

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

DAILY LOTTERY

SUPER LOTTO

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ More Courtroom Defendants Employing Ridiculous Legal Theories: Gregory Ignatius Armstrong, 42, was indicted for bankruptcy fraud in Greenbelt, Md., in December for claiming in all seriousness that he is a sovereign nation with unlimited contract powers and is thus owed \$500,000 in copyright royalties by anyone who uses his name (in one case, by his Postal Service supervisor who wrote him concerning absences from work). And Oliver Clifton Hudson and Gregory Banks refused to attend their federal drug-conspiracy trial in Baltimore in November because they deny that the government has jurisdiction over their "flesh and blood." Hudson, for example, said the indictment against him was void because it listed his name in all capital letters, when the correct designation is "Oliver Clifton: Hudson." ■ After her 11-year-old son was suspended for twice bringing a loaded handgun to school, Linnea C. Holdren, 43, said the matter was pretty much beyond her control. "I can't lock up his guns," she told police. "They belong to him, and he has a right to use them whenever he wants to use them." (The boy was expelled in January, and Holdren, who is a teacher at her son's Shickshinny, Pa., elementary school, has been charged with felony endangerment.)

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 34th day of 2006.
There are 331 days left in the year.

On Feb. 3, 1959, a plane crash near Clear Lake, Iowa, claimed the lives of rock 'n' roll stars Buddy Holly, Ritchie Valens and J.P. "The Big Bopper" Richardson.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Your friend will argue with you."

ALEXANDER SOLZHENITSYN
RUSSIAN WRITER

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Police officer shot in ambush



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

A shooter now in police custody fired on a pair of undercover police officers early Thursday morning. The shot that ripped through the unmarked cruiser's passenger side window (above) struck Officer Walter Ramirez in the wrist.

BY KEVIN HERRERA

Daily Press Staff Writer

PICO NEIGHBORHOOD — An undercover police officer was shot in the wrist early Thursday morning when an assailant opened fire on his unmarked vehicle. A reputed gang member was later taken into custody, along with a suspected accomplice, after the two took refuge in a nearby apartment building, authorities said.

Michael Espindola, 20, a resident of Santa Monica and suspected gang member, was booked on suspicion of attempted murder of a police officer, which could carry an enhanced penalty if Espindola, a prior offender, is found to have had possession of a firearm, authorities said.

The shooting occurred about 5

a.m. near the corner of 20th Street and Pico Boulevard. Officers immediately sealed off the area and conducted a search, locating the two suspects in an apartment building in the 1900 block of 17th Street near Santa Monica College. The department's SWAT team was deployed and negotiated their surrender at approximately 6:15 a.m., according to Santa Monica Police Chief James Butts Jr.

As of 10 a.m., the area was still sealed off as officers searched for the weapon used in the shooting.

"Whether you are a police officer or not, it is unlawful and barbaric to lay in wait and open fire on (one) that has done nothing to you," Butts said.

Officer Walter Ramirez, a 4-

See COP SHOT, page 6

STATE

Videotaped shooting may not tell the story

BY IAN GREGOR

Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES — The image on the dark, grainy home videotape is both sensational and disturbing: A sheriff's deputy shoots a man who appears to be unarmed and obeying an order to get up off the ground.

But experts say it remains unclear whether the video, filmed by a resident and broadcast on KTLA-TV this week, tells the entire story of what transpired in Chino Sunday after a 100 mph car chase. Videos, they say, often end up raising more questions than they answer.

"They're drenched with caveats," said Eugene O'Donnell, a professor at John Jay College of Criminal Justice and a former New York police officer and prosecutor.

"One thing we've learned about videos is there are often missing pieces before and after," O'Donnell said. "The quality of the video is often problematic and the sound

See VIDEO SHOOTING, page 7

Moose Lodge murder suspect faces separate felony charges

BY RYAN HYATT

Daily Press Staff Writer

COMPTON — Two men who allegedly shot at deputies during a pursuit, then took four family members hostage inside a home, were charged with 28 felony counts on Tuesday.

Frank Andrew Morado, 20, and Joele Nunez, 21, pleaded not guilty to the charges on Tuesday in Superior Court, according to the District Attorney's Office. Both men are being held on \$6 million bail each.

Authorities said Nunez is also known as Ector Hugo Sanchez, the last of three suspects accused of murdering Jonathan Hernandez and Hector Bonilla — two Santa Monica residents shot multiple times on March 5, 2005 — during a birthday party held at the Moose Lodge on Ocean Park Boulevard.

Morado and Nunez are being charged with multiple counts of attempted murder on a peace offi-

See MOOSE LODGE, page 6

Don't call it a comeback



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

Mike Reynolds, 58, from Venice, works the speed bag recently at Venice's Muscle Beach, where he works out practically every day. Reynolds is on the mend from back surgery. "I wouldn't be alive if it wasn't for the place," he contends. With senior citizen's and disability discounts, Reynolds insists Venice was the best rehabilitation he could afford.

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HOROSCOPES

As you wish, Taurus

Santa Monica Daily Press



JACQUELINE BIGAR’S STARS The stars show the kind of day you’ll Have:
★★★★-Dynamic ★★★★★-Positive ★★★★★-Average ★★-So-so ★-Difficult



ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Finally, interpersonal interactions become easier. Others might really try to listen to you for a change! You might want to revamp your opinion about someone you care for. Start working and planning on a trip. Tonight: Indulge — it’s Friday.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Take your time making a decision, though suddenly it feels a lot clearer. You might want to stall until later in the day or tomorrow. You want to be absolutely sure. You might need to revamp your attitude. Tonight: As you wish.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Others simply cheer you on. You might be taken aback by others’ approaches, but you will like the support. A relationship suddenly becomes much easier. Take your time with this person. Tonight: Vanish — mysteriously!



CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ You want to be more in sync with a family member or roommate. At the same time, you need to take charge and handle your responsibilities. You will like what comes down your path — you will. Tonight: You will be happy where there are people.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ Use your mind rather than take a direct action. Research alternatives with care, for your own sake. You might revise your plans. Discussions involving work or a parent finally fall into place. Just hang in there. Tonight: A must appearance.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Work individually with each person who comes down your path. Revise your thoughts when you find out that a situation is different from what you initially thought. A money-making idea appears. Check it out. Tonight: Take off as soon as you can.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You feel better than you have in a long time. Your ruling planet goes direct, not to retrograde for a long time. Others come forward and allow you to express your feelings. Perhaps you are finally more willing to open up. Schedule a long-term discussion. Tonight: Be with a favorite person.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Accomplish as much as you can. In fact, you might want to consider putting in some overtime. You could be surprised at another’s unhappiness when you don’t join him or her. How nice is that? Tonight: Still, try to join a friend.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ You clearly act and speak in a manner that draws enthusiasm. You find that with imagination, problems that have plagued your daily life will vanish. A friend speaks more clearly. In fact, others are more easygoing than before. You will zero in on what you want. Tonight: Easy does it.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Handle personal matters carefully. You will want your mind to be at ease when you move on to other projects later in the day. You might want to re-evaluate an issue where you might have been a bit rigid. Tonight: Happy as a cat.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You lighten up, and others do as well. Plans that have been on hold could head in a different direction. You could be delighted and feel well-rewarded. Come from a secure position. You are lovable. Tonight: At home.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Dealing with others might be a snap. You will like the sudden change of pace and be a lot happier. You might be startled by what comes down your path. Open up to greater security and more freedom. Tonight: Out and about.



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LOCAL



Pinning their hopes



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press
Former Kiwanis president Jean McNeil Wyner installs Captain Eric Bradley of the Salvation Army into the Santa Monica Kiwanas Club on Wednesday at the Santa Monica Family YMCA.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Brush with greatness: Honoree blends sports with arts

By Daily Press staff

Who knew sports and fine art could co-exist?

Sport artist Opie Otterstad will unveil the Chicago White Sox team painting, while being honored as the United States Sports Academy’s Sport Artist of the Year 2006 at Gallery 319 in Santa Monica on Feb. 7, from 6 to 8 p.m. The art show is open to the public. Otterstad is painting the Chicago White Sox World Series team a year after doing the same for the Boston Red Sox. The original painting is for sale and will be officially licensed by Major League Baseball.

In December, Otterstad was named the 2006 sport artist of the year by the American Sport Art Museum and Archives (ASAMA).

Otterstad was among hundreds of sports artist from around the world nominated for this prestigious annual award. The ASAMA art committee, which consists of respected national artists and curators, vote annually to decide the world’s top sport artist.

Otterstad, a painter from Austin, Texas, travels frequently and stays busy accepting numerous commissions to create depictions of sporting events and sportsmen. His works include assignments to paint pictures honoring Houston Astros’ pitcher Roger Clemens and the Boston Red Sox 2004 World Series championship collage.

Past recipients of the sports artist of the year include Daniel Moore, Stephen Holland, Charles Billich, Ernie Barnes, James Rizzi and Mina Papatheodorou-Valyraki.

