

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

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Daytime: 2 3 2

Evening: 0 3 1

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1st: 01 Gold Rush

2nd: 09 Winning Spirit

3rd: 03 Hot Shot

RACE TIME: 1:44.32

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

Farmington Hills, Mich., elementary school teacher Nancy Seaman, 52, on trial for murdering her husband, said it was self-defense, even though a reported autopsy said he had been stabbed 21 times and struck with a hatchet 15 times. (She was convicted in December.) And University of Virginia student Andrew Alston, on trial for fatally stabbing a firefighter after a night of bar-hopping, said the victim had actually inadvertently stabbed himself during aikido horseplay (even though there were 18 stab wounds, spread among the heart, arms, back, shoulder and face). (Alston was convicted of manslaughter in November.)

TODAY IN HISTORY

In 1969, Apollo 9 blasted off from Cape Kennedy on a mission to test the lunar module.

In 1974, nearly 350 people died when a Turkish Airlines DC-10 crashed shortly after takeoff from Orly Airport in Paris.

In 1985, coal miners in Britain voted to end a yearlong strike that proved to be the longest and most violent walkout in British history.

In 1991, in a case that sparked a national outcry, motorist Rodney King was severely beaten by Los Angeles police officers in a scene captured on amateur video.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"A good man can be stupid and still be good. But a bad man must have brains."

MAXIM GORKY
RUSSIAN WRITER (1868-1936)

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Moving on: City Hall considers ban on car camping

BY JOHN WOOD

Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL — Four years after it was voted down by the elected leaders of Santa Monica, a drive to criminalize camping in cars is once again gaining speed.

The goal, according to city officials, is to quell ongoing complaints from residents and merchants who claim the often-homeless motorists leave behind litter and human waste, use drugs and alcohol, and make neighborhoods unsafe.

Agreement on the divisive issue is anything but certain. City Councilman Kevin McKeown, who voted against the law in 2001, indicated he would do so again.

"The moment we provide adequate housing for people in need, I'd consider this," McKeown said Wednesday. "Meanwhile, cars are often the last refuge for vulnerable people who have nowhere else to go but the street ... I'd be hard-pressed to roust people from their only home."

Still, City Councilman Bob Holbrook said he was pushing for the law because he thought the November election of Bobby Shriver meant there were enough votes to initiate a ban.

"The problem is still there," Holbrook said. "It's no better. It's probably worse ... We never thought that cars were a proper place for people to live on the streets of Santa Monica. It just makes it very difficult for them to maintain the parks in Santa

See CARS, page 6

New law may limit homeless use of public bathrooms

BY JOHN WOOD

Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL — Taking baths, washing clothes and sleeping in public bathrooms in Santa Monica soon may be illegal.

The City Council is scheduled to consider a new law next Tuesday to address resident and merchant complaints that city-run bathrooms often are dominated by transients.

Violators of the law could be fined \$250 or charged with a misdemeanor, which carries a \$1,000 penalty or six months in jail.

Santa Monicans for years have complained that public bathrooms in parks and downtown are commandeered by vagrants and mentally ill people. As a result, the bathrooms go unused by people who are unwilling or too afraid to share the facilities.

Libraries in Santa Monica already have specific laws forbidding bathing, shaving or washing hair in public bathrooms, and the new law could be modeled in the same way, City Attorney Marsha

See RESTROOMS, page 6



Kim Calvert/Special to the Daily Press

Junior League volunteer and professional make-up artist Miko Hiramatsu applies the finishing touches to Carlotta 'Star' Herron. Herron was one of 15 women who were treated to makeovers, including hairstyling, make up and a new outfit on Monday at a local salon. The makeovers were part of an empowerment series to help economically disadvantaged women enter the workforce.

From the streets to the beauty seat in SM

BY KIM CALVERT

Special to the Daily Press

OCEAN PARK — It's difficult to dress for success when you're broke.

But thanks to two local non-profit organizations, 15 women have been groomed to turn job interviews into job offers.

The women this week at the Pacheco Salon on Pier Avenue were treated to new hairstyles,

professional make-up applications and new outfits for job hunting.

All were participants in a six-week Women's Empowerment Series sponsored by the Los Angeles Chapter of the Junior League in conjunction with Santa Monica-based Chrysalis, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping economically disadvan-

See MAKEOVER, page 7

Santa Monica out-of-school programs buck the trend

BY RYAN HYATT

Daily Press Staff Writer

MAIN STREET — Despite the results of a study released Wednesday from a prestigious think tank which suggests after-school programs are not as effective as they could be, Santa Monica public schools are ahead

of the curve.

Evidence is mixed on whether there is a national shortage of publicly-funded before- and after-school programs for children and whether they improve academic achievement, according to the RAND Corp., a public policy think tank based in Santa Monica.

But in the Santa Monica

Malibu Unified School District, there are a host of activities offered for students outside of the classroom.

"Our programs are highly-structured and have a high demand," said SMMUSD Superintendent John Deasy. "There is a waiting list for many of our programs. They are definitely not just about

'baby-sitting.'"

RAND Researchers Susan Bodilly and Megan Beckett undertook a literature review focused on programs that provide care for children ages 6 to 18 before and after school, which also attempt to improve behavioral, social and

See RAND, page 9

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Santa Monica Daily Press



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



ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ You might feel uncomfortable with a call, news or gossip. Choose to check out the facts. Use a late lunch or late afternoon tea to visit with a friend. Good news and camaraderie will naturally result. Tonight: Conjure up fun plans.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ A friendship could cause you a problem with an associate or close tie. Juggling the different interests here could take a lot out of you. Focus on your responsibilities first. You will have plenty of time to let go and relax. Tonight: Consider doing your taxes first.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Others seek you out, which could distract you from completing a project or personal matter. You might need to prioritize, knowing that you cannot fit everything and everyone in. Listen to what appears to be a very fun idea. Tonight: Where the action is.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ You might be in the process of completing a project, only to get information that tosses what you have done into question. Don't react; be responsible and check it out. How you handle this situation could make a big difference. Tonight: Out late.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Keep reaching out for new information. When people decide to reveal information, you might find their statements contradictory. Others add a touch of imagination and excitement. Start keeping track of new jokes. Tonight: Ever playful.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Pressure builds with those you deal with on a regular basis. You might feel that you need to make a choice. Try juggling or being more open about the pressure you are under. Others pitch in to make your life easier. Tonight: Put your house in order.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Pressure from your daily routine could disrupt plans or communication if you allow yourself to be buffeted like a sailboat in the wind. Take charge and prioritize, and you'll gain. Visit and socialize with a child or loved one. Tonight: Socialize to your heart's content.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Your expenses could escalate if you take a risk or give in to a child's or loved one's requests. Learn to establish boundaries. You need to make yourself No. 1, because others will not. Understand that this attitude doesn't mean you're being selfish. Tonight: Buy a favorite treat on the way home.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Don't let a family member or domestic situation trip you up. Problems can become solutions if you decide so. Let your sixth sense go to work. Take a walk by a creek, lake or beach and tap into your ingenuity. Tonight: Your job is to have a good time.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Listen to your instincts. Don't show your cards just yet. More information will come your way that could easily color a decision or action. Play it low-key, and you will be much happier. Buy a lottery ticket if you feel lucky. Tonight: Get as much rest as you can before the weekend.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Listen to friends, as they really do care about you. Just don't take anyone's advice about money today. Research, find experts or plan a trip if you would like. Add more intellectual adventure into your life. Tonight: How about a game of racquetball, Scrabble or chess?



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ You could feel stressed by work or other responsibilities. Still, make an extra effort to please others. Your instincts guide you with those who are in charge. A loved one or associate pitches in. You'll at least get mental support. Tonight: A must appearance.



