

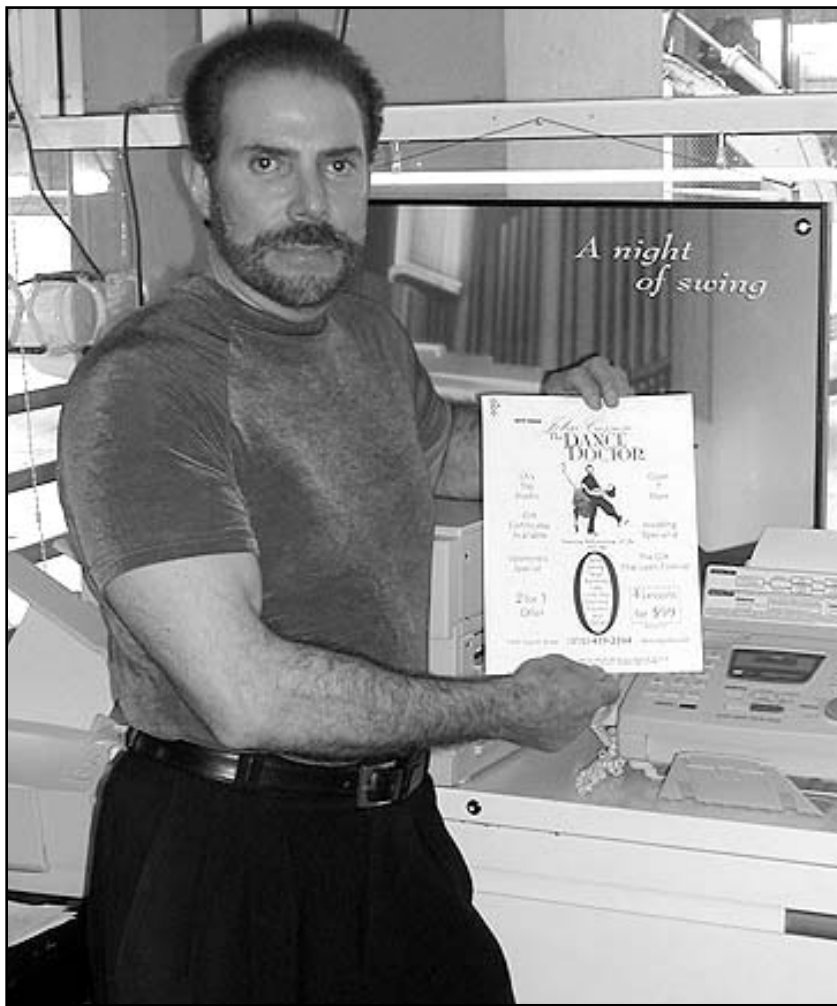
FREE

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2002

Volume 1, Issue 90

Santa Monica Daily Press

Serving Santa Monica for the past 106 days



John Cassese, owner of The Dance Doctor, holds the ad which forced him to pay \$610 for unknowingly violating a federal law prohibiting unsolicited faxes. Cassese paid his entire fine in pennies.

Andrew H. Fixmer/Daily Press

Local businesses sued for faxing advertisements

Attorneys say unsolicited faxes are illegal

BY ANDREW H. FIXMER
Daily Press Staff Writer

Several local businesses were sued recently after they contracted with an agency that illegally sends out unsolicited advertisements via facsimile.

John Cassese, owner of the Dance Doctor on Fourth Street — who wasn't aware the practice was illegal — recently settled a lawsuit with a consumer watch dog group after it received a fax advertising Cassese's dance lessons.

As his payment, Cassese sent the Foundation for Taxpayer and Consumer Rights 61,000 pennies via courier.

"I figured if they were going to use penny-antic tactics they deserved to be paid in pennies," he said.

When Cassese and many other local business owners contracted with a Silver Lake-based fax advertising agency last year they unknowingly left themselves open to being sued.

The Foundation sues any business it receives an advertising fax from.

Cassese was told by Peter Pollard, the

owner of Faxertise, that his agency would send an advertisement for his dance studio to 9,350 phone numbers in five different westside communities for \$350.

The deal seemed so good that Cassese and other Santa Monica business owners including

"I figured if they were going to use penny-antic tactics, they deserved to be paid in pennies."

— JOHN CASSESE
The Dance Doctor owner

Shazti on Main, Akbar Cuisine of India, Rosti, and Familia Toscana, contracted with Pollard.

But the Federal Telephone Consumers Act of 1991 forbids the practice. When lawyers at the foundation received the ads they filed a lawsuit in Los Angeles County Superior Court last April.

Because of past "junk-fax" experiences, attorneys for the Foundation for Taxpayer and Consumer Rights have found it difficult to

See FAXED ADS, page 3

Council held to different standard on private talks

City attorneys advise disclosure for some boards, but not council

BY ANDREW H. FIXMER
Daily Press Staff Writer

When it comes to telling citizens about private meetings with public officials, the city council is held to a lower standard than other local legislative bodies.

Though city attorneys have helped pave the way for two municipal bodies to enact strict disclosure policies, they say it's not mandatory at the city council level.

Both the Santa Monica Planning Commission and the Architectural Review Board passed disclosure policies for their members based on legal research done by Deputy City Attorney Barry Rosenbaum. He said municipal bodies that sit in judgment must disclose any pri-

vate knowledge they have about a development project.

And since decisions made by the planning commission and the ARB are often appealed to the city council — the highest municipal legislative body — some officials are asking if council members should have to make similar disclosures.

However, City Attorney Marsha Moutrie said the difference between the two governing bodies — the council predominantly deals with policy matters while the planning commission mainly deals with land use issues — dictates different rules when it comes to disclosure.

"The council is a different kind of body," said Moutrie. "The relative percent of its quasi-judicial work is much smaller, members are elected not appointed, they deal with a much broader range of issues, and therefore the burden of staying proficiently informed on the matters they are called to vote on is much heavier."

The planning commission enacted its policy in 2000 and the ARB enacted its own last year.

Rosenbaum advised the planning commission to enact a disclosure policy so the record reflects any reasoning not presented in a public meeting that members may use to base their decision upon.

Specifically, Rosenbaum and Moutrie were worried about visits planning commissioners were making to construction

See DISCLOSURE, page 3

Disclosure issue put off

BY ANDREW H. FIXMER
Daily Press Staff Writer

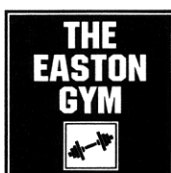
A long-time city politician is miffed after his request to speak in front of the city council this week was put off.

About three weeks ago Kelly Olsen requested to address the city council at its Feb. 26 meeting about what he feels is a legal necessity — to publicly disclose all private meetings with lobbyists, lawyers and concerned residents that could sway any decision before them.

But Olsen, who chairs the city's planning commission, received an e-mail from City Clerk Maria Stewart saying Mayor Michael Feinstein had denied to hear his request at this Tuesday's council meeting.

"I think it's really important that the city council hear this information and fully understand what their legal obligations are," Olsen said. "The public's feelings about

See REQUEST, page 3



Easton Gym - Santa Monica
1233 Third Street Promenade
Santa Monica, CA 90401
310 395 4441

Easton Gym is your neighborhood gym.

COMPLETE FITNESS FACILITY • FREE PARKING

\$1 Santa Monica Daily Press **\$1**
\$1 a day
Classifieds
Advertise with the only
daily game in town!
Call 310.458.PRESS (7737) x101 **\$1**

TAXES
All forms • All types • All states
SAMUEL B. MOSES, CPA
(310) 395-9922
429 Santa Monica Blvd. Ste. 710, Santa Monica 90401



Weekly Lunch Specials

MONDAY — Cajun Style Filet of Basa Sole \$8.95
w/ Rice, Potatoes & Slaw

TUESDAY — Taco Tuesday All Day \$3.50
a la carte

WEDNESDAY — Fish n' Chips All Day \$5.95

THURSDAY — Salmon Special \$8.95
w/ Rice, Potatoes & Slaw

FRIDAY — Cajun Cat Fish \$8.95
w/ Rice, Potatoes & Slaw

1220 3rd St. Promenade
Santa Monica
310.395.5538



LONA

ANTIQUES & FURNITURE
ON CONSIGNMENT

2316/2408 LINCOLN BLVD., SANTA MONICA (AT KENSINGTON)

310-581-5566

16,000 sq.ft of Fabulous Buys
on Consignment and New Furniture

Mon.— Sat. 10am-7pm

Specializing in
19th Century Antiques

ANN PILCHER TRAINING

PERSONALIZED FITNESS
310.281.6808

GRAPHIC DESIGN INTERNSHIP

Santa Monica Daily Press is looking
for designers experienced in:

- Quark Express 4.0
- Photoshop 6.0
- Illustrator 8.0

Please fax resumes to Production Manager:

