

FREE

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Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press
Attorney Chris Harding (left) and Dr. David Levy speak to the press outside the West Los Angeles Courthouse Monday.

City knocked down on playhouse suit

Judge denies city's motion to dismiss family's lawsuit

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON
Daily Press Staff Writer

The City of Santa Monica's attempt to end an 18-month-old lawsuit over a 6-year-old's playhouse failed in court Monday.

Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Cesar Sarmiento denied the city's motion to dismiss the suit brought by a Santa Monica family, saying they have proven the merits of their case well enough to go to trial.

"That was a very powerful statement for us because we haven't even gotten to discovery yet," said Chris Harding, the attorney representing David and Beth Levy.

The Levys sued the city and former mayor Ken Genser in September of 2000 after a neighbor's complaint led the city to reverse an earlier decision concerning the legalities of their backyard playhouse.

In its motion to dismiss the suit, the city argued that the Levys' backyard neighbor, Tunde Garai, had a right to complain to Genser that the family's playhouse for their son, Jacob, was excessive and

See PLAYHOUSE, page 3



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press
Deputy city attorneys Cara Silver and Joe Lawrence leave the West Los Angeles Courthouse Monday morning.

Alcohol policy sent back to the planning board

Council directs planning commissioners to provide more information on proposed changes.

BY ANDREW H. FIXMER
Daily Press Staff Writer

Before the Santa Monica City Council changes the way it issues permits to businesses that sell alcohol, it wants more information.

The planning commission requested last January that the council update the rules and regulations regarding the process in which businesses apply for and obtain permits to sell alcohol.

Santa Monica has issued 295 liquor licenses — the third highest ratio of population to the number of establishments allowed to serve alcohol in the state, behind Beverly Hills and San Francisco.

But council members said the request was not specific enough and public concerns were vague. They voted unanimously last Tuesday to send the issue back to

the planning commission for further study and recommendations.

"As for the alcohol policy, we need to deal with enforcement issues," said Mayor Mike Feinstein. "But it doesn't seem like it should be a concern for staff."

Kelly Olsen, chairman of the planning commission, wants to make it mandatory for any business owner wishing to serve alcoholic beverages or any employee who will serve alcohol to undertake a free training session from the Alcohol Beverage Commission.

Making the training program mandatory, a policy Olsen said Los Angeles already requires, is something the planning commission can do without involving the council or city staff.

"It would simply be condition we could throw into our current alcohol permit regulations," Olsen said.

The planning commission chair also said he would like to have all alcohol permit holders come before the commission every three

See ALCOHOL, page 3

Bus fares could be increased

Public hearing will be held though some city council members aren't on board

BY ANDREW H. FIXMER
Daily Press Staff Writer

Officials at The Big Blue Bus want to raise fares across the board to pay for new expanded routes and an increased number of buses on the roads.

But the Santa Monica City Council may not go along with the idea.

The council last week approved a public hearing on the proposed fare increase for May

14. If the new fares are adopted, local bus riders would see an increase from 50 cents to 75 cents. Senior citizens would face a 10 cent increase, while students would pay 15 cents more.

Someone using the local bus service to commute to work five days a week would see an average increase of \$10 a month in bus fares. Students would be charged \$8 more a month and senior citizens would see \$4 monthly increase.

Though council members approved the public hearing, many were skeptical of raising fares beyond the current rate.

"My sense is there is a real advantage to maintaining a 50-cent-fare," said Councilman

See BUS FARES, page 3

Today's primary election facts

By Daily Press staff and wire reports

California's polls will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m. Tuesday.

The primary election is a "semi-closed" primary, which means voters who have listed "declined to state" as their political party affiliation may vote on one of four ballots. The ballot include Republican, Democrat, American Independent and Natural Law.

"Declined to state" voters who do not request such a ballot will be given a nonpartisan ballot, containing only the names of all candidates for nonpartisan offices and measures.

Those registered in a specific political party, for example Republican or Democrat, must use

that party's ballot.

Locally, voters are asked to approve Measure U, a \$160 million bond for Santa Monica College so the facility can renovate its buildings and fund a satellite campus near the airport.

Statewide, voters will be asked six ballot measures, ranging from protecting clean air, water quality and beaches to modernizing voting equipment, controlling transportation congestion and term limits on legislators.

To find out what district you live in and where to vote, log onto www.lavote.net.

To learn more about the ballot measures or to see a sample ballot, log onto www.ss.ca.gov or call 1-800-345-VOTE (8683).

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♈ ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Visualize more of what you want. Don't take another's "no" personally. Learn to get past restrictions through your creativity. Make nothing impossible in your mind. Try out different ways to create new opportunities. Tonight: Veg and watch a favorite TV show.

♉ TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ You could be making a decision a lot harder than you think, especially concerning funds. How you see a situation could be considerably different than how a partner sees it. Follow your associate's lead, and you will be far better off. Tonight: Don't hesitate to cancel plans.

♊ GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Your negativity could flow into a different realm right now, affecting your interpersonal relationships. Hold yourself back and give up the bah-humbugs. Someone tries very hard to open up your way of thinking. Brainstorm away. Tonight: Pack away your problems.

♋ CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Your efforts to get the job done could be marred by fatigue or negativity. Understanding when to break could make a difference. Study your eating patterns for answers to your ups and downs. Meanwhile, follow an associate's lead. This person heads in the right direction. Tonight: Relax in a hot bath.

♌ LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Dance to a different tune, making what you want possible. Your sunny behavior and happy ways take you in a new direction. Listen to an unusually imaginative associate. This person is full of ideas. Know that anything is possible here. Tonight: Let another make the first gesture.

♍ VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ Get down to the basics when dealing with someone. You might not be as sure of yourself as you would like to be. A boss could be off. Avoidance might not be the right way to proceed here. Use your ingenuity, and you will come up with many ideas for your day-to-day life. Tonight: Order in.

♎ LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Speak your mind, despite another's mood. Of course, use your diplomatic skills so your message can be received well. Your imaginative style and innate charm save the day. Work demands perhaps more attention and less socializing. Tonight: Adapt plans to your needs.

♏ SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★ Deal with finances and get your head out of the mist. Reality needs to be greeted if you're going to maintain the type of control that makes you feel comfortable. Turn away from risks and greet security head-on. You can make or break the present situation. Tonight: Play a game with a loved one.

♐ SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ You mean well, but another could be unusually hard on you. Don't worry about it, because this person is even harder on himself or herself. Make headway with a project by tuning in to your imaginative side. Tonight: Do something you love.

♑ CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★ Step back and take your time making a decision. You could be thrown off by an immediate need or desire. Pressure builds around communication. Both of you might be hearing something different. Listen and enjoy. Tonight: Take a night off for yourself.

♒ AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★ Aim for your goals, even if you feel drained in some form when dealing with a child or an associate. Your creativity might be off, but your logic isn't. A friend works well with you. Together, you come up with great ideas and ways to complete a project. Tonight: Where your friends are.

♓ PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ Others make demands, and you feel a need to meet their requests. Think about your time and energy before you get yourself in a bind. Establish in your mind just how much you can accomplish. Deal with a difficult associate with the knowledge that this, too, will pass. Tonight: Work late.

QUOTE of the DAY

“It is morally wrong to let suckers to keep their money.”

— “Canada Bill” Jones

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LOCAL



Confusion leads to halt of Girl Scouts cookie sales

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON

Daily Press Staff Writer

Satisfying a Thin Mint Girl Scout cookie craving Sunday in Santa Monica wasn't easy.

Girl Scouts were ordered to temporarily stop selling cookies outside of grocery stores this past weekend after confusion surfaced about whether the practice was legal.

A grocery store manager's comment after being cited by the city for an unpermitted outdoor art sale on Saturday, Feb. 23, led to a widespread misunderstanding by Santa Monica Girl Scout troop leaders and officials that they would not be allowed to sell outside retail locations when their annual cookie sale began March 1.

