.N. search for banned weapons, but didn't immediately offer new concessions.

Maj. Gen. Hossam Mohamed Amin indicated, nevertheless, that Iraq may have compromise proposals on hand for the talks next Saturday and Sunday with Hans Blix and Mohamed ElBaradei. "We shall do our best to make his (Blix's) visit successful," Amin told reporters.

Iraq, which steadfastly denies it has forbidden arms, is under pressure to make concessions and show progress in the U.N. inspections process, to forestall any U.S.-British diplomatic bid for support for military action against Baghdad.

In his news conference, Amin, the chief

Iraqi liaison to the U.N. inspectors, also dismissed U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell's plan to present purported evidence of prohibited Iraqi weapons programs to the U.N. Security Council on Wednesday.

That material will probably be "fabricated space photos or aerial photos," of a kind the Iraqis could refute if given a chance to study it, Amin said. "It is a political game," he said.

President Saddam Hussein is expected to have more to say about the U.S.-Iraqi confrontation in a rare interview, conducted Sunday with retired British lawmaker Tony Benn. Benn said the taped interview would be televised within a day or two.

Chief U.N. weapons inspector Blix and ElBaradei, head of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), accepted an Iraqi invitation to return for a new round of talks just ahead of their next report to the Security Council, on Feb. 14. It will be the second round of Baghdad

talks for Blix and ElBaradei in three weeks.

The two chief inspectors say they hope to see Iraqi movement beforehand on two immediate issues: U.N. reconnaissance flights over Iraq, and U.N. access to weapons scientists in private interviews.

Asked whether Iraq was prepared to bend to the U.N. position, Amin instead repeated Baghdad's positions on both items.

The Iraqis say they will allow American U-2 surveillance flights on behalf of U.N. inspections as long as the United States and Britain halt air patrols over southern and northern Iraq while the spy planes are in the air. This way, they say, Iraqi anti-aircraft batteries won't mistake the reconnaissance aircraft for U.S. and British warplanes and fire on them.

In their Jan. 19-20 talks here, the chief inspectors "told us they have no authority to achieve this," Amin said.

On private interviews with scientists, Amin reiterated to reporters, "We cannot force them (scientists) to conduct such interviews."

In an authoritarian system like Iraq's, the inspectors believe, such specialists will be more candid in private meetings, without government officials monitoring, when asked about possible illicit weapons programs. Thus far, every potential Iraqi witness has refused to submit to such secret interviews, demanding the presence of a witness.

American officials contend Saddam's government has threatened death for any scientist who grants a private interview.

Although he discussed no possible compromise approaches on the issues, Amin told reporters, "We are always ready to discuss or make technical discussions with (the inspectors) to resolve any pending issues from their point of view."

A series of U.N. resolutions since Iraq's defeat by a U.S.-led coalition in the 1991 Gulf War prohibit any programs for chemical, biological or nuclear weapons. Thousands of Iraqi chemical and biological weapons were destroyed under a previous U.N. inspection program in the 1990s, and an Iraqi program aimed at building nuclear bombs was dismantled.

New inspections began in November,

after a four-year gap, to check for any left-over weapons and to ensure that such programs haven't been revived since the U.N. teams departed in 1998.

The Bush administration insists, without presenting proof, that Iraq is hiding banned weaponry and says it will invade the country if, in its view, Baghdad has not disarmed.

The United States has marshaled almost 90,000 military personnel in the Gulf region, a number that may double within weeks. In a further sign of the rising tension, the Turkish military Sunday began moving troops from western Turkey to its border with Iraq, a likely flashpoint in any war.

The U.S. war plans, backed by British Prime Minister Tony Blair, have stirred opposition worldwide. Small numbers of Western protesters sometimes bring their protests to Baghdad's streets, as a dozen American women activists did on Sunday.

Calling themselves the "CodePink" peace vigil, they demonstrated in Baghdad's Tahrir (Liberation) Square sporting pink caps and pink umbrellas and balloons, and unfurling a banner reading, "Working Together For Peace."

