

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

DAILY LOTTERY

SUPER LOTTO
1 2 4 6 35
Meganumber: 17
Jackpot: \$31 million

FANTASY 5
1 5 15 28 30

DAILY 3
Daytime: 9 2 0
Evening: 8 2 7

DAILY DERBY
1st: 07 Eureka !
2nd: 08 Gorgeous George
3rd: 10 Solid Gold

RACE TIME: 1.46.09
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NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

Convicted methamphetamine user Daniel Zeisler, 22, burned his hand and arm last year in a South San Francisco hotel room attempting to extract meth from his own urine in a crude recycling attempt. At his sentencing in December (at which he got five months in jail), his lawyer acknowledged that it would take "gallons" of urine to extract a usable amount of meth, rather than the one bladderful Zeisler was working with.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 83rd day of 2006.
There are 282 days left in the year.

On March 24, 1765, Britain enacted the Quartering Act, requiring American colonists to provide temporary housing to British soldiers.
In 1883, long-distance telephone service was inaugurated between Chicago and New York.
In 1934, President Roosevelt signed a bill granting future independence to the Philippines.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The history of almost every civilization furnishes examples of geographical expansion coinciding with deterioration in quality."
ARNOLD JOSEPH TOYNBEE
ENGLISH HISTORIAN

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Case against city a valuable lesson

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

USC — A gender and age discrimination lawsuit filed against City Hall served as a teaching tool for law students here Wednesday, as lawyers for both sides argued before three state appellate court judges.

The arguments were brief, lasting less than an hour, with the jurors asking both attorneys just five questions about the case. A ruling is expected within 60 days.

At stake in the case is the future of Pat Gordon, a city groundskeeper whose job it is to make sure the beauty of Santa Monica's open space is maintained. Gordon contends she has been unjustly passed over for promotions because she is a 60-year-old woman.

Every so often, the Second District Court of Appeals for the state will hold a session outside of its chambers at the Ronald Reagan Building in downtown Los Angeles as a means of educating

the community about the appeals process, a spokeswoman for the court said. The court has held sessions at Loyola Marymount and Southwestern law schools.

USC Law students on hand busily scribbled notes on the appeals process.

It seemed like home-court advantage for Deputy City Attorney Lance Gams, a graduate of USC Law School, who argued cases before a mock court in the very room where Wednesday's proceedings took place.

"There was definitely a level of comfort there I wouldn't have had anywhere else," said Gams, who made a short, 10-minute presentation before the court. "It was kind of fun."

Gordon, who has worked for the city for 15 years and holds degrees in organic agriculture, said she was prohibited from taking a test to become a supervisor. She believes it is because of her age, 60, and her gender, as

See CLASS APPEAL, page 6

Hedges no longer a prickly subject

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE — Overgrown Bamboo and Italian cypress trees continue to pose problems for residents, but an ordinance passed by City Hall last year seems to be providing some relief in the form of a quick trim.

Of the 105 complaints filed by residents regarding hedges, fences or walls deemed too tall under the law, the majority — 58 percent — were resolved by requiring the property owner to conduct basic maintenance and hedge trimming, according to a progress report by the Planning and Community Development Department.

City staff believes the efforts have mitigated many of the concerns expressed by those who complained of obstructed access, debris, increased allergies and restriction to natural light.

The height of hedges and fences has been a controversial issue in the city over the last few years, with some dubbing the era the "Hedge Wars." The issue was so heated that it shook-up Santa Monica's last elec-

See HEDGES, page 6

Shady characters amongst us



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

As part of a promotion for the new NBC series 'Heist,' a dozen 'thieves' strike some incognito poses on the Third Street Promenade. The series will depict an expert team of criminals plotting a major heist during the Academy Awards.

Shriver signs on for San Onofre roadblock

By Daily Press staff

ORANGE COUNTY — Santa Monica City Councilman Bobby Shriver has signed onto a lawsuit filed Thursday that aims to block the controversial Foothill South Toll Road, which is slated to cut through San Onofre State Beach — a state park that is home to a popular surfing spot, abuts a Native

American heritage site and is one of the few remaining coastal open space areas in Southern California.

"A state park is not the right place for a superhighway," Shriver said on Thursday.

It is the councilman's hope that the suit provides planners with additional time to study alternatives to the toll road.

"By choosing to build a six-lane

highway through San Onofre State Beach, local public officials missed an opportunity to meet the transportation needs of this growing region without sacrificing public park lands that have been protected for future generations," said Attorney General Bill Lockyer, who along with the State Park and

See SAN ONOFRE, page 6

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HOROSCOPES

Stay home, Scorpio

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)

★★★★★ Where your friends are is where you would like to be. Make plans accordingly, knocking out your to-do list this morning. You might want to call it an early day. Why not? Everyone needs to recharge his or her batteries sometime. Tonight: Where you are, the action is.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ Use the morning to finish up research or handle plans involving an in-law or trip. Know how much ground you need to cover, and go off and do just that. By the afternoon, others rally around you. They want to make plans with you. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ Realize what you need to do in order to make a long-term plan possible. Discussions with a key person enlighten you and point the way. You might want to rethink a decision that revolves around a friendship. Tonight: Flex. Plans will change.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ You might want another person to take the lead in order to see his or her true colors. Once you gain this information, you are free once more to make solid decisions. Listen to a loved one about a money matter. Tonight: In the mood for togetherness?



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ You might be more focused than many of your cohorts. What you want to do is enter this weekend with a clean slate and plenty of time to play and enjoy. You might want to rethink a personal matter more carefully. Tonight: If you want, say "no" to an invitation.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

Toss around an issue and look at it in as many ways as possible. Your creativity spins out, making nearly anything possible. Loosen up and make what you need happen. Schedule time to wind down this afternoon. Tonight: Find something relaxing.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ You come from a basic point of view. As a result, you will come out on top. Your decisions mark the next few days. Listen well to someone you care about. He or she will make a difference. You might as well plunge into your weekend early. Tonight: The fun-loving you makes great choices.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Your words could move mountains right now, and why not? You laugh, and others relax. You will get much more accomplished as well as have good feelings flourish between you and another person. Tonight: Stay home.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ You can twist and turn a money matter without coming to a conclusion. Listen to someone close who has strong opinions. Listening doesn't mean you have to accept this person's ideas. Respect grows through being open. Tonight: Say "yes" to a last-minute invitation.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ You are in fifth gear as the day begins. Just be sure you don't charge through your checking account with the same high velocity. You might want to rethink a question more carefully before making a decision. Time is your ally. Tonight: Pay bills first.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ You might be slow to get started, but you could win the Tour de France by the end of the day. The Moon drops into your sign, adding to your charisma and desirability. Realize that what needs to happen is possible with a push from you. Tonight: As you like it.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ Use the daylight hours to accomplish what you need to. Somehow, you might not be able to accomplish all you want anyway. It appears you have run yourself into the ground. Take off for the weekend, determined to get some R and R. Tonight: Huddle in.

CIRCULATION AUDIT BY



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Hitting their marks



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press
Actors, and fellow Saint John's Health Center supporters, Isaiah Washington and Robert Wagner hosted the Jimmy Stewart Relay Marathon cocktail reception last week. The event, held at The Peninsula in Beverly Hills, recognized this year's supporters and sponsors of the marathon, which is in its 25th year. The event is one of the largest five-person relay marathons in the United States, with each individual running 5.2 miles before passing on the baton, for a collective 26.2 miles. All proceeds from the marathon benefit programs and services at Saint John's Health Center in Santa Monica. Since the first race in 1982, more than \$8.8 million has been raised.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Name that park

By Daily Press staff

A new park is coming to a Santa Monica neighborhood, but what to call it remains uncertain. That's why City Hall is asking residents to submit suggestions for the small neighborhood park planned in the 1500 block of Euclid Street — between Colorado Avenue and Broadway — by April 26. Designed by the team of Rios Clementi Hale Studios and artist Abbie Baron, the 15,000-square-foot park is the culmination of a design process that included several meetings between city staff and residents. Construction is expected to begin by summer 2006 with an opening in Spring 2007. To submit suggested names for the new park, use the on-line form (www.smgov.net/communication/cityforms/new_park_name.htm) or e-mail ideas directly to commervices@smgov.net. Suggestions also may be mailed to the community and cultural services department, 1685 Main St., room 210, Santa Monica, CA., 90401; fax to (310) 576-1539, or made in person to the recreation and parks commission at its April 26 meeting, when all the suggested names will be presented. A recommendation to the City Council will be formulated by the commission. The City Council is expected to finalize the park's name at one of its May or June 2006 meetings. In July 2002, the City Council established a policy for the naming of city-owned land, buildings, and facilities. The recreation and parks commission meeting will begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Ken Edwards Center, 1427 Fourth St. in Santa Monica. The center is served by Big Blue Bus lines 1-5, and 7-10, and is wheelchair accessible.

'Tis the season for politics

By Daily Press staff

It's that time of year again. The 2006 election cycle for Santa Monica residents begins with a primary election on Tuesday, June 6. It's a time when each party selects its candidate for the general election on Nov. 7. Political observers say it's an important year for California as many important state offices are up for grabs, including governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, controller, treasurer, attorney general, insurance commissioner and board of equalization. The Santa Monica Democratic Club has joined with neighboring Democratic Clubs in Malibu and Pacific Palisades to sponsor a candidate forum on Sunday, April 2 at 1 p.m. at the Women's Club, 901 Haverford in Pacific Palisades. All Democratic candidates for the state offices have been invited to attend. Confirmed speakers include gubernatorial candidate Phil Angelides.

See BRIEFS, page 6

CORRECTION: In the page 1 photo caption, in the March 23 edition of SMDP, the performers should have been identified as Omowale Orisayomi, who was dancing, and Richard Fultineer, on drums. They are part of the Nigerian Talking Drum Ensemble.