"Apparently at least two grocery store managers

decided not to allow the Girl Scouts to sell in front of their stores this past weekend, concerned that they might be cited by the city," said city building official Tim McCormick. "But the city's focus is only on unlawful commercial activity.

"The city encounters many situations where businesses want to conduct business activities outdoors. The substantial impact those activities can have on residential and business neighbors is our concern."

Joannie Ransom, the executive director of Angeles Girl Scouts Council, said the 600 Girl Scouts in Santa Monica didn't sell cookies on Sunday until the matter could be cleared up.

"One of their pledges that they take is to honor author-

ity," she said. "But now the girls are selling cookies like mad."

Ransom added that once she discussed the issue with city officials Monday, she realized girls were still allowed to sell outside of grocery stores.

"The city was great," she said. "I was very impressed with the city manager's office. They were very helpful."

The Girl Scouts set their own goals for cookie sales and focus on community projects like beach clean-ups and working senior citizens in local convalescent hospitals throughout the year.

Girls will be on hand selling cookies for the next three weeks outside of most Santa Monica grocery stores and Rite Aid drug stores.

Judge rules playhouse lawsuit can go to trial

PLAYHOUSE, from page 1

appeared to violate city zoning laws.

Genser said he forwarded Garai's concerns to the city's planning department, which prompted officials to rule the playhouse is illegal because it's two stories. It was originally defined as a one-story structure.

The Levys claim Genser "advocated" to city staff that the playhouse was two stories, which pressured them into ruling the structure illegal. City charter forbids elected officials from ordering staff into any action.

The Levys, who live in an east side Santa Monica neighborhood, were ordered to either tear down the 12 1/2-foot tall building or face criminal charges.

However, in an attempt to avoid a lawsuit and reach a compromise, city officials said the playhouse could stay but wouldn't be regarded as a legal structure.

The Levys chose to sue, asking for the structure to be considered legal. The suit also asks that the city set up a public hearing process for other residents who violate

zoning codes. One of the Levys' claims is that they weren't given due process and a forum to argue their case when they were issued a notice of violation.

The city filed its motion to dismiss last month based on two arguments. The first was to disqualify Harding, Larmore, Kutcher & Kozal, the firm representing the Levys, because Harding's wife, Laurie Lieberman, worked as a deputy city attorney nine years ago and now works at the prominent land use law firm.

The city argued that because Lieberman works for the firm part time, she has created a conflict of interest in the case because she advised elected officials, specifically Genser, on how to conduct themselves with staff.

Judge Sarmiento barely heard arguments from either side before he denied the city's disqualification motion.

"I just don't see how anyone who worked there 10 years ago would have any bearing on this case," Judge Sarmiento said.

The city's second argument was based

on a law that prevents people from being punished for exercising their First Amendment rights. It also is designed to protect them when they complain to government officials.

"Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation" — also known as SLAPP suits — are meritless lawsuits used mainly by big developers to quiet the public's freedom of speech when speaking out against a project. It's also used to intimidate them so they will stop complaining.

The city argued that Genser shouldn't be criminalized over something as Democratic as passing along a citizen complaint to city officials.

Deputy City Attorney Joe Lawrence argued that the Levys' interpretation of city law is wrong.

"Everything the plaintiffs argue are implied," he said, adding the city's law, written more than 50 years ago, only specifies that elected officials cannot order city staff into action. "The generation in 1946, in 1947, now known as the greatest generation alive, clearly knew the differ-

ence between 'order' and 'persuasion' or 'advocate.' They knew the word 'order.'"

But for Judge Sarmiento, the Levys' arguments that Genser may have persuaded city officials to reverse their decision on the playhouse and that the family was denied due process when they were informed about the decision are strong enough.

"I do think they have met their burden that they could prevail," he said.

Lawrence said he'll recommend an appeal to Judge Sarmiento's ruling, which could delay the case for months.

"It's my recommendation but it's the council's decision," Lawrence said. "My reaction is that the judge's ruling is incorrect ... I think he gave the anti-SLAPP motion a narrow view."

The case is scheduled to go to trial July 30.

While listening to the arguments, one lawyer waiting to be heard on a separate case leaned over to a colleague and whispered, "All this is about a playhouse?"

City '20 years behind the times' on booze rules

ALCOHOL, from page 1

years to renew their permit. Currently, once a business is given an alcohol permit, they have it forever.

But if businesses are forced to return, those that are not acting in according to the city's rules and regulations wouldn't have their permits renewed, he said.

"There has never been an alcohol permit that has been revoked," Olsen said. "There never has been and there never will be enforcement on these issues. Giving someone a permit without a sunset clause is like giving someone a blank check."

However, enacting that change would require approval from the city council. Olsen said the planning commission will bring experts in to talk about the issue to provide the city council with the information it needs.

The city hasn't updated its alcohol regulations in over a decade, he said. In addition, Santa Monica is decades behind Los Angeles and a number of other southern California cities in terms of controlling businesses that serve alcohol.

"There are other communities that have far more responsible policies regarding the use of alcohol," Olsen said. "I believe Santa Monica is 20 years

behind the times on this and it's about time some real changes are made."

Residents at last Tuesday's council meeting were concerned that the rate of teenage drinking in the city was high because of the large number of businesses serving alcohol.

"Our students get their alcohol from any number of the liquor stores in Santa Monica or in the surrounding communities," said Stephanie Barbenall. "And when clerks won't serve them, they get drunks, many of whom are homeless, to

buy it for them."

But some council members said it was not the job of the council to keep alcohol out of children's hands.

"I think we should have a policy that parents should keep track of their kids and make sure they aren't getting into drinking," said Councilman Bob Holbrook. "I'm not sure how a (city policy) would impact on parent values and student values when it comes to drinking, but that's where these changes need to be emphasized."

Council unsure on fares

BUS FARES, from page 1

Ken Genser. "We'll attract more riders by keeping it dirt-cheap."

Another council member was concerned the increase would be detrimental to the segment of the city's senior citizen population, which depends on the bus to get around town.

"Though these fare increases are modest, for someone on a fixed budget these increases can be substantial," said Councilman Richard Bloom. "I think we need to keep that in mind while we debate this issue."

Bus officials said at the same public hearing they are going to unveil a new unlimited bus and rail pass that can be used on any Los Angeles-area mass transit service for a \$58 monthly fee.

"People are paying over \$200 a month for a monthly parking space in downtown (Santa Monica), not to mention the high cost of insuring, maintaining and running a car," said Councilman Bob Holbrook. "So even with the fare increase, the folks who use this service the most — which are commuters — would still be getting a great value."

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STATE

Marijuana book king pleads innocent to drug charges

BY MICHELLE R. SMITH
Associated Press Writer

OAKLAND — To generations of marijuana enthusiasts, Ed Rosenthal is the answer man, his mind brimming with information on how to grow the world's best buds.

To the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration, Rosenthal is just a big drug dealer.

Caught in a struggle between federal and state authorities who have been at odds since California and other states legalized medical marijuana, Rosenthal freely admits he was growing the 600 pot plants that agents seized from an Oakland warehouse on Feb. 12.

"The laws against medical marijuana put anyone with a conscience in the middle of a major conflict," Rosenthal said. "You want to help the patients, but the federal government says it's illegal."

On Monday, Rosenthal pleaded innocent to conspiring to grow 1,000 or more marijuana plants, federal charges that carry a minimum 10-year prison term.

The DEA also raided the Harm Reduction Center, a medical marijuana club in San Francisco, and arrested its director, Richard Watts, along with another alleged supplier, James Halloran of Oakland. Halloran also pleaded innocent Monday. Watts is awaiting arraignment.

The U.S. Attorney's office won't comment on the case. But Richard Meyer, spokesman for the DEA in San Francisco, said Rosenthal and the other defendants simply were breaking the law.

"Our job is to enforce the federal drug statutes and we're committed to doing that," he said.

Rosenthal, 57, says he's anything but a drug dealer out for profit, noting that the plants agents seized didn't have buds — the part of the plant normally smoked for a high. He planned to give out cuttings to seriously ill people.

