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Santa Monica Daily Press

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Residents finally heard by council

BY ANDREW H. FIXMER
Daily Press Staff Writer

If you want to be heard by the Santa Monica City Council, make sure you bring your friends. And if that still doesn't work, keep coming back.

That's the lesson more than 140 residents learned Tuesday when their second attempt to urge council members to include more athletic fields and affordable housing in the $120 million Civic Center redevelopment plan actually bore fruit.

"I hope everyone who participated now knows they were heard," said Mayor Pro Tem Kevin McKeown. "Listening to the public, we identified five areas needing further exploration and development of alternatives.

"Those include playing fields, housing, cultural amenities, streets and parking."

The city purchased over 11 acres from the Rand Corporation for $53 million in 2000. The city has decided that the property will be used as a combination of open space, parks, low-income housing and other public amenities.

The large group of Santa Monicans first showed up at the Jan. 22 council meeting hoping to be heard. However, that didn't happen because the Civic Center plan didn't come up for consideration until 1 a.m., after most had already gone home.

But the residents didn't give up. And because the issue came before the council by about 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, they finally got their say.

"Obviously, there is a shortage of active park space in Santa Monica," said resident Tom Larmore. "To not take advantage of this opportunity would be a great loss because it's one of the rare places we have a chance to build active space for our kids."

"A child without a soccer field is unfortunate, but a child without a home is a crime."

— KATHLEEN MASSER
Santa Monica resident

Some residents asked why athletic fields were ever taken out of the plan. Officials said when they were writing the civic center plan last year few residents said they wanted the fields.

"People conceptualized a wish list at the beginning of the process, but during the process of writing the plan nobody came forward," said Councilman Ken Genser.

See CIVIC, page 3

An unfortunate meal



Tim Murphy/Special to the Daily Press

Vagrants diving for food in garbage cans along the Third Street Promenade is a common and unnerving scene for many visitors and business owners, who consistently voice their frustration at the number of homeless people in Santa Monica.

Security guards okayed for elementary schools

By the Daily Press staff

The Santa Monica-Malibu School District plans to hire security guards for its elementary school students in as soon as two weeks.

Concerned parents testified before the school board earlier this month that they have grave security concerns at the elementary schools where they send their children. They asked that security measures taken at the middle and high schools be implemented at the elementary school level too.

Superintendent John Deasy last week agreed.

"We proposed a plan to the school board, which was basically an interim plan for the remainder of the year, to use personnel to monitor the doors and check I-Ds," said Deasy, adding that once the plan is passed at the meeting in two weeks, hiring can begin.

Though the proposed plan would only authorize new security guards for this year, school officials said they would try to find a permanent funding source in next year's budget.

"There are a lot of budget proposals for next year, and we have a lot of issues to finance," said Deasy. "But you should expect to see a proposal dealing with this in a more permanent way next year."

Father-son struggle ends in murder

By Daily Press staff

A 77-year-old man found dead Tuesday marked Santa Monica's first homicide of the year and may have been the result of a father-son dispute.

Pranas Brazinskas and his son, Algridas Brazinskas, 46, also known as Albert Victor White, apparently were involved in a struggle, during which the elder Brazinskas suffered several blows to the head with an unknown object, police said.

White called 9-1-1 shortly before 8 p.m. Tuesday, then hung up the phone. Once police arrived at the 900 block of 21st Street, between California Avenue and Washington Avenue, White met officers at the door and led them to his father's body.

White was booked for murder and was being held at the Santa Monica Jail. The exact cause of his father's death will be determined by an autopsy by the Los Angeles County Coroner's office.