ASAMA houses what is believed to be the largest collection of fine sport art in the world and is dedicated to the collection, display and preservation of sports history, art and literature. The museum exhibits world-renowned sport artists Hans Erni, Charles Billich, Ernie Barnes and the famed Spanish artist Cristóbal Gabarrón.

The United States Sports Academy, “America’s sport university,” is an independent, nonprofit institution that offers sport-specific programs to students, teachers, and administrators around the world. The Academy’s mission is to serve the sports industry as a resource in instruction, research, and other sports-related services. It is the only freestanding institution of higher learning in the United States offering masters and doctoral degrees in sport science and sport management, in addition to its certification programs.

For more information about the USSA, call (251) 626-3303.

SNOW AND SURF REPORTS

CONDITIONS

DATA PROVIDED BY ONTHESNOW.COM

BEAR MOUNTAIN

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs) 0"	BASE DEPTH 12"-36"	LIFT HOURS 8:30am - 4:00pm	RUNS OPEN 15	LIFTS OPEN 10/12
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CONDITIONS: Packed Powder, Machine Groomed, Hard Packed

JUNE MOUNTAIN

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs) 0"	BASE DEPTH 96" - 120"	LIFT HOURS 8:00am - 4:00pm	RUNS OPEN 35	LIFTS OPEN 6/6
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CONDITIONS: Packed Powder, Machine Groomed

MAMMOTH MOUNTAIN

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs) 0"	BASE DEPTH 144" - 168"	LIFT HOURS 8:30 am - 4:00 pm	RUNS OPEN 150	LIFTS OPEN 25/28
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CONDITIONS: Packed Powder, Machine Groomed

MOUNTAIN HIGH

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs) 0"	BASE DEPTH 12"-30"	LIFT HOURS 8:30 am - 10:00 pm	RUNS OPEN 16	LIFTS OPEN 8/16
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CONDITIONS: Machine Made, Machine Groomed, Hard Packed

MT. BALDY

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs) 0"	BASE DEPTH 12"-12"	LIFT HOURS 8:00 am - 4:30 pm	RUNS OPEN 4	LIFTS OPEN 2/4
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CONDITIONS: Packed Powder, Machine Made

SNOW SUMMIT

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs) 0"	BASE DEPTH 12"-36"	LIFT HOURS 8:30 am - 4:30 pm	RUNS OPEN 18	LIFTS OPEN 14/14
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CONDITIONS: Packed Powder, Machine Groomed, Hard Packed

SNOW VALLEY

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs) 0"	BASE DEPTH 24"-12"	LIFT HOURS 8:30 am - 4:00 pm	RUNS OPEN 11	LIFTS OPEN 5/11
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CONDITIONS: Packed Powder, Machine Groomed

CONDITIONS

WATER TEMP: 58°

DATA PROVIDED BY WETSAND.COM

SWELL FORECAST (3-5 FT)

Today we'll be seeing the peak of the NW ground swell that's filling in today with chest high for the most part, shoulder high at times when the tide is right. Winds will likely go offshore for most of the day on Friday as well, but could get quite stiff around LA, Ventura, and Santa Barbara, at least for the morning sessions.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS

Substantial swell this weekend, NCal Saturday, SoCal Sunday... Hefty NW'er due on the 7th-8th..

TIDE FORECAST FOR SANTA MONICA

SATURDAY

LOW TIDE:

1:22AM

2.1FT

3:01PM

1.8FT

HIGH TIDE:

7:42AM

6.8FT

9:29PM

4.0FT

SUNDAY

LOW TIDE:

2:11AM

1.7FT

3:38PM

1.8FT

HIGH TIDE:

8:28AM

7.0FT

10:03PM

4.2FT

MONDAY

LOW TIDE:

3:00AM

1.42FT

4:15PM

1.6FT

HIGH TIDE:

9:14AM

6.8FT

10:38PM

4.5FT

TUESDAY

LOW TIDE:

3:52AM

1.2FT

4:52PM

1.2FT

HIGH TIDE:

10:00AM

6.3FT

11:16PM

4.7FT

WEDNESDAY

LOW TIDE:

4:47AM

1.1FT

5:28PM

0.5FT

HIGH TIDE:

10:49AM

5.6FT

11:56PM

4.9FT

THURSDAY

LOW TIDE:

5:50AM

1.1FT

6:04PM

0.2FT

HIGH TIDE:

11:43AM

4.6FT

N/A

N/A

FRIDAY

N/A

N/A

N/A

N/A

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The Q Line

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An emboldened tourism industry, surging real estate sales and some unexpected money courtesy of the state have pumped an additional \$5.5 million into the city coffers, leaving council members with more money to spend when they approve the mid-year budget next month. While some of the cash is already accounted for — to cover increased costs for employee salaries — roughly \$2.5 million will be left up to the discretion of the council, which will debate the issue at a meeting scheduled for Feb. 14.

So this week, Q-Line wants to know, **“How do you think the council should spend the budget surplus?”**

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your responses in the weekend edition. Please try to 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 TO THE EDITOR

Penn coverage was 'mean-spirited'

Editor:

Your coverage of Chris Penn's death was mean-spirited tabloid journalism at it's worst. Why in the world would you pass along heresay about Mr. Penn as being increasingly unhealthy, overweight and a morning drinker? You put yourself on the same plane as the paparazzi who thrust the camera in Mr. Penn's mother's face. If I die in bed in my Santa Monica apartment, I hope its on your day off.

Forrest Murray
Santa Monica

Impeachment is always an option

Editor:

Back in the 1860s, Congress tried to impeach President Andrew Johnson. He stayed in office. In the 1970s, Nixon resigned before he could be impeached. Congress later tried to impeach President Clinton. Like Johnson, he stayed in office. If at first you don't succeed ...

Mike Kirwan
Venice

Our system needs a cleansing

Editor:

In response to Thomas Kenny's letter (calling on us to) "boycott those who put profit before people," we should by all means boycott most of our parasitic politicians in Washington. And that does not just mean Bush, Cheney, Rove and Company. That means, Boxer, Feinstein and hundreds more.

Boycott our whole damn system. Give it a high colonic! ... Every day until the stench is gone.

Daniel F. Stevens
Santa Monica



don't be mousey
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GUEST COMMENTARY BY ONKAR GHATE

Stopping eco-terrorists seems quite natural

The good news: a federal grand jury in Eugene, Ore., has indicted 11 people on charges that they committed acts of domestic terrorism on behalf of the Earth Liberation Front and the Animal Liberation Front. Moreover, now one of the FBI's "highest domestic terrorism priorities," according to director Robert S. Mueller III, is to prosecute people who commit crimes "in the name of animal rights or the environment."

Nevertheless, it remains worrisome that we still dismiss such terrorists as deranged individuals who pervert the ideology of environmentalism. Even more worrisome is that few of us intellectually grasp, and then rise to defend, the irreplaceable values under attack by environmental terrorists. Their targets are not, fundamentally, a particular ski resort, logging company, meatpacking center or medical research project, but what these represent: Human technology, human progress, human life.

Man's life is sustained — and made longer, healthier, happier — by industrial development and technological progress. The hospitals, antibiotics and chemotherapy treatments which keep our bodies free from disease — the pesticides, bioengineering and shopping malls which make possible our consumption of almost any food imaginable — the oil rigs, dams and nuclear power plants which keep our lights on and washing-machines running — the trucks, telephones and computers which make an hour of our time vastly more productive — the large homes, MP3 players and ski resorts which make our newfound recreational hours more enjoyable — it is these products of industrial civilization that are responsible for the vast increase in the quantity and quality of life that we enjoy today.

Imagine for a moment being transported back to Western Europe 900 years ago, or parts of Africa today. Imagine the daily, excruciating physical labor required to grow meager crops or to haul water from miles away — assuming there is no drought. Imagine the filth and disease because there are no sewage systems. Imagine the pain and misery as rotting teeth go untreated, broken bones go untended, failing eyesight goes uncorrected. This is a glimpse of life without industry.

The individuals singled out for attack by environmental terrorists — namely, scientists, inventors and businessmen — are the creators of industrial civilization. As heirs of Newton, scientists discover truths about the workings of nature. As heirs of Edison, inventors use these truths to create new products which improve human life. As heirs of Ford, businessmen figure out ways to perfect and mass manufacture these products' profitably.

These three categories of individuals

represent the exploiters of nature, those who transform wilderness to support man's life. They find plains and forests, dangerous jungles and insect-infested swamps, in which man's life is precarious, and they build a human environment by creating houses, electric heaters and chemical pesticides. They teach man his method of survival: Using his mind to reshape nature to his needs.

As monstrous as it sounds, it is precisely because these heroes are the sustainers of human life that they are targeted by those who are willing to take up arms for their cause, environmentalism.

Despite common belief to the opposite, the ideology of environmentalism is not concerned with improving man's life on earth. If it were, it would not oppose but champion industrial progress — luxury homes, dams, highways, bio-engineering, food irradiation, etc. — and the individuals who create it.

