

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

00000

FANTASY 5

17, 20, 21, 24, 37

DAILY 3

Afternoon picks: 9, 6, 0
Evening picks: 2, 2, 5

DAILY DERBY

1st Place: 06, Whirl Win
2nd Place: 04, Big Ben
3rd Place: 09, Winning Spirit
Race time: 1:44.47



NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

■ Israeli Aircraft Industries Ltd. is now testing an "airplane" the size of a credit card (flight time: 20 minutes), containing cameras and transmitters to relay intelligence from battlefields, or from the insides of buildings by going through open windows.

■ The company TrapTec (Escondido, Calif.) is now in the final testing of "anti-graffiti" sensors that are so responsive that they can identify taggers who use spray paint just by the distinctive hissing sound of the aerosol can (and automatically tell police the taggers' location, via global positioning system technology).

THOUGHT OF THE DAY

It's easy to make a friend. What's hard is to make a stranger.

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Universal healthcare bill sponsored by Sen.

BY JOHN WOOD

Daily Press Staff Writer

State Sen. Sheila Kuehl, who represents Santa Monica in Sacramento, is leading an effort that would guarantee healthcare for every Californian.

Kuehl's bill would provide free coverage to every resident of the state, mainly by raising income taxes roughly 3 percent. Under the plan, insurance co-payments, deductibles and insurance premiums would be eliminated entirely.

"The whole health care system is unraveling pretty rapidly," Kuehl said in an interview Monday. "We're headed for a high storm."

Local politicians appear to sup-

port the bill. Councilmember Bob Holbrook and Mayor Pro Tem Kevin McKeown sponsored a request that went before the City Council Tuesday that would voice the city's support for the bill to state legislators and Gov. Gray Davis.

City Council members say they support the bill because it is a "universal coverage" plan and would cover all residents. Councilmember Holbrook said the plan would give the state bargaining power to buy prescription medicines in bulk, similar to drug-purchasing methods used in Canada.

"The Americans pay more for prescription products than anywhere in the world," said

See BILL, page 5

Santa Monica artist sues over arm amputation

Car accident put him in the hospital for months

BY JOHN WOOD

Daily Press Staff Writer

A Santa Monica artist whose arm was amputated after he rolled his SUV is suing his doctors for malpractice.

Manfred Muller, a 46-year-old sculptor and public works artist, rolled his car off of Interstate 5 in October of 1999 between Los Angeles and San Francisco. Jurors heard from expert witnesses Tuesday, the 14th day of trial. Lawyers said the case could go on another two weeks.

At issue in the case is whether Muller's caregivers should have

See SUIT, page 6



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press
German-born artist Manfred Muller created the above bright red Dories, which are located underneath the Santa Monica Pier.

Empty shelves



John Wood/Daily Press

Moving crews continued packing the Santa Monica Main Library's 250,000-volume collection Tuesday. Some of the books will be taken to the temporary library at 1324 Fifth Street, while others will be boxed, put on pallets, wrapped in cellophane and taken to a storage facility. The remodeled library is scheduled to open June 2005.

Trial starts against Tommy Lee over child drowning

BY LINDA DEUTSCH

AP Special Correspondent

Rock musician Tommy Lee, testifying in a lawsuit over the drowning of a little boy in his pool, told a Santa Monica jury Tuesday he was concerned with the safety of 15 to 20 children who came to his son's birthday party but was certain all had parents or guardians to look after them.

Daniel Karven-Veres, 4, drowned on June 16, 2001, during a party for Lee's son Brandon.

Daniel's parents, actress Ursula Karven and TV producer James Veres, seek unspecified damages in the wrongful-death lawsuit against Lee, 40, former drummer for the band Motley Crue.

Lee testified that he sat by the

pool throughout the party at his Malibu home, and for about 45 minutes was engrossed in conversation with a man he called his "life coach." He said he did not hire a lifeguard and doesn't remember telling anyone after the tragedy that he had done so.

"As far as you're concerned you did everything right?" asked attorney Thomas Girardi, who represents the parents of the dead child.

"Yes," said Lee.

"That's how you should have a party for 4-year-olds?" asked the lawyer.

"Yes," Lee replied. "It was a great party."

Asked if he was particularly

See TRIAL, page 6

U.S. consolidates Baghdad position while friendly fire hits north

BY CALVIN WOODWARD

Associated Press Writer

A U.S. military plane landed Sunday at Baghdad's international airport while American forces completed their encirclement of the capital, rapidly chipping away at vestiges of Saddam Hussein's power.

The intense fighting took a growing toll on combatants and civilians, however. Russian diplomats and a convoy of America's Kurdish comrades in arms were among unintended victims caught in crossfire and friendly fire.

A C-130 cargo plane landed at the airport late Sunday, demon-

strating that the allies were now ready to put the recently captured tarmac to their own use.

Southeast of Baghdad, Marines seized one of Saddam's palaces, poked through remnants of a Republican Guard headquarters and searched a suspected terrorist training camp, finding the shell of

a passenger jet believed to be used for hijacking practice.

U.S. forces consolidated positions encircling Baghdad and declared they controlled all highways in and out of the city — a day after raiding the capital and killing perhaps several thousand

See WAR, page 10



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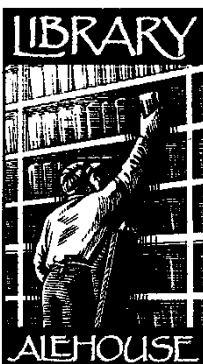
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HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, April 9, 2003:

Understanding might help you get past a family issue or a personal resistance. You will also gain by pulling back and taking a broader look. Not everyone needs to see life as you do; learn to share your visions without threatening others. You might want to visualize more and walk others step by step through different concepts. You demonstrate the ability to grasp unusual concepts. Travel and education could play significant roles in your life. If you are single, you will want a major relationship, which is likely to become a reality before September. If you are attached, you will want to spend more time traveling together. You will benefit as a result. CANCER adores you.

♈ ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Basics count, especially as pressure builds. Sometimes you cannot please all of the people all of the time. You discover that this saying might be more than true right now. Reach out for unusual sources. Seek out information that might help resolve a problem. Tonight: Turn on your answering machine.

♉ TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Keep reaching out for others in your immediate environment. You need to share more of what is happening within yourself. Talk to a trusted friend or loved one. Sharing helps to clear the air. Get past a liability through openness. Forget worry. Tonight: Speak your mind.

♊ GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★ Expenses could go overboard, especially if you follow group concerns. You need to pull away and be your own person. Think carefully about an emotional situation. How important is it to be part of the gang? Take better care of yourself ultimately. Tonight: Your treat.

♋ CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Be more forthright about what is on your mind. A boss appreciates what you do for him or her, but know when to pull back and let this person run with the ball. Dig right in and handle your work. Your ability to get the job done makes you a star. Tonight: As late as you need to be.

♌ LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Know when to nix plans. Be wise about your choices; you'll be much happier as a result. News from a distance might not be accurate, but in some way, it causes you discomfort. Discuss what might be going on among loved ones. You'll get honest feedback. Tonight: Relax, please.

♍ VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Dance to a new tune. See what works for you. Recognize that what might be OK for you could be a liability for someone else. Do a better job of listening to a touchy partner. You will find answers, for they lie within you. Let your creativity surge. Tonight: What is it you want?

♎ LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Deal with issues in a more basic and direct manner. Regroup and think through a situation more clearly. Change your direction. Feel what the possibilities are. Others present you with a plethora of news and ideas. Now what? You have the privilege of choice. Tonight: A must show.

♏ SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Investigate what might be happening on a deeper level. You want to get past others' viewpoints and root out a work or money issue. You will be a lot happier as a result, as will others. Sometimes, symbolically, you're the office plumber. Tonight: Work late.

♐ SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ You have a way of turning situations inside-out. Others might be overwhelmed by your thinking and by how you zero in on a problem. You have an admirer who's quite close to you. This person likes your style and manner of handling life. Tonight: Be with a favorite person.

♑ CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ You might be overwhelmed by what goes down in your immediate circle. Say little and observe a lot. A change of pace could make a substantial difference in how you feel. Don't think that you need to do anything right now. Tonight: Kick back over dinner. Keep talks light.

♒ AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Pace yourself and get ahead of a project. Your humor helps you see a friend's point of view without taking it personally. Play it nice and easy. Get your work done and refuse to socialize or get distracted. Return calls. Interesting news surrounds you. Tonight: Put your feet up.

