

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

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FANTASY 5

03, 09, 24, 28, 39

DAILY 3

Afternoon picks: 5, 1, 1

Evening picks: 9, 6, 8

DAILY DERBY

1st Place: 11, Money Bags

2nd Place: 12, Lucky Charms

3rd Place: 04, Big Ben



NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

Following a religious experience, Michael Braithwaite of the mountain village of Putney, Ky., recently converted his Love World shop (selling vibrators and other porn paraphernalia) to Mike's Place (selling Bibles and other Christian items). (However, according to a December report in the San Francisco Bay Guardian, a 31-year-old government lawyer has developed a side business that may bridge both of Braithwaite's lines: The lawyer manufactures and sells high-quality, silicone sex toys in the shapes of religious icons, such as Moses, Satan and a nun, at prices of \$54 to \$65 each.

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

If it weren't for the last minute, nothing would get done.

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Feinstein haunted by party accusations

Local Greens warn activists nationwide of past fundraising practices by city councilman

BY ANDY FIXMER

Daily Press Staff Writer

A Santa Monica City Councilman is realizing that he can no longer hide from accusations that he allegedly misappropriated more than \$30,000 in campaign contributions to the Green Party.

Several local Green Party leaders' patience has run out with former Mayor Mike Feinstein for ignoring their requests in explaining why he allegedly deposited more than \$30,000 in Green Party contributions into a private bank account nearly 18 months ago. They asked him in 2001 to

submit statements from the credit union where the deposits were made, but Feinstein hasn't produced any records, according to leaders of the Los Angeles County Green Party.

The issue has been under wraps for more than a year, but top party officials are no longer remaining secretive about Feinstein's alleged actions. A letter signed by top California Green Party officials and sent out nationwide last month, says Feinstein doesn't speak on behalf of the political party and is not allowed to raise money for it.

The letter was sent on Jan. 10 to hundreds of Green Party activists, warning that an upcoming convention being organized by Feinstein is not recognized by the state party. The convention, which

See GREEN PARTY, page 5

Santa Monica resident arrested by FBI under sealed warrant

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON

Daily Press Staff Writer

FBI agents on Tuesday arrested a Santa Monica man who reportedly is a Korean immigrant under investigation for a "national security issue," according to sources.

The arrest is under a sealed warrant by the U.S. Central District Court and could be lifted today, an FBI spokesman said. The suspect, identified as Joung Yai, is expected to appear today in downtown federal court.

"After the initial court appearance, the expectation is that the seal would be lifted," said FBI spokesman Matt McLaughlin, who added that it's not unusual for an arrest to be sealed if the investigation is ongoing. "You don't want to tip your hand as to the nature of the case."

"I've never seen any suspicious activity."

— FARHAD ASHOFTHEH
Neighbor

At the time of the arrest, which occurred about 2:30 p.m., FBI agents served a search warrant at Yai's home, located at 909 Grant St. About a half dozen agents spent Tuesday afternoon searching the home and a vehicle parked in the driveway. It appeared that the agents focused their search in the garage of the home.

Videotapes with Korean labels were found lying on the passenger's side floor of



(Left) A man was arrested at his home at 909 Grant St. Tuesday. (Right) FBI agents carry boxes into the condominium Tuesday to collect evidence during their search of the property.

the mini van searched by FBI agents and several Korean newspapers were found in the trash can in the alley behind the home. Yai may be accused of low-level spying, according to news reports.

Yai's home is one of four condominiums in a four-plex near the corner of Ninth and Grant streets.

Curious residents walking past the home on Tuesday stopped to find out what FBI agents were doing.

Farhad Ashofteh, a next door neighbor, said he barely knows Yai, but sees him and his family on a regular basis. He confirmed that they are of Korean descent and Yai appears to be in his mid-30s.

Ashofteh, who has lived in the Ocean Park neighborhood since 1987, said his neighbors have lived there for about eight months.

"They are very nice people," he said. "They just say hello and I see him walking his little dog ... I've never seen any suspicious activity."

Ex-mayor Michael Feinstein attracts national Green Party attention

BY ANDY FIXMER

Daily Press Staff Writer

Questions concerning Santa Monica City Councilman Mike Feinstein's handling of \$30,000 in Green Party contributions has attracted national attention from party leaders.

State and national Green Party officials spoke about how they should respond to Feinstein's alleged actions on Sunday during a conference call, Los Angeles County Green Party officials said.



Mike Feinstein

See FEINSTEIN, page 6



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

Drummer of 'The Doors' sues fellow band members

By staff and wire reports

Doors drummer and Santa Monica resident John Densmore is suing fellow bandmates Ray Manzarek and Robby Krieger for going on tour as The Doors without him.

The lawsuit, filed Tuesday in Superior Court, seeks a court order prohibiting keyboardist Manzarek and guitarist Krieger from calling themselves The Doors when they perform without Densmore. It also requests that Densmore be paid a share of profits from any shows that have already taken place without him.

The lawsuit states that after lead singer Jim

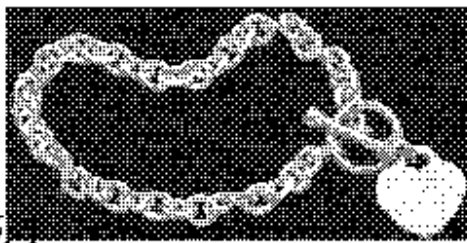
See DOORS, page 6

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Happy Birthday for Tuesday, Feb. 4, 2003

You head down an unusual path this year. You have friends pushing you toward your goals, and partners supporting you. Play your cards right, and you will have what you want. Ideas come to you naturally. Have trusted associates test your projects before you run with them. A loved one enhances your life because of his or her open and clear caring. If you are single, a relationship will drop in your lap that could knock your socks off. An opportunity crosses your path after March. If you are attached, your relationship will build because of mutual goals and expanding your circle of friends. As a couple, you're inspired. ARIES is a good friend.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Your fire makes what you want happen. You energize those around you. You're able to get others off their duffs. Use your imagination, and others will respond. Your impulsiveness pays off in an unprecedented manner. Tonight: Whatever you want.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★ Knowing when to step back can make all the difference in what comes down your path. Take a deep breath and head in a new direction, if need be. Be sensitive and help make a family member comfortable. Tonight: Not everything is as you see it.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ What you want can happen with your strong intuition and sense of direction. Speak your mind, and others will listen. You might not be exactly sure what is happening behind the scenes. Information might need to come from a more direct source. Tonight: A meeting proves to be critical.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ Realize that someone close might not be in the mood to have the conversation you want to have. On the other hand, you might need to please a boss, or do something strategic. An associate is understanding. Tonight: A must appearance.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ You make the right moves at the right time. A child or a creative source could push you hard. Your fiery energy appeals to an associate. This person inspires you. Together you create a strong force and team. Tonight: Off to the movies.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★★ Deal with a loved one as a team or partnership. Carefully realize your limits that involve this tie. You might have pushed way beyond them. Establish groundwork with associates. You might fall into good guy-bad guy roles with a key partner. Tonight: An intimate dinner for two.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ The key to better understanding is asking questions. Though your imagination can delight you, others often tap into it for answers and solutions. Share more by being responsive to others' questions. What you can trust is that others seek you out on a larger scale. Tonight: Go along with someone else's plans.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ You're able to deliver the work completed takes you in a new direction. Ideas that bubble forth need to be honored. Realize what needs to happen within your work circle. You can only push so hard, but you can trust a superior to back you. Tonight: Get some exercise.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ You deliver a far more direct and happening presentation than you are aware of. Sure, you have ideas, though how others react could take you in a new direction. Listen to someone in the know who could give you excellent insight. You will appreciate the feedback. Tonight: Live up to your playful image.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Reach out for others, but do not lose your primary values. A key supporter in your life always needs to be honored. You cannot read into others and their reactions. Remain clear and direct with your dealings. Realize what someone might be saying. Tonight: Reach out for a loved one.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ You're an idea person, but you also frequently act on your ideas in a most impulsive manner, disarming and sometimes shocking others. Right now, you discover that your entourage is far more flexible and ready to join in. Present the off-beat. Do something different. Tonight: Join a friend for dinner.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Your finances could be enhanced if you try to do something very different. You'll understand much more of what's happening within your immediate circle if you kick back and observe. Keep your eye on the main objective — making money. You could go overboard. Tonight: Pay bills.