Environmentalism instead champions wilderness, including wild animals. On this premise, science and technology are irredeemably evil. If the supreme value is a world untouched by human hands, then in logic man and industry are destroyers of value, to be eliminated by force if necessary.

Committed environmentalists openly voice this hatred of man and industry. The founder of Green Peace reflects: "I got the impression that instead of going out to shoot birds, I should go out and shoot kids who shoot birds." A biologist with the U.S. National Park Services states: "Until such time as Homo sapiens should decide to return to nature, some of us can only hope for the right virus to come along." The head of the 1992 Earth Summit wonders: "Isn't the only hope for the planet that the industrialized civilizations collapse? Isn't it our responsibility to bring that about?"

Environmental terrorism is a consistent expression of environmentalism's worship of wilderness. By making the preservation of untouched nature the ideal, environmentalism necessarily makes man, who survives by exploiting nature, the enemy.

If we value our lives, we must never make common cause with environmentalism, no matter how appealing a particular environmentalist project may seem. We must fight not only against particular environmental terrorists but also against the ideology that inspires them. But even more important, we must fight for rational values: Man's life and industrial civilization.

(Dr. Onkar Ghate is a senior fellow at the Ayn Rand Institute in Irvine. The Institute promotes the philosophy of Ayn Rand, author of "Atlas Shrugged" and "The Fountainhead.")

Do you have community news?

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COMMENTARY



Of Valentine blubber baths and forbidden fruit

PISTACHIO PERSPECTIVE

BY SUSAN ANN CONNOR



everything to me," he said. Oh, yeah. Say it again, Tail-Twirler.

FEBRUARY 10, 2001

Colin asked to celebrate an early Valentine's Day. Next week he would be crazy working late. We did. Extraordinary evening. Very sweet. Very romantic. Very smokey.

FEBRUARY 14, 2001

Felt special. I'd received two dozen roses from Colin and was bringing in the love, friendship-style, with a gang of girls at an Italian bistro. Laughed, conversed and was served penne with pesto by a very handsome waiter. Felt cheerful. While dabbing the corners of my mouth with my napkin, I casually gazed out the restaurant window. My jaw dropped, and a piece of penne followed. Colin was walking by, hand-in-hand, with Lola. Felt sick.

Losing my cool, I bludgeoned down the aisle and out the door, braced for battle. I was on fire. Liars and cheaters and bears. Oh my. But, I couldn't see them anywhere. They'd vanished. I called his cell. He didn't answer. I left a blasphemous message.

In some areas of the planet he might be stoned or maybe thrown off a cliff. But pacifist that I am, I'd prefer sending him Spanish Stoppers. You know, the flowers that smell like skunk.

So there I was standing in the middle of the road, absolutely seething, when suddenly my brain wattage went from dim to bright. I got it. This relationship was never going to work. The moment had come when you know. You just know.

FEBRUARY 15, 2001

Colin told me it was all very innocent. Begged forgiveness. Blah. Blah. Blah. I suppose he thought what I didn't know wouldn't matter. If a tree falls in the woods, does it make a sound? If I bake a cake and eat it all alone, does that mean the calories don't count? Of course they count.

The truth was important to me and it had all become too hard. I was done. Finished. Twirl your tail in a different direction.

Uh oh. Valentine's Day approaches.

For some, this is a good day. A day of love, to love and be loved. For others, they'd rather bolt the doors and bathe in a bowl of blubber than be out where couples contour the streets.

I was more in the blubber bath the past few years. Though I didn't exactly soak in it, I consciously chose to avoid the lover's assembly outside. And it was all Colin's fault. He was such a feckless Tail-Twirler.

I sobbed in memoriam.

I was so in love with this guy, and he with me. Or so he said. When we were together, it was magic. Problem was, Colin was also under a commitment phobia spell. It's the age-old story. You've heard it before. And though stale, it continues to mature.

Here's how it went.

NOVEMBER, 2000

It took us (him) a while, but after a year and a half of dating, we agreed to see one another exclusively. His caveat was Lola. That's right, Lo-la. Lola. Lola. Lola. Poor depressed Lola. She was an ex-girlfriend, a co-worker and a woman who needed constant care. Trouble, indeed.

DECEMBER, 2000

At first, I consented to the Lola factor. I'm all for men having female friends. But it didn't take an omniscient force to warn me that little Lola was unfulfilled just being Colin's buddy. She'd cooed at him one too many times. Then I swear I heard Colin humming the refrain, "Whatever Lola wants, Lola gets." That's when I hollered, "Whoa."

JANUARY, 2001

Colin wasn't overly enthusiastic about the Lola boundaries request, but he promised to keep their relationship strictly about and at work. "Because you mean

TODAY

I'd let go yet never stopped caring. Now Colin has returned and is performing great acts of contrition. I've forgiven him. I'm still intrigued. But I'm wary of the trust/truth element. He says he's "changed," Lola is lost in his past, and he wants back into my life.

In the moment, however, he remains the forbidden fruit. Strawberry has become the nectar.

So this Valentine's Day, there'll be no blubber bath for me. I'll lather elsewhere. Strawberry is taking me away to an undisclosed romantic location. Lalalala.

(Susan Ann Connor can be reached at pistachiocolumn@aol.com. Follow her Strawberry stories on the first Friday of each month. Names have been changed to protect the innocent, and the guilty.)



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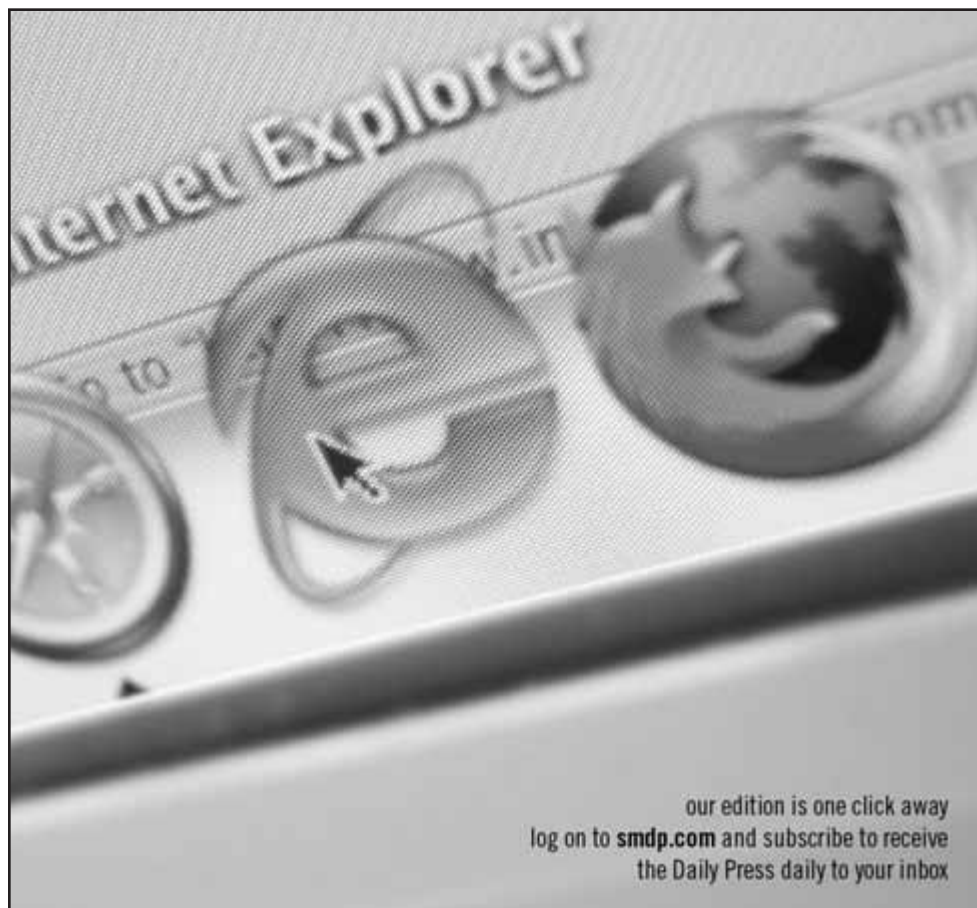
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LOCAL

Shooting was second on police in 18 months

COP SHOT, from page 1

year veteran of the department, suffered a "through and through" wound to his right wrist, and was transported to UCLA Medical Center, where he was treated and released.

Shortly before the shooting, the suspects were observed acting suspiciously in the parking lot of the Ralph's grocery store at 1600 Cloverfield Boulevard.

Officers in a marked patrol car notified Ramirez and his partner, who were in an undercover unit assigned to burglary suppression. They observed the suspects drive off in a blue van and proceeded to follow them at a distance of roughly two blocks, Butts said.

The officers lost sight of the suspects' van around 18th Street and Pico Boulevard. As the officers drove south on 17th Street, they spotted the van parked in a driveway. As Ramirez drove closer, a suspect, believed to be Espindola, jumped from the passenger side of the van, raised a weapon and fired three rounds, one striking Ramirez in the right wrist as he tried to drive away from the scene.