SNOW AND SURF REPORTS

CONDITIONS					DATA PROVIDED BY ONTHESNOW.COM
BEAR MOUNTAIN					
NEW SNOW (24 Hrs) 0"	BASE DEPTH 36" - 72"	LIFT HOURS 8:30 am - 4:00 pm	RUNS OPEN 27	LIFTS OPEN 12/12	
CONDITIONS: Powder, Packed Powder, Machine Made, Machine Groomed					
JUNE MOUNTAIN					
NEW SNOW (24 Hrs) 0"	BASE DEPTH 96" - 188"	LIFT HOURS 8:30 am - 4:00 pm	RUNS OPEN 50	LIFTS OPEN 6/6	
CONDITIONS: Powder, Packed Powder, Machine Groomed					
MAMMOTH MOUNTAIN					
NEW SNOW (24 Hrs) 0"	BASE DEPTH 156" - 188"	LIFT HOURS 8:30 am - 4:00 pm	RUNS OPEN 150	LIFTS OPEN 25/28	
CONDITIONS: Powder, Packed Powder, Machine Groomed					
MOUNTAIN HIGH					
NEW SNOW (24 Hrs) 0"	BASE DEPTH 12" - 72"	LIFT HOURS 8:30 am - 10:00 pm	RUNS OPEN 42	LIFTS OPEN 9/16	
CONDITIONS: Powder, Packed Powder, Machine Groomed					
MT. BALDY					
NEW SNOW (24 Hrs) 0"	BASE DEPTH 24" - 36"	LIFT HOURS 8:00 am - 4:30 pm	RUNS OPEN 20	LIFTS OPEN 4/4	
CONDITIONS: Packed Powder, Machine Made, Machine Groomed					
SNOW SUMMIT					
NEW SNOW (24 Hrs) 0"	BASE DEPTH 36" - 72"	LIFT HOURS 8:30 am - 4:30 pm	RUNS OPEN 26	LIFTS OPEN 14/14	
CONDITIONS: Powder, Packed Powder, Machine Groomed					
SNOW VALLEY					
NEW SNOW (24 Hrs) 0"	BASE DEPTH 36" - 72"	LIFT HOURS 8:30 am - 4:00 pm	RUNS OPEN 26	LIFTS OPEN 5/11	
CONDITIONS: Powder, Packed Powder, Machine Groomed					

CONDITIONS

WATER TEMP: 55°

DATA PROVIDED BY WETSAND.COM

SWELL FORECAST (1-2 FT)

Today remains on the small side with a smidgen of southern hemi SW mixing with the fading NW. West facing breaks are looking at the best size with waist high surf-south facing breaks can expect knee to possibly waist high sets.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS

Small bump up in NW Saturday but...

Storm-driven NW wind swell by the 29th...

Minor SW 4/2...

Better SW now being tracked for potential swell 4/4...

TIDE FORECAST FOR SANTA MONICA

MONDAY

LOW TIDE 2:13AM 1.3FT 2:47PM 0.2FT

HIGH TIDE 8:12AM 5.2FT 9:03PM 4.4FT

TUESDAY

LOW TIDE 2:43AM 0.9FT 3:06PM 0.0FT

HIGH TIDE 8:52AM 5.1FT 9:20PM 4.6FT

WEDNESDAY

LOW TIDE 3:13AM 0.7FT 3:30PM 0.3FT

HIGH TIDE 9:13AM 5.0FT 9:38PM 4.8FT

THURSDAY

LOW TIDE 3:46AM 0.6FT 3:49PM 0.6FT

HIGH TIDE 9:47AM 4.5FT 9:57PM 4.9FT

FRIDAY

LOW TIDE 12:08PM -.57FT 11:35PM 2.3FT

HIGH TIDE 4:28AM 5.0FT 7:00PM 3.7FT

SURF AND SNOW QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS? EMAIL ALEX@SMDP.COM



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EDITORIAL

Less talk, more action



It's been 1 1/2 years since the City Council passed a law that was supposed to put more scrutiny on groups determined to feed the poor, the homeless and the hungry.

Since that time, City Hall has spent untold hours and money fighting a lawsuit levied by civil rights activists who argue that limiting public feedings in parks is unconstitutional and violates a whole host of individual rights. They argue that it limits the right to assemble and that the law doesn't differentiate between people sharing food, a family having a picnic or a group of homeless people in a food line.

Meanwhile, little, if anything, has changed as far as feedings in the city's parks. It's apparent that the whole issue has been an enormous waste of time and energy. And it's obvious the law is ineffective.

Politicians will say that the intent of the law was to ensure a healthy and clean environment for the hungry who are fed by humanitarian groups. Elected leaders will also point out that the measure was designed to alert city officials of large gatherings so they could take necessary public safety steps, like traffic and pedestrian safeguards. Finally, they'll contend the law was designed to encourage the groups to give out food at one of several local social service agencies so that the homeless are linked up with counseling and other aid.

The law was passed despite that there had been no reports of people getting sick as a result of the food. Pedestrian and traffic flow weren't issues. There was no group complaining the "picnics" were dominating a specific space in a public area.

It's no coincidence that the law was passed shortly after business leaders — who were part of a public safety task force — put pressure on the City Council to do something about the growing homeless population and the anti-social behavior they bring along with them. Many business owners argue that allowing free food to be handed out is just one more incentive for homeless people to stay put in Santa Monica.

The result was a pair of laws passed by the City Council in October of 2002. The public feeding law forces charitable organizations running free meal programs in city parks to apply for a special events permit if the gathering is to include more than 150 people. Each organization also must receive a permit from the Los Angeles County Health Department, verifying their program follows stringent health codes and is not conducted more than three times in a 90-day period.

The City Council also approved an ordinance that allows businesses to post signs prohibiting sleeping in doorways and vestibules downtown, and in the commercial zones along Main Street, from 11 p.m. to 7 a.m.

But of course, like so many other laws here, neither one is really being enforced or complied with. Large groups — which sometimes involve in excess of 150 people — still gather in Palisades Park to eat twice a week. It happens again on the lawn right in front of City Hall every Saturday. The meal providers go unchecked by the county health department and none of them have permits from City Hall — not that it matters, because when 149 people have been served another line is formed and a new gathering is taking place.

The ACLU and other rights activists are using the law to wage war on Santa Monica for a number of reasons, although none are entirely clear. But based on the arguments made in the courtroom — like attacking the city's ordinance on banners — it's obvious activists believe Santa Monica's government is attempting to quash people's rights to free speech and assemble.

Nothing could be further from the truth. If anything, Santa Monica government is so mindful of Constitutional rights that the quality of life for many residents has deteriorated.

So what we have now is yet another law that has gotten City Hall sued, but has had little effect in the grand scheme of things. Our elected leaders need to carefully consider whether the benefits will outweigh the costs before they pass laws that do nothing but pacify a specific group or entity.

Elephants remember, donkeys don't recall



SOAP BOX

BY BENNET KELLEY

Like the pennants that adorn Yankee Stadium, Republicans celebrate and promote their past victories and legends year after year. Focusing on the Reagan Legacy Project, the Republicans have achieved 74 dedications to the late president in 25 states and five countries, with Reagan National Airport in Washington being their crowning achievement. Democrats, however, ignore their legends — with the exception of John and Robert Kennedy — and, instead, are more like old-time Red Sox fans who basked in their glorious defeats.

Unlike the Democrats, Republicans recognize the truth in historian Ken Burns' statement that history "isn't really about the past (but) about defining the present." That is why even today, people remember Reagan standing at the Berlin Wall during the Cold War's denouement demanding that "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall" and credit him with "winning" the cold war.

Few remember, however, that there would never have been a free West Berlin for Reagan to visit had it not been for the strength and resolve of President Truman during the Cold War's decisive moments. Truman saved the city's 2 million-plus residents from an 11-month Soviet blockade with a daring airlift that at its peak had cargo planes landing every minute, while also rescuing and securing a war ravaged Europe through the formation NATO and the Marshall Plan's \$130 billion (in current dollars) reconstruction fund.

People remember Reagan's "Morning in America," but forget that each day in America is touched by Franklin Roosevelt who established Social Security and Lyndon Johnson who gave us Medicare, Medicaid, Pell Grants, Head Start, Food Stamps, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, as well as the landmark Civil Rights Act, Fair Housing Act and the Voting Rights Act.

Republicans constantly remind us of the economic growth under President Reagan but omit any discussion of deficits which presumably were immaculately conceived. Who is reminding us that the nation's longest economic expansion, largest increase in college opportunity since the GI Bill and the transformation of the nation's largest budget deficit into its largest surplus all happened under President Clinton?

The Democrats' failure to promote their legends makes it easier for Republicans to brand them how they see

fit since they are working with a blank slate. It also has made it more difficult for Democrats to brand the Republicans since if the party fails to promote its achievements it cannot highlight the fact that Republicans opposed many of these successes.

It is time for a Democratic Legacy Project and it can start here in California. Just as there is Reagan National Airport, George Bush Intercontinental Airport in Houston and Gerald R. Ford Airport in Grand Rapids, the starting point for the Legacy Project should be a William Jefferson Clinton Airport in Los Angeles. While he is not a native son, President Clinton is adored by Californians partly because he responded quickly to the Northridge earthquake and visited California every six weeks on average, thereby making him the first president to simultaneously serve as de facto Lt. Governor of California.

The Democratic Legacy Project also should honor local legends such as by naming Sacramento International Airport after Governor Pat Brown since he was so instrumental in developing the infrastructure that enabled California's post-war economic success, or San Francisco International Airport after Nancy Pelosi since she may very well become the first woman to serve as Speaker of the House.

Ultimately, however, this should be a national effort with airports named after President Truman in Kansas City, President Johnson in Dallas, President Carter in Savannah and Vice President Gore in Memphis. With more than 60 airports in states won by Clinton that are not dedicated, the Democrats have the opportunity to reach nearly 235 million air travelers annually. Democrats also can reach a portion of Amtrak's 25 million passengers by renaming the many Union Stations across the country, starting in Washington with Franklin Roosevelt Station. The Legacy Project would be a huge success if it influenced only 1 percent of these travelers since this would still be substantially more than the average margin of victory in the past two presidential elections.

It is time that the Democrats learn from the Japanese proverb that "the past is the future of the present," since for years they have surrendered their future by ignoring their past. Once this lesson is learned, the Democrats will discover that their path back to the White House connects through William Jefferson Clinton Airport and they must start now to ensure an on-time departure in 2008.

