

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

DAILY LOTTERY

SUPER LOTTO

9 23 26 31 36
Meganumber: 10
Jackpot: \$42 Million

FANTASY 5

2 8 10 28 30

DAILY 3

Daytime: 9 2 6
Evening: 4 2 5

DAILY DERBY

1st: 10 Solid Gold
2nd: 03 Hot Shot
3rd: 06 Whirl Win

RACE TIME: 1:48.49

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

Homaro Cantu (described by one customer as Chicago's "mad-scientist" gourmet chef) creates his signature dishes with the help of cutting-edge technology, such as fishless sushi made with edible, fish-flavored paper containing designs produced on an inkjet printer. Among the projects planned for his Moto restaurant: baking with a "class IV" laser (the kind used in welding and surgery) that will cook the center but not the outside; using helium and superconductors to make food levitate; and developing edible utensils, tables and chairs. Said Cantu, to a New York Times reporter in February, "Gastronomy has to catch up to the evolution in technology."

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 83rd day of 2005.
There are 282 days left in the year.

■ The Jewish holiday Purim begins at sunset.

In 1883, long-distance telephone service was inaugurated between Chicago and New York.

In 1905, 100 years ago, author Jules Verne died in Amiens, France, at the age of 77.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Man must cease attributing his problems to his environment, and learn again to exercise his will — his personal responsibility in the realm of faith and morals."

ALBERT SCHWEITZER
GERMAN-BORN MISSIONARY AND NOBEL LAUREATE

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Photo courtesy

Thom Mayne, a resident of Santa Monica for the past two decades, overcame a bad-boy image to capture architecture's most prestigious prize this year.

Thinking outside the box garners architect top honor

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON
Daily Press Staff Writer

COLORADO AVE. — Only eight people in the country have won architecture's equivalent to the Nobel Peace Prize and two of them hail from Santa Monica.

Thom Mayne, a city resident for the past 20 years, on Sunday won the Pritzker Prize, joining

another local resident, Frank Gehry, who received the honor in 1989.

Mayne, 61, who battled a bad boy image for years before exploding onto the international architecture scene in his mid-50s, is the first American to win the Pritzker in 14 years and only the

See **BY DESIGN**, page 7

SMFD ready and willing with new truck

BY KIM CALVERT
Special to the Daily Press

CITY HALL — The Santa Monica Fire Department will get a new hazardous materials response vehicle — worth almost \$500,000 — thanks to a grant program sponsored by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

"We've had to expand our role so we can respond to chemical, radiological, biological and nuclear acts of terrorism," said

Santa Monica Fire Department Chief Jim Hone.

According to Hone, the grant for the truck comes from the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI), which provides funding so cities can reduce their vulnerability to acts of terrorism caused by weapons of mass destruction.

The new haz mat vehicle will be manned by specially trained fire department staff, who in addi-

See **HAZ BEEN**, page 6

Pier stand-off duo sentenced to death

BY RYAN HYATT
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN LA — A jury on Wednesday chose the death penalty for two gang members who ignited a stand-off with police on the Santa Monica Pier five years ago, resulting in five people being shot and 15 taken as hostages.

The jury deliberated for one hour at the Clara Shortridge Foltz Criminal Justice Center in downtown Los Angeles before returning with a death sentence for Oswaldo Amezcua, 29, and Joseph Conrad Flores, 34, both admitted gang members.

The two men were found guilty on Monday of nearly 50 total charges for a crime spree that began in April of 2000 and ended two months later on the Santa Monica Pier.

The five-hour stand-off began after midnight on July 4 and ended in the morning dawn with the surrender of Amezcua, a convicted felon wanted in connection with five other slayings. Three Santa Monica police officers and two civilians were shot amid the violence on the pier.

In his closing arguments on Tuesday, Los Angeles Deputy District Attorney Darren Levine made an emotional appeal to the jury to choose the death penalty for Amezcua and Flores.

"We hope that when we say good-bye to our loved ones, they don't run into a Joseph Flores or Oswaldo Amezcua, because if

they happen to offend their sensibilities, our loved ones will be shot and killed," Levine said. "You're stopped at a Circle-K and you run into your worse nightmare in Los Angeles County."

The jury found Amezcua and Flores guilty of the April 11 murder of John Luis Diaz; the May 25 murder of Arturo Madrigal; and the June 19 double-murder of George Orlando Flores (no relation to the defendant) and Luis George Reyes.

Both defendants also were convicted of attempted murder, arson, second-degree robbery, shooting at an inhabited dwelling and possession of a firearm by a felon.

Amezcua also was convicted of

See **DEATH PENALTY**, page 6

Residents lose battle against wireless tower

BY RYAN HYATT
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL — An attempt by Santa Monica residents to block the placement of a wireless transmission tower on Wilshire Boulevard was denied by the City Council on Tuesday, the latest setback for citizens opposed to a proposal originally submitted in 2003.

The City Council approved AT&T's application to place a wireless communication tower on top of a private commercial building at 3010 Wilshire Blvd., affirming a city staff report indicating the proposed project met Federal Communication Commission standards and, therefore, the city had no legal grounds to deny its approval.

AT&T representatives said they want to install the tower to satisfy future demands of a cellular phone market that continues to grow in the area.

See **WIRELESS**, page 8



Photo courtesy

The fire department's newest edition bolsters the city's ability to respond to various acts of terrorism.

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Happy Birthday, Moses

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 come from a grounded space where you can accomplish a lot. Decide what is important, and it is as good as done. Don't feel bad if you need to change your plans. You're on a roll. Flex with others. News might not be complete. Wait for more information. Tonight: Focus on a project until you are too tired to continue.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Just when you think you have come to an agreement with a partner, the rug slips right out from under you. Don't get upset. Use creativity and fly right over disappointment. Add a touch more humor to your perspective. Tonight: Do what you really love.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ A partner reverses his or her decision, upsetting you. Remember, you have chosen this person to be in your life. Take responsibility. Are there many people like this in your life? You could be the common denominator. Tonight: Play it easy.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ You might need to revamp your plans, whether you want to or not. You need to jump over one obstacle after another. Put on your sneakers. Get ready to flex mentally. A serious conversation needs to happen. Tonight: Swap tales of the day with a dear friend.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★ A financial risk could backfire. Even a sound money decision could go haywire. An emotional situation might take some quick thinking or an adjustment to make it work. Yes, you are walking on eggshells. Walk like a cat! Tonight: Balance your checkbook.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You might discover that a close associate is touchy. Know what you want, and you'll have a better chance of lassoing in just that. Don't count on agreement from family and close associates. Try being a free spirit. Tonight: As you wish.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★ Know that others could be contrary, but you can be too. Avoid making judgments. Simply follow through on what you know to be important. Though you might not be thrilled with what happens, keep a perspective. Tonight: Run home.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ You have a good grasp on the present undercurrents. Still, getting confirmation of what is going on could be important. Aim for what you want. Meetings, associates and friends ease your path. Tonight: Where the action is.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ Understand that no matter how hard you try, others will not be satisfied. Learn to flex, but limit the extent to which you turn yourself inside out. You need to be true to yourself. At a certain point, you compromise yourself. Tonight: Expect to be out late.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ You could easily read more into information than is really there. Note a tendency to internalize a lot of what you hear. Often, you interpret statements to fit your issues; don't. Detach. Tonight: Get a perspective.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Work with each person as if he or she is the most important person in your life. You'll get results and turn difficult people into cooperative associates. Good for you! Bring others together with your good humor. Tonight: With your favorite person.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Others seek you out. You only need to say "yes" or "no." Don't compromise a major responsibility; you will pay for a mistake for a long time. Others will keep bringing it up to you. Gather more information before making a decision. Tonight: Accept an invitation out.