"I was growing clones so patients could clone their own," he said.

Rosenthal, who helped found the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws and used to write the "Ask Ed" column for "High Times" magazine, has researched and written nearly 20 books on marijuana.

Millions of copies have been sold, mostly in the United States, with titles such as "The Growers Handbook," "The Big Book of Buds," and "Ask Ed: Marijuana Law. Don't Get Busted" which offers tips on avoiding arrest.

"It worked up until a few weeks ago," he says, with a wry smile.

He and his wife, Jane Klein, run their publishing company, Quick Trading Co., out of their rambling Victorian home on an Oakland hill.

"The laws against medical marijuana put anyone with a conscience in the middle of a major conflict."

— ED ROSENTHAL
Marijuana book author

The self-taught expert in botany spends much of his time in his garden, tending to his orchids, pineapples, olive trees, and dozens of other legal plants.

A letter on his office wall thanks him for the lettuce-growing tips he published in "National Gardening" magazine. But primarily, Rosenthal is known for being what another letter on his office wall calls him — "the Michael Jordan of pot."

Lately, he's used that expertise in a radio talk show on Berkeley's KPFA-FM, talking up how pot can help people deal with chronic illnesses, AIDS or other painful conditions.

"If I don't help them, it will be a sin of omission," he said.

Comedian arrested in scuffle with security at SF airport

By The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — A stand-up comedian was arrested after he allegedly got into a loud argument and a scuffle with a National Guardsman at San Francisco International Airport.

Kevin Meaney, 45, allegedly grabbed the soldier's loaded M-16 rifle with both hands and got into a shoving match with him Sunday after airport authorities repeatedly asked the comedian to stop videotaping checkpoint security procedures, authorities said.

The National Guard said Meaney also became verbally abusive when security staff asked to pat-search his wife.

"The majority of the problem was based on his conduct — he was very loud and caused a disturbance at the checkpoint, yelling at the supervisors who were trying to calm him down and at the soldiers," said National Guard 1st Lt. Robert Paoletti.

The altercation occurred at an American Airlines security checkpoint where Meaney was videotaping the operations. It has been against federal law to

videotape such activities since the Sept. 11 attacks.

"The majority of the problem was based on his conduct ..."

— 1ST LT. ROBERT PAOLETTI
National Guard

When security officers asked to pat search Meaney's wife, she told them she had nothing to hide and exposed her bra. She was not arrested.

Meaney was being held Sunday at San Mateo County Jail. He lives in the Los Angeles suburb of Toluca Lake. A woman who answered the phone at his residence Monday said he was unavailable for comment.

Meaney appeared in the movie "Big" with Tom Hanks, and starred in the CBS sitcom "Uncle Buck." Meaney was scheduled to appear this weekend in Toronto with Jerry Seinfeld.

STATE



Riordan urges Republicans not to let Davis hijack race

BY ALEXA HAUSSLER

Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO — GOP gubernatorial hopeful Richard Riordan accused Gov. Gray Davis Monday of “hijacking the Republican primary” by pouring millions into attack ads that helped catapult newcomer Bill Simon into the lead.

“We can’t let him get away with that,” Riordan told supporters Monday at a breakfast in Sacramento during an airplane tour of the state to revive his support before voters go to the polls Tuesday.

Davis, a Democrat with no serious primary opposition, has spent \$10 million on ads attacking the former Los Angeles mayor in an unprecedented effort to bruise the moderate GOP candidate he sees as his biggest potential threat.

Meanwhile, Los Angeles investor Simon, who has never before run for office, is trying to stage a stunning upset in the state GOP gubernatorial primary Tuesday over Riordan, who was the favorite for months.

Simon, son of the late treasury secretary under Presidents Nixon and Ford, went from obscurity to first place in recent polls to surpass Riordan in the race to take on Davis.

The White House is closely monitoring the campaign, which has widened the fracture in the state Republican Party. Riordan attracts GOP moderates who believe the party needs to be more inclusive to win elections, and Simon has won the backing of loyal conservatives.

While polls show Simon leading the race, they also show that a majority of Republicans polled think Riordan would be the stronger candidate against Davis in November. Most political analysts agree, as they cite Riordan’s support for gun control and abortion rights that are agreeable to voters in a heavily Democratic state.

Boosting that contention Monday was

actor and Republican activist Arnold Schwarzenegger, who introduced Riordan at a campaign rally in Los Angeles’ San Fernando Valley.

“We want to make sure everybody thinks about why Gray Davis is spending \$10 million,” Schwarzenegger said. “He wants to derail Dick Riordan. He’s scared of running against Dick Riordan.”

A cordial campaign between Simon and Riordan, friends who attend the same Los Angeles parish, dissolved into sharp criticism and negative television ads after polls showed Simon gaining on and eventually surpassing Riordan.

“I still consider Dick a friend. I know in the closing days of a campaign the rhetoric often gets heated up.”

— BILL SIMON

Republican gubernatorial candidate

The candidates issued final pleas to voters Monday to wrap up a multimillion-dollar campaign filled with unexpected twists.

In a campaign stop Monday at a downtown Los Angeles restaurant, Simon discussed the same issues he has throughout the campaign: education, the economy, and infrastructure. He refused to predict victory and said the bitter campaigning would not prevent him from working with Riordan.

“I still consider Dick a friend,” Simon



Rich Pedroncelli/Associated Press

Former Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan, right, a candidate for the Republican nomination for governor, does a high five with Bryan Brennan, 5, following a morning breakfast held for supporters in Sacramento on Monday. Riordan, who is running against businessman Bill Simon and Secretary of State Bill Jones, visited the capital city on the first stop in a day long tour of the state on the final day before today's election.

said. “I know in the closing days of a campaign the rhetoric often gets heated up.”

Riordan flew around the state trying to rally Republican women. He has said many women are repelled by the party’s conservatism and opposition to abortion rights.

“We need a high turnout and we need women,” Riordan said.

The third-place gubernatorial candidate, Secretary of State Bill Jones, has said he expects turnout for Tuesday’s election to be low — about 36 percent of the state’s more than 15 million registered voters — which could help Simon.

Meanwhile Jones, who trails far behind Simon and Riordan, accused his opponents of using their personal wealth and contributions from influential donors to buy votes.

Jones angered GOP faithful by jumping from supporting then-Texas Gov.

George W. Bush to Sen. John McCain of Arizona in the 2000 presidential primary campaign.

In another high profile race, Rep. Gary Condit spent the day walking precincts and trying to fend off the well-funded challenge of his former aide, Democratic state Assemblyman Dennis Cardoza.

Condit, his political career in tatters since the disappearance last May of Washington intern Chandra Levy, sent voters in the Democratic primary for his congressional district a letter asking for a “chance to regain your trust and redeem myself.”

Washington police sources have said Condit admitted he had an affair with Levy, although in media interviews he has refused to reveal the nature of their relationship. Law enforcement officials have said he is not a suspect in her disappearance.

Priests removed as church sex abuse scandal hits SoCal

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Word that the Los Angeles Catholic Archdiocese has removed as many as a dozen priests involved in sex abuse cases was hailed Monday as a victory for people fighting pastoral sex abuse.

“This was our vision,” said Katherine K. Freberg, an Irvine attorney who won a \$5.2 million settlement last year for a man who said he was sexually abused as a teen-ager. Part of the settlement with Ryan DiMaria required the Archdiocese of Los Angeles and Diocese of Orange to adopt “zero tolerance” policies toward sexual abuse in the clergy.

Last month, Cardinal Roger Mahony, who heads the Los Angeles Archdiocese, promised that any allegation would be investigated and any abusers removed rather than reassigned to other parishes.

The Los Angeles Times, city anonymous sources within the archdiocese, said Monday that Mahony has begun doing just that, forcing six to 12 priests to leave. Those forced out were involved in sexual abuse cases dating as far back as 10 years, the Times said.