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LOCAL



Student may be expelled for taking BB gun to JAMS

By Daily Press staff

PICO NEIGHBORHOOD — A student at John Adams Middle School was suspended Wednesday after he was caught with a BB gun on campus.

At about 12:20 p.m., school staffers discovered the youth had a weapon, police said. After the gun was seized by administrators, it was discovered inoperable.

“It was clearly unusable,” said Schools Superintendent John Deasy.

Santa Monica Police Lt. Frank Fabrega added that no threats were made by the student. The student has not been identified because he’s a minor.

The school district has a zero tolerance weapons policy on campus, Deasy said. If they are found in possession of a weapon, students are immediately suspended. A panel then reviews a recommendation for mandatory expulsion, which will be done as a result of Wednesday’s incident.

“He made a very bad mistake,” Deasy said.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Santa Monica Pony baseball kicks off

By Daily Press staff

It’s time to play ball again.

The Santa Monica Pony League will hold its annual opening day ceremonies this Saturday, March 5 at 10 a.m. The ceremony is held on the newly-renovated ball field in Los Amigos Park, home of the Pony League for more than 50 years. Los Amigos is located on Hollister Avenue between Fifth and Sixth streets.

The celebration will feature the parade of players and a barbecue open to the entire Santa Monica community. Among the special guests will be Santa Monica Fire Chief Jim Hone, Santa Monica Police Chief James Butts and a special guest speaker from the Los Angeles Dodgers. A mounted horse patrol from the Santa Monica Police Department and a fire engine will also grace the ceremony with their presence. The league will also hold a raffle with prizes. Everyone in Santa Monica is welcome to attend and help kick off another season of youth baseball.

SMC to host ‘theater for children’

By Daily Press staff

Wake up, kids.

Peter Alsop, creator of the “Wake Up” video with John Ritter, will be the featured performer at Santa Monica College’s “Theater for Children” series, starting March 5.

Alsop has produced 19 audio recordings and seven videos, and consistently wins “Best Children’s” awards from Parent’s Choice and the Association for Independent Music. His songs are highly popular with children and used daily by thousands of parents, educators and human service professionals.

Performances are scheduled for 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. in the SMC Concert Hall, 1900 Pico Blvd. Parking is free.

Tickets are \$6. Call (310) 434-3000.

Young Leaders on the Women’s Commission Honor Senior Women in Unique Art Show in Celebration of Women’s History Month

Urban Dread to play for fundraiser

By Daily Press staff

Cancel your Caribbean vacation — the islands are coming to Topanga.

Topanga Tropics is the theme for this year’s Silent Auction, the annual blow-out that provides the whole community with the opportunity to cut loose, cop some

See BRIEFS, page 9



SURF REPORT

The background SW was expected to pick up a bit, but the big news is from a NW system that we’ve been watching around the Aleutian Chain/Bering Sea region. This swell is angled a bit more NW’erly (290) with some slightly longer periods (15-16 sec.) and should bring in some chest- to head-high sets to most west-facing breaks, overhead at standouts.

Today the water is:

60°

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



LOW TIDES

HIGH TIDES

	Morning	Height	Evening	Height	Morning	Height	Evening	Height
SATURDAY	4:08	1.0	4:25	0.2	10:05	4.8	10:45	4.7
SUNDAY	4:49	1.0	4:46	0.7	10:42	4.3	11:11	4.8
MONDAY	5:38	0.9	5:06	1.2	11:27	3.6	11:42	4.9
TUESDAY	6:41	0.9	5:26	1.7	12:30	2.9	N/A	N/A
WEDNESDAY	8:10	0.8	5:38	2.2	2:31	2.4	12:23	4.9
THURSDAY	9:59	0.5	N/A	N/A	1:24	4.8	N/A	N/A
FRIDAY	10:34	0.6	6:08	2.4	1:52	4.2	3:03	2.1

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The Q Line

This past weekend, more than 400 Santa Monicans turned out for a workshop to discuss and develop solutions for quelling gang violence in the city. Suggestions included developing an inter-agency partnership, increasing parent involvement, re-examining the way officers police local neighborhoods, partnering with the business community to offer jobs and training to youths, and developing new education programs for students, teachers and counselors.

Another workshop has been scheduled for March

12, at which time officials hope the community will formulate a specific plan for tackling the problem.

So this week, Q-Line wants to know, “What needs to be included in the community’s plan to end gang violence?”

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we’ll print your responses in the weekend edition. Please try to limit your comments to a minute or less. It might help to think first about the wording of your response.

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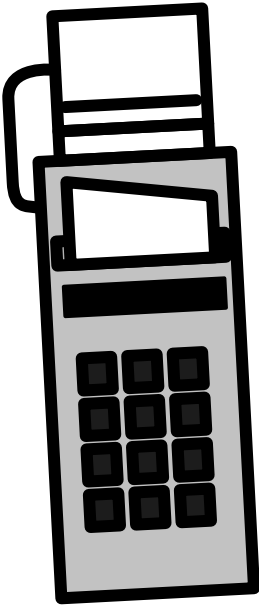
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OPINION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Capitalism the cure

Editor:

In response to Marilyn Brennan's letter regarding the misuse of tax dollars, (SMDP, March 1, page 4), she needs to understand that once you give money to the government, they will spend it. The Social Security fund has been looted, in a non-partisan way, simply because it is there.

That is the beauty of the proposed reform. We will be saving for ourselves and our families in a way that can't be abused by politicians. So, why is Ms. Brennan opposed to that? Socialism is the disease, Capitalism is the cure.

Thomas Kenney
Los Angeles

Clapping for dead people?

Editor:

As I watched this year's Academy Awards, I always looked forward to the "In Memoriam" they have toward the later half of the awards. This year they brought out one of the greatest cello players in all of music, Yo Yo Ma, to accompany the video of this years fallen actors. When did it become OK to clap at your favorite dead people?

What about the not so known people in Hollywood? We started off with "The Gipper," receiving fairly strong applause. As we went through the ever-growing list of people, I say we had a few claps for the unparalleled original animators of "Bambi" and a few claps for an old set designer from the '40s. The whistles and shouts of course came for the well-known actors. For example, Christopher Reeve got a good reception along with Tony Randall and Fay Rae. Janet Leigh picked up more than ever so respect less Rodney Dangerfield. He got more respect on the marquee at the Laugh Factory. This year's big winner for most appreciated dead actor award went to Marlon Brando. Shy of a standing ovation after the cries of "Stella" on the big screen in the Kodak Theater, Mr. Brando was chosen by all. I guess you really only know how well you're respected and or known by the Academy's clap meter once a year.

Jason Kramer
Los Angeles

Axis of evil simmers on White House back burner

NEWS ON THE EDGE

BY RON SCOTT SMITH



(Editor's note: This column originally ran on Feb. 17, 2005 but due to an editing error, Ron Scott Smith's byline and photo were missing. Here is the column in its entirety.)

The First Lady dumped the chef.

Doing her best Donald Trump, hair-styles aside, Laura Bush has fired Walter Scheib III right on out of her first kitchen.

Has the Bellwether Farm lamb in a red wine reduction been turning out tough? Have the medley of summer berries and peaches atop a mango ice cream dome been bitter? No, the food's been fine. The loyal White House cook was unceremoniously terminated from his 11-year stint for, get this, failing to meet the "stylistic requirements" of the first family's dining protocol. What do you think about that, red states?

(Were the tablecloths clashing with the place mats?)

At about the same time as the axing of Scheib, North Korea, one of the terrible trio identified by the First Lady's husband as comprising the Axis-of-Evil, came forward to admit — well, not so much to admit as to boast — that they are indeed armed to the teeth with the very nukes that America goes ape over anybody else having. Talk about ruining your appetite.

Meanwhile, Iran, another of the notorious triumvirate, defiantly holds on to its own nuclear programs-in-progress, while putting out an official warning that America will "burn in hell" if it tries to forcefully stop them.