(Bennet Kelley is the former national co-chair of the Democratic National Committee's young professional arm, the publisher of BushLies.net and a Santa Monica attorney. Contact him at ben-net@bennetkelley.com.)

Bitch! Whine! Complain!

Check Out the Question of the Week on Page 3 and let us hear what you have to say

The Q Line

FED UP WITH PICO VIOLENCE? YOUR OPINION MATTERS

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COMMENTARY



'Willing' troops fighting for a dying regime, too

NEWS ON THE EDGE

BY RON SCOTT SMITH



(As the third "anniversary" of the Iraq War was observed on March 20, President George W. Bush briefly addressed the nation and reminded us all, "Ours is an amazing nation where thousands have volunteered to serve our country. They volunteered ... knowing full well that their time in the military could put them in harm's way." This take on true "March Madness" appeared in the SMDP, March 20, 2003):

They met Sunday on an island in the Atlantic, three nations — the coalition of the willing — in what had to be the briefest summit ever convened. All that was at stake was the peace and stability of the planet. No big deal.

After an hour or so behind closed doors, the leaders of the U.S., Britain, and Spain emerged and stated to everybody in general but nobody in particular — except maybe France — you've got 24 hours to get a clue.

There will be no further need for the United Nations, they said, because that body has remained firm in its opposition to a war that by all common sense appears to not be necessary. Funny thing about how the U.N., which set out to contain the rogue nation of Iraq, suddenly finds itself with an urgent new mission- to contain the rogue nation of the United States of America.

"It's us against the world" is what the three leaders came forth to say after the brief deliberations. And the world is the heavy underdog.

By the time you read this, it may have already hit the fans of the unlucky ones who happen to be living in a country officially declared the mother of all evil by the American president with a finger on the pulse of all that's good. Never mind that much of the world views it as a middle finger raised high in its collective face. What's right is right. We are, they aren't, here we come, look out below.

This is being done to protect you and me from this man — Saddam Hussein. Bush cleverly refers to the enemy — not as the country of Iraq — but as Saddam Hussein. It works better for the cause to focus on one solitary, evil, mustachioed "new Hitler," than on a sovereign nation teeming with innocent life that's about to be pounded into rubble by the massive air

campaign they've officially dubbed "Shock and Awe." The new Hitler? Since when did Saddam get the ethnic superiority complex, the military, and the designs for taking over the world?

Recently, on the day we rolled out and tested the Massive Ordnance Air Blast (MOAB) — proudly declared to be the biggest, baddest non-nuke bomb in history, Powell, Rumsfeld, and all the rest of the king's men were beside themselves over the discovery of a remote-controlled "Drone" plane in Iraq which might, they feared, be able to deal out some lesser version of mass destruction. This horrific Drone, as the facts bore out, has a wingspan of 26 feet, is held together by duct tape, and runs on an engine similar to the ones that power weed whackers in backyards all across America. All this, I repeat, on the day we test, and declare ready for use — the MOAB — fondly nicknamed the Mother Of All Bombs — dealing a payload of 18,000 pounds. There's only one dealer in this game, partners, and the Drone ain't it. Talk about a stacked deck?

Who's next in our sights? North Korea gets the free pass, even though they're firing off nuclear test missiles into the Pacific and will not entertain even the slightest notion of America telling them not to. Iran's building them too. But China would appear to be the real deal for the "preemption" strategists — communist as all hell, fully loaded arsenal, bazillions of citizens to throw out in ground wars, let's get them next. Uh, don't think so.

The twin towers came down and we were shook to the bone. We have mourned, we will never forget, and we stand vigil. But, America, how far do we let the fear factor take us? Even those of you who rail for this war must admit — you don't get what seems to be the whole world abhorring you just a year and a half after they were all lined up in sympathy and support, without a major bumbling effort. You don't get the whole world abhorring you without serious repercussions somewhere down the road. Nobody's the top gun forever, not even the mighty United States of America.

The president spoke directly to Iraqi soldiers Monday night. "Do not fight for a dying regime that is not worth your life," he compassionately warned them. But, in another stroke of twisted Bush logic, it is worth the lives of our own soldiers, and there they go, along with the thousands of body bags that have been sent to the front lines, just in case.

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



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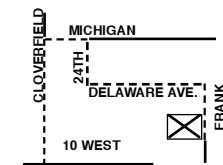
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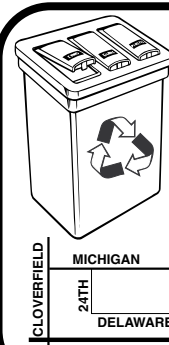
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Santa Monica Daily Press





Grounds for appeal: Case attracts students

CLASS APPEAL, from page 1

well as retaliation for speaking up for temporary employees, whom she said have been excluded from taking a test to become permanent employees.

"I have been passed over for promotion so many times, and not by those who were more qualified than me, but by men who either scored the same as me on the test or lower," she said. "I have maintained all of my areas organically and have proven myself through

my work. I think I should be allowed to take the supervisor's test, even though I'm not a supervisor."

Gams said Gordon did not qualify to take the test.

"There are many arguments ... and I have a response for every one of them," Gams said. "But the bottom line is that she didn't meet the minimum qualifications, not because of her age or her gender."

A lower court previously ruled in favor of City Hall.

Shriver feels toll project in OC is the road to ruin

SAN ONOFRE, from page 1

Recreation Commission, filed the suit. "I am filing this lawsuit because these local officials chose to build the road without evaluating its toll on a state treasure."

Lockyer filed the lawsuit on behalf of the people of California and the State Park and Recreation Commission, of which Shriver is chair. The complaint alleges the Foothill/Eastern Transportation Corridor Agency (TCA), and its board of directors, violated the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) by failing to adequately assess significant environmental effects of the road, failing to identify measures that could mitigate those impacts and failing to properly study alternatives that would avoid harm to the environment.

The complaint was filed in San Diego Superior Court. It asks the court to order TCA to properly assess the environmental impact of the project and mitigate the damage it will cause, as required by CEQA.

San Onofre State Beach is visited by 2.5 million people annually, and is the fifth most popular state park in California. Under the TCA plan, an estimated 320 acres of San Onofre parkland would be turned over for highway use. The toll road's path would run directly alongside a campground that is popular with middle and low income families. Park advocates warn the campground likely will be closed.

"This toll road should not cut through the heart of a state park," said Caryl Hart, a member of the State Park and Recreation

Commission. "Not only will this superhighway be an ugly eyesore to a dramatic coastal view, it will bring the noise and exhaust from speeding vehicles right up to the edge of a campground. We have to take a stand to protect our treasured parklands."

The complaint alleges that "Respondents approved the toll road even though it will subject the hundreds of thousands of annual visitors to San Onofre State Beach to the incessant noise and visual blight of a super highway and its infrastructure. Respondents failed to evaluate and determine the impacts of the Toll Road on the rural setting, on the campground, and on the habitats of various endangered and threatened species inside the state park, including the critically endangered Pacific pocket mouse. TCA violated CEQA because its SEIR failed to discuss these impacts in a meaningful way and failed to properly analyze alternatives, including widening of the I-5 corridor."

The portion of the land that the toll road would traverse was formerly a part of Camp Pendleton and is the last remaining undeveloped coastal valley available for recreation south of Crystal Cove State Park in Laguna Beach. In 1971, President Nixon and Ronald Reagan led an effort to dedicate the San Onofre State Beach land to public use through a long-term lease to the state park system.

The court will set within 90 days a date for a later hearing to resolve the legal arguments raised in the lawsuit.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

BRIEFS, from page 3

"In a state with a high democratic registration such as California the Democratic primary winner is a likely successor to the office," according to Julie Lopez Dad, president of the Santa Monica Democratic Club. "It's important for members of the public to have a chance to hear from candidates in person before voting in June so that they can decide who best reflects their values."

For more information and to reserve a seat, call (310) 230-2084. A \$10 donation is recommended. The forum is open to the public. Refreshments served.

Small percentage of hedge cases prompting city mandated trims

HEDGES, from page 1

tion for City Council and galvanized several neighborhood groups.

Anger boiled over in 2004 when a 57-year-old hedge law was revisited for one of the first times in more than half a century, drawing international headlines when City Hall directed 200 households to cut their hedges or face a \$25,000-a-day fine.

The notices were sent out over Thanksgiving weekend. Many residents were outraged, including Councilman Bobby Shriver, a hedge violator, who was upset with the way city staff notified residents. He subsequently ran for office to help change how City Hall interacts with the public.

From the furor came a new ordinance, passed on Oct. 25, 2005, which requires residents to maintain the 42-inch height limit for any new front yard hedge installation, while side-and rear-yard enclosure limits are allowed to stand 12 feet — an increase of

effect would be "difficult for City Hall to prove and enforce."

"It remains uncertain how many non-conforming fences, walls and hedges may have been established since the ordinance was adopted," the report said.

Furthermore, while many complaints were resolved, 31 percent were denied because of a lack of evidence that the hedge or fence in question was causing problems for the complainant, the report said.

On only a few occasions did complainants provide proof in the form of reports from arborists, doctors or plumbers that the overgrown hedges or high-fences contributed to poor air-circulation, required greater electricity use to heat a home or brighten a room, clogged drains or increased complications with allergies. Very few submitted bills showed the cost of increased electricity use or maintenance to structures damaged by the growth of hedges, the report said.

In just 13 percent of the cases was a hedge or fence ordered to be trimmed or altered significantly.

Twenty-eight appeals were filed, at a cost of \$222.35 each. The Planning Commission is reviewing those appeals and it is anticipated that a special meeting will be required and held in April or May to consider the appeals.

After reviewing complaints from residents about the process of notifying code enforcement about an illegal hedge, city staff suggested the council could proceed with no change to the process, or wave the appeal fee, which could lead to more appeals being filed.

The council could also decide to not regulate hedge heights, except as necessary to comply with established safety standards.

Councilman Kevin McKeown said he would consider waiving the appeals fee and is concerned about reports that neighbors felt their complaints went unheard.

"I support waiving the appeals fee," McKeown said. "I recognize this may cost money and time to resolve, but we were rectifying 50 years of non-enforcement and I think we owe it to the community to do it right."

