



Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS
1 20 32 37 39
Meganumber: 9
Jackpot: \$20M

Super LOTTO
13 24 31 33 39
Meganumber: 27
Jackpot: \$13M

Fantasy 5 2 6 16 25 33

DAILY 3 MIDDAY: 7 7 0
EVENING: 1 2 7

DAILY DERBY
1st: 10 Solid Gold
2nd: 05 California Classic
3rd: 12 Lucky Charms
RACE TIME: 1:45.36

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

People who recently had their sleep disrupted by out-of-control vehicular traffic crashing into their homes and right over their beds: Maryella Wallace, Davenport, Iowa, June 2005 (no serious injuries). A couple in Altamonte Springs, Fla., December (driver in a stolen car; no serious injuries). Juan Diaz, Fairdale, Ky., March (no serious injuries). A couple in the Houston suburb of Missouri City, Texas, March (two fatalities).

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 117th day of 2006.
There are 248 days left in the year.

On April 27, 1937, the nation's first Social Security checks were distributed.
In 1509, Pope Julius II excommunicated the Italian state of Venice. (The pope lifted the ban in February 1510.)
In 1965, broadcast journalist Edward R. Murrow died in Pawling, N.Y., at age 57.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"There is nothing in the universe that I fear but that I shall not know all my duty, or shall fail to do it."
MARY LYON
AMERICAN EDUCATOR (1797-1849)

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INTERNATIONAL

'Nothing Gringo' may prove self-defeating

ALAN CLENDENNING

Associated Press Writer

MEXICO CITY — U.S. lobbyists lashed out Wednesday at the Mexican "Nothing Gringo" campaign timed for May 1 to coincide with the "Day Without Immigrants" boycott in the United States.

The American Chamber of Commerce in Mexico said organizers are risking a backlash and foolishly targeting some of their best allies, since U.S. corporations have actively lobbied Congress for immigration reform including legalization for many of the estimated 11 million undocumented migrants.

See NO GRINGO, page 14



A homeless how-to

City Hall pays agency to evaluate effectiveness of programs

BY KEVIN HERRERA

Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL — After nearly 20 years of providing services to the homeless, City Hall has agreed to pay an outside agency to evaluate the effectiveness of these services and give recommendations on where officials need to focus their efforts over the next five years.

The evaluation — the first since the city's homeless services delivery system was created in the 1980s — will be conducted by The Urban Institute, a Washington, D.C.-based social policy and research organization that has conducted similar evaluations in Los Angeles and for the Department of Housing and Urban Development. City Hall is expected to pay the

institute up to \$126,000 for a roughly nine-month evaluation, in which researchers will interview elected officials, city staff, service providers, community activists, law enforcement and the homeless, as well as review financial records to determine the success rates of service providers.

Recommendations are expected by January 2007, when the council will be considering grant funding for the coming year.

"We're doing this evaluation to get a better idea of what the system currently does and how the city can better manage our resources," said Mona Miyasato, City Hall's acting human resources manager, addressing the council on Tuesday during a study session on homelessness. "We hope it will measure

City Hall is expected to pay the institute up to \$126,000 for a roughly nine-month evaluation.

our successes, find out what our strengths are so we can build upon them ... and find out what we can add or discontinue, and what new things can be tried."

The evaluation comes as the political will and public interest in homelessness grows along with the call for accountability. Elected

See HOMELESS HOW-TO, page 11

Like a green-headed stepchild



Alejandro Cesar Cantarero II/Daily Press

Artist 'Retna' puts the finishing touches on a painting over the weekend along Arizona Avenue, near the Third Street Promenade. The spraypaint and acrylic work, along with several others to be generated at public venues, will be featured on a tour sponsored by Sprite later this year.

SM Honda defendants etch a deal

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON

Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN LA — The last two defendants in the Honda of Santa Monica fraud case cut a deal with prosecutors this week, ending a nearly three-year investigation into the dealership that bilked thousands of dollars from its customers.

Yaser Alkasem and Thomas Holterhoff, who faced felony counts of grand theft for overcharging customers at Honda of Santa Monica, each pleaded no contest on Monday to one misdemeanor. Alkasem pleaded no contest to being an accessory after the fact, while Holterhoff pleaded no contest to making false and misleading statements. They both received three years of probation and were fined \$100 apiece in restitution penalties, according to prosecutors.