The last of the three stooges, Iraq, the only one of them that beyond a shadow of a doubt does not have anything close to a weapon of mass destruction, is the first and only one to be attacked, because they merely might have had them. Looking at that, the other two now have Paul Reveres running wild throughout their lands. "The Americans are coming, the Americans are coming," they scream, as they kick into overdrive and stamp ASAP onto any order going out to any facility with any capacity to produce any of the dreaded things that we will go to war to eradicate, even if it turns out they don't have any. Stay with me here, folks, it's a bit convoluted. Iran and North Korea thus appear to be in full-out emergency mode to build the things they need to protect themselves against being attacked by America for maybe having them in the first place. If you're twisted enough to be able to fold all of this together and make something tasty out of it then you might want to apply for the new opening in the kitchen up there on Pennsylvania Avenue.

(Was it that too much time elapsed between the garlic-chanterelle emulsion appetizer and that lamb main course?)

Listen, if you think this whole Axis-of-Evil thing is getting more than just a little

berserk, consider what's afoot politically in the one nation of the three that we have gone ahead and conquered, making them not evil any more. As Iraqis slowly but surely get back up on their feet, somebody over there is asking, "Did anybody get the license plate of that truck that just hit us?" Somebody else is answering, "Uh, yeah, it was one of those vanity deals, looked to be something like F-R-E-E-D-O-M spelled out on it."

Freedom has made the good new Iraq free to go right on ahead and elect in a landslide the same kind of guys who rule the still-evil Iran. That is, Shiite cleric types for whom fundamentalist Islam is the only constitution now and forever more. Wait a minute. Aren't they the ones we are willing to stand eyeball to eyeball with on the eve of destruction in the big picture of the Bush "war on terror?" The newly elected Iraqi leadership must be on their knees every night thanking Allah and George W. for giving bertkas a new lease on life. Same goes for the leaders of Iran. They're pinching themselves, hoping they don't wake up, as they watch sacrificial young American sitting-duck soldiers spill their blood to pull off what the mullahs have been dreaming about for decades but could never possibly pull off — get Saddam Hussein and his formidable brand of secular infidelity right the hell out of Dodge. Meanwhile, the insurgent Sunni sect that includes the Baathists who formed Saddam's ruling party, boycotted the election but now are given a get-out-of-jail-free card, and are being force-fed into the new Iraqi government by the same America that has spent 1,500 of its own, and perhaps hundreds of thousands of Iraqi lives, to get rid of those very guys in the first place. Can anybody out there follow the insanely brilliant, tragic irony of all this, because, although I write it, I can't.

When Laura Bush looks outside her dining room as she cleanses the palate with a crisp baby greens salad lightly swathed in an Oregon raspberry vinaigrette, does she see the smoke rising? I wonder if she and Condie Rice, in private moments on a girls' night out, might share thoughts like, "Good God girlfriend, boys will be boys, but these guys are bent upon blowing the whole planet up, aren't they?"

Sorry to say, but the cat is out of the bag, the horse is out of the barn, name the animal, friends, it's out. Anything goes. Violence and bloodshed are hereby revealed in the guiding light of freedom to be the only answer to disagreements anywhere. If it's good enough for America, it's good enough for us — the new global battle cry.

When it was said here way back when Florida fell to him in 2000, that Bush was exactly the wrong man at exactly the wrong time in exactly the wrong place, it wasn't because the guy wanted to mess with Social Security or make the rich richer or anything mundane as that. It was feared the very survival of this planet we are blessed to spend precious short time on was at stake. Four years later, ever more so.

(Were the Dixie Chicks mistakenly piped in at dinner instead of Toby Keith?)

(Ron Scott Smith can be reached at Edgeofthewest@aol.com.)



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COMMENTARY



Cece Bradley:
A woman on a mission

(Editor's note: This is the first column featuring senior citizen women interviewed by high school students as part of their March Women's History Month project for the Santa Monica Commission on the Status of Women.)

BY JULIA SIMON
Special to the Daily Press

Sitting with Cece Bradley at the Saturday Farmers' Market, I felt like I was in the center of a magnetic force field. As we spoke, vendors, neighbors, friends constantly came up to Cece. "Hello Miss Cecel!" "How are you doing today, Cece?"

She smiled and chatted with each of them, giving them all a big hug and kiss. Embracing two friends who had walked by the table, she said to me, "All these people are part of my extended family. My sisters and brothers come in different shapes, colors and sizes."

Bradley was born in Boyle Heights in 1942. Both of her parents separately fled from Mexico after the Mexican Revolution and entered America from El Paso. Her father instilled in her a value of self-respect. He used to repeat a mantra to her and her five sisters, "The power is within you. Anything you want to do, you focus on it and you get it done."

Bradley has carried that streak of empowerment throughout her life. When her son Vincent was 9 years old, he was hit in the head by a ruffian in the Pico Neighborhood. His mouth was broken and he needed stitches. Bradley was afraid for her son that this violence was going on in her neighborhood, so she went to a local meeting. This began, as she said, "my career in empowerment."

She soon became a board member of the Pico Neighborhood Association, and became part of the neighborhood watch group that sponsored, as she says, "big education and big awareness."

She was on the PTA, Virginia Avenue Park Advisory Board and part of Title One, a federal program that gives aid to junior high schools. Bradley became the leader because she could lead the meetings in both Spanish and English. For two decades, she worked for the registrar of voters to help those

who can't speak English.

When she was 35, Bradley realized that she wanted to go to college. At the Catholic girls high school she went to, the nuns simply didn't present college as an option. But with "the power within her," Bradley went back to school and took classes in psychology and sociology.

"I learned what made me tick," she said of her higher education.

After her mother died of diabetes and cancer, Bradley began participating in the breast cancer walks at the Rose Bowl. One year, simply by asking people to sponsor her for \$1, she raised \$1,200. And when her husband of 40 years went blind in one eye, Bradley became a translator for a non-profit organization that has eye clinics in parts of rural Mexico where she could calm patients in Spanish during surgeries. She also is a public relations volunteer at the Santa Monica Farmers' Market.

Bradley has worked for the brokerage firm, Morgan Stanley for 36 years. She calls her job her "lobby ambassadorship."

Bradley is the embodiment of someone whose inner power shines through.

"I feel that women can do whatever they want if they want to pursue it," she said. "Look at me now. I'm the mother of the house, I'm the father of the house. I'm the woman of the house and the man of the house ... (I can) take care of everything."

Bradley appears to be someone who does kind things for others while not expecting rewards or praise.

"I live every day because I'm just passing through here," she said of her philosophy on life. "I'll help everybody I can because that is the way I was taught. It's an altruistic thing that we do and it's gratifying."

(Julia Simon, a senior at Crossroads School, is the young leader serving on the Santa Monica Commission on the Status of Women. She interviewed Cece Bradley and created original artwork that will be exhibited at Bergamot Station Restaurant until March 6. The public is invited to an opening reception on Friday, March 4, from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. For more information or to RSVP, call Women's Commissioner Kelly Hayes-Raitt at (310) 474-5545.)

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LOCAL

Car camping ban to be discussed this month

CARS, from page 1

Monica when people are there 24 hours a day, either on the curb or in the park.”

Motorists frequently camp on the free-way overpasses on 11th and 14th streets, and north of Wilshire Boulevard near Christine Emerson Reed Park and north of St. Monica’s Parish.

Though officials didn’t provide current data, a 2001 report prepared by Santa Monica Police Chief James T. Butts Jr. conservatively estimated that at any given time at least 70 vehicles used for long-term accommodation were parked in Santa Monica, and more during summer months. The report indicated police referred nearly 280 homeless motorists to local social service agencies in the prior 12 months.