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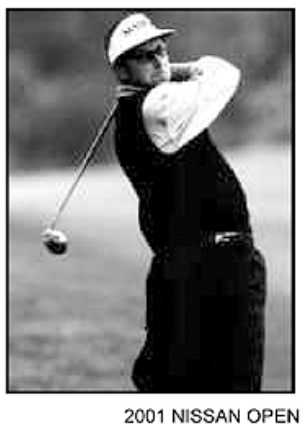
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JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

The stars show the kind of day you'll have:
★★★★★-Dynamic ★★★★-Positive ★★★-Average ★★-So-so ★-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You might be running in every direction. What happened to organization? You just might need to put the kibosh on present activities and reorganize work. Better communication becomes the earmark of the next few weeks. Tonight: Lead others into a fun weekend.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Seek out others. Someone really cares for you but seems to show it by constantly reaching out for you. Express your feelings and your needs. Set your boundaries before it becomes too late. Avoid an argument through diplomacy. Tonight: Take off as soon as you can.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Your display of happiness relieves someone who has been concerned about your moodiness. Keep expressing yourself, allowing others to hear what you want loud and clear. A friend might make a request that you cannot fulfill. Tonight: Bypass a power struggle.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Your popularity mounts, opening doors and allowing you to make a choice that you have been waiting for. A boss or higher-up could be overly demanding. Let this person understand your limits without causing a major uproar. Lighten up about a problem. Tonight: Go along with someone's suggestion.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Get into work with the idea of clearing off your desk. You finally clear confusion out of your life and greet clarity. Catch up on messages and chat with coworkers. Someone at a distance blows his or her cool. Plans switch rapidly. Tonight: Out the door — quickly.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Your playful spirit delights those around you. Your ruler, mercury, goes direct, allowing you to take a deep breath and move plans forward. Carefully review a recent decision that impacts a partner. Don't worry, if you step on this person's foot, he or she will let you know. Tonight: Go along with someone's request.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Family might be your priority, but at some point, you need to take care of other facets of your life. Focus and clear out problems elsewhere. Uproar surrounds a special friendship. Is this what you really want? Detach and listen. Tonight: Stay cool. Listen.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ Speak out, and finally others listen. You might want to sigh a breath of relief, as matters seem more under control. Consider options around a day-to-day situation. Perhaps you expect too much from yourself, or someone else is expecting too much. Tonight: Hang out at a favorite spot.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Deal with finances. Now when you talk to others, you get the kind of answers you seek. You can sigh with relief. A child or a loved one could go on the warpath. You'll have to dig into your bag of tricks to find a solution. Tonight: Indulge.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Basics do count, no matter how you look at a personal matter. Not everyone does what you think he or she should. Getting angry at a close friend or roommate won't help. Detach. Use your reservoir of creativity. Tonight: Ever dynamic, make the choices.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ As tempting as it might be, slow down and don't jump to conclusions. Tempers flare around you, and it might be easy to join in. Use your creativity. Talk to each person individually, attempting to walk in this person's footsteps. Tonight: Head home.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Where your friends are is where you want to be. Don't become frivolous with spending. Understand present limits, knowing when to say "enough." A friend lets you know how much he or she cares. Review finances before you hit an obstacle. Tonight: Keep the party going.

CORRECTION — The Santa Monica City Council did not vote Tuesday to make sure it would finish public meetings by 11 p.m., but rather to try to shorten the meetings so they don't run into the early morning hours.

QUOTE of the DAY

"Computers are useless.
They can only give you answers."
— Pablo Picasso *(1860-1937)*

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Affordable housing, athletic fields debated

CIVIC, from page 1

"At one point I asked for a soccer field and nobody was there to push for it."

The affordable housing component of the plan also stirred residents' opinions.

Just outside the chamber doors, a group of affordable housing advocates passed out fliers and beat on tambourines, while inside the council chambers the group waved bright yellow Frisbees with "600" printed on across the front, indicating they want 600 housing units, not the proposed 300 -- 160 of which are slated for low-income residents.

"We need to have more than (160) income qualified housing units in the civic center," said resident Patricia Hoffman. "We have a job-rich environment and we need to have places for low-income workers in these jobs to live. Without affordable housing we're pushing all our workers away."

Bruria Finkel, of the city's rent control board, urged the council to find ways of adding more affordable housing.