Alkasem, 43, who was named a

See SM HONDA, page 10

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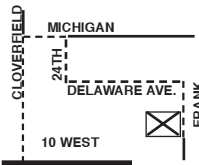


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HOROSCOPES

Easy does it, Sag

Santa Monica Daily Press



The stars show the kind of day you'll Have:
★★★★-Dynamic ★★★★★-Positive ★★★★★-Average ★★★★★-So-so ★★★★★-Difficult



ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Emphasize concrete reality, not ethereal ideas. Make resolutions to increase your security. Do you need to make a change in how you handle your finances? Now might be the time. Spruce up your house. Tonight: Your treat.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ A conversation this morning could give you a case of the blues. You are personality plus and have a way of jumping over problems. A decision you make today is likely to stick. Would you like to make a personal resolution? Tonight: Off to join a friend.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Take your time with others. You might want and need to pull back. Get more facts and then reflect on a situation. You might opt to do something differently. An expenditure might be quite necessary. Just make sure you are getting the best buy possible. Tonight: Lie back. Some time off.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ You zero in on what you want. You are close to unstoppable. Line up your ducks and network all you need to. A meeting could transform into a happening. Be careful with your money. You don't have to overspend. Tonight: Get together with friends.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You might feel a bit overwhelmed by what heads down your path. Like it or not, you cannot avoid certain responsibilities. Crusade for what you want. What starts today is destined to put you in the winner's circle. Tonight: No early bedtime for you!



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ What at first makes you uncomfortable turns into a catalyst. You break your patterns, going past the obvious -- and quickly at that. Seek out experts. Explore very different ideas. Walk down a new path. Tonight: Try a new restaurant.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ A partner takes a much stronger stand than he or she has in the past. Together a new idea arises. You might be disappointed by what a friend does or doesn't do. New beginnings become possible, financially and emotionally. Tonight: Togetherness.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ If you let others have their way, you will like what happens. If you challenge others, you might be left out in the cold. You can always say no to a plan or bad idea. Have more faith in the people who surround you. Tonight: Get into weekend mode.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Dig into your work and get the job done. What you initiate is likely to last or be a success. A partner might play devil's advocate. Welcome the feedback. Ultimately, you are enlisting this person's help. Tonight: Easy does it.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Your imagination delights those who do not have heavy or serious concerns. You could inadvertently irritate a close associate who has a lot on his or her mind. This too will pass. Add more zip to your daily life. Someone's suggestion might surprise you. Tonight: Love the moment.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Others might be challenging. You could be happiest staying close to home or isolating yourself. If you are able to work from home, you might want to think about it. Spruce up your personal space. Tonight: Relax at home.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ If you are tired, find a more efficient way or creative solution. You don't need to do everything all by yourself. A discussion draws many ideas to make your life much easier. Learn to communicate more often. Tonight: A long-over-due talk.

CIRCULATION AUDIT BY
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LOCAL



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Hospital volunteers get their due

By Daily Press staff

Santa Monicans who have reached milestones in their voluntary service at local hospitals are being honored this week for their efforts.

Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center will honor its more than 200 adult volunteers by hosting a Volunteer Recognition Luncheon and other festivities in celebration of “National Volunteer Week,” April 23 to 29.

The luncheon will recognize 50 volunteers who achieved hour and year milestones at the medical center during the past year.

Santa Monica resident Jette Simmons will be the top honoree, with more than 72,000 hours of service. Two other Westside residents, Alice Kurtz of West Los Angeles and Kuljit Marwah of Malibu, will be honored for 37,000 and 25,000 hours of service, respectively.

Jackie Leebody and Mary Edwards, both of Pacific Palisades, will be honored for reaching the 25-year milestone. Three others, Roslyn Bassett of Los Angeles, Kurtz and Mary Peppers of Santa Monica, will be recognized for 20 years of service.

The luncheon also will pay tribute to “the paper boys” — volunteers Robert Alschuler and Richard Balomben of Santa Monica and Ronald Belanger and Richard Schneidmiller of Venice — who take turns delivering newspapers to hospital patients each morning. They also perform other volunteer duties at the hospital.