Similar bans existed in Berkeley, Glendale, Long Beach, Los Angeles, Marina del Rey, Manhattan Beach, Redondo Beach, Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz, Torrance and Ventura, according to the 2001 report.

SMPD Lt. Frank Fabrega said the people most affected by the ban would be homeless people who are pushed out of public parks and then retreat to their cars to sleep. It is already illegal to sleep overnight or camp in public spaces in Santa Monica.

The issue is scheduled to come before the Santa Monica City Council on March 22, as part of an update on homeless services throughout the city, said Julie Rusk, City Hall’s director of human services. Also expected to be part of the agenda is a report on the status of a sobering center in Santa Monica, where police can take public drunks instead of jail, and other new laws and programs that address homelessness.

How exactly the law would be worded could determine whether it targeted only overnight campers or anyone napping in their car, though officials said that wasn’t the goal. The wording also will decide if the proposal would affect passenger cars only, or RVs and vans also.

City Attorney Marsha Moutrie said the law likely could be tailored so as to not violate the constitution.

“Though I’m not aware of any particular proposal as yet as to a municipal law, I believe it is probably possible to draft a law that would prohibit camping in passenger cars within the city without violating constitutional rights,” she said.

John Maceri, executive director of the Ocean Park Community Center, the city’s largest provider of social services, said the broad effort to crack down on homelessness likely will have some unintended negative consequences.

“A car is not an ideal living solution, but sleeping in a car is better than sleeping in an alleyway or sleeping in a carport,” Maceri said. “I think the notion is that we’re just going to get tough and that’s just going to drive everyone away ... I understand what drives that thinking, but I don’t know that it’s necessarily the most productive.”

How the other council members will view the issue was unknown. City Councilman Bobby Shriver said he’s never considered the topic and would need to look into it. Mayor Pam O’Connor also said she hadn’t made up her mind, but added Santa Monica is an urban area, not a campground.

Bathroom laws not new to SM

RESTROOMS, from page 1

Moutrie said.

Public bathrooms in Santa Monica have been the subject of regulation from City Hall before.

City Councilman Bob Holbrook said there was an uproar some years ago when the council outlawed people from using a restroom marked for the opposite sex. The idea was to crack down on male drug dealers seeking safe space in female restrooms, but some women were upset that an emergency bathroom option was taken away, Holbrook said.

It appeared likely Wednesday the council would support the new law. Mayor Pam O’Connor pointed out that even private bathrooms sometimes are taken over by homeless people who can be intimidating to some.

“I’ve seen it happen at Macy’s,” she said. “I’ve seen it happen at department stores. It’s, again, part of living in an urban environment and some people are going to be opportunistic about using facilities, and we’re going to set the guidelines for their use — so they’re not abused.”

City Councilman Bobby Shriver also said he would support the law and called upon state and county governments to shoulder more of their responsibility of caring for the mentally ill. Holbrook and City Councilman Kevin McKeown indicated they too would back the law.

Still, not everyone was convinced the law would be without its flaws. John Maceri, executive director of Ocean Park Community Center, the largest provider of social services in Santa Monica, cautioned banning some activities in the bathrooms could be interpreted too broadly.

“It really is hard,” he said, referring to balancing the public bathroom needs of residents and merchants and homeless people. “Bodily functions don’t cease because you don’t have access to restrooms. An unintended consequence (of limiting bathroom access) is that some of the complaints about people urinating and defecating in public become more pronounced.”

Despite concerns, the law would not be used to force homeless people out of bathrooms altogether, said Julie Rusk, City Hall’s human services director. She called it a common sense law tailored to specific acts.

“It’s those kinds of things to make sure people go in and use the restrooms as intended, and not for other things that interfere with the plumbing or monopolize the bathrooms,” she said. “People are doing things like washing clothes ... stuffing things in toilets and stuff like that.”

“I just don’t know,” she said. “We are urbanized, so there’s less need for people to be camping in their cars when they’re traveling. I have some sympathy for people who are travelers, the nomads and wanderers of the world, but in my own experience it’s only happened rarely where I couldn’t find a campground, or a motel or hotel.”

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Junior League program helps the down and out

MAKEOVER, from page 1

tagged people find jobs.

“It’s like they’re at a spa for the day,” said Piper Kamins, an employment specialist at Chrysalis who screens and selects women for the program. “They have people fawning over them, telling them how beautiful they are. It’s an exhilarating experience for these women — especially for those who are sleeping on the street or have to go home afterwards to an emergency shelter.”

Carlotta “Star” Herron, a workshop participant, said she was living at a shelter downtown and commuted to Santa Monica to enroll in the program. She said she’s been struggling to keep a roof over her head and stay employed for the last two years.

“From the first session I was amazed by all the energy in the room,” Herron said. “By the third session I had a new job. I told them, ‘You guys encouraged me. I love you guys.’”

Herron now has two jobs and works 13 to 16 hours a day in an effort to make ends meet. She said she almost didn’t make it to Monday’s makeover session.

“I was at my telemarketing job and my boss said I couldn’t have the night off,” Herron said. “I was so disappointed, but I kept making my calls. When he saw the tears in my eyes, he changed his mind and let me off. I was so afraid I wasn’t going to make it in time.”

The concept for the program came from the Los Angeles chapter of the Junior League, a volunteer organization that specializes in incubating projects that help women and children, according to Kamins.

“All I have to do is get the women there and bring the coffee,” she said. “The Junior League does all the rest.”

The program is offered twice a year — once in the spring and once in the fall. It’s funded by donations from individuals and corporations, and through fund-raising events put on by the Junior League.

The first five sessions were held at the Ken Edwards Center at 1527 Fourth St. in downtown Santa Monica. Although about 30 women are selected to participate, only about half make it to graduation. Kamins said the drop-out rate was a result of the difficulties faced by women with severe economic difficulties and homelessness.

“We try to make it as easy as possible for them to get there,” she said. “We provide transportation, but sometimes it’s still too much for them to handle.”

The sessions include workshops in goal setting and job search techniques, resume building, and money and time management. The fourth session consists of a job panel where professional women talk about how they found their dream jobs.

“It’s really good for them to hear from successful women,” Kamins said. “To hear the process — to hear how they had to complete a low-wage internship for two years before they finally got the job they wanted.”



Kim Calvert/Special to the Daily Press

GIRL TALK: Michelle Cooper and Jennifer Curran talk while getting their hair done, courtesy of a Santa Monica nonprofit organization aimed at helping women transition off of the street and into jobs.

The fifth session teaches participants interview skills and includes mock interviews with Junior League volunteers. The final session, the makeover, is the session the women look forward to most of all, Kamins said.

Luanne Iannucci, a Junior League volunteer and hair stylist, said when the makeovers were completed, you couldn’t tell who was a Junior League member and who was a workshop participant.

“It’s not a vanity thing, it’s a self-esteem thing,” Iannucci said. “When you look good you feel better about yourself.”

The workshop participants, along with the Junior

League volunteers and staff from Chrysalis, will get together for the last time on Wednesday for a graduation ceremony and dinner at Shutters on the Beach. Each participant will receive a briefcase, an organizer and a certificate of completion.

“It’s a beautiful event,” Kamins said. “There are a lot of tears.”

Kamins said she thinks the program has a long-lasting effect on the women.

“Sometimes they back track, but overall it sticks,” she said. “When they finish this program they have new ideas — and the motivation to follow their dreams.”

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Business

SANTA MONICA BUSINESS BRIEFS

RAND grad moves up to higher education post

By Daily Press staff

Robert Klitgaard, a leading figure in policy research and international studies, was elected president of Claremont Graduate University by the Board of Trustees this week. He will assume the presidency on July 1.



ROBERT
KLITGAARD

Klitgaard comes to Claremont from the Pardee RAND Graduate School in Santa Monica, where he has been dean and Ford distinguished professor of International Development and Security since 1997. He succeeds Steadman Upham, who became president of the University of Tulsa in September 2004.