310.576.9913
del@smdp.com



HOROSCOPE

Hit the gym tonight, Pisces



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 could grumble about the diversion others cause right now. Don't allow frustration to get to you. If you have a long-term perspective, you will be able to happily integrate the different facets of your life. Don't let pressure build. Tonight: Extremes dominate.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ You feel squeezed between two responsibilities. Though at first you might not be able to juggle both sides of your life today, try until you succeed. If need be, ask a partner or associate for some help here. Tonight: Good feelings dominate.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Reach out for those around you. If there is a mistake or misunderstanding, you'll be able to clear it up in the p.m. Don't take anyone or anything for granted. Check and check again. A partner becomes downright indulgent later. Tonight: Dinner at a favorite spot.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Handle your finances with kid gloves. The unexpected leaves you speechless. Get it together, detach and re-organize. You can be your own champion with a problem. Take a walk at lunchtime to let go of stress. Tonight: Balance your checkbook.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Use your innate strength and high energy to clear out problems that find you like a bear does honey. You deal well with interpersonal misunderstandings. Before anyone realizes it, smiles replace frowns. Someone thanks you. Tonight: Whatever you desire.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★ Step back and don't get catapulted into a misunderstanding. Pressure builds at work, forcing you to question just how much you can do. Only you have the answer. Take a health break at lunch, nourishing your body and mind. Tonight: An important discussion with someone.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ Deal with someone head-on. You might not be sure of yourself in the present astrological moment. You might want to step back and do some thinking about your friends and loved ones. How important is your personal life to you? Make choices accordingly. Tonight: Get together with friends.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★ Don't get finances mixed with today's present demands. You might need to make a payment or investment — at least wait until late in the day if you must. Family demands could exhaust you. Remember your work and public image right now. Tonight: Burn the candle at both ends.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Detach, especially if you discover you are hearing outrageous statements. The world might seem topsy-turvy around you. Take your time, not bending to demands this morning. Sort the facts from wishful thinking. Tonight: Veg to a movie.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★ Use unusual caution when dealing with others financially and emotionally. Misunderstandings run rampant. Protect yourself by creating secret money caches. Take care of yourself, then you can deal with others. A loved one needs your attention. Tonight: Quality time.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★ You challenge someone. It doesn't matter whether this process occurs intentionally or by accident; the reaction remains the same. Work on chilling out; a misunderstanding can be worked out between you and someone else. Tonight: Go along with someone's plans.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ Your vision might not have anything to do with what is happening around you. Try to see events more realistically, pulling away from your stuff. You'll understand friends and associates a lot better as a result. Keep your eye on the big picture. Tonight: Off to the gym.



WEATHER

Today ...	Mostly Sunny	High—77°F	Low—51°F
Tomorrow ...	Partly Cloudy	High—77°F	Low—51°F
Wednesday ...	Partly Cloudy	High—75°F	Low—49°F



QUOTE of the DAY

“Until Eve arrived, this was a man's world.”

— Richard Armour

Santa Monica Daily Press

Published Monday through Saturday
Phone: 310.458.PRESS(7737) • Fax: 310.576.9913
530 Wilshire Blvd., Suite #200 • Santa Monica, CA 90401

PUBLISHER

Ross Furukawa ross@smdp.com

EDITOR

Carolyn Sackariason . . .sack@smdp.com

STAFF WRITER

Andrew H. Fixmer andy@smdp.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Del Pastrana del@smdp.com

CLASSIFIED REPRESENTATIVE

Angela Downen angela@smdp.com

SALES REPRESENTATIVE

Steve Kenedy steve@smdp.com

SALES REPRESENTATIVE

William Pattnosh william@smdp.com

CIRCULATION MANAGER

Kiutzu Cruz kiutzu@smdp.com

PUBLIC RELATIONS

Jennifer (JT) Tate jt@smdp.com

TEST SUBJECT

Dave Danforth dave@smdp.com

LOCAL



Businesses can be liable for unsolicited faxed ads

FAXED ADS, from page 1

successfully prosecute fax advertising agencies, so they go after the businesses that use their service instead.

"We want to stop people from annoying consumers," said David A. Holtzman, a former foundation attorney that worked on the case. "The idea is to get a critical mass of people to know about this law so it can have its intended effect."

Any person who receives an unsolicited fax can sue the business that sent it for up to \$1,500 in small claims court, according to the foundation's attorneys.

But Pollard contends that his service is 100 percent legal and that's why he doesn't warn his clients about possible legal

action being brought against them.

He says a 1992 California business code states that unsolicited faxes and e-mails are legal as long as recipients are given a way to opt out of receiving them.

"Of course I don't tell my clients it is illegal to fax (advertisements) in the state of California," said Pollard. "If I'm told it's illegal I will stop that moment. But if it's not illegal why should I stop? It's not like I'm hurting children or anything."

Pollard said both times his company has been sued judges have not enforced injunctions or ruled against him. He said both cases are currently under appeal.

But lawyers say Pollard is misinformed. They argue that the United States

Constitution puts federal law above state law or business codes.

"The federal government provides you can sue in state court for this," said Holtzman. "Like it or not, federal law is the law of the land, and it plainly says unsolicited faxes are illegal."

That leaves business owners holding the bag.

"It's like finding loose change in your couch," said Holtzman. "It's hard to find most of these fax services, but it's much easier to go after local businesses."

Pollard said the foundation's tactics are hurting his business and making his life very difficult.

"Nobody named in any of these lawsuits are advertising with me anymore," he said.

Cassese believes the foundation is picking on small business owners by selectively enforcing the law.

He said if the foundation had informed business owners the practice was illegal and continuing with the service could open them up to liability, they would have stopped.

"But they are so concerned for the welfare of consumers," said a sarcastic Cassese. "How badly are consumers being

hurt by faxes? This is complete nonsense."

Cassese's attorney, Mike Eyerly, settled the case for \$500 plus \$110 in legal expenses. The foundation's original suit sought \$1,500.

"There's not a whole heck of a lot of case law out there on this," said Eyerly. "But the stuff that is out there isn't ambiguous. It clearly says you cannot send someone an unsolicited fax advertisement."

Foundation attorney Pam Pressley said all local businesses have settled out of the lawsuit except for Akbar, which is suing Faxertise for damages. She would not say how much each business settled for.

"We want them to join our lawsuit and help us put these (fax services) out of business," she said. "Unfortunately, most business owners, like John, decide to settle out of the case instead."

Cassese may still get the last laugh. Since he settled last November, he has saved hundreds of unsolicited faxes from his office machine. He could sue them all for damages.

"I'm sitting on my retirement money right here," Cassese said while he waving a stack of faxed ads.

Disclosure could prevent lawsuits against city

DISCLOSURE, from page 1

sites. They felt applicants should be given a chance to respond to what planning commission members witnessed in the field.

Yet, council members that would visit the same construction site wouldn't have to tell the public what they saw, who they talked to or even that they went.

"The point of this is that the applicant should know the basis of the decision the planning commission comes to," said Rosenbaum. "So if there is information decision makers are relying on outside the record, the applicant needs to have a chance to respond to that topic."

But apparently that doesn't apply to the city council.

Rosenbaum said the same case law does not necessarily mean the city council needs to enact similar disclosure rules.

"There are legal principals a litigant could rely on to reverse a ruling if there is information that was not disclosed in their public hearing," Rosenbaum said. "The planning commission almost always is sitting as a quasi-judicial body. And that's just not the case with the council."

Moutrie said even though more disclosure from council members may protect the city from future lawsuits, there is no state law that mandates elected officials disclose information they obtained in private during a public meeting.

"Our office has advised in writing in the past that we believe disclosure of off-

record contacts may help in insulating against due-process challenges, and of course we always provide advice on how to insulate decisions made by the council, boards and commissions from legal action," said Moutrie.

"I do not discuss the merits of any development with anyone."

— PAM O'CONNOR
Santa Monica City Councilwoman

"However, providing the best possible insulation against decisions is only one consideration for the city council, which establishes its rules based on their own various considerations."

Councilwoman Pam O'Connor said voters put elected officials in office to use their discretion and — as long as deals are not made in private — disclosure should not be mandatory.

"I do not discuss the merits of any development with anyone," she said. "But I want to be able to listen to what people have to say."

"I have to go to these council meetings with an informed mind," she added. "But I also have to go with an open mind too."

Planning commission and ARB have disclosure policies

REQUEST, from page 1

government are very cynical. More disclosure can only bring a higher level of trust to the public process."

Feinstein said some council members would not be present at this week's meeting so he delayed Olsen's request until every council member can be present.

"Several council members will be traveling over the next couple of months and we won't have a full council for a while," Feinstein said. "If Kelly is asking us to make a change in our policy, then I think it's important for the full council to be present and involved in that decision."

This week the city council may approve conceptual plans for a massive Main Street project whose developer, Howard Jacobs, met privately with each council member. Only three of the seven elected officials said they were going to tell the public about the meetings, but after the issue attracted media attention all of the council members disclosed they met with Jacobs.

"In the 17 years I have been involved in Santa Monica politics, I have never seen a legitimate request, turned in on a timely manner, be denied," Olsen said. "Considering how important this issue is and how timely the topic is, I can't believe they would put this off."

Both the planning commission and the Architectural Review Board have adopted policies that force their members to disclose all potential conflicts or information received outside the public record that may sway any decision they make.

Olsen spearheaded the disclosure rule on the planning commission in 2000 and helped spark a similar policy change on the ARB last year.

However, many council members have stated publicly they do not feel a similar rule is necessary for the city council.

"I'm elected to use my judgment and discretion," said Councilwoman Pam O'Connor. "If we have to disclose everything about anything that comes before us, we would be sitting there all night long."



"A slice of NY in your own backyard."

—Anthony Dias Blue
Bon Appetit Lifestyle

Authentic Buffalo Wings

310.451.SLICE (7542)
915 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica
1622 Ocean Park Blvd., Santa Monica



Since 1967
Quality & Value Always!