"All units should be low-income, affordable units," she said. "This is public land, and we ask you to make it happen. This is an area we have for open space and it can and should be used for housing."

The rent control board found that the 1994 Northridge earthquake destroyed 640 affordable housing units, which were never replaced, Finkel said.



Andrew H. Fixmer/Daily Press

Joan Ling, affordable housing activist, leads demonstrators at a protest outside city council chambers Tuesday.

Another housing activist said new fields for sports are important, but without affordable housing many would not be able to take advantage of new recreation areas.

"A child without a soccer field is unfortunate, but a child without a home is a crime," said Kathleen Masser. "We are losing our citizens. We are losing our working class."

But Genser, like other council members, said adding athletic fields should not subtract from other uses proposed for the land.

"I'm not happy with the number of affordable housing," he said. "We need more units but there has to be a balance on what's on that site."

Council members asked city staff to investigate changes to the civic center plan proposed by residents and report their findings back at next week's council meeting. If plausible, council members said they would like to incorporated as many changes as possible.

Seismic hazards detailed along L.A.-Ventura border

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Significant areas along both sides of the Los Angeles-Ventura county line are susceptible to landslides or liquefaction in a large earthquake, according to maps released Thursday by the state Department of Conservation.

The maps show areas of Oxnard, Camarillo, Thousand Oaks, Malibu and Westlake Village face additional hazards in the event of a magnitude-6.0 or larger earthquake because of special soil or rock conditions at the surface.

In large quakes, strong shaking causes the most damage. However, that shaking can also trigger secondary landslides or soil liquefaction in certain areas.

During the deadly magnitude-6.9 Loma Prieta quake in 1989, San Francisco's Marina district — built on landfill — suffered major damage.

And 1994's magnitude-6.7 Northridge earthquake caused more than 11,000 landslides, damaging buildings and blocking roads.

"Knowing where liquefaction and landslides are most likely to occur means that local officials can require special engineering steps on new construction to make people and buildings safer," said Darryl Young, director of the Department of Conservation.

As of Thursday, new building permits issued inside the zones detailed in the five just-released maps require a geologic study to determine whether hazards exist on a particular site. If risks are found, measures to lessen the impact must be proposed.

"It's just a way to ensure they are doing a subsurface investigation in areas where we've identified those problems," said Jack McMillan, a senior engineering geologist with the California Geological Survey, formerly known as the Division of Mines and Geology.

All real estate sold in the state requires the seller to disclose natural hazards before sale, including properties inside a Seismic Hazard Zone.

The state is producing about 300 similar maps, each covering a 60 square-mile area, that detail areas identified as having a high risk of shaking or that are either developed or being developed.

So far, about 60 maps have been produced, including maps of the Los Angeles and the San Francisco Bay regions.

Upcoming versions will cover more of Ventura County, as well as the Palmdale and Lancaster desert areas of Los Angeles County.

In the new maps, liquefaction zones exist on the Oxnard plain and along the coast into Malibu. Landslide risks exist in much of the hilly and mountainous areas covered by the maps.

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SM's examination of Montana neighborhood is nonsense

Guest Commentary

By Tom Larmore and Eric Parlee

In the city where the rights of the "community" are quickly superseding individual freedom, a single-family homeowner cannot assume that the "collectivist" mentality will be limited to business and landlords.

Local activists will assure you that the north of Montana residential neighborhoods are under siege from those who wish to replace homes built before 1960.

Their answer to this "problem" may be the creation of "historic districts" in which homeowners will be unable to replace, alter or remodel without leave of the Landmarks Commission. In other words, "We like your home the way it is, so we'll prohibit you from changing it without your approval."

The city has hired a consultant to update the "historic resources inventory" for the single-family area north of Montana. This report will be used to determine whether portions of that area should be classified as "historic districts." While the commission has waited for this report, it has taken action on at least three 18th street homes to prevent their demolition so that they can be evaluated as part of a potential historic district on that street. This report is expected to be presented to the commission on March 11.