Adult volunteers donated more than 45,000 hours of service to Santa Monica-UCLA in 2005 by assisting caregivers, working in non-clinical departments and running the hospital gift shop.

Santa Monica-UCLA’s volunteer workforce includes adults, pre-medical students called “care extenders,” junior volunteers ages 15 to 18 and pet-assisted activity teams that visit patients in the hospital.

Local paper flying high, captures 18 awards

By Daily Press staff

Santa Monica College’s Corsair newspaper won 18 awards, including six first-place honors, in the Journalism Association of Community Colleges’ statewide competition, held in Los Angeles.

The awards reflect achievements of the staff under fall semester editor Aaron Howell and current editor Jeremy Meyer, who also won an editor recognition award. The faculty advisor is Barbara Baird.

Capturing first-place awards in the mail-in category, reflecting the work of the fall 2005 Corsair staff, were Peter Switzer for photo story/essay; Theo Encarnado, news photo; Chad K. Uyeno, sports action photo; and Ajmal Noorzayee, sports profile story.

First-place honors in the live competition, in which the current staff participated, went to Lauren Ciancimino for front-page design and Kyosti Kauppinen for news photo.

Also in the mail-in portion of the competition second-, third- and fourth-place awards and honorable mentions went to Michael Hernandez, Kauppinen, Geoffrey Dunn, Morgan Genser, Uyeno, Nouri Abou Rass, Jacqui Grennan and Jessica Haroonian.

Capturing a second-place honor in the live competition was Sam Tenney.

In addition, Gerard Burkhart, photojournalism professor, won the Faculty Volunteer Award.

Buerge to host YMCA golf charity

By Daily Press staff

Raise money to help youngsters, and get in a fun game of golf while you’re at it.

Buerge Motor Car Company announces their forthcoming 20th Annual Charity Golf Tournament to benefit the Palisades/Malibu YMCA.

The event will take place on the scenic grounds of the Malibu Country Club on June 24 with an afternoon of play and dinner to follow.

For two decades, Buerge Motors has been a proud sponsor of the community charity event that’s played strictly for fun in a best ball scramble format with all

See BRIEFS, page 10



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SNOW AND SURF REPORTS

SNOW CONDITIONS

DATA PROVIDED BY ONTHESNOW.COM

BEAR MOUNTAIN

CLOSED

JUNE MOUNTAIN

CLOSED

MAMMOTH MOUNTAIN

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs)	BASE DEPTH	LIFT HOURS	RUNS OPEN	LIFTS OPEN
1"	192" - 216"	8:30 AM - 4:30 PM	100	16/28

CONDITIONS: MACHINE GROOMED, SPRING

MOUNTAIN HIGH

CLOSED

MT. BALDY

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs)	BASE DEPTH	LIFT HOURS	RUNS OPEN	LIFTS OPEN
0"	12" - 30"	8:00 AM - 4:30 PM	20	3/4

CONDITIONS: MACHINE GROOMED, SPRING

SNOW SUMMIT

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs)	BASE DEPTH	LIFT HOURS	RUNS OPEN	LIFTS OPEN
0"	8" - 36"	9:00 AM - 4:30 PM	26	6/14

CONDITIONS: MACHINE GROOMED, HARD PACKED, SPRING, VARIABLE

SNOW VALLEY

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs)	BASE DEPTH	LIFT HOURS	RUNS OPEN	LIFTS OPEN
0"	8" - 36"	8:30 AM - 4:00 PM	14	3/11

CONDITIONS: MACHINE GROOMED, SPRING

SURF CONDITIONS

WATER TEMP: 58°

SWELL FORECAST (2-5 FT)
TODAY THE NW WIND SWELL FILLS IN COMPLETELY WITH ONLY 10-12 SECOND PERIODS, YET SIZE CHEST TO SHOULDER HIGH FOR WEST FACING BREAKS.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS
SW DUE THURSDAY, PEAKS FRIDAY...