Open 6am - 2:30pm Mon. - Fri.
6am - 4pm Sat. - Sun.

310-399-7892
2732 Main St.
Santa Monica

Enjoy the Best Value in Breakfast & Lunch Everyday

Looking for the Daily Press?

The Santa Monica Daily Press is a free newspaper that is circulated throughout all six commercial zones within the Santa Monica city limits.

Hundreds of copies can be found in news racks at these local businesses:

Wilshire Blvd. Locations:

- Marina Pastries
 - Wells Fargo
 - California Chicken Café
 - Manhattan Bagel
 - O'Briens Pub
 - LA Sub Club
 - Koo Koo Roo
 - Fromin Deli
 - Supercuts
 - Santa Monica Pizza Kitchen
 - Izzy's Deli
 - Vons
 - Baskin Robbins
 - Vienna Bakery
 - The Slice
 - Dagwood's
 - Baja Fresh
 - The Newsroom Café
 - Polly's Restaurant
 - Starbucks
 - Sonny MacCleans
 - Snug Harbor
 - Bread & Porridge
 - Bagel Nosh
 - Fantastic Sams
 - Mailbox Etc.
 - Subway
 - Santa Monica Liquor
 - Westside News
- Aya Salon
 - Sur la Table
 - Chevron
 - Wild Oats
 - Wilshire West Carwash
 - Santa Monica Bay Physicians
 - Victor's Barber Shop
 - Royal Star Seafood
 - Jerry's Liquor
 - Pick-Up Stix
 - Anastasia's Assylum
 - New Dimension's Salon
 - Westside Rentals
 - Toi Café
 - The Haircutters
 - Shoe Pavillion
 - Westside Theatre
 - Yellow Balloon
 - Second Spin
 - Blockbusters
 - Just Tires
 - Tramemezio
 - Princess Nails
 - Nails By Jackie
 - Settimio's Barber Shop
 - Moby Disc
 - Mail Box Center
 - Earth, Wind & Flour

This is not a complete list.
 You can find more copies in these areas:

- Montana Avenue Commercial Zone
- Santa Monica Boulevard
- the Downtown Commercial Core (including Third Street Promenade)
- Main Street Commercial District
- Lincoln Commercial District.

Additional circulation points include:

- Major Hotels on Ocean Avenue
- Retail businesses on the Boardwalk and Santa Monica Pier districts
- Commercial zones on Pico and Ocean Park Boulevard.

If you are interested in becoming a distribution point (it's free and gives your customers just one more reason to come in), please call 310-458-PRESS (7737) x 104



STATE

Hotel linked to drug cartel is off-limits for Americans

BY BEN FOX
 Associated Press Writer

ROSARITO, Mexico — It offers sweeping ocean views and all the amenities of a typical Mexican vacation spot.

But the Oasis Beach Resort omits one detail from its brochure: The U.S. government says Americans can't stay there.

The Oasis, located along a scenic highway 18 miles south of the U.S.-Mexico border, is owned by a fugitive drug trafficker, according to officials who have taken the unusual step of barring Americans from visiting it.

U.S. tourists seeking a bargain should be careful. Using a credit card at the hotel could result in a stern letter from the Treasury Department and a substantial fine for supporting a business that U.S. officials believe is used to launder drug proceeds for one of Mexico's most violent drug cartels.

"The goal is to ensure that U.S. dollars are not being handed over to drug traffickers," said Tasia Scolinos, a Treasury spokeswoman.

Americans seem to be getting the message.

The 100-room hotel, painted white and adorned with arabesque domes and bronze statues of lions and a camel, was practically deserted on a recent weekend. The poolside bar was empty. The Jacuzzis were cold. The disco was dark.

The hotel has seen Americans cancel reservations as word spreads about the Treasury Department ban.

Letisia Marquez, a 31-year-old Los Angeles resident, canceled her September wedding at the Oasis after learning of the alleged link to the drug cartel.

"There's just no way you can have it there," Marquez said. "There's this cloud of suspicion and you want to be at ease on your wedding day."

Treasury's Office of Foreign Assets Control last month placed the Oasis resort and nine other businesses in the Mexican border state of Baja California on a watch list of entities known to act as fronts for the Arellano-Felix drug cartel.

The cartel, based in the border city of Tijuana, is believed to control the lucrative drug trade from Baja California into the United States, maintaining a hold on the region through bribery, intimidation and murder of local officials.

U.S. officials hope to loosen that hold by cutting off financial support to companies used to cloak proceeds from the drug trade.

It's an uphill battle. In an indication of the range of the cartel's financial assets, the Treasury list includes the Vida Suprema pharmacy chain, with more than 20 outlets along the border, and a parking garage business owned by the family of the state tourism minister, who denies any drug link.

Consumers who go to Vida Suprema

stores for cheap medicine face the prospect of having the merchandise confiscated at the border crossing. But officials have no way of knowing who stays at the Oasis, where rooms start at about \$70, unless the guest uses a credit card.

Under U.S. law, the government could impose a fine of up to \$1 million. The exact amount would likely be less, but it remains uncertain because the Treasury Department has never before barred citizens from a specific resort linked to a drug cartel, Scolinos said.

"The goal is to ensure that U.S. dollars are not being handed over to drug traffickers."

— TASIA SCOLINOS
 Treasury spokeswoman

"It's sad that your government would do this to us," said desk clerk Genoveva Gamez, who added that she fears the resort's 70 employees may soon lose their jobs.

Hotel employees declined to discuss the U.S. allegation that the resort is owned by Miguel Aguirre Galindo, who is under indictment in federal court in San Diego for drug trafficking and reputedly is a high-ranking member of the Arellano-Felix cartel.

A manager referred questions to the resort's lawyer in Tijuana, who did not return phone calls.

This issue has surfaced before. In 1998, Mexican authorities also alleged Aguirre was the owner and seized the property, surrounding it with 100 federal police and soldiers. But Mexico later withdrew the forces, and Oasis managers at the time said the issue had been resolved.

Despite its now infamous reputation, not all Americans are staying away.

Penny and John Karas, a Los Angeles couple, are in the first month of what they intend to be a nine-month stay while he completes a construction job in nearby Rosarito.

They towed a trailer to one of the resort's 55 berths for recreational vehicles and pay \$25 a week — in cash of course — for a spot with a spectacular view of the Pacific Ocean.

"I am totally content here," said Penny Karas, 53. "We don't care about drugs or cartels or anything like that so it doesn't really concern us."

John Karas, 55, sipping a screwdriver as the sun dipped below the horizon, nodded in agreement: "Until the American government comes down here and kicks me out, I'm staying," he said.

LINCOLN CAR WASH & DETAILING

1624 LINCOLN BLVD.
 (Lincoln at Colorado, one block N. of 10 fwy)

SANTA MONICA

\$8.95

Car Wash, Sealer Wax & Armor All Tires
 exp. March/15/02

(310) 450-6915 OPEN 7 DAYS

STATE



Environmentalists document computer dump in China

BY BRIAN BERGSTEIN

AP Business Writer

SAN JOSE — What happened to that old computer after you sold it to a second-hand parts dealer?

Environmental groups say there's a good chance it ended up in a Third World dump, where thousands of laborers burn, smash and pick apart electronic waste to scavenge for the precious metals inside — unwittingly exposing themselves and their surroundings to innumerable toxic hazards.

Now a report being released Monday documents one such "cyber-age nightmare" — a cluster of villages in south-eastern China where computers still bearing the labels of their one-time owners in America are ripped apart and strewn along rivers and fields.

The authors of the report, called "Exporting Harm: The High-Tech Trashing of Asia," hope it puts more pressure on U.S. companies and lawmakers to increase domestic recycling efforts.

Investigators who visited the waste sites in Guiyu, China, in December witnessed men, women and children pulling wires from computers and burning them at night, fouling the air with carcinogenic smoke.

Other laborers, making \$1.50 a day and working with little or no protection, burned plastics and circuit boards or poured acid on electronic parts to extract silver and gold. Many pried open printer cartridges — whose hazards are uncertain

"I've seen a lot of dirty operations in Third World countries, but what was shocking was seeing all this post-consumer waste."

— JIM PUCKETT
Basal Action Network

— and smashed lead-laden cathode ray tubes from computer monitors, the report said.

Consequently, the ground water is so polluted that drinking water has to be trucked in from a town 18 miles away, the report said. One river sample in the area had 190 times the pollution levels allowed under World Health Organization guidelines.

"I've seen a lot of dirty operations in Third World countries, but what was shocking was seeing all this post-consumer waste," said one of the report's authors, Jim Puckett of the Seattle-based Basal Action Network. "This is all stuff from you and me."

It is no secret that hazardous materials from the world's leading economies often end up as detritus in the world's desperate places. A 1989 treaty known as the Basel Convention restricts such transfers, but the United States has not ratified it.

Computer waste in particular is becoming a difficult problem, with millions of devices becoming obsolete each year as the technology industry produces faster, better and less expensive equipment.

Mindful of the dangers, California and Massachusetts have banned cathode ray tube monitors from landfills and incinerators. A few PC makers and large retailers have launched recycling programs, but they require consumers to pay around \$30 and ship their old PCs themselves.

With no organized system of electronics recycling as Japan and some European countries have, much of the nation's e-waste ends up being passed along a difficult-to-track chain of resellers and parts brokers, said Ted Smith, head of the Silicon Valley Toxics Coalition, which also prepared the new report.