Councilman Ken Genser said he has received complaints from residents about the process, but feels the ordinance is strong, except for the issue dealing with hedges adjacent to alleys. Genser hopes the council can address this soon.

Genser said the number of complaints filed may be skewed because "handfuls" of residents told him they didn't file because they had no faith in the system.

"You have to appeal. That's the process," Genser said. "You may not be happy with the decisions (made by staff), but you never know what will happen when the Planning Commission reviews it. They may have another view."

"We were rectifying 50 years of non-enforcement and I think we owe it to the community to do it right."

KEVIN MCKEOWN
City Councilman

four feet. There are also rules allowing some hedges, fences and walls that exceed the limit to remain, known as "grandparenting."

In an interview Thursday, Shriver said the recent report by staff seems to show that the ordinance is providing some relief, but he remained concerned by the number of appeals filed.

"I never thought this problem could be solved with one ordinance," Shriver said. "There are those who have complained about the process and if the law needs adjustment, I'm sure the council will adjust it. We want a workable law that is fair."

A problem with the ordinance that staff identified in its report was enforcement, and found that clarification was needed in regards to heights allowed for hedges adjacent to an alley.

"It is unclear if the unlimited height is intended to apply to the entire area contained within required rear yard setback adjacent to an alley, or more precisely those portions of a hedge immediately adjacent to an alley," the staff report said. "At present, it is the depth of a required rear or side yard adjacent to an alley that establishes the area when an unlimited hedge height is allowed."

The report also noted that demonstrating that a fence, wall or hedge was constructed after the ordinance was put into

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CRIME WATCH

By Daily Press staff

Be careful where you plant it in Bayside Dist.

By Daily Press staff

On Tuesday, March 14 at 1:30 p.m., Santa Monica Police on the 200 block of Broadway saw an individual sitting on a milk crate, a violation of an ordinance that prohibits sitting on objects in the Bayside District. Officers issued a citation and the subject, later identified as Robert Leonard, 51, a transient, refused to sign the ticket. He was transported to jail where he was held until the following morning, when he was allowed to go before the court. His bail was set at \$500.

On Friday, March 10 at 3:45 a.m., Santa Monica Police officers responded to the 3300 block of California Avenue regarding the sexual assault of a homeless woman. When officers arrived, they spoke with the victim who said she had spent the day with an acquaintance, at which time she told him where she was sleeping at night. The man went to the location and allegedly raped her. The victim said he fled after the assault. He was spotted a short time later in the 1100 block of Lincoln Boulevard and transported to jail, where he was booked for sexual assault. The alleged assailant was identified as Peter Stempien, 37, a resident of Redondo Beach. His bail was set at \$100,000.

On March 1, at 12:25 p.m., police responded to the Santa Monica Pier after receiving a report of grand theft at a local business. When officers arrived, the store manager said an employee stole money from that day's receipts in the amount of \$539. The employee was arrested on Wednesday, March 15, at the store when he showed up for work. He was identified as Troy Hill, 20, a resident of Santa Monica. He was booked for grand theft. His bail was set at \$50,250, because the suspect had an outstanding warrant, police said.

On Saturday, March 11 at 3:48 a.m., Santa Monica Police responded to the 1700 block of Michigan Avenue regarding a man with a gun. When officers arrived, they spoke with a woman who said two men were outside her window trying to steal her bike. When she peered out to see what they were doing, she said one suspect pulled out a handgun and pointed it at her. Officers conducted a search of the area and located two men matching the description given by the witness. The officers ordered the men to place their hands over their heads, at which time officers said one suspect told them not to shoot and that he had a gun tucked in his waistband. The weapon was recovered and the two men were placed under arrest. After being identified by the witness, the two were booked for assault with a deadly weapon. The two were identified Gil Verastegui and Douglas Clark Mercer, 30, of Culver City. No further information was provided for the Verastegui. Their bail was set at \$30,000.

On Monday, March 13 at 12:40 p.m., officers were called to the corner of Lincoln and Ocean Park boulevards regarding a possible rape in progress. When they arrived, they spoke with a woman who said she was assaulted three days earlier by a man who was now in a parking lot nearby. She directed officers to the suspect, who was seated in a silver, four-door sedan, allegedly waiting for the women to arrive. She said that on March 10, she and a friend accepted a ride from the suspect after having lunch with him. On the way home, the woman said the man raped her. Following the assault, she said he dropped her off at home. The victim said the suspect called her March 13 looking to meet again. She arranged a time and called police. The suspect was arrested and booked for sexual assault. He was identified as Christopher Coleman, 39, of Culver City. His bail was set at \$100,000.

On Monday, March 13 at 8:30 a.m., officers responded to 15th Street and Arizona Avenue after receiving reports that a man in a wheelchair was masturbating in public. When officers arrived, they said they saw the man on the corner pleasuring himself. He was arrested and booked for indecent exposure. He was identified as Mauricio Pinilla Dellavale, 35, a transient. His bail was set at \$1,000.

On Saturday, March 18 at 11:15 p.m., police saw a man riding a bicycle on the sidewalk of Lincoln Boulevard at Ashland Avenue, a violation of city law. Officers stopped the man and during a search found crack. The man was arrested and booked for possession of a controlled substance. He was identified as Michael Wayne Murray, 53, of Santa Monica. There was no bail set.

On Thursday, March 9 at 9:25 p.m., officers responded to the 2200 block of 22nd Street after receiving a call regarding a burglary in progress. Before officers could arrive, they received another call about a suspicious man trying to gain entry to a residence on the 2100 block of 21st Street. When officers arrived at that location, they used a canine to locate the suspect, identified as Ryan Madden, 19, of Calabasas. He was identified by witnesses. He was booked for burglary and a probation violation. No bail was set.

On Saturday, March 18 1:55 p.m., undercover detectives responded to the 1000 block of Pico Boulevard regarding anonymous tips of prostitution at the location. An officer paid \$50 and was taken to a massage room where he was allegedly asked if he wanted to engage in sex for an additional fee. At that time the officer called for back-up and the masseuse was arrested and booked for prostitution. She was identified as Yanxia Zhao, 42, of Los Angeles. Her bail was set at \$2,000.

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STATE BRIEFS

Voters go back to basics

By The Associated Press

VENTURA, Calif. — Instead of punch card ballots, voters in Ventura County will mark choices with ink on paper ballots during the June 6 primary. It's the first time since the late 1960s that Ventura County voters won't use punch cards to cast ballots. Their choices will be marked on paper ballots, then they will feed them into optical scanners at each precinct. "It's a good system, and we looked at it for a long time," county Clerk and Recorder Philip Schmit. "We weighed all the systems and decided this was the best way to go."

In 2002, the federal Help America Vote Act gave states cash incentives to replace punch card and lever voting systems. Congress also charged states with making sure voters with disabilities could cast secret ballots. Ventura County had another reason to change systems: under a U.S. Department of Justice decree, the county needed to develop a single ballot with both English and Spanish instead of issuing separate ones. The county spent \$6 million on the conversion, which was underwritten by the state and federal governments. Schmit said the county scrapped 3,000 to 4,000 punch card voting devices.

City moves to preserve beach

By The Associated Press

OXNARD, Calif. — The city has acquired more than seven acres of beachfront for use as open space. The acquisition completes a 23-year-old agreement with the California Coastal Commission. It keeps beach property accessible to the public, said Cyndi Hookstra, a city parks management analyst. In a 1983 deal with two developers, the Coastal Commission insisted that the 7.62-acre parcel be designated as open space. The developers agreed — in exchange for building 14 single-family beachfront homes. The site is north of Oxnard Beach Park, near Mandalay Beach Road. The City Council voted unanimously last week to accept title to the property, which will be maintained by the homeowners association for the 14 homes.

Racial tensions leave student stabbed

By The Associated Press

VICTORVILLE, Calif. — A 19-year-old black student was stabbed by a Hispanic youth at Silverado High School during a suspected racially motivated campus confrontation. The wounded student was treated by paramedics. A group of black students was arguing with a 16-

year-old Hispanic student Wednesday morning when the stabbing occurred, said Shelly Williams of the San Bernardino County Sheriff's Department. "The Hispanic juvenile said he had the knife to protect himself. He was carrying it because he had been jumped before. He didn't say if it was at the school, and he was afraid," Williams said. Principal Susan Levine released a statement saying only that "paramedics were called and the student was treated and released." The sheriff's spokeswoman said the victim wasn't cooperating with investigators. "We have reason to believe it was racially motivated," Williams said. The 16-year-old was arrested and booked at Juvenile Hall for investigation of felony assault with a deadly weapon and carrying a weapon on school campus.

City touts a TKO of TB

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Tuberculosis cases in Los Angeles County dropped to historic lows last year. But public health officials warned Wednesday that budget cuts and drug-resistant strains of TB threaten the progress made against the infectious disease. The county said there were 906 reported cases of tuberculosis in 2005 and 2,900 statewide, the fewest since health officials started counting in 1953. Cutbacks in anti-TB programs in the 1960s and 1970s showed a resurgence that peaked in 1992, but health officials said those peaks were effectively countered. Funding cuts, however, could lead to a TB rebound. "We've actually had some reduction in funding over the last few years from at least one of our funding agencies, and level funding from another, and that doesn't keep up with the cost of living," said Dr. Annette Nitta, director of the county health department's tuberculosis control program. "There is no way we will continue to make progress toward eliminating TB if we repeat the mistakes of the recent past," Nitta said.

Indian tribe wants to block builders

By The Associated Press

SAN JACINTO, Calif. — The Soboba Band of Luiseno Indians is suing the city for allegedly failing to protect the site of an ancient village from the impact of a 498-home planned community now under construction. Several tribal artifacts, including tools and human remains, have been found at the 240-acre hillside project called The Cove, according to the Superior Court lawsuit filed Feb. 27. The city failed to enforce mitigation measures and conditions placed when the develop-

ment was approved, it contends. But City Attorney Jeff Ballinger said Wednesday that the city has gone beyond reasonable steps to preserve sites the tribe considers sacred. Ballinger denied allegations that the city failed to enforce protective measures. The city required the developer to have an archaeologist monitor the project, Ballinger said. When the tribe expressed concerns about the archaeologist earlier this year, the city hired its own archaeologist "to monitor the monitor," he said. The tribe also has a monitor at the site. "The city feels very confident it's done nothing wrong," Ballinger said. "We feel we have taken steps that are above and beyond." Tribal chairman Robert Salgado said the presence of the monitors has not stopped the disturbance of sacred sites.