"I'm delighted to join an institution that believes so strongly in academic excellence that makes a difference in our world," Klitgaard said. "Claremont stands for an intimate education that expands the repertoires of the academic disciplines. This is where higher education is heading, and it's what the challenges facing our country and our communities require."

Klitgaard has been an advisor to many governments as well as to numerous international agencies and foundations. One of his specialties is government reform, and the Christian Science Monitor called him "the world's leading expert on corruption."

At RAND, the world's largest independent "think tank," Klitgaard heads one of America's eight original graduate programs in policy studies. The Pardee RAND Graduate School is the foremost producer of Ph.D.s in this field, which applies many academic disciplines to pressing problems of poverty, justice, and security. Under his leadership the school has more than doubled in size and quintupled in endowment.

Klitgaard was a professor of economics at Yale's School of Management and an associate professor at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government, where he also served half-time as special assistant to Harvard president Derek Bok. He has also been on the faculty of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, and the World Bank Institute. After growing up in California, Klitgaard received his education at Harvard University, earning a bachelor's degree in philosophy and the master's and Ph.D. degrees in public policy.

Klitgaard will lead an institution that is the only comprehensive graduate-only university in the United States. It is a member of The Claremont Colleges, a consortium located near Los Angeles that includes Claremont McKenna, Harvey Mudd, Pitzer, Pomona, and Scripps colleges and the Keck Graduate Institute of Applied Life Sciences.

Learn how to brand your business

By Daily Press staff

Kim Castle and W. Vito Montone will once again offer their One-day BrandU workshop in Los Angeles on April 9 to show entrepreneurs and small businesses how to achieve big business success no matter their size.

The process used by major corporations to create mega-brands has been captured in this one-day event. The One-day BrandU Workshop begins the journey of uncovering your brand from the inside out.

Castle and Montone have been assisting businesses and entrepreneurs to communicate company brands and products since 1991. They have worked on projects such as re-packaging the million-dollar selling Hollywood Celebrity Diet; creating posters, title treatments left behind for several film properties; writing an award-winning Web site for General Motors' Digital Domain; and growing company images for many businesses.

Participants in the workshop will learn:

- The four reasons why they're losing business.
- How they can stop competition from killing them.
- How to make decisions from the power center of their business.
- How to ensure they communicate the uniqueness and value of their businesses.
- What makes a great logo and get to actually connect to their own.
- The four tools used to create a lasting impression about their business without saying a word.
- And much more...

Due to the success of the One-day BrandU Workshop and the demand for it in other parts of the US, Castle and Montone are only able to offer it in Los Angeles twice a year, so early enrollment is recommended to guarantee a space.

The event will be held at Crowne Plaza Los Angeles Airport, 5985 West Century Blvd. Los Angeles, from

8 a.m. to 6 p.m. The fee is \$297 plus tax, meals included, reservations required.

To register or for more information, go to www.whybrandu.com, call (310) 827-9720, or e-mail to info@whybrandu.com

President Bush delivers for small businesses

GUEST COMMENTARY

HECTOR V. BARRETO

In the last two weeks I've had the privilege of speaking before both the House and Senate Small Business Committees about SBA's proposed FY 2006 budget. Believe it or not, I like budget season. I like it because it's an opportunity to show that the resources available to us to help small businesses are increasing despite tightening budgets. We're getting more efficient, more effective and more innovative — just like a small business.

I know that in Washington, D.C., it's difficult to imagine strongly supporting a program without continually increasing its budget, but SBA has proven that it can be done. Since I became administrator in 2001, the agency has operated under tighter budgets, yet each year SBA's programs have reached more and more American entrepreneurs. We're doing more for American small businesses with less taxpayer money. Here are some examples:

Through early February, our flagship 7(a) loan program, which is used mainly for business operations, approved 28 percent more loans than in the same period in 2004. Even better, we are now operating this program on a zero-subsidy rate, ensuring long-term stability of the program without requiring a taxpayer subsidy. Last year the SBA backed a record number of loans to women, minorities and veterans. This year, we project another record for the program with up to \$16 billion in loan guarantees available to small businesses at no cost to the American public.

Lending activity for the Los Angeles district office has been bolstered by the advent of new financial institutions recently certified to enter the Agency's capital access program. As a result, expectations for total 7(a) lending this fiscal year are, to not only surpass 2004, but to outstrip divisional internal target goals by 20 percent.

Loans under our 504 program, used mainly for the purchase of real estate and capital equipment, are up 16 percent in 2005 over the same period in 2004. Loans to African Americans and women under 7(a) and 504 are up 57 percent and 51 percent respectively. Loans to Hispanics are up 16 percent and to Asian-Americans, loans are up 20 percent. We estimate that in the first three months of the current fiscal year, SBA programs facilitated the creation or retention of 168,000 jobs.

The numbers continue to astound some. But they shouldn't. Recognizing that small businesses are critical to growing our economy and creating new jobs, President Bush's agenda creates an environment for small businesses to flourish.

His agenda combines not only government actions and programs, but the effective implementation of tax and regulatory policies.

Let's take tax reform. In 2004, 25 million small-business owners received tax relief totaling about \$75 billion, an average of \$3,000 each. The president reduced marginal income rates across the board, benefiting more than 90 percent of small businesses that pay taxes at the individual income tax rates. He raised the amount that small businesses can expense for new capital investments from \$25,000 to \$100,000, reducing their cost of purchasing new equipment and other investments. And the president has made tax relief permanence a top priority to help small businesses and their employees keep more of what they earn.

To reduce the cost of doing business in America, the president is working to ensure that small business owners and workers have access to high-quality health care and are protected from frivolous lawsuits. The president recently signed legislation curbing abusive class-action lawsuits. On the regulatory front, actions taken by the president's administration have saved American small businesses more than \$30 billion since 2001 by reducing the complex maze of federal regulation and paperwork.

On the international scene, the president has expanded opportunities across the globe for American small businesses by completing free-trade agreements with 11 countries. Here at home, the Bush Administration is working to ensure that small businesses can compete fairly for their share of federal government dollars. And they've been successful. In 2003, small businesses received \$65.5 billion of prime federal contract dollars, exceeding the 23 percent government wide goal. Small businesses last month received more great news when the Administration announced an additional \$15 billion in government contracting opportunities for small business.

Small businesses are vital to American prosperity and, thankfully, they are flourishing. In part it's because the president has taken steps to reduce taxes, encourage investment, remove obstacles to growth and provide opportunity. And in part because American entrepreneurs are innovative, resilient, tenacious and determined to achieve the American dream.

(Hector V. Barreto was a small business owner and is now the 21st administrator of the Small Business Administration.)



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LOCAL



RAND: Mixed results on extracurricular programs

SCHOOLS, from page 1

academic development. According to the study, information is limited whether there is an unmet demand for many of those programs nationally. Bodilly said evidence indicates the programs have had modest positive effects on academic achievement.

"Before expanding publicly funded out-of-school programs, policy makers may want to do further evaluations and work to improve the existing programs so they attract more students and produce the desired results," the report states.

The study was commissioned by the Wallace Foundation, an independent national organization dedicated to expanding learning opportunities for people.

"(This study) calls attention to the importance of developing high-quality programs that attract and retain young people so they participate long enough to receive the benefits the programs offer," said M. Christine De Vita, president of the Wallace Foundation.

The SMMUSD's child development services program is available year-round from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. for kindergarten through eighth-grade students. It operates on a \$3.1 million annual budget, funded by the California Department of Education, as well as the city of Santa Monica and student fees.

"Ours program is probably different than what the RAND study was looking at," said Judy Abdo, director of child development services for SMMUSD. "Our child programs are based on assessment and responsiveness. We have age-appropriate programs based on child development."