TIDE FORECAST FOR SANTA MONICA

SATURDAY				
LOW TIDE	N/A	N/A	12:21PM	-0.3FT
HIGH TIDE	5:06AM	4:68FT	7:08PM	4.2FT
SUNDAY				
LOW TIDE	12:32AM	1.9FT	1:03PM	-0.3FT
HIGH TIDE	6:19PM	4.8FT	7:34PM	4.8FT
MONDAY				
LOW TIDE	1:26AM	1.1FT	1:40PM	-0.2FT
HIGH TIDE	7:21AM	4.9FT	8:02PM	5.3FT
TUESDAY				
LOW TIDE	2:15AM	0.2FT	2:51PM	0.1FT
HIGH TIDE	8:16AM	4.9FT	8:32PM	5.9FT
WEDNESDAY				
LOW TIDE	3:01AM	-0.5FT	2:49PM	0.5FT
HIGH TIDE	9:08AM	4.7FT	9:03PM	6.3FT
THURSDAY				
LOW TIDE	3:47AM	1.0FT	3:21PM	0.9FT
HIGH TIDE	10:00AM	4.4FT	9:36PM	6.4FT
FRIDAY				
LOW TIDE	4:33AM	-1.2FT	3:54PM	1.4FT
HIGH TIDE	10:53AM	4.0FT	N/A	N/A



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With summer fast approaching, the cost of filling up one's tank at the local service station continues to climb. One recent study says retail gas prices across the country have jumped an average of 25 cents in the past two weeks alone. Auto club AAA estimates that prices are 31 cents higher now than at the same time just one year ago.

So this week, Q-Line wants to know: **To what lengths will you go to save money when filling up your tanks — long lines, other neighborhoods, shun the car altogether?**

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



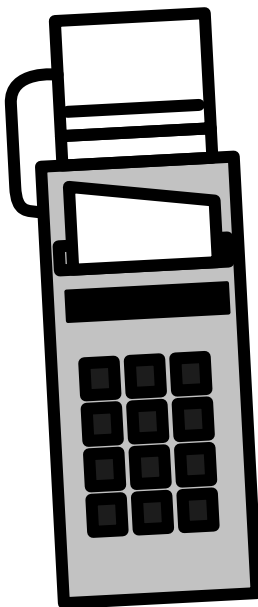
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OPINION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'Pro'-activity at airport not professional at all

Editor:

This is in regards to a recent article about an environmental study on the Santa Monica Airport (SMDP, April 21, page 1).

According to Santa Monica Airport Manager Bob Trimborn, City Hall has been responsive to residents concerns and has been "proactive" by calling on the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) to conduct the first in-depth study at and around the airport.

If there were attempts by City Hall or Santa Monica Airport staff to call on the South Coast Air Quality Management District to conduct such a study, I know nothing about it. I would love to see documentation that shows efforts by City Hall calling for the SCAQMD study.

What City Hall did do was request that two or three other general aviation airports be included in an air quality study, thereby making sure that sufficient data would not be collected to show if indeed Santa Monica Airport was polluting the air of their neighbors to the east in Los Angeles as well as to the west at times.

Trimborn tried to keep me from attending the first SCAQMD Advisory Committee meeting. After learning that I was an appointed member, representing community interests, he grunted deeply, "Oh."

At a later meeting of the advisory committee, Deputy City Attorney Marty Tachiki was opposed to placing a set of air monitors in the yard of a residence across Bundy Drive because he said it would take away from the credibility of the study, since samples were already being taken on the east end of the tarmac.

SCAQMD staff assured Tachiki that monitors in both locations were quite desirable. City Hall also ignored requests by their advisory Environmental Task Force to do a health impact study regarding the now under construction Airport Park at the southeast corner of the airport.

It is my impression that City Hall was "proactive" in making sure that Santa Monica Airport was not the focus of the SCAQMD air pollution study or any other study.

Martin Rubin
West Los Angeles

CORRECTION — In a letter to the editor published in the April 26 edition regarding a candidate for the 41st Assembly District, the authors of the letter were incorrectly attributed. The authors are former members of the Santa Monica Commission On the Status of Women: Patricia Hoffman, former vice-chair; Eileen Lipson, former chair; Laurie Newman, former chair; Dolores Press, former chair; Kathleen Sheldon, former member. The letter also was misleading in that the secretary of state's office requires candidates to list their ballot designation with the title they held the year prior to going on the ballot. Kelly Hayes-Raitt was a member of the Santa Monica Commission on the Status of Women in 2005 and her designation is in legal standing.