Gang members deny shooting

By The Associated Press

ONTARIO, Calif. — Two of six gang members allegedly responsible for the shooting death of a man in a Denny's restaurant parking lot pleaded not guilty to murder charges. Alphonso Green Jr., 24, of Rancho Cucamonga, and Handy Blocker Jr., 28, of San Bernardino, entered pleas Wednesday and bail was set at \$1 million each. A hearing was set for March 28. Deputy District Attorney Jonathan Chung said Green and Blocker were part of a group of about six gang members who confronted Michael Terrance Blair, 37, of Pomona in the Denny's parking lot on March 16. Blair was shot several times and killed in what police said was an apparent robbery attempt. Green and Blocker were arrested earlier. A third gang member, Robert Lee Phipps Jr., was arrested Wednesday, police said in a statement. The others are still being sought. There were no other details.

A matter of principal

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A former principal who was replaced after repeated racial violence at Jefferson High School is suing the school district claiming he was unfairly blamed for the brawls last spring. Norman K. Morrow, 63, was removed as principal after a series of highly publicized fights between Hispanic and black students in April and May 2005. Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa described the school as "out of control" and Los Angeles Unified School District officials announced they were unhappy with Morrow's leadership and he was removed.

City's new anti-immigration stance is sending a loud message

BY GILLIAN FLACCUS
Associated Press Writer

COSTA MESA, Calif. — Business owners in this upscale Orange County city gathered Thursday to voice their opposition to a new city policy that would give police the authority to enforce federal immigration law. The policy, which was narrowly approved by the City Council late last year, allies Costa Mesa police with the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Bureau. It would make Costa Mesa the first city in the nation to train its police force in federal immigration enforcement. Police would only be able to check the immigration status of violent career felons. And it probably will not take effect for at least several months as local and federal official hammer out the details. Business owners, however, said the fear and uncertainty in the immigrant community had caused losses of up to 35 percent for those who cater to Hispanic customers and has provoked

protests outside businesses around town. Vincente Barajas, owner of a bakery called La Espiga de Oro, said his business had declined 20 percent since the council vote. He said another of his bakeries, in nearby Fullerton, had not seen a similar decline. "People think that just because of the way they look, you're going to get picked up by the police and taken to jail," he said. "Even people from out of the city are afraid to come in and support us." A diverse group of nearly 50 business owners gathered in front of City Hall and said they would actively work against Mayor Allan Mansoor's re-election in November. The policy was misguided and had been "thrust upon" the city by Mansoor, whose goal is to "clean up the Westside," said Chris Blank, an attorney who was present as a small-business owner. Hispanic immigrants live throughout the city, but are concentrated in neighborhoods to the west. Most of the business owners involved in the protest operate there. "What we have here is something that is nothing more than grandstanding and symbolism and it is symbolically scaring people," said Blank. "What we need is a national immigration policy. We don't need a cowboy sitting in the mayor's seat in Costa Mesa saying, 'I'm going to round them all up and send them away.'" The Chamber of Commerce also opposes the policy, said Ed Fawcett, the chamber's president. Mansoor didn't return calls from The Associated Press. In the past, he has said the policy targets only the worst criminals and will make the city safer. The policy is designed to piggyback on a similar policy being pursued by the Orange County Sheriff's Department. Police Capt. Ron Smith said Thursday that his department has tried to remain neutral in the controversy and had no choice but to follow the City Council's lead. He said about 30 out of 163 officers would receive the federal immigration training when the policy goes into effect.

Smith said he believed immigrants' fear came about because Mansoor had originally proposed a much broader policy that would have allowed police to check the immigration status of those arrested for less than an aggravated felony. "Now nobody understands what's going on. What I'm trying to do is put the facts out there," he said. "My officers tell me ... there is tangible fear here." Some residents said they supported Mansoor's stance. Ed Franks, a retiree who owned a sporting goods stores in Costa Mesa, said he has watched the number of Hispanic residents in Orange County increase dramatically in his 45 years there. He said he favored removing immigrants who were breaking the law. "They're breaking the law, period. I don't know what to tell you; it's black and white," he said. "What's irritating to me is that everybody keeps pointing to the United State of America. Nobody goes to Mexico and says, 'What are you doing about this?'"

STATE



Supreme Court debates when inmates can file suits

BY ERICA WERNER
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Supreme Court justices debated Wednesday when prisoners should be able to file federal lawsuits, taking up the case of a California inmate who sued after he was punished for alleged inappropriate activity with volunteer priests.

Viet Mike Ngo, who is serving up to life in prison for the shooting of a 14-year-old boy on Christmas Eve 1988, was barred from Bible study and from corresponding with a Catholic chapel volunteer after the alleged incidents at San Quentin State Prison in 2000.

Ngo, who has since been transferred to a different California prison, filed a grievance with prison officials, but he filed it after the 15-day deadline for grievances allowed by the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation.

Ngo then sued in federal court arguing violation of his First Amendment right to free practice of religion, and alleging that prison officials defamed him by saying he engaged in sexual relations with volunteer Catholic priests, among other complaints.

The district court dismissed the case, agreeing with prison officials that because Ngo missed the grievance deadline he had failed to exhaust his available administrative remedies before filing the federal lawsuit, as required by the 1996 Prison Litigation Reform Act.

But the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals reversed the ruling, finding that

even though Ngo missed the grievance deadline, he had exhausted his administrative remedies before going to court.

At issue before the Supreme Court were not the circumstances of Ngo's alleged misconduct and punishment, but the question of whether inmates should be able to file federal lawsuits even if they miss state prisons' grievance deadlines.

Ngo's attorney, Meier Feder, argued that Congress never intended to block valid inmate complaints in passing the 1996 law, which sought to limit frivolous prisoner lawsuits.

"The sponsors of the legislation made it clear they were not attempting to kick out potentially meritorious cases," said Feder.

Some justices questioned the short amounts of time given prisoners to file grievances, which in some states are shorter than California's 15 days. But several sounded skeptical about prisoners being allowed to miss the deadlines.

"The more frivolous the case, the more likely it won't be remembered by a guard. If the suit is, you spat on my painting, who's going to remember that four months later?" asked Justice Antonin Scalia.

Attorneys for California and for the Bush administration argued that Congress wanted inmates to comply with state prison grievance procedures, including deadlines.

If the 9th Circuit's ruling stood, inmates could wait years to file grievances, "consequences Congress could not have intended," said Bush administration lawyer Dan Himmelfarb.

Reid threatens a filibuster amid looming immigration showdown

BY ELLIOT SPAGAT
Associated Press Writer

SAN DIEGO — As the Senate prepares to tackle the most sweeping immigration reforms in years, a top Democrat vowed Wednesday to do everything in his power, including filibuster, to thwart Majority Leader Bill Frist's proposed overhaul.

Minority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., said he would "use every procedural means at my disposal" to prevent Frist from bypassing the Judiciary Committee. Frist, R-Tenn., has made clear the Senate will take up his proposal next week if the 18-member committee fails to complete a broader bill.

"If Leader Frist brings a bill to the floor that does not have the approval of the Judiciary Committee, it will not get out of the Senate," Reid told reporters at the San Ysidro border crossing, a few steps from Tijuana, Mexico.

Bob Stevenson, a spokesman for Frist, did not immediately respond to a call Wednesday evening.

Reid said the overhaul must include heightened border enforcement, a "guest worker" program and a "path to citizenship" for the estimated 11 million people in the United States illegally. He called legislation by Sens. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., and John McCain, R-Ariz., a "good place to start."

President Bush, in a State of the Union address two years ago, urged Congress to

create a worker program under which participants could gain legal status for a specific time and then be required to return home. It would not provide an automatic path to citizenship.

Frist, who has presidential ambitions for 2008, unveiled a bill last week that sidesteps the question of temporary work permits. It would tighten borders, punish employers who hire illegal immigrants and provide more visas.

The House passed a bill in December that makes it a felony for illegal immigrants to be in the United States, imposes new penalties on employers who hire them and erects fencing along 700 miles of the U.S.-Mexico border. It has no temporary worker program.

Amid the looming showdown, Reid met Wednesday with hotel workers at the Mandalay Bay Resort & Casino in Las Vegas in an effort to highlight contributions that immigrants make to the economy. He flew to San Diego for a helicopter tour and briefing by Border Patrol officials.

He planned to visit the longest cross-border tunnel discovered along the U.S.-Mexico border — a 2,400-foot secret passage that linked warehouses in San Diego and Tijuana. Authorities said they discovered more than two tons of marijuana inside the tunnel in January.

Reid also was scheduled to meet with California business, labor, religious and local government leaders to discuss immigration.



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Entertainment

Moss grows fat on a Rolling Stone biopic



BY DAN DUNN

Special to the Daily Press

THE MOVIE: Stoned
THE DIRECTOR: Stephen Woolley
THE STARS: Leo Gregory, Paddy Considine, Monet Mazur, David Morrissey

Acclaimed producer Stephen Woolley ("The Crying Game," "Interview with the Vampire," "The End of the Affair") fails to provide much satisfaction in his directorial debut, "Stoned," a drab and highly speculative recreation of the final days of troubled Rolling Stones founding member Brian Jones.

Even diehard Stones fans who've been jonezing for a biopic are likely to be disappointed by this tottering head film, which is laden with lifeless performances

and played out rock star conventions (the naked babes, drug-fueled tantrums, crapulous hangers-on), yet devoid of any Stones originals because, you know, those song rights cost money.

Keith Richards famously called Jones, who died in the swimming pool at his East Sussex manse in 1969, "the best bunch of guys I ever met," but as rendered here by Leo Gregory ("Tristan and Isolde"), the icon credited with cultivating the Stones' bad-boy image comes across as one boring dude. Paddy Considine fares a little bit better as Frank Thorogood, Jones' lackey and may-have-been killer. Monet Masur bears an eerie resemblance to Jones' fair-haired paramour, model Anita Pallenberg.