Unquestionably, many of Santa Monica's homes have historical or architectural merit and their owners should be acquainted with state and local financial incentives and with architectural methods to maintain them, if they desire to do so. For those who do not, the city already has established special design standards for north of Montana that require additional setbacks, limit height and lot coverage, and restrict overall area. These relatively new standards are a much more appropriate and freedom-preserving approach than forcibly freezing the past into the future.

If the residents who would be affected by the establishment of "historic districts" were the ones asking for the designation, there would be little reason to object. However, that is not the case, as was made quite clear at a recent meeting of the Landmarks Commission.

We suggest that the commission make a clear and unequivocal public statement at its Feb. 11 meeting that no home will be considered to be within a "historic district" and no home will be classified as a "landmark" or a "structure of merit" unless specifically requested by the owner.

Given the past record of the Landmarks Commission and the city council, we doubt that such a statement will be forthcoming. In its absence, we urge all homeowners to attend commission meetings, pay attention to its action and regularly speak and write letters to both the commission and the council advising them of your concern over the issue. Otherwise, you may find that the council has adversely affected your house at 2 a.m. some Wednesday morning.

(Tom Larmore is a local attorney and a resident in the north of Montana neighborhood. Eric Parlee is a local architect and a former member of the city's planning commission.)

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Non-resident exceptions okayed by school board

By the Daily Press staff

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School Board made more exceptions to the number of non-resident children who will be allowed to attend classes in the district.

With overcrowding rampant in classrooms throughout the district, school officials want to thin class sizes by tightening up a policy that permits out of district students to attend classes in Santa Monica-Mailbu Unified.

Originally, the school district allowed more children into the district to raise revenue from the state. That plan backfired, however, when the school district became one of the best in California. Currently, non-resident children enrolled in the school district bring in an additional $12 million a year.

Superintendent John Deasy wants a one-year moratorium on any more outside students, except if the children's parents work for the city of Malibu, the city of Santa Monica or the school district.

Deasy proposed extending that exception to siblings of outside children currently attending classes in the district, who would be allowed to enroll in kindergarten, 1st grade, 6th grade or 9th grade.

"The intent of the policy originally was not to separate families, but we became aware last night there are (non-resident) students with siblings at another outside school, but wanting to enter at the middle school level," said School Board President Julia Brownley. "If the intent is not to split-up families, it should be a consideration in the policy."

Changes to the permit policy are expected to decrease the number of students entering the school district next year by roughly 350 students, which will cut about $1.5 million in state funding. School officials are still looking for ways to recoup the loss in revenue.

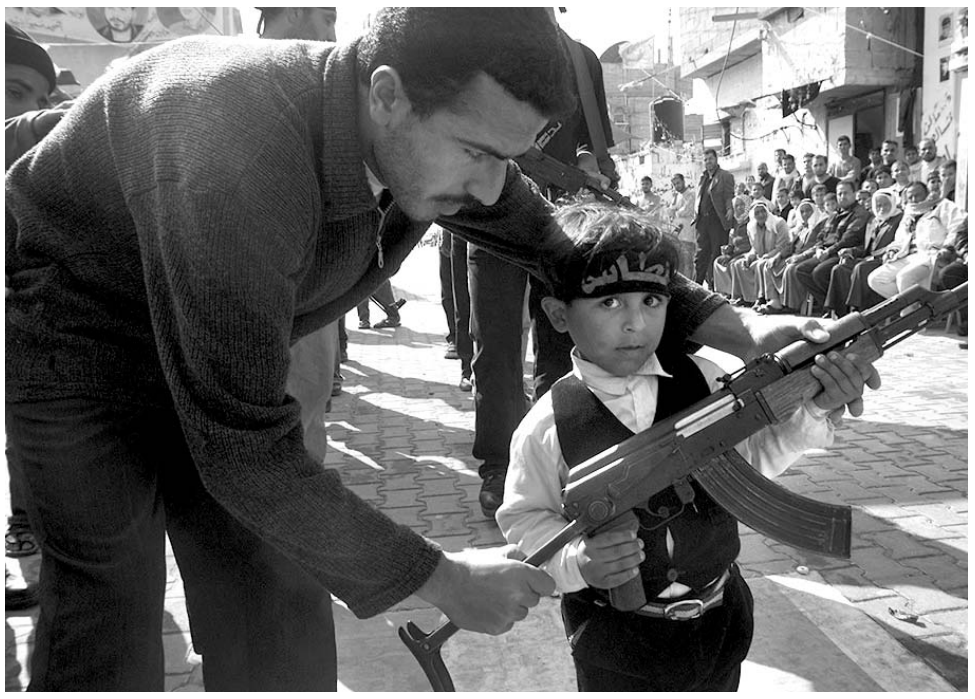
"At this point in time I don't see any (funding) opportunities from the state. They are slashing funding to school districts," Brownley said. "We'll have to look from within and continue to look for opportunities from the outside as we go along."