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ICONOCLAST BLAST

BY SETH BARNES

When I moved to Los Angeles from the East Coast last summer, I knew the transition wouldn't be easy. I was leaving a lot of family and friends behind. The day I moved into my new apartment I made a promise: I would be vigilant — possibly to the point of being annoying — about staying in touch.

So how's it going? Well, thankfully, I haven't depended on the United States Postal Service to keep my lines of communications open. On the Westside, it has become an accepted fact that the postal service is completely incompetent and untrustworthy when it comes to delivering mail on time. It's a way of life. At this point, I'm better off stuffing my home-ward-bound mail into a soda bottle and tossing it into the Pacific. Maybe it would float through the Panama Canal and up the Gulf of Mexico towards the Eastern seaboard. Perhaps some beachgoer would stumble upon the package and deliver it to its final destination.

As has been reported in this newspaper, the postal service has acknowledged sporadic delays in the area and attributes the problem to the shutdown of a major distribution facility and layoffs. The USPS may have their back against a wall, but a report in the Los Angeles Times several months ago indicates that the carriers are still giving it their all. The story described a startled resident who discovered a burglar rattling around on their porch well after 10 p.m. Except, well, it wasn't a burglar — it was the mailman making his belated rounds.

Undoubtedly, the local USPS faces obstacles that it isn't directly responsible for. When it comes to funding and technology it's a step behind its for-profit brethren. And there's no doubt that thousands of fine men and women go to work each day giving their all in the name of delivering letters and packages. The fact that you can place an item outside your door and have it (hopefully) end up on the other side of the country for a handful of

change is still a marvel of sorts. But I still think it's a marvel that you can get a newspaper, with dozens and dozens of stories and the day's news, for 50 cents — or if you're holding this newspaper, for free. And the newspaper industry isn't exactly the toast of the economy right now.

It really is about competition. Besides the direct competition the USPS faces from shipping services like UPS and FedEx, consumers have a litany of options to communicate with each other that are free or cost mere pennies. Instant messaging, e-mail, Internet phone connections ... the list goes on. If the USPS can't deliver on the most basic level of service, there's no doubt that the consumers will continue to flow to the more efficient and effective mediums. And those new age options are especially attractive when Valentine's cards get ripped in half and are delivered to the recipient in a Ziploc bag. This happened to my girlfriend this past February. Nothing says "I love you" like some scattered pieces of pink cardboard neatly tucked into a sandwich baggie.

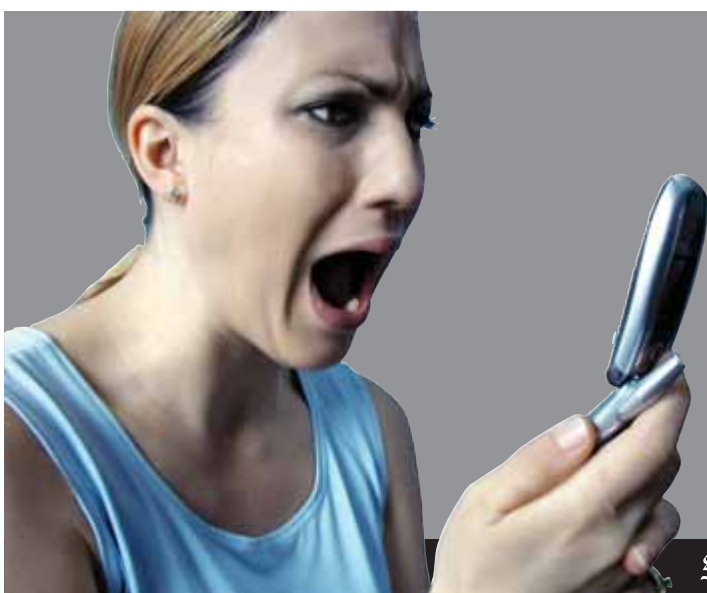
Even before I moved to Santa Monica, the USPS had it in for me.

Even before I moved to Santa Monica, the USPS had it in for me. Last May, we were very lucky to find the perfect apartment online. After talking to the landlord and having a friend scope the place out, I went to the bank and walked out with a certified check. I sent it along with the highest level of security and tracking. I paid to have it delivered as quickly as possible. The check didn't arrive for over a week and a half after being declared "lost."

Maybe that should have been a lesson. But then again, there's a certain rush to sending what is essentially \$2,000 in cold hard cash into postal purgatory and having the letter come through on the other side.