♓ PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Your lighter side helps a boss through a quandary. Though you might not have the right answer, you certainly have a solution. Don't underestimate where you are heading. Keep finances a high priority before OK'ing a child or loved one's plans. Tonight: As you like it.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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LOCAL

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Local businesses honored at awards luncheon

By Daily Press staff

The Chamber of Commerce and the City of Santa Monica will announce this year's business finalists for the Sustainable Quality Awards on April 21 at the Ken Edwards Center.

The business finalists are being honored for their contributions to the community. The SQA judges business' achievements in economic development, social responsibility and protection of the natural environment.

The winners will be honored at the Chamber of Commerce luncheon on May 6 at 11:30 a.m. at the Sheraton Four Points Hotel.

Man honored with lifetime humanitarian award

By Daily Press staff

On April 24, the American Red Cross of Santa Monica will hold its Ninth Annual Spirit Awards and Silent Auction.

The spirit awards honor individuals who exemplify the spirit of the Red Cross. This year, Ysidro Reyes of Gates, Kingsley, Gates, Moeller & Murphy is being honored with the Lifetime Humanitarian Award for his dedication to improving the Santa Monica community.

Other honorees include 2003 Santa Monica Firefighter and Paramedic of the Year Sarah Billman and Crossroads and New Roads School founder Paul Cummins.

Boys and Girls Club receives grant

By Daily Press staff

Big Lots Inc. will present the Boys and Girls Club of Venice with a \$1,000 grant at 10 a.m. today at the center, located at 2232 Lincoln Blvd.

Big Lots Inc., a broadline closeout retailer, is awarding grants to 200 Boys and Girls Clubs.

The \$1,000 will help support tutors, educational supplies, field trips and new programs at the Venice location.

The Q Line

There has been much in the news in the past year about historical preservation in Santa Monica. A special election last month centered around whether the city's Landmarks Commission has the right to deem a private home historical without the owner's permission. Homeowners lost that battle.

The Aero Theatre, which is arguably one of Santa Monica's more significant buildings, is owned by a Landmarks commissioner but it isn't historically designated. The commissioner says he doesn't want it to be.

Fellow commissioners have taken

their colleague's word that he intends to keep the building a single-screen movie house, despite some community members' concern that it could someday become another retail store.

So this week, Q-Line wants to know, "Do you think the Aero Theatre should be a historical landmark? Why or why not?"

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

surf report

Information compiled by Jesse Haley

Old south swell is gone, replaced today by a combination of north-west wind swell and new, building southwest ground swell. Wind swell should hit South Bay spots with waist to chest-high surf.

In the north half of the county, surf should average slightly larger with heights in the chest and shoulder-high range mostly.

Swell is expected to show a little something in the morning, becoming better as the day progresses with sets reaching chest and shoulder high by sundown.

The southwest swell improves, building through the afternoon. Late day sets hit shoulder high at exposed spots. Malibu should be good, along with Topanga and maybe Zero's.



Today's Tides:

Low- 4:29 a.m. 0.27'
High- 10:37 a.m. 3.72'
Low- 3:57 p.m. 1.49'
High- 10:12 p.m. 4.97'

Location	Wednesday	Thursday	Water Quality
County Line	2-3'/Fair	2-3'/Fair	A
Zuma	2-3'/Fair	2-3'/Fair	A
Surfrider	1-3'/Fair	1-2'/Fair	D
Topanga	1-3'/Fair	1-2'/Fair	C
Breakwater	2-4'/Fair	2-4'/Fair	A
El Porto	3-4'/Fair	3-4'/Fair	A

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OPINION

LETTERS

Not shocked about Aero situation

Editor:

It shouldn't shock anyone that the Santa Monica City Landmarks Commissioner who owns the Aero Theatre doesn't want it to be designated as a landmark, nor that the other commissioners are capitulating to him.

Whatever the merits of the Aero, it will never be designated so long as the owner is part of that little club. After all, the rules are there so they can tell other people what to do with their properties. Anyone who thinks they will place properties that they personally own under the severe restrictions of the Landmarks Ordinance is delusional. That's why only one out of seven current commissioners lives in a landmarked house.

Incidentally, the Aero Theatre shot itself in the foot when it put a "re-elect Kevin McKeown" sign on its marquee.

Let's think this through. You own a business in a neighborhood and you appeal to the neighbors to support you. Then you put up a sign advocating the one council member who has consistently proven himself an enemy of the very neighborhood you are appealing too. What is the logic here?

I know more than a dozen North of Montana families who were actively supporting the Aero by attending the weekend matinees and the evening fundraisers, who swore when that sign went up that they had set foot in the Aero for the last time. Hopefully the new management will be a little more sensitive to their customer base.

Gregory Poirier
Santa Monica

Ellis Act concerns

Editor:

I am concerned with the article at the top of the April 8 front page about an action that somewhat benefited tenants who received Ellis Act notices to vacate their apartments in 1999. The article focuses on the Ellis Act as it was then. It has been substantially amended since. It is important for both landlords and tenants to know what the circumstances are today.

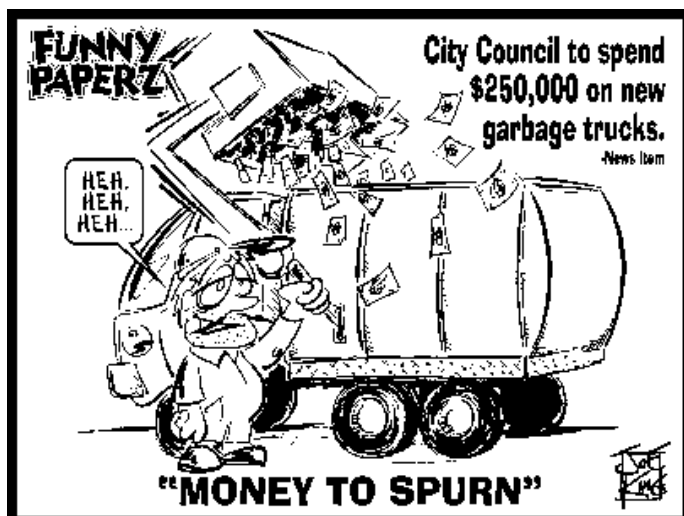
An amendment authored by State Sen. Sheila Kuehl that went into effect on Jan. 1, 2003 makes it illegal to offer an "Ellised" unit for rent for more than the amount the Ellised tenant leaves. This restriction is to be in effect for 5 years from the time the Ellised tenant leaves. This amendment was designed to provide a disincentive for landlords to empty their buildings under the Ellis Act unless they actually want to permanently leave the rental housing business.

In addition, in January 2000 the Ellis Act was amended to increase the amount of dam-

ages an "Ellised" tenant can seek if the owner re-rents within two years of a former tenant's departure. The amendment allows for actual and exemplary damages. Exemplary damages (almost without limit) can be assessed by a court to make an example of a landlord who is caught re-renting in violation of the intent of the law. In addition, this amendment increased the amount of time tenants may be afforded to move in Ellis Act circumstances to 365 days for seniors and disabled persons and 120 days for others.

I suggest you contact practicing tenant attorneys and Rent Control Board attorneys to ascertain how effective these amendments have been.

Michael Tarbet
Attorney and SMRR organizer



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Terrorism insurance — gouging is not just at the pump



INCITES

By Ed Silverstein

The price of gas remains well over \$2 a gallon despite slumping wholesale oil costs. But this is nothing new.

Oil companies have a long tradition of jacking up prices at the first whiff of bad news, but returning them to earth slower than a tree sitter. But if you think oil companies are the worst of the war profiteers, you're wrong.

With 2001 losses from terrorism at about \$10 billion after Sept. 11, insurance companies decided they no longer wanted to offer terrorism protection. After a furious lobbying effort aimed at the business-huggers who now control the White House and Congress, the insurers were rewarded with a gift. It is called the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act of 2002.

Don Griffin from the National Association of Independent Insurers, an industry trade group, said that TRIA is a temporary, three year program to protect the industry from catastrophic losses because of terrorism. According to Griffin, in the event of a terrorist attack, insurers would be responsible for only a portion of their company's total earned premiums on business policies.

Specifically, 7 percent in the first year, 10

percent in the second year and 15 percent in the third and what is currently the last year of the program. After that threshold is reached, the government picks up 90 percent of the remaining loss.

For example, if an insurance company wrote \$100 million in business insurance and had a \$100 million terrorism loss during the first year of TRIA, the insurer would be responsible for the first \$7 million, then 10 percent of the remaining \$93 million, or a total of \$16.3 million. The government would pick up the remaining \$83.7 million in losses.

On the surface this seems like a good idea.

After all, this administration has engaged in policies that have left potential terrorists seeing red and the rest of us seeing orange. But there's a catch. Even though the majority of these losses are guaranteed with our taxes, the government failed to install any rate limitations.