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Charles Dharapak/Associated Press

An unidentified man hands an AK-47 assault rifle to 4-year-old Hussein Jarboo, at a memorial service in Rafah, southern Gaza strip on Thursday, for five Palestinians gunmen who were killed on Monday in what Palestinian officials said was a targeted Israeli missile attack.

Trader loses $750 million of Ireland's largest bank

BY JEREMY BERLIN
Associated Press Writer

BALTIMORE — How a currency trader could run up $750 million in losses without being noticed topped the list of questions analysts were asking Thursday about the scandal at the U.S. subsidiary of Ireland's largest bank.

Allfirst, a subsidiary of Allied Irish Banks, said it suspended currency trader John Rusnak, 37, and four of his direct superiors pending an investigation.

No charges had been filed in the case, and Rusnak's attorney David Irwin said the case does not involve theft.

"I'm trying to figure out what happened myself," Irwin said.

"It begs the question: Who else was involved?" said Susan Stearns, Bank of Montreal's vice president of foreign exchange in institutional sales. "The buck doesn't stop with John Rusnak."

In Ireland, Allied Irish's board of directors spent four hours questioning bank officials Thursday about why the loss was not noticed sooner and why the subsidiary had such autonomy. The bank also ordered an internal investigation, to be completed in 30 days.

"The board has expressed its extreme disquiet that controls and supervision of the treasury operations in Allfirst had failed to uncover, at a far earlier stage, the fraudulent activities," the board said in a statement.

"While accepting that these fraudulent activities were complex and may well have involved collusion and conspiracy, the board is determined that effective remedies be implemented as a matter of urgency."

Allied Irish Chief Executive Michael Buckley, appearing tired and edgy after the board meeting, said: "There is no doubt that John Rusnak was involved in fraudulent activity. Whether or not he benefited from that is still the question."

Allfirst spokesman Phil Hosmer added that the bank isn't using the terms theft, stolen or missing to characterize the $750 million in question. "The money is being called a loss to the earnings," he said.

Buckley has said he found out about the problem Monday night, after middle managers at Allfirst confronted Rusnak by telephone following several weeks of investigation.

The investigation found forged purchasing records for options contracts, starting early last year and ending just after Christmas, the bank said.

Currency dealers normally buy options contracts to hedge their bets on whether a specific currency will gain or lose value. If they buy a currency that loses value, the bank's losses are typically offset by an option contract bet on a movement in the opposite direction.

But in this case, the bank said, Rusnak did not buy options contracts to hedge many of his deals. It said he forged records of options purchases, either to conceal losses or skim the fees paid for the options.

Jay Bryson, a global economist for Wachovia Securities, said the losses should have been caught. "It's a failure of management, clearly," Bryson said.

Gary Kennedy, Allied Irish's group finance and risk director, told The Financial Times of London that "we are not pointing the finger" at the bank's auditor, PricewaterhouseCoopers.

