

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

LOTTO

SUPER LOTTO PLUS

22-27-29-18-28

Megamember: 02

Jackpot: \$28 million

FANTASY 5

15, 4, 30, 31, 17

DAILY 3

Afternoon picks: 6, 4, 8

Evening picks: 2, 7, 2

DAILY DERBY

1st Place: 11, Money Bags

2nd Place: 1, Gold Rush

3rd Place: 6, Whirl Win

Race Time: 1:48.28



NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

Convicted murderer Robert Ivey continued to tell a court in Montreal, Quebec, in December that (contrary to a jury's finding) he is not guilty of killing a 42-year-old victim and that if only he had enough money to challenge the conclusive DNA tests (which showed that his blood was all over the victim's apartment), he would be a free man. A few moments later, during his recitation to the court, Ivey asked the judge for credit toward his sentencing because of his conscientiousness in having spent "seven hours" cleaning up the crime scene and the victim's body.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Trust your husband, adore your husband, and get as much as you can in your own name."

— Advice to Joan Rivers from her mother

INDEX

Horoscopes

Your treat, Aries 2

Local

Out with the education secretary . .3

Opinion

To gift or not to gift? 6

Business

Do this, save money 8

State

More on gay marriages 9

National

Kerry for the working man 10

People in the News

More on Mel 16

City puts cellular carriers on hold

Reception in SM will remain sketchy

BY JOHN WOOD

Daily Press Staff Writer

COUNCIL CHAMBERS — Cell phone antennas won't be erected on public land in Santa Monica anytime soon.

That could mean continued areas of poor reception for the foreseeable future, at least until City Hall figures how to regulate an anticipated proliferation of the towers, which can be unsightly.

Members of the City Council on Tuesday issued an emergency moratorium that bans the construction of wireless telephone facilities on public land for as long as six months. They told staffers to explore issues raised by carriers

and consider aesthetic concerns.

The moratorium came despite two ongoing lawsuits levied against City Hall last year by AT&T and Verizon Wireless. Those carriers claim the city has overstepped its bounds by regulating the use of antennas. Officials disagreed and said they plan to examine the issue thoroughly.

"We want it done right and we want it done legally," City Councilman Herb Katz said after the meeting. "Just because they want it done, doesn't mean we're going to do it ... Someday, we're going to get rid of power poles. Slowly, but surely — but we're already doing it, so they better look at this and really get it right."

A handful of people spoke at the meeting, many of them

See CELL, page 4

Landlord-tenant dispute lands in court

Renters sue over eviction, conditions

BY JOHN WOOD

Daily Press Staff Writer

SM COURTHOUSE — Two tenants are suing their former landlord for more than \$26,000, claiming he charged rent on their illegal apartments for years, then evicted them and sold the property.

Dan Ramirez, a local property owner who has upgraded several older buildings, told a judge Wednesday he did everything he could to make the aging units habitable. Ramirez said he evicted his tenants because authorities wouldn't let him re-zone the building to make the units legal.

"I was working as diligently as possible," said Ramirez, who owned the five-unit property at 718 Vernon Ave. in Venice for only a few years.

Tenants told a different story. Juan Martinez, a handyman who for 17 years shared a unit with his wife and children, and Basilia Mejia, a

woman in her 80s who for 12 years lived in another unit with her nephews, filed a lawsuit in the fall of 2002 against Ramirez and former property owner Robert Wood.

"I was working as diligently as possible."

— DAN RAMIREZ
Property owner

In it, they claimed the building was uninhabitable and accused both Wood and Ramirez of "unjust and despicable treatment of immigrants and the elderly by wealthy landowners." Both sets of tenants were evicted in November of 2001. Martinez paid between \$325 and \$365 a month for a small, one-room studio. Mejia paid between

See DISPUTE, page 5



File photo

The parking situation around Samohi keeps people on their toes. Students rallied at City Hall Tuesday for more spaces. The battle has been ongoing for more than a year.

Pumped up over parking

Samohi students need a space to call their own

BY LAUREN J. BONIFACIO

Special to the Daily Press

It seems as though everyone in Santa Monica has a nightmare story to tell about the lack of parking here — and the high school is no exception.

Chanting "raise the roof," more than 30 Santa Monica High School students and local residents gathered in front of City Hall Tuesday, demanding the City Council do something to fill the students' parking shortage.

Samohi students suggested the City Council raise the proposed six-and-a-half level Civic Center parking structure by one level, thereby adding about 120 parking spots they said should be reserved for student use.

"Students weren't factored in even though (the structure) will be right across the street," Samohi senior Kesha Ram said. "It's kind of like a slap in the face."

Students said they are in a parking crunch. With only 40 campus parking spots available for an estimated 300 students who drive to school, they said they are often forced to park blocks away

from the campus, filling up near-by residential streets.

"My neighborhood is jammed ... It's not fair to us and it's not fair to the students."

— CHRISTIAN BOYCE
Resident

"My neighborhood is jammed," said Ninth Street resident Christian Boyce. As one of the last streets in the city without permit parking, he said his has become a second parking lot for Samohi students.

"It's not fair to us and it's not fair to the students," Boyce said.

And with residents like Boyce pushing for permit parking on their streets, students said the City Council needs to find long term solutions for both residents and students.

The students came to the City Council after the Santa Monica-

See PARKING, page 4

Music Lessons...
That last a lifetime
(310) 453-1928
1901 SANTA MONICA BLVD.
IN SANTA MONICA
www.santamonicausic.com

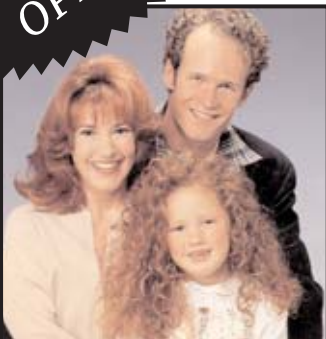
Introduces
THE UNDER \$10
DINNER SPECIAL
Served from 4pm - 10pm
1433 Wilshire Blvd at 15th St
310-394-1131

PERSONAL INJURY
WILLS, TRUSTS & PROBATE
BUSINESS LITIGATION
McGee, Lerer
& Associates
(310) 231-9717
Free consultations

GRAND OPENING!

Fantastic Sams

"Come and see our NEW look"
NOW OPEN



ADULT HAIRCUT
Shampoo & Precision Cut
\$9.95
Long Hair Extra

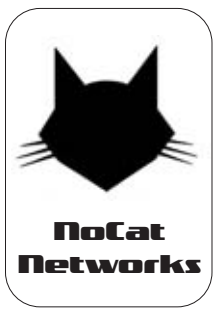
COLOR
Shampoo & Quality Color
\$5.00 OFF
Min. \$39 & Up

Santa Monica
2461D Santa Monica Blvd.
(Next to Sav-on Drugs)
310-453-5103

Fantastic Sams Sav-on Drugs 26th St.
Santa Monica Blvd.

M-F: 9am-8pm Sat: 9am-6pm Sun: 10am-5pm

High-Speed Internet Access



DO YOU HAVE A T1 CONNECTION FOR YOUR BIZ? PAYING TOO MUCH? HOW DOES \$150 A MONTH SOUND?

Local SM Company Offering High Speed Internet Access for a Lot Less.

310-393-4037

www.NoCatNetworks.com • sales@nocatnetworks.com

Specializing in Leasing & Selling Office & Industrial Buildings



SPECIALIZING IN LEASING & SELLING OFFICE & INDUSTRIAL BUILDINGS

310/440-8500 ext. 104



Christina S. Porter
Senior Associate

Have Fun Getting FIT By the BEACH

Feel Better...Lose Weight...Improve your Health!



State of the Heart Fitness offers:

- *4-Week "Way to Wellness" program
- Personal Training
- Exercise Classes
- Life Coaching
- Health & Wellness Education

*Inquire about our Way to Wellness program, Exercise, Eating & Stress Management... all in one great program!

Located at the Loews Santa Monica Beach Hotel
310-842-5657 • www.globalfitnesssolutionsonline.com

HOROSCOPE

The Daily Horoscope is proudly sponsored by:



THE COUNTER

BUILDING A BETTER BURGER

HOURS: M-TH:11AM-10PM FRI-SAT:11AM-11PM SUN:12PM-9PM
2901 Ocean Park Blvd in Santa Monica • 310.399.8383

It's your treat tonight, Aries

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)
★★★★★ Your fiery side emerges when dealing with funds, daily life and/or work. You have what it takes to fly through hassles and get exactly what you want. Do not question your skills; rather, manifest your ability to hit a home run. Tonight: Your treat. Do something special for someone.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Your spirit, energy and ingenuity take you down a new path, if you so choose. You might want to make the first move with a loved one or potential sweetie. The response will be positive. You're the darling of the Zodiac right now. Tonight: Still as you like it.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ You might want to rearrange your home or office. Is this perhaps a way of expressing your frustration or anger? Clearing the energy within and around you might be important. Make yourself at home, wherever you are. Expect more activity at work in the next few weeks. Tonight: Get some extra sleep. You will need it tomorrow.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ You energize many through your innate enthusiasm and sense of direction. You help others who might be floundering right now, looking for aid. Return calls and be willing to go that extra mile for someone today. Tonight: Where your pals are.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ Your drive to do the job well puts you in the forefront. Remain budget-conscious, even if a pay raise is on the way or if you're spending money to improve your business stature. Face facts: You have a tendency to go overboard. Tonight: Out late again!



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ You have much ground to cover, and you might want to re-evaluate the process. Make calls; find an expert and a way of shortening the procedure. Take charge; investigate and research. Others bend for you. Tonight: Reach out to a friend or loved one at a distance.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ By revealing more of what is going on with you, you draw the support and action of a key associate. You're active and get to the bottom of a problem. Deal with someone on a basic level. Handle an impending problem between the two of you. Tonight: Togetherness works.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ Others reach out for you. You do not have to make the first move. Sit back and make choices, with your goals and friendships in mind. You could find others a bit contrary right now. Pick and choose who you want to be around. Tonight: Join up with a friend.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ You shoulder your responsibilities well. You might not want to do so much. You will get meaningful acknowledgment soon enough. You deserve a pay raise or promotion, if you haven't gotten it already. Tonight: Try to curb yourself and head home.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Let your emotions flow, which might be hard for you, especially as you might judge yourself unusually hard. Your strong drive and intellectual point of view will mix in. Don't worry so much. Tonight: Celebrate the coming weekend.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ A partner cares and demonstrates his or her feelings through actions. You might feel that this person is being intrusive in some way. Don't get your dander up; rather, realize the importance of this person's actions. Tonight: Order in.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ What you say impacts others. Right now you could be unusually forceful in your communications. At the same time, clear out e-mail or any other matters sitting on your desk. You might be tempted to screen calls. Tonight: Not far from home.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Published Monday through Saturday
Phone: 310.458.PRESS(7737) • Fax: 310.576.9913
1427 Third Street Promenade, Ste. #202 • Santa Monica, CA 90401 • www.smdp.com

PUBLISHER
Ross Furukawa ross@smdp.com

EDITOR
Carolyn Sackarison sack@smdp.com

STAFF WRITER
John Wood wood@smdp.com

CHILD DEVELOPMENT COLUMNIST
Margie Altman margiealtman@yahoo.com

ADVERTISING SALES MANAGER
Rob Piubeni rob@smdp.com

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
Steve Averill steve@smdp.com

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE
Rob Schwenker schwenker@smdp.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Del Pastrana del@smdp.com

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT
Alejandro Cesar Cantarero II alex@smdp.com

ADMINISTRATIVE TRAFFIC MANAGER
Heather Rich heather@smdp.com

CLASSIFIED REPRESENTATIVE
Mitch Troy mitch@smdp.com

CIRCULATION MANAGER
Robert DeAmicis robert@smdp.com

CIRCULATION
Keith Wyatt keith@smdp.com

CIRCULATION
Glenn Bolan glenn@smdp.com

SPECIAL PROJECTS
Dave Danforth dave@smdp.com

MASCOT
Maya Furukawa maya@smdp.com

LOCAL



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Head to Texas, educator says

By Daily Press staff

More than 800 members of the Santa Monica Malibu Classroom Teachers Association have joined thousands of educators across the country in demanding the resignation of U.S. Secretary of Education Rodney Paige, after he called the National Education Association a "terrorist organization."

Before being selected by President George W. Bush, Paige served as the superintendent in Houston. Supporters of standardized testing revered the Houston district for its success in raising test scores of all students.

It's been documented since that under Paige's leadership, the Houston school district manipulated student test scores and attendance records, SMMCTA alleges. Santa Monica's teachers association alleges Paige and his administration cheated.

Most recently, the National Education Association, school boards and administrative groups have been urging the federal government to amend what they call a "deeply flawed" and "highly punitive" "No Child Left Behind" legislation. Paige has used the opportunity to refer to the National Education Association as obstructionist, SMMCTA alleges.

"Teachers are deeply insulted by Mr. Paige's remarks," said Harry M. Keiley, president of SMMCTA. "And trying to brush the comments off as a 'bad joke' is even more insulting."

"Referring to teachers as terrorists is no joking matter," Keiley added. "His remarks send a clear message as to how this administration views teachers and the work we do to educate children every day. After the recent exposés of the Houston school system under Mr. Paige's leadership and now this insensitive gaffe, it is time for Mr. Paige to pack his bags and head back to Texas."

CEPS gets chamber endorsement

By Daily Press staff

The Board of Directors of the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce has voted to back the "Excellent Public Schools Charter Amendment" headed for the ballot box this November. It's sponsored by the Committee for Excellent Public Schools, a grass-roots organization of local residents and business leaders. Chamber officials say the organization has a long history of backing pro-education initiatives in Santa Monica and understands the long-term importance of an educated work force to the local economy and quality of life.