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1427 Third Street Promenade, Suite #202 • Santa Monica, CA 90401

PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa ross@smdp.com
EDITOR
Carolyn Sackarison sack@smdp.com
STAFF WRITER
Andrew H. Farmer andy@smdp.com
REPORTER
John Wood wood@smdp.com
NIGHT EDITOR
Patrick McDonald PRMcDonald@aol.com
PRODUCTION MANAGER
Del Pastrana del@smdp.com
PRODUCTION ASSISTANT
Alejandro C. Cantarero alex@smdp.com
CLASSIFIED REPRESENTATIVE
Mitch Troy mitch@smdp.com

CLASSIFIED REPRESENTATIVE
Angela Downen angela@smdp.com
CLASSIFIED REPRESENTATIVE
Paula Christensen paula@smdp.com
ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
William Pattinosh william@smdp.com
ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
Rob Plubeni rob@smdp.com
ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
Keri Aroesty keri@smdp.com
CIRCULATION MANAGER
Kiutzu Cruz kiutzu@smdp.com
SPECIAL PROJECTS
Dave Danforth dave@smdp.com
STAFF MASCOT
Maya Furukawa ross@smdp.com

LOCAL



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Free films are coming back to town

By Daily Press Staff

More than 50 soon-to-be-released feature films will be available for free viewing during the 23rd American Film Market, which takes place in Santa Monica, Feb. 19-26.

The screenings are available to all residents of Santa Monica and employees of Santa Monica businesses.

The films span a wide range of genres and feature some of Hollywood's best-known and up-and-coming talent, according to AFM officials. Among the films presented at last year's screenings was then soon-to-be box office superstar, "My Big Fat Greek Wedding."

Highlights of this year's program include:

- Action sci-fi feature, "Bubba Ho-tep," with Bruce Campbell and Ossie Davis..
- Action/comedy, "Good Night To Die," with Michael Rapaport and Ally Sheedy.
- Drama, "The Heart of America," with Maria Conchita Alonso and Michael Pare.
- Romance, "Lexie," with Richard Brooks and Ice-T.
- Drama, "The Pearl," with Richard Harris and Lucas Haas.
- Family picture, "Time Changer," with Gavin McLeod, Hal Linden, Jennifer O'Neill and Paul Rodriguez.
- Horror/thriller, "The Wisher," with Ron Silver.

Complimentary badges to the AFM 2002 premiere screenings are available online at www.variety.com. A day-to-day listing of the AFM Premiere Screenings is available at the AFM's official website, www.americanfilmmarket.com. Screening passes also are available to members of Hollywood guilds and professional organizations, and to film school students.

Jonathan Wolf, managing director of the AFM, is excited about returning to Santa Monica.

"The premiere screenings are one of the many ways the American Film Market reaches out to the Santa Monica community," he said. "We are delighted to once again open our doors to residents during the world's largest motion picture market."

Officials expect more than 7,000 people to attend the event from more than 70 countries. All of Santa Monica's 23 movie screens will be used by AFM during the event, showing a total of more than 600 screenings of more than 400 films — 23 different films every two hours.

The majority of the films are world or U.S. premieres.

Private schools join forces

By Daily Press Staff

The Boards of Trustees of New Roads School and of Newbridge School announced Tuesday that Newbridge School will join New Roads School beginning July 1, 2003, under the banner of New Roads School.

New Roads School is a private prep school (grades 6-12) which was launched in 1995 by the New Visions Foundation. New Visions is headed by Paul Cummins, co-founder of Crossroads School.

New Roads' stated mission is to address growing inequities between public and private schools in Los Angeles. It dedicates 40-50 percent of its resources to need-based financial aid each year, according to a press release.

Officials say Newbridge, which has operated for 30 years, shares New Roads' same values for diversity, educational excellence, innovative education and a strong commitment to the community. In recent years, Newbridge has focused increasingly on elementary and middle school education.

David Bryan, current Head of New Roads School, will remain as head of the expanded school. Directing New Roads Elementary School will be Bruce Gram, current Newbridge Educational Director.

Newbridge's Head of School and CEO, Patrick McCabe, will join the New Visions Foundation as director of the Herb Alpert Educational Village — an expanded New Roads School that is planned for 2005.

Until the planned Educational Village opens, New Roads Elementary School will be located at 1512 Pearl St. in Santa Monica, where Newbridge currently operates.

New Roads Middle School is located at 1238 Lincoln Blvd., and New Roads High School is located at the future site of the Educational Village at 3131 Olympic Blvd..



surf report

Information compiled by Jesse Haley

We're looking at very small, flat surf this morning, much like Tuesday's pitiful conditions.

However, a new northwest swell is currently heading our way, due to start showing Thursday or Friday.

Expect knee-high waves in the north, sometimes larger in the South Bay, but even the best breaks aren't likely to hit above shoulder high during the day.

Thursday the new swell should start to fill in in SoCal. Expect sets in the waist- to chest-high range at northern spots, chest- to shoulder-high farther south.

An additional, although steeper angled, northwest swell is on tap for Thursday as well, so standout spots with the most northern exposure should see a boost as that builds Thursday afternoon.



Today's Tides:

Low- 5:17 a.m. 1.87'
High- 11:06 a.m. 4.59'
Low- 5:47 p.m. 0.53'

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

Homeless coverage questioned

Editor:

I've been reading your paper off and on over the past several months, usually on my breaks at my job as a service worker. I am continually offended by your anti-poor, pro-business opinions. Or perhaps more precisely, propaganda.

I notice a tendency to villanize the homeless without considering that homelessness and unemployment are inevitable consequences of a society based on competition, greed, hierarchy and dominance.

You've seemed supportive of ending public feedings. You've advocated limiting homeless people's access to public parks while still allowing access for rich people. Once you reported on a proposed law to ban homeless people's bundles because they could be terrorist bombs in disguise. What a ridiculous law, which was obviously really intended to harass the homeless.

How about some articles about how poor service workers can't afford to live in the communities they work for? About legality of parking permit only zones and how employees are unable to park near their jobs? How about more analysis on how efficient capitalist methods lead to more and more poverty?

Casey Wright
City unknown

The question of war a complex one

Editor:

In response to Norman G. Axe's response to my letter to the editor, "Enough of Saddam," which was printed on Jan. 31, 2003:

Am I anxious to see us go to war with Iraq? No I'm not. Do I agree with Bush that this is probably the correct course of action? I think Bush has made his point.

While I have no first-hand knowledge of what happens when the shooting starts, I do have first-hand knowledge of what happens when you let someone time and time again get away with doing something without facing the consequences of their actions. Usually, the people who do such things get bolder and bolder. As was stated in the *Los Angeles Times*, Nov. 27, 2002, "In the process, of course, numerous innocent Germans would have been hurt or killed, but Germany's later aggression against Austria, Czechoslovakia and Poland, which caused huge numbers of casualties, would never have happened." The letter to the editor was comparing Hitler to Saddam Hussein and basically stating that if Hitler had been curtailed sooner, then the later atrocities that he committed wouldn't have happened.

I know that extremely negative things will happen to human bodies on both sides and I can certainly appreciate Norman's feelings.

April Gaspie did indeed tell Saddam Hussein, Washington had "no opinion on Arab-Arab conflicts, like your border disagreement with Kuwait." What you failed to mention is the fact that she later regretted making that statement. Even so, does our

saying we have no opinion on any conflict give anyone the right to attack another sovereign nation?

From Norman's *New York Times* article, "The agency did find that each side used gas against the other in the battle around Halabja." The article states that the Iranian's and Iraqi's both used those types of weapons against each other, but it was probably the Iranians that killed the Kurds.

More importantly, "The Kurdish civilians who died had the misfortune to be caught up in that exchange. But they were not Iraq's main target." Well, that settles it for me, it was just an accident on the Iraqi's part that they unintentionally gassed some of their own people. So now if Saddam does the same to us, he can just call it another accident and ask for forgiveness. I can sleep better now.

Mr. Axe poses the question, "But should we really be concerned about Saddam Hussein or any other tinhorn dictator posing a threat to the United States?"

Considering what happened to the World Trade Center in New York City, yes, I think we should all be aware that not everyone out there in the world is our friend and neighbor, and some of them have no problem attacking us. Bin Laden has no problem attacking our embassies or the U.S.S. Cole. We've been hit blind-sided before. Pearl Harbor is another example of America being hit by an aggressive nation.

If Bush just decided to remove Hussein simply because some people thought that his father should have done that the first time around, then I would have a huge problem with that.

Another article that appeared in the Jan. 31, 2003 edition of this paper mentioned that someone from Santa Monica was going to see first-hand what the United Nations sanctions were doing to the people who live in Iraq. I'm eager to see this report. If the results are that there are no major impacts to Iraqi life, and we can be reasonably assured that Saddam won't be attacking anyone else, including us, then your point about not rushing through this is probably prudent. If the results are that it's devastating to the people, then all their leader has to do is to comply with what he's agreed to, and the sanctions are lifted, and their people's lives improve, how can you disagree with that?

The question in my mind still remains: Is there any reason why Saddam would not want to quickly have United Nations sanctions lifted from his country? Or does he truly have something to hide? If he has nothing to hide, then why not simply show the inspectors where the weapons were disassembled? Then they can agree that Saddam has disarmed as he agreed to and this whole episode is over. Why the shell game if you can figure out if we have or have not?