Archdiocese officials refused to confirm or deny the report.

Mahony “wants to let his pastoral statement speak for itself,” archdiocese spokesman Tod M. Tamberg told The Associated Press.

He added that archdiocese officials do discuss removals of priests with members of the parishes where the clergymen worked.

In a related matter, the Rev. Michael Pecharich, announced Sunday he had been forced to resign from an Orange County parish for having a relationship with a teen-age boy 19 years ago.

Pecharich, founding pastor of the San Francisco Solano Church in Rancho Santa Margarita, apologized personally to his parishioners.

The 56-year-old priest was asked to leave last week by the Bishop of Orange, the Most Rev. Tod D. Brown. His case had been known to church officials since 1996.

Dioceses across the country have been under pressure to rid themselves of any priests with a history of sexual misconduct following a scandal that erupted last month in the Boston Archdiocese.

Cardinal Bernard Law in Boston declared a zero-tolerance policy for abuse as a result of the case of defrocked priest John Geoghan, who was shuttled from parish to parish as allegations against him surfaced.

Geoghan, who is accused of molesting 130 children, is serving a prison sentence for fondling a 10-year-old boy and faces more charges.

The cost of past, pending and future sexual abuse claims against the Boston Archdiocese could reach \$100 million.

Cardinal Law reluctantly gave law enforcement officials the names of 80 priests who had been accused in the past of abusing children. His action was followed by similar disclosures in Philadelphia.

Tamberg would not say whether the Los Angeles Archdiocese had given information to law enforcement authorities, but he noted that state law requires clergy, teachers and other people who work with children to report child abuse.

Freberg said the archdiocese should go further to fight sexual abuse by publicly disclosing the names of the priests involved.

She also objected to the priests Mahony removed being given what the Times reported were generous severance packages.

“What company — other than Enron — pays known criminals a generous severance package?” she asked.

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STATE

Wal-Mart spends \$140,000 to defeat Calexico measure

The Associated Press

CALEXICO — Wal-Mart Stores Inc. spent thousands of dollars to defeat a local ballot measure that would hinder its ability to expand in a city along the U.S.-Mexico border.

The retailing giant reported expenditures of nearly \$140,000 in its bid to defeat Measure B in the primary election Tuesday in the Imperial Valley city of Calexico.

Supporters of the measure, including a labor union and owners of smaller stores, spent nearly \$60,000 on their campaign, The Imperial Valley Press reported.

Measure B would uphold a City Council decision to prohibit a store larger than 150,000 square feet from devoting more than 7.5 percent of its floor space to groceries.

That would prevent Wal-Mart, based in Bentonville, Ark., from opening a Supercenter, a store that can be up to 230,000 square feet and would include a large area for produce, meat and other groceries found in traditional supermarkets.

Labor organizations oppose the stores because Wal-Mart has a nonunion work force.

A Wal-Mart spokesman, Pete Kanelos, said the company has not decided whether it will build a Supercenter in Calexico but would like to keep the option of doing so. The company has also not decided what it will do with its smaller existing store in the city.

LAX evacuated after outline of hand grenade spotted

BY LEON DROUIN KEITH

Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES — Hundreds of travelers were evacuated from Los Angeles International Airport terminals Monday after baggage screeners spotted the outline of a hand grenade on a security scanner.

The object turned out to be an inert replica of a military hand grenade but it had the potential of being turned into an explosive device, Los Angeles police Commander Gary Brennan said.

The baggage was screened because the owner, a passenger on Alaska Airlines, "was identified as someone we needed to take a closer look at," said Ron Pelayo, manager at LAX for the federal Transportation Security Administration.

Officials did not identify the passenger, who was placed in federal custody for questioning.

A government official in Washington, speaking on condition of anonymity, said the grenade appeared to be a gag gift.

Mayor James Hahn told reporters that three flights were canceled, 21 were delayed and the disruption affected the entire national transportation system.

"Certainly it defies belief that someone would pack a hand grenade, whether or not it was explosive or inert, in baggage that's gonna go on an airplane," he said. "This is incomprehensible."

The airport was hit with another scare Monday when engine failure forced an American Airlines passenger jet to make an emergency landing.

The Boeing 767 landed safely at 8:50 a.m., about 10 minutes after it had left the airport en route to Washington-Dulles Airport.

"This thing just came in spur of the moment. We had only about three minutes notice to get our units in place," said Battalion Chief Robert Franco of the Los Angeles Fire Department.

Fire personnel inspected the plane after it landed and escorted it to a terminal, where passengers were placed on other flights.

The twin-engine, wide-bodied jet, like all jetliners, is designed to fly safely even if an engine goes out.

The landing came about three hours after hundreds of people had been evacuated from Terminals 2 and 3 because of

the discovery of the inert grenade replica. Passengers waited nearly four hours on the upper level for ticketing and flights to resume.

The terminals served Alaska, America Airlines, Horizon, TWA, Air China, Air Canada, Hawaiian Air and Northwest airlines, among others.

"The more threats there are, the more secure is the system ... but it's an annoyance. My whole day is lost."

— EDMOND AZADIAN
Traveler

Passengers were asked to leave about 5:45 a.m. and kept outside for nearly four hours while the LAPD bomb squad investigated.

Most travelers at LAX seemed to take the inconvenience in stride.

"It's just another day in America," laughed Flemuel Brown, a Philadelphia music producer on his way home from last week's Grammys. "I'm just glad everybody is all right."

Other passengers were frustrated but understood the need for precautions.

"Nobody's telling us anything. We're just herded like sheep and we're following the line," said Edmond Azadian, a resident of Southfield, Mich., who was on his way home.

He had been at the airport since 6 a.m.

"The more threats there are, the more secure is the system," he said. "That's why I don't panic, but it's an annoyance. My whole day is lost."

Screeners spotted the suspicious item in a box as it passed through a security scanning machine for departing passengers at Terminal 3.

Traffic on the upper level was diverted away from the terminals, but the lower level remained open.

On Thursday, an unplugged metal detector triggered the evacuation of five LAX terminals, delaying 400 flights and forcing about 10,000 passengers to be rescreened.

NATIONAL □ STATE



Arab congressman on the defensive in Senate race

BY J.M. HIRSCH

Associated Press Writer

CONCORD, N.H. — The Arab card has been thrown down on the table in the race for Senate in New Hampshire.

Rep. John E. Sununu has been the subject of accusations — some of them made anonymously, some of them made openly by his GOP rival's campaign — that the Arab-American congressman is anti-Israel and soft on terrorism.

The allegations could be just the start of a dirty, expensive and high-stakes campaign for the historically Republican Senate seat, now held by Bob Smith.

Smith, 62, and Sununu, 37, will face off in the Sept. 10 primary. The winner is expected to battle Democratic Gov. Jeanne Shaheen in an election that could help decide control of the nearly tied Senate.

Smith has never been quoted referring to Sununu's ethnicity, but questions about terrorism and the congressman's Lebanese and Palestinian heritage surfaced last fall in a flurry of news reports.

Among them was a New Republic story that identified Sununu as the only ethnic Palestinian in Congress and quoted an unidentified Smith adviser as saying of Sununu: "People are just beginning to focus on how pro-Arab he is and how naive his positions are on the terrorism issue."

Smith spokeswoman Lisa Harrison said the senator's staff was never contacted about the story and would never make an issue of a candidate's ethnic background.

But Franklin Foer, associate editor of the magazine and author of the story, said he talked to the senator's

staff and campaign repeatedly. In fact, Foer said, two people — a Smith staffer and a supporter — sent the magazine a fact sheet titled "John E. Sununu: A Pattern of Support for Radical Anti-Israel Causes Funded by Radical Islamic Fundamentalists."

Sununu spokeswoman Barbara Riley said the facts tell a different story about Sununu, whose father, John H. Sununu, was governor of New Hampshire and White House chief of staff under George Bush.