The CEPS initiative would amend the city's charter to require City Hall to provide funds to the district annually in an amount equal to the greater of \$6 million or 4 percent of the city's general fund. The percentage would increase up to a maximum of 8 percent only if the general fund increases by specified amounts.

The chamber support for this initiative will be withdrawn if the city and the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District reach an alternative funding arrangement.

"Endorsing the CEPS initiative is reflective of the chamber's long-time support for local education," said Dr. Michael Gruning, chairman of the board of the chamber. "State budget cuts mean that local funding of our schools is critical and the district needs a stable source of long-term funding to plan for future of Santa Monica's students."

Run for Saint John's

By Daily Press staff

The organizing for the largest five-person team relay race in the United States has commenced.

The Saint John's Jimmy Stewart Relay Marathon will be held on April 18 at Griffith Park. The marathon is comprised of more than 20 divisions, according to age, gender and corporate/industry affiliation. Each person runs 5.2 miles before passing the baton to collectively complete 26 miles. All proceeds from the marathon support programs and services at Saint John's Health Center in Santa Monica. Since its inception in 1982, the relay marathon has raised more than \$8.2 million.

For more information, call (310) 829-8968 or visit www.stjohns.org.

surf report

A second W-WNW swell will start to arrive and peak throughout today with large, stormy surf. At this point, it looks like we will see solid 5-8'+ faces at the average spots and much bigger waves at the best spots. But conditions are looking pretty jacked, with 10-20 knot SW-W winds and showers throughout the day. Not epic.

OUTLOOK: Friday, the large W-WNW swell will be dropping but we can still expect plenty of overhead+ surf for most spots and some 10'-12'+ sets at the super magnets. Conditions will still be on the messy side, as NW winds 10-20 knots continue throughout the day.

Write us at wood@smdp.com and tell us what the surf is doing today at your local break. Epic.

Today the water is:

57°

	LOW TIDES		HIGH TIDES	
	LOW ONE	LOW TWO	HIGH ONE	HIGH TWO
SATURDAY	3:05 AM	4:08 PM	9:15 AM	10:37 PM
SUNDAY	3:45 AM	4:36 PM	9:48 AM	11:02 PM
MONDAY	4:30 AM	5:08 PM	10:28 AM	11:37 PM
TUESDAY	5:23 AM	5:38 PM	11:14 AM	N/A
WEDNESDAY	6:30 AM	6:06 PM	12:15 AM	12:15 PM
THURSDAY	8:03 AM	6:48 PM	12:59 AM	1:47 PM
FRIDAY	9:43 AM	7:45 PM	1:54 AM	4:15 PM

The Surf Report is sponsored by:

ALL ABOUT HER

ROCKER

BOARD SHOP

SURF • SNOW • SKATE

boards • wetsuits
swimwear
clothing • accessories

12204 Venice Boulevard
Mar Vista, CA 90066
(310) 397-8300 TEL
(310) 397-8931 FAX
www.rockboardshop.com
info@rockboardshop.com

The Q-Line

Local politicians and city leaders have been recently discussing whether a hike in the hotel bed tax would be appropriate to help fund the local school district, which is financially faltering.

The tax, which is strategically set at 12 percent — 2 percent lower than the city of Los Angeles and surrounding cities — is tacked on to room rates at hotels in Santa Monica.

The increase would have to be voter

approved, and could appear as a ballot measure this November.

So this week, Q-Line wants to know, "Do you support an increase in the hotel bed tax. Why or why not?"

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

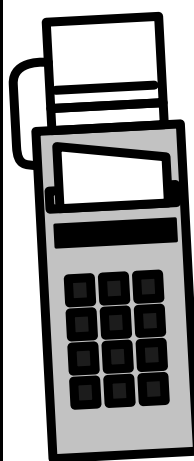
Love to cook?
Love to eat?
So do we.

We offer an incredible selection of gourmet foods from around the world.



1800A Abbot Kinney Blvd., Venice
One block south of Venice Blvd.

310/305-9800



BACK / UNFILED TAXES?

ALL FORMS • ALL TYPES • ALL STATES

SAMUEL B. MOSES, CPA
(310) 395-9922

429 Santa Monica Blvd. Ste. 710
Santa Monica 90401

Go Ahead...Smile!



**FEATURING: THE INTRA ORAL CAMERA
TO WATCH YOUR DENTAL EXAM!**

- General & Cosmetic Dentistry
- Oral Surgery
- Fillings (Mercury free)
- Bonding, Veneers & Porcelain Crowns
- Gum Treatments
- Dentures, Partial & Repairs

Free Cosmetic Consultation

Let us design and create your masterpiece smile in the most up-to-date technology and relaxing environment.

Call us today for your next appointment.

Medical and most insurance accepted

FREE PARKING

**50% OFF
TEETH WHITENING**

Cash Patients. Limited Time Offer. Expires 3/03/04
Based on California Dental Fee Survey

Dr. Vafadar, D.D.S., D.D.M.
12113 Santa Monica Blvd. Suite 204

310.571.3000

PASSENGERS WANTED

**EXPRESS
TAXI**

**SAVE MONEY!
IT'S AS
EASY AS...**



FOR FAST PICKUP CALL:

310-828-3333

WWW.PASSENGERSWANTED.NET

\$20 FLAT FEE TO LAX

\$50 FLAT FEE TO LONG BEACH

with ad only

MAKE-A-WISH

11TH ANNUAL WINE TASTING & AUCTION

SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 2004 AT 6:30 P.M.

BARKER HANGAR, SANTA MONICA AIR CENTER

Join us for the premiere wine tasting event in Los Angeles and help over 400 children living with life-threatening medical conditions in Los Angeles County.

- Wines from more than 75 of California's most renowned wineries
- Food from over 40 of LA's best restaurants
- Over 400 auction items will be offered in live and silent auctions

Individual Ticket Prices

\$125 pre-sale

\$150 at the door

Premiere Tickets

\$250 in advance

includes VIP seating
(maximum of 100 will be sold)

VIP Packages

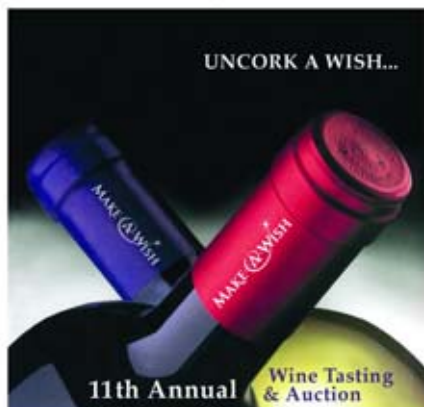
(including limo & champagne)

10 people\$5000

6 people\$3000

2 people\$1250

To find out more about sponsorship opportunities and group packages or to purchase tickets please visit www.wishla.org or contact Chuck Sawyer at 310-788-9474.



UNCORK A WISH...

11th Annual Wine Tasting & Auction



LOCAL

Cell phone companies trying to get dialed in

CELL, from page 1

expressing reservations about the proposal. Mark Olsen, a spokesman for Southern California Edison, which supplies electricity to Santa Monica, said the proposed ordinance may have negative impacts on other utilities that use public land to deliver their services to residents.

Olsen, along with several representatives from several wireless companies, asked the council to wait before acting, saying all parties involved need to digest the many intricacies of the proposed ordinance, which would require utilities to apply for a permit to install their equipment. A draft of the 68-page proposal was first released two weeks ago.

In redrafting the proposed ordinance, staff will be specifically looking to simplify the process for applying to erect an antenna, going through public hearings and the guidelines that govern construction.

Gary Clouse, a Verizon representative, said his company is hopeful to install three cell phone antennas — at Montana Avenue and 25th Street, San Vicente and 11th Street, and under the Santa Monica Pier. In his statements to the council, Clouse said the antennas would be camouflaged, and pose no threat to the health and safety of the community.

On the legal merits of the moratorium, Clouse contended it would be illegal to have a moratorium extending past 45 days. What's more, he argued that because Verizon first applied for the antennas over a year ago, the approval should move forward despite any moratorium.

Cara Silver, the Deputy District Attorney handling the cellular litigation for City Hall, said Clouse's reading of the law wasn't accurate. She said the 45-day limit applies to zoning ordinances, adding the public right-of-way is not zoned. Silver added that the moratorium on antennas speaks for itself.

"We think that it moots the lawsuits," she said, "because they are asking for permits and the city has now issued a moratorium on the issuance of permits, and so they have no legal right to the permits."

Robert Delsman, a vice president for NextG Networks, a wireless company,

said in a letter to the council the proposal was likely to spur legal challenges. Among other things, Delsman took issue with what he called "subjective" aesthetic definitions, and a requirement that companies exhaust other locations before building. He also said the ordinance unfairly requires the wireless carrier to demonstrate that the sites do not provide adequate coverage, but then doesn't define what's considered "adequate."

**"We want it done
right and we want it
done legally."**

— HERB KATZ

Santa Monica City Councilman

"... we believe that the proposed ordinance falls well short of the desired standard of objectivity and predictability that are essential to the fair and even-handed application of (telecommunications laws)," the letter reads.

Representatives for Verizon that addressed the council also said they were against the local ordinance, adding the matter is already governed by state and federal law. They pointed to areas like Malibu, the Santa Monica Mountains and Ventura County, where no such local laws exist.

While the fine-tuning of the ordinance moves forward, some staffers feel there is a way of melding the needs of the carriers with the community.

In a presentation to the council, Dave Britton, a civil engineer for City Hall, said by forcing the companies to apply for permits to install the antennas, the city could guarantee the antennas are safe, aesthetic, have a minimal impact on neighbors and don't interfere with other utilities. He pointed to some "stealth" installations, when companies use existing power lines, camouflage equipment, or install their antennas in a way that blends into the street surroundings, like in street lamps.

More parking comes at price

PARKING, from page 1

Malibu School Board told them that because of limited funds, parking was not a priority, said Samohi senior Bryce Maddock, the student body representative to the school board.

Mayor Richard Bloom expressed doubt at the viability of raising the parking structure, saying that even at the structure's current height, the adjacent Doubletree Hotel was contesting the city's plans because it would block their guests' ocean views.

City Councilman Kevin McKeown said more parking would come at a price. Parking costs from \$10,000 to \$15,000 per spot, he said. The City Council didn't take any action on the students' suggestions, but will address the problem at a

later time.

Students would be willing to consider other options and share the burden of the cost, Maddock said.

Students said the lack of parking also presents a safety issue. Those participating in after-school clubs or sports often have to walk back to their cars late at night while carrying musical instruments or athletic equipment, they said.

"The extracurriculars that students participate in while in school can be just as great of an influence in building their character as world history," said Marc Sanschagrin, a representative from the Santa Monica-Malibu Classroom Teachers Union who attended the students' rally. "In order to participate, though, they've got to get there."

**GOOD THING YOU RECYCLE YOUR PAPER...
CHANCES ARE YOU'RE READING IT AGAIN.**



LOCAL □ STATE



CALIFORNIA BRIEFS

Vegas run will include Indian casino

By The Associated Press

BARSTOW — Another Indian casino project has been proposed. Anaheim-based Superior Development Inc. has announced plans for a \$200 million gambling resort on the southern edge of the city, not far from the site of a previous proposal. It would be located just west of Interstate 15.

Developer Howard Palmer said his project, which includes an 82,000-square-foot casino, hotel and convention center, would bring about 1,800 to 2,000 jobs to the Mojave Desert city midway between Los Angeles and Las Vegas.

Superior Development owns the 40-acre site under the name Elite Gaming LLP. Palmer said he would build the casino resort with the Big Pine Paiute Tribe of the Owens Valley, which has a reservation in Inyo County.

Tribal Chairwoman Jessica Bacoch signed a preliminary agreement with Palmer in April. Big Pine Paiute Tribal Administrator Tracy Bowers confirmed Tuesday that a letter of intent was signed with Palmer.

Palmer's plan competes with the proposed Indian casino resort that Detroit-based BarWest LLC and the Los Coyotes Band of Indians announced in June 2003.

City spokesman John Rader said via e-mail Tuesday that the city is "very pleased that developers are seeking to bring their project ideas, investment and job creation." But he noted the city must honor agreements that are already in place.

If the city decides to maintain the original exclusive negotiating agreement it signed with BarWest in June 2003, formal negotiations with Palmer wouldn't be possible.

Wrecks to serve as shock therapy

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Councilman Dennis Zine wants wrecked cars strategically placed at dangerous intersections in a "shock therapy" campaign against speeders.

"We will look at anything that can help reduce traffic accidents," Lt. Art Miller said. "We are open to all ideas and if showing a wrecked car will help, we're all for it."

Zine, a former LAPD traffic policeman, said he is concerned about a rash of deadly collisions. Seventeen people have been killed this year in 14 collisions in the San Fernando Valley.

"We need to let people know the consequences," Zine said. "I want people to see these vehicles and realize that mangled car could be theirs, that someone they love could die in an accident."

Vehicles involved in deadly crashes would be placed at key locations with large signs explaining what had happened.

"I saw things like this when I was a kid and it sticks with me to this day," Zine said. "We need to find some way to get the attention of drivers on the dangers of speeding."

Capt. Greg Meyer, head of the Valley Traffic Bureau, said he was exploring Zine's proposal.

"This is something that's been done in other cities. We have to look at the logistics of it and make sure it doesn't create other distractions. It might be fine if people are stopped in traffic, but could be a problem if they're whizzing by," Meyer said.

Coffee temperature is at issue in countersuit

DISPUTE, from page 1

\$650 and \$689 a month for a larger, one-bedroom apartment.