Luckily, we both live in the United States where we're free to voice our opinions. As has been said before, "Why would anyone really want to be the president?" No matter which course of action any of them take, in the eyes of some, it was always the wrong one.

Steve Roberts
Santa Monica

Bush push for missile defense: Boon or boondoggle?



INCITES

By Ed Silverstein

July 4, 2001. I was arguing with my brother-in-law, Donny. It was heated. It was always when it came to politics: He a Rush Limbaugh Republican, me a centrist Democrat. In a way, Ralph Nader was right, we were both the same. We both scared the kids.

We were arguing about missile defense. I felt it was a waste of money and a political pay-off to big defense contractors; the money better spent employing out-of-work Russian scientists, securing our borders against terrorists bringing in a suitcase bomb or a biological agent. Donny thought it was needed to protect against rogue nations that might someday have long-range nuclear capabilities. I couldn't understand his thinking. He of all people should have understood the risks of terrorists having actually been in the World Trade Center tower when it was

bombed in 1993.

In December Bush announced that he intends to deploy a limited Missile Defense system by 2004. The cost for the initial research and deployment will be about 9 billion a year and the cost for the fully implemented system is estimated at upwards of a quarter trillion dollars. That's if it works.

Many scientists and even some of the joint chiefs of staff question whether the system can overcome the technical hurdles of "shooting down a bullet with a bullet." Only five of eight tests have been successful and those were under conditions that are akin to expecting North Korea to call the Pentagon with time and coordinates before launching a missile.

When failures started to erode support for the system, Rumsfeld granted the agency overseeing the project unprecedented exclusions from normal weapons development oversight. He essentially eliminated all checks and balances and allowed them to proceed with a high degree of secrecy and nearly a blank check. But even Rumsfeld admits that the proposed system in 2004 will only offer "modest protection."

Actually it offers great protection, but not against nuclear missiles. Maura Reynolds of the *L.A. Times* quotes James Lindsay of the Brookings Institution, who suggests that the reason the administration wants to rush a questionable missile defense into operation in two years is because once deployed it will be very hard for a new administration to eliminate the system. Some critics believe Bush is rushing to deploy so that he can claim he fulfilled his campaign promise when he runs for re-election. Whatever the reason, the question remains whether this system is really needed at present. According to the *L.A. Times*, U.S. intelligence agencies concluded that in the next decade it was more likely the U.S. would be attacked by terrorists with biological, chemical or nuclear weapons than an intercontinental missile.

Despite recent threats from North Korea, it still seems obvious that a good portion of these missile defense funds could be more effectively spent to protect our ports, airways, and borders, securing deadly chemicals at industry sites throughout the country, to improve intelligence both abroad and here at home and to employ out-of-work foreign scientists

so they are not engaged by terrorists and rogue nations to develop weapons of mass destruction. While missile defense may have a place in the future, we should proceed cautiously, with reasonable expenditures and proper oversight. We need to insure that this system works before we start dumping billions into what could easily turn into a bottomless pit.

But I have a more personal reason for being skeptical of this huge expense. On the morning of Sept. 11 our phone rang. My wife and I turned on the television and watched the world change. Donny was in the second tower on the 89th floor.

He managed to reach his wife on his cell phone and told her he wouldn't make it out this time. To tell the kids that he loved them. Donny was a nice, generous man and a great father. We had good times and I miss him. I often think back to our argument and wonder, had the U.S. allocated just a small portion of those billions squandered on star wars and other missile defense programs for more immediate threats, would Donny be alive today?

(Ed Silverstein is a freelance writer living in Santa Monica. Comments may be e-mailed to: edsincites@aol.com).

LOCAL

Greens strategize on how to deal with fundraising

GREEN PARTY, from page 1

is scheduled for the weekend of Feb. 22, will bring elected Greens from across the country to Santa Monica for several meetings and conferences.

Party officials said they want delegates to know that any money they donate could go into an account controlled by Feinstein — not the state party. And despite what they may have been told, a storefront at 2809 Pico Blvd. is not an official Green Party office.

"He has used that office for Green activities and other activities that interest him, but it is not a Green Party office," said John Strawn, a California Green Party spokesman. "The Green Party of California does not want the mistaken interpretation that any funds donated toward that event will go to the state Green Party. They would most likely be used to support the office or this conference."

Feinstein did not return messages on Tuesday seeking comment.

At an L.A. County Green Party meeting on Aug. 26, 2001, Feinstein was asked to explain why he deposited donations into a private bank account and to provide a balance sheet tracking the party's donations. He was asked to account for a \$10,000 check made out to the L.A. County Green Party on Jan. 13, 2001, which was deposited into a private bank account. The money came from Green Party member Bill Pietz, who thought he was contributing toward building a stronger delegation in L.A. County, Pietz said.

There were other proceeds deposited in the private account that came from a fundraiser in 2000 with Ralph Nader at the Pico Boulevard office, sources said. Feinstein also was asked to explain why several Green Party checks were allegedly signed over to Barrios Unidos — a local Latino group that helped open the Pico Youth and Family Center.

Feinstein at the August 2001 meeting said the electronic spreadsheet of the account was damaged and he couldn't provide one until later, sources said. He told his colleagues at the meeting that the money was used to pay for the Pico Boulevard office, phone lines and other Green Party expenses, according to minutes taken from the meeting.

Feinstein denied using Green Party funds for anything other than to build up the party in Los Angeles County or to pay for official Green Party functions, according to the minutes of the meeting.

But now, more than a year later, Feinstein still hasn't accounted for the cash. At an L.A. County Green Party meeting on Oct. 7, 2001 — just a few months after the discrepancy was first noticed — Feinstein again failed to provide the group with a spreadsheet accounting for the party's campaign contributions, sources said. Since then, Feinstein has allegedly ignored calls from the L.A. County Green Party treasurer requesting that he open his books, according to L.A. County Green Party members.

The situation came to a head recently when several L.A. County Green Party members said they received an e-mail in December from Feinstein saying that he is organizing the national conference in February and had placed himself in charge of fundraising for the event.

"He's going on like things have never happened," said Ginny Marie Case, a

local Green Party delegate who signed the letter stating that Feinstein isn't an official fundraiser. "We want to make sure people know there are still concerns over the money raised to pay for that office space."

State and national Green Party officials strategized last month at a meeting in Palo Alto, Calif., on how to best respond to Feinstein's refusal to disclose the financial documents, according to official minutes from the meeting.

Green Party members were fearful that if the issue became public, it would cast a shadow on the entire political party and make it more difficult to raise money in the future. But their concerns over liability and legal issues were enough to set those worries aside and to draft a letter telling their colleagues that Feinstein is no longer recognized as someone who speaks for the party or raises money for it.

Party officials fear they may be liable for upwards of \$30,000 in fines from the state's Fair Political Practices Committee because they believe none of the money collected by Feinstein has been properly disclosed under California election laws, according to minutes from the meeting.

State Green Party Treasurer Mike Wyman said while he believes the state party wouldn't be found liable for Feinstein's alleged actions, he said it would cast a shadow on the state party's reputation and hamper its credibility with donors.

"In an actual legal showdown, the evidence is on our side," Wyman said at the meeting, according to the official minutes. "(Feinstein) was acting on his own. And I think he knew that. But he thought that he was slick enough to get away with it."

"He always had gotten away with it and he's not going to stop," he added. "What's better, having friends do it, or having the press come to him? Or if he gets sued by a major donor?"

The group has now changed the state party's policy so that no one can use the Green Party name without permission. Green Party members also are consulting with lawyers about the party's liability if Feinstein's financial dealings are found to be inappropriate.

"We're not holding (Feinstein) up to any special context but this is still really happening because of him and so in a way it is continuing a feud with a specific person," said state Green Party delegate Paul Encimer at the meeting, according to official minutes.

However, Strawn, the state Green Party spokesman, maintains the party has no formal complaint against Feinstein and it hasn't taken any other action beyond the letter sent out nationally.

"If there was a critical mass of belief that more should have been done than that, it would have occurred," he said. "No matter what kind of tension may be perceived to be in the air at the time, the consensus was to develop and release this statement."

Green Party members who dislike Feinstein are using the national convention to take shots at him, Strawn said.

"There are those who are using this conference as a means to regurgitate these claims about the appropriation of money because they don't like his style and they are his detractors," Strawn said. "If he's guilty of something, he's guilty of political insensitivity to his group. That's very different than fraud."



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LOCAL

Accusations in Green Party reach national level

FEINSTEIN, from page 1

The call was between state party officials and elected Greens from across the country, sources said. The conversation focused on their concerns that Feinstein hasn't told them what happened to checks made out to the Los Angeles County and California Green Party organizations, said Ginny Marie Case, a local Green Party delegate.

The conference call was sparked by a Jan. 10 letter sent by the state Green Party to national Green Party officials reporting that Feinstein is not an official fundraiser and a national convention that he is organizing is not recognized by the party, according to Case.