This has left the door open for insurers to price gouge. The industry claims that there are safeguards, referring to a CRS assessment that policyholders who perceive the prices as unfair will likely appeal to their state insurance departments, which retain authority under TRIA to invalidate excessive or discriminatory rates.

The problem with this is twofold. Many state representatives, as well as insurance commissioners (remember Chuck Quakenbush?) are beholden to big money insurance interests. As a result, there is little inclination to regulate this type of product.

But even more worrisome is that, during this current Insurance crisis, carriers are

fleeing the state faster than rats off a sinking ship. For an ever-increasing number of Californians, particularly if, like my condo association, the property has had even a single loss, the only product available is from non-admitted carriers.

One broker I spoke with claimed that over 50 percent of new policies he's writing are with these non-admitted carriers. Not only are these policies far more expensive, but the State Insurance Commission has little or no jurisdiction over these insurers. That means they can charge whatever they like for terrorism insurance. And they do.

I recently received quotes for terrorism insurance on two properties.

A 47-unit apartment building, which is insured by an admitted carrier for nearly \$4 million, had a terrorism premium of \$310. A five-unit condo building, that is insured by a non-admitted carrier for only \$800,000, had a premium of \$500. This is 65 percent more than the apartment building, but offering only one-fifth the coverage.

Price gouging aside, there is an even bigger issue. Is this type of insurance worth it?

The likelihood of a building or a business, with the exception of 100-story skyscrapers, theme parks or a few other high profile businesses, being the target of a terrorist attack is minuscule. A Defense Department source working with terrorism, who declined to be named, told me that you are more likely to be attacked by a shark than to be a victim of terrorism.

And then there's the issue of what these policies actually cover.

A plane falling out of the sky or a conventional bombing would be covered. But nuclear attacks are out. So are, in almost all cases, chemical or biological attacks. With these risks eliminated, the likely probability of being a victim of a covered terrorist incident is about the same as George W. Bush being invited to be the keynote speaker at a NARAL fund raising dinner hosted by Bob Jones University.

So why are these insurance companies charging so much?

The likely answer is fear. Insurance companies, the ethical equivalent of a tobacco company executive, are not beneath exploiting the Sept. 11 tragedy and the war with Iraq. And this possible new law allows insurers to line their pockets with profits while the taxpayers are saddled with the lion's share of liability.

And what do our representatives think about all this?

Calls to U.S. Sen. Barbara Boxer and U.S. Sen. Diane Feinstein's office were not returned. Congressman Henry Waxman's office sent an analysis of the bill, but had no further comment.

One thing is for sure. Any time government and big business get together, it's like watching a street performer at a pickpocket convention. I, for one, will keep a tight grip on my wallet.

(Ed Silverstein is a freelance writer living in Santa Monica. To insure that I read your comments e-mail them to: edsincites@aol.com.)

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

LOCAL



Calif. Chamber against universal health care

BILL, from page 1

Holbrook, who works as a pharmacist at the University of Southern California. "People who have fixed incomes are really hurt by the high costs."

Holbrook said he and his wife pay about \$200 a month for prescriptions, even without any major illnesses. Without insurance, Holbrook said that cost could reach \$600 or \$700 each month.

Nearly 22 percent of Californians — or 7 million people — are uninsured, according to Peter Warren, spokesperson for the California Medical Association. Currently, 15 to 20 percent of insurance premiums cover the costs of providing service to the uninsured, Warren said.

"We all see the higher healthcare costs in our personal budgets," said McKeown, who added that the cost of health coverage has been at the center of countless local issues. "(This bill) really hits the heart of the problem."

But not everyone is excited about Kuehl's bill.

Warren said the CMA is backing a separate bill, sponsored by state Sen. John Burton, which would mandate that employers "pay or play" for their employees' health insurance. Under a pay or play arrangement, all companies are required to either offer employees health insurance or pay into a fund that provides affordable insurance for workers.

Warren added that one of the reasons the CMA does not support Kuehl's bill is because they feel Burton's bill is less controversial and therefore more likely to pass.

Holbrook said many pharmaceutical companies are against Kuehl's bill because it could cut into their profits. Business groups have also come out against it.

California businesses are already feeling the strain of workers' compensation costs, unemployment insurance taxes and the stagnant economy, said Richard Costigan, vice president of government relations for the California Chamber of Commerce.

Instead of a universal coverage plan, Costigan said the chamber recommends offering tax cuts for doctors and for businesses that offer healthcare coverage. The chamber also suggests creating a voluntary, low-cost health plan.

"We respectfully disagree that (the bill) would be cost savings," Costigan said.

Kuehl acknowledged that the bill constitutes a "major, major reform" and said it could be years before it goes into effect.

It is scheduled to go before the state's

Insurance Committee on April 30. If it passes, it will go on to the Revenue and Tax Committee and finally to the Senate floor in May or June, said Sara Rogers, Kuehl's spokeswoman.

Rogers said the bill is aimed at reducing administrative costs in the state's health care system. Currently, private healthcare providers in the U.S. spend as much as 30 percent of their income on administrative functions, while European countries spend as little as three percent, Rogers said.

"The Americans pay more for prescription products than anywhere in the world. People who have fixed incomes are really hurt by the high cost of prescription drugs."

— BOB HOLBROOK
City councilmember

Under Kuehl's bill, Rogers said only five percent of revenue would be spent on administrative functions.

The plan would be paid for by increasing income taxes by anywhere from 2 to 3.6 percent and incremental hikes on alcohol and tobacco taxes, Rogers said. Additionally, employers would be required to pay a certain percentage in taxes that would go toward the system. Individuals making less than \$10,000 would be exempt from the tax and upper-class earners would only be taxed on the first \$200,000 of their income.

At \$5,000 per patient per year, the United States currently pays more for health insurance than any other country in the world, Rogers said. Switzerland comes in second at \$2,700 and Canada third at \$2,000.

Rogers stressed that the proposed plan does not constitute socialized health care because individual hospitals, doctors, and other providers would remain private. Under the plan, Californians would have their option of visiting the primary care physician of their choice. Everything deemed "medically appropriate" by doctors would be covered under the plan.

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LOCAL

Artist says doctors should have noticed infection

SUIT, from page 1

known he was suffering from a condition in his hand known as "compartment syndrome," where strained muscles expand and the blood running to them is cut off.

Five attorneys are defending the case for the two hospitals and handful of physicians that cared for Muller. They say that Muller's hand was dead long before he ever came under their care.

"There was no lapse," said Andrew Weiss, who represents two surgeons that worked with Muller. "In fact the care was very good. These were life-threatening injuries and he's made a miraculous recovery."

Muller's lawyers said the doctors were negligent in their care of the artist, ignoring warning signs that the hand was infected.

"Mr. Muller had dislocated bones in his left hand," said attorney Andrew Peacock. "He now doesn't have an arm. Something went terribly wrong."

In the crash, which knocked him unconscious, Muller broke his leg, pelvis, shoulder, ankle, hip and several ribs. He suffered a concussion and burns to his forearm and he severely dislocated his fingers, according to court documents.

The artist was taken by helicopter to

"Mr. Muller had dislocated bones in his left hand. He now doesn't have an arm. Something went terribly wrong."

— ANDREW PEACOCK
Lawyer

University Medical Center in Fresno, where he underwent a number of surgeries, including an operation to install pins in his damaged left hand.

After nearly two weeks in Fresno, Muller was transferred to Daniel Freeman Hospital in Inglewood to receive care from a team of specialists.

Though he was badly banged up, doctors expected Muller to recover at least partial use of his hand and arm, said Patsy Colvin, the specialist who worked with Muller. Sixteen days after being admitted to DFH, Muller, who was on a steady dose of the painkiller Percocet, developed the infection in his finger.

When Colvin, the specialist, described the difficult days leading up to the amputation, Muller reached over and put his good arm around his wife, Rose.

Colvin said she first noticed the infection on Thanksgiving Day of 1999.

"There was pus seeping through the bandage on the back of his finger," said Colvin, who worked with Muller for 90 minutes each day. "You could smell it."

Colvin, a certified physician's assistant, said she immediately told Muller's nurse, who assured her she would notify the doctor immediately. But the next day Muller wasn't on antibiotics when she returned, Colvin said.

"He was so sick," said Colvin, who broke into tears as she spoke. "He looked toxic. He looked like he was going to die."

DFH doctors decided to wait on prescribing antibiotics, said Dr. James London, one of the defense's expert witnesses who also testified Tuesday. London said there was no point in prescribing

antibiotics until lab tests were returned. Any antibiotics that could have been prescribed wouldn't have fully addressed the infection, he said.