His partner "saw the suspect raise his arm holding a firearm," Butts said. "He yelled 'gun, gun.'"

The suspect's second shot went through the passenger side window and

struck Ramirez. A third shot shattered the right rear window.

The officers did not return fire, Butts said.

This isn't the first time an officer has been targeted in this area. Butts said an officer was shot at while patrolling 19th Street and Michigan Avenue roughly 18 months ago. The officer was not injured and the suspects were taken into custody shortly after the shooting.

The police department has served several search warrants in the area in recent years, arresting a handful of residents for possession of narcotics and loaded firearms, as well as attempted murder related to a drive-by shooting.

Concerned community members have warned the City Council about a relatively high crime rate and gang violence in the area adjacent to SMC.

"We've had two (officer-targeted) incidents in 18 months, so I don't know if I can call it a trend," Butts said. "There is no higher crime rate in this area than any other area. Higher crime rates tend to be in the downtown area. There are probably more incidents involving firearms per capita in this area than any other locale in Santa Monica, but in total numbers, the worst year in Santa Monica doesn't equal the lightest weekend in South Central Los Angeles."

Book thrown at Nunez

MOOSE LODGE, from page 1

cer, assault on a peace officer, kidnapping, assault with a firearm and false imprisonment of a hostage.

They were placed under arrest shortly before 2 a.m. on Thursday, Jan. 26, by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office following a three-hour standoff with police in Compton.

Morado and Nunez surrendered to a Los Angeles County Sheriff Department SWAT team following the standoff, releasing four unharmed individuals who they had allegedly held hostage, according to law enforcement officials.

The incident began at approximately 11 p.m. on Jan. 25, when deputies tried to flag down the two men occupying a vehicle at Aprillia Avenue and Compton Boulevard. The two men allegedly led deputies on a vehicle chase, exchanging gunfire with them during the pursuit. No one was injured in the incident.

The two men abandoned their vehicle and ran into a home in the 600 block of West Cypress Street. There, they allegedly held four occupants hostage until crisis negotiators convinced them to surrender, law enforcement officials said.

In July, the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office filed felony charges and issued arrest warrants for Jose Mojarro, 21, William Vasquez, 25, and Sanchez for the murders of Hernandez and Bonilla.

Until last week, Sanchez was the only remaining suspect still at-large.

Vasquez was arrested in Oct. 6 on the 500 block of Westlake Street in Los Angeles. The Los Angeles Police Department and FBI's Fugitive Task Force had been looking for Vasquez for allegedly murdering a 22-year-old Los Angeles man in 2002, when he was cap-

tured during a police sweep of a home suspected of harboring gang members.

Mojarro has been in custody since July 5 for a parole violation related to a battery on emergency personnel, for which he served one and a half years of a two-year term in the Department of Corrections.

Mojarro, also known as "Peanut;" Sanchez, also known as "Enemy;" and Vasquez, also known as "Crook" and "Ugly Cuz," are all believed to be gang members from Los Angeles, according to the DA's office.

Guests at the party held on March 5 at the Moose Lodge, 1600 Ocean Park Boulevard, said more than a dozen shots were fired by the suspects after an altercation with Hernandez and Bonilla.

Bonilla, 25, was shot multiple times in his torso and head, while Hernandez, 19, suffered more extensive wounds to his torso, head and buttocks, according to the Los Angeles County Department of Coroner.

Relating to the Moose Lodge killings, each of the suspects faces two counts of murder, with special allegations of gang enhancements and use of firearms during a gang crime, and a third count of assault with a deadly weapon. If convicted, the three men each face life sentences without parole or the death penalty.

Both Mojarro and Vasquez have pleaded not guilty to the charges during an arraignment in Los Angeles Superior Court. They are scheduled to appear in court on Feb. 28 to set a date for their preliminary hearing, at which time attorneys would present evidence so a judge may determine if the case warrants a trial.

Neither "Nunez" nor "Sanchez" have prior convictions in Los Angeles County, according to the Superior Court.

Giving a Hoot



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

Santa Monica Boulevard, at Fourth Street, was closed to traffic on Thursday morning for more than an hour as emergency responders investigated a reported bomb scare at Hooters restaurant. According to SMPD Lt. Frank Fabrega, an explosives detecting dog was brought to the scene and a search of the restaurant was conducted. The area was ultimately deemed safe.

Shooting victim was Air Force policeman

VIDEO SHOOTING, from page 1

doesn't pick up relevant issues and can actually distort things."

In the incident in Chino, about 40 miles east of Los Angeles, the video appears to show a deputy ordering 21-year-old Elio Carrion to his feet, then shooting him as he tries to stand. Carrion, an Air Force policeman who recently returned from Iraq, underwent surgery for wounds to his chest, ribs and leg and was listed in good condition Wednesday at the hospital.

Carrion was a passenger in a Corvette, which crashed following a brief chase that ended when the car crashed into a wall, authorities said.

No weapons were found on Carrion or the driver, Luis Escobedo, who was arrested for investigation of felony evading but not yet charged, sheriff's officials said. Carrion was not charged with a crime.

The deputy, whose name was not released, has been on the force for about 10 years, sheriff's spokeswoman Jodi Miller said. He was placed on paid administrative leave, a routine procedure in officer-involved shootings.

The FBI was investigating possible civil rights violations.

The impact of video in confrontation investigations emerged after the 1991 taped beating of black motorist Rodney King, which resulted in riots after four white Los Angeles police officers were acquitted of state charges.

Since then, videos have played a key role in the investigation of other incidents, but remain open to wide interpretation.

In Cincinnati, a 2003 video captured officers striking a 350-pound man with nightsticks. The man, Nathaniel Jones, died. A police watchdog agency concluded

officers used excessive force, but a prosecutor determined they were lawfully defending themselves when Jones began swinging at them as they tried to handcuff him.

In New Orleans, two officers were fired and a third suspended following the videotaped beating of a retired teacher in the French Quarter following Hurricane Katrina. The officers' attorney said the video didn't tell the confrontation's whole story.

A video showed a police officer in Inglewood slamming the face of a handcuffed 16-year-old boy into a patrol car in 2002. A criminal charge against the officer, Jeremy Morse, was dismissed after two juries deadlocked.

Morse's attorney also said the video didn't show the whole story, claiming his client reacted forcefully after Jackson grabbed the officer's testicles during an arrest at a gas station.

"We have learned over the last 10 or 15 years that images captured on film show only a very small part of an event," said John Barnett, who defended Morse and one of the officers involved in the King beating.

San Bernardino County sheriff's officials caution that the video of the Chino shooting is grainy and the audio is at times unclear. They have asked the FBI to do a forensic analysis of the tape to determine what was said by whom and when, sheriff's spokeswoman Cindy Beavers said.

"The average person is going to say, 'Oh my God, the cops screwed up again. They stepped over the line, they're guilty of misconduct,'" said Earl Ofari Hutchinson, a Los Angeles author and political analyst.

"But we would really need to know more than just this videotape," he said.



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VIOLET-At Violet restaurant the atmosphere is casual, comfortable, and, like its cuisine, is uncluttered. Chef Jared Simons' flavorful small plate fare has something to suit everyone, from light eaters to those with a taste for a more robust fare. The Braised Short Ribs with Shallot Potatoes (\$14.50) melt apart while the Multi-Colored Beet Salad with Eel delights with Kumquat and Ginger Vinaigrette (\$9) and the favorite among the regulars is the Baked Macaroni and Gruyere Cheese with Serrano Ham (\$7.50). Unique selection of new and old world wines by the bottle, glass or flight as well as an impressive list of domestic & imported artisan beers. Hours: Lunch: Tuesday-Friday, 11:30am-2pm. Dinner: Tuesday-Friday, 6pm-10pm & Saturday and Sunday, 5:30pm-10pm. 3221 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica. www.violetrestaurant.com (310) 453-9113.

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Entertainment

THE IMBIBER

BY DAN DUNN



Some Tigers in your future

Usually, it isn't difficult for your Imbiber to predict the future when I'm out drinking beer, since my nights on the town almost always involve some sort of ugly altercation outside a bar followed the next day by the nagging thought that I was somehow responsible.

Not everyone's as sure-fire a souse as me, however, so bully to the good people at Tiger Beer for providing astrological forecasts for legal age drinkers who want to know what's gonna happen before it actually does. More on the zodiac in a moment, but first let's focus on Tiger beer.

Imported from Singapore, where it is that country's best-selling brew, Tiger Beer first made contact with Western palettes in World War II and became the thirst-quencher of choice for Allied Forces serving in the region. Today, Tiger Beer's taste profile is similar to popular European imports Heineken and Stella Artois. This Pilsner-style lager is a bit on

the sweet side, so I recommend serving it really cold to give it some bite.

Tiger has a 5 percent alcohol content by volume, and a six-pack retails in the \$7-\$8 range, making it one of the more affordable ways

to feign worldliness.