According to court papers, the "makeshift" units violated nearly 150 housing codes. Among other things, the papers allege the units had hot plates instead of stoves, water heaters that blocked cabinets and "snaking" extension cords.

Ramirez bought the 1920s property in May of 1999 and said he spent more than \$90,000 repairing it. He said he didn't know the units were illegal when he first bought the building. When he was notified, he did everything he could to bring them up to code, Ramirez testified. But Los Angeles housing authorities said they wouldn't approve a rezoning of the property, which was built as three units. Ramirez said he was forced to evict the tenants and pay them \$5,000 each to relocate.

"These were my tenants, I felt that I should try to protect them," he said.

Frances Campbell, a lawyer for the tenants, said even if that was the case, Ramirez still broke the law by charging rent for the illegal units. Martinez wants a

\$7,000 refund and Mejia wants a refund of \$17,000 for the rent they paid, as well as \$1,000 each for statutory damages. If Ramirez is found liable for elder abuse, he also will have to pay Mejia's legal fees.

"If you try to do everything you can, but you're still breaking the law while you're doing it, you're not doing everything you can," Campbell said. She added the plaintiffs agreed late last year to settle the case against Wood for a \$7,500 because Wood said he was facing bankruptcy. That check bounced, Campbell claimed.

Santa Monica Superior Court Judge Lorna Parnell is hearing the case without a jury. She ordered lawyers on both sides Wednesday to issue their closing arguments in writing within one week and said she would then make a ruling.

Ramirez and his attorney declined to speak to a reporter outside the courtroom. Ramirez is countersuing for medical and cleaning expenses because he said Martinez threw a cup of hot coffee in his face after he delivered eviction papers. Martinez, through his lawyer, said the coffee was cold.



London \$350

+plus tax
(purchase by Feb. 28,
begin travel before March 31.)

or 6 nights & 7 Days for \$549

per person
(purchase by March 11)

Package
 Airfare • Hotel • Taxes
 Breakfast • Transfers
 Feb. 10 to March 31
 Based on double occupancy.

\$599 per person

April 1st thru June 14th & Sept. 2 thru Oct. 31

First Class: \$3400
Business Class: \$3099
 Restrictions Apply

London Travel Center
 (310) 315-9100
 cst#2051648-10

ADVERTISE! Santa Monica Daily Press

Santa Monica Tobacco Fine Cigars & Cigarettes

Formally known as M&A Tobacco

1434 Fourth St.
Santa Monica
(parking in rear)

FREE DELIVERY W/ MINIMUM PURCHASE

310.393.9592

Nat Sherman MCD 3-pack for \$11.08 + tax
w/ COUPON Exp. 3/31/04

Nat Sherman NY cut 3-pack for \$9.85 + tax
w/ COUPON Exp. 3/31/04

Copenhagen / Skoal Kodiak 2 for \$9.24 + tax
w/ COUPON Exp. 3/31/04

\$2 OFF
ON ALL INTERNATIONAL CIGARETTES
CARTONS ONLY w/ COUPON Exp. 3/31/04

WE CARRY ALL KINDS OF TOBACCO POUCHES & CAN

See our ad every Saturday & Tuesday
We beat all prices in town because we are in Santa Monica!



LUBE IT OR LOSE IT.

In minutes, with no appointment

\$21.99

+ Tax & Environmental Fee, Most Cars.

YOUR NEXT JIFFY LUBE Signature Service Oil Change.

+ a FREE VIP Card (\$30 value. See store for details.)

Bring in this coupon to the Santa Monica Jiffy Lube and pay \$21.99 plus tax and environmental fee, most cars, up to 5 quarts, for a complete Signature Service Oil Change. Not valid with other discounts or offers of synthetic oil. OFFER EXPIRES 2/29/04.

Each Jiffy Lube is independently owned and operated. SM-OP 3

2344 Pico Blvd. in Santa Monica (at Cloverfield)
(310) 392-1994

OPEN A SECOND LINE OF COMMUNICATION.

Trade up to Nextel. Bring your number and get more done.



NATIONAL TEAM SHARE PLAN

400 anytime cellular minutes. 250 walkie-talkie minutes. Unlimited nights and weekends. Long distance included.

\$39.99

per month. Other monthly charges apply. See below**

Add a second line and receive an extra. 250 walkie-talkie minutes each month.

\$20

per month

SAVE \$100 ON TWO i530s with mail in rebate

12423 WILSHIRE BLVD. IN SANTA MONICA • 310-820-8446

Nextel also imposes a Federal Programs I Cost Recovery (FCR) fee of \$1.55 or \$2.53. The FCR is not a tax or government required charge. The fee is charged for one or more of the following: E911, number pooling and wireless portability. Offers expire March 31, 2004. Requires one- or two-year service agreement and credit approval. \$200 early termination fee applies, after 15-day trial period (conditions apply). Setup fee of \$35 per phone, up to \$70 max per account applies. \$50 Mail-In Rebate: Expires March 31, 2004. Available while supplies last. Requires two-year service agreement. Allow 10-12 weeks after phone purchase, activation and mailing in of a complete and valid rebate form to receive rebate. Limit one rebate per phone purchase. May not be available in all markets. Full terms and conditions to be found on the mail-in rebate form. **National Team Share Plan: Free Nationwide Long Distance includes domestic calls only. Phones must be on same account and separate plan to share minutes. Add-on Plan cannot be purchased as a stand alone plan. Nextel Direct Connect coverage is \$0.15/min. Group Connect are calculated by multiplying the minutes of use, number of participants, and the applicable rate. Group Connect can only work with members of the same network while in their home market. Nationwide service is not available for Group Connect calls. Cellular coverage is \$0.40/min. Cellular calls round to the next full minute. Unused minutes do not accumulate to the next billing cycle. Nights are 9:00pm to 7:00am. Weekends begin Fri. at 9:00pm and end Mon. at 7:00am. Up to \$0.15 per sent or received text message depending on message type. **Additional charges** may apply and may vary by market, including state and federal taxes a Universal Service Assessment of either 1.087% or 1.25% in some states a Gross Receipt Recovery Fee of 1.4% to 5%, a TRS charge of approx. .07% and a state-required E911 fee. **Other Terms:** Nextel reserves the right to modify or terminate these offers at any time. Offers may not be available in all markets. Other conditions may apply. Read service agreement for details. Wireless Number Portability is not available in all areas or all numbers. Because number portability requires the cooperation of multiple companies, the amount of time it takes to transfer your number(s) will vary. **Nextel Nationwide Network serves 293 of the top 300 markets.** ©2004 Nextel Communications, Inc. NEXTEL, NEXTEL DONE, PUSH TO TALK, DIRECT CONNECT, GROUP CONNECT, NATIONWIDE DIRECT CONNECT and the Driver Safety logo are service marks, trademarks, and/or registered trademarks owned by Nextel Communication, Inc. MOTOROLA and the Stylized M Logo are registered in the US Patent & Trademark office. All other products and service names are products of their respective owners. All rights reserved.

LETTERS

Let us figure out the right thing to do

Editor:

I think we are collectively moving, kicking and screaming (the Santa Monica-Malibu way), toward a gift policy that can be a national model for school districts with demographics like ours.

The two voluntary components in Superintendent Deasy's revised version really intrigue me. The volunteer fundraising group he's suggested will address a problem I heard expressed to the board on Jan. 22 by many parents from John Adams, Edison and McKinley schools. These parents said they were willing to, and did, spend as much time fundraising as the wealthier schools but lacked "the contacts" to raise large sums. This proposed volunteer group can provide the contacts with philanthropic individuals, businesses, and foundations — and help the less wealthy schools develop long-term relationships with donors.

The same benefit, plus more, will result from the "sister-school" teams that the district will help establish. I believe many parents in this community would be happy to work with parents from a school that needs fundraising help. People are much more likely to volunteer their time and money when they know the needs and see the results. The personal relationships forged between wealthy and less wealthy parent and student bodies would enrich everyone involved.

The gift policy still needs revision for this voluntary component to work. The cooperation of successful fundraisers is vital to the plan, yet here is what the district says to them in the current mandatory/voluntary version of the policy:

"Yo, volunteers! New policy! I'm forcing your group to donate 15 percent of what you raise to 'My Fund.' You'll just have to work harder to replace that money in your budget. Now, who's interested in volunteering even more time to raise even more money for 'My Fund?'"

The silence will be deafening. Or maybe not. The district could receive many animated suggestions as to what it can do with "Its Fund."

I hope the school board will show confidence in the good will and social responsibility of the Santa Monica and Malibu communities and implement only the voluntary parts of the proposed gift policy. Why not give people a chance to do the right thing on their own before forcing them?

Jean Sedillos
Santa Monica

Disparity in schools is nothing new

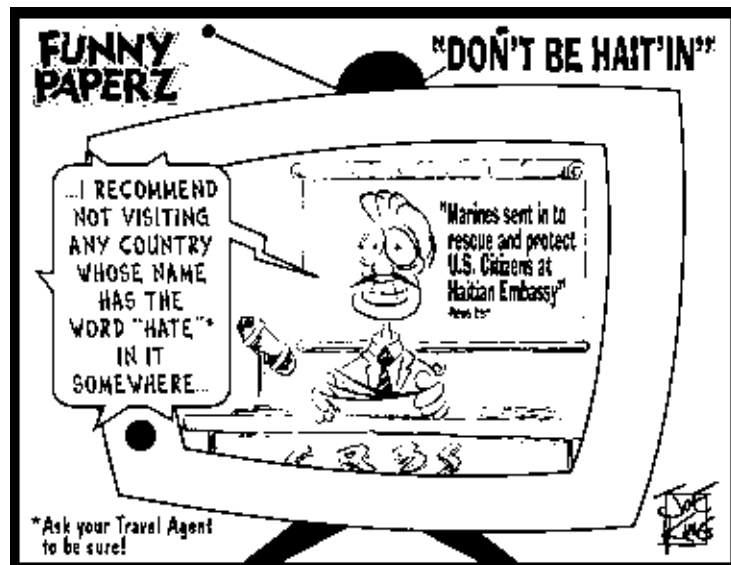
Editor:

The Daily Press' early coverage of the school donations issue implied that this is a

new problem. It is not. As I recall, back in the '60s or '70s, the school board transferred to Edison Elementary a greenhouse that had been donated to Franklin Elementary. At the time, as a parent I was outraged, but eventually I have come to see the wisdom and even necessity of such actions. As to the legality of transfers, I believe individual public schools are not legal entities that can receive charitable donations. The gift is made to the district, which, unless it has agreed to any restrictions that came with the gift, can do whatever it pleases with it. Various attempts to get around this by, for example, having a foundation pay the salaries of staff — having teachers in a public school who are not employees of the district — have been rebuffed in the courts.

There are no First Amendment issues in our current problem because no restriction on the raising of money has been proposed, only in the manner in which the district

See LETTERS, page 7



When columnist and president found common ground

NEWS on the EDGE

By Ron Scott Smith



It's a jungle out there.

That's what we were saying to ourselves, me and W, back when we were 18, 19, 20 years old and facing the prospect of packing a government-issued green duffel bag, slinging an M-16 over our shoulder, and heading right into the heart of that jungle for a couple of the prime years of our life. Vietnam, they called it, and I remember having to look on a map to see where it was and how to spell it when a ping-pong ball with my birthday painted on it was the 15th one to roll down that damn little chute that carried all our fates within it. We were all unwilling players in a macabre life-and-death lotto game to determine who would go kill and die, and who would stay home and breathe easy. The first 100 or so with birthdays rolling down that chute would be America's new reluctant warriors. The dilemma facing young minds, not allowed to vote and barely in touch with wisdom in any form, was formidable. Many chose to go ahead and serve. "It ain't no good war but it's our war," went the thinking, and off they marched to fight the fight for freedom — or against communism — or whatever it was we were told was the glory of the

thing. Many came to another conclusion: "It ain't no good war, and I ain't a-marching into it."

But it was not merely the young who were bent out of shape over it. This nation was torn apart, presidencies went down the toilet, a worldwide cultural revolution was born of it. And here we go again. Vietnam is all over the news today, over 30 years later, because the two guys who will fight it out for the White House took opposite paths when confronted with those fickle, rolling ping-pong balls way back then.

As one who chose not to go-a-marching off to it, how could I begrudge the current president for being on my side — for once — on that one? I lucked out into some kind of medical deferment, he joined the National Guard, and let's be very clear about this — we were both dodging that thing. It was a given back then that joining the Guard was your ticket out of Vietnam, period. Kids who had any chance to get into the Guard were scrambling to do so. But it wasn't easy. You had to be well-placed, had to know somebody, the line to get in went around the damn block. So in 1968, the son of Texas Congressman George H. W. Bush strolled to the front of that line where the doorman with the flashlight and the A-list winked and opened the door for him. It was a dodge, folks. We all know it and we all knew it back in 2000 when it was flying around all over the place during Bush vs. Gore. It didn't matter then probably because Bill Clinton had deftly dodged the thing in his own right and still was

twice elected. The only reason it's in the news again today is because it's Bush vs. Kerry now, and the current administration, up to its eyeballs in war of its own making, is just a bit sensitive to the fact that they find themselves running against a guy who actually walked the walk in that jungle, got shot three times, single-handedly saved the lives of fellow warriors, and made it home in one piece to talk about it.

When he landed on that aircraft carrier in May, climbed out of the passenger seat of that S-3B Viking decked out in full custom tailored jet-fighter-pilot attire, with the huge banner in the background boasting, "Mission Accomplished," Bush should have known better. When his response to the terrorist attack on America three years ago was to send half a million of the new generation of reluctant 18, 19, and 20 year olds, including those in the no-longer safe haven of the Guard, still barely in touch with wisdom in any form — into far away deathtraps without a prayer of an ending or a solution to the problem that brought on the 9/11 tragedy to begin with — it makes his response to the war long ago, when he actually had a chance to do something about it with his own body, a valid question. And when the words flowing out of his mouth continue to sound like nothing so much as teenage bully trash talk, "Bring it on," "We're gonna smoke 'em out of their caves," "We will never run from the thugs," "I'm a war president," etc., he opens himself up to this scrutinizing of his past, uncomfortable as it appears to be for him.