David Nestor, a spokesman for PricewaterhouseCoopers, declined to comment, citing a client confidentiality policy.

Government gets hit with Microsoft antitrust e-mails

BY D. IAN HOPPER
AP Technology Writer

WASHINGTON — Uncle Sam is getting a lesson in junk e-mail, compliments of the Microsoft antitrust case.

For the first time, the government opened its required public comment period in a case to allow citizens to use e-mail rather than letters to sound off.

The result: 30,000 messages that ranged from 2,800 form letters to pranksters' pornography to the blunt and brief: "I hate Microsoft."

Only about 10 percent had anything substantive to say, officials said, calling the volume unprecedented.

E-mail lets regular people get into the act, said Dana Hayter, a former Justice Department antitrust lawyer.

"You're more likely to get a higher volume of comments from people who are not as likely to have legal or economic training, but who likely have a strongly held view of Microsoft or on the conduct of the investigation," Hayter said.

In a report to the judge handling the case, the Justice Department separated the wheat from the chaff and concluded that opinion from senders was running 2-to-1 against the antitrust settlement with Microsoft announced last fall.

The department called only 2,900 comments "substantive," ranging from a one or two page discussion to detailed reports exceeding 100 pages. Forty-five comments are "major," according to Justice. Officials declined to characterize their contents.

Under federal law, such a comment period was required before a federal judge could decide whether the settlement is in the public interest. U.S. District Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly plans to question the department and Microsoft about the comments and other issues Friday.

The flood of public comment in the Microsoft case — spurred by the e-mail opportunity — far outpaced other cases.

In the last antitrust settlement of this magnitude, the settlement that broke up AT&T, officials got about 8,750 pages of comments but never said how many individuals responded.

Courts have found that Microsoft violated antitrust laws and maintained an illegal monopoly in the computer software market. A judge originally ordered the company broken in two as punishment, but that ruling was reversed on appeal.

Since then, the Justice Department and half of the 18 states that sued the software maker have reached a settlement awaiting Kollar-Kotelly's approval.

That settlement would prevent Microsoft from participating in exclusive deals that could hurt competitors and require that it release some of its blueprints to its flagship Windows operating system to software developers.

Justice and the judge are supposed to review the comments and the law to see whether the settlement is in the public interest. It is far from certain, however, whether the number or content of the comments will sway the outcome.

In 1995, U.S. District Judge Stanley Sporkin cited public comments when he tossed out a settlement offer between Microsoft and the government in a related case, only to be overturned by an appeals court.

The government and Microsoft said they still are considering whether to modify the settlement based on the comments. Microsoft spokesman Jim Desler said possible changes would not be major but "more on the lines of refinement."

Bragging burglar caught by Caller ID

By The Associated Press

TICONDEROGA, N.Y. — A man who called police to brag that he couldn't be caught was arrested while he was still on the phone, authorities said.

Michael LaRock, 22, was captured in Georgia after a year on the lam on burglary charges. He had been accused of stealing from a motel room.

LaRock called Ticonderoga police on Jan. 22 and bragged that he would never be caught, and a caller ID system tracked the call to Auburn, Ga., authorities said. Ticonderoga police contacted police in Auburn. In the meantime, LaRock called Ticonderoga police a second time.

"I heard the doorbell ring on his end of the phone," Ticonderoga Officer Daniel Charlton said. "I could hear someone get up to answer it. It was the police. They came through the door, there was a scuffle, and they subdued him outside the residence after a brief chase."