(Not rated. Running time: 102 minutes)

Budding 'Stoned' star an artist in own right

BY DAN DUNN

Special to the Daily Press

She isn't a household name just yet, but the artistically denominated Monet Mazur appears to have the goods to make the transition from pretty supporting player to respected leading lady. The 29-year-old Los Angeles native, a diamond in such rough stuff as "Monster-in-Law," "Torque" and "Just Married," shines in director Stephen Woolley's intriguing biopic "Stoned," which opens Friday. The film examines the mysterious circumstances surrounding the drowning death of Rolling Stones guitarist and co-founder Brian Jones at his English countryside estate in 1969. Mazur plays Jones' girlfriend, model Anita Pallenberg.

QUESTION: How did you wind up getting "Stoned?"

MONET MAZUR: Stephen was having a hard time finding someone to play Anita. I'd done a photo shoot in a magazine that somebody showed Stephen because they thought I looked like her. He'd been looking mainly at European actresses up until then, and didn't

expect to find some girl from Malibu to play Anita.

Q: Your father, artist Ruby Mazur, has a famous connection to the Stones, right?

MM: Yeah. He designed this logo with lips and a tongue for the album sleeve of "Sticky Fingers," and it wound up becoming the band's symbol.

Q: If you had to choose one, who would it be, the Rolling Stones or the Beatles?

MM: Ooh, tough one. Back in the day I'd pick the Stones for sure, but the older I get I'd say the Beatles. I don't know — they're toe-to-toe. Is that allowed? Can I be an equal Stones and Beatles fan?

Q: We'll give you that, but no equivocating on this next one: Name your three favorite Stones tunes.

MM: "Waiting on a Friend," "Paint it Black" and, uh ... um ... "Angie."

Q: And your favorite Rolling Stone?

MM: Probably Keith. I have this great T-shirt with Keith Richards on it that says "Too tough to die." I believe he really is, too.

SANTA MONICA ART PALETTE

MAKING ARTS AND CULTURE COME ALIVE IN SANTA MONICA

Welcome to the Santa Monica Art Palette for the weekend of March 24. The goal of the Art Palette, created by City Hall's cultural affairs division, is to showcase the many eclectic arts and cultural opportunities available in Santa Monica every week, highlighting one or more of the many happenings within our borders.

If you've got a fourth grader nearby, you'll want to pay a visit to the Morgan Wixson Theatre where the Santa Monica Theatre Guild is presenting an original musical adaptation of a classic book that is assigned reading for most of the Santa Monica Malibu School District's fourth grade students. Members of the Guild's Youth Education /Entertainment Series (YES) Program will be starring in the world premiere of by The Great Horn Spoon written by Newbery winning author Sid Fleischman based on his book by the same name.

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On Saturday, March 25, Opera Nova is presenting a one-night-only concert, "The Essence of Opera" at the Miles Playhouse. Audiences will be swept away by the most exquisite music of opera as composed by its greats; Strauss, Mozart, Puccini, Verdi, Massenet and Gershwin featuring the talents of Opera Nova's finest young singers. Cost of admission is \$20 for adults and \$10 for students and seniors. Tickets may be reserved by calling Opera Nova at (310) 396-4360.
www.milesplayhouse.org



Every design aficionado in town can be found at the third annual CA Boom at the Santa Monica Civic Auditorium this weekend. The exhibition will feature the first ever modernist prefab marketplace, booths representing the best interior and exterior design firms in the country, lectures by leading architects, and tours of Santa Monica, Venice and Culver City showplace homes.

For tickets and other information, visit the CA Boom Web site at <http://www.caboomshow.com/index.html>



Santa Monica Museum of Art provides families with a way to spend time together in their Emerging Arts Family Workshops. The museum finds the hottest, most innovative young artists in Southern California, brings them to their workshop area and invites the community to come and learn how to craft their own works of art. This weekend, Alison Foshee will be on hand to teach you how to transform mundane materials such as labels and push pins into whimsical and visually arresting artworks.

For more examples of Foshee's work, visit her Web site at www.alisonfoshee.com

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Buscemi shows some character as director

BY DAN DUNN
Special to the Daily Press



THE MOVIE: Lonesome Jim
THE DIRECTOR: Steve Buscemi
THE STARS: Casey Affleck, Liv Tyler, Mary Kay Place, Seymour Cassel

REVIEW

In "Lonesome Jim," underrated talent Casey Affleck once again proves he can play a sad-sack with the best of them, his depressive titular character inviting both our pity and disdain. After a failed attempt at a literary career in Manhattan, a penniless Jim reluctantly returns to his parents' home in wintry, monochromatic small-town Indiana. Jim feels suffocated by his doting, preternaturally cheery mother (a terrific Mary Kay Place), alienat-

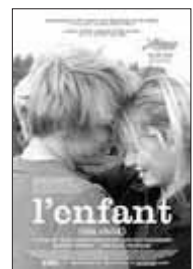
ed by his impassive pop (Seymour Cassel) and at odds with his morose brother Tim (Kevin Corrigan). He often wonders aloud whether life is even worth living, his dire misgivings muted by Affleck's oft-hilarious, deadpan delivery. Much-needed illumination arrives in the form of Liv Tyler's compassionate nurse, Anika, and her cute little mopet, Ben. Comic relief comes courtesy of Mark Boone Jr., who is laugh-out-loud funny as Jim's drug-dealing lout of an uncle Stacy, aka "Evil."

Steve Buscemi is an actor with a nose for nuance, and under his direction, the excellent cast of "Lonesome Jim" imbues almost every line of dialogue and gesture with significance. Strouse's screenplay is chock full o' heretical humor and astute observations about the plight of the disaffected.

(Rated R. Running time: 91 minutes)

'L'Enfant' leaves one waiting ... and wanting

BY DAN DUNN
Special to the Daily Press



THE MOVIE: L'Enfant
THE DIRECTOR: Jean-Pierre Dardenne, Luc Dardenne
THE STARS: Jérémie Renier, Déborah François

REVIEW

In a scene very near the end of Jean-Pierre and Luc Dardenne's 2005 Palme d'Or-winning film, "L'Enfant" ("The Child"), 18-year-old Sonia (Déborah François) asks her petty-thief beau Bruno (Jérémie Renier) if he would like some coffee. He does, and for the next 53 seconds the camera lingers on a silent Bruno as Sonia retrieves a cup for him. Such is the

attention paid to mundanity throughout "L'Enfant" by the Dardenne brothers, darlings of Cannes who also won that festival's highest prize in 1999 with "Rosetta." Some people might consider such languorous pacing a welcome respite in this restless day and age. Others will find it barely tolerable.

But languorousness is no match for lugubriousness in "L'Enfant," a documentary-style drama set in a Belgian steel town that paints an uncompromisingly bleak portrait of dispossessed youth barely surviving in a world that seemingly has no use for them. The stark realism is compelling but at the same time kind of a drag, and Bruno is such an unsavory protagonist that you may find yourself — as I did — rooting against his prospective redemption.

(Rated R. Running time: 95 minutes. In French, with English subtitles.)



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NATIONAL

Bush to lawmakers: Have a 'civil debate'

BY NEDRA PICKLER
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — As Congress prepares for a showdown over immigration policy, President Bush urged lawmakers Thursday to have a "civil debate" that respects people of all backgrounds.

"Ours is a nation of law and ours is a nation of immigrants, and we believe that we can have rational, important immigration policy that's based upon law and reflects our deep desire to be a compassionate and decent nation," Bush said.

He urged a serious debate on the issues at a time when advocates on both sides have been playing to voters' gut emotions.

"When we discuss this debate, it must be done in a civil way," Bush said during a meeting with groups pushing for changes to immigration laws. "It must be done in a way that brings dignity to the process. It must be done in a way that doesn't pit people against another."

Bush wants Congress to create a worker program under which participants could gain legal status for a spe-

cific time and then be required to return home. It would not provide an automatic path to citizenship.

"Our government must enforce our borders," Bush said. "We've got plans in place to do so. But part of enforcing our borders is to have a guest worker program that encourages people to register their presence so that we know who they are and says to them, 'If you are doing a job that Americans won't do, you're welcome here for a period of time to do that job.'"

The Senate Judiciary Committee is considering a bill with a guest worker program. If that measure does not move forward, Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist planned to push debate on his own bill. Frist's bill sidesteps the question of temporary work permits and would tighten borders, punish employers who hire illegal immigrants and provide more visas.

Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., said Wednesday he would do everything in his power, including filibuster, to thwart any legislation not cleared by the Judiciary Committee.

Plan for Grand Canyon usage gets final approval

By The Associated Press

PHOENIX — A plan that allows more people to float down the Colorado River through the Grand Canyon each year but spreads them out over more months and in smaller groups has been adopted by the National Park Service.

The new Colorado River Management Plan also eliminates the current waiting list for those who want to raft the river in noncommercial boats, replacing it with a lottery system. Many people sat on the waiting list for more than a decade, and the lottery will give them some preference but does not guarantee them a slot.

The plan released Thursday will shift more travelers into the fall, winter and spring months, while cutting the number of daily summertime launches of both

motorized and nonmotorized commercial rafts in the upper Grand Canyon. The result would be more tourists overall.

The lower Colorado River, from Diamond Creek to Lake Mead, will see the number of pontoon boat tours go up, allowing up to 480 passenger per day, up from the current 130 passengers. The plan bans jet boat tours entirely, but commercial operators that use the craft to meet rafts above Lake Mead would still be allowed.

The adoption of the final plan, technically a final environmental impact statement, comes after four years of study by a group of scientists, Park Service managers and others, with input from tour operators, Indian tribes and members of the public.

Elements of the plan will be implemented as soon as possible by the Park Service.

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NATIONAL



Families of 9/11 victims share frustrations at trial

BY WILL LESTER
Associated Press Writer

ALEXANDRIA, Va. — Geraldine Davie fought back tears as she talked of her deep frustration about the U.S. government's failure to act on repeated warnings before the Sept. 11 terrorist attack that killed her 22-year-old daughter at the World Trade Center.

"They all let us down," Davie said Wednesday evening, voicing a sentiment shared by many of the victims' family members who are monitoring the sentencing trial of admitted al-Qaida member Zacarias Moussaoui.