At www.tigerbeer.us you'll find a link to "East-West Horoscopes," where you can get a reading from "Madame Tiger" that combines two ancient disciplines to provide a deeper and interpretation of the zodiac. It's useful stuff, to be sure. For instance, had newly-splits Jessica Simpson and Nick Lachey consulted M. Tiger going in, they might have known that their love would never last. Sure, both have strong family values, but the similarities end there. He's a Scorpio/Ox, she's a Cancer/Monkey. Nick's a rebel by nature, and Jess lets her dad control her. He's insecure about his career, and she thinks tuna fish comes from chickens. See? Doomed from the beginning.

If you want to get your own reading, check out the site. You want a refreshing cold one imported from an exotic locale, check out Tiger Beer.

(Thirsty for more Imbiber? Pull up a barstool at www.TheImbiber.com)

ENTERTAINMENT BRIEF

Got girlfriend? Men want Alba on their arms

By The Associated Press

NEW YORK — More guys want Jessica Alba for their girlfriend than any other woman, according to AskMen.com's top 99 list for 2006.

The 24-year-old actress tops the Web site's list ranking female celebrities on their "long-term relationship material." Alba is followed by "Alfie" star Sienna Miller and the ubiquitous Angelina Jolie.

The list will be posted Tuesday.

James Bassil, editor-in-chief of AskMen.com, told The Associated Press the list was determined by the rankings of 2.5 million readers and by the site's staff.

Readers of the online magazine were asked to vote according to the woman they would most want a relationship with, would consider marrying or thought best-suited to be the mother of their children.

Of course, few have ever accused Alba, Miller or Jolie of being short on movie star glamour.

"We encouraged readers not to go on looks alone," Bassil said. "I don't believe it's an entirely accurate reflection of what a reader strives for in their long-term relationships, but at the same time, it's not a sheerly surface appreciation."

The rest of the top 10, in order, is Brazilian model Adriana Lima (No. 1 last year), "Access Hollywood" correspondent Maria Menounos, Charlize Theron, Jessica Biel, singer Amerie, Natalie Portman and Eva Longoria.

Britney Spears — a mainstay of such lists in previous years — failed to chart.

Where are all the kudos for gay actors playing the straight roles?

BY JEROME CLEARY

Special to the Daily Press

As we head toward the Academy Awards ceremony in March and the momentum continues to grow for "Brokeback Mountain," I keep thinking about the gay and lesbian actors who have convincingly played roles of heterosexual men and woman in TV and film.

Who cannot forget the devil-may-care cad Rock Hudson played in the film "Pillow Talk," as he was actually a gay man playing a heterosexual man. His incredible performance as he set up Doris Day on their shared party telephone line in the 1950s was one of his best performances.

So where are the newspaper and magazine articles along with the major kudos to Portia de Rossi and Cynthia Nixon for playing heterosexual women with complete abandon? Where was the clamor for TV's John Wesley Shipp playing a heterosexual dad on "Dawson's Creek" or his heterosexual comic book hero in the film "The Flash"?

Who also cannot forget the riveting 1983 TV miniseries "The Thorn Birds," in which Richard Chamberlain played a straight Roman Catholic priest, Ralph de Bricassart, who constantly struggled between his calling and his carnal desire for women? Or the famous TV lawyer "Perry Mason" played by Raymond Burr or even TV's Dick Sargent playing Darren Stevens on "Bewitched."

Why, when two actors who are well-touted again and again in the media that they are straight men playing two demanding gay roles in "Brokeback Mountain," does there seem to be such a focus and clamor? And why is it supposedly more demanding and harder for a heterosexual man to play a gay role than a gay man to play a heterosexual role?

Why are we told again and again that

Heath Ledger, whose Ennis character is married in the film to actress Michelle Williams, is also involved romantically with that actress in real life? That he got her pregnant and that she just had their baby seem to be in every press release and article. Was this to convince us all that he is still definitely straight and he is just "acting" gay in this film?

The main reason may be because gays and lesbians have been towing the line in straight roles for decades but the media and public does not have that keen interest to ask them: "How do you do it? It must be so difficult and hard for you to hug, kiss and make love to a heterosexual on camera when you are not straight."

Well, I believe it's because no one really cares. For some reason gays and lesbians have to be the stoic acting players who portray heterosexual characters without any real acknowledgment or excitement.

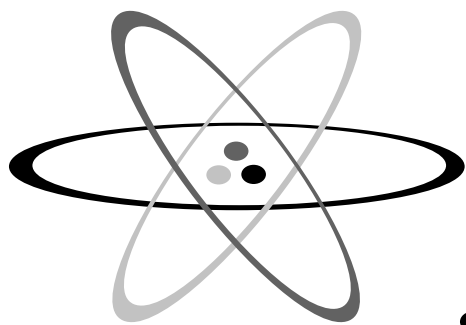
As non-heterosexuals, we are suppose to just butch it up and shut up. Magazines and newspapers do not want to put us on the cover as a featured article, as artists stretching themselves in a whole new heterosexual direction.

The rest of the world must be probably thinking it must not be any real craft for homosexuals to play demanding heterosexual roles.

Don't get me wrong, I think the director Ang Lee of "Brokeback Mountain" is a brilliant director, and I do think "Brokeback Mountain" is a great film. But as I was watching the Golden Globes and have been reading and seeing all the press on this film, you would have thought that the "Brokeback Mountain" actors were re-inventing the wheel with their roles.

(Jerome Cleary is an actor, writer and comic at The World Famous Comedy Store-www.freecomedytickets.com and can be reached at: jeromecleary-talk@aol.com.)

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SANTA MONICA ART PALETTE

MAKING ARTS AND CULTURE COME ALIVE IN SANTA MONICA

Welcome to the Santa Monica Art Palette for the weekend of February 2, 2006. The Art Palette's goal is to showcase the many eclectic arts and cultural opportunities available in Santa Monica every week, highlighting one or more of the many happenings within our borders. The Palette is produced every week by the Santa Monica Cultural Affairs Division.

Opening this weekend at the Miles Playhouse is the Empire of Teeth's Last Waltz. This young company combines elements of theatre, cabaret and performance art to create this romantic performance, an early Valentine's Day gift to us all.

An unlikely couple, destined to meet and fall in love, manage to miss each other in life but thanks to a loophole in fate, they meet in Purgatory. The hapless lovers are granted 24 hours back on Earth to find their missed romance, prove their love and live once again. This love romp mixes romance, desire, isolation and oblivion into an absurdist carnal feast



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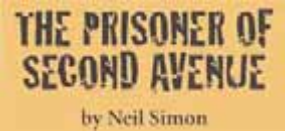


At the 18th Street Arts Complex, EZTV opens an exhibition that explores the origins of digital art and its impact on the contemporary art world (<http://www.eztvmedia.com/httl.html>).



From charcoal marks on cave walls, through carving in stone, oil painting on wooden boards, acrylic on canvas, cibachrome prints and all the way up to high resolution video, art and technology have walked together through history. HTTL://Hacking the Timeline examines the artists who pioneered the artistic mediums of the future. Opening night festivities include a performance by Collage Ensemble along with a range of digital works in print, video and installation works.

HTTL://Hacking The Timeline runs Feb. 4 – April 8, 2006. Opening reception Friday, Feb. 4, from 6 – 8 p.m.
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The Morgan Wixson Theatre presents the second play of the Santa Monica Theatre Guild's 60th Season, Prisoner of Second Avenue.

Modern city life becomes too much for one middle-aged couple living on New York City's Upper East Side. Hit with an intense summer heat wave, an air conditioner on the fritz, and compounded by a prolonged garbage strike, they fear they're losing the rat race! The "Prisoner of Second Avenue" is one of Neil Simon's classic comedies, capturing the absurdities and angst of life in the urban jungle with witty dialogue and the laughter of despair.

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This weekend marks your last chance to see the Edgemar Theatre's cabaret spectacular "The Night of the Black Cat!"

8 PM – Friday and Saturday 6 PM – Sunday Edgemar Center for the Arts 2437 Main St. Tickets are \$22.50 for general admission and \$30 for VIP Cabaret Tables. Tickets are available by calling 310 392-7327 or www.edgemarcenter.org. The Night of the Black Cat takes place on one magical night when some of France's most famed artists travel through time turning the Edgemar's theatre into the French Cabaret "Le Chat Noir" in Paris 1881. Featuring forbidden poetry, passionate dancing and sensual music, the show is an original work based on themes that resonated through the Parisian café. Special appearances by some of the world's most influential artists including George Sand, Jane Avril, Edith Piaf, Picasso and other luminaries make this a mystical, magical, and sensual night.

If you would like to subscribe to the Santa Monica Arts Palette, please send a blank e-mail with the word "Subscribe" in the subject line to artpalette@smgov.net.

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Big draw: Madonna OKs duet with animated bunch

By The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The Grammy Awards will open with a meeting of the Material Girl and the virtual world.