"Number one, any charge that Congressman Sununu's voting record on the Middle East is anti-Israel is baseless," she said. "He has consistently supported financial military assistance for Israel. Number two, John has strongly supported President Bush's proposals to eliminate global terrorist organizations."

Still, Smith's campaign director, Corey Lewandowski, has repeatedly questioned Sununu's commitment to Israel and the fight against terrorism.

In November, former Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu visited New Hampshire at Smith's invitation. Lewandowski told The Boston Globe last month: "Mr. Netanyahu knows that Senator Smith has been a supporter of Israel and Congressman Sununu has never been a supporter of Israel. He's consistently voted against Israel. I think that was part of the impetus for Mr. Netanyahu wanting to come up and campaign for Bob Smith."

Later, Lewandowski told The Associated Press the Globe misquoted him, then said he misspoke in the interview. He said Netanyahu's visit was not a campaign event or intended to highlight differences between Smith and Sununu on Israel.

In December, Sununu went to a fund-raiser attended by Ziad Asali, president of the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee. Following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, Asali said Osama bin Laden may be posing as a champion to some Muslims because he had seized on "legitimate grievances deeply felt in the Arab and Islamic world." Asali also contributed \$1,000 to Sununu in December.

"If that is the type of person Congressman Sununu feels should be contributing to his campaign, then I think that may call into question his views on terrorism," Lewandowski told the AP.

Former Sen. Warren Rudman, a Sununu supporter and Mideast expert, said the accusations will hurt Smith.

"I'm not the only person who has looked at some of these things and rolled his eyes," Rudman said. "This primary should be fought out on issues, not on silliness, and to some extent character assassination and guilt by association."

Anthony Corrado, a professor of government at Colby College, said he was not surprised to see the ethnic card played. Since Sept. 11, "we can expect that issues of being weak on terrorism, and even xenophobic statements, will be part of the negative discourse we see in the hard-fought contests."

Tom Rath, a New Hampshire Republican political consultant, said the Arab issue will not matter to voters. According to census estimates, New Hampshire's Arab population is one-fifth of 1 percent of the state's 1.2 million residents.

"I've heard no resonance of the issue whatsoever other than the inside baseball Washington sort of reports," Rath said. "It doesn't seem to me to have had any traction in New Hampshire."

Shaheen's husband is of Lebanese descent. But that has not become an issue.

Sununu has voted for foreign aid packages that included about \$3 billion to boost Israel's military and economy, and opposed a measure that would have reduced aid.

But in 1999 he was one of six Republicans to vote against a measure opposing the unilateral declaration of a Palestinian free state, according to the Congressional Quarterly Almanac. And last year he was the only Republican to vote against a bill penalizing the Palestinian Authority if it declared itself an independent state without Israel's consent.

Smith opposes unilateral moves by Palestine to declare itself an independent state.

The candidates differ on the use of classified evidence to deport suspected terrorists. Smith favors the measure; Sununu considers it unconstitutional.

Prosecution rests in dog mauling case

BY LINDA DEUTSCH

AP Special Correspondent

LOS ANGELES — The prosecution rested Monday in the San Francisco dog mauling case after showing detailed photos of Diane Whipple's wounds and a TV interview in which a defendant blamed the victim for not slamming her door shut.

The prosecution's case included 39 witnesses in all, many of whom told of terrifying encounters with two big presa canario dogs, Bane and Hera, kept by Marjorie Knoller and her husband, Robert Noel, in an apartment in San Francisco's Pacific Heights.

Moments after Assistant District Attorney Jim Hammer rested his case, the defense moved for dismissal on grounds of insufficient evidence.

Hammer, in a heated response, said, "Ms. Knoller is a liar, not a hero. ... To leave a woman to die alone in a hall, naked, while she's crawling to get home, is the coldest act I can imagine and is evidence of her cold, depraved heart."

Superior Court Judge James Warren denied the motion, saying that if the jury were to find the defendants guilty, an appeals court would find there was ample evidence to convict them of the charges, including a second-degree murder count against Knoller.

Whipple, 33, a college lacrosse coach, was killed Jan. 26, 2001. Knoller alone faces the murder charge. She and her husband are also charged with involuntary manslaughter and having a mischievous dog that killed a person.

The prosecution's final testimony included a coroner who compared

the fatal attack to the killing technique wild predators use on prey, a reading of Noel's grand jury testimony and a TV interview of the defendants on ABC's "Good Morning America."

In the interview Knoller was asked to describe the attack. She said Bane merely "became interested" in Whipple, who was returning from a grocery store, as she stood in the hall outside her apartment.

"He wasn't making aggressive moves," Knoller said. "He was just really, really interested. I don't know if there was something in the grocery bags or something about Miss Whipple."

She claimed she threw herself on Whipple and to shield her.

Asked if she bore any responsibility for the attack, Knoller replied, "Responsibility? No ... it wasn't an attack. Miss Whipple had ample opportunity to shut the door of her apartment. She should have just slammed the door shut. I would have."

The prosecutors also read to jurors excerpts from Noel's grand jury testimony in which he acknowledged writing a letter saying that Whipple feared the dogs and nearly "had a coronary" when she saw them in the hallway.

When Hammer inquired if Noel was concerned that a young woman living in the building was terrified by the dogs, he said, "Not particularly, no."

Outside court, defense attorney Nedra Ruiz said the defense will call some 30 witnesses beginning Tuesday to tell jurors about positive encounters with the dogs.

"The vast majority of folks had no problem with the dogs," she told reporters.

Ruiz said she would stress in her final argument that Knoller tried to save Whipple.

"I think the jury is going to find that Marjorie acted heroically," Ruiz said.

Much of the day was spent on gruesome testimony about Whipple's wounds, including enlarged photographs that drove many spectators out of the courtroom.

Dr. Boyd Stephens, chief medical examiner for San Francisco, said one of the dogs seized and crushed Whipple's larynx.

"It's not uncommon for a carnivore to go for the neck," Stephens said.

"A lion or a leopard — they go for the throat," he said by way of comparison.

"They're cutting off the air supply and they hold on until the animal asphyxiates."

Stephens said all surfaces of Whipple's body except the soles of her feet and the top of her head were covered with wounds.

The witness said the damage to Whipple's larynx, combined with loss of more than a third of her blood made it unlikely that medical intervention could have saved her.

"The principle injuries were to the vessels of the neck and the larynx — the external jugular and branch of the carotid artery," he said.

"These are very serious and fatal injuries," Stephens said.

On cross-examination, Ruiz tried to show that police were negligent in not immediately trying to stem the blood flow.

Stephens said direct pressure to the wounds could have been of some help, but he qualified those statements by saying it was unlikely Whipple would have survived.

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NATIONAL

No demand for Windows sans features, exec says

BY D. IAN HOPPER

AP Technology Writer

WASHINGTON — Microsoft chief executive Steve Ballmer told lawyers for the nine states suing the company that there is no business or consumer demand for a stripped-down version of the Windows operating system.

He said that is just a ploy for competitors to “torture Microsoft.”

The videotaped depositions of Ballmer and Microsoft’s top Windows executive Jim Allchin, released to media outlets Monday, show some of Microsoft’s perceptions of the historic antitrust case.

Ballmer said Microsoft would be forced to offer an infinite number of Windows versions, all with or without extra features like the Internet browser, instant messaging software and movie and music player.

“I don’t think there’s any (computer manufacturer) interest that I understand, and I don’t think there’s any interest from consumers,” Ballmer said.

Likewise, in separate questioning, Allchin described a proposal to strip out parts of Windows as “terrible” and “so mind-blowing to me I don’t even know what to say about them.” Allchin argued with two lawyers for the non-settling states that it would be impossible for Microsoft to accomplish what the states were proposing.

“I couldn’t do what you’ve got here,” said Allchin, who was suffering a severe cold. “There’s no way. Forget about any business thing. Technically I just couldn’t do it.”

Under questioning, Allchin acknowledged that Microsoft has not conducted any formal technical reviews to determine whether the states’ plan was feasible. “It’s unimplementable,” Allchin said. “That’s my technical judgment. I haven’t done any studies on it.”