Feinstein did not return calls seeking comment on Tuesday.

Feinstein has allegedly ignored requests to provide balance sheets of a credit union account where he allegedly deposited a \$10,000 donation to the L.A. County Green Party. They also want to know what happened to proceeds from a 2000 fundraiser with Ralph Nader and why several Green Party checks were signed over to Barrios Unidos, a local Latino group that helped open the Pico Youth and Family Center.

Now Green Party officials are concerned about the convention being organized by Feinstein which will consist of elected Greens from across the country and will take place in Santa Monica during the weekend of Feb. 22.

"Mike Feinstein is no longer mayor now and he started to reassert his activism as a Green Party member on virtually

every level, local state, national and international," said Green Party Treasurer Mike Wyman at a Jan. 10 meeting of state Green Party officials, according to minutes of the meeting.

"This has raised problems particularly because he still has this Pico Boulevard office in mind to be involved with Green Party activities," he said.

While most Green Party officials agree the convention is needed, they said there are concerns Feinstein may be inappropriately using the Green Party name to raise money for the event.

National party officials reportedly asked Feinstein to remove Green Party icons on a Web site promoting the national convention, according to L.A. County Green Party members.

Local and state Green Party officials also are concerned Feinstein could use the event to raise money for a storefront office, located at 2809 Pico Blvd., as an official Green Party location. Officials say no county or state Green Party organization recognizes the storefront as anything more than an office space leased personally by Feinstein.

They cite Feinstein's continued silence about the donations as evidence that he is still up to his old fundraising habits that got him in trouble nearly two years ago. And now Feinstein is doing it on a national level, Green Party officials said.

"Clearly, Mike Feinstein has not changed in terms of his habits of using the Green Party name for fundraising," said Wyman. "And then not using the money for Green Party stuff."

Densmore to perform on behalf of local schools

DOORS, from page 1

Morrison died in 1971, Densmore, Manzarek and Krieger agreed they would split any future profits from The Doors music three ways and that the band's name would not be used if all three of the original surviving members were not involved.

Manzarek, Krieger and their representatives could not be located for comment. There were no Los Angeles telephone listings for the musicians, The Doors Music Company, or their record label, Bright Midnight Records.

Manzarek and Krieger, along with

singer Ian Astbury of The Cult and former Police drummer Stewart Copeland, were to perform Friday at the Universal Amphitheatre.

According to the band's Web site, a new Densmore group called Tribal Jazz plans to release its first album this spring.

Densmore's group is scheduled to perform at 20th Century Fox Studios Century City on Saturday as part of a benefit for the arts programs in the Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District, which is short nearly \$14 million in state cuts. Densmore, a Santa Monica native, reportedly went to local schools and has supported the district in the past.

Local Sports

Samohi boys soccer team is undershot, broken in overtime

By Daily Press Staff

The three-game winning streak enjoyed by Samohi's boys soccer team was snapped by Mira Costa High Monday, after a scoreless regulation ran into overtime.

The Vikings record is now 14-7-1 overall, and 7-3 in their league.

Though the Mustangs eventually took the game, the Vikings didn't go down without a fight.

In the first half, Senior goalkeeper Daniel Islas made his third penalty-kick save of the season. And throughout the game, the Vikings outshot the Mustangs 20-3.

The next game for Samohi is today, when the Vikings will host league-leaders Peninsula High. Kickoff is scheduled for 3 p.m. at John Adams Middle School.

STATE



Sept. 11 memorial license plate tops California list

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The license plate design commemorating the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks with the message "We Will Never Forget" outsold the other nine California specialty vehicle plates in the first six months it was offered.

To raise money for anti-terrorism efforts and children of about 200 Californians killed in the 2001 terrorist attacks — 10,200 of the red, white and blue "California Memorial" plates were sold to state motorists from July through December, 2002.

At a pace of more than 1,700 per month its sales surpassed the sales rates of about 1,500 each for two other designs that celebrate the California coast and raise funds for children's programs. Yosemite and Tahoe theme plates averaged about 500 per month, said state Department of Motor Vehicles spokesman Steve Haskins on Tuesday.

Assembly Speaker Herb Wesson, D-Culver City, led the Legislature's effort to create the "We Will Never Forget" plates. He had hoped owners of about 5 percent of the 26 million vehicles in California would buy the Sept. 11 plates.

"I am very pleased that Californians are buying this plate at the rate they are buying them. As more are on the road and people see them, that rate will increase,"

Wesson told the Los Angeles Times.

Most of the revenue from sales of the "Never Forget" plate, which costs an initial \$50 plus a \$40 annual fee, goes to law enforcement programs that target terrorism. About 15 percent of the fee goes to fund \$5,000 scholarships for children of California's Sept. 11 victims. Through December, the survivors' share of Sept. 11 plate sales has reached \$82,500, which would cover just over 16 scholarships.

"After the attack, people turned to their cars to express themselves," said Thomas McFeeley, a spokesman for Rewards for Justice, a nonprofit organization that has promoted Sept. 11 commemorative plates for most of the 50 states.

"People put on bumper stickers and flags. But flags tatter and stickers peel off. People want something permanent," he said.

Michigan began taking orders for its "Proud to Be American" design four weeks after the attacks. The state has sold more than 33,000 at \$35 each.

Hawaii since late 2001 has sold nearly 17,500 plates proclaiming "America United, Sept. 11, 2001."

New York, site of the World Trade Center attacks, has not yet offered a Sept. 11 commemorative plate. A bill passed in the New York Senate last year remains in an Assembly committee.

Man suing Leona Helmsley for gay bias awarded \$11M

By The Associated Press

NEW YORK — A jury awarded more than \$11 million to a former hotel manager Tuesday after concluding he was fired by real estate maven Leona Helmsley because he is gay.

The jury found that Charles Bell had endured a "hostile and abusive work environment" while running Helmsley's Park Lane Hotel. He was awarded \$10 million in punitive damages and \$1.2 million in compensatory damages.

State Supreme Court Justice Walter Tolub had told the jurors to take into account the defendant's financial condition and said Helmsley's net worth is esti-

mated at \$3.2 billion to \$4 billion.

Helmsley looked impassively at the jurors as the decision was read. Her lawyer, Steven Eckhaus, said he would move immediately to set aside the verdict.

Bell, 48, had sued Helmsley, 82, for \$40 million.

"I am very pleased that the jury realized that Mrs. Helmsley discriminated against me," Bell said. "I don't believe that any gay person should ever have to go through this kind of treatment again, ever."

Eckhaus previously had said Bell was fired because he was unqualified, not because he's gay. He noted that Bell admitted that he had submitted a resume that was "phony baloney."

Gun makers knowingly sold to criminals, affidavit says

BY SETH HETTENA

Associated Press Writer

SAN DIEGO — A former firearms lobbyist became one of the first industry insiders to blow the whistle on gun makers, claiming they have consistently ignored sales of weapons to criminals by corrupt dealers and sought to silence those who advocated reform, according to court documents.

Robert A. Ricker, a former executive director of the American Shooting Sports Council, a now defunct gun industry lobbying group, claimed in a 16-page affidavit filed in San Diego that the gun industry has consistently failed to address the problem of the "felons among us."

The affidavit was filed Monday in San

Diego Superior Court.

"Until faced with a serious threat of civil liability for past conduct, leaders in the industry have consistently resisted taking constructive voluntary action to prevent firearms from ending up in the illegal gun market and have sought to silence others within the industry who advocated reform," Ricker said.

The affidavit was filed in a lawsuit brought by 12 California cities, including Los Angeles and San Francisco, which accuse the gun industry of operating a flawed distribution system that allows criminals and juveniles to obtain guns, creating a public nuisance and unfair business practices. The case is set to go to trial in April.

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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.

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STATE □ NATIONAL

Pharmacist accused of stealing \$400,000 in drugs

BY CHELSEA J. CARTER
Associated Press Writer

SANTA ANA — An Egyptian national was charged Tuesday with allegedly stealing \$400,000 in prescription drugs that authorities say may have been taken back to his native country.

Khaled Mohamed Nagy, 34, was arraigned on one felony count of grand theft and one felony count of possession of stolen goods. Nagy's arraignment was postponed until Monday and he was ordered held on \$500,000 bail, said Orange County District Attorney's spokeswoman Michelle Emard.

Sheriff's spokesman Jim Amormino said investigators have not found the missing prescription drugs, which included anti-depressant and anti-psychotic drugs.

"Although it's too early in the investigation to determine what happened to the drugs, one theory is that the drugs were given to a subject and were transported back to Egypt," he said.

Investigators have ruled out that Nagy used the drugs himself, saying it was impossible for one person to consume the drugs because of the sheer volume. Amormino said such prescription drugs can be sold on the black market for about 10 times their value.