Madonna and Gorillaz will perform together for the first time at the 48th Annual Grammy Awards, which will be presented Wednesday at the Staples Center in Los Angeles.

The 47-year-old pop star will sing with the Gorillaz, who will be appearing in 3-D animated color. The brainchild of Blur frontman Damon Albarn, Gorillaz are a melding of rock and hip-hop that represents band members as cartoon alter-egos created by animator Jamie Hewlett.

Paul McCartney has been added to the list of performers, the Recording Academy announced Thursday, who also include Mariah Carey, John Legend, Kanye West, Bruce Springsteen, U2 with Mary J. Blige, Coldplay, Faith Hill with Keith Urban, Sugarland and Jamie Foxx.

It will be McCartney's first ever performance at the Grammys, the Academy said. This year, he is nominated for three awards, including album of the year for "Chaos and Creation in the Backyard."

The Gorillaz are nominated for four Grammys, including record of the year for "Feel Good Inc.," which features De La Soul.

Madonna, who has won five Grammys, released "Confessions on a Dance Floor" in November. She is not nominated this year.

The Grammys will be broadcast by CBS on Wednesday (8 p.m. EST).

LONDON — Kate Moss flew out of Britain 48 hours after being interviewed by police over allegations that she had used cocaine.

The 32-year-old supermodel refused to speak to reporters Thursday before boarding a flight at Heathrow Airport bound for Miami. Wearing a black top and miniskirt under a beige coat, the unsmiling Moss kept her head down as she headed for the plane.

On Tuesday, Moss met detectives in London to discuss her alleged cocaine use, but was not arrested or charged with any offense.

The Daily Mirror tabloid in September published pictures allegedly showing Moss using cocaine in a west London music studio where her then-boyfriend, Pete Doherty, was recording with his group, Babyshambles.

Police said Moss was spoken to "under caution" for 80 minutes. To be spoken to under caution is an arrangement under English law that means police can use a person's answers as evidence in any future proceedings.

Police said they would eventually submit a file to prosecutors depending on the outcome of the investigation. Prosecutors will eventually decide if any charges should be brought against Moss.

HONOLULU — One of the actors of the ABC series "Lost" left behind his star power to promote a different type of strength among local lawmakers — harmony and hope.

Dressed in a simple gray suit draped with a single strand of maile leaves, Adewale Akinnuoye-Agbaje, a devout Buddhist, quietly delivered the traditional daily prayer before the state Senate on Wednesday.

"I thank you very much, deeply, from the root of my heart because I believe this is what my mission is in life to share this practice and to create dialogue with others," Akinnuoye-Agbaje said.

The actor plays the character of Mr. Eko, a former African drug lord who had taken on the identity of a Roman Catholic priest. The series is filmed in Hawaii.

Akinnuoye-Agbaje read the 23rd Psalm, which is also the title of the "Lost" episode during which Eko's violent past and struggle for redemption are revealed.

He was invited to deliver the invocation by Sen. Fred Hemmings, R-Lanikai-Waimanalo, after the senator saw the episode featuring Eko's story.

Though the show won a Golden Globe last month for best television drama series, Akinnuoye-Agbaje called his appearance before the Hawaii Legislature "the pinnacle" of his career.

"This to me is the greatest reward because it's based upon my faith," he said in an interview following the invocation.

ROWE, N.M. — For sale: 1,800 acres of Val Kilmer's Pecos River Ranch southeast of Santa Fe. Asking price: \$18 million.

Sotheby's listed the riverfront property near Rowe on Jan. 3. It's only a part of the actor's 6,000-acre ranch, and was once part of the Forked Lightning Ranch owned by Greer Garson and her husband, Texas oil man Buddy Fogelson.

Real estate agent Garrett VeneKlasen said buyers can choose to purchase only part of the land.

The property already has been subdivided into two parcels, he said. The first part, which includes a fishing operation, covers nearly 1,000 acres and includes 3 miles of the river, three houses, a stable and a rock quarry.

Part of that parcel is protected from further development and subdivision by a conservation easement held by the Santa Fe Conservation Trust.

The other piece consists of about 850 acres of undeveloped land with three-quarters of an acre of river. San Miguel County zoning ordinances would allow it to be split into parcels as small as 5 acres, VeneKlasen said.

Kilmer, whose screen credits include roles in "Alexander," "Batman Forever" and "The Doors," is keeping the rest of the ranch.

"He wants to build his own big facility on the other side of the ranch," VeneKlasen said. "He likes the amenities, but he just wants to start from scratch. If he is going to deal with maintaining a whole bunch of buildings and stuff, he wants his own stuff. He wants to have his own architectural plans and his own sort of dream."

NEW YORK — Destiny's Child will reunite to sing the national anthem at the 55th NBA All-Star game at the Toyota Center in their native Houston on Feb. 19.

Their appearance before the game, which will be televised on TNT (8 p.m. EST), is being billed by the NBA as their "last-ever performance."

The Grammy-winning trio of Beyonce Knowles, Kelly Rowland and Michelle Williams disbanded last year to pursue solo careers. They had a string of hits, including "Bootylicious," "Survivor" and "Independent Women (Part I)."

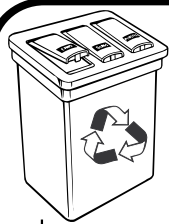
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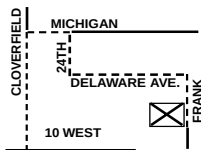
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STATE

'Benign neglect' leaves youthful inmates in squalor, review finds

BY DON THOMPSON
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO — California's youngest inmates are living in squalid conditions that endanger guards and youths, while managers operate in daily crisis because of a lack of funding, according to reports obtained by The Associated Press.

Shower doors at some youth prisons are so rusty that wards can break off pieces of metal to use as weapons. Two-way radios and personal alarms worn by employees only work intermittently. And there are holes in dorm walls and perimeter fences.

"Benign neglect ... appears to permeate" the Division of Juvenile Justice, a special security team found after touring four of the state's eight youth facilities last summer.

Efforts to shutter the most notorious youth prisons and replace punishment with rehabilitation may have backfired, according to reports that were withheld for five months while prison officials prepared a response.

Corrections Secretary Roderick Hickman ordered the first-in-the-nation reviews at each of California's eight youth and 32 adult prisons after the slaying of a prison guard in Chino a year ago. Hickman was tapped by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger to reform a prison system under fire from state lawmakers, experts and federal judges for providing substandard care to youths and adults.

"This is truly the shame of the nation when we look at juvenile systems," said Senate Majority Leader Gloria Romero, D-Los Angeles, who planned a hearing Thursday on the corrections system. "It's intentional neglect, and it's been this way for years and years and years, and it has not gotten any better."

Review teams found roaches and rodents prowling kitchens. Leaky pipes left puddles on floors while toilets, urinals, showers and washbasins either didn't work or ran constantly. Temperatures and tempers soared in the overheated buildings.

Youth division Director Bernard Warner said Wednesday that he wants permanent fixes instead of more stopgap

measures, even as the division studies whether outdated structures should be replaced.

"There hasn't been that investment over the last 10 to 20 years in keeping these facilities in the working order they need to be," Warner said.

Inspection teams included representatives from adult and youth prison systems and the state's Corrections Standards Authority who evaluated prisons based on standards developed by experts.

They found burned out lights in living units and along the fence surrounding three youth prisons clustered at a Stockton facility. The fence gate itself didn't work — and neither did many of the cell door locks at the N.A. Chaderjian Youth Correctional Facility, the most notorious youth prison.

"Managers said they operate in crisis mode on a day-to-day basis," the review team reported after interviewing Chaderjian officials. "The group said that due to budget constraints, they are unable to adequately manage the facility."

Critics have urged the closing of Chaderjian in particular and youth prisons in general, saying the young wards could be better served in community programs.

Chaderjian is where guards were videotaped two years ago beating and pepper-spraying two wards who didn't resist. It is clustered with the O.H. Close and DeWitt Nelson youth correctional facilities, which house less troublesome youths.

While youth division directors vowed to end punishments that included locking wards in tiny cages or in their rooms for weeks on end, those reform efforts may have swung too far, the review said.

The population is increasingly violent and influenced by drugs and gangs. Many wards are ages 17 to 25, and some have served time in adult prisons before being returned to serve out youth sentences. Many openly mock employees and the cumbersome discipline process.

"In a praiseworthy effort to return to the rehabilitative mission of the DJJ, it appears that staff have lost the authority or ability to discipline wards in a meaningful manner," the review found.

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NATIONAL



Shift for citizen soldiers

BY ROBERT BURNS

AP Military Writer

WASHINGTON — Members of the Army National Guard will be spending less time on the front lines Iraq and more time at home in their civilian jobs in coming years, according to the Army's top two generals.

After a tough year in Iraq, where they provided nearly half the fighting force, the citizen soldiers will play a much smaller combat role for the remainder of the war, the officers said in interviews with The Associated Press.