AUDIT PENDING

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LOCAL



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

St. Monica's welcomes public for Good Friday

By Daily Press staff

The Reverend Dr. Lloyd J. Ogilvie, former chaplain of the U.S. Senate and an internationally recognized author and speaker, will return to St. Monica Catholic Church to deliver the homily at Good Friday services in both the afternoon and evening.

Dr. Ogilvie will speak at the 12:15 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. services, which will include the reading of the Passion, veneration of the cross and communion. He also spoke at last year's services, as part of the parish's ecumenical outreach.

Non-Catholics as well as St. Monica parishioners and other Catholics are invited to join the services.

Dr. Ogilvie, who has given talks around the world and is the author of more than 50 books, served as Senate chaplain from 1995 to 2003, a period that included a presidential impeachment, the 9/11 terrorist attacks and the launch of the Iraq war. As chaplain, he served 6,000 legislative workers on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C.

A Senate resolution passed in January of this year honored Dr. Ogilvie as "someone upon whom Democrats and Republicans, men and women of different religious faiths, can count as a sympathetic and trusted advisor."

Dr. Ogilvie, who served earlier as senior pastor of Hollywood Presbyterian Church, is president of Leadership Unlimited.

Sunrise service led by local pastor

By Daily Press staff

A Santa Monica religious leader will participate in a sunrise Easter service in Hollywood Hills.

Forest Lawn Hollywood Hills today announced plans for its annual, non-denominational Easter Sunrise Service to be held March 27 beginning at 6 a.m.

Reverend Patricia Farris of the First United Methodist Church of Santa Monica will share an inspirational message. She will be joined by Reverend Anton Bosch from Burbank Community Church and Reverend Larry Maib of the First Baptist Church, Canoga Park. The Glendale Adventist Choir will provide music under the direction of Brenda Mohr.

The service offers community residents an opportunity to gather in an outdoor setting.

"Forest Lawn is an ideal setting for the Easter Sunrises Service with its park-like grounds, majestic artwork, and location at the heart of Los Angeles," said Alison Bruesehoff, museum executive director at Forest Lawn. "We take great pride in bringing this service as well as many other patriotic and educational events to Los Angeles throughout the year."

The Hollywood Hills service will take place in the forecourt of the "Birth of Liberty" mosaic. America's largest historical mosaic, the Birth of Liberty stands 162 feet long and 28 feet high, depicting 25 famous scenes of our nation's struggle for independence including General George Washington crossing the Delaware River on Christmas Eve and Betsy Ross presenting him with the first United States flag. Forest Lawn-Hollywood Hills is located at 6300 Forest Lawn Dr. in Los Angeles.

All services are offered at no charge to community members and their guests. For more information and directions to the memorial parks, call 1 (800) 204-3131 or log on to www.forestlawn.com.

Young surfers wanted to compete

By Daily Press staff

The surf will be up and the competition on this weekend.

The free Inaugural Grom (16 years old and under) Surf Contest sponsored by Rip

See BRIEFS, page 8



SURF REPORT

On Thursday, size should back down more towards waist- to chest-high or so as the NW wind swell continues to fade. Weather and winds will likely be problematic.

Today the water is:

62°

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	N/A	N/A	12:32	1.0	4:47	4.3	7:37	3.6
SUNDAY	12:07	2.7	1:04	-0.1	5:47	4.5	7:49	3.8
MONDAY	12:42	2.2	1:31	-0.2	6:30	4.8	8:02	4.0
TUESDAY	1:13	1.8	1:54	-0.3	7:06	5.1	8:17	4.2
WEDNESDAY	1:42	1.4	2:16	-0.2	7:39	5.2	8:33	4.5
THURSDAY	2:07	1.0	2:40	-0.3	8:04	4.7	9:02	4.0
FRIDAY	2:31	0.7	3:02	-0.1	8:34	4.2	9:30	3.4

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The  Line

A protest was held last week at Santa Monica College by area students who are upset that the Armed Forces are recruiting on campus.

Some argue that college campuses are not the appropriate place for recruitment while others are against it simply because they are against the war in Iraq.

So this week, Q-Line wants to know, "Do you

believe it's appropriate the Armed Forces to recruit on college campuses?"

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.

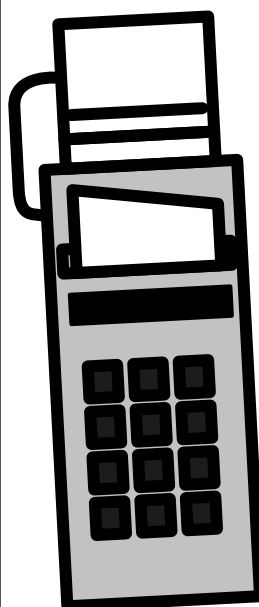


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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Proper training would reduce runner’s time

Editor:
May I congradulate Mr. Garay (SMDP, March 15, page 3) and all others who ran and completed the Los Angeles Marathon.
However, as a former marathon runner and coach with the Santa Monica Track Club, may I say that a 55-year-old man running the marathon in five hours and 24 minutes with a personal best of four hours and 20 minutes demonstrates a lack of training and proper coaching.
When I did the Boston Marathon at age 48, the qualifying time just to enter the marathon race was 3 1/2 hours. I’m certain that with proper training and coaching Mr. Garay could, at least, break four hours.
I congratulate all persons making the effort to run and jog. However, doing a marathon over four hours shows lack of proper training and coaching.

Gerry Condon
Santa Monica

Neglect runs rampant in SM

Editor:
Homelessness has been increasing each and every year since Ronald Reagan and the Big Business Republicans have dismantled our state hospitals and destroyed and attacked labor unions and working people’s quality of life. Healthcare, overtime, retirement and now Social Security have been obliterated, attacked or destroyed. Millions of jobs have been lost to outsourcing. Bush and the Federal Government have allowed millions more illegal immigrants to come into the U.S. to take jobs away from Americans. The minimum wage hasn’t been increased in seven or eight years and can in no way support the needs of those on it, i.e., rent, food, insurance, etc.
Let’s just recap the city of Santa Monica’s homeless “Continuum of Care” policy with actual facts of the city’s real actions towards the homeless to try to understand how this affects homeless people in this town.
1. The city has added no new shelter beds in three years or more and the number of beds is less than 25 percent of the number needed.
2. The city has passed a law to make it a criminal misdemeanor to sleep in or be caught sitting a doorway in much of the city.
3. The city has passed a law that would, in essence, criminalize people for feeding the poor.
4. The city has once again brought up the issue of criminalizing the poor for sleeping in their vehicles.
5. Now the city wants to criminalize the homeless for using a public restroom to wash up in, as though there were sufficient facilities for the homeless for that purpose. In Santa Monica there are estimated 1,500 to 2,000 homeless and about five showers for them to use.
It is plain to me that the “Continuum of Care” rhetoric is in reality nothing more than a continuum of attack on the poor who can not afford a house or an apartment.
There are many in this city and in this nation who readily accept this country’s and

this city’s lies and propaganda about “compassionate concern” while in reality more and more humans die as a result of neglect and direct attack.
Even though homelessness is a national, state and county issue, I know many residents of Santa Monica feel that there should be no homeless people in this city. These people say that homeless people should be sent away somewhere else and never step foot in this city again. I read these sentiments continuously in the SMDP. I also read the hypocrisy of those who say something should be done, but “sometime down the road” maybe in “ten years.” There are outright homeless haters and hypocritical homeless concerned poseurs.
But the reality of humans living and dying on the street is real and is growing. This is no game of rhetoric for the homeless. This is no “pretend to care” situation for the poor on the streets. When you turn your back on the homeless your actions have real consequences and cause real human suffering.
Germany proved that many can live with a psuedo morality and now so too Americans with their psuedo morality must be ready to face the reality of their neglect for human life. America will ultimately pay a heavy price just as the Germans for this immoral neglect of human beings.