But Allchin also agreed with a question that Windows XP, released last year, is modular and contains “chunks of functionality” that could be swapped out.

The states — which revised their call for penalties Monday — say the requirement would give software developers and computer users more choices in which

programs to use.

Instead, Ballmer said companies like Sun Microsystems — whose relationship with Microsoft is notoriously prickly — would dedicate themselves to frustrating Microsoft engineers.

“Sun Microsystems (can) go buy 10,000 copies and they can just 24 have people sit there and generate work requests to 25 us every minute of every day,” Ballmer said. “Somebody could say, ‘Look, I want to make Microsoft’s life miserable so I’ll tell you what, I’ll pay you \$10 million a year to torture Microsoft.’”

Ballmer said it would be impossible to make sure the different flavors of Windows would work, because the software is dependent on those components for basic functions. “If you pull out a piece it won’t run.”

Several of the states’ proposals have been attacked by Microsoft as unreasonable or beyond the scope of the case. The penalties generally are harsher than those sought by the federal government, which negotiated a settlement with the company last year. A federal judge is to review the settlement this week.

Hunger strike reaches sixth day as 66 detainees lead protest

BY ANDRES LEIGHTON

Associated Press Writer

GUANTANAMO BAY NAVAL BASE, Cuba — U.S. officials pledged Monday that none of the Afghan war prisoners is “going to starve” in a hunger strike, which has been spurred on by uncertainty hanging over their cases.

With the protest reaching its sixth day, 83 al-Qaida and Taliban detainees were refusing some or all food, down from a high of 194 on Thursday.

Seven have been given an intravenous solution that, while not a meal, has

“caloric value,” said spokesman Marine Maj. Stephen Cox.

“Detainees can and will be kept alive,” said Cox. “No one is going to starve at Guantanamo Bay. We will not let that happen.”

The hunger strike is the first mass protest since the detainees began arriving at Guantanamo naval base from Afghanistan on Jan. 11. The military is holding 300 suspected fighters of the al-Qaida terrorist network and the fallen Afghan Taliban regime here.

“We’ve identified a group of 66 hard-liners who have generally participated in

the hunger strike to date,” Cox said. “That core group is starting to diminish.”

Thirteen haven’t eaten since the protest began Wednesday, Cox said. Dozens of others have generally stopped eating, he said.

Some who joined the strike told their captors they wanted to eat but felt under pressure from inmates in adjacent cells, so they asked to be moved to other cell blocks, Cox said.

The hunger strike began Wednesday after detainees learned that a guard stripped a fellow detainee of his turban

during Tuesday prayers. But military officials say the detainees’ underlying concern is uncertainty over their indefinite detention.

“They have made no demands,” Cox said. “This is simply a protest to draw attention to their cause, and attempting to force a decision on their situation.”

U.S. officials are determining whether and how to prosecute the men. They say those not tried by a military tribunal could be prosecuted in U.S. courts, returned to their home countries for prosecution, released outright, or held indefinitely.

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INTERNATIONAL



U.S. planes pound al-Qaida and Taliban positions

BY KATHY GANNON
AND PAULINE JELINEK
Associated Press Writers

SURMAD, Afghanistan — U.S. warplanes pounded al-Qaida and Taliban mountain strongholds in eastern Afghanistan on Monday while hundreds of coalition ground troops scoured the rugged, snow-covered terrain for pockets of enemy fighters. The heavily armed defenders responded with bursts of mortars, grenades and machine gun fire.

Seven Americans died Monday when two helicopters took enemy fire in the offensive — code-named Operation Anaconda. The attack marked the first time U.S. conventional ground troops have been used in an offensive operation.

The code name Anaconda apparently was chosen because the giant South American snake of that name crushes its victims encircled in the muscular coils of its body. The operation was said to be designed to cut off all means of escape for al-Qaida and Taliban holed up in the region.

The offensive, which includes about 2,000 Afghans, Americans and special operations forces from six allied nations, is the largest U.S.-led ground operation of

the five-month Afghan war.

Wave after wave of B-52s and other aircraft unleashed bombs for a fourth day to try to soften enemy positions in the snowcapped peaks.

"In one minute, I counted 15 bombs," Rehman Shah, a security guard at the intelligence unit in the provincial capital Gardez, said Monday.

In the eastern Afghan town of Khost near the border, troops at the American-controlled air base called in air support early Monday after the base came under small arms fire, said Maj. Brad Lowell, another spokesman at the U.S. Central Command.

No one was injured and the firing stopped, he said.

In Tampa, Fla., Gen. Tommy Franks, commander of U.S. forces in Afghanistan, said units of the 10th Mountain Division and the 101st Airborne Division had been inserted into the battle area.

Franks refused to say how many al-Qaida and Taliban were holed up in the extensive labyrinth of caves and ravines at the base of the mountains.

The commander described the ground operation as a series of short, often intense clashes with small numbers of fugitives fought in bitter cold at elevations of 8,000

to 12,000 feet.

"We might find five enemy soldiers in one place and then perhaps some distance away from there we may find three and then some distance we may find 15 or 20," Franks said. He described the battle area as "a very, very tough operating environment for our soldiers to be in."

However, Roseuddin, an Afghan civilian who was in the village of Shah-e-Kot shortly before the attacks began, estimated the al-Qaida and Taliban force at about 600, commanded by a former Taliban officer, Saif Rahman.

Roseuddin said the fighters had been storing provisions for months in anticipation of a bloody siege.

"They told people: 'If you want to leave or stay it is up to you,'" Roseuddin said. "But we're staying in those caves because they were ours in the holy war against Russia," he quoted the fighters as saying in reference to the war against the Soviets in the 1980s.

Other Afghan civilians said as many as 2,000 Arabs, Chechens, Pakistanis and Afghan Taliban moved into the area after the fall of the Taliban stronghold of Kandahar on Dec. 7.

However, many of them had apparently slipped away, either to nearby Pakistan or other areas of Afghanistan's mountainous east.

Neither the former Taliban supreme leader Mullah Mohammed Omar nor al-Qaida chief Osama bin Laden was believed to be in the area.

About 40 U.S. troops, including 11 injured Monday, have been wounded since the operation began Friday night in the snow-covered mountains southwest of Gardez.

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said half of the wounded were already back in the fight and the others were evacuated from the region.

In the first helicopter incident, an MH-47 Chinook helicopter ferrying a reconnaissance force to the area came under fire as it approached its landing zone. It landed under control, but when it lifted off, a soldier fell out of the aircraft. Franks said the crew did not realize it had lost him until it had left.

More than three hours later and about four miles away, another MH-47 Chinook brought in troops to fight the al-Qaida forces. The helicopter came under machine gun and rocket-propelled grenade fire and was forced to make what Franks called a "controlled" crash landing.

The soldiers aboard the helicopter

immediately came under fire and left the chopper to return fire, Pentagon officials said. Franks was unsure whether the casualties were sustained in the landing, the firefight or a combination of the two.

Besides the soldier lost when he fell from his chopper, officials said six soldiers were killed in the second incident. Franks had said seven or eight were killed in the second incident, but officials revised the count later Monday.

However, a Central Command spokesman, Marine Maj. Ralph Mills, said the first helicopter was flying low when it was hit with a rocket-propelled grenade that knocked a soldier out of the aircraft and caused a hydraulic problem. The first helicopter landed about a half-mile away, Mills said.

He said the second helicopter was flying in tandem with the first and rescued the downed crew, then returned to the area where the soldier fell out. The second helicopter dropped troops in that area, and six were killed in a firefight, Mills said.

The second helicopter returned and picked up the dead and wounded, he said. He said the wounded were being treated in a hospital in Afghanistan.

President Bush mourns the loss of any American life, White House spokesman Ari Fleischer told reporters Monday afternoon as Bush flew to Minneapolis. "The president has said to our country that we need to be prepared for casualties."