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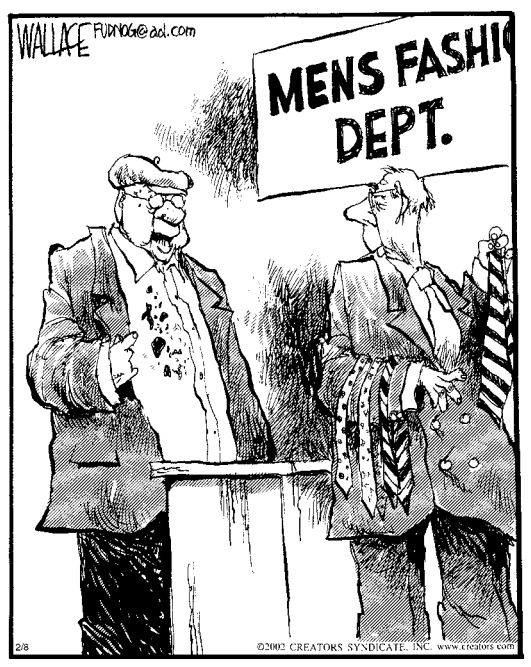
COMICS

The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



Natural Selection®

By Russ Wallace



"Can I get a tie with a chili pattern?"

edge City

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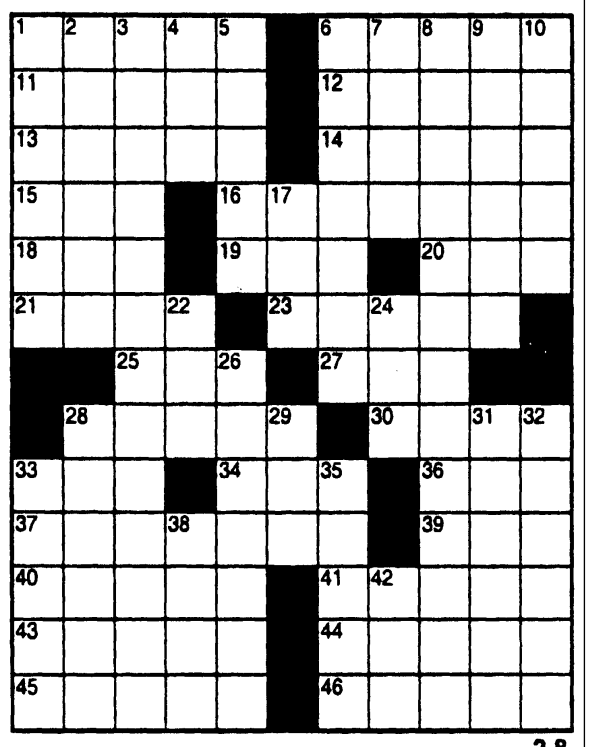
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28 Butler of film
30 Carpet type
33 Pool need
34 Stop fasting
36 Greek vowel
37 Pacify
39 Boar's mate
40 Bracelet part
41 Punish, in a way
43 Door part
44 Javelin
45 Terminated
46 Tacked on

DOWN

1 Buffalo team
2 Type of Southern cooking
3 Oblivious attitude
4 Used to be
5 Noted trapper
6 Brain parts
7 Company suit
8 Symbol of a challenge
9 African runners
10 Haberdashery buys
17 Seasonal drink
22 Haberdashery buy
24 1040 org.
26 Ticked off
28 Enter hastily
29 Playground game
31 Immediately
32 Rubber-necked
33 Secret store
35 Magnetic unit
38 Goad on
42 Tablet

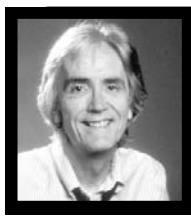
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I	C	E	T	■	M	O	Z	A	R	T
A	T	I	T	■	A	R	T	E	R	Y
M	I	N	I	B	I	K	E	■	■	■
■	■	■	M	I	N	I	C	A	M	S
S	L	E	E	T	S	■	■	L	E	O
W	O	R	S	E	■	T	I	E	I	N
I	C	I	■	■	L	O	N	E	R	S
M	I	N	I	V	A	N	S	■	■	■
■	■	■	M	I	N	I	P	A	R	K
P	O	L	A	N	D	■	A	T	O	N
A	D	A	G	E	S	■	C	O	M	E
C	E	D	E	S	■	■	E	P	E	E

Yesterday's answer



2-8

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

Drug users experience paranoia

From the police report column of the Union Democrat (Sonora, Calif.), Dec. 31, 2001: "1:35 p.m., Groveland: A driver told the California Highway Patrol that two people were parked outside the entrance to Yosemite National Park with the hazard lights on and their hands in the air. Yosemite rangers said the two men admitted ingesting 'speed' and became paranoid that a sniper was in the bushes aiming a high-powered rifle at them."