After surgeons went in to drain the infection and found that it had spread, Muller was taken to the University of California at Los Angeles. UCLA surgeons decided to amputate the arm just below the elbow on Nov. 30 upon finding the infection had destroyed muscles and tissue in Muller's forearm.

London said the problematic "compartment syndrome" developed before Muller made it to DFH, while he was still receiving care from the trauma center where he was taken after the crash.

Muller, who was dressed in blue jeans and white collared shirt, sat calmly in the courtroom throughout the day taking notes. He would not disclose how much money he is seeking, saying, "We'll leave that stuff to the lawyers."

The German-born Muller is credited with the bright red Dories that are attached to the pilings under Santa Monica Pier, among other works. He said the injury has not halted his creative outpouring, though he now delegates a larger share of the set-up work.

"As an artist I'm not stopping," he said. "I'm not stopping at all."

Guardian of victim left the party to attend a concert

TRIAL, from page 1

concerned for the safety of the children, he said, "If they were alone it would be my problem. They weren't."

He said he felt responsible for the safety of his two children and kept an eye on them at all times.

Under questioning by one of his own lawyers, Robin Webb, Lee repeatedly placed the responsibility for the children on their guardians. He also said that when he built the lavish pool at his estate his aim was "making it very child-friendly."

Another Lee attorney, James Baratta, showed a video of the pool during his opening statement and described the gathering for preschoolers as child-friendly, not an adult environment as described by the attorney for Daniel's parents.

Girardi said in his opening statement that Daniel's parents were unaware he would be swimming. There was one life jacket, and Lee gave it to his own son, Girardi said.

Girardi said Lee planned the party at the last minute because his estranged wife, actress Pamela Anderson, had a party for Brandon the week before.

"Mr. Lee decided to throw a party, too," Girardi said. "But this was a party for his pals. The pictures show guys with tattoos."

Lee's attorney countered that the party was carefully arranged, that Lee hired a magician, arranged for a petting zoo and a Buzz Lightyear character to entertain the children.

"This was not a drinking party. ... This wasn't a Hollywood party. This was a children's party. Mr. Lee invited people who had children," Baratta said.

He said that every child came with a

parent or babysitter to look after them.

Girardi said Daniel's parents sent him to the party with a male caretaker, an exchange student from Germany. The tragedy occurred after Daniel's babysitter decided to leave the party and entrusted the boy's care to another family's nanny, both lawyers said.

"This was not a drinking party. ... This wasn't a Hollywood party."

— JAMES BARATTA
Lee's attorney

The German caregiver, named Christian, has disappeared and will not be a witness, they said.

Baratta said the young man wanted to leave to attend a concert and the little boy insisted on staying because the magic show had not yet gone on.

"Mr. Lee did not say he was going to have a lifeguard to look after the children. These were babies," Lee's attorney said.

"Like any other party the children are being supervised by the adults who brought them," Baratta said.

Girardi saw it differently.

"This is a total, reckless disregard, an absolutely stupid way these little 4-year-old children came to this house. ... He invited all these kids over to offset the Pamela Anderson party of the week before and there's nobody watching these kids," he said.

Lee called 911 but efforts to revive the child were unsuccessful.

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STATE



Declawing cats measure passed in W. Hollywood

BY LOUINN LOTA
Associated Press Writer

WEST HOLLYWOOD — The City Council unanimously approved a measure that makes the city the first in California to ban the declawing of cats.

"We would just encourage our neighboring cities to follow our lead," Councilman John Duran said Monday night after the City Council voted 5-0 to make the small municipality a precedent setter.

West Hollywood, a city of 3,500 people surrounded by Los Angeles and Beverly Hills, already has a law on the books designating its residents as pet guardians rather than pet owners.

The declawing ban will affect all three of the city's veterinary clinics. It takes effect in 30 days.

Only one person spoke against the ban, which was proposed by Duran.

Veterinarian Peter Weinstein of the California Veterinary Medical Association noted that declawed cats must always stay indoors.

"I think sometimes it's more cruel to let a cat outside into a community or an environment where they could become the victim of a car or a coyote," he said after the ban was passed.

"It's such a precedent," said Jennifer Conrad, a veterinarian who founded Santa Monica-based Paw Project, a group dedicated to raising public awareness about the issue. Duran relied on her testimony and experience to fashion the new law.

"The ban goes along with Councilman Duran's philosophy and the city's philosophy that animals are not property," said Hernan Molina, Duran's deputy. "As guardians of animals, we have a relationship of respect, that the animal not be amputated or subjected to techniques that create harm.

"It's amputation, there's no other way around it," Molina said of declawing.

The procedure, formally known as onychectomy, costs \$100 to \$300 and removes the first joint of each toe in a

cat's paw. It's normally done to keep cats from scratching people and furniture.

Although it is banned in several European nations, animal advocates said they know of no such restrictions in the United States.

"Precedence is so important since other cities such as San Francisco and Berkeley are interested in having the same law," Conrad said.

Assemblyman Paul Koretz, D-West Hollywood and former West Hollywood mayor, is fostering AB395 which would make the ban statewide.

"We would just encourage our neighboring cities to follow our lead."

— JOHN DURAN
Councilman

He wants to ban the practice not only for house cats, but for larger felines as well. The 4,800-member California Veterinary Medical Association opposes the bill, saying it could prompt some owners to abandon their pets.

The state's film industry also is concerned, fearing a ban on declawing big cats would make movie sets more dangerous and costly.

The veterinarians say only about 5 percent of California cats are declawed, while Koretz said it may be as high as 20 percent.

Some veterinarians who favor declawing say cat owners who are diabetic or whose immune system is weakened fear being scratched. Other pet advocates say cats are turned in to local pounds because they scratch.

But Conrad, founder of Paw Project, said a cat's bite creates a far worse wound than a scratch. Alternatives could include regular claw trimming, coating the cat's nails in vinyl, or teaching the cat to use a scratching post.

Hollywood madam Heidi Fleiss ends probation

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Hollywood madam Heidi Fleiss, who officially ends her probation Tuesday, says she will turn her attention to promoting her new book, "Pandering" and developing a career as a publisher.

"I'll be a force to be reckoned with in publishing," said Fleiss, who was convicted of money laundering, tax evasion and attempted pandering. She was released from prison in 1999 after serving 21 months.

In releasing her from her probation, U.S. District Judge Consuelo B. Marshall congratulated Fleiss, 37, for completing the final two years without incident. Marshall had added six months to Fleiss' probation after the former Hollywood madam admitted she he used methamphetamine at one point and failed to submit to drug testing.

"We did go through a period of time where it appeared you were involved in some destructive activity," Marshall said,

adding the additional supervision was needed "to make sure you were on the right track."

Fleiss, who promised to send the judge a copy of her book, said Marshall's ruling marked a happy day for her. She promised "something good" would come from her experience.

Fleiss said she is planning to publish five other books, including two relationship handbooks for men and women that she will write. Another book, chronicling the life of the late rapper Tupac Shakur, will be written by someone else, she said.

Fleiss is also continuing her line of women's clothing, dubbed "Heidi Wear" and recently the sold movie rights to her life story.

According to testimony at her trial, Fleiss ran a high-priced prostitution ring in which models-turned-prostitutes were flow around the world to meet her clients, who paid as much as \$10,000 for a single meeting. Actor Charlie Sheen testified that he spent as much as \$50,000 on Fleiss' call girls.

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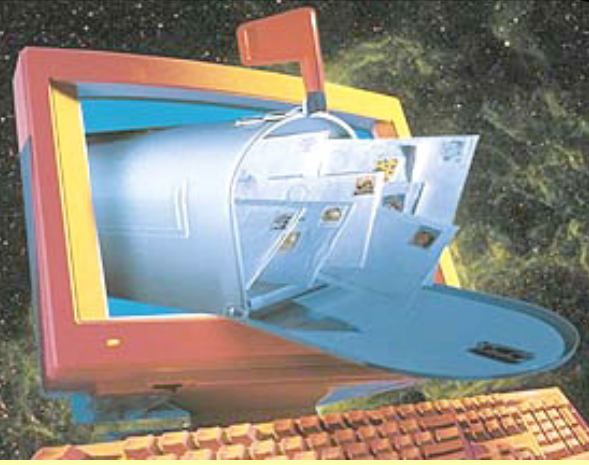


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STATE

CALIFORNIA BRIEFS

Baca accepts most gifts

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Sheriff Lee Baca accepted \$5,360 worth of gifts last year, more than any other county or city politician.

Documents show Baca's gifts included numerous rounds of golf, opera tickets worth \$320 from Lee Iacocca's electric-vehicle company in Van Nuys, a \$260 cigar box and other gifts from actor Arnold Schwarzenegger and \$60 worth of flowers from Gov. Gray Davis.