So Sen. John Kerry has formally challenged President George W. Bush to debate him over their Vietnam-era actions. Kerry is responding to the onslaught of attacks brought against him by all the president's men on the well-chronicled anti-war stance he took upon returning home from that nightmare. But don't hold your breath, Bush won't be coming anywhere close to that card game, even if the deck would appear to be stacked in his favor. He's the one who could show up at the table wearing the Air Force jacket with a "Commander-in-Chief" patch sewn onto it.

Instead of facing off against Kerry, Bush instead will take on a foe he feels he can handle — the gays and lesbians who want to get hitched — an election-year goldmine. As one of his horde of right radio cheerleaders gleefully declared on Tuesday, "Today, George W. Bush fired the first salvo in the battle of the century," because the self-declared "war president" called upon Congress that day to draw up an amendment to the United States Constitution that would outlaw marriage in any other than its most traditional form. Are these guys really so worried that the hook-up between a man and a woman — the very basis of life itself — is in so much jeopardy that they have to forever alter that lean and precious document to save it?

(Ron Scott Smith has at least one thing in common with the enemy. E-mail him at EdgeoftheWest@aol.com).

OPINION



LETTERS

LETTERS, from page 6

would accept it.

As long as we have neighborhood elementary schools — and let's hope we always do — schools will reflect the character of the neighborhood. One has only to open the newspaper to the real estate section and compare the prices of houses near Franklin and Edison to realize that, other things being equal, Franklin will naturally have an easier time raising donations than Edison. And other things aren't equal. I would bet that Edison and McKinley have a greater proportion of working mothers than Franklin. And women, particularly well-educated women with some free time during the day, are the powerhouse behind school fundraising.

The other thing you will notice in those real estate ads is realtors touting Franklin. During the 1970s I was privileged to observe classes at Franklin. The teachers were excellent, and the faculty as a whole was outstanding. I also had a chance to do some observing at Edison, and, in my opinion, the faculty was every bit as good as Franklin's. That was decades ago, and the neighborhoods and schools have changed, but Edison's teachers, I suspect, are not getting the credit they deserve from the larger community. Reality and reputation among realtors and home buyers differ. We do not have a problem now, but we could have. Expenditures per pupil is right up there with the socioeconomic class of the student body and the ability of the principal as a correlate with the knowledge and skills with which students graduate. If we allow some schools to spend much more money per pupil than others, we will eventually end up with a district that actually does, briefly, contain a few strong schools and a bunch of weak ones.

Such a situation is inherently unstable and creates many management problems, notably in the recruitment and retention of staff. As teachers acquire experience and seniority, they often transfer to the star school. New hires, often inexperienced, are posted to the weak schools. Then the whole district is hit as potential hires who are experienced, highly-qualified teachers, do not want to run the risk of assignment to a school full of poorly prepared students, and accept offers from other districts. Eventually the excellent school runs out of good teachers and is no longer so good. Furthermore, personnel from the weaker schools, which are likely to tolerate a lower level of competence, can migrate into district administration roles, where they weaken the whole system. Turkeys hire turkeys. It is not only a matter of equity. If you want a good public school for your children, you need a good district.

Some parents seem to have confused public schools with private schools. But a school district is not in essence simply a bunch of private schools grouped together for administrative convenience. Some of its moral and legal duties, and responsibility

ties are very different from those of a private school. It must maintain a reasonable parity in what it offers its students. Hence Superintendent Deasy's proposal. Some clear policy everyone is aware of is needed.

At the same time, I have to say the "tax" proposal strikes me as more than a little bizarre, particularly in its regressive nature. A multi-million dollar donation to one school could, ironically, prove a real problem to the district if the board's hands would be tied by formal adoption of this "tax" policy.

It would seem more sensible to exempt smaller donations (in order to encourage parental and community gifts and to avoid a bookkeeping nightmare). Exempt receipts from one annual fundraising event per school (because these are largely conversions of volunteer time into cash and parents mainly volunteer for their own school, and because these events are a significant part of the life of the school). By "fundraising event," I mean an event like Franklin's Halloween Carnival, not a simple solicitation of funds. Spread larger donations (say, a total annual contribution from one donor/family of over \$20,000, including corporate matching funds) so that the designated school received, say, twice as much money from the donation than any other school in the district did, on a pupil population basis, but every school of that type (elementary school; middle school, etc.) received some benefit from the donation. The proportion could even vary with the size of total donations to that school that year, but it should always be high enough to not destroy the volunteers' incentive. Some universities use a similar system in allocating part of the overhead from grant money among all members of a department, partly as a way of reducing friction between faculty members.

Over the years, volunteers at some SMMUSD schools have acquired some pretty highly-developed fund-raising skills. A letter to the editor last week suggested they teach these to volunteers in other schools. This is a praiseworthy suggestion, and if it is carried out and succeeds, it will go a long way toward defusing the issue. First they have to find suitable volunteers. In the meantime, the school board is left with the problem of preventing a great disparity in per pupil expenditures among its schools. No doubt the budget problems of the state and local governments are putting many valuable school programs — music comes immediately to mind — in mortal danger. But a district is a district; we are all in this together. Or, if the problem truly centers around the Malibu schools' commendable success in fundraising, perhaps they would be more comfortable, and better off, as a separate district.

John Lord
Santa Monica

The presidential primaries is a front-loaded fiasco



HERE'S THE THING

By Lara M. Brown

Tonight, four men will square off at Bovard Auditorium at the University of Southern California. All of them want to be the Democratic nominee, and each of them wants to replace President George W. Bush in the Oval Office.

The presidential primary has come to California. At last. But it isn't staying long. The election is next Tuesday, March 2. Which raises the central problem, the front-loaded primary process — it has been a fiasco. And the reason is simple: No one (primary voter or citizen) since the early states of Iowa and New Hampshire has had a chance to get to know the candidates.

Do you know the candidates' policy differences and their personal stories? Do you know why they are running? Do you have a sense of their plans or their individual visions for the country? Do you really even know what they look like?

If you read the newspaper regularly you may have seen some photos, though

lately most of the coverage has been of President Bush or Iraq. If you watch cable you may have seen the pundits talking about the candidates, but it is not all that likely that you've seen the candidates themselves — unless you watch C-SPAN.

If you watch the late shows, you may have caught Al Sharpton hosting Saturday Night Live, and if you watch the Tonight Show you quite possibly saw Dennis Kucinich win a date, John Edwards read a top 10 list, and John Kerry ride his motorcycle onto the stage.

If you live in Georgia or Ohio, you're probably not reading this column, but you are more likely to recognize the candidates because they are running television advertisements in those states. If you live in New York or California, the media markets are too expensive, so unless you tune into one of two scheduled debates, you likely won't see the candidates on network television.

■ STRANGE, BUT TRUE

This is the first time since I've been eligible to vote that California may "make a difference" in the presidential primary election, yet we've had so few opportunities to get to know the candidates that I feel almost worse than I have in any other election.

I feel like I was promised a trip to

Disneyland, and now I'm stuck on the 5 Freeway, it is getting late, and I can't even see the rides.

California has 370 pledged delegates that it sends to the Democratic National Convention. For some perspective, it has over eight times the number of delegates of Iowa (45) and nearly 17 times the number of New Hampshire's delegates (22). We also have over 130 more pledged delegates than New York (236), over 170 more than Texas (195), and more than twice the number of delegates than Florida (177).

We are the Golden State, and I don't just mean this metaphorically. Literally, winning the majority of delegates here would help fill any candidate's coffers, and would allow him to stake a claim at the Convention.

But does this mean that I believe that states with big populations should dominate? No, in fact quite the opposite. I like the electoral college because it helps to ensure that states with small populations still play a role in presidential politics. But what I do believe is that for this primary process to be fair, it needs to be slowed down.

Californians have not had adequate time to get to know the candidates running for president. And because there are 10 states voting on March 2, the candidates have not had a chance to get to know

the voters. As a result, California has become like the rest of the states that have voted after Iowa and New Hampshire, interesting, but in some senses, irrelevant. This is no way to choose a nominee.

■ HERE'S THE THING:

California ought to be given its due. As should states like New York, Georgia, Ohio, Minnesota, Maryland, Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island and Vermont. But none of that matters this year. The calendar has been set for a good six months and it won't change until 2008.

What matters is that your vote still matters next week because the race is still up for grabs (less than 30 percent of the pledged delegates have been chosen thus far). So, while you may only have five days to learn about the candidates, immerse yourself as best you can with the campaigns, find the candidate you believe in, and vote for him to be the Democratic Party's nominee.

Your vote counts. California's delegates matter. This race is not over. The park closes in one hour, go try and get in every ride you can.

(Lara M. Brown, Ph.D., is an education policy consultant and a visiting scholar at UCLA's Institute for Social Science Research. She can be reached at lambrown@aol.com.)

Opinions expressed are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff. Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters will be published on a space-available basis. It is our intention to publish all letters we receive, except those that are libelous or are unsigned. Preference will be given to those that are e-mailed to sack@smdp.com. All letters must include the author's name and telephone number for purposes of verification. Letters also may be mailed to our offices located at 1427 Third Street Promenade, Suite 202, Santa Monica, 90401, or faxed to (310) 576-9913. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content.

YOUR OPINION MATTERS! Send your letters to Santa Monica Daily Press Attn. Editor:
1427 Third Street Promenade Suite 202 Santa Monica • 90401 • sack@smdp.com

Art's a Trip. Free Metro Rail Tour

Free tours of Metro's innovative art program are offered the first Saturday and Sunday of every month.

Experience the colors, shapes and textures that enhance LA's growing rail system.

For more information call 213.922.2738 or visit metro.net



MICHAEL DAVIS — ARTIST,
DIEDRICH/NBA — ARCHITECTS, 1999
VERMONT/SUNSET STATION, METRO RED LINE



Metro

Serving OCEAN PARK and nearby beach communities



Monte Hartman
Real Estate Services



oceanparkhomes.com

(310)
448-5968



Ocean Oasis
A Medical Spa for Women
yoga & pilates

Bring a friend in for yoga & she's FREE!
Ask about Itsy Bitsy yoga for your little ones.

Dr. Lisa Masterson

1333 Ocean Avenue in Santa Monica • (310) 458-8190



BUSINESS

Ten strategies to preserve your wealth



IT'S YOUR BUSINESS

By John Kim

Are you wealthy? You may not think you are. But when you've accounted for your home, investments, personal property, retirement accounts and all insurance that you own in your name, you may have assets over \$1 million — and that means you're "wealthy," according to the IRS.

In 2003, every dollar over \$1 million (incrementally increasing to \$3.5 million by 2009) may be taxed up to 49 percent (decreasing to 45 percent by 2009). If a majority of your assets are in retirement accounts, including qualified plans and IRAs, your estate could lose over two-thirds of its value to federal estate and income taxes. If a significant portion of your assets is earmarked for your grandchildren, you could be faced with a "generation skipping transfer tax" on top of what you may already have paid in gift and estate taxes (levied at a rate of 49 percent over \$1,120,000 in 2003). After all these taxes, your beneficiaries might receive a much smaller portion of what you worked so hard to accumulate.

You might want to consider these strategies to help preserve your wealth:

1. Prepare a will. Be sure it keeps pace with changes in your own personal circumstances or objectives and adjustments in tax laws. Marriage, divorce, birth, a move to another state or a change in your finances should signal an immediate review and possible updating of your will. Unfortunately, seven out of 10 Americans die without a will and, consequently, the laws of their states decide the disposition of their property.

2. Use your estate tax exclusion. The IRS allows U.S. citizens to pass the first \$1 million of assets in 2003 (incrementally increasing to \$3.5 million by 2009) to their beneficiaries free of federal estate tax.

If you are married (with a U.S. citizen spouse), don't rely exclusively on the marital deduction, which allows one spouse to give to the other any amount of assets free of gift or estate tax, make sure the first spouse to pass away takes advantage of his or her exclusion amount.

3. Re-title assets as necessary. To ensure that each spouse can use the estate and gift tax exclusion to which they are entitled. Make sure there are sufficient assets in each spouse's name. Also, if you decide to use a revocable living trust, to avoid probate and to provide for management of your affairs if you become incapacitated, remember to re-title the assets that you wish to place in the trust. Failure to re-title, in both cases, may eliminate the intended benefits of your estate plan.

4. Monitor retirement plan assets. Determining the appropriate strategy for dealing with the estate and income taxation of qualified plans and IRA accounts depends on your objectives and the needs of your family. These assets are subject to income tax, when withdrawn,

as well as estate tax. So, you might wish to take steps to avoid withdrawing funds in your IRA to pay potential estate taxes. If you need to use IRA assets to fund a trust using your applicable exclusion amount or to fund a marital trust, we recommend you consult your attorney or tax advisor before taking any action.

5. Gift away what you

don't need. Lifetime gifts to family members or others can reduce your assets and subsequent estate tax liability, by removing the appreciation on those assets from your estate. You are entitled to transfer up to \$11,000 per person each year without incurring any gift tax or reducing your lifetime gift tax exclusion amount. (Spouses together may gift up to \$22,000.) Lifetime gift tax gifts made directly to educational institutions for tuition or to medical providers are also excluded from gift tax.

Gifts to qualified charities may also be advantageous from a tax standpoint. The value of charitable donations, including financial assets such as stocks, artwork, real estate and certain business interests, and any future appreciation of those assets, reduces the value of your estate. These charitable donations also may qualify for current income tax deductions.