Nagy was working part-time as a pharmacist at a Rite Aid store in Rancho Santa Margarita when he was arrested Sunday on suspicion of forging about 120 prescriptions.

Some time during his employment from August to February, investigators said Nagy began stealing the drugs as well as writing himself phony prescriptions.

Deputies were called to the drug store by Rite Aid security guards. It was unclear when Nagy came under scrutiny by the drug store.

Amormino said Nagy also was under investigation for similar alleged actions at another pharmacy in Orange County. He would not identify the pharmacy, citing an ongoing investigation.

New Jersey man who sold IDs to 9-11 hijackers freed

BY WAYNE PARRY
Associated Press Writer

PATERSON, N.J. — A man who sold fake identification to two of the Sept. 11 hijackers tearfully accepted a plea bargain Tuesday and was freed after declaring he was not a terrorist.

Mohamed el-Atriss, 46, pleaded guilty to a single state count of selling simulated documents. He had been charged with racketeering and numerous counts of selling false documents following his arrest last summer.

He admitted selling fake documents to Khalid Almihdhar, who was on the airliner that crashed into the Pentagon, and Abdulaziz Alomari, who was aboard one of the planes that hit the World Trade Center. And he said selling bogus documents constituted "a substantial amount" of the business at his All Service Plus office.

But he told Judge Marilyn Clark he is not a terrorist.

"Never, ever in my life did I have anything to do with any group of terrorists," he said.

His lawyer, Miles Feinstein, said el-Atriss wishes he could have known who the hijackers were and what they had in mind.

"He is not a terrorist. Never was and never will be," Feinstein said. "He wants the world to know that his most cherished asset — his reputation — has been forever blemished."

The case began with much fanfare last July when Passaic County Sheriff Jerry Speziale brought more than a dozen reporters and photographers along on a raid of el-Atriss' store across from City Hall.

But el-Atriss was nowhere to be found, having flown to Egypt two weeks earlier to vacation with relatives, his lawyer said. He was arrested in August after turning himself in to Egyptian authorities, then flew back to the United States to face charges in Paterson.

Federal authorities criticized the sheriff's raid as a publicity stunt, saying it could harm their ongoing investigation into the attacks and adding that el-Atriss was not aware of the hijackers' intent. Speziale did not immediately return a message seeking comment left at his office Tuesday.

The FBI said it investigated el-Atriss, but found no terrorist connections.

The case took another tantalizing turn in November when prosecutors at a bail

"He is not a terrorist. Never was and never will be. He wants the world to know that his most cherished asset — his reputation — has been forever blemished."

— MILES FEINSTEIN
Defense attorney

hearing contended that the case raised issues of national security and said some evidence in the case must be kept secret. Clark closed the hearing and doubled el-Atriss' bail, to \$500,000.

But an appeals court ordered Clark last month to explain in open court why secret evidence had to be used and why it should remain sealed.

The plea bargain reached Tuesday made that matter moot, though Clark granted a request by prosecutors to keep the evidence sealed.

El-Atriss is to live with his daughter and her husband in Union County, although Clark agreed to keep the exact location sealed out of concern for his safety in the highly publicized case. Feinstein said he did not know what el-Atriss planned to do to support himself.

NATIONAL



Arizona, California chickens test positive for virus

BY ANANDA SHOREY

Associated Press Writer

PHOENIX — Gov. Janet Napolitano declared a state of emergency Tuesday to try to contain a deadly bird virus found in chickens from a western Arizona Indian reservation.

The declaration prohibits the transport of live or dead birds from other states into Arizona.

Additionally, the U.S. Department of Agriculture is expected to quarantine Yuma County, La Paz County, and a portion of Mohave County south of the Grand Canyon on Wednesday morning.

The quarantine will prohibit birds or items that have come in contact with the birds to leave the counties, said Lori Faeth, Napolitano's natural resources adviser.

The measures are intended to prevent the spread of Exotic Newcastle Disease, which is caused by a virus found in the droppings, breath and eggs of birds. An infected bird can pass the disease onto

"We've been worried about this since the moment we found out that any bird in the U.S. had Newcastle Disease. It is probably the worst virus in the poultry species."

— CLINT HICKMAN

Sales manager, Hickman's Egg Ranch

another bird just by being nearby. Birds can also be infected by contaminated clothing or shoes.

"It's highly contagious," said Faeth. "Once a flock is infected the only resolution is to put all the birds to death."

The disease poses no health risks for humans. It is still safe to eat poultry products from Arizona.

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service sent a veterinarian last week to the Colorado River Indian Tribes' reservation, which is on the Arizona-

California state line, after a farmer near Poston reported that about 30 of his chickens had died suddenly, tribal officials said.

The rest of the flock, about another 20 birds, was immediately euthanized and the tribal government quarantined all domestic birds on the reservation.

A USDA lab announced Tuesday that the birds had contracted Exotic Newcastle Disease, which has led to the slaughter of 1.7 million chickens in Southern California and about 1,670 birds in Nevada. Quarantines have been imposed

in both states.

The Arizona quarantine will continue indefinitely and it is likely more birds on the reservation will be euthanized as a precaution against the spread of the disease, USDA officials said.

When Hickman's Egg Ranch, which has about 2 million chickens in Arizona, found out birds had the disease in Southern California they stopped getting eggs and feed from that state.

"We've been worried about this since the moment we found out that any bird in the U.S. had Newcastle Disease," said Clint Hickman, ranch sales manager. "It is probably the worst virus in the poultry species."

The egg ranch, which produces 1.8 million eggs daily in Buckeye and Maricopa, also recently increased its biosecurity measures.

They have been locking all gates, limiting the people who can enter the chicken houses, disinfecting equipment, changing clothes and disinfecting boots and feet.

Workers strike at nation's only uranium enrichment plant

BY KIMBERLY HEFLING

Associated Press Writer

PADUCAH, Ky. — Half the workers at the nation's only plant that enriches uranium for commercial nuclear power walked off the job Tuesday in a protest over wages, health care and pension issues.

About 620 workers went on strike at the Paducah Gaseous Diffusion Plant in this western Kentucky city. The facility's operator said it would keep the plant running with management taking over some of the tasks.

United States Enrichment Corp., which operates the plant for the Energy Department, will meet customer demands "safely and reliably" with salaried workers, company spokeswoman Elizabeth Stuckle said.

"We will continue all essential work at the plant," Stuckle said.

Kevin Choate, a 15-year worker at the plant, said he wonders how that will be possible if the strike continues more than a few days.

"You have 600 people maintaining it — with them gone, you can figure it out," Choate said.

Nuclear Regulatory Commission inspectors will be at plant for the first 72 hours of the strike to ensure the plant operates safely, commission spokesman Jan Strasma said. Extra inspections are possible to shut down the plant or issue orders if necessary.

USEC, a privatized federal corporation in Bethesda, Md., took over management of the plant's enrichment operations in 1993. The last strike at the plant was in 1979, when it was run by Union Carbide Corp.

Hourly workers in Local 5-550 of the Paper, Allied-

Industrial, Chemical and Energy Workers International went on strike after rejecting USEC's latest offer for a five-year contract.

"We have expressed a willingness for the last eight weeks that this has been going on to reach a mutually acceptable resolution."

— LEON OWENS

Union chapter president

"We have expressed a willingness for the last eight weeks that this has been going on to reach a mutually acceptable resolution," said Leon Owens, the local president. "The problem has been the company's unwillingness to address union issues."

Stuckle said USEC has "made a very fair and compet-

itive offer." The company has offered to meet with a federal mediator and is willing to work with the union, she said.

Owens said the union and management are too far apart for a mediator to be useful. Union leaders seek better pension benefits and say the company's proposed salary increases will not offset increases in health care costs.

Sen. Jim Bunning, R-Ky., said he supports the union's decision to strike, though he wants the dispute settled quickly.

"I thought the union people were pretty reasonable in their requests," Bunning said during a teleconference Tuesday morning. "It seems to me that USEC is playing hardball with the union."

Naturally occurring uranium contains only small amounts of the isotope uranium-235, which is needed to support chain reactions in nuclear reactors and weapons. The metal must be refined to boost the concentration of that isotope, a process called enrichment.

Most nuclear power plants require uranium containing about 5 percent U-235 to other isotopes of uranium; nuclear weapons need about 90 percent.