The coalition force includes at least 1,000 allied Afghan fighters and at least 1,000 U.S. troops as well as forces from Australia, Canada, Denmark, France, Germany and Norway, Franks said.

Pro-U.S. Afghan troops have taken up blocking positions to the south and east to isolate the fighters and prevent them from escaping.

Safi Ullah, a member of the Gardez town council, said the first stage of the offensive was designed to cut the road from Shah-e-Kot to trap al-Qaida and Taliban forces in the mountains. He said the plan also involved setting up checkpoints in the area to prevent them from getting out.

Pakistan has closed its border with eastern Afghanistan and deployed extra army units and members of the Khasadar tribal militia to catch any who try to cross the frontier and filter into its Northwest Frontier Province, where many people sympathize with the Taliban.

Afghan and Western officials estimate there are up to 5,000 al-Qaida fighters remaining in Afghanistan.



Lefteris Pitarakis/Associated Press

Afghan fighters atop a tank secure the entrance to the Paktia province town of Gardez, Afghanistan on Monday. U.S. bombers blasted the cavernous mountains of eastern Afghanistan for a fourth day Monday, pressing a new offensive against al-Qaida and Taliban fighters believed to be regrouping there.

Gunman opens fire in Tel Aviv night club, killing three

TEL AVIV, Israel — A gunman opened fire in a Tel Aviv restaurant early Tuesday, killing three people and wounding 16, police said, before he was shot dead. "We were dancing and all of a sudden we heard gunshots. We all hid under the tables," an unidentified witness said.

"A man fired with an M-16," Tel Aviv police commander Uri Bar-Lev told Israel Radio.

The gunman tried to throw a grenade but it didn't explode, and a policeman charged the attacker and killed him, police said.

Yosef Cohen, the Tel Aviv area director of the Magen David Adom rescue services, said at least 16 people were wounded.

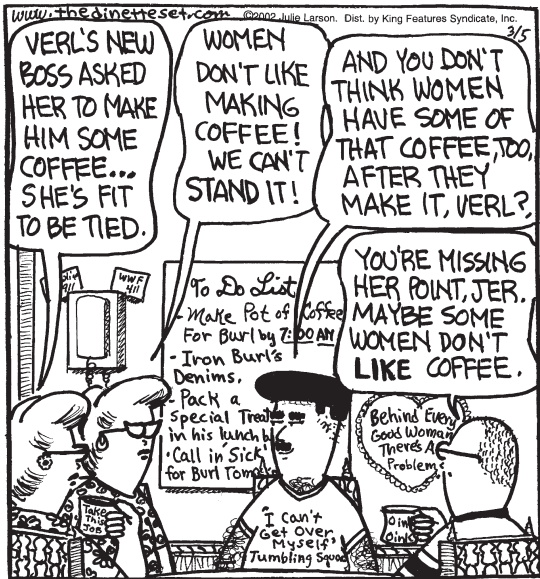
The attack took place at 2:15 a.m. at an all-night restaurant called Mifgash Hastek (The Steak Restaurant), on Petah Tikva Road, a main street in Tel Aviv.

It came during an especially violent period in the 17-month conflict between Israel and the Palestinians. In weekend attacks, Palestinians killed 22 Israelis, and in reprisals, Israeli forces killed 16 Palestinians on Monday.



COMICS

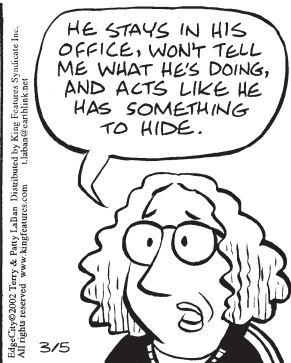
The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



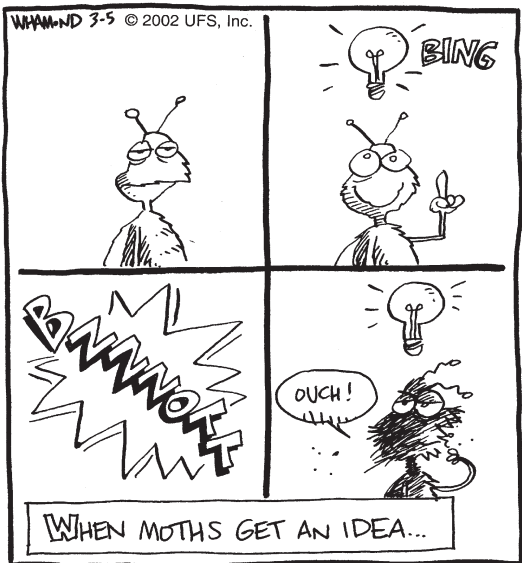
Natural Selection® By Russ Wallace



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Speed Bump® By Dave Coverly



CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Short of cash
 - 7 Russian river
 - 11 Wake
 - 12 It's taboo
 - 13 Co-author of "Black House"
 - 15 Soviet's hero
 - 16 Pub order
 - 18 Dove calls
 - 21 Flimflam
 - 22 Coffee bar orders
 - 24 Easter find
 - 25 Tacit okay
 - 26 Greek letter
 - 27 Like some sweaters
 - 29 Head of France
 - 30 Takes in
 - 31 Prefix with dynamic
 - 32 One of the strings
 - 34 Co-author of "Black House"
 - 40 Actor Sharif
 - 41 Writer — May Alcott
 - 42 Wordplay
 - 43 Fish-eating hawk
- DOWN**
- 2 Cunning
 - 3 Fish eggs
 - 4 Two-level apartment
 - 5 Theater worker
 - 6 Hammer part
 - 7 Loosen, in a way
 - 8 King of France
 - 9 — Arbor
 - 10 Fireplace fuel
 - 14 Kind of battery
 - 16 Fake
 - 17 Golfer's feat

P	A	S	H	A		G	R	I	S	T			
A	X	I	O	M		R	A	D	I	O			
L	E	T	M	E		A	G	O	R	A			
					E	N	D	S		L	E	D	
S	O	A	P	D	I	S	H						
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F	L	I	R	T			S	M	E	L	L		
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						S	E	E	D	P	O	D	S
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S	P	O	O	F				A	S	P	E	N	

Yesterday's answer

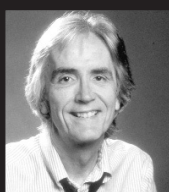
- 19 Playful animal
- 20 Old alliance
- 21 With it
- 22 Chaney of horror
- 23 Take to court
- 25 Polite denial
- 28 Crowbars, e.g.
- 29 Shred
- 31 Choir members
- 33 Scandinavian city
- 34 'N Sync song
- 35 Flightless bird
- 36 Brown hue
- 37 Broadcast
- 38 Exploit
- 39 Port spot

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
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40						41			
42						43			

3-5

STUMPED?

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD by Chuck Shepard

Mayor to give cow key to city

A half-ton cow jumped a 6-foot slaughterhouse fence and hid out so heroically for 12 days that when she was finally captured, the mayor said he'd present her a key to the city (Cincinnati).

- A tenured University of Texas chemistry professor was fired for having a messy office (so many books as to be a fire hazard) and a messy laboratory (corrosive materials) (San Antonio).
- A 42-year-old man was hospitalized after being stabbed in the stomach with a swordfish during a brawl outside his home (Madeira Beach, Fla.).
- A University of Greenwich professor announced the discovery of the oldest fossilized vomit on record (of a four-flipped reptile from 160 million years ago) (London).

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SANTA MONICA \$1200.00 Remodeled duplex apartment, 2 bedrooms, hardwood floors, private yard. Westside Rentals 395-RENT.

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"Since September 11, there's been a lot of flag-waving and a lot of talk about things Americans can be proud of. For me, Santa Monica College definitely makes the list: an institution of first class higher learning that invites, welcomes, and supports the full community—regardless of race, ethnicity, economic status, gender, age, or achievement—in pursuing their personal interests, goals, and dreams through learning. I'm voting Yes on Measure U. I hope you will join me."