In 2003, every dollar over \$1 million (incrementally increasing to \$3.5 million by 2009) may be taxed up to 49 percent (decreasing to 45 percent by 2009).

6. Keep enough assets liquid to satisfy estate taxes. Generally, the IRS requires that any federal estate tax liability be satisfied within nine months of the date of death, and that payment must be in cash. There are four typical sources from which funds can be obtained: Cash reserves, loans, liquidation of assets or life insurance proceeds. If properly owned by a trust or third party, life insurance proceeds may be especially advantageous. They are income tax free to the recipient and avoid estate tax. Be sure your heirs aren't forced to sell investments at "fire sale" prices because of a shortage of liquid funds.

7. Have a trustee of an irrevocable trust purchase your insurance policy. Usually, life insurance proceeds avoid probate and are exempt from income tax. However, the proceeds will be subject to estate tax if you own or have rights in the policy. Purchasing the policy within an irrevocable trust may prevent life insurance proceeds from increasing your estate tax liability. You may also elect to have a third party, such as an adult child, purchase the policy.

8. Know what you have and where you have it. Your estate plan should make sense. Remember to balance your tax concerns with your non-tax concerns. Keep copies of your important papers and make sure that appropriate parties know where these papers are kept.

9. Choose executors and trustees wisely. Selecting one family member among several may create unforeseen problems down the road. You may burden an individual with special responsibilities for which they may neither be suited nor prepared. The fiduciary duties may call for the expertise, impartiality and independence of a corporate trustee, at least as co-trustee. You may also wish to employ a professional, such as an accountant or attorney, as executor or trustee.

10. Meet with your financial advisors and attorney. Finally, discuss your estate planning objectives, concerns and fears with your account and/or other financial advisors as well as your attorney so that you can develop a plan for effectively transferring wealth to your heirs.

(John Kim is a financial consultant with Smith Barney in Beverly Hills. Call (310) 205-4939 or visit www.fc.smithbarney.com/jkim. This article is based, in whole or in part, on information provided by the planning services department of Smith Barney. Smith Barney does not provide legal or tax advice. Consult with your tax and/or legal advisor for such guidance. Smith Barney is a division of Citigroup Global Markets Inc. Member SIPC.)



HAVE ANY FEARS?

Public Speaking? Doctors? Flying?
Exams? Auditions? Spider? Heights?

Make Them Disappear!

John McGrail C.Ht.

Certified Hypnotherapist

(310) 235-2882



UNIVERSAL ART GALLERY

"Best Framer in Los Angeles"
LA Magazine

Catering to the Interior Design
and Film Industry

- ✓ Speedy & professional service
- ✓ All work done on the premises
- ✓ Special discounts to the trade

Your family portraits deserve a professional touch.

Universal Art Gallery • 2001 Lincoln Blvd., Venice • phone: (310) 302-8909



metro.net

Metro Briefs

WESTSIDE/CENTRAL

Go Metro To LA Marathon

Avoid traffic jams and street closures by riding Metro Rail on Sunday, March 7, to the 19th Annual LA Marathon. Keep pace with the runners by using the new Metro Day Pass, the convenient way to ride all day. It's just \$3 at any Metro Rail station or on any Metro Bus.

Metro Helping More Stranded Motorists

Metro Freeway Service Patrol has added three tow truck companies and extended its coverage to more than 400 miles. The free service assists some 30,000 stranded motorists a month on Southland freeways with anything from changing flat tires to towing.

Metro Commits To Cleanliness

Clean buses, railcars, rail stations and bus stops are among Metro's top priorities for passengers. A policy now being developed implements new cleanliness procedures and a stringent inspection program.

Tour The Art Of Metro Free

See giant cartwheels, walk through a flowing oasis or visit the center of the universe on free guided tours of Metro Rail art. Tours are offered the first Saturday and Sunday of the month. Visit metro.net or call 213-922-2738 for more information.

Attend A Metro Bus Service Meeting

Have a voice in planning your bus service. Attend Metro Westside/Central's monthly governance council meetings. Call 213.922.1200 for time and location.



If you'd like to know more, please call us at 1.800.464.2111, or visit metro.net



NATIONAL

Kerry proposes companies to warn workers when jobs are exported

BY NEDRA PICKLER
Associated Press Writer

TOLEDO, Ohio — Democratic front-runner John Kerry proposed Wednesday requiring a three-month warning before jobs are exported, a challenge to President Bush's policies and to rival John Edwards' efforts to attract American workers to his struggling campaign.

"I'm running for president so we can do what George Bush hasn't — rebuild our economy, restore fiscal responsibility, and put America back to work," Kerry said in a speech at the University of Toledo.

Although Kerry frequently tells audiences that no president can stop companies from leaving the country, the Massachusetts senator said he will require companies that ship jobs offshore to disclose their plans to the government.

"Companies will no longer be able to surprise their workers with a pink slip instead of a paycheck — they will be required to give workers three months notice if their jobs are

being exported offshore," he said.

Kerry also picked up an endorsement from former astronaut and retired Sen. John Glenn, a venerable figure in Ohio politics who said he was making his first endorsement in a primary race.

Kerry campaigned in Ohio after winning delegate elections Tuesday in Utah, Idaho and Hawaii, earning 18 wins in 20 contests and denying Edwards another opportunity to add to his single victory in the race for the nomination. Neither candidate campaigned in those states to focus on the 10-state Super Tuesday elections next week.

In Ohio, one of the Super Tuesday venues he hoped to win to bring an end to the Edwards campaign, Kerry said 270,000 workers have lost their jobs during the Bush years. He was set to launch a new campaign ad in the Buckeye State and in New York describing Bush's economic policy as "an astonishing failure" and promising to protect U.S. jobs. The commercial also is meant to soften criticism

of Kerry's vote for a free-trade pact.

Kerry also started running a TV ad in Georgia to court veterans. Former Sen. Max Cleland of Georgia praises his fellow Vietnam veteran in part of the ad. "He's been tested on the battlefield, he's been tested in the United States Senate, and now he's ready to be president of the United States," Cleland says.

Two weeks after the president's chief economic adviser called the shipping of American jobs abroad "just a new way of doing international trade," Kerry said Bush lavished special favors on corporations while workers lost their jobs, their pensions and their retirement savings.

Kerry said he will require companies that plan to outsource jobs overseas to inform the affected workers, the Labor Department, state agencies responsible for helping laid off employees and local government officials. The Labor Department would be required to compile statistics of jobs sent offshore and report them on an annual basis to Congress.

Bush spokesman Scott Stanzel criticized Kerry, saying "his plans for higher taxes, more regulation and more litigation would kill jobs in this country. John Kerry would put the brakes on our economic recovery."

While meeting Wednesday morning with about 30 workers at a steel plant in Cleveland, Kerry said he would review all trade agreements in his first four months in office. He said he would not sign the Central American Free Trade Agreement or the Free Trade of the Americas Agreement without protections for labor and environmental standards.

"I don't want to be protectionist because I think that's the wrong thing to do for America, but I think what we have to do is be smart," he said.

Kerry maintained his daily criticism of the president, contending in television interviews that Bush's backing of a constitutional amendment forbidding same-sex marriages was a "wedge issue" Bush sought to distract people.

"I think he's a president in trouble and he's just looking for a political change of subject," Kerry told "Good Morning America" on ABC. "He doesn't want to talk about the real issues in front of the nation."

Although Bush directed criticism at Kerry on Monday in a preview of what could be part of the give-and-take of the general election, Edwards reminded the president that the race is not over. "Not so fast, George Bush," Edwards said Tuesday. "You don't get to decide who our nominee is."

Great Labels

DESIGNER RESALE

L.A.'s hottest resale store!



... up to 75% off

STORE HOURS:
Monday - Friday 10am - 7pm
Saturday 10am - 6pm
Sunday 12noon - 5pm

1126 WILSHIRE BLVD. SANTA MONICA 310-451-2277

Reverse Mortgages for Senior Homeowners*

- Refinance your home with no loan repayment for as long as you live there.
- Receive the loan proceeds in a lump sum, monthly installments or as a line of credit.

Marc Owens
Reverse Mortgage Consultant
1-888-248-5473 Toll-Free



* Must be at least 62 years old. Call for more detailed program information. Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Inc. originates mortgage loans in New Hampshire under License No.5757 MB for first mortgages and License No.5768 MH, for second mortgage and is a New Jersey Department of Banking Licensed Mortgage Banker. ©2003 Wells Fargo Home Mortgage, Inc. All Rights reserved.



Errands Etc.

Protecting the most valuable commodity in L.A. ... YOUR TIME!

- Detail oriented attention to your daily tasks
- Care of plants and pets
- Chauffered limo service
- Complete tech support for your home/office/small biz
- Relocation services
- Your personal concierge

Major Credit Cards Accepted • Virtually anything you need! Just ask!

400 S. Beverly Dr., Ste 214 in Beverly Hills • (310) 876-3180 • fax (310) 876-0182
Check us out at our website: www.errandsetc.biz

NATIONAL □ INTERNATIONAL

WORLD BRIEFLY

'No intention' to invade N. Korea

By The Associated Press

BEIJING — Boosted by a public face of optimism, a delicate new round of six-nation talks on North Korea's nuclear program convened Wednesday with the United States saying it had "no intention" of invading and the reclusive nation welcoming an opportunity for progress.

South Korea also said it had offered the North unspecified compensation for giving up the program.

The outwardly amiable tone came shortly after the North issued an 11th-hour demand for compensation before beginning any freeze of its nuclear program — a statement aimed at Washington, which demands an immediate shutdown of the activities.

Diplomats from the two Koreas, Japan, China, the United States and Russia clasped hands for a photograph as they entered China's state guesthouse for the meetings.

"The United States seeks complete, verifiable and irreversible dismantlement of all North Korea's nuclear programs, both plutonium and uranium," Assistant U.S. Secretary of State James Kelly said in his opening remarks.

Haiti opposition: 'No' to U.S. peace plan

By The Associated Press

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti — Haiti's opposition rejected a U.S.-backed peace plan to avert all-out civil war, demanding that President Jean-Bertrand Aristide resign and creating a stalemate that alarmed the international community.

The Democratic Platform coalition, a broad alliance of opposition groups, rejected the plan despite last-ditch efforts by Secretary of State Colin Powell to stem a crisis sparked by a three-week uprising by rebels who have overrun the northern half of the country.

The plan would have kept Aristide as president, but with diminished powers and a shared government.

"We sent our position (paper) and a signed letter saying 'No' to the proposal," opposition leader Paul Denis told The Associated Press. He said the letters were delivered to David Lee of Canada, the Organization of American States representative in Haiti.

"There will be no more delays. Our answer remains the same. Aristide must resign," said Maurice Lafortune, president of the Haitian Chamber of Commerce that is part of the Democratic Platform.

Even if the opposition coalition had accepted the U.S. peace plan, the rebels still insist they will lay down their arms only when Aristide is out of power. Aristide, who has accepted the plan, appealed to the world for urgent help.

Stewart trial nears the home stretch

By The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Jurors at the Martha Stewart trial could begin deciding the case as early as Monday — and they'll do it without hearing a word from the domestic doyenne herself.

Stewart defense lawyer Robert Morvillo expected to start and end his case on Wednesday. He told the judge he planned to call no more than two witnesses — a former Stewart lawyer and an expert on memory.

The defense team for Peter Bacanovic, who is standing trial with Stewart on charges of lying to investigators, will also wrap up their case Wednesday after calling just five witnesses.

U.S. District Judge Miriam Goldman Cedarbaum was still deciding the schedule for closing arguments, but she said the jury could receive its instructions and start deliberating as soon as Monday.

Stewart and broker Peter Bacanovic are accused of lying about why Stewart sold ImClone Systems stock on Dec. 27, 2001.

GOP to push Dems on malpractice suits

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Senate Republicans say they will keep making Democrats vote on a bill curbing medical malpractice lawsuits, despite losing another attempt to get the legislation out of the Senate and to the White House.

"We'll come back to it," said Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., after losing a vote to force Democrats to consider a bill curbing medical malpractice damages against obstetricians and gynecologists. "The problem is not going to go away."

President Bush and the Republicans have argued that medical malpractice legislation could help reduce unnecessary lawsuits that make it harder for doctors to practice.

It takes 60 votes to force senators to consider a bill but Republicans were not able to reach that goal in the

48-45 vote Tuesday. Democrats said the bill is nothing but an election-year ploy.

The bill is supported by the American Medical Association and the American Insurers Association. But trial lawyers — longtime Democrat allies — oppose the bill.

al-Qaida terrorists to stand trial

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The two men charged by the U.S. military with conspiring to commit war crimes as members of the al-Qaida terrorist network are not accused of directly attacking Americans.

One is accused of being a propagandist for Osama bin Laden, the other his paymaster and protector.

Both will be ordered to stand trial before the first U.S. military tribunal since World War II. No trial dates have been set.

In announcing the charges Tuesday, the Pentagon ruled out seeking the death penalty but did not say why.

Ibrahim Ahmed Mahmoud al Qosi, of Sudan, is alleged to have been an al-Qaida accountant and bin Laden bodyguard, and Ali Hamza Ahmed Sulayman al Bahlul, of Yemen, was labeled a propagandist for bin Laden, according to an official list of charges released by the Pentagon.

The men are alleged to have trained at al-Qaida camps in Afghanistan, but the Pentagon's list of charges makes no mention of either man carrying out or planning any terrorist attack.

Age discrimination not a two-way street

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Age has its benefits, the Supreme Court said Tuesday, ruling that younger workers can't sue their employers when older colleagues get preferential treatment.