Randy Walburger
Santa Monica

Schwarzenegger all about special interest

Editor:
We have a governor who stated several times while he was trying to facilitate the gubernatorial recall that he was extremely wealthy and, therefore, did not need “special interest” money. Since being elected, however, he has accepted a whole lot of this same special interest money. Oh, yes. I guess it’s as Steve Martin used to say, “I forgot.”
And then the article in the “state” section of the Santa Monica Dally Press on Tuesday, March 15, informs us that “... the recent disclosure that several state agencies have distributed video press releases, masquerading as TV news reports ...” And goes on that the governor’s aides have acknowledged using state money to produce these “... video news releases or VNRs, that cast an entirely favorable light on some of the administration’s most controversial policies.”
And isn’t it even slightly unethical, even in the ethically challenged America we find ourselves in, to use state money to fund press releases disguised as news releases to be played on supposedly unbiased news programs to promote their agenda? Just asking. By the way, could this be the reason he’s not paying back the school money we voted for? Is he using this money for his propaganda blitz? Just asking.
If the governor wants to make these sneaky propaganda sound bites, he should, by all means, use the wealth he bragged about during his campaign and pay for them himself. And by the way, it’s biased “news” just like this that makes me get my news from PBS and not the networks.

Marilyn Brennan
Santa Monica

‘Big government’ is all pumped up on steroid issue

NEWS ON
THE EDGE
BY RON SCOTT SMITH



He’s onto something, some might say of this. While others might leave the “to” off of the “onto” if you know what I mean.
Well, whatever may be used to aid, abet or enhance the creation of this thing for your Thursday morning perusal is done solely on behalf of the author with his permission — and any reproduction, rebroadcast or other use of the pictures, descriptions or accounts of this game without the express written consent of Major League Baseball is strictly prohibited.
Glad to get that out of the way.
OK, so it may have taken half a bottle of Gingko Biloba (enhances circulation in the brain), to help cope with the blank Microsoft document this time. Let’s see you try to make sense of the recent activities of Congress without any outside help. Am I cheating?

They’ve been very busy lately, this

Congress, a big busy body. Last week, the House subpoenaed some of baseball’s legendary sluggers to testify in front of something called the Committee on Government Reform, where they drilled them about the use of steroids to maximize their production. Now, whether you think professional athletes do or do not have the right to use body-building compounds in the overall scheme of the way they think their lives should work, would anybody mind explaining what Congress is doing with its nose in this thing?
If Mark McGwire was fortifying himself with legal substances while he went about the task of smashing 70 home runs one year, why is it any business of government? Bonds. Barry Bonds. Approaching Henry Aaron’s major league home run record of 755, blasting baseballs into the San Francisco Bay at a feverish rate. Steroids? No steroids? It’s a beautiful thing, who cares? Apparently nobody so much as a band of grandstanding politicians who know a juiced up Hall of Fame photo-op when they see one.
When Dodger pitcher Eric Gagne a few years back sauntered into spring training with thighs the size of tree trunks, then went on to blow up into the best relief pitcher in baseball after struggling as a starter with normal-sized legs for years, was the guy cheating?
Cheating, you say, cheating, they all

say, it’s not fair. But what part of a professional athlete wanting to do what he or she can to get the maximum performance out of their bodies, do you call cheating? Is it cheating, then, to have expert nutritionists on their staffs feeding them the highest potency vitamins and minerals, vegetables, fruits and protein shakes? Should stressed-out managers like Joe Torre and Jim Tracy have access to valium? Or Gingko Biloba? Is one kid who can afford a weight room in his basement cheating on the other kid who can’t?
Well, this pumped-up bunch of Congressmen were only doing their stretching, it turns out, only getting warmed up with the steroid thing. They called an extraordinary emergency session over the weekend, and flew back from their extended spring breaks in order to pass a measure that had to do with one, single person, Ms. Terri Schiavo.
Their new law will allow higher courts in Florida to once again determine whether Terri Schiavo can be re-connected to her food supply, and so continue on in the vegetative condition she has been in for 15 years, the irreversible condition that her husband decided, based on her own expressed wish to him, was unbearable enough for her that he would finally end the suffering, pull the plug.

This is a pure gut-wrench, but no different than thousands of concurrent gut-wrenches all across the land, as families struggle with life-or-death decisions that affect loved ones who are at the very end of their rope. No different except for the small fact that opportunistic ideologues have seized upon the Florida case and have chosen to turn this particular family’s tragedy into a national political football game.
Talk about “big government” swinging into action at breakneck speed? That’s the same big government the Republican majority rails against even as they comprise it. Even the president, one of the harshest critics of big government, even he took the red-eye on Air Force One so he could sign the bill in the wee hours of Sunday morning, minutes after Congress passed it. When big government wants to move, friends, big government moves.
Too bad Bush couldn’t get his big government moving when he was similarly vacationing at the Crawford ranch in August of 2001, when an emergency memo from the CIA came across his desk titled, “Bin Laden Determined to Strike in America.”
Maybe he forgot the Gingko Biloba.
(To reach Ron Scott Smith, e-mail to edgeofthewest@aol.com.)

Business

What dividends can do for your portfolio

MARKET MATTERS

BY BRIAN HEPP



Although no one knows which stocks will increase in value and which will decline, one thing is certain — the prices of stocks will change over time. But there is a way to help cushion your portfolio against fluctuations in the market. Companies that pay a dividend to their shareholders can have many benefits, including increasing total return potential and generating income for current use or reinvestment.

First, let's take a look at the basics. A dividend is a portion of the company's net profit that is distributed to shareholders. A company's board of directors decides whether dividends will be paid and, if so, how much they will be.

Dividends can make a big impact on your total return, which is figured by adding the amount of the dividend plus the price movement in the stock. For example, let's say you purchase a stock at \$50 and it increases to \$60 after one year, and also pays a dividend of \$2. Your total return would be 24 percent (\$60 ending price after one year, plus the \$2 dividend, divided by the purchase price of \$50, equals 24 percent).

You might be thinking that the \$2 dividend in the example above doesn't look half as impressive as the \$10 increase in the price of the stock, but let's look at what your total return would have been without it. If you bought a non-dividend paying stock for \$50 and it increased to \$60 after one year, your total return would only be 20 percent (\$60 ending price, divided by \$50 initial price, equals a 20 percent total return). As you can see from this example, dividends can truly make a difference as to how much you can gain from a stock.*

While we all hope the stocks we own will increase in value over time, sometimes market conditions and other factors can cause a decline in share prices. Here is an example of how dividends can help provide ballast to a portfolio when share prices do decrease.