The changes come as part of a reorganization proposal that includes a shift in some brigades from combat roles to support units. In addition, President Bush will propose shrinking the authorized sizes of the Guard and the Army Reserve — proposals that have triggered concern on Capitol Hill.

"It will set up a more predictable schedule for the National Guard brigades ... so that we're not calling them back and remobilizing them every two to three years. It will be more like one year in and six years out" for Guardsmen, said Gen. Richard Cody, the Army's vice chief of staff.

Gen. Peter Schoomaker, the Army chief of staff, said shifting some units from combat to support tasks will be a historic change in the way the Guard is organized. The aim, he said, is to better prepare Guardsmen for both their federal role as a combat and support force and their domestic job of responding to emergencies.

In the 2007 budget he presents Congress on Monday, Bush will propose to pay for a National Guard of about 333,000 citizen soldiers — the current total — rather than the 350,000 authorized by Congress.

The president also has proposed paying for less than the full authorized total for the Army Reserve.

Critics of Bush's proposals say they amount to an unwarranted and untimely shrinking of the Guard.

Schoomaker, speaking in his Pentagon office this week, acknowledged that the restructuring plan has touched a nerve in states where governors rely heavily on their Guard forces to respond to natural disasters and other emergencies.

But, he said, the plan ultimately will produce a stronger and more modern force.

"Anybody who doesn't see that this is, in the main, a good news story doesn't get it," he said.

Cody said in a separate interview that unusually heavy

use of the Guard in Iraq last year bought time for the active Army to reorganize itself to make more combat units available for fighting, while also giving soldiers more time at home between overseas tours.

The number of Army National Guard soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan peaked at 69,416 last September; most are in Iraq.

During the past year, the Guard had seven combat brigades in Iraq, plus the headquarters of the 42nd Infantry Division of the New York Army National Guard. That accounted for nearly 50 percent of all U.S. combat forces in Iraq.

"That was a high water mark," Cody said. "That will not be repeated," barring an unforeseen emergency.

Combining U.S. forces in Iraq and Afghanistan, the Guard will represent only about 30 percent of the total this year, Cody said, with active forces making up the other 70 percent.

In the current troop rotation to Iraq, only two Guard combat brigades will do one-year tours: the 48th from Georgia and the 28th from Pennsylvania.

There are about 138,000 U.S. troops in Iraq, which the Pentagon has said will drop to about 130,000 by March. Cody said no decisions have been made beyond that. It is widely expected that Bush will approve significant additional cuts later in the year.

In some months last year, the Guard and Reserve accounted for more than half of all U.S. military deaths in Iraq. Since the start of the war in March 2003, the Guard has had 352 deaths in Iraq out of more than 2,240 U.S. fatalities.

The Army's reorganization plan calls for converting six of 28 Guard combat brigades to units that provide transportation, intelligence and other kinds of support. Schoomaker said that will better help the regular Army and governors because the support brigades will have skills needed in domestic emergencies.

State Guard officials were meeting with Schoomaker and other Army leaders this week at the Pentagon to work out their differences over the plan. Schoomaker suggested compromise was possible, saying the Army proposal was a "first cut."

On Capitol Hill, Republicans and Democrats alike are wary of plans to shrink or reorganize the Guard and Reserve, and could vote as early as this week to demand more details about the proposals.



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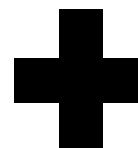
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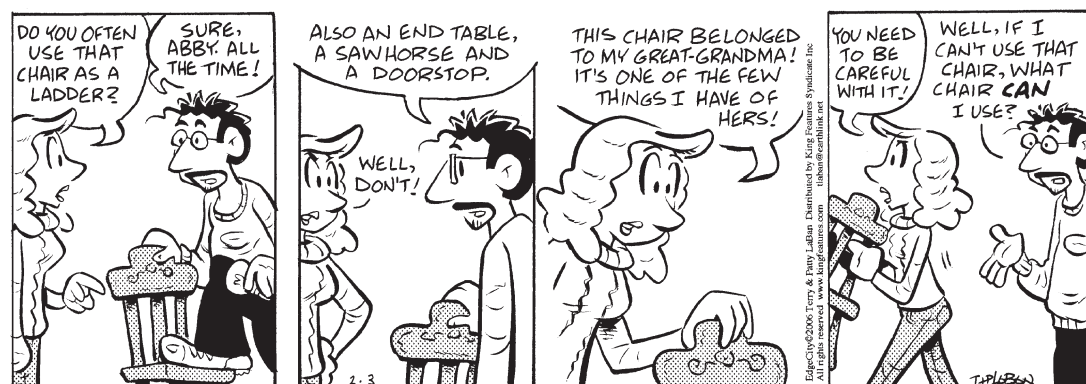
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Yesterday's answer

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| 11 | Cease-fire | DOWN | 1 | Ellington vehicle | | | | | | | | | | |
| 12 | Tater state | | 2 | Bayou cooking style | | | | | | | | | | |
| 13 | Scout's job | | 3 | Blue fruits | | | | | | | | | | |
| 14 | Kitchen device | | 4 | "Baudo-lino" | | | | | | | | | | |
| 15 | Fine, to NASA | | 5 | Judi of "Chocolat" | | | | | | | | | | |
| 16 | Ripple | | 6 | Down-sizing events | | | | | | | | | | |
| 18 | Unlucky | | 7 | Tennis score | | | | | | | | | | |
| 19 | Rooster's mate | | 8 | Eggs, informally | | | | | | | | | | |
| 20 | — Cruces | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 21 | Prerequi-site | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 23 | Nixon veep | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 25 | Do cafe work | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
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Yesterday's answer

9	It has a long arm	28	Lady of Spain
10	Tender spots	29	Droop
17	Stephen of "The Crying Game"	31	Service for a social
22	French nobleman	32	Tourist stops
24	Gist	33	"Eat up!"
26	Baseball's Casey	35	Showed over
		38	"The King and I" role
		42	Exist

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Notices

NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES
Date of Filing Application: JANUARY 4, 2006
To Whom it may concern:
The Name(s) of the Applicant(s) is/are: PARK OKYOUNG PARK SE HOON.
The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to sell alcoholic beverages at: 201 ARIZONA AVE SANTA MONICA, CA 90401.
Type of License(s) Applied for: 41 - ON-SALE BEER AND WINE-EATING PLACE.
Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control INGLEWOOD.
LA114511 SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS 1/20,27, 2/3/2006

NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE (UCC Sec. 6105)
Escrow No. 44379-EJ
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a bulk sale is about to be made. The name(s) and business address(es) of the seller(s) is/are: DONG YUL OH AND YOUNG R. OH, 923 MONTANA AVE., SANTA MONICA, CA 90403
Doing business as: NICK'S CLEANER
All other business name(s) and address(es) used by the seller(s) within the past three years, as stated by the seller(s), is/are: NONE
The location in California of the Chief Executive Office of the seller is: The name(s) and business address of the buyer(s) is/are: WON Y. CHO, 923 MONTANA AVE., SANTA MONICA, CA 90403
The assets being sold are generally described as: FURNITURE, FIXTURES, EQUIPMENT, GOODWILL, TRADENAME, LEASEHOLD, IMPROVEMENT AND INTEREST, AND COVENANT NOT TO COMPETE and is located at: NICK'S CLEANER AT 923 MONTANA AVE., SANTA MONICA, CA 90403
The bulk sale is intended to be consummated at the office of: UNITED ESCROW CO, 3440 WILSHIRE BLVD, #600, LOS ANGELES, CA 90010 and the anticipated sale date is FEBRUARY 23, 2006
The bulk sale is subject to California Uniform Commercial Code Section 6106.2. The name and address of the person with whom claims may be filed is: UNITED ESCROW CO, 3440 WILSHIRE BLVD, #600, LOS ANGELES, CA 90010 and the last day for filing claims by any creditor shall be FEBRUARY 22, 2006, which is the business day before the anticipated sale date specified above.
Dated: JANUARY 23, 2006
WON Y. CHO, Buyer(s)
PCTS LA114934 SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS 2/3/06

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NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE (UCC Sec. 6105)
Escrow No. 06-59886-B
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a bulk sale is about to be made. The name(s) and business address(es) of the seller(s) is/are: R & D RESTAURANT ENTERPRISES, INC., A CALIFORNIA CORPORATION 4911 TORRANCE BLVD. TORRANCE, CA 90503-4113 AND 17346 W. SUNSET BLVD., PACIFIC PALISADES, CA 90272-4102 MITESH GALA, RAJUL GALA AND DINESHCHANDRA GALA, 2025 LINCOLN BLVD. SANTA MONICA, CA 90405-1316
Doing business as: JACK IN THE BOX, SITE #261, JACK IN THE BOX, SITE #374 AND JACK IN THE BOX, SITE #274
All other business name(s) and address(es) used by the seller(s) within the past three years, as stated by the seller(s),