– LOUISE JAFFE, PAST PRESIDENT, SANTA MONICA MALIBU COUNCIL OF PTAS

"Measure U will make it possible for Santa Monica College to continue offering outstanding services to our community for years to come."

– SHEILA JAMES KUEHL, CALIFORNIA STATE SENATOR

"Our students deserve to attend classes in buildings that are earthquake safe. That's why I'm voting Yes on U."

– HERB KATZ, ARCHITECT AND SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCILMEMBER

"Educators, parents, business leaders and residents agree, Measure U is vital to protect and improve Santa Monica College."

– DENNIS ZANE, FORMER MAYOR AND CO-CHAIR, SANTA MONICANS FOR RENTERS' RIGHTS

"We strongly support Measure U!"

– RABBI NEIL COMMES-DANIELS, FATHER MICHAEL GUTIERREZ, REV. JOE METOYER, REV. SANDIE RICHARDS, MSGR. LLOYD TORGERSON, REV. RON WILLIAMS, AND REV. BILL WOOD

"Vote Yes on Measure U on March 5!"

– ACTION APARTMENT ASSOCIATION

"I was born and raised in Santa Monica, and my mother, uncle, aunt and sister all went to SMC before transferring to UCLA. Measure U offers us an opportunity, as Santa Monica residents, to say thanks to the college for what it's done."

– JEFF GORDON, SANTA MONICA COLLEGE ASSOCIATED STUDENTS PRESIDENT

"I strongly support Measure U. This is the way a bond ought to be written. It's a bond for specific projects, all of which are local. The money can't be used for administrators' salaries. It requires annual performance audits to ensure that funds have only been spent on approved projects. It requires an annual financial audit. It requires an independent oversight committee from a cross section of the community. There is a cap on how much can be assessed in any year and it's paid locally. It proves the Legislature knows how to write a good bond and it's totally different than the pork barrel bond called Proposition 40. Most of all, it's a one-timer to fix what many think is long overdue, and the college district hasn't and won't be coming to us again and again for more money."

– ARNOLD YORK, EDITOR, MALIBU TIMES

"We all benefit from being a better educated people. Vote Yes on Prop. U."

– FRANK GRUBER, SURFSANTAMONICA.COM COLUMNIST

"We unanimously support Measure U!"

– SANTA MONICA-MALIBU UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD OF EDUCATION AND SANTA MONICA COLLEGE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

"We unanimously endorse Measure U!"

– SANTA MONICA-MALIBU COUNCIL OF PTAS

"Emeritus means so much to our students and gives focus and meaning to their lives every day—intellectually, physically, and in terms of mental health and social involvement. I fully support the efforts to give Emeritus College a home and I want Measure U to pass. My committee members who live in Santa Monica join me in this expression of support."

– JOYCE JURIN, CHAIR, EMERITUS COLLEGE ADVISORY BOARD POLICY COMMITTEE

"We support Measure U and urge District voters to approve it because: (1) in concert with the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District and area private schools, SMC gives our children wide-ranging educational opportunities at very low cost; (2) it offers residents of all ages access to a rich college curriculum as well as vital vocational training at the same low cost; (3) its presence in the community enriches it in both tangible and intangible ways; (4) it fuels the local economy; and (5) it is in need of major renovations if it is to maintain and continue to improve the quality and diversity of its curriculum."

– SANTA MONICA MIRROR EDITORIAL BOARD

"We strongly endorse Measure U!"

– SANTA MONICA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

**Vote Tuesday,
March 5, 2002**

YES ON U



Partial List of Endorsements: Associated Students of SMC • Emeritus College Advisory Board • Malibu Chamber of Commerce • Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce • Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District • Santa Monica Malibu Council of PTAs • Santa Monica Rent Control Board • ACTION Apartment Association • Santa Monica Democratic Club • NAACP Santa Monica Venice Chapter • CSEA Chapter 36 • SMC Academic Senate • SMC Classified Senate • SMC Faculty Association • SMC General Advisory Board • SMC Board of Trustees • Santa Monica Retired Teachers Association • SMC Foundation Board of Directors • Malibu Association of Realtors • Former Santa Monica Mayor Judy Abdo • Terrin Adair-Lynch • Steve Alpert • Merle Arnold • Jan Austin • Pat Barrett • Pete & Susan Barrett • Karen Bauer • Pam Brady • Julia Brownley • Dick and Norma Camp • Wendy Carey • Neil Carrey • Nancy Cattell-Luckenbach • Rabbi Neil Commes-Daniels • Former Santa Monica Mayor Jim Conn • Dee Dee Cushing • Shari Davis • Oscar De La Torre • Charles Donaldson • Tom Donner • Barbara Effros • Dorothy Ehrhart-Morrison • Jose Escarce • Marcia Fierro • David Finkel • Bruria Finkel • Casey Forgy • SMRR Co-Chair Nancy Greenstein • Donald Girard • Darrell Goode • Jeff Gordon • Linda Gordon • Brenda Gottfried • Wally & Shirl Grayson • Chuck and Dorothy Green • SM Chamber President Ann Greenspun • Father Michael Gutierrez • Maggie Hall • Chris Harding • Mark Harding • Adrienne Harrop • Mary-John Hart • Dr. Dayle Hartnett • Bob Hoffman • Malibu Mayor Joan House • Carol Jackson • John Jalili • Michael Jordan • Joyce Jurin • Miriam Kafka • Iao Katagiri • SM City Councilmember Herb Katz • Rose Kaufman • State Senator Sheila Kuehl • Tom Larmore • Paul Leaf • Maria Leon-Vazquez • Laurie Lieberman • Joan Ling • Rita Lowenthal • Jean McNeil Wyner • Margaret Miller • Rev. Joe Metoyer • James Mount • Betty Mueller • Kathryn and David Muller • Judy Neveau • Pat Nicholson • SM City Councilmember Pam O'Conner • Mark Olson • Pat Patton • Assemblymember Fran Pavley • Wally Pegram • Graham Pope • Tom Pratt • Dolores Press • Tony Prestby • Margaret Quiñones • Michael Rich • Rev. Sandie Richards • Dr. Piedad Robertson • Deirdre Roney • Herb Roney • Herb Rose • SM Mirror Publisher Michael Rosendahl • Ruth & Irving Sarnoff • Charlotte Schnaars • Malibu Chamber President Jeannette Scoville • Annette Shamey • Kathy Shamey • Helen Simos • Lantz Simpson • Joseph Sipos • Robert Skepwer • Jeffrey Sklar • Bruce Smith • Marvin E. Smith • Linda Sullivan • Monsignor Lloyd Torgerson • Alan Toy • Former Santa Monica Mayor Nat Trives • Irma R. Vargas • Kathryn Voight • Lynn Washington • Joe Weichman • Rev. Ron Williams • Doug Willis • Charlie Yen • Jamie Zazow • SMRR Co-Chair & Former SM Mayor Dennis Zane • Malibu Mayor Joan House • Malibu City Councilmember Jeff Jennings • Malibu City Councilmember Sharon Barovsky • Malibu City Councilmember Ken Kearsley • Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District • Santa Monica Malibu Council of PTAs • Malibu Chamber of Commerce • Malibu Association of Realtors • Malibu Democratic Club • Former Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan • Kathryn Yarnell, President Malibu Association of Realtors • Jeanette Scoville, President, Malibu Chamber of Commerce • Pam Brady, Boardmember, Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District • Michael Jordan, Boardmember, Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District • Pat Cairns, Principal, Juan Cabrillo Elementary • Phil Cott, Principal, Webster Elementary • Deirdre Roney • Wendy Carey • Beverly Hammond • Heather Anderson • Gail Connors Goldberg • Steven Goldberg • Rick Holben • Diane Maleka • Steve Welch • Judy Slosser • Karen Verham • Dr. Ron Verham • Susan Manners • Jack Corrodi • Rosemary Sampson • Bill Sampson • Susie Duff • More Than 1,000 Additional Supporters of Measure U • *Titles for Identification Purposes Only*