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- 14th and Santa Monica Boulevard
- Wilshire Boulevard and Lincoln Boulevard
- Colorado Boulevard and 3rd Street
- Santa Monica Courthouse
- Arizona Avenue and Second Street
- Arizona Avenue and Fifth Street
- Three newsstands at the intersection of Arizona Avenue and Fourth Street
- Broadway and Lincoln Boulevard
- Broadway and 10th Street
- Colorado Avenue and Second Street
- Santa Monica Boulevard and Lincoln Boulevard
- Lincoln Boulevard and Broadway Avenue
- Lincoln Boulevard and Pico Boulevard
- Lincoln Boulevard and Strand
- Two newsstands at the intersection of Lincoln Boulevard and Raymond
- Main Street and Kinney
- Main Street and Strand
- Main Street and Ocean Park
- Main Street and Ashland
- Montana Avenue and Lincoln Boulevard
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- Montana Avenue and 16th Street

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INTERNATIONAL

Weapon inspectors check 10 sites



Hussein Malla/Associated Press

U.N. weapons inspectors wearing protective clothing and Iraqi workers leave a shed at the al-Doura station for water purification in Baghdad, Iraq, on Tuesday. In a busy day across Iraq, arms monitors checked 10 missile, chemical and other potential weapons production sites, as U.S. diplomatic pressure mounted to possibly cut short the U.N. inspection plans.

Hugo Chavez celebrates anniversary of 1992 coup

BY CHRISTOPHER TOOTHAKER
Associated Press Writer

CARACAS, Venezuela — President Hugo Chavez celebrated Tuesday's anniversary of a 1992 coup attempt that launched his political career while opposition leaders trying to oust him mourned those killed in the botched putsch.

Under international pressure to end Venezuela's political crisis, Chavez's government rejected an opposition proposal to shorten his presidential term and instead suggested a referendum on his rule — though it would take place far later than the opposition wants.

About 20 Chavez supporters briefly attacked the offices of Caracas' opposition mayor with gunfire, rocks and slingshots after a ceremony marking the Feb. 4, 1992, coup bid against President Carlos Andres Perez.

Five people were hurt by rocks and marbles flung by slingshots, said Ramon Muchacho, head of security for Mayor Alfredo Pena. National guard troops dispersed the "chavistas" with tear gas.

"How long is the government going to call for peace while it promotes this violence?" said Muchacho.

Chavez has declared Feb. 4 a day of "national jubilee," but few observed it as millions returned to work at the end of a 66-day-old strike that failed to force Chavez's ouster.

According to Provea, an independent human rights group, 17 soldiers and more than 80 civilians were killed during the 1992 coup led by Chavez, then an army paratroop commander. Fifty-one troops were wounded.

Chavez was jailed for two years, then embarked on a quest that led him to the presidency in 1998 on an anti-poverty platform. He was re-elected to a six-year term in 2000.

"February 4th wasn't a coup," Chavez said Tuesday, wearing a red beret similar to one he wore when he was captured in 1992. "It was a volcano that erupted from the moral depths of the military youth

who rebelled against a military elite submissive to corrupt governments."

Anti-Chavez protesters mourned the 1992 dead. "Those deaths went unpunished," said opposition leader Jesus Torrealba.

Opposition TV stations and newspaper advertisements urged citizens to wear black clothing, turn their house lights off for a half-hour late Tuesday and fly Venezuelan flags at half staff.

The anniversary came at the end of an opposition strike that didn't oust Chavez but did hobble Venezuela's oil industry, the fifth-largest exporter in the world. The strike also managed to bring international pressure on Chavez and opposition leaders to find an electoral solution to Venezuela's political crisis.

Ronald Blanco la Cruz, a government negotiator at talks mediated by the Organization of American States, said the only acceptable proposal was a binding referendum on Chavez's presidency.

While Chavez has said the vote could be held in August, Blanco de la Cruz said efforts to organize the vote could only begin in August.

"This doesn't bring us any closer to a peaceful electoral solution," said Alfonso Marquina, a member of the opposition Democratic Action party. "It could push the solution back as far as next year."

Blanco la Cruz rejected an opposition proposal to hold a referendum that could change the constitution, shorten Chavez's term to four years, and hold early general elections.

"Otherwise, people would start collecting signatures as soon as a president is elected," Blanco la Cruz told the state-run *Venezolana de Television*.

Chavez scoffed at opposition claims to have collected 4 million signatures for a referendum in a nationwide drive on Sunday.

"To hide the huge defeat we dealt them, they're saying they collected 4 million signatures in one day," Chavez said. "Well, let them believe their stories. Let them believe their lies."

Fireworks explosion kills at least 17 in Pakistan, children among dead

BY ASIF SHAHZAD
Associated Press Writer

SIALKOT, Pakistan — Shipping containers full of fireworks caught fire and exploded Tuesday, blowing in walls of a nearby school and raining fiery debris on surrounding buildings. At least 17 people were killed, including two children.

Dozens of others were injured in the blasts at a trucking depot near the town of Sialkot as the fireworks were being placed in two containers for shipment to Lahore, 60 miles to the southwest.

Officials said the fireworks had been falsely listed on shipping documents as children's toys, but said they didn't yet know what sparked the explosions.

Shopkeeper Attiqur Rahman said he saw bodies "flying in the air" at the explosion site and found six or seven children pinned under a collapsed wall in the compound of the Awami Public School.

Basharat Ali, who lives in the village of Zafarwal, about a half mile from the site of the explosion, said he was at home when he heard a "huge bang."

"It was as if an enemy had attacked the city. Explosions continued one after the other and the villagers rushed out of their homes thinking they had been attacked," Ali said.

At his three-room home, relatives mourned over the body of Mohammed Yasin, 17, a 10th grader, whose father said he was killed by flying pieces from one of the metal shipping containers.

"I cannot bear the loss. I wanted to see him a great man. I do not know what happened," his father Rehmat Ali, 65, said through tears.

Yasin's funeral was planned for Wednesday in Zafarwali village, about

two miles north of the school. Another boy killed in the school, Mohammed Adnan, 14, was buried Tuesday evening.

The depot, about eight miles west of Sialkot, was directly adjacent to the school, separated by a wall. Man-size holes were blown in a surrounding wall and walls to a school office also toppled.

Customs officials had opened the container and were checking its contents when the explosions began, said the depot's general manager, Salim Sheikh. A customs inspector was among those killed, he said.

Sheikh ruled out terrorism as a cause of the blast.

"It might be some mishap," he told The Associated Press.

A spokesman for Pakistan's Interior Ministry, Ifthikhar Ahmad, said police were attempting to trace those who shipped the fireworks, listed on the manifest as plastic bullets for toy guns imported from the United Arab Emirates.

Brig. Javed Iqbal Cheema, the director general of the crisis management center at the Interior Ministry, confirmed 17 people had been killed.

Hospital officials in Sialkot said at least seven of the injured were in critical condition, three with serious burns.

It was not clear what caused the fireworks to go off, but authorities said they would investigate.

Lahore, the main city in eastern Pakistan, is a central marketplace for the sale of fireworks in the country, and traders bring the material from all over. The government has tried, unsuccessfully, to crack down on the trade.

In June 2001, an explosion at a private house used for making fireworks killed eight people in a poor section of Lahore.

American artist stabbed to death in London park

BY JANE WARDELL
Associated Press Writer

LONDON — A woman stabbed to death in what police said was a "frenzied" morning attack in a London park was identified Tuesday as a highly regarded American artist.

Margaret Muller, a native of Virginia who moved to Britain in 1998 to teach at the prestigious Slade School of Fine Art, was killed in east London's Victoria Park.

Joggers and cyclists heard Muller, 27, screaming for help about 8:30 a.m. Monday and rushed to her aid. They found her slumped on a path between a rose garden and playground. By her clothing, she appeared to have been jogging at the time of the attack.

"This is a very decent young lady, hard working and very enthusiastic about her art," Detective Chief Superintendent John Shatford said. "We are extremely concerned at the frenzied attack and the fact it was in broad daylight."

An autopsy confirmed that Muller died from multiple stab wounds, including one to the neck. Police said there was no evidence of sexual assault.

Muller, a former student of the Slade School as well as a teacher there, graduated from George Mason University in Fairfax, Va. Her hometown in Virginia was not immediately available.

The Slade School issued a statement praising Muller as a "keen, vibrant student with a passion for her subject."

She has won a series of scholarships and commissions and once worked as an assistant to Washington artist Walter Kravitz. She had exhibited her work at the Slade, George Mason University and the University of Maryland.

In an interview with London's *Evening Standard* newspaper in 2001, she spoke of her love of art and described her determination to do "that most old-fashioned of things" — draw live models.

Police searched Victoria Park on Tuesday for more clues about the killing, draining nearby canals to search for the murder weapon. They also searched Muller's apartment in east London.

In addition, detectives were investigating possible links with a knife attack in nearby London Fields on Jan. 30 during which a woman was attacked and raped at 5 p.m.

SPORTS



Crennel out of 49ers' coaching mix, but college coaches in

BY GREG BEACHAM

AP Sports Writer

SANTA CLARA — New England Patriots defensive coordinator Romeo Crennel was dropped Tuesday from the list of candidates for the San Francisco 49ers' head-coaching vacancy.

General manager Terry Donahue also plans to consider a handful of college head coaches for the job soon, he said in a statement. Donahue apparently waited to open the college portion of the 49ers'

search until after Wednesday's recruiting deadline for national letters of intent.