Notices

is/are: R & D ENTERPRISES, INC., R & D RESTAURANTS, INC.
The location in California of the Chief Executive Office of the seller is: 10621 CALLE LEE, SUITE 141, LOS ALAMITOS, CA 90720
The name(s) and business address of the buyer(s) is/are: MAJOR S. DHILLON, P.O. 3366, CERRITOS, CA 90703
The assets being sold are generally described as: BUSINESSES, USE OF TRADENAMES, LEASEHOLD INTERESTS, LEASEHOLD IMPROVEMENTS, GOODWILL, PERMITS AND LICENSES, CONTRACT RIGHTS, FRANCHISE RIGHTS, INVENTORY OF STOCK, FURNITURE, FIXTURES, EQUIPMENT, APPLIANCES, MACHINERY, TABLES, CHAIRS, BARS, TABLEWARE, COOKWARE, UTENSILS, SIGNAGE, EQUIPMENT, UNIFORMS AND SUPPLIES and is located at: 4911 TORRANCE BLVD. TORRANCE, CA 90503-4113; 17346 W. SUNSET BLVD., PACIFIC PALISADES, CA 90272-4102 AND 2025 LINCOLN BLVD. SANTA MONICA, CA 90405-1316
The bulk sale is intended to be consummated at the office of: MISSION VALLEY ESCROW, 2565 CAMINO DEL RIO SOUTH, SAN DIEGO, CA 92108-3779 ESCROW OFFICER: BARBARA CURRY ESCROW NO 06-59886-B and the anticipated sale date is FEBRUARY 24, 2006
The bulk sale is subject to California Uniform Commercial Code Section 6106.2. The name and address of the person with whom claims may be filed is: MISSION VALLEY ESCROW, 2565 CAMINO DEL RIO SOUTH, SAN DIEGO, CA 92108-3779 ESCROW OFFICER: BARBARA CURRY ESCROW NO 06-59886-B and the last day for filing claims by any creditor shall be FEBRUARY 23, 2006, which is the business day before the anticipated sale date specified above.
Dated: JANUARY 25, 2006
MAJOR S. DHILLON, Buyer(s)
PCTS LA114974 SM DAILY PRESS 2/3/06

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ESCROW NO. 119189
NOTICE TO CREDITORS
OF BULK SALE
(Secs. 6101-6107 U.C.C.)
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a bulk sale is about to be made on assets hereinafter described.
The name(s) and business address of the Seller(s) are: TAO YUAN USA, LLC., 1119 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90401
The location in California of the chief executive office or principal business office of the Seller is: same as above
All other business names and addresses used by the Seller(s) within the past three years as stated by

Notices

the Seller(s) are: None
The name(s) and business address of the Buyer(s) are: RUSTIC CANYON WINE BAR PROJECT #1 LP, 830 So. Sherbourne Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90035
The assets are generally described as: furniture, fixtures, equipment, leasehold improvements and are located at: 1119 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90401
The business name used by the said Seller(s) at said location is: LOTUS CHINESE RESTAURANT
The bulk sale is intended to be consummated at the office of WILSHIRE ESCROW COMPANY, 4270 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90010 and the anticipated sale date is March 1, 2006
This bulk sale is subject to California Uniform Commercial Code Section 6106.2.
The name and address of the person with whom claims may be filed is WILSHIRE ESCROW COMPANY, 4270 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90010, Attn: Larry Shewfelt (Ext. 338), Escrow No. 119189 and the last day for filing claims by any creditor shall be February 28, 2006, which is the business day before the anticipated sale date specified above.
Dated January 27, 2006
RUSTIC CANYON WINE BAR PROJECT #1 LP, Buyer(s)
Santa Monica Daily Press
CN747178 119189 Feb 3, 2006

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ESCROW NO. 119184
NOTICE TO CREDITORS OF BULK SALE AND OF INTENTION TO TRANSFER LIQUOR LICENSE(S)
(Secs. 6101-6107 U.C.C.)
Notice is hereby given that a bulk sale of assets and a transfer of liquor license(s) is about to be made.
The name(s), Social Security (or) Federal Tax Number, and mailing address, and Zip Code Number, of the Seller/transferor(s) are: C C LOTUS INC., 1119 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90401
dba: LOTUS CHINESE RESTAURANT
The name(s), Social Security (or) Federal Tax Number, and mailing address, and Zip Code Number, of the Buyer/ transferee(s) are: RUSTIC CANYON WINE BAR PROJECT #1 LP, 830 So. Sherbourne Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90035
That the assets to be transferred are described in general as materials, supplies, merchandise, equipment, (or) furniture, fixtures, equipment, leasehold improvements

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and are located at: 1119 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90401
together with the following described alcoholic beverage license(s): ON-SALE BEER & WINE - EATING PLACE LICENSE NO. 41-332384
now issued for said premises located at (same address).
That the total consideration for the transfer of said assets and of said license(s) is the sum of \$100,000.00, including inventory estimated at NONE, which consists of the following:
Checks - \$5,000.00
Demand Note- \$95,000.00
That it has been agreed between said transferee(s) and said transferor(s) that consideration for the transfer of said assets and of said license(s) is to be paid only after transfer has been approved by Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control, pursuant to Sec. 24073 et seq.
That the herein described transfers are to be consummated, subject to the above provisions, at WILSHIRE ESCROW COMPANY, 4270 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, California 90010,
on or after 10:00 A.M.,
March 1, 2006
All other business names and addresses used by the transferor(s) within three years last past, so far as known to transferee(s), are (if ``none'', so state.) None.
Name and address of escrow holder: WILSHIRE ESCROW COMPANY, 4270 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, California 90010.
Date: January 27, 2006
C C LOTUS INC., Transferor(s)
RUSTIC CANYON WINE BAR PROJECT #1 LP, Transferee(s)
Santa Monica Daily Press
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NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF DOUGLAS C. MacBAIN
Case No. BP096440
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of DOUGLAS C. MacBAIN
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Robert C. MacBain in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

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THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Robert C. MacBain be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A HEARING on the petition will be held on February 23, 2006 at 8:30 AM in Dept. No. 5 located at 111 N. Hill St., Los Angeles, CA 90012.
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.
YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for petitioner:
SBN 160133
KATHRYN J BLACK ESQ
LAW OFFICES OF KATHRYN J BLACK
2250 HONOLULU AVE
STE 104
MONTROSE CA 91020
Santa Monica Daily Press
CN747752 MacBAIN Feb 2,3,9, 2006

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NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: CAROL MINUCK AKA CAROL ELAINE MINUCK AKA CAROL E. MINUCK
CASE NO. BP096343
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of CAROL MINUCK AKA CAROL ELAINE MINUCK AKA CAROL E. MINUCK.
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by BANK OF THE WEST in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that BANK OF THE WEST be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
THE PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The WILL and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.
THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act . (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A HEARING on the petition will be held on 02/27/06 at 8:30AM in Dept. 5 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.
IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from

Notices

the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.
YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code Section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for Petitioner
TOOCH, MELINDA J.
11766 WILSHIRE BLVD., #460
LOS ANGELES, CA 90025
1/27, 1/30, 2/3/06
CNS-918584#
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Name Changes

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE FOR CHANGE OF NAME
Case No. SS014023
Superior Court of California, County of Los Angeles
Petition of GEORGE COSMA for Change of Name
TO ALL INTERESTED PERSONS:
Petitioner or Attorney: GEORGE COSMA filed a petition with this court for a decree of changing names as follows: GEORGE COSMA to GEORGE COSMAS
The court orders that all persons interested in this matter shall appear before this court at the hearing indicated below to show cause, if any, why the petition for change of name should not be granted.
Notice of Hearing:
Date: FEBRUARY 9, 2006 Time: 9:00, Dept. A., Room 104
The address of the court is 1725 Main St., Santa Monica, CA 90401.
A copy of this Order to Show Cause shall be published at least once each week for four successive weeks prior to the date set for hearing on the petition in the following newspaper of general circulation, printed in this county: Santa Monica Daily Press.
Date: DECEMBER 16, 2005
LINDA K. LEFKOWITZ
Judge of the Superior Court
01/27/06, 02/03/06, 02/10/06, 02/17/06

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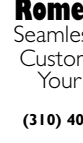
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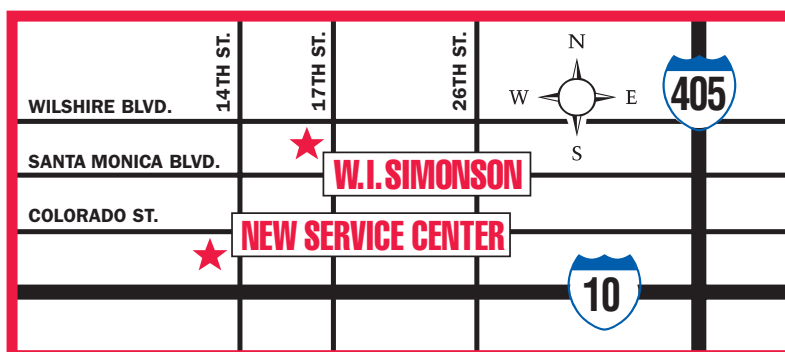
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