The report says some in the industry estimate that as much as 50 to 80 percent of the United States' electronic waste that is collected in the name of recycling actually gets shipped out of the country.

That often involves operations like the dump in Guiyu or similar ones in India and Pakistan, where labor is so cheap it is cost-effective to try to salvage every last screw or bit of silver.

"Everybody knows this is going on, but is just embarrassed and don't really know what to do about it," Smith said. "They

would just prefer to ignore it."

To make electronics manufacturers accountable for their obsolete products, several organizations believe the cost of recycling a computer should be added to the initial sales price — much like a bottle deposit — to fund clean and efficient recycling programs.

A few states are considering such plans, including California, where two state senators last week introduced bills that would slap fees on electronics to pay for reducing e-waste.

Some reputable electronics recyclers and resellers are already taking steps to ensure that they don't transfer parts to someone who might in turn dump it overseas, said David Jones, a waste management official in the Environmental Protection Agency's Southwest regional office.

"They know it's a matter of time before someone knocks on their door and says, 'Do you know where your stuff goes?'" Jones said.

But real change will come only with public pressure for a real electronics recycling program, Jones said, which is why he believes the report on Guiyu is important.

"It's good to me that people are trying to ground-truth this and not just listen to the rumor mill at recycling conferences, and actually go and find whether the stories are true or not," he said. "I think this report will be good in having the effect of making people question stuff."

Woman accuses Jazzercise firm of weight discrimination

By The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — A San Francisco woman has accused the Jazzercise company of rejecting her application to teach exercise classes because of her size.

Jennifer Portnick said she works out six days a week and has mastered complicated dance steps. But she believes the company passed her up because she is 5 feet 8, 240 pounds, and looks nothing like the svelte models on the company's Web site and brochures.

Portnick filed a complaint with San Francisco's Human Rights Commission alleging weight discrimination. She and Jazzercise representatives are scheduled to enter mediation Monday to resolve the issue.

In a letter to Portnick on June 11, Maureen Brown,

"We don't want this tried in the media."

— MAUREEN BROWN
Jazzercise director of franchise programs

Jazzercise's director of franchise programs, wrote that, "A fitness level encompasses more than weight."

"Jazzercise sells fitness," Brown wrote. "Consequently, a Jazzercise applicant must have a higher muscle-fat ratio and look leaner than the public.

People must believe Jazzercise will help them improve, not just maintain their level of fitness."

Officials from the San Diego-based company declined further comment.

"We do not wish to make any comments as we're hoping for a good mediation," Brown said. "We don't want this tried in the media."

Portnick's is the seventh case of alleged discrimination to come before the Human Rights Commission since city officials passed a height and weight ordinance in May 2000. Only Santa Cruz, Seattle, Washington, D.C., and the state of Michigan have similar laws.

Large supply keep gas prices in limbo

By The Associated Press

CAMARILLO — Gasoline prices rose less than a third of a cent per gallon in the past two weeks as an abundant supply of gasoline counterbalanced concerns about potential new conflicts in the Middle East, an analyst said Sunday.

Friday's weighted price per gallon for all grades and taxes was \$1.15, up 0.31 cents per gallon from Feb. 8, according to the Lundberg survey of 8,000 gas stations nationwide.

Prices Friday at about 8,000 gas stations nationwide averaged \$1.11 1/2 a gallon for self-serve regular, less than a penny higher than two weeks ago, analyst Trilby Lundberg said Sunday. Prices tended to rise west of the Rockies, while many motorists in the rest of the country

paid less, she said.

Gas prices have remained stable overall through the beginning of 2002 because two market factors are canceling each other out, Lundberg said.

"The possibility of conflict in the Mideast is pulling prices up, while at the same time, pulling down prices are plentiful supplies of crude oil and gasoline," she said.

Recent tough talk by President Bush over Iraq has fueled concerns about impending military action there, although there is broad agreement among analysts that the United States is not about to launch an attack against Iraq.

The national weighted average price of gasoline, including taxes, at self-serve pumps Friday was about \$1.22 per gallon for mid-grade and \$1.31 for premium.

Small plane makes emergency landing in Long Beach

By The Associated Press

LONG BEACH — A twin-engine plane made an emergency landing Saturday at Long Beach Municipal Airport because the pilot was concerned about unsafe front landing gear, an FAA spokesman said.

The pilot of the Aero Commander 68 was able to land the plane safely and was not injured, said city Fire Department spokesman Joe Jackson.

It was not known whether other passengers were aboard. The pilot's name was withheld pending a National Transportation Safety Board investigation.

The pilot requested an emergency landing shortly before 6 p.m. because a light in the cockpit indicated an unsafe front landing gear, said Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Bruce Nelson.

But the landing gear released properly and the pilot landed safely, he said.

About 15 firefighters reported to the emergency landing, Jackson said.

YOUR OPINION MATTERS!

Send your letters to Santa Monica Daily Press: Attn. Editor

530 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 200 • Santa Monica • 90401

sack@smdp.com



NATIONAL

20 people arrested in Olympic beer garden disturbance

BY RICH VOSEPKA
Associated Press Writer

SALT LAKE CITY — An unruly, drunken crowd gave police their toughest test of the 2002 Winter Games early Sunday when hundreds of revelers refused to leave a downtown block where beer was sold.

Police fired nonlethal bullets made of dense foam and arrested 20 people on the final day of the 2002 Winter Games. No injuries were reported, according to the Olympic Joint

Information Center.

Salt Lake City Mayor Rocky Anderson sought to play down the significance of the confrontation outside Bud World, a carnival set up for the Olympics that included booths selling beer.

"It is not a riot by any stretch of the imagination," Anderson said. "This was a disturbance involving a few people who were looking for trouble."

He said police showed restraint.

"There were some bottles

thrown at police officers and they responded accordingly," Anderson said. "It's just amazing that this is all that has happened with these crowds we've had every night."

Normally, Utah's strict Mormon heritage and restrictive alcohol sales laws make for quiet nights. But during the games, evenings have been considerably more active.

About \$310 million was devoted to Olympic security, and nearly 15,000 security workers were at the games.

Police Chief Rick Dinse said 19 of those arrested were from the Salt Lake City area and one was Canadian. Detective Dwayne Baird said he expected them to be charged with misdemeanors such as failure to disperse and public intoxication.

The clash began when Bud World got too crowded and people spilled onto Main Street, just blocks from the medals plaza and main media center.

As many as 200 police officers, some in riot gear, herded the crowd down the street while some people in the crowd yelled taunts and insults. Some people tossed bottles and beer cans and handful of men pushed over a row of portable toilets.

"The police were pushing people," said Rob Garcia, 18,



Associated Press

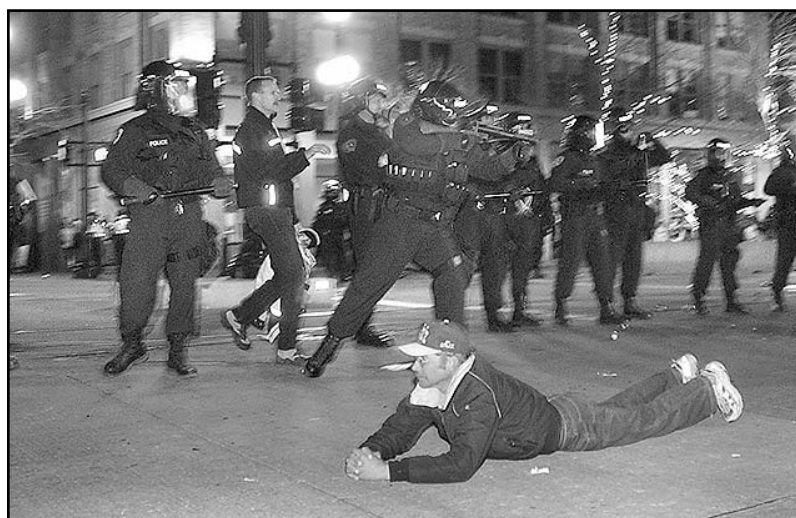
Mayor Rocky Anderson, right, and Salt Lake Police Chief Rick Dinse answer questions during a news conference on Sunday in Salt Lake City, following 30 arrests the night before. Police in riot gear scattered an unruly Olympic crowd on the last weekend of an otherwise calm Winter Games. The clash began when Bud World, a downtown park set up for Olympic festivities, got too crowded.

of Salt Lake City. "The cops just jumped across and set up a barricade."

By 2 a.m., the crowd had been mostly dispersed, Baird said.

Mitt Romney, president of the Salt Lake Organizing Committee, dismissed the incident as an aberration.

"There were 200 to 300 people who had a few too many and needed to be sent home, and they were done so with dispatch," Romney said. "You're going to have some celebrations when alcohol is concerned late at night, and that's not something that was part of the Olympic experience."



Scott G. Winterton/Associated Press

An unidentified man lays down in the street in front of police during a disturbance in Salt Lake City early on Sunday. Police used foam-tipped bullets to scatter an unruly crowd outside a beer garden on the last weekend of the Winter Games. No major injuries were reported.

For A Perfect Après Holiday
Warm Up, Why Not...