If you purchase a share of stock for \$50

and, at the end of the year, the stock's price declines to \$40, you have incurred a loss of 20 percent. But, let's say this stock also paid a dividend of \$2. In this case, you would have lost only 16 percent. As you can see, dividends can help buoy your portfolio, especially in challenging markets.

While the above examples help illustrate some of the benefits of dividend paying stocks, there are a few things to consider. When choosing dividend paying stocks for your portfolio you should take a good look at your current overall investment holdings. It is important to remember to diversify your holdings among a variety of sectors to prevent any one from having a large impact on your portfolio's performance. Your financial consultant can help you identify companies in various sectors, as well as provide information about them.

Once you have identified areas where your holdings may need additional investment, there are a few things to think about when deciding what individual stocks to buy. You should consider the company's fundamentals, meaning a company should have a vision and direction for its future, strong cash flow and a proven track record of building its business over many years.

In addition, after you have added positions to your portfolio you should meet with your financial consultant regularly to review your holdings. Companies can reduce or eliminate their dividend at any time and your financial consultant can help keep you up to date on other investments that may also provide income.

Dividends can help balance your portfolio in changing market conditions, potentially helping to boost your total return in upswings, and reducing your losses in periods of decline. Talk with your financial consultant about dividend-paying stocks that may be a good fit for you.

*Examples are for illustrative purposes only and do not reflect the performance of any particular investment.

(Brian Hepp is a financial consultant at A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc. Member SIPC and can be reached at (310) 453-0077, or at brian.hepp@agedwards.com. A.G. Edwards is a full-service retail brokerage firm in Santa Monica.)

Promotions? Record sales? New hires? If your business has news to share, send press releases to
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SANTA MONICA BUSINESS BRIEFS

Former investor pictures world differently now

By Daily Press staff

Could you give up Wall Street for the third world?

Frederic Roberts did. As an investment banker, and former Chairman of the NASD and NASDAQ, Roberts encountered many wealthy people who seemed to him spiritually bereft. Several years ago, in a dramatic change, Roberts left his comfortable world to embrace a life surrounded by individuals who had no concept of wealth in terms of worldly goods. He found a different richness and dignity. In order to reach many of those people, Roberts had to journey to places where there were no phones, television sets, or even plumbing. In many cases he even had to bring his own food as there would not be enough to feed one more mouth. This is the essence that he has captured and is sharing with the rest of the world.

For the past four years, Roberts has photographed South Asians in some of the areas recently ravaged by the tsunami. While the creation of those photographs preceded that disaster, it is nonetheless a tribute to these people and is coincidentally being released as the world deals with this tragedy in his book, "HUMANITAS."

The Blue Ribbon and the Fraternity of Friends in February hosted a gallery opening reception and book signing of Roberts' "HUMANITAS" at the Peter Fetterman Gallery at Bergamot Station Arts Complex.

Founded in 1968 by Dorothy Buffum Chandler, The Blue Ribbon is comprised of more than 625 women who champion the performing arts. Founded in 1978, the Fraternity of Friends is a group of businessmen and entertainment industry executives whose combined membership and support of the Music Center Spotlight Awards program contributes more than \$1 million annually to the Music Center.

New tax law having little effect on car donations

By Daily Press staff

The change in the tax law for car donations which went into effect on Jan. 1 hasn't hurt one national car donation center.

"Our car donations are up about 50 percent over the same period last year," said Karen Campese CEO of cars4charities. "Even with the change in the tax law, our donors still say they are getting a valuable tax deduction. There are a couple reasons for this."

The law allows those people who donate older, less valuable cars to deduct up to \$500. For those people who donate valuable cars, cars4charities sets a minimum selling price thereby guaranteeing the donor a minimum tax deduction.

For more information on car donation, call cars4charities at 1-866-448-3487 or log onto www.cars4charities.org.

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Notice of Meeting: Housing and Community Development Workshop

The City of Santa Monica needs your feedback on our community's housing, homeless, and community development needs. Your comments will help shape the City's federal funding strategy for the next 5 years.

The Community Workshop is scheduled for :

Tuesday, March 29, 2005

7:00 pm to 9:00 pm at the Ken Edwards Center
1527 4th Street, Santa Monica

This meeting is part of the Consolidated Planning process required by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development in order for the City to qualify for over \$2M in Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Home Investment Partnership (HOME) program grants annually. The new Consolidated Plan will cover the period July 1, 2005 to June 30, 2010.

For more information, visit santa-monica.org.



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LOCAL

Gang members' lawyer told not to fight plight

DEATH PENALTY, from page 1

multiple counts of attempted murder of a peace officer for the July 4, 2000, stand-off at the pier.

The shoot-out began shortly after Santa Monica Police received a phone call around 1 a.m. from the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department telling them Flores was on the pier. Investigators had located Flores by placing a call to his pager and tracing the call.

Police arrived and managed to take Flores into custody after an altercation. Amezcua, however, ran into the nearby Playland Arcade. He attempted to exit the rear of the arcade, but encountered officers and opened fire, according to police.

Amezcua then took 15 people hostage, finally releasing the last of the hostages and surrendering at 6:40 a.m. The pier was closed to thousands of tourists and visitors throughout the day.

Both men were acquitted of a fifth murder, that of another gang member who

was fatally shot on June 7, 2000, as he answered the door of his Victorville home.

Amezcua and Flores, both with shaved heads and wearing orange prison jumpsuits, talked to each other during the trial. They had instructed their attorneys to not plead their case in the death penalty phase of the trial.

After the jury began deliberating on Tuesday, defense attorney James Bisnow, who represented Flores, announced to Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Robert J. Perry for the record some remarks Levine made that he would have contested, if his clients had so desired.

"It was his show," Bisnow said, referring to Levine.

Among his points, Bisnow disagreed with the fact Levine referred to Amezcua and Flores as "monsters" and "cowards."

"I object," Amezcua said after Bisnow's remarks, the first time he had spoken openly during the trial.

"I object," Flores said jokingly to Amezcua, as the two were taken away.

Eye in the sky: Haz mat vehicle has camera to see over buildings

HAZ BEEN, from page 1

tion to being able to respond to acts of terrorism, answer calls for chemical spills, gas leaks and incidents that involve dangerous materials, Hone said.

An example of a haz mat team response occurred in March 2003 when a Santa Monica furniture stripping company, Stripper Herk, illegally discharged methylene chloride into the city's sewer, nearly resulting in the death of a sewer worker. Hone said the haz mat team was able to decontaminate and provide emergency care to the victim, who had third-degree burns over 60 percent of his body and was in full cardiac arrest.

The new haz mat vehicle, manufactured by SVI Trucks in Loveland, Colo., has some unique features, according to the company's sales representative, Bob Sorensen, like a 42-foot retractable mast with a video camera.

"The camera will allow fire department personnel to see over buildings and evaluate dangerous situations," Sorensen said. "It will also record what's happening on to DVD for training purposes."

The state-of-the-art truck also will allow fire department personnel to set up a command resource area, test and contain hazardous materials, as well as communicate with other emergency response units via a laptop computer. "It even has a bathroom," Sorensen said, noting an important feature during long-term deployment.

The new haz mat vehicle is the second major piece of equipment ordered for the fire department in as many months.

In February, the City Council approved the emergency purchase of an \$800,000 ladder truck. The truck became a priority purchase when one of the department's two ladder trucks failed to pass a regularly scheduled inspection and certification test. The de-certification left the department with just one truck capable of performing the type of efforts needed to fight fires and perform rescues in multi-storied buildings.