Local elected officials and top appointed officials must annually report gifts and travel given to them. The statement of economic interest report also requires them to disclose their personal assets.

Mayor James K. Hahn's statement listed gifts worth \$1,254 including tickets to the Grammy Awards, Rose Bowl game and Lakers, Dodgers and Sparks games.

Jon Coupal, president of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association, said Hahn's \$1,200 in gifts does not sound alarming to him but that Baca's \$5,360 "sounds like a lot."

City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo reported \$895 worth of gifts and District Attorney Steve Cooley received \$971 worth of gifts.

LAX, Krishnas ordered to meet

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Airport attorneys and the Hare Krishna organization were ordered by a federal judge to meet in an effort to settle a legal fight over new restrictions on soliciting at Los Angeles International Airport.

U.S. District Judge Consuelo Marshall issued the "meet and confer" order Monday after an hourlong debate over a lawsuit by the International Society of Krishna Consciousness of California that seeks to overturn a city law limiting solicitors to designated sections of LAX.

The Krishnas asked for a federal court order blocking enforcement of the law. Marshall told both sides to meet by Friday and notify her if they reach agreement before she rules.

The law, which went into effect Dec. 16, requires charity representatives to remain in cordoned-off zones in all nine passenger terminals while seeking donations from travelers. The Krishnas contend the new law restricts solicitors to out-of-the-way locations in the terminals and limits free-speech rights.

The judge also told the lawyers to consider the effects of a pending appellate decision on an all-out ban on airport solicitations. Marshall found that law unconstitutional in 2001.

Krishna attorney David Liberman offered a proposal in court that would allow Krishna representatives to speak with airport patrons within 50 feet of the booths but restrict them from accepting money anywhere except the booths.

Assistant City Attorney John Werlich rejected Liberman's proposal.

In January, Marshall approved a Krishna request to temporarily stop enforcement of the new law, but that order lapsed last month. The Krishnas are now seeking a permanent injunction to stop enforcement.

LAX safety improves

The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Federal officials said safety improved on Los Angeles International Airport runways and in the region's skies last year.

Potentially dangerous runway incidents, known as "runway incursions," dropped 25 percent at the airport compared to 2001 figures, the Federal Aviation Administration said in a report Monday.

Controller errors declined by nearly half at a center near Palmdale that directs high altitude planes, and remained low at a radar facility near San Diego that handles aircraft as they get close to or leave airports, controllers union representatives said.

Mike Foote, the National Air Traffic Controllers Association president at Los Angeles tower, attributed the drop in LAX runway incursions largely to increased control tower staffing and fewer planes flying since the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

Los Angeles International Airport controllers have not made any errors leading to runway incursions in fiscal year 2003, which started last October, Foote said.

"We're not pushing the envelope as much as we were," Foote said.

The airport also spent millions of dollars improving airfield lighting and signs, and airlines have intensified their pilot training.

Sea lions found dead in barge net

The Associated Press

REDONDO BEACH — Four dead sea lions were found in the net of a bait barge off the Redondo Beach marina.

The sea lions were found Friday floating in a net from the Pacific Live Bait barge, said biologist Tina Fahy of the National Marine Fisheries Service in Long Beach. Glenn Mueller, owner of the barge, did not return calls for comment Monday.

A necropsy was planned to determine the cause of death.

Fahy said Mueller had been working with the service to find legal ways to keep the federally protected animals off his barge and from eating his business.

A bait barge normally has two nets, one to catch the bait and another to keep sea lions away from the fish, Fahy said.

NATIONAL



Senior Democrats want investigation of Dick Cheney's former company

BY LARRY MARGASAK
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Questioning whether Vice President Dick Cheney's former company has received favored treatment from the Pentagon, senior House Democrats, including Santa Monica's representative, asked Congress' investigative agency Tuesday to delve into contracts awarded Halliburton Co. over the past two years.

Halliburton's KBR subsidiary has a record of gouging the government in contracts awarded without competition, Reps. Henry Waxman, who represents Santa Monica, and John Dingell of Michigan contended in a letter to the General Accounting Office.

Halliburton spokeswoman Wendy Hall said the lawmakers have ignored the exemplary record of the Houston-based firm that employed Cheney as chief executive officer from 1995 to 2000 and still pays him deferred compensation for his services during that period.

"With more than 60 years of government experience, KBR has a proven track record on military contracts such as production of Navy warships for World War II, construction of the Phan Rang air base in Vietnam in 1965 and designation as the premier logistics service provider for U.S. troops in the Balkans," she said.

The lawmakers said federal procurement data showed that the government awarded KBR work worth more than \$624 million from October 2000 through March 2002. Waxman is the senior minority member of the House Government Reform Committee, and Dingell holds the same position on the House Energy and Commerce Committee.

Hall said Halliburton does not comment on the amounts of its contracts but contended KBR had competed for its government work during the period cited,

which disputes the letter's contention.

The lawmakers cited these previous problems with KBR, formerly Kellogg, Brown & Root:

■ A GAO finding in 1997 that the company billed the Army for questionable expenses for work in the Balkans, including charges of \$85.98 per sheet of plywood that cost \$14.06.

■ A year 2000 follow-up report on the Balkans work that found inflated costs, including charges for cleaning some offices up to four times a day.

■ \$2 million in fines paid in February, 2002, to resolve fraud claims involving work at Fort Ord, Calif. The Defense Department inspector general and a federal grand jury had investigated allegations by a former employee that KBR defrauded the government of millions of dollars by inflating prices for repairs and maintenance.

The Securities and Exchange Commission already is investigating Halliburton's accounting practices, looking into an accounting change made in 1998, during Cheney's tenure as CEO.

Halliburton announced last week it had decided not to enter a bidding process open only to a few experienced and well-connected firms for major postwar reconstruction projects in Iraq. Instead, the company said it would focus on becoming a secondary contractor.

KBR already has work in Iraq under a previous Defense Department contract to extinguish oil well fires. The firm hired subcontractors Boots & Coots International Well Control Inc. and Wild Well Control Inc., both also from Houston, to handle the firefighting work.

The two lawmakers complained in their letter that the contract was awarded without competition or notice to Congress, and it has no set limits in time or dollars.

Lawmakers propose 'Tax Me More Fund' to help state

BY MARTHA RAFFAELE
Associated Press Writer

HARRISBURG, Pa. — State lawmakers across the nation have come up with an unusual alternative to raising taxes for their cash-strapped states: "Tax Me More" funds that rely on donations from taxpayers.

"We have to be innovative and think outside the box when it comes to generating new revenue," said Pennsylvania state Rep. Jeff Coleman, a Republican. "The public is not going to swallow a massive tax, bond and spend package."

Within the past year or so, "Tax Me More" proposals have surfaced in states such as Kansas, Alaska and Oregon, sponsored by legislators opposed to raising taxes in a weak economy.

Coleman introduced a bill last month to protest a plan by Democratic Gov. Ed Rendell. The governor wants to boost the state income tax by 34 percent, triple the beer tax, levy new taxes on phone service, while lowering property taxes.

A Rendell spokeswoman declined to comment on whether the governor would sign Coleman's measure if the Legislature passed it.

Coleman said he modeled his bill after a fund established by Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee in November 2001.

Huckabee's "Tax Me More Fund" was a response to legislators who insisted that tax increases or other measures were needed to offset \$142 million in budget cuts. To date, it has taken in between \$2,000 and \$3,000, according to his spokesman, Jim Harris.

"He said 'Put your money where your mouth is, and if you feel like you're not paying enough, then go ahead and write a check,'" Harris said.

While other states have introduced "copycat" legislation, few if any measures have gotten very far, said Pete Sepp, spokesman for the National Taxpayers Union in Washington.

"I think that this is the type of legislation that is often proposed and often disposed of," Sepp said.

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INTERNATIONAL



John Moore/Associated Press

U.S. Army soldiers from A Company, 3rd Battalion, 7th Infantry Regiment search a presidential palace in Baghdad, Tuesday. The palace was the second they had secured in as many days, with both lavish buildings heavily damaged by previous Air Force bombing.



Wally Santana/Associated Press

A U.S. Marine of the 24th Expeditionary Unit talks with a detained person at a check point, Tuesday on the outskirts of Al-Amarah, Iraq, about 30 miles from the Iranian border.

Iraqis say police tortured inmates in jail for decades

By The Associated Press

BASRA, Iraq — Iraqis showed journalists a white stone jail where they claim Saddam Hussein's secret police for decades tortured inmates with beatings, mutilations, electric shocks and chemical baths.