Abdo said there are more than 1,000 students who take part in the SMMUSD childcare program, and more who take part in a city-sponsored organization.

Parents who qualify for the district program may receive scholarships so their children can participate. If parents don't qualify, the cost for enrollment is \$294 per month.

"Less than half of the students in the program are funded through the state," Abdo said. "The majority of parents pay to put their children in the program."

The district program includes an assessment at the beginning of the year to look at each child's academic development. Abdo said every program includes homework.

"Kids have different needs," she said. "What we try to do is offer as many choices as possible for families."

Abdo said part of the district's effectiveness in providing out-of-school programming is because it's city-supported, unlike similar programs in other cities, which may not offer the same resources for their youth.

Abdo said SMMUSD kindergarten through fifth grade students may take part in the city's Childcare Recreation

& Sports Together program, or CREST. CREST offers after school athletic and recreational activities to youth. There are more than 20 CREST activities available throughout the city.

"Partly because of a funding reason, the city decided to put money into the program years ago," Abdo said.

Abdo said the most important aspect of the partnership between the school district and City Hall in providing out-of-school programming is that child development services is staffed by permanent, child development teachers.

"If you look at other programs, often times the staff does not have the background our teachers have," Abdo said.

Among some of the qualities the RAND study suggested effective out-of-school programming should have include high expectations of students; a small enrollment; frequent assessment; and trained personnel who remain with the program.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

BRIEFS, from page 3

great stuff at bargain prices, and support Topanga Elementary School all at the same time. The drinks and food will be festive and laid back, island-style, and world renowned reggae band, Urban Dread will be laying down the reggae, calypso, and salsa grooves. Attire is whatever feels good to you, or you can follow the lead of event organizer Marilyn Samorski, who will be wearing a grass skirt and a couple of coconut shells.

The event is on Saturday, March 5 from 6 p.m. to midnight at the Community House, 1440 N Topanga Canyon Blvd. Advance-purchase tickets are \$45 and will be available at school, located at 141 N. Topanga Canyon, at 2:30 p.m. on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, and 1:30 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays, beginning Feb. 15. Tickets at the door will be \$50. Items up for bid this year include a Napa Valley wine tour for two. Last year the bidding for a prime parking space at school got so intense that this year that privilege will be auctioned off live, with a beefed up security detail. Last year the silent auction raised about \$27,000.

High schoolers delve into previous generation

By Daily Press staff

The summary of five local senior citizens' lives are out in the open, for all to see. The public is invited to a free art opening and reception Friday, March 4 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Bergamot Station Cafe, 2525 Michigan A3 in Santa Monica.

Pico Neighborhood activist Cece Bradley, SMC College Trustee Dorothy Earhart Morrison, Rent Control Board Member Betty Mueller, community leader Millie Rosenstein, and nurse Janet Washington are featured in an art show presented by the Young Leaders of the Santa Monica Commission on the Status of Women.

Julia Simon, a senior at Crossroads High School, was chosen by the Women's Commission as its first Young Leader. Simon created a project to connect high school girls with senior citizens who have paved the way for her generation.

Five high school girls interviewed five senior women and created an art piece expressing the impact of the seniors' lives on young women. "We're All Ears" features original oil paintings, photo montages and matted photos the high schoolers created for each of the senior women. The art exhibit will travel to public venues throughout Santa Monica during March, which is Women's History Month. The exhibit opened March 1 and runs through March 6 at Bergamot Station Restaurant.

March 7 through March 20, the exhibit will hang at Santa Monica Place. March 21 through March 27, the Chamber of Commerce offices will feature it. March 28 through April 3, the exhibit will hang at Crossroads High School. April 4 through April 10, the YWCA will feature it.

For information or to RSVP for Friday's event, call Women's Commissioner Kelly Hayes-Raitt at (310) 474-5545.

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STATE

Schwarzenegger backs initiatives for special election

BY TOM CHORNEAU

Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO — Declaring an impasse with the Legislature's Democratic majority over his plans to reshape California government and politics, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger launched a statewide petition drive Tuesday to place his agenda before voters in a special election this fall.

Although the governor and legislative leaders both left the door open for future negotiations, the two sides are also clearly bracing for what could become a landmark political battle.

"The legislators have not done their jobs," the governor told reporters before making a dramatic exit from the Capitol to sell his ideas among lunchtime diners at an area restaurant. "Let's face it, the only action that is hap-

The governor has proposed four sweeping constitutional amendments that would put new limits on state spending, cap state pensions, base teacher pay on merit rather than tenure and revise how political districts are drawn.

pening right now in this building is the action of killing reform."

The governor has proposed four sweeping constitutional amendments that would put new limits on state spending, cap state pensions, base teacher pay on merit rather than tenure and revise how political districts are drawn.

Although Schwarzenegger claims the changes will

help solve major problems facing California, the proposals have already generated intense opposition from some of the state's most powerful political groups — including education officials, labor unions and the Democrats who control the Legislature.

Schwarzenegger has already begun raising an estimated \$50 million he said he needs to run his campaign and claims Democrats and their supporters nationally will spend more than \$200 million to defeat him.

Although Schwarzenegger's move had been anticipated for weeks, Democratic leaders denied they had dragged their feet on his proposals, saying instead the administration contributed to the delays with withdrawing several of the measures for revisions.

"He's submitted four proposals," said Senate President Pro Tem Don Perata, D-Oakland. "I'm not using the word bills because they really are not bills — they are proposals, almost like suggestions."

Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez, D-Los Angeles, agreed and called the governor's package a "moving target" because of ongoing amendments and changes.

Both Perata and Nunez, however, said they want to negotiate with the governor on his plans but won't cave in on key issues to their constituents.

"The governor has presented proposals that put in danger teachers, nurses, firefighters, police officers and state employees," said Nunez of Schwarzenegger's measure to cap state pension obligations. "And our reaction is, 'Oh — we're in a hurry, we're anxious to negotiate governor on how you are going to screw all of our constituents?' It just doesn't work that way."

Schwarzenegger unveiled his proposals during his State of the State Speech in January and asked lawmakers to either endorse his ideas or negotiate alternatives. Schwarzenegger said the measures continue the reformist themes of the 2003 recall election that brought him to power and that if the Legislature did not act, he would circulate petitions and qualify each proposal for the ballot himself.

The governor had set a deadline of March 1 for the Legislature to act.

After criticizing the Legislature at a press conference in his office Tuesday, Schwarzenegger staged a bit of political theater by driving off from the Capitol in an open air Hummer, dubbed by his campaign as "Reform 1." Minutes later, the governor arrived at a north Sacramento-area shopping mall to help gather signatures for two of his measures — one that would give authority for redrawing legislative and congressional districts to a panel of retired judges; another that would require new state employees to join a private retirement system similar to a 401(k) plan.

Rob Stutzman, Schwarzenegger's director of communications, said the governor is also supporting a measure that would lengthen the time it takes teachers to become tenured from two years to five years. Stutzman said Schwarzenegger is still considering different versions of a budget initiative that would impose across-the-board cuts when revenues don't match spending.

Expectations are that Schwarzenegger and the open air Hummer will be a common sight in the coming weeks statewide as the governor and his support attempt to gather about 600,000 signatures for each of the four measures the governor wants to qualify for the ballot.

While the governor has not said precisely when the special election would take place, Stutzman said it will likely be set for November. Based on a November election date, supporters of the governor's measure will only have until mid-April to collect all the signatures needed to qualify measures for the ballot.

Perata, however, said that the Legislature would have until August to place measures directly on the ballot, assuming a compromise could be worked out between both parties and the administration to allow a two-thirds majority support.