Turtle Bay Resort

H A W A I I

On Oahu's Scenic North Shore

www.TurtleBayResort.com

- ... play golf on 2 championship courses
- ... bask in the Hawaiian sun
- ... a massage in the shade of a coconut tree
- ... explore over 800 acres of tropical paradise
- ... ride a horse by the ocean and through the jungle
- ... a monkey's lunch at the Hang Ten seaside bar
- ... pick up puka shells on 5 miles of beach
- ... watch the surfers from your own lanai
- ... see the sun go down over the water

Call 800.203.3650

& ask for the "Santa Monica Special".

DSL

Internet Connections

**Starting at
\$62.45/mo!**

**always on,
always fast**

"Since LA Bridge installed DSL at my home, I have found the flexibility to use the Internet in a whole new way."
— Bill Foster, Apple Computer

each account includes:

- 24/7 Internet connection
- 7 days/week tech support
- 6MB personal web space
- free local dial-up acct
- over 4000 worldwide dial-up locations for laptop users who travel. (a metered service).

Sign-up online at LABridge.com or call 310.823.6416

BUSINESS



High-tech hits the road as automotive electronics rev up

BY MAY WONG

AP Technology Writer

SAN JOSE — For months now, Nicole Gunther hasn't heard her 4-year-old daughter whine from the back seat, "Are we there yet?"

The relief came when Gunther and her husband purchased a Honda minivan with a DVD player and satellite navigation system. Now Disney films keep her child quieter on car trips, and the days of getting lost are over.

"Every car should have these options," Gunther said.

Soon, many will.

The Gunthers are the kind of consumers that automakers and high-tech companies prize as they rev up on "telematics" — automobile versions of the communication and entertainment staples of the home and office.

Telematics gear is fast expanding past navigation devices and rear-seat DVDs, as new technology such as satellite radios gain traction. Within two years, motorists can expect to get traffic reports specific to their location or commute. Advanced vehicle diagnostics would let cars automatically transmit performance data to dealerships.

Some companies are working on wireless technologies that one day — perhaps in five to 10 years — would allow users to get new movies and songs wirelessly from home, gas stations and convenience stores. Other technologies could control thermostats and lights at home while driving.

For start-ups and tech giants alike, cars represent untapped frontier. Automakers, meanwhile, are looking to cater to the lifestyle of the digital road warrior.

"People are used to using wireless communications and having continual contact with office and home, and people are used to using these technologies on the road," said Dan Garretson, automotive industry analyst for Cambridge, Mass.-based Forrester Research.

That is why some observers believe

the market for automotive electronics is on the verge of a boom.

Forrester predicts the industry will grow in annual revenues to \$20 billion in 2006 from \$1.6 billion in 2001.

In five years, Forrester predicts, automakers will be installing telematics devices in about 80 percent of new vehicles. Nearly 40 million cars will come with handsfree cell phones. More than 46 million will have monitoring systems that connect motorists to roadside assistance.

Just two years ago, telematics products consisted mainly of navigation systems offered only in a few high-end cars and the fledgling OnStar service from General Motors.

Today, navigation options are also found in mid-range cars, and factory-installed satellite radios, offered first by Cadillac in two of its 2002 models, are making its way into dozens more 2003 models, including cars by GM, Ford and DaimlerChrysler.

"By this time next year, I think you'll see nearly all SUVs and minivans have these rear-seat DVD consoles," said Bob Schumacher, head of mobile multimedia at Delphi Automotive Systems, the world's largest maker of car parts.

Still, high price tags will keep many features from becoming as standard as AM-FM radios, carmakers say. An in-dash DVD player with rear-seat display or a navigation system typically costs \$1,500 to \$2,000. OnStar fees range from \$200 to \$400 a year.

After a year of offering navigation systems on its entire Acura line, Honda found that only about 5 percent of buyers wanted the option. Sales of rear-seat DVD players offered in its Odyssey minivans stayed flat at about 15 percent of all models sold.

All that could change, industry analysts believe, with more personalized telematics services, which might attract consumers who are reluctant or cannot afford to pay extra for the goodies.

For example, OnStar's technology and services coming soon from MobileAria Inc. and Wingcast LLC

will let motorists access e-mails, voice messages, music, directions, traffic reports, stocks and Internet news items — all with voice commands.

Later this year, new devices based on global positioning satellite technologies will notify car owners if their vehicles go beyond geographic parameters they have established.

Ford is working on better roadside

assistance that would automatically call for help once a car's air bags are deployed.

"Cars are becoming more and more of a commodity, so you really have to offer a service component to differentiate yourself," said Thilo Koslowski, lead automotive analyst for the Gartner G2 market research firm. "And that's where telematics comes in."

Survey finds companies expect hiring to improve

BY MELISSA MCCORD

Associated Press Writer

GLENDALE — Some companies expect hiring will improve slightly this spring, but not enough to signal a recovery from recession levels, a new survey finds.

Twenty-one percent of the companies interviewed said they planned to add jobs in April through June, while 10 percent said they anticipated cutting staff, according to Manpower Inc.'s quarterly survey of 16,000 businesses.

The rest of the companies said they either expected to maintain their staffing levels or were uncertain about hiring activities in the second quarter.

When seasonally adjusted, the findings reflect a 1 percent increase in hiring activity during the first three months of the year, compared to a flat hiring trend the survey found in the first quarter.

Still, the second quarter findings are down from the same period last year, when 28 percent of the companies said they planned to hire more people and 8 percent said they intended to cut staff.

"Companies are going to be hesitating for some time yet, but the trend could turn into something more positive in the next two or three quarters," said Jeffrey Joerres, chairman and chief executive of

Glendale-based Manpower, the nation's largest staffing company.

It was the survey's first increase in more than a year. Manpower expects the increase to continue in the next few quarters, which could signal a recovery, Joerres said.

"We've got a ways to climb back up before the individual feels like it's a good market," he said. "Companies are sensing they need more people, but it's not of a magnitude that many individuals are going to feel like they have an environment where they can find the positions and the companies they want to work for."

Manufacturing companies expect to show the greatest improvements in hiring activity, Manpower said.

"We think there's going to be a slow pickup in industrial activity in the first half and quicker growth in the second," said Dave Huether, chief economist of the National Association of Manufacturers.

The Labor Department reported last week that the number of people who filed claims for unemployment benefits for the first time rose by 10,000 to 383,000 the previous week. Analysts said that was more than expected but did not change their view that the labor market is starting to show signs of stabilizing.

FBI investigates Ebay dealer fraud

By The Associated Press

WHITE LAKE TOWNSHIP, Mich. — A ceramic figurines dealer has disappeared amid a police and FBI investigation of whether he defrauded at least 100 eBay auction buyers.

The customers say their purchases from a December online auction were never delivered by the seller, Stewart Richardson, 60, who disappeared Jan. 17, police said.

The Lladro's, Hummel and Wee Forest Folk ceramic figurines the customers bought were worth tens of thousands of dollars total. No charges have been filed.

Richardson left his White Lake business — Retired Figurines Exchange — after reportedly withdrawing more than \$200,000, police said. His wife filed a missing persons report.

Ebay spokesman Kevin Pursglove said Richardson had built a good reputation at the auction service.

Marten Halma, 55, of Long Island, N.Y., paid \$4,000 for four Wee Forest Folk figurines, and "felt my heart sort of sink into my stomach" when he learned of the alleged fraud.

"Because he had such a sterling record, I had no doubt he was on the up and up," Halma said, adding that his money was returned by his credit card company.

\$4,300,000 Financed!

**Vista Del Monte
Phoenix, AZ**

176-unit apartment complex

Fixed for 10 years, 30 year amort., 73.5% LTV

Lender was able to use proforma numbers due to poor operating history

Acquisition — Financed through a Portfolio Lender

Daniel Litman

Regional Loan Offices

818-907-0600

dlitman@marcusmillichap.com

**Marcus & Millichap
Capital Corporation**

16830 Ventura Blvd., Suite 100 • Encino, CA 91436

TRY A RELAXING MASSAGE

\$5 OFF
Reg. \$30hr

Enjoy the benefits of our Shiatsu massage with an experienced intern. Call us for details. One coupon per client. exp. 2/28/02

Shiatsu Massage School of California

Since 1982

2309 Main Street, Santa Monica • 310-396-4877

FOR A SAFER AND BETTER SANTA MONICA COLLEGE!

Endorsed unanimously by Santa Monica-Malibu Board of Education, Santa Monica-Malibu Council of PTAs, College Trustees, College Faculty, Santa Monica Rent Control Board, Santa Monica and Malibu Chambers of Commerce!



Vote Tuesday, March 5, 2002

YES ON U!

Committee for Safety and Modernization at Santa Monica College • 11661 San Vicente Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90049 • ID #1240171 • Graham Pope, Treasurer

Money Back Guarantee on All Purchases



\$5 off
any purchase of
\$25 or more

Cannot be combined with any other offer

FEDORA PRIMO

HAT MERCHANTS

216 PIER AVENUE, SANTA MONICA
(just off Main Street)

310 399 8584



*Come Enjoy French
Country Cuisine*

Open for Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner

Pastries to go or on the spot

Catering available



NATIONAL

Coast Guard says it plans to enlist Maine fishermen in fight against terrorism

BY KEVIN WACK

Associated Press Writer

PORTLAND, Maine — Tom Skolfield was only eight years old at the end of World War II, but he vividly recalls seeing a German U-boat periscope rising from Casco Bay late one afternoon.

The submarine disappeared quickly before U.S. forces on the mainland began shelling, said Skolfield, the son of a lighthouse keeper on Seguin Island.