In both cases, fire department officials said existing equipment was no longer functional and needed to be replaced. Both pieces of equipment are expected to be available in approximately one year, Hone said.

Do you have community news?



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Santa Monica Daily Press

LOCAL



Mayne cited for 'culture of California' style

BY DESIGN, from page 1

eighth U.S. architect to capture it in the 27-year history of the contest.

In the past few days, Mayne has been busy at his Santa Monica studio answering hundreds of phone calls and e-mails from colleagues, teachers and friends from across the globe that he's worked with over the past 30 years. He has been interviewed for hundreds of articles in various publications since the prestigious honor was announced four days ago.

"I'm not surprised, it's the Pritzker," Mayne said of the response. "(But the prize) did startle me."

Mayne, who's been recognized for his projects throughout the world, said he isn't too impressed with Santa Monica's city government or its architecture. He only noted Gehry's Santa Monica home and a few early Neo Spanish-style houses as notable pieces of architecture within the city.

Mayne said this week that City Hall's lack of vision has created an ugliness that permeates throughout Santa Monica, particularly the building across the street from his studio at 2041 Colorado Ave., which he describes as "ugly," "total crap" and "nothing of value."

And as for the rest of the city, Mayne can't understand Santa Monica's love affair with the past.

"It's odd for Santa Monica, whose political aspects are liberal, that they want to be fake and have all of these Victorians, which is not too liberal at all ... I mean what's so good about the 19th Century?" Mayne asked.

Like many developers and architects in Santa Monica, Mayne has run into the same bureaucracies that other residents complain of when dealing with City Hall, particularly its planning department and various boards and commissions.

Several years ago, Mayne was denied by Santa Monica's Architectural Review Board to build a small house in his Ocean Park neighborhood, and was given the bureaucratic run-around when he won the bid to design and build a new fire station.

"They wouldn't let us build it, they made it hard for us," he said. "It was completely arbitrary."

"Every time I've done business in this city, it hasn't gone very well."

He said Santa Monica has a tremendous opportunity to change its reputation now that City Hall is searching for a new director for its planning department.

"You need somebody that is forward thinking, has a global sense of architecture," Mayne said, adding the position requires someone who has a strong sense of urban design, particularly with large development projects coming up like the redevelopment of the Civic Center and Santa Monica Place.

"They need a well-respected person in here and it should be easy to find that per-

son," he said.

Still, Mayne said he loves living in Santa Monica because of its natural diversity, its pure liberalism and "fabulous mixture of people." He only wishes its architecture was as diverse. He noted that some of the best architects in the world come from Santa Monica.

"You think the city would hold huge bragging rights, but they kick them out or give them grief," Mayne said of local government. "There is all of this talent in this town and they don't seem to go to their own talent."

When asked whether or not he's ever considered becoming more involved in the local process, Mayne joked: "I work here, I live here, but do I think about the city, get involved in it? Of course not ... because of how they treat us."

ANGRY YOUNG ARCHITECT

When awarding the Pritzker, the jury cited Mayne for creating a bold architectural style that reflects the "unique, somewhat rootless, culture of Southern California" through angular lines and an unfinished, open-ended feel.

"Thom Mayne is a product of the turbulent '60s who has carried that rebellious attitude and fervent desire for change into his practice, the fruits of which are only now becoming visible," the jury wrote.

For Mayne, winning the Pritzker is vindication for the years he spent struggling to maintain the purity of his unorthodox ideas. His stand earned him a reputation as an angry young man and alienated many clients.

"My whole essence was attempting to do something I believed in. I didn't understand how to negotiate that notion of the private and the public world," he said at Morphosis, his Santa Monica studio. "Your whole life you're told you're an outsider and you can't do that, and then you're honored for it."

Mayne will be awarded a \$100,000 grant and a bronze medallion on May 31 during a ceremony at the Jay Pritzker Pavilion in Chicago's Millennium Park.

Past winners of the Pritzker Prize, sponsored by the family that developed the Hyatt Hotel chain, include I.M. Pei, Gehry, Renzo Piano and Rem Koolhaas.

Fired from a teaching job at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, Mayne founded an alternative architecture school called SCI-Arc in 1972 with six colleagues and 40 students.

That same year, he started Morphosis and two years later won his first award for designing a Pasadena school attended by his son.

For two decades, Mayne worked in relative obscurity on local houses, restaurants and office buildings and a handful of overseas projects. Then, in the mid-1990s, a series of convention-bending designs won Mayne his first major international acclaim.

He has since won competitions and commissions for an array of major public

projects, including the new Alaska state capitol building, a new academic building for The Cooper Union in New York, and New York's 2012 Olympic Village, which will be built even if the city doesn't get the Games for that year.

Today, Mayne projects little of the rebellious 1960s nature that marked the early days of his turbulent career.

He keeps his salt-and-pepper hair military-short and pads around his sparsely furnished studio in a sport coat and brown wool slacks, cradling a Starbucks coffee and wielding a notepad full of scribbles.

His office, an unassuming building in a quiet neighborhood, is cluttered with spent ideas. Old models gather dust on window ledges, tables and even the bathroom floor below yellowing newspaper clips and articles about urban renewal.

It's clear that while Mayne has learned to temper his stubborn idealism, it is far from gone.

He talks about buildings as agents of social change, as the vital "connective tissue of the city" that can change how people live and behave. He said that even in his best projects, he has never managed to achieve more than 75 percent of what he initially envisions — in part because of compromise with clients.

"I can't imagine any serious architect saying he's not restricted. I'm always restricted, it's just a matter of degree," he said. "It's inevitable."

Mayne considers Diamond Ranch High School in Pomona, completed in 2000, as the turning point of his career. It

was one of his first large-scale U.S. commissions and with it, critics began to laud his idealism instead of bash it.

"It shouldn't have been built. It was practically impossible, and we proved it wasn't impossible — that was the fun part," said Mayne, who won a design contest to build the school. "Everyone said we couldn't do it and we did."

The cluster of angular glass-and-metal buildings jut from the campus like spaceships in a design that Mayne said attempts to resolve the tension inherent in modern life in "mathematical, geometric terms."

"The school was fascinating because I realized that young people have a great appreciation of ideas," he said. "Children can still look at something and make connections because they aren't loaded culturally."

The same sharp, unfinished feeling can be found in other Mayne creations, reflecting his obsession with the tension of living in a diverse, migratory society. Wings protrude at odd angles, lines and forms collide and blend, whole buildings are slanted and off-kilter.

"If there's a singular broad topic to being a human being today, it's that you somehow have to manage these radical non-sequiters, these conflicting desires," he said. "It represents a dialogue that's attempting to bring those forces together to some singularity, but it denies completion. The building belongs to the site — but it's also homeless, it's migratory."

(Associated Press Writer Gillian Flaccus contributed to this article.)

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City: Health concerns don't warrant denial

WIRELESS, from page 1

The application for the tower was submitted in September of 2003. AT&T proposes to construct an unmanned wireless telecommunication facility on the roof of an existing five-story private building which will consist of a Global Positioning System antenna, a flat panel antenna, and three sectors of two antennas on the roof. The associated mechanical equipment will be located within the building on the fifth floor.

The city zoning administrator approved the proposal in October of 2003. It was then appealed by residents within the same month.

The proposal went through a public hearing process and was brought before the Planning Commission in March 2004. The Planning Commission denied the appeal, at which point members of the public appealed the denial.