In Sunday's daily U.N. arms inspections, monitors made surprise visits to, among other sites, a missile factory west of Baghdad and a chemicals complex to the south, both often inspected before, and to the Abu Ghraib Dairy Company, 12 miles west of the capital, the Information Ministry reported.

The dairy inspection, during which the U.N. team examined the interior of milk truck tanks, was not immediately explained, but the site presumably was linked to the hunt for signs of biological weapons work.

"They have been looking for more than 50 days, and didn't find anything. The Iraqis are right — we don't have these kinds of weapons," a leader of Iraq's National Assembly, Secretary General Ghalib Jassim, told a reporter at a ceremony marking the 12-year anniversary period of the 1991 Gulf War.

## Prayer for astronaut



Elizabeth Dalziel/Associated Press

An Indian Sikh prays as others line up to pay their respects to Indian born astronaut Kalpana Chawla at memorial held at Kalpana's home town of Karnal, Haryana, India, Sunday. While Chawla moved from Karnal more than two decades ago she remains a hero to the people who followed her career at NASA that ended with Saturday's space shuttle catastrophe.

## Explosion destroys bank building in Nigeria, killing at least 40

BY DULUE MBACHU  
Associated Press Writer

**LAGOS, Nigeria** — A powerful explosion tore apart a bank and dozens of apartments above it Sunday in Nigeria's crowded commercial capital, killing at least 40 people and trapping many others, relief workers said.

Police were investigating a range of motives — including that the blast was part of a bank robbery plot. Looting and bloody fights broke out as hundreds of young men grabbed fistfuls of cash from the leveled bank and battled over them.

In the chaos, trapped victims cried for rescue and onlookers wailed as rescuers retrieved bloody, broken bodies.

The Red Cross said searchers had recovered more than 30 dead and 32 injured. Ten of the wounded died later at Lagos General Hospital, hospital workers said.

Many more victims were believed caught in the rubble, and the death toll could rise, said Emmanuel Ijewere, president of the Nigeria Red Cross.

The blast occurred about 12:30 p.m. on Lagos Island, a crowded high-rise district of banks and other businesses packed side-by-side with poor, densely populated residential blocks.

The four-story bank building collapsed, bringing three

floors of apartments crashing down on the ground floor Prudent Bank. Fires flared briefly after the blast, which could be heard for miles and sent a tower of smoke into the sky.

Two adjoining buildings were heavily damaged, and buildings for blocks around had shattered windows and other marks of the explosion.

Residents said some victims had been blocks away from the bank building.

"My uncle was in the balcony of our house talking with a friend and the force of the explosion threw them down," resident Remi Oyebanji said. "They're both dead."

An Associated Press reporter saw 10 crushed bodies. One covered corpse appeared to be that of a child.

Resident Omololu Kassim, who was helping carry the victims, said he saw 40 dead and as many injured. Local radio put the toll at 50 or more. The blast came as many were at church, preventing an even higher death toll.

Hundreds of police surrounded the damaged neighborhood, dispersing the looters and forcing back thousands of onlookers. Cranes and other heavy equipment moved in to lift up the heavy concrete slabs and other debris.

Ambulance drivers fought to navigate narrow streets and push through the throngs to get to victims.

Survivors bundled together what possessions they could and set off in search of safe housing.

"My husband is dead," one middle-aged woman cried, carrying a bundle on her head and dragging a little boy behind.

Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo flew in from the capital of Abuja to visit the blast site. Obasanjo, accompanied by Lagos state Gov. Bola Tinubu, had no comment.

Tinubu said his government will begin a judicial investigation into the blast and he promised free medical treatment for the injured.

Lagos Island is one of two islands that, with the mainland, make up this city of 12 million. Congestion on the island has sent many businesses moving to other parts of Lagos in recent years.

Nigeria is Africa's most populous nation, with 120 million people, and urban crowding contributes to high death tolls in disasters and other tragedies.

On Jan. 27, 2002, a series of explosions at an army munitions depot in Lagos killed more than 1,000 people. Hundreds of them drowned after jumping in a canal to escape the blast.