Back then, fishermen and lighthouse keepers were the nation's first line of defense. And if the Coast Guard has its way, they will once again be back on the front lines in the battle against terrorism.

The Coast Guard on Monday will begin sending letters to 9,000 Maine fishermen asking them to serve as "eyes and ears" and alert the Coast Guard whenever they spot suspicious activities.

"If somebody goes into your house and moves your stuff, you're going to know about it," said Arn Heggers, the Coast Guard's fishing vessel safety examiner in Portland. "This is the same thing."

Officials plan to register participants in the program, called Coastal Beacons. They will also inspect their boats and conduct background checks on operators.

A similar program will go into effect

this summer on the waters around southeast Michigan, while Coast Guard districts in Florida and California are inquiring about programs of their own.

"Some areas are looking into it," said Jim McPherson, a Coast Guard spokesman in Washington. "But it seems like the Maine program is the first and the most ambitious."

The Coast Guard has been stretched thin nationwide handling seaport security, fishing regulation enforcement, boat inspections, and search and rescue operations.

The new program won't decrease the Coast Guard's duties but could make the nation's coastline safer, Heggers said.

Maine is considered particularly vulnerable to foreign terrorists because it has one of the longest borders with Canada as well as a vast coastline full of inlets, peninsulas and bays.

"With 3,000 to 5,000 miles of unguarded coastline, there's always the possibility that someone's going to slip through," Heggers said.

Pat White, chief executive officer of the Maine Lobstermen's Association, said he supports the concept, as long as the Coast Guard makes clear what sorts of sightings should be reported.

Alleged member of Hells Angels charged with murder

BY RICHARD PYLE

Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK — An alleged member of the Hells Angels was charged with killing another biker during fighting at a motorcycle and tattoo expo called the Hellraiser Ball.

More than 70 other people were in custody. At least 10 others were injured in the Saturday free-for-all in Plainview, N.Y., including four wounded by gunfire.

Hundreds of weapons, including knives, baseball bats, handguns, shotguns and an Uzi, were seized by Nassau County police and federal agents.

The violence was just the latest eruption in a long-running feud between the Hells Angels and the Pagans gang, said Nassau County Chief of Detectives Herbert Faust.

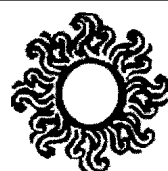
Authorities said the violence broke out when about 100 Pagans in a fleet of 10 vans showed up at the ball, an annual event sponsored by the Hells Angels' Long Island chapter. The Pagans invaded the hall wielding bats, knives, brass knuckles and other weapons, authorities said.

Nassau County police officers on surveillance duty called for reinforcements, and over the next two hours dozens of Nassau county officers, 50 from neighboring Suffolk County, and 20 state troopers tried to restore order.

Authorities charged Raymond G. Dwyer, 38, of Oceanside, N.Y., with second-degree murder in the shooting of Robert Rutherford, a purported Pagan member. Rutherford, 51, of Lancaster, Pa., died during surgery at North Shore University Hospital.

A dozen police officers took Dwyer to a court appearance Sunday.

Seventy-three people, all tentatively identified by police as members of the Pagans, were charged with rioting in the first degree, attempted gang assault in the first degree, and weapons charges, said Faust.



Sunkissed Tanning

926 Wilshire Boulevard, Santa Monica

Call for an appointment • 310.451.9895

NEW CUSTOMERS! 6 tans for \$30 (good for 3 months)

Regular beds only

only with this coupon • more coupons at www.sunkissedtanning.com



Osama bin Laden possibly linked to Daniel Pearl murder

BY STEVEN GUTKIN
Associated Press Writer

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — The hunt for the killers of Wall Street Journal reporter Daniel Pearl is targeting three Arab nationals — an indication, investigators say, that the perpetrators may be linked to Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida terrorist network.

Fearing the slaying may signal a wider plan to thwart the government's drive against terrorism, Pakistani authorities have warned U.S. and other foreign diplomatic missions and businesses to boost their security.

Before his abduction on Jan. 23, Pearl had been investigating alleged links between Pakistani militants and Richard C. Reid, who was arrested in December

Four key suspects were already in police custody when U.S. and Pakistani authorities revealed the contents of a videotape Friday that showed images of the 38-year-old journalist getting his throat slit.

Authorities offered little information Sunday about the Arabs' identity or what role they may have played. But their alleged involvement — combined with investigators' revelation that a key suspect now in custody said he met personally with bin Laden in Afghanistan — suggested an al-Qaida link.

Police believe a dozen or more people were involved in Pearl's abduction and murder, and that most of them have spent time in Afghanistan as supporters of that country's ousted Taliban regime. Their links to al-Qaida — the group believed responsible for the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in the United States — are being studied, investigators said.

Four key suspects were already in police custody when U.S. and Pakistani authorities revealed the contents of a videotape Friday that showed images of the 38-year-old journalist getting his throat slit.

Ahmed Omar Saeed Sheikh, the British-born Islamic militant who police believe masterminded Pearl's abduction, has been in police custody since early February. At one point he told interrogators that he met with bin Laden in Afghanistan after the Sept. 11 attacks, a senior police investigator said on condition of anonymity.

Saeed also told investigators that his group wanted to teach the United States a lesson and Pearl's murder was just a first step, intelligence officials said.

On Monday, prosecutors will formally charge Saeed and three co-defendants with kidnapping and murder, a senior government official said. The three others are accused of having sent e-mails announcing Pearl's abduction, including one showing the journalist with a gun pointed to his head.

for allegedly trying to ignite explosives in his sneakers during a Paris-Miami flight.

With Saeed in jail, the prime target of a massive police dragnet is Amjad Faruqi, whom Pearl apparently knew as Imtiaz Siddiqi and who is believed to have carried out the kidnapping. A senior police investigator said one detainee said he met Faruqi several times and each time Faruqi was accompanied by three Arabs.

The investigator, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said three suspects currently in custody have been to Afghanistan and were close to the Taliban. Ousted by the U.S.-led coalition last year, the Taliban had provided a safe haven to al-Qaida, many of whose members are Arab.

Another four Pakistani suspects currently being sought are also believed to have spent time in Afghanistan under the auspices of the Taliban.

Authorities also are searching for a suspect who goes by both Asim and Kasim. He is believed to be one of the hijackers of an Indian Airlines plane that was diverted to Kandahar, Afghanistan, in 1999. Saeed was released from an Indian prison in a prisoner-hostage swap in that case.

Another suspect is Hashim Qadeer, whom Pearl apparently knew as Arif. Like Faruqi, he is believed to be a leader of the outlawed Pakistani Islamic militant group Jaish-e-Mohammed, or Army of Mohammed.

Citing its graphic content, authorities say they will not make a videotape confirming Pearl's death available to the news media. A source close to the investigation who said he saw one tape said it lasted for about three minutes and consisted of three segments.

Suspected attacks at U.S. Embassy



Corrado Giambalvo/Associated Press

A cameraman films in front of the U.S. Embassy in Rome on Sunday after investigators found holes in the walls of a utility tunnel near the embassy. Italian police are looking into whether the holes, which are large enough for a person to crawl through, are linked to a suspected attack.

Speaking on condition of anonymity, he offered this account:

In the first segment, Pearl is forced to say that he is Jewish and that both his mother and his father are also Jewish. He is also forced to give a statement denouncing America's actions against Muslims.

In the second segment, the journalist is shown lying on

the ground, apparently unconscious or already dead, with his throat slit.

The third segment shows Pearl decapitated.

Throughout the video, images of Afghanistan, including prisoners and bombed out buildings, are shown on a split screen alongside the images of Pearl. No one's face is shown on the video except for Pearl's. In the footage showing him

conscious, Pearl was calm, the source said.

The source said it's not possible to know when, where or how the journalist was killed from the tape alone. That information is still not known. Pearl's body has not been found and one investigator said Saturday that it will be difficult to find unless the remaining suspects are apprehended.

Rumsfeld indicates scaling back of fighter jet patrols over U.S. cities

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld indicated Sunday he probably will scale back the continuous fighter jet patrols over U.S. cities, but said he had not yet made a decision.

He raised the possibility of tying the intensity of the patrols to different levels of threats against the United States, as assessed by the government.

"We have been at a relatively high threat level for some period of time ..."

— DONALD H. RUMSFELD
Defense secretary

"My personal view has been that what we need to do is what we have always done historically, and that's to have different threat levels. And as we see changes in the threat condition, adjust up or down," Rumsfeld said.

"We have been at a relatively high threat level for some period of time, which has been appropriate given the threat information that I read every day," he said on NBC's "Meet the Press."

The Air Force's civilian leader told The Associated Press last week that he wants to end the post-Sept. 11 the current 24-hour, 7-day-a-week patrols and instead leave fighters on "strip

alert" at airfields, ready to launch in case of emergency.

Asked Sunday about the future of the patrols, Rumsfeld said: "It's probably going to be a mix of some combat air patrols over certain locations and strip alerts, and at a lower level."

But, he cautioned, "You shouldn't go away with the conclusion that there is a good possibility of it because ... I could go back to my office today, read a threat report that would say to me that would be not a good decision."

"What we need to do is get gradations of threat conditions and be able to move them up and down, depending on our best judgment and hope we're right."

The patrols are tying up about 265 airplanes — mostly fighters, refuelers and radar planes — and about 12,000 airmen, Air Force Secretary James Roche said in the AP interview.