A public hearing was finally held in late 2004 in which AT&T, a consultant and critics of the proposal came forward to hash out the issue before the City Council, but that hearing was postponed until Tuesday so that mathematical discrepancies regarding site specifications could be verified by another consultant.

About 40 people showed up on Tuesday at City Hall to speak in opposition to the tower, which they said

would have adverse health and economic impacts.

"The safety of radio radiation has not been proven, and it may cause brain tumors, brain damage and DNA breakdown," Santa Monica resident Matt Baird told the council. "Property owners do not have to prove that microwave radiation from antennas lower property values or are dangerous."

"The general fear in the marketplace is substantial enough to allow citizens to seek monetary damages," he said.

AT&T Spokesperson Art Navarro would not disclose the specifications for the proposed tower due to confidentiality and proprietary reasons he said may compromise their competitive edge. However, it was said at the Tuesday meeting the tower is expected to have a 3,000-watt energy output, aimed mostly east and west along Wilshire Boulevard.

City Attorney Marsha Moutrie explained to the City Council that in her legal opinion, public concern over health and economic impacts alone did not justify a denial of the tower proposal, because federal law does not authorize a denial for health and safety reasons within the scope of the project.

"Legally, we're only allowed to ensure the project will comply with federal standards," Moutrie said.

The proposed site met the federal guidelines, according to a consultant hired by the city. Among the requirements, the site cannot be within 300 feet of a tower with similar energy capacity, which it is not, according to the staff report.

Siding with the city legal opinion, Mayor Pam O'Connor and Councilmen Richard Bloom, Ken Genser, Robert Holbrook and Bobby Shriver rebuffed the citizen-organized opposition by approving the towers.

Holbrook, who said he had some understanding of radiation output, said he would be more afraid of radiation emitting from his microwave than he would from the proposed tower.

Holbrook said he knew of a home close to a tower that sold for \$3 million.

"It's a big lot, but still, the house sold (at a high value)," he said.

Councilmen Kevin McKeown and Herb Katz abstained from the vote.

"I abstain as a protest against the feds for sending concerned citizens to us for relief, but then tell us we can do nothing," said McKeown. "I refuse to be an apologist for big business and the Bush FCC."

McKeown said the U.S. Supreme Court ruled the city cannot be made to pay a penalty for denying antenna applications.

According to Navarro, AT&T was happy to hear the

views of the public at the meeting, but wanted to emphasize that health issues related to the wireless towers have not been proven and that opinion as to economic impacts varies among people who say they live close to wireless towers.

Santa Monica residential real estate broker Rob Schultz said he would disclose any knowledge he had of nearby towers to potential clients.

"The name of this game is if you know it, disclose it," Schultz said. "One of 10 people might say it is too close to the tower, but people understand that if something is allowed to be put in, then there must be an effect that would not hurt people, otherwise it would not be allowed."

Residential real estate broker Valerie Jean Hiss said she knows very little about cell towers and has never disclosed their whereabouts to clients because she has never known about them in residential areas. However, she said it would be against her grain to not disclose them if she did.

"If I did know something about the towers, I would be the first person to disclose it," Hiss said. "The world is so litigious these days you can't afford to not say something. But I don't know where they are, and no one has ever told me where they are. "Do we even know what the health ramifications of towers are?"

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

BRIEFS, from page 3

Curl will be held on Saturday, March 26, at lifeguard station No. 27 at Bay Street on Santa Monica Beach. Prizes and gift bags will be given to contestants. Entry forms are available at Rip Curl, located at 1451 Third Street Promenade, or at the beach on the day of the event. For more information, call Rip Curl Santa Monica at (310) 656-CURL. Judges will be surfers from the Rip Curl store.

Purim celebrated tonight

By Daily Press staff

The Chabad House today is celebrating one of the most important Jewish days of the year — Purim.

Events begin at 6 p.m. with a children's program, with Marriv at 6:45 p.m. and a megillah reading at 7 p.m. A break-fast and Purim raffle will follow, along with a second megillah reading at 8:30 p.m.

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STATE



Schwarzenegger's two-fisted fund-raising raises critics' ire

BY TOM CHORNEAU
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — Shortly before he was elected governor in 2003, Arnold Schwarzenegger stood in the state's railroad museum, which he called a monument to the special interest that dominated California politics for decades until it was finally curbed in the early 1900s.

Californians, Schwarzenegger declared that day, believe their government "is corrupted by dirty money, closed doors and back-room dealing. They see the contributions go in, the favors go out and they're punished with wasteful spending and high taxes."

Now, as governor, Schwarzenegger is being accused of blatant hypocrisy over his own two-fisted fund-raising.

The Republican collected a record \$26 million in contributions last year, much of it in big corporate checks from the pharmaceutical, insurance and energy industries. And this year he wants to raise twice that amount to push government-overhaul measures he is trying to put on the ballot this fall.

He has raised more money in more ways than former Gov. Gray Davis, whose own lusty fund-raising helped lead to his recall from office. To back his agenda, Schwarzenegger has created a network of nonprofit groups that do not reveal their sources of money or where they spend it. And he has sued the state's election watchdog to let his allies raise more money than California regulations allow.

"This is Gray Davis on steroids," said Jamie Court, president of the Foundation for Taxpayer and Consumer Rights, a Santa Monica consumer group.

Accusations of hypocrisy are growing louder as the man who once said he didn't need outside money is spending increasing amounts of time raising it.

"He's doing the exact opposite of what he said he would do," said Raphael Sonenshein, a political science professor at California State University, Fullerton.

For his part, Schwarzenegger insists that because he is a rich movie star, he can accept big campaign checks and remain completely independent, while his opponents cannot. The governor has said he is "representing the people's interests, not the special interests, and not the unions' interests."

Schwarzenegger is pushing for ballot measures that would cut state spending; partially privatize public employees' pensions; pay teachers according to merit, not seniority; and let retired judges, not lawmakers, draw legislative districts.

This month he completed a fund-raising swing through Washington, New York and Cincinnati. Last week he had events in Sacramento and Los Angeles.

In Cincinnati, financier Carl Lindner, who owns baseball's Cincinnati Reds, and his wife, Edith, each gave \$22,300, the maximum allowed under California law, to the California Recovery Team, a political fund controlled by Schwarzenegger. He also gave \$200,000 to Citizens to Save California, a coalition of business and anti-tax interests raising money to support Schwarzenegger's proposals.

At the New York fund-raiser, Schwarzenegger took \$22,300 from the American International Group, the huge insurance company whose chief executive, Maurice

Schwarzenegger is pushing for ballot measures that would cut state spending; partially privatize public employees' pensions; pay teachers according to merit, not seniority; and let retired judges, not lawmakers, draw legislative districts.

"Hank" Greenberg was forced to resign last week amid investigations into AIG's business practices.

At each stop, wealthy Republicans and corporate lobbyists stood in line to pay as much as \$100,000 to share a meal, a photo and a brief moment with the governor. At each stop, too, have been protesters; on March 16 in Los Angeles, close to 1,000 union members shut down the streets surrounding the Century Plaza Hotel.

Despite his claims of independence, critics see troubling instances of the governor's policy decisions intersecting with the desires of his contributors.

The trade group representing the nation's biggest drug manufacturers emerged in recent months as one of Schwarzenegger's biggest supporters after the governor vetoed four bills in September that would have made it easier for Californians to buy cheaper prescription drugs from Canada. So far, the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America Alliance has raised almost \$8 million from drug companies to get voters to approve a discount drug plan similar to one Schwarzenegger has proposed to the Legislature. Schwarzenegger has not endorsed the PhRMA initiative, said Margita Thompson, his press secretary.