## SPORTS



# West defeats East in NHL All-Star game shootout

BY ALAN ROBINSON

AP Sports Writer

**SUNRISE, Fla.** — In a trying, troubling season, the NHL almost got the All-Star game wrong, too. Even if Dany Heatley didn't.

Heatley, a not-so-well known star from a last-place team playing in his first All-Star game, joined hockey greats such as Wayne Gretzky and Mario Lemieux by scoring a record-tying four goals Sunday, though he couldn't prevent the Western Conference from beating the East in the first All-Star shootout in NHL history.

Just like baseball's All-Star tie fiasco of last summer, there was considerable confusion at the finish. At least the NHL had a winner — a big relief for a league embarrassed twice this season by teams going bankrupt.

After a 5-all regulation tie set up the fourth overtime All-Star game, the West won 6-5 when Markus Naslund, Bill Guerin and Paul Kariya scored in the shootout against goalie Patrick Lalime. Only Heatley — of course — scored for the East against goalie Marty Turco.

Though Heatley put the puck in the net five times, the NHL announced several minutes after the game he would be credited only with four goals — the fifth player to do so.

Most of the fans left thinking the score was 8-6, as the West outscored the East 3-1 in the shootout; that also was changed by the NHL's hockey operations department after most had departed.

No, Bud Selig wasn't running the show, either, even if it might have seemed like it amid the confusion.

"You heard the fans, they didn't want

to go home without somebody winning this game," Turco said. "They wanted the East to win, but they were definitely excited and that got me pumped."

Even Gretzky got excited. The Great One went to the East's locker room before the third period and urged Heatley to go for the record.

"He told me to get five, six or seven," Heatley said. "It was unbelievable for him to come down. Too bad I couldn't get the fifth one."

Players on both sides said that, unlike the cruise control level of most All-Star games, both teams really wanted to win this one.

"All of a sudden, with 12 to 15 minutes to go, everybody was getting in front of everything, there was a little more stick work and the competitive juices got flowing," the West's Al MacInnis said.

Olli Jokinen said, "It was a lot faster and we even saw a few hits. It's a game for the fans, and I think this was the best (All-Star game) in many years."

Heatley, a 22-year-old overshadowed at times on his own Atlanta Thrashers team by Ilya Kovalchuk, matched Gretzky (1983), Lemieux (1990), Vincent Damphousse (1991) and Mike Gartner (1993) as the only players in the All-Star game's 53-year history with four goals.

He's also the youngest at 22 years and 13 days, or one day younger than Gretzky was in '83.

"I was pretty relaxed," Heatley said. "After I got the first one (against Patrick Roy), I was pretty relaxed and the chances kept coming and I put a few in."

By taking away Heatley's shootout goal, the NHL also prevented him from matching Lemieux's 1988 record of six points in a game.

After getting his fourth goal with six minutes still remaining in the second period, Heatley flashed a typical hockey player's missing-tooth grin, then spent the rest of the fast-moving and relatively low-scoring game trying to get his record fifth goal.

His linemates, who usually included home-ice star Jokinen of Florida and Washington's Jaromir Jagr, tried to get it for him too, repeatedly giving him the puck every time he hit the ice.

He didn't get that fifth goal in regulation, but Heatley did set up Jokinen's first

career All-Star goal midway through the third period. Jokinen, a late addition to the game when Saku Koivu pulled out with an injury, also had a memorable debut with a goal and three assists.

Heatley's big game came only one year after he played in the Young Stars game, held the night before the All-Star game.

Fittingly enough, his big game highlighted an afternoon in which the NHL's young stars — for a change — truly did overshadow the traditional names such as Roy, Roenick, Lidstrom, Forsberg and Jagr.

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# Mike Weir stays steady to win Bob Hope Classic

BY KEN PETERS

AP Sports Writer

**LA QUINTA** — Mike Weir, who stayed steady down the stretch while Jay Haas and Tim Herron shot themselves into trouble, won the Bob Hope Classic on Sunday.