The jail, known as the "White Lion," was charred and half-demolished Tuesday after two days of bombing by British forces fighting for control of Basra, Iraq's second-largest city.

People taken behind the jail's sandstone facade usually did not come out, residents said.

Hundreds of Iraqis came to see the now-empty jail, according to British press reports. Relatives of missing inmates checked fingerprinted files and lists of names found amid the fallen bricks.

"It was a place of evil," resident Hamed Fattil said.

Hamed told British reporters that Iraqi police locked him and his two brothers in a jail dungeon in 1991, and that he was freed after eight months but his brothers were still missing.

"They used to strap a leather cord around our head, hands and shoulders and hoist us two feet off the ground. Then they would

beat us as we hung there," Hamed said.

"They did unthinkable things — electrocution, immersion in a bath of chemicals and ripping off people's finger and toenails."

The jail basement was a warren of cells, chambers and cages where the ground was strewn with an insect-eaten gas mask and bottles, according to Associated Press Television News footage.

For the cameras, two men re-enacted how jailers allegedly tortured prisoners.

One man, hands tied behind his back with a rope attached to a hook on the ceiling, bent over while another man pantomimed hitting him on the back and the face with his hands and a long, white rod.

One man shuddered while the other gave him a pretend electric shock.

Outside the jail, a man showed APTN his mangled ears.

Hamed took British reporters into a yard behind the jail into a set of white boxy cells, surrounded by red wire mesh with a low, wire roof.

He said some of the cells, which had red doors with large bolts, were used to hold women and children. He also said hundreds of men were kept in a single cell about the size of a living room, which had one rusted grate window.

Baghdad battles take toll on city's residents

WAR, from page 1

Iraqi shooters, by rough U.S. estimates.

British troops thrust deep into Basra, Iraq's second largest city, with a sense they are finally shaking loose the Saddam Hussein loyalists who have hung on for more than two weeks.

But in northern Iraq, U.S. aircraft mistakenly bombed a convoy of allied Kurdish fighters operating with U.S. special forces in a battle at a crossroads south of Irbil.

At least 17 Kurdish fighters died, said Hoshyar Zebari, a senior member of the governing Kurdistan Democratic Party. He said that among the 45 wounded was a brother of the party's leader.

A convoy of Russian diplomats, including the ambassador, came under fire Sunday while evacuating Baghdad, the Russian foreign ministry said. A correspondent for state-run Russian television said the convoy was caught in a crossfire and three diplomats were hurt, one with a serious stomach wound.

U.S. Central Command said no allied forces were operating in the area at the time, but it was investigating what happened.

In chalking up military gains, the United States accelerated a campaign of persuasion, too. The chief goals: to get Republican Guard troops to give up and to stop Syrian assistance to Saddam's forces.

Gen. Peter Pace, vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said the United States would welcome Republican Guard division commanders and troops in a post-war government, if they surrendered now. "I mean, there's a small clique around Saddam Hussein who are the perpetrators of all the crimes against humanity," Pace said on ABC's "This Week."

"Below them are still many senior leaders and troops who have their free will to decide what their life is going to be like. They can surrender and become part of the future free Iraq, or they can fight and die."

Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz, a hard-liner in the Bush administration, said intelligence sources suggest Syria has continued to help Iraq's defenders despite U.S. warnings to cease.

Asked on "Fox News Sunday" whether Syrian officials realize they are courting bigger trouble with the United States, Wolfowitz said, "I hope they understand it."

In and around Baghdad, the intensified ground fighting was taking a toll on civilians. At the al-Kindi hospital in a working-class Baghdad district, scores of civilians with shrapnel wounds have been coming in since Saturday night. Among them were eight members of one family.

In one ward, several children wore bloodstained casts on their legs and arms, and some had difficulty breathing. One girl had bandages over half her face.

Tasting a breakthrough in southern

Iraq, British forces rolled into Basra in a column of 40 armored personnel carriers, their deepest push against Saddam loyalists in the city.

"Their days are limited," said Brigadier Graham Binns, commander of the Desert Rats. "Our intelligence tells us that morale is low among the defenders of the city, that the population can't wait to see us, and the opposition such as it is, is uncoordinated." Central Command officials estimated Sunday that 2,000 to 3,000 Iraqi fighters died in the 3rd Infantry Division's 25-mile incursion in an industrial section of Baghdad a day earlier.

Brig. Gen. Vincent Brooks gave no specifics on how the estimate was reached. More than three dozen tanks and armored vehicles staged the raid; U.S. casualties were described as light.

More such forays were likely. "It's important to do so to secure the area; it's also important that we do that for psychological reasons," said command spokesman Jim Wilkinson.

"Frankly we've had to prove to the civilians in the north and the south that we're there to stay. Once they know we're there to stay, they celebrate."

Iraqi state television broadcast a statement attributed to Saddam, urging soldiers who had been separated from regular units to join up with any unit they could locate.

Capitalizing on their dominance of the skies, U.S. commanders began deploying planes over Baghdad 24 hours a day, ready to direct strike aircraft to ground targets.

Along the Tigris River, 20 miles southeast of Baghdad, Marines of the 3rd Battalion, 7th Marines, overran the headquarters of the Republican Guard's Second Corps, seized one of Saddam's numerous palaces and destroyed what U.S. intelligence reports suggested was a terrorist training camp.

The nighttime attack was mounted in the town of Salman Pak, which military officials said contained a suspected weapons of mass destruction site dating back to 1991.

Allies have yet to find Iraqi weapons of mass destruction; accusations that they exist provided the chief justification for invading the country.

Wolfowitz said Iraqi authorities have probably rounded up people who know where the weapons are. "In fact, most of those people are probably collected in places where they're intimidated and terrorized," he said.

Allied forces sifted Sunday through the rubble of the Basra home of Ali Hassan al-Majid, the Iraqi general known as Chemical Ali for ordering a poison gas attack against Kurds in 1988.

Allied officials said the general was believed to have been home when it was attacked Saturday but they did not know whether he was killed.

DO YOU REMEMBER?:

Jan. 24, 1975, New York City: A bomb set off in historical Fraunces Tavern killed four and injured more than 50 persons. Puerto Rican nationalist group (FALN) claimed responsibility and police tied 13 other bombings to it.

SPORTS



Michael Jordan: No plans to replace Bulls' Krause

BY TOM WITHERS

AP Sports Writer

CLEVELAND — Michael Jordan helped build the Chicago Bulls into NBA champions once before. He doesn't seem to be in any hurry to try to do it again.

Jordan said Tuesday that he has no interest now in replacing Jerry Krause, who unexpectedly resigned as Chicago's general manager because of health problems.

"Washington is where I started and where I want to finish" as an executive, Jordan said at a morning shootaround before the Wizards' game at the Cavaliers. "It's unfortunate about Jerry. Obviously, his health is the most important thing."

Jordan plans to retire at the end of this season, and has indicated he will return to the Wizards' front office.

However, he is not contractually bound to Washington, and the GM opening in Chicago has led to more speculation Jordan will return to the Bulls. His family still lives in Chicago.

Jordan, though, says his mind is squarely on the Wizards, who entered

Tuesday two games behind Milwaukee for the last playoff spot in the Eastern Conference.

"Personally, I haven't thought about Chicago," he said. "I know people have asked in the past, 'What if?' I told them at the time that my focus has been here and will be here."

"I haven't talked to anyone on that staff. You guys are more or less getting things rolling. My focus is right now trying to get this team in the playoffs, and secondly, making sure this franchise is moving in the right direction."

With Jordan leading the way on the floor, and Krause making the off-court moves, the Bulls won six titles in the 1990s.

But while the pair shared a desire to be the best, Jordan and Krause didn't always see eye-to-eye while they were together in Chicago from 1985-99.

Krause's personality clashed with many players, and he and Jordan ended on bad terms when the superstar retired for the first time before the lockout-shortened season of 1999.

After Jordan left, Krause dismantled

the Bulls, who haven't been back to the playoffs since.

"We had good things there," Jordan said. "We had bad conversations, too. Before I got there, it was a wait-'til-next-year attitude. Unfortunately, things went back to just trying to rebuild and get back on track, and they haven't been able to do that thus far."

Jordan always seemed to resent Krause's taking so much credit for building the Bulls into a winner. But he respected the GM's eye for talent and work ethic.

As he has tried to resurrect the Wizards, Jordan seems to have gained an appreciation for what Krause has struggled to do in Chicago. The Bulls have lost at least 60 games the past three seasons and are 27-50 this year.

"Knowing Jerry like I know Jerry, I think physically he's been trying to do everything he can to get this team back to winning," Jordan said. "The most important thing for him was to show that he could put together a winning franchise without Michael Jordan, without Scottie

Pippen, without Phil Jackson or all these other guys."