Three NFL defensive coordinators remain in the prospects for a job that's been vacant for nearly three weeks since owner John York unexpectedly fired Steve Mariucci on Jan. 15. Mariucci was hired by Detroit earlier Tuesday.

New York Jets defensive coordinator Ted Cottrell and Chicago defensive coordinator Greg Blache have been invited to visit the San Francisco Bay area and the 49ers' training complex in the next few

days. San Francisco defensive coordinator Jim Mora is the third candidate.

"The addition of potential candidates from college football along with Greg, Ted and Jim will give us a deep and talented pool from which to choose our head coach," Donahue said.

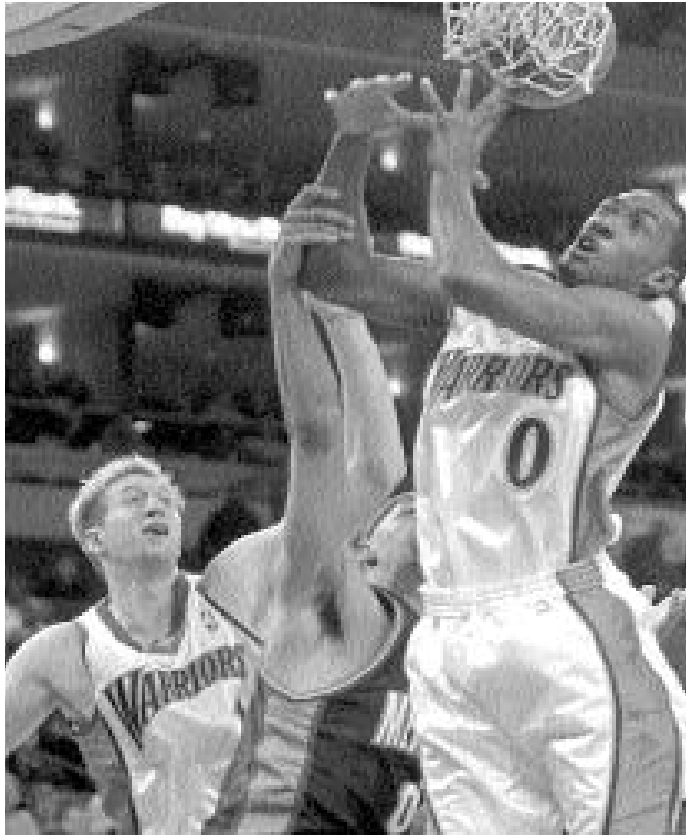
Tampa Bay defensive coordinator Monte Kiffin, Philadelphia defensive coordinator Jim Johnson and Philadelphia offensive coordinator Brad Childress all used the 49ers' interest in them to earn contract extensions from their clubs.

Donahue, who hasn't been available

for more than limited public comment in the last three weeks, also defended the 49ers' extremely deliberate strategy for selecting a head coach. He has interviewed the candidates at his home in Southern California, not at the 49ers' training complex in Santa Clara.

"We established a strategy and are proceeding as planned," Donahue said. "This has been a deliberate and lengthy process because not only have we been getting to know the coaches, but we have been talking to many highly respected football people around the league about our candidates."

Warriors battle for the win



Julie Jacobson/Associated Press

Golden State Warriors' Gilbert Arenas, right, and Troy Murphy, left, fight Memphis Grizzlies' Drew Gooden for a rebound during the fourth quarter on Monday in Oakland, Calif. The Warriors won 101-91.

WTA Championships announce changes in format

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The season-ending WTA Championships will change its format from a 16-player single-elimination tournament to an eight-player round-robin with the singles winner earning \$1 million.

The prize money is a \$235,000 increase from the \$765,000 Kim Clijsters earned for upsetting Serena Williams in last year's event.

The eight singles qualifiers will be divided into two groups of four. The two players with the best record from each group will advance to the single-elimination semifinal round, and the winners will face each other in the final.

"Even if you lose a really tight, tough

match, you'll be able to stay in the tournament with this format," Jennifer Capriati said. "It should be better for the fans, too, with seeing some of the top players in more matches."

The \$1 million prize also is more than the \$900,000 earned by the U.S. Open women's champion.

"It's a pretty awesome amount," Capriati said. "It just shows how strong women's tennis is and how it just keeps getting better."

The doubles draw will go from eight teams to four teams in a single elimination format. The winners will share \$250,000.

This year's tournament is set for Nov. 5-10.

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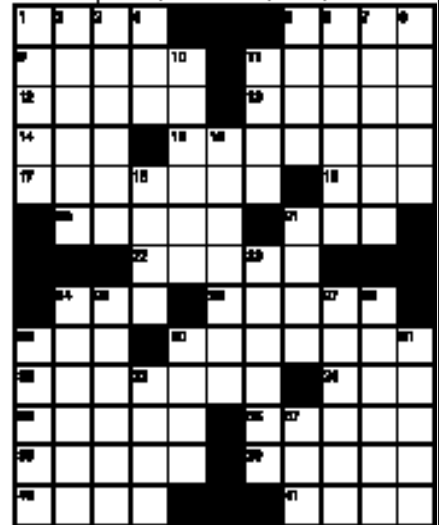
- 1 Ump's call
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17 Hole in the head
19 Road goo
20 See-through
21 Gooling aid
22 Take the wheel
24 Drunk
26 Display disdain
28 Month after "evil"
30 Bear buys
32 Depleted
34 Gratuity
35 Steves food
36 French river
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4 Mom's order
5 Place for a picnic
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11 Bar
15 Employe
18 Lab event
21 Worry
23 Comes in



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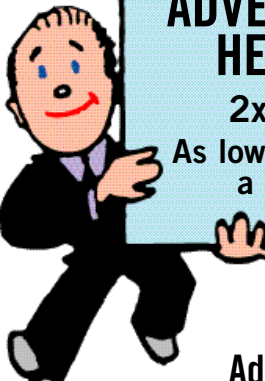


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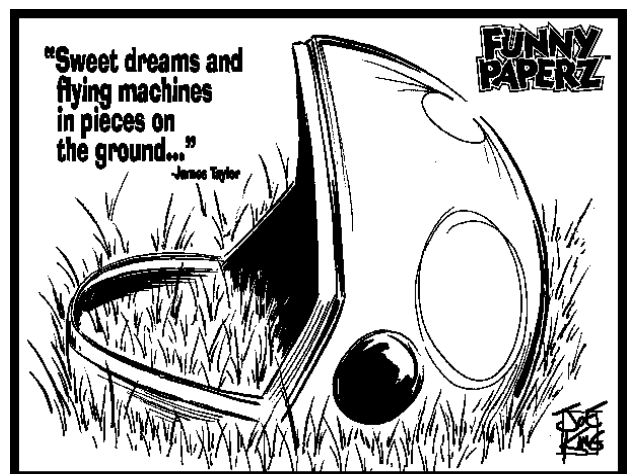


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VENICE DUPLEX \$1495 1bdrm/1.5ba upper w/courtyard views, 2 car parking, W/D hook-ups, hardwood floors and lots of charm. 1 year lease, no pets. (310)396-4443 ext. 102.

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WeHo \$750.00 Classic New York style brick building hardwood floors, pet ok, stove, ceiling fan, crown molding. Close to shops and restaurants. Parking available.

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Houses For Rent

VENICE CANALS House \$2,950 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.

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SANTA MONICA Main St. \$500.00 to \$750.00. Space available for rent. Hottest location on Main St. Can be vendors like clothing, jewelry, candies, 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.

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Announcements

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The lard eagle is watching

By The Associated Press

DAWSON CREEK, British Columbia — With wings stretched wide, an eagle made of lard watched over the food line in the Northern Lights College cafeteria.

Student Julanka Kemper said she worked for more than 40 hours on the sculpture, right down to the detail of the feathers, as part of an elective workshop in the professional cook training program.

Kemper planned to enter the bird in a national competition in Edmonton last weekend, but the event was canceled. Instead, the eagle and five other sculptures were placed on display in the cafeteria.

Chef instructor Jacquelynne Baran, who helped teach workshops on lard sculpting, also created a cowboy that was on display.

The cowboy "is something I hadn't done before, and it was going to Alberta," she said. "I think he'd be able to go really nice with a prime rib dinner."

Other sculptures featured penguins, a duck and a

whale.

The school usually trains students to make sculptures in chocolate.

"They will last longer than the chocolate," Baran said. "No one will eat (them)."

Snoopy on the fairway

By The Associated Press

ST. PAUL, Minn. — A fairway at the St. Paul's Highland 18 Golf Course features more than a dog leg — it has the whole dog, and a famous one at that.

Golfers on the 15th hole will encounter a large fairway bunker with the outline of Snoopy, the "Peanuts" comic strip character created by the late St. Paul native Charles Schulz.