Weir shot a closing 5-under par 67 to finish at 30-under 330 and two strokes in front of Haas, who was tied for the lead until he hit into the water in front of the 18th green.

It was the second year in a row Haas, the 1988 Hope champion, held the lead only to lose it late in the final round, this time despite shooting a 69.

Herron, four shots ahead of Weir and Haas heading into the final round of the five-day tournament, struggled to a 75 that included a quadruple bogey on No. 16.

He finished tied for third at 25 under with Chris DiMarco, who shot 70.

The win by Weir, a native of Sarnia, Ontario, marks the sixth straight tour event won by a foreigner, dating back to the final two tournaments of last year.

PGA officials believe foreign players have never won six tour tournaments in a row, and the last time foreigners took the first four events of the year was in 1927 when Tommy Armour and Bobby Cruickshank of Scotland each won twice to begin the season.

Haas' shot was short as he went for the green over the water on the 543-yard, par-

5 No. 18. Then Weir, who had hit his second shot into the fairway, knocked his third shot onto the right fringe of the green and drilled a 35-foot birdie putt into the center of the cup.

Haas took a bogey because of the penalty stroke when he hit into the water.

Weir, who trailed Haas by three shots at the turn, caught him by making a short birdie putt on No. 17 to go 29 under while Haas took a par on the hole.

Playing conditions were ideal for the first four days of the 90-hole tournament, but gusting winds early in the day made club selection difficult for much of the final round.

David Gossett matched par to finish fifth at 24 under, and defending champion Phil Mickelson, who came on strong after an opening 70, had a 67 to finish in a tie with Pat Perez for sixth at 23 under. Perez shot 71.

Herron's troubles on the 364-yard, par-4 No. 16 ran the gamut of hazards — sand, rocks and water — as he took eight shots to get down.

He hit his tee shot into the bunker, wedged his next shot under a large rock, took a penalty, then hit over the green and into the water. After another penalty, he pitched to within 15 feet of the hole, but his putt from there curled just over the rim of the cup, and he finally putted out.

Last year, Haas led the Hope at 26 under with eight holes to go, but bogeyed No. 13 to start a slide that wound up in a 74 that dropped him into a tie for 16th.

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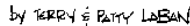
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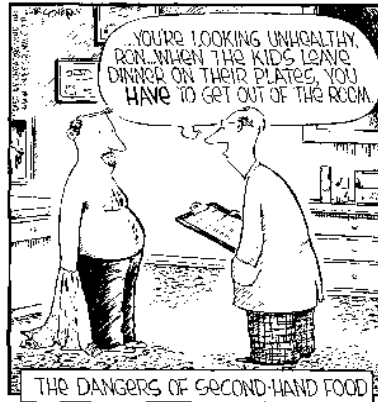
By THOMAS JOSEPH



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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, bclny, stv, gated entrance/ controlled access.

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

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

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

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

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## For Rent

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

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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. 2bdrm, 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 \$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

SANTA MONICA \$650.00 Immaculate Unit, new carpet, original ceramic tile in kitchen and bath, separate kitchen, laundry, facility, refig. stove, street prkng, pet 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 1bdrm/1ba, utilities/parking/refrig, laundry, included. Walk to beach and Main St. Russell (310)396-1439.

SM \$1250.00 1bdrm, upper. Brand new building. Microwave, dishwasher, refrigerator, stove, berber carpeting, large balcony, parking. Available now! 1347 23rd St. (310)899-9917.

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



# 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.

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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.

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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.

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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 x102.

**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

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

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.  
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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 mldngs, 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

## For Rent

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

WEST HOLLYWOOD \$795.00 Great 1BD/1BA, patio, 2 units avail., 1bdr, 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

## Roommates

S.M. SHARE 2bdrm furnished apt., all utilities paid including cable. 9th & Wilshire. Male only. \$675.00 (310)394-1050.

## 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.

CONFERENCE ROOM: Available for weekly, daytime meetings or individual dates. Close to freeways, W. LA. Seats 60. Attractive, windowed, AC space. Affordable, comfortable. Chairs, tables. Large white boards. Video/Audio equipment. Available (310)820-6322.