"I know physically it's taken a toll. It's about time he started thinking about himself physically and I think everybody understands that."

Jordan has provided Cleveland fans with many memories — mostly sour ones — during his illustrious career. In 1989, he made "The Shot," a jumper over Craig Ehlo to win Game 7 of the Eastern Conference finals. One year later, he scored a career-high 69 points against Cleveland.

Saying goodbye to Jordan will be easy for Cavs fans.

"I have some great memories here, and I'd like to leave here on a good note — with a win," he said. "Obviously, no one likes to be beaten by one person so many times. Unfortunately, Cleveland has been that."

"But they've had their good times, too. They had some great teams and some great rivalries between the two of us. Both of us are at a point where we're trying to re-establish ourselves back to those winning days."

Another Masters tradition — revealing very little

BY DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

AUGUSTA, Ga. — The chairman of Augusta National traditionally holds a news conference on the eve of the Masters, a time to probe into the minds of the men in green jackets without getting much in return.

Jack Stephens once was asked for an update on when the club might allow the front nine of the Masters to be televised.

"Progress is slow," Stephens said.

Question: Why is progress so slow? And what kind of discussions have you had with CBS?

"Well," Stephens said in his rich, Arkansas drawl, "progress is slow because we don't want it to happen."

Expect no less Wednesday when Hootie Johnson holds what figures to be the most highly charged press conference in the 67-year history of the Masters.

Tiger Woods is defending his title, but most of the media attention is on how Johnson will defend the all-male membership at perhaps the most famous golf club on Earth.

Johnson revealed more about Augusta National in his 932-word statement on July 9 than he ever does during his Wednesday news conference.

It was that statement that set the vitriolic course for the membership debate, especially when Johnson said there may be a time when Augusta National Golf Club has a female member, but it will be on the club's timetable and "not at the point of a bayonet."



David Martin/Associates Press

Ernie Els, from South Africa, blasts out of the trap on the 2nd hole at the Augusta National Golf Club in Augusta, Ga., Tuesday during a practice round for the 2003 Masters.

Don't look for him to bring a bayonet of his own on Wednesday.

Johnson is expected to read a statement at the start of

his press conference.

He probably will take some questions, hardly any of them about the canyon-sized bunker on No. 5 or whether Augusta plans to enlarge its driving range.

Where it goes from there is anyone's guess. But if tradition holds form — and tradition is everything at the Masters — the answers will not break any new ground.

Johnson indicated as much in 1999 during his first news conference as chairman.

Question: If you wouldn't mind telling us, how many African-Americans are there at Augusta National, and how many women members? And if there are no women members, why aren't there?

"Well, that's a club matter, ma'am, and all club matters are private," Johnson replied.

Club matters apparently go beyond who gets invited to join.

Johnson was asked a year later, after Arnold Palmer became the former champion to be a regular member, what the King shot in the annual club tournament.

"We don't discuss member matters," he replied without even the hint of a smile.

It's all part of the privacy that shrouds Augusta National, no matter the issue, no matter the chairman, dating to Clifford Roberts when the Masters began in 1934.

Even some public topics are answered with few words, if that many, such as the time Stephens was asked about the cigar craze in 1998.

What's next for Syracuse, Anthony ... and Williams?

BY JOHN KEKIS

AP Sports Writer

NEW ORLEANS — Decisions, decisions.

Seconds after Syracuse defeated Kansas for the national championship, coach Jim Boeheim was pondering his team's future — and he probably wasn't alone.

"I was thinking about what we're going to do next year," Boeheim said after freshman Carmelo Anthony and Gerry McNamara led the Orangemen to an 81-78 victory over the Jayhawks on Monday night at the Superdome.

Not only did Syracuse win its first title, the Orangemen produced their third 30-win season (30-5) in Boeheim's 27 years as coach of his alma mater.

But what's next? An encore? With Anthony or without him?

The fabulous freshman, who had 20 points, 10 rebounds and seven assists and

was named the Final Four's Most Outstanding Player, could declare himself eligible for the NBA draft. If so, he's certain to be a top pick, if not No. 1. He has until May to decide.

"That's his decision," Boeheim said. "I'm not going to make it for him. I'll talk to him."

Anthony said he's having too much fun and won't announce his decision until the semester winds down. "We're the national champs," he said after the game. "I had a fun year, a great year on the court and off the court in school."

Kansas coach Roy Williams is expected to make an even more eagerly anticipated decision. The North Carolina job is open, and Williams must make the hard choice between staying with the Jayhawks or taking over at his alma mater.

"Obviously, you want to avenge what happened this year," a teary-eyed Williams said after the game. "But right now, you

just have to live the moment. Now we'll just go back to Lawrence and move on."

When the team returned home Tuesday, Williams and the players were greeted by fans at the Topeka airport.

Some held up a sign that made a reference to Williams' disparaging remark about the North Carolina job, when he uttered an expletive during a live postgame interview.

Kansas also must replace its best two players — Nick Collison and Kirk Hinrich — among others.

Syracuse should be loaded with talent next season, even if Anthony leaves. Winning a national title won't hurt recruiting, either.

The Orangemen lose senior guard Kueth Duany, but they have three solid freshmen waiting to begin their careers: Louis McCroskey from New York, Terrence Roberts from Jersey City, N.J.,

and Boston-born Demetris Nichols.

McNamara, forced to play more at point guard because of Billy Edelin's 12-game suspension at the start of the season, will see more time at shooting guard. Against the Jayhawks, he hit most of his six 3-pointers from well beyond the arc.

"You know, he's pretty good," Boeheim said. "I think that he will come out of his shell a little bit more next year."

Returning as a junior will be 6-foot-8 forward Hakim Warrick, who blocked Michael Lee's 3-point attempt in the final two seconds. He was voted the Big East's most improved player after averaging 15 points and nearly nine rebounds.

Josh Pace, who had eight points, eight rebounds, three steals and two assists in only 21 minutes against Kansas, also will be a junior. And Syracuse's centers — 7-foot center Craig Firth and shot-blocking specialist Jeremy McNeil — will return.

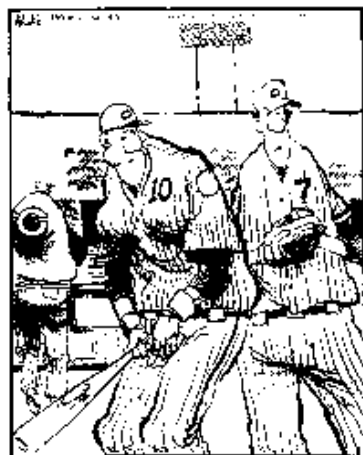
The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



By Dave Whammond



By Russ Wallace



"Buck, are you sure that guy who gives you the steroids is giving you the right stuff?"

By Dave Coverly



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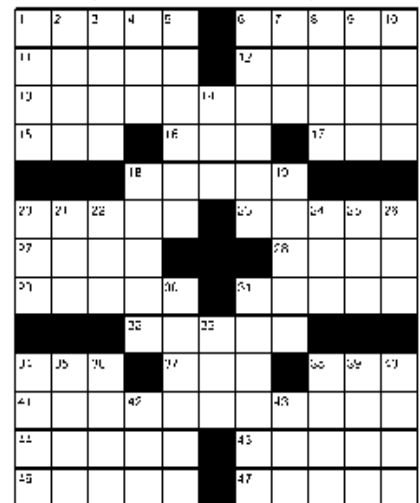
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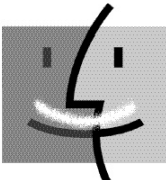
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SANTA MONICA SCENE your guide to dining, entertainment and events

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9, 2003

TODAY

FARMER'S MARKET every Wednesday. 9am to 2pm, Arizona between Second and Fourth Streets. Come and enjoy one of the largest and best farmer's markets in California!

RUSTY'S SURF RANCH. 256 Santa Monica Pier. Walls and ceiling are lined with all of the area's largest collections of pre-1970s surfboards. Cover varies. Full bar. All ages. (310)393-7386, Saturday - Billy Vera & the Beaters, Pure.

PUPPETOLIO! presented by the Santa Monica Puppet & Magic Center. All ages, 3 and up. This musical revue features marionettes, ventriloquism, magic and more. Shows are always followed by a demonstration, Q & A, and a tour of the Puppet workshop and Museum. Saturdays and Sundays at 1pm and 3pm. Wednesdays and Holidays at 1pm. Seats are \$6.50. 1255 2nd Street in Santa Monica. Reservations/Information (310)656-0483. www.puppetmagic.com

SANTA MONICA PUBLIC LIBRARY presents Preschool Story Time, every Wednesday at 11:15am, 1343 Sixth Street. Stories for children between the ages of three and five who are ready to participate on their own. (310)458-8600

TORAH READINGS: HOSTED BY RABBI AARON SHAFFER. This popular class examines the text of the Bible verse by verse with explanations. Every Wednesday at 12:15pm, 1111 Montana Ave. Fee is \$7 per class. Gourmet salad lunch is served. (310)394-5699.