That compares with 14,000 Air Force personnel committed to the war in Afghanistan, he said, making the Air Force the only service with a large-scale commitment to both fronts in the war on terrorism.

Rumsfeld said it was his hope "that the threat condition will be such that we will not need to maintain that level of combat air patrols ... and we will be able to reduce the stress that's been put on the force and reduce the cost to the American taxpayer."

The Defense Department is working with other federal agencies to develop a plan for the future of the patrols, he said.

COMICS

The Dinette Set by Julie Larson

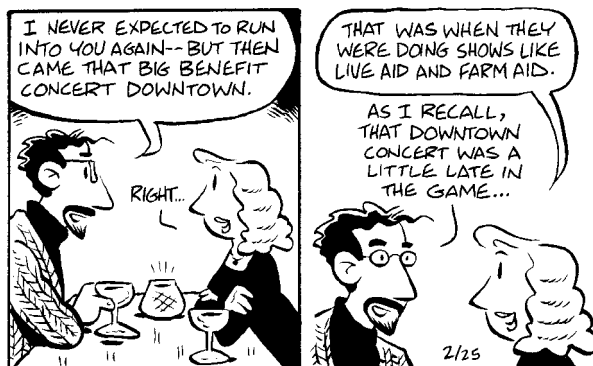


Natural Selection® By Russ Wallace



edge city

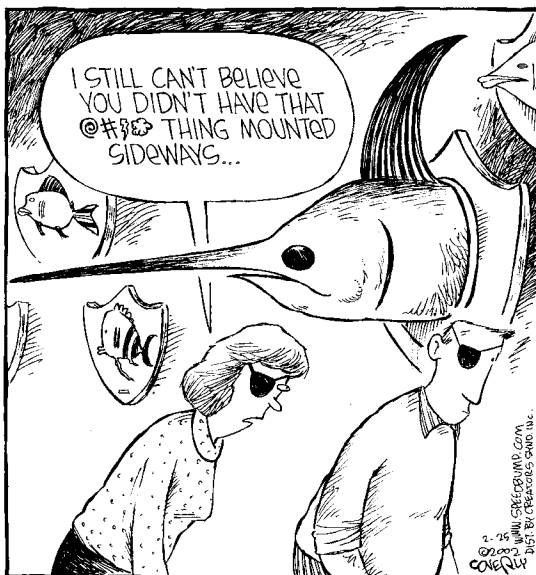
by TERRY & PATTY LABAN



Reality Check® By Dave Whammond



Speed Bump® By Dave Coverly



CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Ship's front
 - 5 Magna —
 - 10 Singer McEntire
 - 11 Warns
 - 13 Designer Cassini
 - 14 Salad ingredient
 - 15 Our counting system
 - 17 Clamor
 - 18 Ugly sight
 - 19 Historic period
 - 20 Used to be
 - 21 Docking spot
 - 22 Valued fiddle
 - 25 Comes to earth
 - 26 Jury member
 - 27 Scoundrel
 - 28 Research setting
 - 29 Poor person
 - 33 Call — day
 - 34 Queued up
 - 35 Referring to
 - 37 Win's counterpart
 - 38 Come into view
- DOWN**
- 1 Thorough investigation
 - 2 Track event
 - 3 Portly
 - 4 Fights
 - 5 Supplies the food
 - 6 Without help
 - 7 "Stand" band
 - 8 Car price reducer
 - 9 Not nude
 - 12 Sub systems
 - 16 Warty critter
 - 21 Kneecaps
 - 22 Join film together
 - 23 4:00 in the afternoon
 - 24 Money-back offers
 - 25 Volcanic flow
 - 27 Kitchen fixtures
 - 29 Door part
 - 30 Weeper of myth
 - 31 Beginning
 - 32 Exams
 - 36 Tax grp.

S	T	A	T	E	N		G	R	U	B
T	H	R	I	V	E		R	O	P	E
R	E	A	M	E	D		E	L	A	N
A	M	B	E	R		M	E	L	T	S
P	E	S	O		T	O	R	E	R	O
		F	R	A	T		R	E	N	
	S	A	F	E	H	O	U	S	E	
D	E	N		M	O	R	N			
A	V	E	N	U	E		F	E	L	T
M	I	M	E	S		D	A	L	A	I
S	L	O	P		L	I	Z	A	R	D
U	L	N	A		A	V	E	N	G	E
P	E	E	L		W	E	D	D	E	D

Saturday's answer

- 12 Sub systems
- 16 Warty critter
- 21 Kneecaps
- 22 Join film together
- 23 4:00 in the afternoon
- 24 Money-back offers
- 25 Volcanic flow
- 27 Kitchen fixtures
- 29 Door part
- 30 Weeper of myth
- 31 Beginning
- 32 Exams
- 36 Tax grp.

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	
10					11					12
13					14					
15				16				17		
18								19		
			20				21			
22	23	24			25					
26					27					
28				29				30	31	32
33				34						
35			36					37		
38								39		
	40							41		

2-25

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-454-7377! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.



NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

Perfume, urine fuel man's electricity theory

In October, authorities in Louisville added Kentucky to the list of states in which Dennis Lee has been charged with violating consumer protection laws. Lee was arrested when he attempted to conduct his standard seminar selling dealerships for a machine that supposedly generates free electricity. Despite abundant evidence of Lee's quackery submitted by physicists and engineers in Vermont, Maine, Washington, Oregon, New Mexico and Alaska, he continues in sincerity to tout his technology. As an example, he says a fuel he created, consisting of equal parts pickle juice, soda pop, water, crude oil, gas, soy sauce, human urine and perfume, can power an internal combustion engine.



"2002 WINTER OLYMPICS"



- Which was more disturbing?
- a) Corrupt scoring officials in the ice skating events ...
 - b) Bob Costas ...
 - c) Seeing a Hollywood producer glom onto a martyr's flag ...



I have been pressured to abstain.

JOE KING

CLASSIFIEDS



Employment

ADMIN ASSISTANT to President. Small investment company. Requires MS/word,Excel, AOL, 50-60 wpm., 3-5 years experience, phones, investor relations, travel arrangements. Fax resume (310)827-5541

EARLY MORNING delivery driver. Must have vehicle and clean driving record. Position available immediately. (310)458-7737

PARALEGAL W/3 years or more experience; self-starter, assertive and organized; able to handle heavy client contact; suitable writing skills required; PI experience necessary; medical record review exp.; bilingual Spanish a plus. Please email resume to kgallo@biren.com

Jewelry

CASH FOR all kinds of jewelry. (310)393-1111

Wanted

HOUSE SITTING position wanted. Santa Monica. Westside. Will water lawn and plants. Feed and walk pets. Collect mail and newspapers. Maintain household. Compensation flexible. Contact Elliot (310)661-9155

Rental Wanted

HONEST ENGINEER, 40, perfect refs & credit, no pets/smoke. Need SM guest house to \$1200. Can provide advanced technical services. www.theo.info (831) 335-8300.

For Rent

SANTA MONICA LAW OFFICE OCEAN PARK Rent includes window office, secry bay, law library w/add'l charges for West-law, postage, copy mach., fax, DSL connection, if utilized. Maloney & Mullen, PC (310)392-7047

VENICE 2 bedroom 2 bathroom. Ocean view from front patio. Fireplace, hardwood floors, walk-in closet, parking. \$2300 (310)291-4004

VENICE steps to sand, beautiful upper 2 bedroom 1 bathroom. Huge sun deck, great kitchen, Mexican tile floors, skylights, laundry, parking. \$2200 (310)291-4004

WHY RENT? You can own a home with no money down, no closing costs. Specializing in first time home buyers. United International Mortgage Company. Contact Bill Carey. (310) 780-3522.

Vehicles for sale

67 FIREBIRD Pontiac. Classic. Needs work. \$2000. (310)313-0848.

93 FORD ESCORT, black, hatchback, automatic, a/c, power, excellent condition! \$3000 obo (310) 207-5060 ext. 201

Services

ACCOUNTING CYCLE SM - MDR Taxes, audit, G/L (310)724-2101

AT YOUR SERVICE! Professional Personal Assistant. Strong office skills. Great references, reliable transportation. (310)452-4310

CHILD & ELDERLY CARE: Experienced Mature, female, vegetarian available immediately for caregiving. Xlnt references. Call Omanasa (310)314-8248

Services

BUSINESS WRITER/MEDIA relations specialist: offers 16 years experience in public relations and investor relations available for short and long-term assignments. Call Jane today to implement strategy for improved media coverage and increased customer/investor interest (310)452-4310

CHILD CARE: Mature, intelligent, kind & compassionate. Former nursery school experience. References available. Audry Norris (310)854-2053

COMPUTER DOCTOR - Repairs, Tutoring, Web Design, Patient, Reliable. Russell (310)709-7595

DESIGN DRAWINGS Interior-Exterior. Drawings can help you avoid costly mistakes & better visualize your remodel projects. 30 years experience. References. (310)836-4797

ELDERLY CARE PROVIDER Living in Santa Monica, immediately available for full or part time work. References available upon request. Please call Lita (310)394-3197

ELECTRICAL WORK all types. Reasonable rates. \$35.00 Service Call. 25 years experience. (310) 453-4400

The State-Of-The-Art Videoconferencing Solution Fixed 30 frames per second Currently being used by; The US Navy, Smithsonian Institution, the Mayors office in San Diego and New York, The Unified School District of San Diego, Police and Fire Departments, Warner Brothers, CNN and Turner Networks. Call today: West Coast Video Phone (310)392-0799

Services

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTANT available to come to your home/business and help clean-up, free-up and organize your finances. Professional services included; Quicken / Quickbooks set-up and management, establishing on-line banking services, accounting, payroll, employee benefits and other professional matters. Flexible weekly / monthly programs and excellent references. Please call Roland. (310)230-2341

FRIENDLY & SKILLED Computer Support Services. Setup, upgrade, internet connections & networks. Home or Office, Westside (310)663-3644. Reasonable Rates.