OFFICE AVAILABLE in 5 office suite. 1121 4th St., S.M. Law/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.

## 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/hr. 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 THERAPEUTIC/SENSUAL CMT 90/min, w/table, late night, in/out. (213)303-8773

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.

## Announcements

ASSISTANCE LEAGUE OF SANTA MONICA  
Visit our bargain bazaar at 1453 15th St. Very reasonable prices. (310)295-2338

"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.

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

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(actual photo)

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

## 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. **TYPOS:** 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.



## A 'generous gift'

By The Associated Press

**FRANKLIN, Tenn.** — A Christmas Eve collection envelope at Christ United Methodist Church contained an engagement ring and a wedding band.

"My hope and my prayer is that somebody, by doing this, found some peace in their life," the Rev. Tom Gildemeister said.

Church leaders said they have no idea who left the unmarked envelope or why.

About 550 people attended services that night, about half of them visitors. Gildemeister said the church, founded in 1997, has a relatively large number of divorced members.

Perhaps the gift showed gratitude to God for giving someone strength to persevere through hard times, said Hanes Sparkman, a church member and jeweler who is appraising the rings. He described the rings as "an awful generous gift" but declined to estimate their value.

"Maybe they didn't have the cash to put in and this was their way of telling God thanks for all that he's done in their life," Sparkman said.

## Political snub

By The Associated Press

**MATHIAS TOWNSHIP, Mich.** — Voters elected Geri Timonen as their clerk, but she won't serve because of a swearing-in error and subsequent snub.

Incumbent Timonen defeated Amy Richmond in the general election, but Mathias Township board members

on Tuesday appointed Richmond anyway.

A vacancy was created when Timonen was sworn in Jan. 3, after the Jan. 1 deadline set by state law. The township board needed to appoint a clerk, but was under no legal obligation to appoint Timonen, The Mining Journal of Marquette reported.

"We appointed the runner-up," township Supervisor Everett Dalgord said. "There was only three of us at the meeting, and all three of us voted for Amy Richmond."

Dalgord said board members were unhappy with Timonen's job performance since she was appointed in March 2001. "It just wasn't working out," Dalgord said.

Timonen said she made some mistakes, like not paying a couple of bills on time. But she says the errors were minor.

"I'm new. I'm human," she said, adding that she was unaware of the Jan. 1 swearing-in rule.

## Computer death

By The Associated Press

**GRAND RAPIDS, Mich.** — Believe Cathy Uhl, not the computer, when she insists she's alive.

A computer error at Saint Mary's Mercy Medical Center mistakenly identified her and thousands of other patients as deceased.

"We've had problems with insurance before. But when I got this letter, I said, 'Brad (her husband), you're not going to believe this. According to this, I'm dead,'" said Uhl, an administrative supervisor at The Grand Rapids Press.

Uhl is one of 8,500 people who got the Jan. 2 letter, which notified patients that bills issued between mid-October and Dec. 11 had been coded incorrectly to indicate that the person was dead.

The glitch happened during a routine update of Saint Mary's computer files in October, Jennifer Cammenga, a spokeswoman for Saint Mary's, told The Grand Rapids Press.

One digit was dropped from a computer code to indicate the patients were "deceased," rather than "discharged to home."

Cammenga, who also received a letter, said the problem is being corrected and the hospital is contacting affected patients and their insurance providers.

The mistake was discovered by a Saint Mary's employee who was helping a patient with a billing problem. She noticed that the bill said the patient died, but the patient was standing in front of her, said Saint Mary's chief financial officer, Steve Pirog.

"Once we identified the problem, getting it fixed took only a few days," Pirog said.

## Bus brain teasers

By The Associated Press

**AMHERST, Mass.** — Who says there's nothing better to do on a bus ride than doze off or stare out the window?

Amherst-area commuters now have brain teasers to keep them awake and focused when they're riding buses operated by UMass Transit.

The buses display placards with cartoon-illustrated physics problems. In one, two cats and a dog out for a day of fishing throw an anchor overboard, prompting riders to ponder if the level of the lake rises, falls or stays the same.