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NATIONAL



Judge orders border to remain closed to cattle

BY BECKY BOHRER

Associated Press Writer

BILLINGS, Mont. — A federal judge ordered the U.S. northern border to remain closed to Canadian cattle imports Wednesday, after a lawyer for a livestock group said it would be insane to resume imports with so many unanswered questions about mad-cow disease.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture had planned to open the border to fuller trade beginning Monday. U.S. District Judge Richard Cebull granted a temporary court order preventing that.

R-CALF United Stockgrowers of America asked Cebull to keep the USDA from implementing a plan to allow some live cattle and expanded beef imports from Canada until the merits of its lawsuit against the government are heard. Cebull ordered attorneys for both sides Wednesday to prepare for a trial. No trial date was set.

Cebull said he would file an opinion later.

Canadian Trade Minister Jim Peterson said he was disappointed and “we’ll do everything we can to fight it out.”

U.S. Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns said the order is a “procedural delay,” and not a reflection on the substance of the USDA plan.

“We continue to believe that international trade in beef, founded on science-based regulations, should be re-established in an expeditious manner,” he said.

R-CALF sued the USDA in January, seeking to prevent the importation of “all live cattle of Canadian origin and all edible bovine meat products derived from cattle of Canadian origin.” The Billings-based ranchers’ group contends the USDA plan would pose a risk to both consumers and U.S. cattle producers.

An attorney for the group, Cliff Edwards, told Cebull in court Wednesday that it would be “insane” to allow the import of cattle from a country that has confirmed two new cases of mad-cow disease, or bovine spongiform encephalopathy, this year.

“This boils down to plain old common sense,” he said.

Lisa Olson, an attorney for the government, argued that the plan was as safe as it possibly could be and was based on science. She said a decision halting expanded trade with Canada would interfere with efforts to reopen foreign markets to U.S. beef. Some countries closed their borders to U.S. beef after a cow in Washington state was found to have the disease in December 2003. That cow came from Canada.

While there’s no rush to open the border to expanded trade, she said, there’s “exceptionally strong interest.”

“There’s no health risk here,” Olson said, noting safeguards in place to protect against mad-cow disease.

When Canada reported a case of mad-cow disease in May 2003, the United States banned Canadian cattle, beef and beef products. Restrictions were later relaxed to allow imports considered at very low risk of BSE.

Then, in December, USDA announced plans to further expand trade, including allowing imports from Canada of live cattle under 30 months old and some other animals and products, including beef products. That plan was to take effect Monday.

Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns later said meat from cattle 30 months and older would not be allowed in immediately, after questions were raised about whether allowing meat from older cattle — but not older live cattle — was contradictory.

Just last week, USDA investigators looking into Canada’s compliance with a 1997 ban on cattle remains in feed said Canadian cattle are safe for import. Mad-cow disease is believed to spread through such remains in feed. A report by the U.S. team said Canada’s “overall compliance with the feed ban is good.”

U.S. ranchers such as Jim Espy said they’re worried about food safety and the potential for consumer confidence in beef to be shaken if Canadian cattle are allowed to be imported.

“It could start something in the United States that we’ve never had,” said the Broadus, Mont., rancher, who came to watch the hearing.

Edwards argued that there would be no way for consumers right now to distinguish Canadian beef from U.S. beef.

“Once Canadian cattle come into this country, they disappear into the food chain,” he said.

Charles Miller, a spokesman for the U.S. Justice Department, said attorneys would review Cebull’s order and decide their next step.

Mad Cow secrecy?

By The Associated Press

Lawmakers in several states are working on bills that would keep secret information developed during investigations of reports of animal diseases including bovine spongiform encephalopathy, or mad-cow disease:

■ **Colorado:** Information obtained and held by the agriculture commissioner through testing for certain diseases and the results of surveillance and investigation could be closed to the public at the commissioner’s discretion until the matter is dismissed without action or a quarantine is issued. Pending.

■ **Idaho:** Exempts from public disclosure records the state collects to increase traceability of infected or exposed animals and the registration of the premises where those animals are held. Signed into law in 2004.

■ **Maryland:** The agriculture secretary would be required to maintain all reports regarding animal disease testing and surveillance in such a way as to protect the identity of the animal owners. Disclosure of such information to a “person of interest” as defined by the secretary or to a government agency would be allowed if the secretary determines it’s necessary to protect the public health or prevent the spread of infectious disease. Pending.

■ **Utah:** Would provide “protected” status to agriculture department records relating to the National

Animal Identification System and programs dealing with tracking, identifying or controlling livestock diseases. Pending.

■ **Wyoming:** Information collected about certain diseases identified by the state veterinarian shall be confidential, and access will be limited to the person who reports the disease and the state veterinarian. The veterinarian has the discretion to give the information to whoever needs to have it, such as neighboring ranchers, other state agencies or the public. False reporting of the disease is now a misdemeanor. Signed into law in February.

Federal judge acts

By The Associated Press

KEEP IT CLOSED: U.S. District Judge Richard Cebull ordered the federal government not to reopen the U.S. northern border to imports of live cattle and expanded beef imports from Canada. It had been set to reopen Monday.

HOW LONG: The order is a temporary one that will be in effect until the merits of the livestock group’s lawsuit are heard. A trial date hasn’t been set.

ARGUMENTS: An attorney for the cattleman called the government’s plan to reopen the border “insane,” while a government attorney said the beef import plan was as safe as possible.

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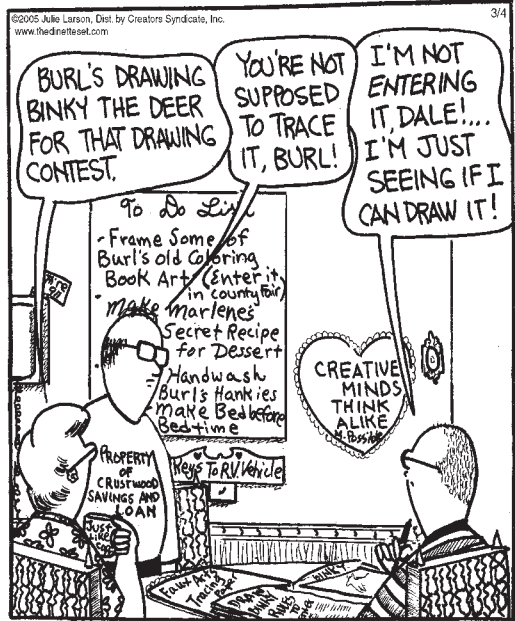
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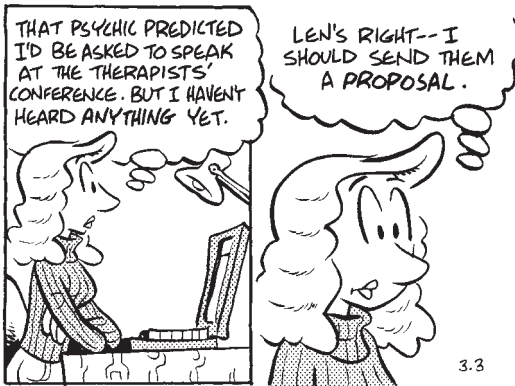