In a 6-3 decision that affects tens of millions of workers, the justices said the law that protects older employees from age discrimination doesn't apply in reverse.

Groups such as the AARP, the largest advocacy group for people 50 and over, praised the decision as one that will protect the most vulnerable in the work force.

"If the court had decided the other way, it would have ignored that older workers face very significant problems in this country and always have," said Laurie McCann, a lawyer for the AARP.

The Supreme Court ruled in a case brought by about 200 General Dynamics Corp. workers who claimed they suffered a type of reverse discrimination because they were too young to get benefits being offered to colleagues age 50 and over.



DSL
Internet Connections

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
- 2 IP addresses
- 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).

786k to 7.1M Now Available

Starting at \$46.95/mo!

LABridge Internet

Sign-up online at LABridge.com or call 310.228.3626 x3



Off The Top
Salon and Day Spa

1418 Main Street Venice
310-452-8985

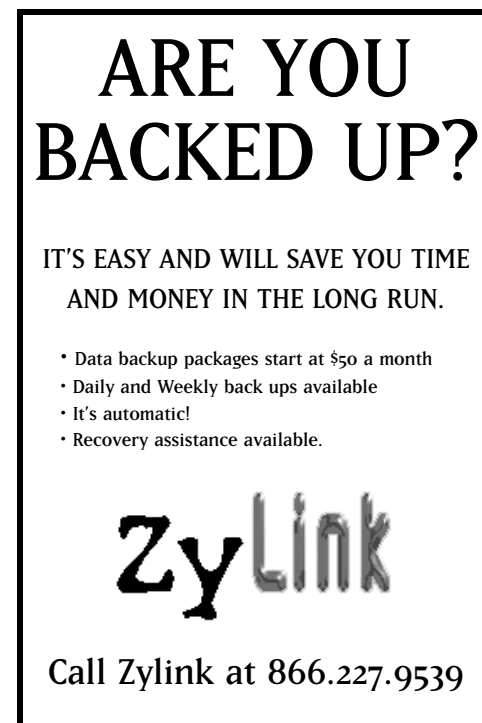
Haircut
only
\$20

Gift Cards Available

Massage
A Full-Hour only
\$40

Also, ask about our
Loyalty Rewards Program

First-time clients only, Please.
Offer ends Feb. 28th, 2003



**ARE YOU
BACKED UP?**

IT'S EASY AND WILL SAVE YOU TIME
AND MONEY IN THE LONG RUN.

- Data backup packages start at \$50 a month
- Daily and Weekly back ups available
- It's automatic!
- Recovery assistance available.

ZyLink

Call Zylink at 866.227.9539

COMICS

The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



edge
CLUBBY

BY KEENE PATMY LARSON



Reality Check®

By Dave Whammond



Speed Bump®

By Dave Coverly



© 2004 UFS, Inc.

CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Hike route
5 Pond wave
11 Parrot
12 Bakery treat
13 "You said it!"
14 Less messy
15 Fool-hardy
17 Summer sign
18 Shaded area
22 Nullifies
24 Michael of Monty Python
25 Genesis name
26 CPR giver
27 Scope
30 Aspect
32 Apse sight
33 Bird of myth
34 Ironed
38 Calm
41 Garr of "Tootsie"
42 "Every-body Loves Raymond" star

43 Historic canal

44 Late meal

45 Invites

DOWN

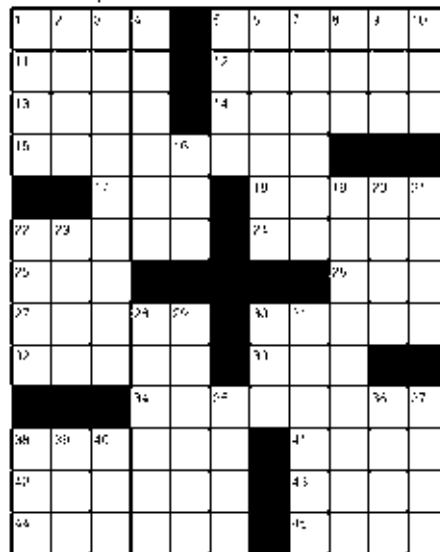
- 1 Brandy base
2 Pinnacle
3 Grisham book
4 Hit the horn
5 Russo of "Tin Cup"
6 Gets slick
7 Pricey TV type
8 Butter serving
9 Whopper
10 Blunder
16 — Alamos
19 Grisham book
20 Edges
21 Pot start
22 Designer Wang
23 Track shape
28 Car part
29 Royal fur
30 Expert

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

Yesterday's answer

- 31 Winter drink
35 Scent
36 Composer Satie
37 Goes out
38 Two-somes; Abbr.
39 Singer Reed
40 Band aid

NEW CROSSWORD BOOK! Send \$4.50 (check or m/c) to Thomas Joseph Books, P.O. Box 338475, Orlando, FL 32833-6475.



2-26

福 Fukui Sushi
JAPANESE RESTAURANT

\$15 Special

FREE California Roll & FREE Miso Soup
with \$15 purchase or more

Sushi Special

Buy 1 get second item free

Exp. Feb. 28, 2004

2645 LINCOLN BLVD. IN SANTA MONICA
(AT OCEAN PARK INSIDE THOMAS' COFFEE SHOP)

(310) 452-2265

Chiropractic & Acupuncture



Victoria D. Lucas
D.C., LAc, QME

Vita Wellness

MAXIMUM FAMILY CARE IN ONE LOCATION

310-449-1222

2222 Santa Monica Blvd. • Ste. 203 • Santa Monica, CA 90404

"WORLD FAMOUS"

Big Dean's Cafe

AT SANTA MONICA BEACH

Where the "locals" meet and the "fun loving" tourists always return!

**SUN • FUN • GREAT FOOD
BEER • WINE • MUSIC**

**SPORTS TV • 2 OUTDOOR PATIOS
SMOKING ALLOWED**

REASONABLE PRICES! CHILDREN WELCOME!

1615 Ocean Front, Santa Monica (310) 393-2666

At Santa Monica Beach in front of the historic merry-go-round, just below & southeast of the pier. This location has been here since 1902

\$3⁵⁰ per day. Up to 15 words, 20 cents each additional word.

Call 310-458-7737 and promote your business opportunities to our daily readership of over 15,000.

CLASSIFICATIONS:

Announcements
Creative
Employment
For Sale
Furniture
Pets
Boats

Jewelry
Wanted
Travel
Vacation Rentals
Apartments/Condos Rent
Houses for Rent
Roomates
Commerical Lease

Real Estate
Real Estate Loans
Storage Space
Vehicles for Sale
Massage
Services
Computer Services
Attorney Services

Business Opportunities
Yard Sales
Health and Beauty
Fitness
Wealth and Success
Lost and Found
Personals
Obituaries

Employment

\$3 - 5K per week income potential work from home, NOT MLM. (800)570-3782 Ext. 4020.

ADVERTISING SALES INTERNSHIP

Learn about the fast paced and creative world of advertising! Create real world ad campaigns, work with customers, gain experience in proposal writing, media planning and outstanding customer service. Must be computer literate, have an outgoing personality and enjoy multi-tasking. Email resume to ross@smdp.com or call 310-458-7737 x 104

Santa Monica Daily Press

ADVERTISING SALES

Work with clients to figure out their message, package it cleverly, get results. Must be persistent and willing to make the calls, knock on doors, network fiercely. One third selling, one third PR and Marketing, one third keeping yourself organized. This can be fun for the right person, misery for the wrong person. Front loaded commission program enables you to start making money right away, if you have what it takes. Great long term potential for the right personality. Energetic office full of resources to help you grow as a professional. Must be a self starter, high energy and computer literate. Send resume and cover letter to ross@smdp.com.

Santa Monica Daily Press

APARTMENT ASST. MANAGERS: immediate opening, couple needed for senior bldg. Salary plus benefits. Fax to (310) 451-1628 (E.O.E.)

AUTO DETAILER wanted. No experience required will train. California drivers license/clean DMV required. Apply with DMV printout P/T/F/T \$7/hr 310-459-6800, Greg

DENTAL ASSISTANT Santa Monica. Great office! P/T, F/T Please fax resume 310-394-0697

GOOD OPPORTUNITY for F/T or P/T employment. R.N., up to \$85K/year & M.S.W./Master in Social Work up to \$55K/year needed for Adult Day Health center in M.D.R 310-821-3599 Fax 310-821-3387

Employment

ROBERT MICHAELS
Santa Monica

The following position is available:

KEYHOLDER/SALES ASSOCIATE - PART-TIME

Seeking motivated Keyholder/Sales Associate for women's boutique on Montana Ave. in Santa Monica. Experience in retail, customer sales and opening/closing operations. Highly responsible, self starter as well as team player attitude. Part-time position with flexible hours and the ability to work weekends. Fax resume to E.M. @ (323) 584-5955

MEDICAL FRONT Office/Collections Back Office P/T, Computer experience, dependable, good phone skills. Call Betty at 310-576-3552

RETAIL SALESPERSON Music Store Must be familiar with band & orchestra instruments-computer point of sale- friendly attitude. Fax resume to 310-453-0619

SALES PROFESSIONAL

THE DAILY PRESS is seeking a qualified, aggressive, telephone representative to help us develop new business in classified advertising. Must have experience in telephone sales, not afraid to make 80 - 100 calls per day and be a self starter. Must be well spoken, computer literate, and possess a passion for customer service. Please send resumes to : ross@smdp.com

STOCK/CASHIER W/EXPERIENCE Santa Monica liquor/wine shop. FT/PT 2-10PM & Weekends Clean DMV Record required Call (310)915-8063

WORK P/T No experience needed, evenings, \$8/hr, flexible schedule. Call (888)263-9886.

Furniture

5 PIECE Sectional Sofa Beautiful black velour, unused, sacrifice \$800. Matching 5-bulb diner spider lamp. \$50 310-709-0990

DINING ROOM TABLE/CHAIRS, SOFA BED, COLOR T.V.'S, QUEEN BED SET, LOUNGE CHAIRS, END TABLE & LAMPS, MISC. EVERYTHING LIKE NEW! MOVING, MUST SELL! WLA AREA 310-922-7499

Pets

GOLDEN RETRIEVER Pups Gorgeous! AKC-OSA Champion lines, must see! \$600-\$700 Male & Female 909-790-5918

Vehicles for sale

'02 Ford Mustang
5-Speed, A/C, P/W, P/Locks, SHARP CAR! (ID#F116156) \$9,989

'01 Ford F150
V6, automatic, P/W, P/C, (ID#A29098) \$14,995

'97 Ford Explorer Eddie Bauer Edition
Leather, Alloys, Sun Roof, Low Miles, Multi-Disc (ID#C05419) \$9,889

'96 Ford Taurus
Auto, V6, P/W, P/C, Low miles (ID#F160363) \$3,995

'99 Dodge Quad Cab
Pick Up, Oversize Tires & Wheels, Auto, A/C, Sharp (ID#610134) \$13,989

'99 Ford Explorer
Red, A/C, Leather (ID#71978) \$10,989

'02 Ford Explorer XLT
V8, Leather, Loaded, Black MANAGER SPECIAL (ID#A61068) \$18,995

BRING US YOUR TRADE-INS
PLUS TAX, LICENSE & DOCUMENT FEE ON ALL VEHICLES

1230 Santa Monica Blvd.
310-451-1588

YOUR AD HERE
ADVERTISE!!!

Santa Monica Daily Press Classifieds

310.458.7737
Ask for Mitch

Vehicles for sale

Claude Short
Auto Sales Dealer

'01 DODGE DURANGO R/T
VIN 544097 Loaded, Leather only 31K, towner \$19,995

'94 JAGUAR XJ6
VIN 687617 Pristine cond. 6 disc changer wire wheels \$10,000

'97 BMW 328i
convertible VIN T98113 Super clean low miles \$18,500

'98 DODGE GRAND CARAVAN LE
VIN 530531 \$9000

'03 DODGE VIPER
VIN 500992 Rare red car w/ black top 43 mls \$85,000

'03 HONDA CIVIC LX
1400 miles VIN 603898 \$14,000

2501 Lincoln Blvd.
in Venice
(310) 395-3712

Vehicles for sale

LOOK
LEXUS/VOLKSWAGEN
OF SANTA MONICA
PRE-OWNED CENTER



As Low as **1.9%**
Financing on
Selected Models.
Limited Term OAC.

2001 LEXUS GS 430
4D Sedan, 5-Speed Auto Moon Roof, Alloy Wheels (002870)

1998 LEXUS GS 300
4D, Sedan, 5-SD Automatic, Alloy Wheels, Moon Roof (019197)

2001 BMW X5
4D SUV, Automatic, Leather, Moon Roof (H14719)

2002 VW GOLF GLS
4D Hatchback, 5-Speed Air Conditioning (016284)

2002 VW GTI VR6
2D Hatchback, 5-Speed, Leather, Moon Roof (006117)

1100 Santa Monica Blvd
(310) 319-1661
LacarGUY.com

Vehicles for sale**Monumental Savings!**

'00 CAMRY XLE
TOYOTA CERTIFIED (Y0239166) \$13,895

'01 TOYOTA COROLLA
TOYOTA CERTIFIED (1Z545532) \$9,995

'00 LANDCRUISER
Black, LOADED (4011676) \$29,750

'98 FORD F150
Lariat, Leather, Low Miles (WKA76579) \$12,450

'00 VOLVO S80T6
Auto, Leather, Low Miles (Y110204) \$17,995

'02 MITSUBISHI GALANT
Loaded with goodies (2E0303388) \$10,495

'03 TOYOTA RAV4
Recent trade, Warranty (30108392) \$17,995

AD EXPIRES 2/29/04
All advertised prices exclude government fees and taxes, any finance charges, any dealer document preparation charges, and any emission testing charge.