Schwarzenegger and his aides said contributions have no effect on his decisions; donors, they said, give because they support his overall goals.

The governor has brought some of the problem on himself, said Allan Hoffenblum, a GOP consultant.

"He gave the impression that he would not need to raise money, and many people perceive what he's doing now as hypocritical," Hoffenblum said. "And secondly, he never defined what special interests were."

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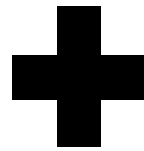
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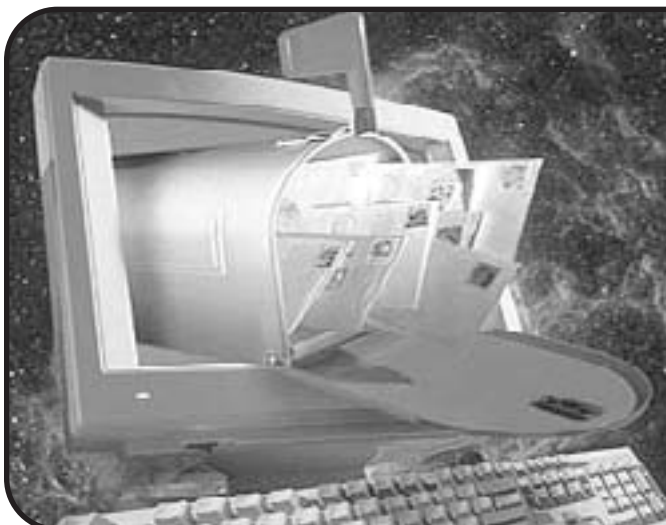
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NATIONAL

Report: Global warming is threatening fish

BY ELIZABETH M. GILLESPIE
Associated Press Writer

SEATTLE — If current warming trends continue unchecked, more than 20 percent of the Pacific Northwest's rivers could become too warm for salmon, steelhead and trout by 2040, a new Northwest Wildlife Federation report says.

The report predicts that rising regional temperatures could disturb the delicate balance of seasonal stream flows — making spring flows happen earlier, reducing summer flows to a trickle, or rendering winter flows so high that gravel beds used as nesting sites could get scoured away.

“Salmon in the region are struggling to survive amid dams, water diversions and development along river shorelines,” said Paula Del Giudice, director of the wildlife federation's Northwest Natural Resource Center in Seattle. “Global warming will add an enormous amount of pressure onto what's left of the region's prime cold-water fish habitat.”

The report, released Wednesday, notes that climate change experts at the University of Washington have said it's plausible that average August temperatures will rise by 3 degrees Fahrenheit in the Northwest over the next 35 years.

Researchers say that could boost temperatures in some Columbia River Basin and coastal rivers in Washington and Oregon past 69.8 degrees, generally considered the high end of the temperature threshold for cold-water fish.

Fish grow more slowly, become more susceptible to toxins, parasites and disease, and often die when river waters get too hot.

Patrick J. Michaels, a professor of environmental sciences at the University of Virginia and a senior fellow at the libertarian Cato Institute, questioned the accuracy of any regional predictions about a complex global phenomenon.

“It is well known that there is no reliability for regional projections of global warming,” Michaels said. “When you talk about an area the size of the Pacific Northwest, you have absolutely no confidence that the predictions will be correct.”

Patty Glick, a National Wildlife Federation climate specialist who wrote the report, said that may have been true 10 years ago, but computer modeling systems have advanced enough to give scientists confidence in their predictions.

Her 38-page report cites research in several other regions that points to looming problems for river systems.

Scientists at the University of Wyoming estimate a 5.4-degree increase in average July air temperatures could eliminate half of the currently viable trout stream habitat in the Rocky Mountain region.

A similar study by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency said a 4.5-degree increase in average stream temperatures could reduce by half or eliminate cold-water fish habitat in some New England, Great Lakes and western states.

The bulk of the wildlife federation's report focuses on the Pacific Northwest, home to the world's largest system of hydroelectric dams.

Global warming has already had a measurable effect in the region, the report said, citing research from the UW's Climate Impacts Group, a team of scien-

tists that studies climate dynamics, ecology and hydrology.

Average air temperatures in the Pacific Northwest rose 1.5 degrees during the 20th century — faster than the average global rise of 1 degree. At the same time, annual precipitation increased, mostly in the form of rain, while snowpack declined. Most of Washington state's glaciers are receding rapidly, and several have disappeared altogether in recent decades.

Scientists have said it's not yet clear how much global warming is to blame for the warm, dry winter that brought this year's drought to Washington state.

Glick said she hopes her report makes people change the way they think about tackling problems with sensitive ecosystems from year to year, shifting away from crisis management.

“People think, ‘If the impacts aren't going to happen for decades down the road, then we'll deal with it then,’” Glick said. “We have a lot to lose if we let that happen.”

Among its recommendations, the report calls for:

- Strengthening government policies and programs to promote energy efficiency, non-hydroelectric renewable energy, cleaner-burning fuels and mass transit.

- Encouraging sound management of wetlands, grasslands, forests and agricultural lands so plant life can store excess carbon dioxide, the leading “greenhouse” gas that builds up in the atmosphere and traps heat.

- Factoring global warming into water resource management and planning.

- And re-engaging in international talks on curbing global warming.

The heat is on

By The Associated Press

In “Fish Out of Water: A Guide to Global Warming and Pacific Northwest Rivers,” the National Wildlife Federation identifies 10 rivers deemed most threatened by rising temperatures.

They are:

- The Columbia and Snake rivers, which had some of the most abundant runs of wild salmon on Earth before hydroelectric dams were built. Now most stocks are hatchery-reared, and many are listed as threatened or endangered under the federal Endangered Species Act.

- The Snohomish River Basin, which hosts significant runs of coho, chinook, chum and pink salmon, as well as steelhead and bull trout, and other trout species. If global warming reduces spring and early summer snowmelt from the Cascades, the rivers would lose out.

- The Yakima River, considered one of the best year-round trout fisheries. It faces pressure from irrigators who siphon off water for crops.

- Oregon's Deschutes River, one of the region's most popular fisheries for trout and summer steelhead. Its spring and summer flows are usually reduced by drawdowns for irrigation. Deforestation has harmed water quality.

- The John Day River, one of Oregon's longest and one of the few in the region that hasn't been dammed. Logging, irrigation withdrawals, road building, grazing and mining have made parts of the river shallower.

- The Klamath River, at one time the nation's third-most-productive salmon and steelhead river. Runs have declined significantly, as wetlands have been converted into crops.

- The Rogue River, long considered one of the region's best rivers for steelhead fishing. Timber harvesting threatens fish habitat.

Five rivers on the report's “watch list” are the Skagit, Hoh, Queets, Sandy and Salmon rivers. The report characterizes these as relatively pristine, but still threatened by global warming.



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NATIONAL



North American leaders renew cooperation

BY DEB RIECHMANN

Associated Press Writer

WACO, Texas — President Bush and the leaders of Mexico and Canada promised new cooperation Wednesday, yet dustups over defense, immigration and trade — burrs under the saddle, in local slang — continued to strain North American relations.

To demonstrate unity, Bush, Mexican President Vicente Fox and Canadian Prime Minister Paul Martin appeared together at Baylor University to announce their neighborhood pact. It's designed to make trade more efficient and borders more secure without obstructing business and traffic.