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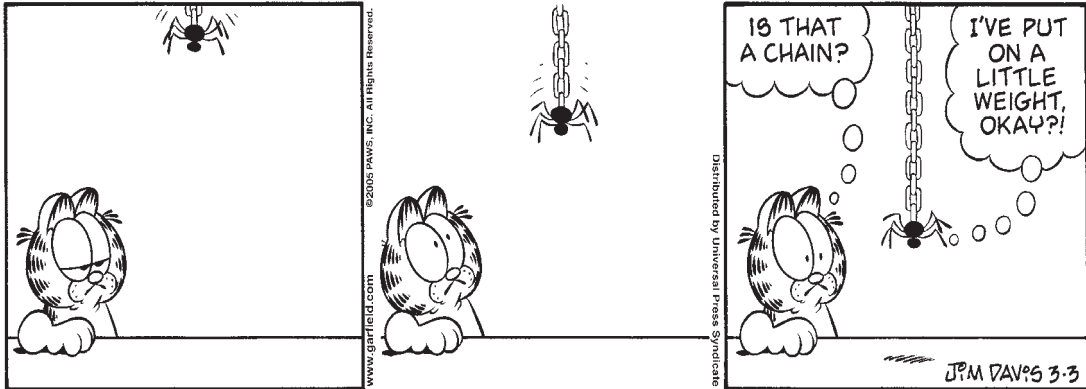
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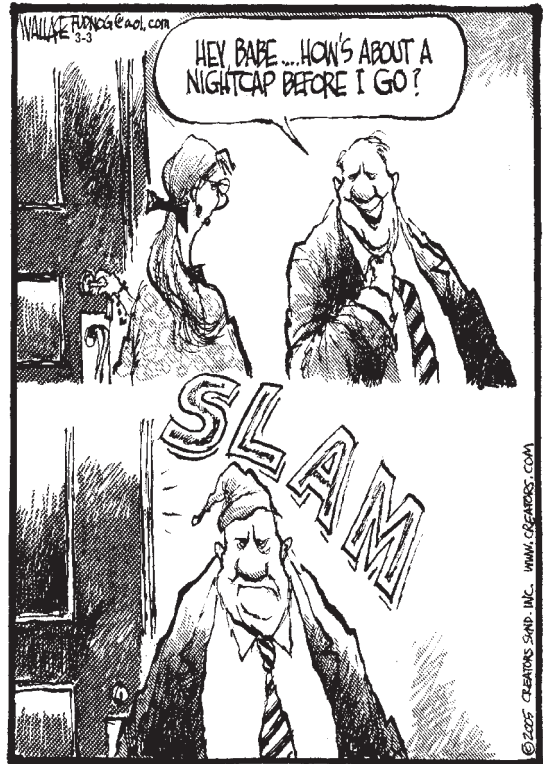


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- 5 Jock's TV greeting
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- 11 Venus' sister
- 12 Ready for business
- 13 Followed
- 14 Printer's symbols
- 16 Snobs
- 20 Plant pests
- 23 Upper limit
- 24 Informal
- 25 Cry of disbelief
- 27 Shade source
- 28 Sown
- 29 Jazz fans
- 32 Workout needs
- 36 "Heavens!"
- 39 Tons
- 40 Wild parties
- 41 Helper
- 42 Build
- 43 Catty remark

DOWN

- 1 Not bare-foot
- 2 Pueblo people
- 3 Church answer

- 4 Infamous Khan
- 5 Waste-land
- 6 Cork people
- 7 Gibson or Tormé
- 8 Count-down end
- 9 Fuming
- 11 Antlered animals
- 15 Await
- 17 Passed with ease
- 18 Digs of "Kevin Hill"
- 19 Went fast
- 20 Actor Guinness

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Yesterday's answer

- 21 Casual shirt
- 22 —
- 25 Transcending: Pref.
- 26 Polite agreement
- 28 Wise ones
- 30 Song snippet
- 31 Stellar sight
- 33 "I cannot tell —"
- 34 Com-motion
- 35 Worry
- 36 Female rabbit
- 37 Mess up
- 38 Epoch

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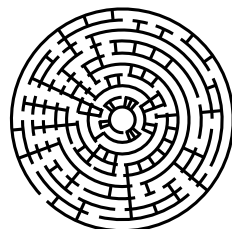
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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Newhart is desperate about joining ABC hit show

By The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Now look who's moving onto Wisteria Lane.

Bob Newhart will begin a multi-episode stint on ABC's "Desperate Housewives" set to air in April. The 75-year-old actor-comedian will play Morty, the estranged boyfriend of Susan Mayer's mom, Sophie, played by guest star Lesley Ann Warren.

"I'm looking forward to being involved with one of the hottest shows on TV," Newhart said in a statement Wednesday.

In the episode, Teri Hatcher's single mom Susan will attempt to get Sophie and Morty back together to keep her mother from moving in with her and her daughter.

"Desperate Housewives" airs Sundays (9 p.m. EST).

On March 13, "The Bob Newhart Show" will receive TV Land's Icon Award at a ceremony in Santa Monica. The first season of the TV classic will be released on DVD next month.

Newhart's memoirs will be published in 2006 by Hyperion.

ALICE SPRINGS, Australia — Ozzy Osbourne sent his congratulations to Prince Charles on his upcoming marriage to Camilla Parker Bowles.

Charles was in Alice Springs Wednesday during a five-day tour of Australia that has been overshadowed by scrutiny of his wedding to Parker Bowles, which has fazed some observers because the couple's romance began before Princess Diana died.

Osbourne weighed in on the issue while in Sydney to host the first MTV Australia Video Music Awards, calling Charles a "mate" and saying he should be allowed to marry Parker Bowles in peace.

"It's his business you know. His first wife got killed

so what's he expected to do, be single for the rest of his life? If he likes her and she likes him or whatever, good luck on them," Osbourne, the former lead singer of Black Sabbath, told reporters.

Charles, the 56-year-old heir to the British throne, has a hectic agenda on his last official trip before his April 8 wedding, cramming five Australian cities into as many days.

LOS ANGELES — The suicide of a contestant from NBC's "The Contender" was unrelated to the reality boxing series, the man's brother said.

It likely was a life of struggle that caused Najai Turpin to shoot himself last month, Diediera Turpin told "Access Hollywood" in an interview broadcast Tuesday.

"He came from nothing to do something because it's hard out here. The show was never the problem, boxing and all of that was never the problem. It was a personal problem," the brother said.

"The Contender," in which 16 boxers compete for a million-dollar prize, is to debut Monday on NBC.

LOS ANGELES — Bail was reduced for a longtime sound engineer of the late Ray Charles who was arrested two weeks ago on allegations of stealing the singer's master recordings.

At a hearing Tuesday, Superior Court Commissioner Dennis Mulcahy said Terry Howard had no prior record and reduced bail from \$1 million to \$100,000. Howard is charged with two counts of grand theft by embezzlement from Ray Charles Enterprises and one count of receiving stolen property.

Howard, arrested at his home Feb. 17, was scheduled to appear in court for a preliminary hearing on March 28.

An executive with Ray Charles Enterprises called police after visiting Howard at his home last month and seeing boxes of Charles' recordings, including master

recordings, according to KCBS-TV, citing police.

"We did a search warrant on his home and we recovered several hundred items that had been identified as belonging to Ray Charles Enterprises," Detective Donald Hrycyk told the news station.

Defense lawyer Steven Cron said he was convinced of Howard's innocence.

"Ray Charles counted on him for many, many years," Cron said. "People just love this guy and respect him."

Jerry Digney, a publicist for Charles, said in a statement: "Whatever the outcome, Ray Charles Enterprises puts a high value on its assets, especially its master tapes and will do its utmost to insure their safety and proper handling along with protecting other irreplaceable valuables belonging to the late entertainer and to his estate."

Charles died June 10 at his Beverly Hills home of acute liver disease. He was 73.

LOS ANGELES — The son of R&B singer Chaka Khan pleaded not guilty to a charge of murder in the shooting death of a 17-year-old boy at a party last fall.

Damien Patrick Holland entered the plea Tuesday. Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Paula Adele Mabrey reduced his \$2 million bail to \$500,000 and set a March 15 date for a preliminary hearing.

Holland, 25, surrendered to police Monday after he learned that prosecutors had charged him in the death of Christopher Baily of Los Angeles. Prosecutors allege that Holland shot Baily at a September 2004 party as the two struggled for a gun during a fight.

Holland was arrested after the shooting, but was released when prosecutors said they didn't have enough evidence to charge him. Investigators recently found witnesses to the shooting, which allowed the district attorney's office to charge Holland, according to an earlier police statement.



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