Davie and other family members of Sept. 11 victims heard the FBI agent who arrested the 37-year-old Frenchman testify early this week that he spent four weeks trying to warn his bosses in Washington about the radical Islamic student pilot. FBI agent Harry Samit said resistance to his efforts to thoroughly investigate Moussaoui blocked "a serious opportunity to stop the 9/11 attacks."

The court proceedings have been painful for victims' family members like Davie, whose daughter Amy O'Doherty was working at an investment firm at the World Trade Center in New York City; Eleni Kousoulis, who lost sister Danielle, who worked at the same investment firm; and Bill McGinly, whose son Mark sold precious metals for another firm based in the New York City skyscrapers.

All three were at the Moussaoui trial at the federal courthouse in Alexandria on Wednesday.

"The government knew a lot, if they had just paid more attention," said

Kousoulis of Merion, Pa. Even if government investigators couldn't prevent the attacks altogether, she said, they might have saved some lives. Kousoulis said she doesn't care if Moussaoui gets the death penalty, adding: "I think him rotting in jail is worse."

For McGinly, a Vienna, Va., resident who works in health care philanthropy, the death penalty is the appropriate fate for the man of Moroccan descent who pleaded guilty last April to conspiring with al-Qaida to fly planes into U.S. buildings.

"I would be much more comfortable to see him off the face of the Earth," McGinly said.

To obtain a death penalty, prosecutors must show that lies Moussaoui told when arrested in mid-August 2001 led directly to at least one of the nearly 3,000 deaths when al-Qaida flew planes into the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and a Pennsylvania field. They argue that if he hadn't lied the FBI and the FAA could have taken enough action to save at least one life.

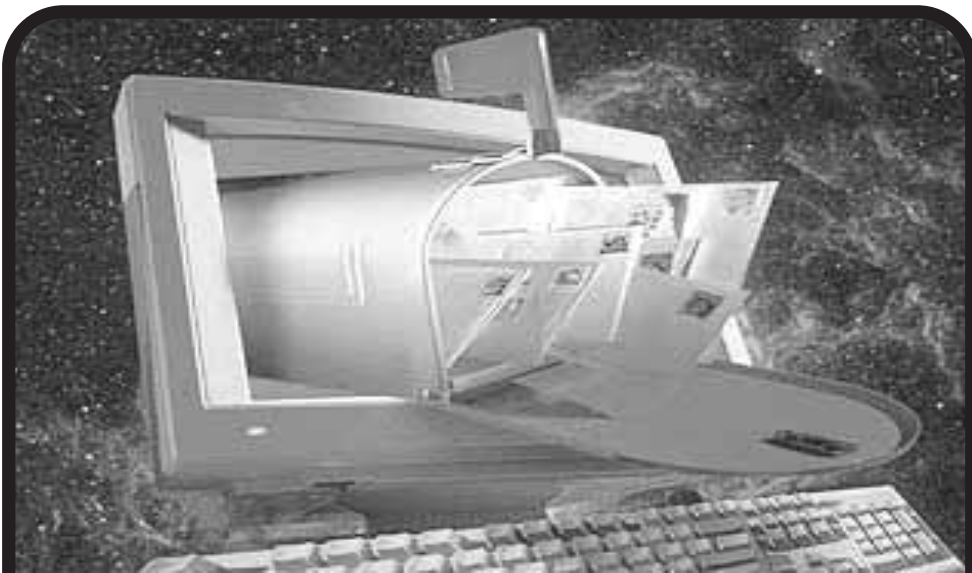
Despite setbacks in the government's attempts to get a death sentence for Moussaoui, victims' family members say the trial is helping them come to terms with their loss. McGinly said he's not quite sure why he keeps coming, but hopes the revelations about government failures could help avoid a repeat of the terror attack.

For Davie, it's important "to know the history of the events in detail without political overlays. There are facts being presented here without the bluster of politicians getting in the way."

"This is what we've needed from the beginning," she said. "This is important."



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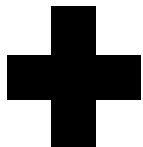
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INTERNATIONAL

Peace activist hostage drama ends peacefully in rural Iraq

BY BASSEM MROUE

Associated Press Writer

BAGHDAD, Iraq — U.S. and British troops Thursday freed three Christian peace activists in rural Iraq without firing a shot, ending a four-month hostage drama in which an American among the group was shot to death and dumped on a Baghdad street.

Maj. Gen. Rick Lynch, the U.S. military spokesman, said the hostages were being held by a “kidnapping cell,” and the operation to free the captives was based on information from a man captured by U.S. forces only three hours earlier.

No kidnappers were present when the troops broke into a house in western Baghdad. The captives’ hands were tied, Lynch said.

“They were bound, they were together, there were no kidnappers in the areas,” Lynch told a news briefing.

The Iraqi Interior Ministry said the captives were rescued northwest of Baghdad between the towns of Mishahda, 20 miles away from Baghdad, and the western suburb of Abu Ghraib, 12 miles away.

British officials in Baghdad said those freed were Canadians James Loney, 41, and Harmeet Singh Sooden, 32, and Briton Norman Kember, 74. The men — members of the Chicago-based Christian Peacemaker Teams — were kidnapped Nov. 26 along with their American colleague, Tom Fox.

The body of Fox, 54, of Clear Brook, Va., was found earlier this month.

“We remember with tears Tom Fox,” group co-director Doug Pritchard said. “We had longed for the day when all four men would be released together. Our gladness today is bittersweet by the fact that Tom is not alive to join his colleagues in the celebration.”

In London, British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw said Kember was in “reasonable condition” in Baghdad’s heavily fortified Green Zone. The two Canadians required hospital treatment, but he gave no further details.

Straw also gave few details of the operation, saying only that it followed “weeks and weeks” of planning.

British Prime Minister Tony Blair’s office said he was delighted by the trio’s release.

“He is particularly pleased for those released and their families. He congratulates everyone involved in the operation to rescue the hostages,” his office said in a statement.

Loney’s brother, Ed, told CBC television that his mother had spoken with James on the phone and he sounded “fantastic.”

“He’s alert and he was asking how we were doing and said he was sorry for the whole situation,” Ed Loney said. “My mom said, ‘Don’t worry about it — just get home

and we’ll talk about all that stuff when you get here.”

The kidnapped men were shown as prisoners in several videos, the most recent a silent clip dated Feb. 28 in which Loney, Kember and Sooden appeared without Fox. Fox’s body was found March 10 near a west Baghdad railway line with gunshot wounds to his head and chest.

Iraqi police said at the time it appeared that Fox had been tortured because he had bruises and cuts on his body, apparently inflicted before he was shot to death.

The previously unknown Swords of Righteousness Brigades claimed responsibility for the kidnappings.

“As we study who could conduct these kinds of operations there seems to be a kidnapping cell that has been robust over the last several months in conducting these kind of kidnappings,” Lynch said.

In Fox’s hometown, some of his friends learned of the rescues on the television.

“I think there’s a bittersweet element to this in that yes, our friend Tom isn’t coming home,” said Anne Bacon, clerk of the Hopewell Centre Quaker meeting where Fox volunteered. “But we know Tom is with us and that Tom is overjoyed that these men will be reunited with their families.”

The Christian Peacemaker Teams said the activists went to Iraq “motivated by a passion for justice and peace.” Group volunteers have been in Iraq since October 2002, investigating allegations of abuse against Iraqi detainees by coalition forces. Its teams promote peaceful solutions in conflict zones.

“They knew that their only protection was in the power of the love of God and of their Iraqi and international co-workers,” Pritchard said.

He also called for coalition forces to leave the country.

“We believe that the illegal occupation of Iraq by Multinational Forces is the root cause of the insecurity which led to this kidnapping and so much pain and suffering in Iraq,” Pritchard said.

Other Americans taken hostage in Iraq and killed in addition to Fox were Ronald Schulz, 40, an industrial electrician from Anchorage, Alaska; Jack Hensley, 48, a civil engineer from Marietta, Ga.; Eugene “Jack” Armstrong, 52, formerly of Hillsdale, Mich.; and Nicholas Berg, 26, a businessman from West Chester, Pa.

Still missing is Jill Carroll, a freelance writer for The Christian Science Monitor who was kidnapped Jan. 7 in Baghdad. She has appeared in three videotapes delivered by her kidnappers to Arab satellite television stations. When asked whether he had information about Carroll, Lynch said: “None that I can discuss at this time.”

The last hostage to be freed in a military operation was Douglas Wood, an Australian rescued in west Baghdad by U.S. and Iraqi forces on June 15 after 47 days in captivity.



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Hoops star revisits a decimated home

By The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Amare Stoudemire’s trip to hurricane-ravaged New Orleans will be featured in an upcoming NBA TV show.

The series, “Toyota’s Moving Forward Moments,” features an NBA player returning to his hometown to surprise his mentor and to reminisce about the powerful influence that person had on his life.

But in this special edition, the Phoenix Suns All-Star visited 10 women who mentored in their communities as 4-H volunteer leaders, but lost almost everything as a result of Hurricane Katrina.

He visited parts of Louisiana and some of the victims’ homes on his way to meet the women, surprising them with Toyota Prius hybrid cars to help get their lives back on track.

“It leaves you speechless,” Stoudemire said as he drove past the homes and cars destroyed by the August storm. “Once you see it up close and personal, it is pretty rough to take. It just isn’t a certain area. The whole city and just about the whole state have been wiped out.”

The women were originally told that only one person would be presented with the car, but all 10 received one instead.

The show will air March 28 (6 p.m. EST).

LOS ANGELES — Star Jones Reynolds is recovering from a breast-lift procedure performed last week at a Santa Monica hospital, her publicist said.

“Star is recovering wonderfully,” publicist Brad Zeifman said Wednesday in a statement to The Associated Press.

The co-host of ABC’s daytime talk show “The View” underwent surgery Friday. That day, husband Al Reynolds slipped at a gym and was taken to the emergency room with two cuts to the head.

“He is recovering and in good spirits,” Zeifman said.

LOS ANGELES — Fred Savage, perhaps best known for his role on ABC’s “The Wonder Years,” is going to be a father.