GARDEN CONSULTANT Moving? Add thousands of \$\$\$'s to property value by enhancing curb appeal. Let me help. Reasonable rates & references. Free Estimate. Mary Kay Gordon (310)264-0272

GRAPHIC DESIGN Give your business a professional look. Brochures, newsletters, directories, programs, logos, letterhead, etc. Ask about stationary packages. Call Grace K. @ (310) 452-0020

KNITTING LESSONS Yarn, Supplies, Patterns, Finishing & Design, STICH & ROW, Knitting Arts Center, 15200 Sunset Blvd., Suite 111, Pacific Palisades (310)230-9902

PET STOPS WEST Boston's Finest Daily and Vacation pet sitting service for over a decade comes to Santa Monica. Licensed, bonded, insured. (310)264-7193

Services

GUITAR LESSONS - For All Ages. Fun, -fast-paced and based around students individual musical interest. Popular, rock, classical, finger-styles, Improvisation. Learn sight/tab reading, techniques, theory, barre chords, composition, ear training and much more on electric or acoustic. Student may also develop beginning piano skills, voice development with an experienced private guitar teacher who enjoys teaching. One hour sessions are only \$35.00. Discounts are available.

Voice Mail: (310) 588-5810 SantaMonicaMan@aol.com.

SPANISH TEACHER/TUTOR, Santa Monica native speaker w/ M.A. from U. of MI Berlitz trained. Convers/Grammer, all levels/ages. Fun. Lissette (310)260-1255

TENNIS LESSONS Learn the game of tennis (effortlessly). Have fun! Get in shape. Group/private. Call Now! Intro lesson free. Certified Instructor (310)388-3722

TUTORING K-12 academics, K-adult computer, Learning Disabilities Specialist. Reasonable rates. Wise Owl Education (310)209-9032

Business Opps

\$1500/MO. PT - \$4500-\$7200/mo. FT Int'l Company needs Supervisors & Assistants. Full training. Free information. (866)412-8036 or www.kes-homebusiness.com

Business Opps

ATTENTION: WORK from home. \$500 - \$2500/mo PT. \$3k - \$7k/mo FT. Free booklet. (800) 935-5041. Dreamtimeisnow.com

EARN A VERY HIGH CASH FLOW. Lend @10% to a fast growing firm & get your money back in 16-19 months, + earn a royalty of 7 TIMES loan amount, 60% annual return. I'll show you this is real over lunch. \$25K min. Elliot (310)745-3512

IF YOU'RE not afraid to speak in front of small groups & like the idea of unlimited income. Call (877)772-7729 independent assoc.

SALES ENTREPRENEURS wanted. Gourmet Coffee/Esspresso Industry. Invest only your time and skill, unlimited income. (310)675-0717

Health/Beauty

VIACREME FOR women works! Developed and recommended by gynecologists. Order vc.com. (310)312-0662

Missing Person

MONICA LYNN DEVITO 05/01/56 Please call home immediately. Others with info email: moniphome@aol.com

Lost & Found

FOUND - set of keys with silver metal flower keychain. Found at 601 California. Please call (310)458-7737.

Advertise with

THE SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS

\$1.00 Classifieds

WE ARE THE CLASSIEST GIG IN TOWN!

Call Angela at the Santa Monica Daily Press

310.458.7737 ext.101

P.O. Box 1380

Santa Monica, CA 90406-1380

Phone: 310-458-7737

FAX: 310-576-9913

RATES

\$14.80 per column inch for display ads.
\$5.00 per day for the first 10 words.
50¢ per word for each additional word.

EXTRAS

Bold: 50¢ per word
Italic: 50¢ per word
Boxed: 50¢ per ad
Reverse: 50¢ per line
CAPITALIZED: 50¢ per word
Underlined: 50¢ per word
Blank Lines: 50¢ each

Santa Monica Daily Press

CLASSIFIED AD INSERTION ORDER FORM

First: _____ Last: _____
Phone: _____ Fax: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

PRINT CLEARLY:

001 Announcements	200 For Sale	500 Vehicles for Sale
010 Meetings	250 Wanted	600 Services
020 Legal Notices	300 For Rent	650 Health/Beauty
100 Employment	400 Real Estate	

Can't find the Daily Press in your neighborhood? Call us. We'll take your suggestions. (310) 458-PRESS (7737)



BACK PAGE

Americans cashing out their piggy banks, cookie jars

BY NANCY BENAC
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — It's lurking out there in sock drawers and coffee cans, ash trays and cigar boxes, wicker baskets and coconut shells. And, yes, in piggy banks.

By design or neglect, Americans have tucked away loose change to the tune of an estimated \$7.7 billion, enough to pay for the war in Afghanistan for nearly eight months.

"Once I even used the change I collected there to fill up a tank of gas."

— LUIS MEDINA
Resident

Call them what you will — hoarders, accumulators or simply disorganized. An estimated 56 percent of Americans build up their change rather than spend it day to day. As many as 77 percent have a jug of coins around the house, worth an average \$30 to \$50.

The figures are all courtesy of the folks at Coinstar, who have turned the coin-caching habit into a business by installing machines at supermarkets that will count your coins and turn them into cash. For a cut of the take, of course.

The company cashed in \$1.2 billion in loose change for Americans last year.

People seem to have their own systems

for handling change.

Madeleine Albright, when she was secretary of state, was seen hauling a wicker basket into a Georgetown bank to redeem \$38 in rolled coins.

Washingtonian Luis Medina leaves his coins in the car to pay for the morning newspaper and coffee, and to bail him out in emergencies.

"Once I even used the change I collected there to fill up a tank of gas," he said.

Kathryn Kailian and her husband Aram, also Washingtonians, invited friends to bring their loose change to a post-Sept. 11 party to benefit a rescue

fund. They wound up with a haul of more than \$1,500 from boxes, cookie jars, Ziploc bags, an old sock and even a hollowed-out coconut head. Cashing it in was no small feat.

"I had to make eight trips to Riggs bank with a dolly," Kailian recalled.

In building up their coins, Americans are fairly typical of people around the world who can afford to leave loose change lying around, says Steve Bobbitt, a spokesman for the American Numismatic Association, the largest association of coin collectors.

"Change becomes something that they

like to have, but it also becomes a nuisance because of its weight," he said.

So much so that a fair amount of it actually winds up in the trash, says William Rathje, an archaeology professor at Stanford and author of the book, "Rubbish, The Archaeology of Garbage."

His study of a Massachusetts incinerator found that the million people it served were leaving about \$8,000 worth of coins in their garbage every day.

"I think it tells us that we're pretty well off," says Rathje. "Number two is that we're often pretty careless about the way that we handle money."

Sox fans search pond for Babe's piano

BY KEN MAGUIRE
Associated Press Writer

BOSTON — It seems Red Sox fans will go to any depths to break the Curse of the Bambino.

On Saturday, a group went to the bottom of a suburban Boston pond in search of Babe Ruth's piano, which, as the story goes, was tossed into the water by the slugger in 1918.

The group hopes to refurbish the piano and play it again, just as the Babe did in 1918, the last time the Red Sox won a World Series. A season later, Ruth was sold to the New York Yankees, who have since won 26 championships.

"Once we bring this up, the Red Sox

will win," Sudbury historian Lee Swanson declared.

The search of the state-owned Willis Pond is sponsored by the Restoration Project, a rehabilitation program for adults with mental illness and head injuries.

"We're confident we can save it and play it again," said Kevin Kennedy, who volunteers with the group. "Wouldn't that be something? The last person to play this piano was Babe Ruth. Who knows — it could end up at Fenway Park."

Five divers tried to search Saturday, but visibility was poor, said Chris Hugo, who works with the state Board of Underwater Archaeological Research. They didn't locate the piano but said they

would return at a later date with a sonar scanner to get through sediment.

Organizers say they have proof the piano is there. On Dec. 22, Hugo used an infrared camera and identified a "rectangular shape with wiry weeds" at the bottom, 15 feet below the surface and near shore.

The piano story has been local legend ever since Ruth rented a cottage near the pond in 1917 and 1918. And theories abound as to why the Sultan of Swat deposited the piano in the muck although most are related to Ruth's notorious thirst.

"It is rumored, corroborated by eyewitnesses, that Babe liked to imbibe," Swanson said.

EXTRA!! EXTRA!!

Santa Monica Daily Press now at newsstands around the city!

Readers and customers can now find the Daily Press in permanent newsstands at these locations:

- 17th Street and Montana Avenue
- 14th Street and Montana Avenue
- Montana Avenue, between 14th-15th Streets
- 7th Street and Montana Avenue
- 3rd Street and Wilshire Boulevard
- Ocean Avenue and Wilshire Boulevard
- Wilshire Boulevard, between 22nd-23rd Streets
- 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
- Montana Avenue and Euclid Street
- Montana Avenue and 16th Street

Watch for future newsstands at a location near you!