HURRY TO:
832 Santa Monica Blvd.
800-944-4157
LacarGUY.com

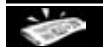
Services

Pay tribute to a loved one.



The Santa Monica Daily Press Obituaries.

Call Mitch for details. 310.458.7737 ext. 111



CLASSIFIEDS

Instruction

DRUM LESSONS in your home! Great w/children & beginners, first lesson FREE! Call Tom (310) 422-2699.

Wanted

RELIABLE CAREGIVER/COMPANIO Experience w/alzheimers, parkinsons patients looking for live-in position. English/Spanish excellent references. WLA/SM 323-481-4550

For Rent

3RD STREET PROMENADE Apts. Ocean views, remodeled units 1+1, \$1500-\$2000, 2+2 \$2100-\$2500. 1453 3rd Street. MOVE IN SPECIALS! (310) 862-1000.

BEVERLY HILLS ADJ. \$1175.00 Close to malls. On Sweetzer. Bright 2bdrm/1ba, laundry, parking, d/w, stove, water & trash included newly finished hardwood, fresh paint, small pet OK.

Get phone # and address free. NO FEE! We have others from \$550.00 EQ Housing Opportunity logo.

www.apartmenthunterz.com (310) 276-4663

BRENTWOOD \$1250.00 Traditional 2bdrm/1ba. Upper, newer carpet, fridge, stove, laundry & parking. No pets.

Get phone # and address free. NO FEE! We have others from \$550.00 EQ Housing Opportunity logo.

www.apartmenthunterz.com (310) 276-4663

Casa Loma Apartment 101 Dudley Ave. Venice NOW LEASING!

Steps to the beach
Singles and Studios
\$695.00 to \$1095.00

MOVE IN SPECIAL
FIRST MONTH FREE!
(Requires S.D. & 1 yr. lease)
1-888-399-1166

CULVER CITY \$650.00 Quiet, single, remodeled building, pool, landscape, balcony, carpets. Convenient to shopping, premises, dishwasher, fireplace, refrigerator, stove.

Get phone # and address free. NO FEE! We have others from \$550.00 EQ Housing Opportunity logo.

www.apartmenthunterz.com (310) 276-4663

The BEST RENTALS in VENICE ELLY NESIS Co. INC (310) 396-4443 ellynesis.com

FREE RENTAL Lists & No Fee Rentals. Sullivan-Dituri Company. 2111 Wilshire Blvd. Santa Monica, CA 90403.

MDR ADJ \$675 large single upper w/private balcony. full kitchen, refrigerator, very light, freshly painted. Laundry, parking & no pets. (310) 828-4481

SANTA MONICA \$1100/mo 1bd, 1ba. Bright, light upper front available immediately. \$1350/mo 2bd, 1ba rear lower available. Stove, laundry, parking. 310-394-4837

For Rent

PASADENA \$725.00 Spacious 1bdrm/1ba, beamed ceilings, very private, hardwood floors, large closets, upper unit, air conditioning.

Get phone # and address free. NO FEE! We have others from \$550.00 EQ Housing Opportunity logo.

www.apartmenthunterz.com (310) 276-4663

ROQUE & MARK Co.

2802 Santa Monica Blvd.
310-828-7525

SALES · RENTALS PROPERTY MANAGEMENT

RENTALS AVAILABLE NO PETS ALLOWED SANTA MONICA

1241 9th St. \$895

Upper single, remodeled, fridge & stove,
Open Sat & Sun 11-4

1230 Berkeley \$995

Upper 1 bed, stove & fridge, parking, walk to Wilshire

1439 Centinela \$1050

Upper 1 bed, new blinds, enclosed patio, fridge & stove

828 11th St. \$1200

Upper 1 bed, balcony,
1/2 block to Montana Ave.

117 Strand \$1400

Upper 1 bed, steps to beach remodeled kitchen, parking

2655 30th St. \$1500

Upper 2 bed, 2 bath, large, approx 1200SF, 2 parking

BRENTWOOD WEST LA

11615 Darlington

Brentwood \$1090

Upper 1 bed, new carpet & stove, OPEN House Sat & Sun 11am - 4pm

1975 Beverly Glen,
West LA, \$1350

Near Century City, remodeled kitchen, new carpet & blinds

FOR MORE LISTINGS GO TO
WWW.ROQUE-MARK.COM

SANTA MONICA \$1150/mo Large 1bdrm, hardwood floors, appliances, parking, laundry, near college, cats ok 310-450-8748

SANTA MONICA \$1300/mo 2bd, 11/2ba, upper, carpets, blinds, refrigerator, stove, laundry, parking. No pets. 9th St. north of Wilshire 310-456-7137

SANTA MONICA \$1550.00 N. of Wilshire. Contemporary, spacious, 2bdrm/2ba, stove, dishwasher, parking, pet OK, W/D in unit, mini-blinds, fridge.

Get phone # and address free. NO FEE! We have others from \$550.00 EQ Housing Opportunity logo.

www.apartmenthunterz.com (310) 276-4663

For Rent

SANTA MONICA \$1700/mo 1523 9th Street #3 2bd 2ba, den, lower 2 patios, parking, laundry, painted. 310-450-3314

SANTA MONICA \$1790/mo. 2 bedroom, 2 bath, prime location, parking available, hardwood floors. (310) 451-2178.

SANTA MONICA \$795.00 Lower Unit, Part. Furn., safe neighborhood, bright, full kitchen, off of Wilshire Blvd., utils. inc., amenities include Street parking, Indry facilities, crpts, furnished, refrig., stv, storage.

Get phone # address Free. No Fee. We have others from \$550.00 EQ. Housing Opportunity logo.

www.apartmenthunterz.com (310) 276-4663

SANTA MONICA 2bdrm 2ba \$1575/mo, new carpet, new paint, refrigerator, walk-in closet call Gail 310-718-9158

SANTA MONICA ADJ. Townhouse, \$2000/mo 2bd, 2 1/2ba, vaulted ceilings, washer/dryer, parking 310-391-8580

SANTA MONICA Cottage, r/s, patio, lg closets, spanish tile, yard, prking, quiet, \$780 www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA Duplex, lower, dog ok, r/s, hrdwd flrs, patio, yard, quiet \$1595 www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA lower, r/s, hrdwd flrs, laundry, yard, remod, prking, m to m, \$1300 www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA shrd apt, pvt rm, r/s, patio, laundry, DSL ready, util incld, \$500 www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA shrd hse, pvt rm, r/s, dishwasher, near SMC & frwy, m to m, \$550 www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA Triplex, r/s, new crpt, remod, full kitch, pvt entry, prking, \$900 www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA, dng rm, r/s, micro, W/D, bright, prking, 6-unit bldg, \$700 www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA, hrdwd flrs, courtyard apt, tile entry, clean, laundry, parking, \$850 www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA, r/s, new paint, prking, util incld, great loca, near nightlife, \$795 www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA, upper, hrdwd flrs, vert blinds, laundry, prking, near shopping, \$950 www.westsiderentals.com

STUDIO CITY \$1000.00 1bdrm/1ba New w/d in each unit, new bbq and sun patio w/ fountain, central air & heat, mirrored wardrobe doors.

Get phone # and address free. NO FEE! We have others from \$550.00 EQ Housing Opportunity logo.

www.apartmenthunterz.com (310) 276-4663

W. LA 1 Large 1bd/1ba \$950/mo. Hardwood floors, venetian blinds, walk-in closets 310-826-3360

WEST HOLLYWOOD \$795.00 Great 1bdrm/1ba, patio, 2 units available, patio, hardwood floors, stove, fridge, Spanish style.

Get phone # and address free. NO FEE! We have others from \$550.00 EQ Housing Opportunity logo.

www.apartmenthunterz.com (310) 276-4663

For Rent

WLA \$1390/MO. 2 Bedrooms, 1 bath, hardwood floors, large kitchen (310) 391-8880.

Do Not Use #2

CALLING ALL Kato Kaelin's! Find a sweet guest house in the Daily Press.

Houses For Rent

2BR 1BA House, 1507 18th Street, new paint & blinds, carpet. \$1500/mo NO PETS 310-532-3876

SANTA MONICA Ocean View 2bd 2ba+ office, hardwood floors, Ocean Park. 2553 3rd St. Pets negotiable \$3300/mo 310-480-5623

Roommates

ROOMMATE WANTED Beach Front \$1500/mo share bath. All utilities included No pets, n/s Darren 310-451-8256

ROOMMATE WANTED to share a large 3 BR/2BA house in West LA, Rancho Park area. Large Yard, sunroom, washer/dryer, dishwasher. We are professional twentysomethings, M/F, a couple of well-behaved dogs. \$750 per month. Call 310-55-1151. Available 4/1

Commercial Lease

SANTA MONICA OFFICES 6th ST.

ONE MONTH FREE RENT

Remodeled: Mediterranean Design
Near Promenade, Windows
Parking, Garden Courtyard
Janitorial, Utilities Included
2-4 Rooms, Short/Long Term
\$1495-\$2450
(310) 395-4620

MDR SHARE space. New suite, 3 space in small Law Firm. Law Library, Conference Room, Receptionist, Copier, DSL, Parking Available, 90 Freeway close. Starting at \$800. (310) 553-0756.

OFFICE SPACE. 235-340 Sq Ft. Reasonable. 19th & Colorado Santa Monica 310-453-4427

SANTA MONICA 1334 Lincoln Blvd 1140sq/ft \$2200/mo. & 600 sq/ft 1300/mo. Can combine. E. Keasbey (310) 477-3192.

SM/OCEAN PARK: room available in well located Chiropractic & Acupuncture office 3 days per/wk \$500/mo. Jasmine (310) 392-9596.

VENICE OFFICE Lincoln 1600sq ft @ \$1.4NNN. Open space, 2 privates, kitchen, parking, George Gross Agent 310-586-0344

Real Estate

AGAPE ESTATES
Pride of Ownership
Homes and Units
Realtor and Developer
Call Today
310-745-4847
Buy or Sell Tomorrow

Employment

EARLY MORNING DELIVERY

Newspaper delivery person needed to deliver the Santa Monica Daily Press. Very good hourly pay. Must have own vehicle, preferably a pick-up or light truck, insurance and clean driving record. Responsible for delivery six days a week. Up to five hours nightly. Must be detail oriented, reliable and responsible. Long term position available immediately.

Call 310-458-7737 x104

Santa Monica Daily Press

For Sale

BOOST MOBILE MOTOROLA 160C



Used this for 1 week, perfect condition. Comes with phone and Nextel carrying clip. In box, all manuals, receipt.

\$100 Or Best Offer.

Call ALEX at 310.399.0236
or Email: alex@litmagazine.com

For Rent

CENTURY WEST PROPERTIES EXCEPTIONAL WESTSIDE RENTALS

LEASING CENTER
1437 SEVENTH STREET, SUITE 200
SANTA MONICA



COMPLEMENTARY RENTAL LIST & LEASING CONSULTATION
WALK-INS WELCOME 10AM - 6PM DAILY
(310) 899-9580

CLASSIFIEDS



Real Estate

I WILL BUY YOUR MORTGAGE NOTE. CALL TODAY TO FIND OUT HOW YOU CAN CONVERT YOUR MONTHLY PAYMENTS INTO A LARGE LUMP SUM OF CASH. 818-878-3006

VACANT LOT, 40x100, Oxnard Shores. Very close to beach! Pacific Rim Realtors call George@ 805-985-9406

Real Estate Wanted

MOTIVATED BUYER: I buy houses, any area, any price, any condition. Call (310)422-4933.

Massage

\$10 OFF/AD THERAPY & RELAX 1227 LINCOLN BLVD #201 SANTA MONICA (323)630-9506

EXQUISITE, INTUITIVE, strong and tender relaxing bodywork by mature European. Professional Lady Sonja (310)397-0433.

Massage

BLISSFUL RELAXATION! Heal your body, mind, spirit. Therapeutic, Swedish, Deep-tissue. Energy balancing. Strictly non-sexual. Introductory specials from \$50.00/hr. Lynda, L.M.T. (310)749-0621

BODYWORK BY PAUL DEEP OR LIGHT PRESSURE \$40/70MIN. ATHLETES WELCOME NON-SEXUAL PAUL (310)741-1901.

FULL BODY Swedish to light fingertip massage by classy European therapist. Serious callers only. (310)826-7271.

FULL SERVICE Massage Therapy for Women Swedish & Shower gel full body scrub. 323-660-3732 Call David

REVITALIZE & Rejuvenate. Body, Mind & Spirit with an exquisite full body Swedish/Deep-tissue massage. Laura (310)394-2923 (310)569-0883.

Massage

OCEAN THERAPY: nice relaxing massage Spanish & Asian Staff (310)899-3709.

Announcements

"I SOLD it one day! When I put my futon for sale in the Daily Press, it took me one day to sell it...thanks!" Nina Stewart, Santa Monica.

ALZHEIMER'S SUPPORT GROUP meeting. Last Wednesday of the month; at Sunrise Assisted Living, Pacific Palisades call (310)573-9545/Linda.

Yard Sales

EMIGRATING SALE: Furniture, books, clothes, collectibles, tools, etc. Check out a comprehensive list at www.tricksaling.com/movingsale.html Sat, Feb 28 8am-4pm 739 Navy Street, Santa Monica, 1 Block West of Lincoln between Ocean Park & Rose

Obituaries

PALFY, TOM: Born Aug. 6, 1952 in Cleveland, Ohio. Tom was the only child of Sandor & Ysabel Palfy and was the last surviving member of his family. Tom was employed at the Radisson Huntley Hotel for 13 yrs., and Restoration Hardware, SM for 3 years. He was a regular at Gold's Gym in Venice. Prior to his move to LA, Tom lived in NY, Boston, and Europe with his longtime companion: Peter Hamburger. He was a radio disc jockey in New Hampshire after graduating from WIXY School of Broadcasting. Tom will be greatly missed by many friends and co-workers. A memorial service is planned for Sat. Feb. 28, 2004, at St. Augustine's By the Sea, 1227 4th Street, S.M. at 2:00pm. In lieu of flowers, donations can be made, in Tom's memory to APLA or the Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Center.