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BACK PAGE

Mom of accused Meg Ryan stalker says he's mentally ill

By The Associated Press

MOBILE, Ala. — The mother of a man accused of stalking Meg Ryan says her son has a history of mental illness.

On Monday, a Santa Monica Superior Court judge ordered John Michael Hughes, 30, of Navarre, Fla., to stay away from the star of "You've Got Mail," "Sleepless in Seattle" and other films for the next three years.

Superior Court Judge Alan Haber's order came after Hughes insisted to him that he and the actress have been married for more than a year.

Stephanie Hughes of Mobile said her son is not dangerous but needs help.

"We've got to get him into a hospital," she told the Mobile Register in a story Wednesday. "He has a mental illness, and he's been fighting it for a while."

"We've got to get him into a hospital. He has a mental illness, and he's been fighting it for a while."

— STEPHANIE HUGHES
Mother

Hughes, who said she planned to join her son in Los Angeles shortly, said he suffers from bipolar disorder.

"He's confused. He's delusional. He's not taking his medication," she said.

Her son was recently released from federal prison for an incident last year in which he tried to get onto then President-elect Bush's Texas ranch.

Hughes, who graduated from high school in Mobile, is accused of breaking into the Malibu, Calif., home of Tomas and Andrea Ryan on Jan. 6, thinking it was Meg Ryan's house. The actress is not related to the couple.

According to court documents, Hughes was dressed all in black and had $2,700 in cash, a night vision scope and open bottles of alcohol in his car when he was found eating a meal of ham and green beans in Tomas and Andrea Ryan's home. He told police he had broken in because Meg Ryan forgot to leave a house key under the doormat for him.

Ryan issued a statement saying the incident caused her to fear for the safety of herself and her family.

Hughes' mother said she was sorry the actress had been frightened, adding her son would "never hurt a soul."

Spielberg gets restraining order against Canadian

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A man who said he only wanted to be in the movies was ordered to stay away from director Steven Spielberg for three years after he was jailed for trespassing at Spielberg's offices.

Christopher Richard Hahn, 30, of Saskatchewan, was arrested Jan. 11 after authorities said he tried to meet Spielberg by breaking into the director's offices at the SKG DreamWorks studio in Studio City.

Superior Court Judge Alan Haber granted the restraining order Jan. 16, according to court records.

When Hahn was arrested, he gave a phony name and date of birth and claimed to have been an extra in last year's film "Ocean's Eleven" and the NBC drama "Third Watch," according to documents filed by Spielberg's attorneys. Hahn told the guard who caught him that he had gotten onto the property at least 20 times and would do anything to get into the movies, according to the documents.

Hahn was charged with misdemeanor trespassing and giving false information to a police officer. He pleaded no contest and was sentenced to two months in jail and three years probation.

Hahn said in his defense that he never threatened anyone or intended any harm.

"I am not a violent person," he said. "My only objective was to make contacts in the movie industry."

Hahn must stay 150 yards away from Spielberg and his family, Spielberg's home and the director's workplace.

The Oscar-winning Spielberg, perhaps best known for the films "E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial," and "Schindler's List," was the target of a disturbed stalker in the late 1990s and said he was alarmed and distressed at Hahn's actions.

"I am concerned for my safety and security, and for the safety and security of those around me," Spielberg said in court documents.

Jonathan Norman of Salt Lake City was convicted in 1998 of stalking Spielberg with the intent to rape him in front of his wife, actress Kate Capshaw. He was sentenced to 25 years to life in state prison.

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