The placards are the brain children of Robert Romer, a retired Amherst College physics professor.

"All my life I have been trying to get people of various ages to think about physics and to enjoy doing so, so this is just a peculiar form of continuation of that mission," Romer said.

Along with the anchor-in-the-lake dilemma, there will be five more placard puzzles coming soon to the bus routes, all illustrated by Bruce Aller. Answers are posted online at <http://www.amherst.edu/~7/8physic-sqanda/>.

UMass Transit is donating space for the placards.

"I think it's great," said Allan E. Byam, UMass Transit manager. "I'm very interested to see how many hits his Web site gets. It's nice to have some positive stuff up on the bus, instead of just (placards saying) 'Don't eat on the bus' and 'Report hate crimes' and such."

## SANTA MONICA SCENE °CALENDAR EDITION

# MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 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.

**Toddler Time, 10 a.m.** Barnes & Noble at the Promenade and Wilshire. (310)260-9110.

**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.

**Harvelle's Blues Club** present Sports Happy Hour, 5pm to 8pm. 100 inch movie screen with high definition LCD projector, JBL surround sound, drink specials, \$3.00 Happy Hour Buffet. 1432 4th Street. Between Broadway and Santa Monica Blvd. (310)395-1676

**Unurban Coffee House** presents Hot Topics Night hosted by

Ali every Monday evening. Signup is at 8pm. Open panel discussion and open forum. 3301 Pico Blvd. (310)315-0056

## TUESDAY

**Ongoing support groups for people 55 and older.** Current openings in, So, What Are You Going to Do With the Rest of your Life? Tuesdays, 10:00 to 11:30am. Center for Healthy Aging, 2125 Arizona Avenue. Sliding scale fee. Not drop-in groups. Phone interview required. Call Information and Referral. (310)576-2550.

**Crossroads Schools in Santa Monica** invites local musicians (grades 3-7) to join orchestra rehearsals. Rehearsals are ongoing and are held each Tuesday of the school year, from 3:15 to 4:15. Students may join at anytime. Cost is free, students must bring their own instruments. 1714 21st Street, SM. For more information please call (310)829-7391

**Santa Monica College Emeritus College Band** invites adult musicians who play a band instrument to join the band. Rehearsals are held each Tuesday evening in the Band room at Lincoln Middle School, 14th and California Streets from 7pm to 9:15pm, Concerts are given during the year. For more information call (310)474-5271.

**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)** 12:50, 3:45, 6:40, 9:35, 12:25.  
**Biker Boyz (PG-13)** 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:05, 11:20.  
**The Hours (PG-13)** 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:50, 12:35.  
**The Guru (R)** 12:35, 3:00, 5:25, 7:50, 10:20, 12:55.

### MANN CRITERION

1313 Third St.  
**Adaptation (R)** 12:30, 3:45, 7:10, 10:25.  
**The Recruit (PG-13)** 11:15, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00, 12:30.  
**Confessions of a Dangerous Mind (R)** 1:00, 4:00, 7:05, 10:10.  
**Gangs of New York (R)** 11:30, 3:15, 7:00, 10:30.  
**National Security (PG-13)** 12:15, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:15.  
**Darkness Falls (PG-13)** 12:00, 2:20, 4:45, 7:20, 9:45.

### AMC THEATRE SM 7

1310 3rd Street  
**Just Married (PG-13)** 12:50, 3:25, 5:40, 8:15, 10:30.  
**The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers (PG-13)** 1:20, 4:40, 8:30.  
**Catch Me If You Can (PG-13)** 12:30, 3:45, 7:00, 10:20.  
**Chicago (PG-13)** 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:15.  
**25th Hour (R)** 12:45, 3:45, 7:00, 10:05.  
**Kangaroo Jack (PG)** 12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 9:50.  
**Final Destination 2 (R)** 12:45, 3:15, 5:35, 8:05, 10:30.