Jennifer Stone Savage is expecting the couple’s first child in August, his agent, Brian Swardstrom, confirmed Wednesday.

Savage, 29, portrayed wide-eyed Kevin Arnold on “The Wonder Years” from 1988-1993. He starred in the 2004 film “Welcome to Mooseport” and the ABC sitcom “Crumbs.”

In recent years, he has also worked behind the camera, including producing and directing “Phil of the Future” on the Disney Channel and directing Nickelodeon’s “Drake & Josh.”

NEW YORK — Julianne Moore will return to the New York stage in the world premiere of “The Vertical Hour” by British playwright David Hare.

Moore will portray a former American war correspondent turned college professor who meets an older man while on vacation in Wales. The play will open Nov. 30 at a Broadway theater to be announced.

It will be directed by Sam Mendes, whose stage work includes the long-running Broadway revival of “Cabaret,” “The Blue Room” starring Nicole Kidman, and the Bernadette Peters revival of “Gypsy.” The announcement was made Wednesday.

Moore’s screen credits include roles in “Far From Heaven,” “The End of the Affair,” “Boogie Nights” and “The Hours,” which has a screenplay by Hare. Her last New York stage appearance was in “Vanya on 42nd Street” in 1992.

Mendes won the best-director Oscar for “American Beauty.”

“The Vertical Hour” will be the first time Hare, who also wrote “Plenty,” “Amy’s View,” “The Blue Room,” “Skylight” and “The Judas Kiss,” has premiered a play in the United States.

“Stuff Happens,” Hare’s Iraq-war drama, is now in previews at off-Broadway’s Public Theater.

MOVIEGUIDE

SHOWTIMES FOR TUESDAY, MARCH 21, 2006

Broadway Loews Cineplex
1441 3rd Street
(310) 458-6232

Capote
2:00pm 4:45pm 7:30pm 10:15pm
The Hills Have Eyes
2:15pm 5:15pm 8pm 10:30pm
Find Me Guilty
1:45pm 4:30pm 7:15pm 10pm
Transamerica
1:00pm 4:05pm 7pm 9:45pm

Mann’s Criterion Theatre
1313 3rd Street
(310) 395-1599

Aquamarine
11:10am 1:40pm 4:10pm 6:40pm
The Libertine
2:10pm 4:50pm 7:30pm 10:20pm
Munich
11:30am 9:10pm
The Pink Panther
3:00pm 5:20pm 7:40pm 9:50pm
The Libertine
2:20pm 5pm 7:40pm 10:20pm
She’s the Man
11:20am 1:50pm 4:30pm 7:20 pm
10:00pm
V for Vendetta
11:00am 1:00pm 2:00pm 4:00pm
5:00pm 7:00pm 8:00pm 10:10pm

AMC7 Santa Monica
1310 3rd Street
(310) 289-4262

Eight Below
1:40pm 4:20pm 7:10pm 9:50pm
16 Blocks
2:15pm 4:50pm 7:25pm 10:05pm
Date Movie
7:20pm 9:40pm
Dave Chappelle’s Block Party
1:50pm 4:40pm 7:35pm 10:15pm
Failure to Launch
2:25pm 4:55pm 7:30pm 10pm
The Shaggy Dog
2pm 2:40pm 4:30pm 5:10pm 7pm
7:40pm 9:30pm 10:10pm
Curious George
2:30pm 5:00pm

NuWilshire Theatre
1314 Wilshire Blvd
(310) 281-8228

Brokeback Mountain
12:15pm 3:45pm 7pm 10pm
Tsotsi
12pm 2:30pm 5pm 7:30pm 9:55pm

Laemmle 4-Plex Theatre
1332 2nd Street
(310) 394-9741

Ask the Dust
1:20pm 4:10pm 7:10pm 9:55pm
CSA: The Confederate State of America
1:00pm 3:20pm 5:40pm 8:00pm
10:15pm
Duck Season
1:00pm 3:15pm 5:30pm 7:45pm 10pm
Don’t Come Knocking
1:40pm 4:20pm 7:00pm 9:40pm

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Avenue
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See No Evil
Wednesday, March 15
7:30 PM
Narrow Margin & Violent
Thursday, March 16
7:30 PM
Brick
Friday, March 17
7:30 PM
Boston Strangler & 10 Rillington Place
Saturday, March 18
7:30 PM
20,000 Leagues Under/Sea
Sunday, March 19
3:00 PM
Fantastic Voyage & Soylent Green
Sunday, March 19
6:30 PM



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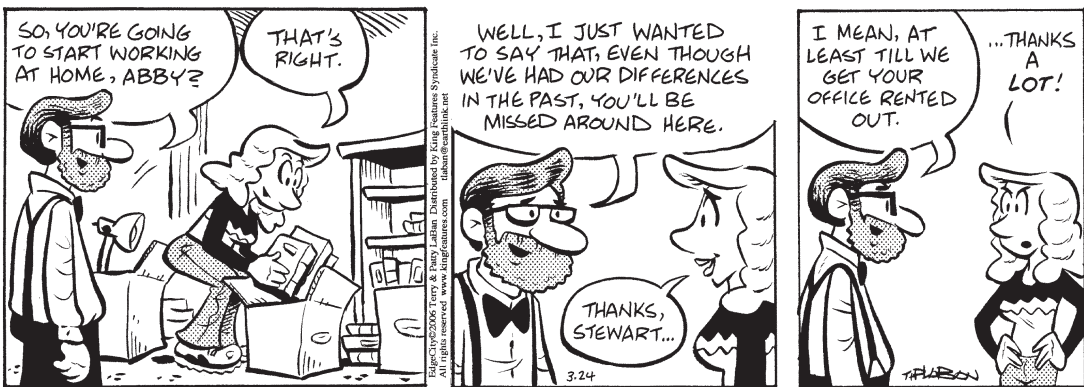


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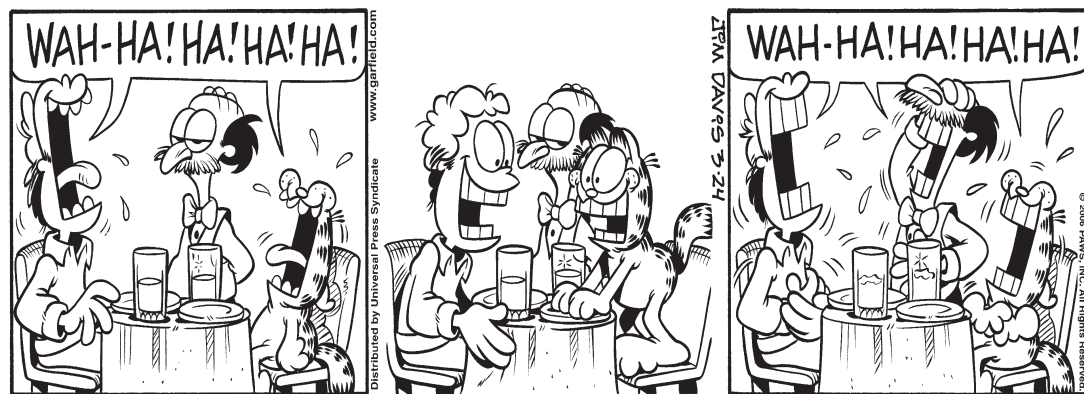
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 - 18 Knee protectors
 - 20 Empty
 - 22 Decline
 - 23 Caused havoc
 - 26 Home
 - 28 Sam or Tom
 - 29 Damascus natives
 - 31 Upper limit
 - 32 Spot
 - 33 Loony
 - 34 Radio part
 - 36 Spring shape
 - 38 1998 De Niro film
 - 40 Kuala Lumpur native
 - 43 Not out
 - 44 Busy
- DOWN**
- 45 Peered
 - 46 Buccaneers' base
 - 1 Rotter
 - 2 Yalie
 - 3 "Bones" actor
 - 4 Stockpile
 - 5 Token of love
 - 6 Agent, briefly
 - 7 Swift horse
 - 8 "NCIS" actor
 - 9 Not in port
 - 10 Warren Beatty film

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Yesterday's answer

- 16 Longoria
- 17 Aversion of "Desperate Housewives"
- 18 Pod fill
- 19 Ann's twin
- 21 Responsibility
- 23 Take in
- 24 King of Norway
- 25 Retained
- 27 Aversion
- 30 MOMA setting
- 33 Hunt goddess
- 34 Bummer
- 35 Hawkeye's home
- 37 Forget
- 39 Homer's neighbor
- 41 Pharaoh's symbol
- 42 Pro vote

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Obituaries**ALLEN WULFECK**

Allen Wulfeck was a 46 year resident of Santa Monica. He was born in Massachusetts on May 26, 1953 and passed away March 16, 2006 after a long battle with cancer. He leaves behind his mother, Harriette Wulfeck, two brothers, Wallace and David Wulfeck and several nieces and nephews. After he graduated from Santa Monica High School in 1971, he attended Humboldt State University. He will be sadly missed by all who knew and loved him. Funeral arrangements are pending.

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NOTICE OF APPLICATION TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES
Date of Filing Application: MARCH 2, 2006
To Whom it may concern:
The Name(s) of the Applicant(s) is/are: ANASTASIA GROUP SANTA MONICA L-PSHIP THE.
The applicants listed above are applying to the Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control to sell alcoholic beverages at: 1541 OCEAN AVE., STE 150, SANTA MONICA, CA 90401.
Type of License(s) Applied for: 47 - ON-SALE GENERAL EATING PLACE.
Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control INGLEWOOD.
LA116297 SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS 3/17, 24, 3/31, 2006

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF DAVID JOSEPH WATTS aka DAVID J. WATTS and DAVID WATTS
Case No. SP006781
To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of DAVID JOSEPH WATTS aka DAVID J. WATTS and DAVID WATTS
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Leslie Bottene in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Leslie Bottene be appointed as personal

Notices

representative to administer the estate of the decedent.
THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.
A HEARING on the petition will be held on May 5, 2006 at 9:15 AM in Dept. No. F located at 1725 Main St., Santa Monica, CA 90401.

IF YOU OBJECT to the grant-ing of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a per-son interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.
Attorney for petitioner:
KRISTA LEE POWERS ESQ
SBN167202
REYNOLDS & POWERS ALC
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