ONGOING SUPPORT GROUPS FOR PEOPLE 55 AND OLDER. Current openings in Parents of Adult Children. Wednesdays 2:00 to 3:30. Center for Healthy Aging, 2125 Arizona Avenue. Sliding scale fee. Not drop-in groups. Phone interview required. Call Information and Referral. (310)576-2550.

SENIOR SUPPERS - Discounted meals for people AGE 55 or older are served daily, from 3:30 p.m. To 7 p.m., in the cafeteria at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center, 1250 16th Street in Santa Monica. \$3.69 Info only: (310)319-4837.

DINING

EL CHOLO - Famous for award-winning margaritas & green corn tamales. Enjoy our lively bar, comfy dining rooms or sunny patio for lunch and dinner daily. 1025 Wilshire Blvd., 310.889.1106

LIBRARY ALEHOUSE - A gathering place for great food, hand crafted beer and

friendly service. Beautiful garden patio. Daily specials. 2911 Main St., 310.314.4855

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SONNY MCLEAN'S - A perfect Irish pub that attracts a variety of people. It's the hotspot to kick back, enjoy a beer and watch a ball game. Good Happy Hour specials. 2615 Wilshire Blvd., 310.828.9839

ORIGINAL THAI DISHES - Best Thai food in Santa Monica! Family owned restaurant since 1980. A local favorite serving classic Pad Thai noodles, pineapple fried rice and seafood specialties. All dishes can be made vegetarian. 1910 Wilshire Blvd., 310.828.5634

EARTH, WIND & FLOUR - "Great Italian cooking. Just slightly west of Italy." Pizza, pastas, salads, subs and more. Lunch and dinner specials and happy hour. 2222 Wilshire Blvd., 310.829.7829

ACADIE'S - Voila! Fresh from the south of France, Homemade Crepes have just arrived in Santa Monica! Located right off the 3rd St. Promenade, this authentic French storefront radiates charm and ambience with indoor seating and a quaint side patio for an outdoor experience. The menu offers a range of options to suit your individual mood. 213 Arizona Ave. (310)395-1120

MOVIE GUIDE

LOEWS CINIPLEX BROADWAY CINEMA

1441 Third St. at Broadway
View From the Top (PG-13) 6:15, 8:30, 10:45.
Phone Booth (R) 12:15, 1:15, 2:30, 3:30, 4:45, 5:45, 7:00, 8:00, 9:15, 10:15, 11:30. The Core (PG-13) 11:55, 12:55, 3:05, 4:05, 7:15, 10:25.

MANN CRITERION

1313 Third St.
Bringing down the House (PG-13) 11:30, 2:05, 4:50, 7:30, 10:15. Basic (R) 11:15, 11:45, 1:50, 4:20, 5:05, 7:10, 9:50, 10:30. Dreamcatcher (R) 12:15, 3:30, 7:00, 10:10. Old School (R) 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20. A Man Apart (R) 11:00, 1:45, 2:15, 4:30, 7:15, 7:45, 10:00, 12:30.

AMC THEATRE SM 7

1310 3rd Street
Piglet's Big Movie (G) 11:45, 1:35, 3:25, 5:15. Agent Cody Banks (PG) 1:30, 4:00, 7:05, 9:35. Chicago (PG-13) 1:00, 4:30, 7:15, 9:55. The Hunted (2003) (R) 1:15, 4:15, 7:55, 10:15. What a Girl Wants (PG) 11:45, 2:20, 4:55, 7:40, 10:10. Boat Trip (R) 7:20, 9:45. Head of State (PG-13) 12:30, 3:00, 5:25, 8:00, 10:20.

LANDMARK NU-WILSHIRE

1314 Wilshire Blvd.
The Pianist (R) 1:30, 5:00, 8:30. Laurel Canyon (R) 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30.

LAEMMLE MONICA

1332 2nd St.
Levity (NR) 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00. Bend it Like Beckham (PG-13) 12:00, 2:35, 5:10, 7:45, 10:20. Talk to Her (R) 2:00, 4:40, 7:15, 9:55. Assassination Tango (R) 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45.

BACK PAGE



Heinz ketchup gets the blues

By The Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — Blue cheese, blueberries and chicken cordon bleu, but blue ketchup?

The H.J. Heinz Co., which has sold the condiment in red, green, purple, pink, orange and teal, is adding blue to its palette of crazy-colored ketchup. The Pittsburgh company unveiled Heinz EZ Squirt "Stellar Blue" on Monday, just in time for spring and summer.

The food giant expects the new color to provide a boost to all ketchup sales, not just the oddly tinted ones, said Heinz spokesman Robin Teets.

Since Heinz introduced its first shade, "Blastin' Green," in October 2000, the company sold more than 25 million bottles of colored ketchup. Last year, Heinz controlled 60 percent of the American ketchup market, an all-time high for the company, Teets said.

Every time the company introduces a color, its share of the market bumps up a bit, Teets said.

"It's the time of year when overall sales goes up. There's a nice bump in volume from EZ Squirt products, but we tend to have a halo over ketchup, overall," Teets said.

Christine McCracken, an analyst with Midwest Research, said she is not surprised Heinz would introduce a new color, based on the other colors' incremental success.

"There's probably some cannibalization of existing

products. If you're going to buy blue ketchup, you might not buy traditional ketchup," McCracken said.

Rhino receives foot treatment

By The Associated Press

BUFFALO, N.Y. — A 2-ton Indian rhinoceros at the Buffalo Zoo will be treading a little more lightly with the donation of a few truckloads of topsoil to cushion his aching feet.

The rare rhino's foot problems have forced the zoo to halt attempts at breeding him until he is able to endure pressure on his hind feet.

Dr. Frank Ridgley, a zoo veterinarian, said the problem is common with rhinos in U.S. and European zoos. The rocky soil Henry is now exposed to has caused cracks in the skin which widen with each step. He is being treated with oral antibiotics and daily footbaths.

In their natural habitat, rhinos spend a lot of time wallowing in mud and water, and walk on much softer soil.

The zoo also is working with a tire maker that has offered to produce custom-made Kevlar boots for Henry.

Zoo officials have been seeking high-quality topsoil to counter the erosion of the limestone beds on which the zoo was built. Amherst agreed to donate 60 cubic yards from the town's compost facility, worth about \$5,300.

Zoo President Donna Fernandez said the zoo would try to raise private funds to buy some more.

Tellers belittle bank robber

By The Associated Press

PINE BLUFF, Ark. — Police say they aren't sure what charge is appropriate for a man arrested after tellers laughed him out of a bank he apparently tried to rob.

The man entered a branch of the Bank of America

about 10 a.m. Monday, with a trash bag in one hand and the other in a pocket, authorities said.

"Put the money in the bag," he demanded.

Instead, one of the two tellers told him the bank was out of money, and the other teller laughed and offered the man deposit slips. She told police that made the intruder angry, and he left without any money in his bag.

Minutes after tellers alerted authorities, a Jefferson County sheriff's deputy picked up Julius Kearney, 23, of Little Rock, as he walked nearby. Kearney was arrested after witnesses in the bank identified him as the man with the trash bag, police said.

No weapon was found, and the man at the bank never threatened anybody, so police are unsure how the case will be handled.

"Technically, it could be robbery, and since it is in a bank, the FBI might also have some regulations about what we can charge him with," said police spokesman Robert Rawlinson.

"Either he'll be (in jail) or we will put him in for mental evaluation," Rawlinson said. "He's not just going to be released."

Dog feces used for revenge

By The Associated Press

CHEBOYGAN, Mich. — Police said two people used dog feces to settle a grudge.

Cheboygan County prosecutors authorized littering charges against Frank Scott, 51, and Sharyn Ostroske, 55. State police from the Cheboygan post say they threw 40 plastic bags filled with dog feces and toilet paper on the roadway in front of another person's house.

Troopers said the campaign began last November and extended through January. The suspects each face a \$150 fine.

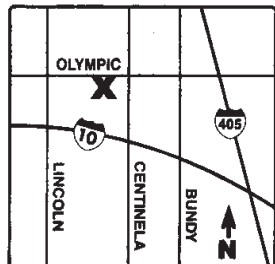
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