"We've got a lot of trade with each other," Bush said. "We intend to keep it that way. We've got a lot of crossings of the border. I intend to make our borders more secure and facilitate legal traffic."

U.S. relations with Mexico and Canada chilled early in Bush's first term when neither nation backed his decision to invade Iraq. Bilateral disputes festered as the United States focused on events in the Middle East and elsewhere.

Sore spots remain. Mexico still wants to see U.S. immigration changes. The Bush administration suspects al-Qaida agents may be crossing into the United States from the south. Fox has complained about vigilantes hunting and killing Mexican immigrants along the Arizona border.

Some American farmers and businesses object to Mexico's 20 percent tax on soft drinks containing high-fructose corn syrup. And Canada, which snubbed a U.S. offer to be part of a missile defense shield, probably will bring up the long-running dispute over American tariffs on easy-to-saw Canadian lumber.

"We've got a lot to do," said Bush, who later jumped behind the wheel of a white pickup truck to give Fox and Martin a tour of his ranch in nearby Crawford. "We charged our ministers with the task of figuring out how best to keep these relationships vibrant and strong."

All three leaders were cordial when they met with reporters following their 90-minute conference, although their appearance lacked the folksiness of other foreign leaders' visits to Texas.

"Hola," Bush said, smiling and offering a hearty handshake to Fox as he stepped out of his limousine at Baylor University. A few minutes earlier, Bush gave Martin a welcome only slightly less effusive.

Bush is a second-term and Fox has slightly more than a year left to serve and can't seek re-election. Of the trio, Martin had the most at stake, politically, at the North American confab.

Martin, who leads Canada's tenuous minority government and could face an early election from the opposition party, used part of his time at the podium to press the

United States to reopen the border to Canadian beef. Cattle and beef shipments were banned after mad cow disease, or bovine spongiform encephalopathy, was discovered in an Alberta cow in May 2003.

"We want to pursue agreed approaches based on sound science that will help us avoid the risk of hidden protectionism, as some would advocate, in responding to BSE," Martin said.

When asked whether Canada would reconsider its decision to join the ballistic missile defense system, Martin replied: "On BMD, the file is closed. But our cooperation, in terms of defense, in terms of our borders, in terms of the defense of our common frontiers, is not only very clear, but it is being accentuated."

The agreement, dubbed the Security and Prosperity Partnership of North America, outlined a common tariff approach to make U.S., Mexican and Canadian products more competitive with imports from China and other

nations and blocs. The three leaders also agreed to cooperate more on energy exploration and on combatting terrorism and drug trafficking.

"We are seeking an objective balance between the concerns that we have to do with security and those that have to do with having a good and agile flow of goods and people across the borders," Fox said.

Fox briefly mentioned U.S. immigration policy. Bush's proposal for a "guest worker" program faces considerable obstacles in Congress, especially from conservatives.

Bush said he promised Fox that he would continue to press Congress to come up with "common-sense" immigration policy.

After their meeting, the three took a helicopter ride to Bush's ranch where they were served grilled chicken breasts, fried shrimp, spring vegetables and cheese biscuits.



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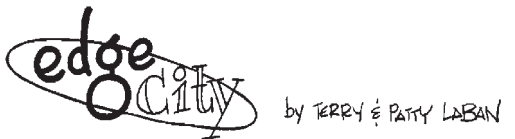
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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Judge not feeling governor's story in groping case

By The Associated Press

LONDON — A judge rejected an attempt to block a lawsuit by a British journalist who claims she was groped by California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger four years ago and then libeled by his aides.

Judge David Eady agreed Wednesday with a court official's ruling that Anna Richardson could serve proceedings on Schwarzenegger at the High Court in London. He dismissed an attempt by Schwarzenegger spokesman Sean Walsh to stop the case from going ahead on the grounds that English courts had no jurisdiction.

A date for the libel trial has not yet been set.

Richardson claims Schwarzenegger fondled her breast during an interview in London in 2000 and that his staff subsequently damaged her reputation as a professional interviewer by alleging she encouraged the behavior.

She alleges she was libeled by Schwarzenegger, Walsh and spokeswoman Sheryl Main in an October 2003 article in the Los Angeles Times that also appeared on the Internet.

Schwarzenegger's lawyers say Richardson is not giving a true account of events during the interview at the Dorchester Hotel.

The "Terminator" star-turned-politician has been accused by more than a dozen women of groping or sexually harassing them since the 1970s.

When allegations emerged during his 2003 election campaign, he apologized for having "behaved badly sometimes" toward women and doing some things that "were not right, which I thought were playful."

MUSKEGON, Mich. — A trial opened in Muskegon County Circuit Court on Ted Nugent's lawsuit against a

summer festival that canceled a concert after he allegedly made racial comments on a Denver radio show.

Nugent filed the breach-of-contract claim against the Muskegon Summer Celebration. The festival canceled his June 2003 concert after he allegedly used slurs when referring to blacks and Asians. Nugent has denied making such remarks.

Court papers indicate that Nugent, 56, expected to receive \$80,000 to perform. Festival lawyers have argued that no contract had been signed at the time the concert was canceled.

Judge Timothy G. Hicks is presiding over the trial, which is expected to continue through at least March 30. The first witness testified Tuesday.

Nugent, a Detroit native, lived in Concord before moving his family to Crawford, Texas, in 2003.

MIAMI — Despite her acting career and fashion business, Serena Williams claims tennis is her No. 1 priority in 2005, and she hopes to squeeze a few wins at the Nasdaq-100 Open into her busy schedule.

She'll be playing in just her fourth event this year and seeking her fourth consecutive Key Biscayne title. The tournament, which began Wednesday, is held just 90 minutes down Interstate 95 from Williams' home in Palm Beach Gardens.

"I'm very eager to get back out there and start playing matches, especially because it's Miami, because it's my hometown and I get to show my stuff," she said.

During a conference call, Williams chatted about winning the Australian Open in January, and about acting, fashion design and her latest tennis outfits.

But when the subject switched to Maria Sharapova, the conversation stalled. Williams claimed she only vaguely remembered the first time she played Sharapova — at Key Biscayne last year.

"I don't think you realize, I have a fashion company," Williams said. "I'm working on a really intense line for the fall. I'm an actress. I'm working on an animation series, on different reality series. I'm working on so much stuff."

With a giggle she added, "I don't really think about other people, because I have to focus on me. I don't think about Sharapova or anyone else on the tour. I don't have time."

SAN FRANCISCO — Leonardo DiCaprio helped environmentalists launch an international campaign to draw attention to the billion people worldwide who don't have access to clean water.

"We are here to help raise awareness about what is one of the greatest challenges facing humanity today," said DiCaprio, speaking on World Water Day at the Clift Hotel Tuesday with Global Green USA President Matt Petersen.

DiCaprio, who earned a best-actor nomination for playing Howard Hughes in "The Aviator," signed a petition that calls on President Bush and other government leaders to commit to a legally binding United Nations treaty declaring clean water as a basic human right.

DiCaprio screened a short film he helped produce that highlights the need to conserve the world's limited supply of fresh water and provide greater access to it for more than 1.2 billion people.

The film, titled "Water Planet," will be distributed starting next month on the Internet, at film festivals and to television stations and schools to educate the public about what DiCaprio calls the "growing global water crisis."

About 2.5 billion people worldwide lack water sanitation services, and 5 million people die from waterborne diseases each year, according to Global Green USA.



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