Obituaries

BEULAH "BILLIE" J. McFerrin Passed away in Santa Monica on Thursday, February 19 2004 Billie was born in Detroit, Michigan on May 18, 1923. She is survived by three sons; Bill Karlee of Santa Clarita, Jim Wilson of Simi Valley, and David McFerrin and his wife Beverly of Clovis, CA., two grandsons & two granddaughters. She believed in the Lord, family, friends & fun. A grave side service will be Thursday February 26, 2004 at 12:00 noon at Green Hills Memorial Cemetery. Funeral arrangements are under the direction of Green Hills Memorial in Rancho Palos Verdes, Ca.

Fitness

Ocean Oasis
A Medical Day Spa for Women
Facials • Yoga • Pilates • Therapeutic Massage
Pregnancy & Post-pregnancy services
BRING IN A FRIEND FOR YOGA AND SHE'S FREE!
(310) 458-8190
Dr. Lisa Masterson, M.D.
1333 Ocean Avenue in Santa Monica

TONE BODY
IMPROVE POSTURE
PILATES CLASS AT THE DANCE DOCTOR
213-500-2718

Personals

Talk to a Model 24hrs.
310-786-8400
818-264-1906
213-259-1902
949-722-2222
\$15/15 min.
CC/Check OK
www.USLove.com

YOUR AD HERE
ADVERTISE!!!

PROMOTE YOUR BUSINESS IN THE SANTA MONICA

SERVICE DIRECTORY

Services

B.C. HAULING clean-up; all types big truck; hydraulic liftgate -small truck. No Saturdays. (310)714-1838.

BEST MOVERS
No job too small
2 MEN, \$59 PER HOUR
Fully insured. We make it EZ.
Free prep. & boxes. Discount for handicap & seniors!
Since 1975 Lic. T-163844
(323) 997-1193

Services

IRONMAN
Handyman Service
323-862-9767
On-site, Planning & More
Free Estimates Paid, Friendly Service

MARCO TELECOM: Phone jacks, installation & repair. Rewiring phone line, splitting business. (310)301-1926, pager: (310)351-7673.

Services

A/C CONSTRUCTION
COMMERCIAL
Residential Remodel
HONEST & RELIABLE
FREE ESTIMATES

310.278.5380
Fax 310.271.4790
Lic# 804884 Fully Insured

Services

THE MOLD EXPERTS
Expert Mold Inspection, Investigation & Remediation
400 S. Beverly Dr., Ste 214 in Beverly Hills
(310) 281-2282
www.errandsetc.biz

Services

NOTICE TO READERS:
California law requires that contractors taking jobs that total \$500 or more (labor or materials) be licensed by the Contractors State License Board. State law also requires that contractors include their license number on all advertising. You can check the status of your licensed contractor at www.cslb.ca.gov or 800-321-CSLB. Unlicensed contractors taking jobs that total less than \$500 must state in their advertisements that they are not licensed by the Contractors State License Board.

Services

STILL SMOKING?
Life is short — Why make it shorter
John J. McGrail, C.Ht.
Certified Hypnotherapist
(310) 235-2882

"JENNY CAN CLEAN-IT" fast, reliable. We take care of your cleaning, own transportation. \$40 (818)705-0297.

Services

DENTAL EMERGENCY?

- Evening hours + emergency services
- Root Canals, Crowns, Veneers
- 20+ years of experience
- UCLA Graduate
- Most insurances accepted
- Cosmetic Dentistry

Dr. David Taft, DDS
310-315-3676

UCLA Parkside Medical
2428 SANTA MONICA BLVD., SUITE 303 • SANTA MONICA

AWARD PAINTING

When Quality Counts!

- Excellent References
- Knowledgeable, Professional
- Affordable Pricing
- Mastercard / Visa
- Faux Finishing
- Proper Preparation
- Beautiful Finish Work
- Satisfaction Guaranteed

Call Dave Ward for a Free Estimate:
(310) 641-1235
30+ Years Experience
Insured Lic. 502762

When You Get Ready to Fix Up, Call Us!
NED PARKER CONSTRUCTION
Bonded & Insured • Lic#658-486
PAINTING • CARPENTRY • ROOFING
CONCRETE • ELECTRICAL
323.871.8869

GET ORGANIZED!

for filing system set-ups, unpacking from a major move, uncluttering closets and other home/office paper management problems, etc.
HIRE A PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZER!
Call Christine Cohen:
310-274-4988
Member: National Association of Professional Organizers

HOME THEATER AND MUSIC: system design, installing and troubleshooting. 16 years experience with audio/video systems, satellite, cable, telephone and computer networks. (310)450-6540.

ONE HOUR Alterations, hemming, jeans, pants, skirts, etc. Made by professional Call Michael 310-980-2674

SCANDINAVIAN MASTER PAINTER

20 years experience recommendation of colors/products all types of int./ext. Painting • Plastering Wall Covering Decor/Faux Finishes
GOOD REFERRALS FREE ESTIMATES SELF EMPLOYED
André Neilsen: 310.266.1422

Lic.#759426 All Work Guaranteed
Steve's DISCOUNT PLUMBING
DRAINS • HEAT RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL
(310) 439-7771 ALL PRICES NEGOTIABLE
15% OFF WITH THIS AD 24 HOUR

Business Services

DO YOU Mind Earning an Extra \$109K/year Working 10 Hours a Week? Call 323-632-1234

High-Speed Internet Access
UP TO X FASTER THAN DSL
Only \$12⁹⁹ per month
• No Contract
• Includes Email and WebSpace
• 1-Month Trial
NoCat Networks
310-393-4037
www.NoCatNetworks.com • sales@nocatnetworks.com

Computer Services

COMPUTER HELP: Your office or home. Typing, tutorial, Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, internet navigation, software installation. Also, notary public services. (310)207-3366

VERY PATIENT friendly & affordable repairs, set-ups, training networks and more! Digital Duchess. (310)395-6884.

A1 CONSTRUCTION, framing, drywall, electrical. 30 years in this area. Free estimate. (310)475-0497 or (310)415-7134.

PAINTING TOP QUALITY A&A custom, Interior and Exterior. Free Quote. Jeff Arrieta (310)560-9884.

Classified Advertising Conditions :**REGULAR RATE:** \$2.50 a day. Ads over 15 words add 20¢ per word per day. Ad must run a minimum of twelve consecutive days. **PREMIUMS:** First two words caps no charge. Bold words, italics, centered lines, etc. cost extra. Please call for rates. **TYPOS:** Check your ad the first day of publication. Sorry, we do not issue credit after an ad has run more than once. **DEADLINES:** 4:00 p.m. prior the day of publication except for Monday's paper when the deadline is Friday at 4:00 p.m. **PAYMENT:** All private party ads must be pre-paid. We accept checks, credit cards, and of course cash. **CORRESPONDENCE:** To place your ad call our offices 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, (310)458-7737; send a check or money order with ad copy to The Santa Monica Daily Press, P.O. Box 1380, Santa Monica, CA 90406 or stop in at our office located at 1427 Third Street Promenade, Ste. 202. **OTHER RATES:** For information about the professional services directory or classified display ads, please call our office at (310)458-7737.



PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Mel Gibson's dad heads for hills in search of privacy

By The Associated Press

■ **SUMMERSVILLE, W.Va.** — The father and step-mother of Mel Gibson, whose epic film "The Passion of the Christ" opened Wednesday, have bought a home in West Virginia, according to records in the Nicholas County Clerk's office.

Joye Gibson bought the house and a nearby lot for \$76,250 in October, according to court records obtained by The Nicholas Chronicle. The family moved into the yellow one-story home in November, neighbors said.

On Tuesday, a man at the home who identified himself as Hutton Gibson's nephew told the newspaper his uncle was out of the state.

"He's not here and won't be back until May," Patrick Gibson said. "He came here to live so he could have some privacy."

The Gibsons' move to West Virginia comes as the much-anticipated "The Passion of the Christ" hits theaters. Some Jewish leaders say the film could foster anti-Semitism for its portrayal of Jews' role in the Crucifixion, while conservative Christians have praised it as a moving depiction of Christ's death.

Hutton Gibson fueled that fire even more in recent interviews by saying the Holocaust was overdramatized and that Jews are trying to take over the world. The 85-year-old follows a tiny wing of traditionalist Catholicism that views the modernizing reforms of the Second Vatican Council as a conspiracy between Jews and Masons to take over the church.

Patrick Gibson said he has received at least 76 phone calls from people seeking comment from Hutton Gibson.

"They're making him look bad — all the news media — and he's not. I just love him to death," he said.

Mel Gibson, who produced, directed and co-wrote the film, has said repeatedly that he's not anti-Semitic and that the project was a deeply personal expression of his own faith.

■ **SURPRISE, Ariz.** — Garth Brooks gets his hits in country music, not in baseball.

"The guys have told me not to quit my day job," Brooks said Tuesday, his first day of spring training with the Kansas City Royals.

The 42-year-old country star was invited to the Royals' camp to raise awareness for his Teammates for Kids Foundation, which he founded in 1999.

He previously attended spring training with the San Diego Padres in 1998 and 1999 and the New York Mets in 2000. He's 1-for-39 in exhibition games, his lone hit a single off Mike Siroka of the Chicago White Sox in 1999.

"It really wasn't a hit," Brooks said Tuesday. "It was a bleeder that had eyes on it."

Brooks learned quickly that pitchers aren't going to throw a batting practice fastball down the middle when he's at the plate.

"None of these guys want to give up a hit to me," he said. "The first pitch I saw with the Padres was 90 miles per hour. On the second pitch, I started swinging when the catcher threw the ball back to the pitcher."

Brooks said his foundations have raised more than \$40 million for children's charities. The baseball division is called Touch 'em All.

■ **UNITED NATIONS** — Nicole Kidman slipped into the interpreters booth at the U.N. Security Council to prepare for her next movie role.

In March, Kidman and co-star Sean Penn begin filming "The Interpreter," a thriller about a U.N. translator who overhears a conversation that could cost her her life.

The outside of the United Nations has appeared in numerous movies but Hollywood had been unsuccessful in getting permission to film inside for many years until director Sydney Pollack asked U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan last month.

Annan agreed in principle, and the presidents of the

General Assembly and the Security Council then gave a green light for "The Interpreter" to be filmed inside the United Nations.

Kidman watched the interpreters in action Tuesday during a Security Council meeting on Iraq. She arrived and left the interpreters' booth above the council chamber without reporters or photographers noticing her.

"She was here this morning doing work with the interpreters as part of preparation for 'The Interpreter,'" a U.N. spokesman said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

U.N. interpreters do simultaneous translation in the six official languages at the United Nations — English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Russian and Chinese.

"The Interpreter" is scheduled for release in November.

■ **LONDON** — Jerry Hall dashed around London's theater district Tuesday night, appearing briefly in six musicals but didn't have to learn any lines.

The theatrical marathon, one of a series of events promoting London as a tourist destination, also won Hall a place in the Guinness Book of Records.

In just under 3 1/2 hours, the 47-year-old former partner of rocker Mick Jagger graced the stage in "Phantom of the Opera," "Les Miserables," "Fame," "Blood Brothers," "Anything Goes" and "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang."

Her parts ranged from a Liverpudlian housewife in "Blood Brothers" to an elegant extra aboard a 1930s ocean liner in "Anything Goes," in which she got to sing and dance.

The former model spent 33 minutes on stage and performed before 9,214 theatergoers.

"It's for the London theater industry, which I think is a fabulous idea," she said afterward. "Also to be in the Guinness Book of Records is amazing."

"And the best thing is, I get to put six West End plays on my resume."

A FAMILY OF DEALERS



VOLKSWAGEN
SANTA MONICA
IN SANTA MONICA... ON SANTA MONICA™

Drivers
wanted.®

Volkswagen Santa Monica,
family owned with 40 years in your community,
is expanding our
SERVICE DEPARTMENT
to provide you a faster, more efficient service experience.

We listened, we heard your comments, and we are working
to make you the happiest customer on earth.

2440 Santa Monica Boulevard • Santa Monica, CA 90404

310-829-1888 • 866-LACARGUY

LAcargUY.com™

Our family of dealers include:

Toyota of Hollywood • Lincoln/Mercury of Hollywood • Scion of Hollywood • Lexus Santa Monica • Scion Santa Monica
Toyota Santa Monica • Volkswagen Santa Monica • Pacific Porsche • Pacific Audi • Pacific Volkswagen

LAcargUY.com



LEXUS
SANTA MONICA
IN SANTA MONICA... ON SANTA MONICA

Lexus Santa Monica
has expanded their
**AWARD-WINNING
SERVICE DEPARTMENT**
with a new 15 million dollar
STATE-OF-THE-ART FACILITY.
Offering you, our loyal customer, less
wait time and continued quality
service for your Lexus.

2450 Santa Monica Boulevard • Santa Monica, CA 90404

888-640-8466

LAcargUY.com

Our family of dealers include:

Toyota of Hollywood • Lincoln/Mercury of Hollywood • Scion of Hollywood • Lexus Santa Monica • Scion Santa Monica
Toyota Santa Monica • Volkswagen Santa Monica • Pacific Porsche • Pacific Audi • Pacific Volkswagen