### 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.  
**Frída (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

# Grieving for shuttle crew, and a daunting hunt for debris

BY DAVID CRARY

AP National Writer

United again in sorrow, Americans mourned the deaths of the space shuttle astronauts at church services Sunday, while investigators mobilized to determine what went wrong. Search crews — some on horseback, some in helicopters — tracked charred debris across Texas and Louisiana.

"I don't know that we'll ever find all these pieces," said Sheriff Thomas Kerss, overseeing the hunt for hundreds, possibly thousands, of bits of wreckage strewn over Nacogdoches County after the shuttle burst apart above Texas.

At churches across America, at the Johnson Space Center in Houston, at a U.S. Army base in Afghanistan, even in the Iraq National Assembly, the loss of the seven Columbia astronauts gave rise to grief and reflection.

"A lot of things occur, we just wonder why and how," said Jim Andreini, 58, attending a service at Grace Brethren Church in Westerville, Ohio. "We like to think it's all part of the plan. Sometimes, it's hard to understand."

Officials said the collected debris would be trucked to Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana for analysis by engineering experts. Their findings will be part of a NASA investigation aimed at discovering why the shuttle disintegrated Saturday, just moments from its scheduled landing in Florida.

NASA chief Sean O'Keefe said investigators, though open to all possibilities, would focus initially on whether insulation from a fuel tank caused damage during Columbia's Jan. 16 ascent that ultimately doomed the shuttle.

A special federal commission also will conduct an investigation, with its emphasis on policy matters affecting the future of the U.S. space program. Harold W. Gehman Jr., the retired Navy admiral who helped lead the Pentagon's inquiry into the USS Cole bombing, will head that commission.

Committees in the House and Senate also plan to



Joe Cavaretta/Associated Press

**Flags and flowers adorn a fence at the entrance to the Johnson Space Center in Houston, Texas, Sunday morning. Seven astronauts perished when the space shuttle Columbia broke to pieces as it re-entered the atmosphere a for a landing in Florida Saturday at the end of a 16-day mission.**

examine the disaster.

"The key issue for us in Congress is why did it happen, how did it happen, how do we fix it and then how do we project on forward with manned space flight?" said Sen. Sam Brownback, R-Kan. "We need to continue that

for the vision of the country and the vision of the world."

Across hundreds of square miles of Texas and Louisiana, civilian and military authorities used horses, four-wheel drive vehicles, Army helicopters and satellite data to locate shuttle debris in pastures, woods and swamps.

Human remains, including a charred torso, were found along the Texas-Louisiana state line. At a school in Douglas, Texas, 150 miles northeast of Houston, debris dented the roof and dotted the baseball field.

Kerss said it could be weeks or months before searchers reach remote areas that might hold pieces of the shuttle.

No injuries were reported due to falling debris. But Sue Kennedy, emergency management coordinator for Nacogdoches County, said 70 people went to local hospitals because they touched debris and were concerned about possible toxic contamination.

As law enforcement agencies struggled to protect the bits of wreckage, NASA warned against trying to auction purported Columbia debris on Ebay.

"People should not be collecting that at all. It's all government property," said Bruce Buckingham, a NASA spokesman.

In Iraq, bracing for possible war with the United States, the government issued no formal statement about Columbia, but some officials expressed sympathy for the American people.

"We respect their feelings and share their sadness," said Bushra al-Samarai, a member of the Iraqi National Assembly.

Both the shuttle disaster and Iraq were evoked at the church service attended by President Bush. The Rev. Luis Leon, rector of St. John's Church across from the White House, said he had heard others suggest the shuttle's breakup was "God's way of getting back at us" for Bush's Iraq policies.

"That's just garbage," Leon said. "What happened yesterday I think is the price that we pay for exploration, it's the price that we pay for the freedom that God has granted all of us."

## Sustainable Quality Award

Nomination Deadline February 28th

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 6th Chamber Luncheon.

Nominations are quick and easy! Visit [www.smsqa.com](http://www.smsqa.com) and click on "SQA Nomination Form", or contact the Chamber of Commerce at 310.393.9825 for more information.



## 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](mailto:tracey.mayer@cancer.org)