"We knew about Charles Schulz's connection to Highland where he used to play and caddie, so we dropped Snoopy in as a bunker or a pond on the 15th," said Paul Miller of Gill Miller Inc., the firm in charge of a course renovation.

"Dog leg" usually refers to a fairway that bends to the left or right.

The idea for the Snoopy outline started as sort of a joke, but Schulz's widow, Jean, liked the idea. Last year, while touring some of the St. Paul sites where her late husband spent his childhood, she spotted Snoopy in a course design posted in the Highland clubhouse.

Jean Schulz said the "Snoopy" image was wonderful and she thinks it will produce laughs for passing golfers, either in or out of the sand.

"I hope to get out and play the course," she said.

When penguins fly

By The Associated Press

DALLAS — Southwest Airlines is seeking the government's approval to bring back its popular SeaWorld penguin tours, in which two of the tuxedoed waddlers are put on jets to promote the amusement park as a summer destination.

The promotion was shut down after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, and some security concerns must be addressed before the promotion can restart.

"One of the things that they mentioned was, 'Would it be possible that we would be able to wand the animals?'" said Melanie Jones, creative manager for the Dallas-based carrier.

SeaWorld and Southwest Airlines have worked since the 1980s to lure business to parks in San Antonio, San Diego, and Orlando, Fla. Southwest flew SeaWorld animals to cities that have nonstop flights to the parks.

"If we can find a way to make this happen, far be it from us to not say yes," said Ed Martelle, spokesman for the Transportation Security Administration. "The trick is being able to do this and not compromise security."

Southwest has been informed that whatever animals would be brought would be subject to wandering at the security checkpoint. SeaWorld officials say that's OK since the penguins travel well and are used to being handled.

"We feel like they really brighten people's days," said Fran Stephenson, SeaWorld's spokeswoman in San Antonio. "Besides, they don't have any pockets to empty."

KEEP YOUR DATE STRAIGHT

Promote your event in the *Santa Monica Daily Press* Calendar section.

Fax all information to our Calendar Editor: Attention Angela @ 310.576.9913

SANTA MONICA SCENE °CALENDAR EDITION

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2003

TODAY

Farmer's Market every Wednesday. 9am to 2pm, Arizona between Second and Fourth Streets. Come and enjoy one of the largest and best farmer's markets in California!

Puppetolio! presented by the Santa Monica Puppet & Magic Center. All ages, 3 and up. This musical revue features marionettes, ventriloquism, magic and more. Shows are always followed by a demonstration, Q & A, and a tour of the Puppet workshop and Museum. Saturdays and Sundays at 1pm and 3pm. Wednesdays and Holidays at 1pm. Seats are \$6.50. 1255 2nd Street in Santa Monica. Reservations/Information (310)656-0483. www.puppetmagic.com

Santa Monica Public Library presents **Preschool Story Time**, every Wednesday at 11:15am, 1343 Sixth Street. Stories for children between the ages of three and five who are ready to participate on their own. (310)458-8600

Torah readings: Hosted by Rabbi Aaron Shaffier. This popular class examines the text of the Bible verse by verse with explanations. Every Wednesday at 12:15pm, 1111 Montana Ave. Fee is \$7 per class. Gourmet salad lunch is served. (310)488-7151.

Ongoing support groups for people 55 and older. Current openings in Parents of Adult Children. Wednesdays 2:00 to 3:30. Center for Healthy Aging, 2125 Arizona Avenue. Sliding scale fee. Not drop-in groups. Phone interview required. Call Information and Referral. (310)576-2550.

Free Meditation Workshops sponsored by Sahaja Yoga. Every Wednesday night at 7pm in the Community Room at the Wilshire Wild Oats, 500 Wilshire Blvd. At 5th St. Open to all. (310)395-6443

THURSDAY

Thursdays this month the **Comedy Underground** presents stand up comedy! SPLAT! @ 9 PM. 320 Wilshire Blvd. (alley entrance) For information or reservations call (310)451-1800

Johanna Israel presents **Gotham Comedy Night!** with top headliners every Thursday. February 6 will feature Brian Scolaro. Gotham Hall, 1431 3rd Street Promenade, Santa Monica at 7pm. \$5 + 2 item min., 21/over. (323)525-5254.

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.

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

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

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

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

MOVIE °GUIDE

LOEWS CINIPLEX BROADWAY CINEMA

1441 Third St. at Broadway
About Schmidt (R) 12:50, 3:45, 6:40, 9:35. Biker Boyz (PG-13) 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:05. The Hours (PG-13) 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:50. The Guru (R) 12:35, 3:00, 5:25, 7:50, 10:20.

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. 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) 2:00, 5:00, 7:40, 9:50. The Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers (PG-13) 1:35, 5:15, 8:45. Catch Me If You Can (PG-13) 1:30, 4:25, 7:20, 10:15. Chicago (PG-13) 1:45, 4:30, 7:20, 10:00. 25th Hour (R) 1:40, 4:35, 7:30, 10:15. Kangaroo Jack (PG) 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15. Final Destination 2 (R) 2:15, 4:45, 7:45, 9:55.

LANDMARK NU-WILSHIRE

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

LAEMMLE MONICA

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

AERO THEATER

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



BACK PAGE

Lover of dead Texas orthodontist takes the stand

BY MARK BABINECK
Associated Press Writer

HOUSTON — The woman whose affair with her boss prompted his wife to run him down with her Mercedes-Benz fought back tears Tuesday as she testified she believed the marriage was "open" to other sexual partners.

Gail Bridges, who acknowledged having an affair with David Harris beginning last May, said she assumed Clara Harris knew about the sexual trysts because of her boss' statements.

But asked by a defense attorney if she blamed Clara Harris for being angry, she said: "No ma'am, I do not."

The testimony came at Clara Harris' murder trial. Prosecutors say Harris, 45, intentionally killed her 44-year-old husband July 24 in a suburban Houston hotel parking lot following a scuffle in the lobby with Bridges.

Bridges took jurors through the time she was hired at David Harris' orthodontic practice in August 2001, to a blossoming romance last April and finally a sexual rendezvous.

At a party last May attended by both Harrises and Bridges, Bridges said she didn't tell Clara Harris about the relationship.

"I don't understand why I would," Bridges said, because the marriage was

supposed to be open. But she acknowledged to defense attorney Emily Munoz that she "did feel guilty."

Bridges, wearing all black, never appeared to glance in the defendant's direction.

David Harris admitted to the affair on July 17. A week later, Clara Harris tracked down her husband and Bridges at the hotel.

Clara Harris and Bridges tussled in the

lobby, and then Bridges returned to her sport-utility vehicle in the parking lot, she said. She was standing inside her driver's side door when she said she saw Clara Harris churning through the parking lot in the Mercedes.

Bridges, fighting back tears but calmly fielding questions, said she did not see David Harris struck by his wife's car.

Defense attorney George Parnham has

said it was an accident when Clara Harris fatally injured her husband. If she is convicted, her lawyers are prepared to lodge a "sudden passion" argument that could result in a sentence far lower than the life maximum under Texas law.

Prosecutors say Harris meant to kill her husband. Officials with the medical examiner's office concluded Harris was run over at least twice.

Airline says Courtney Love abused crew

By The Associated Press

LONDON — Singer-actress Courtney Love was detained Tuesday at Heathrow airport after an airline claimed she verbally abused the crew of a trans-Atlantic flight.

Love was "verbally abusive toward our cabin crew and disruptive" on a Virgin Atlantic flight from Los Angeles to London, airline spokesman Paul Moore said. No one was injured on the Boeing 747, which carried 201 passengers and 20 crew.

TV channel Sky News aired pictures of Love, 38, being escorted by two officers from the plane to a police van on the runway after the flight landed about 11 a.m. She smiled at the camera and covered her face with her hand before getting into the

back of the van.

London's Metropolitan Police said a 38-year-old woman had been arrested for disruptive behavior and endangering an

"She has been cautioned under the Public Order Act for causing harassment, alarm and distress to another person."

— POLICE SPOKESWOMAN

aircraft. She was being questioned by officers at Heathrow after reports of a passenger "being generally disruptive,

using abusive language and refusing to sit down and put her belt on," a spokesman said. Love was later released.

"She has been cautioned under the Public Order Act for causing harassment, alarm and distress to another person," a police spokeswoman said.

Love is the widow of Nirvana frontman Kurt Cobain, who committed suicide in 1994, and lead singer of the rock group Hole. She received a Golden Globe nomination for her part in the 1996 movie "The People vs. Larry Flynt," in which she played the wife of the porn entrepreneur.

Love had been due to attend a fund-raising event at London's Old Vic Theater on Wednesday along with Elton John and Kevin Spacey.

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Nominations are quick and easy! Visit www.smqa.com and click on "SQA Nomination Form", or contact the Chamber of Commerce at 310.393.9825 for more information.



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