Who needs to drive all the way to Vegas when you have that?

(Seth Barnes can be reached at barnes-seth@hotmail.com.)



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Santa Monica Daily Press

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STATE



STATE BRIEFS

District wants GE to come clean

By The Associated Press

RIVERSIDE, Calif. — A coalition of environmental groups and a local school district filed a federal lawsuit to force General Electric to modify a \$1 billion power plant under construction in eastern Riverside County.

The suit claims the GE subsidiary Inland Empire Energy Center in Romoland would release triple the amount of soot, smoke and chemical pollutants allowed by federal law.

“GE says the plant is the latest and greatest in technology, but we can’t let them set a precedent that increased pollution is OK,” plaintiffs’ attorney Marc C. Joseph said.

The Romoland School District joined the suit because of safety issues the plant poses to students at Romoland Elementary School, which is about 1,100 feet away from the facility, superintendent Roland Skumawitz said.

Dennis Murphy, spokesman for GE Energy, said the plant was “a state-of-the-art, advanced gas turbine technology that has unprecedented efficiency levels and reduced emissions.”

OC takes page out of Hollywood’s script

By The Associated Press

ANAHEIM, Calif. — The city is celebrating its 150th anniversary by starting a walk of fame for Orange County notables.

The Anaheim/Orange County Walk of Stars, modeled after Hollywood’s sidewalk memorial, will honor individuals who shaped the county, such as singing cowboy and former Angels owner Gene Autry, and Walt Disney, who built Disneyland amid Anaheim’s orange groves.

Other nominees’ connections to the county are less explicit, like author John Steinbeck, who is said to have written “Tortilla Flat” while living in Laguna Beach for a few months.

“We’re going to honor those visionaries who contributed to making Anaheim and Orange County an international player,” said county resident Gerald Ishibashi, who brought the idea to Anaheim on behalf of the Motion Picture Hall of Fame Foundation, which will oversee the strip.

The first stars are slated for installation near Disneyland and could eventually wind their way toward Angel Stadium, two miles away.

Nominees who agree to be memorialized on the Anaheim walk will be charged \$15,000 for the honor, the same price as a star on Hollywood’s Walk of Fame, said Carolyn Yellis, a member of Anaheim’s anniversary commission.

Officers are beacon for frazzled drivers

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Traffic officers are taking to the streets to guide drivers through left turns at some major intersections until signal lights can be installed to do the job.

Some 50 officers have been deployed to 38 busy intersections.

About 1,700 left-turn signals already serve some 1,200 Los Angeles intersections.

The city’s transportation department has accelerated a campaign to install 450 more left-turn signals at major intersections within the next four years, and then 500 additional signals after that.

“Our vision is to have them at all approaches where two major roads intersect,” said John E. Fisher, assistant general manager of the department’s transportation operations.

Police stocking up for cold cases

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Police commissioners agreed to ask the city to double the size of the Police Department’s cold case homicide unit.

The panel voted unanimously Tuesday to ask the mayor and City Council to provide money for 31 detectives, DNA experts, and fingerprint and blood-work specialists.

The total tab for the new workers would come to nearly \$3 million dollars.

“With such resources, the LAPD can effectively remove hundreds of murderers and rapists from our communities, thereby bringing a much greater degree of safety to our citizens,” Chief William J. Bratton said.

The new personnel would use a developing statewide database of DNA taken from criminals to generate leads in unsolved murders and sexual assaults.

The commissioners voted to approve the request after reviewing a report that 46 percent of homicides and 80 percent of rapes in Los Angeles have not resulted in prosecutions. The department’s current cold case homicide unit has 80 cases under investigation, including four involving serial killers with a total of 18 victims, Bratton said in the report.

Looking to bolster working conditions

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Improved working conditions for employees at hotels near Los Angeles International Airport are key to the surrounding neighborhood’s improvement, according to a report by an advocacy group.

The Coalition for a New Century, a group of clergy, workers and community groups, unveiled the report recommending pay raises and career training for the workers at a City Hall news conference Tuesday.

“This initiative has my support and I look forward to working with you in the upcoming months,” Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa told coalition members.

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Calif. jury finds man guilty in terrorism case

BY DON THOMPSON
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO — Hamid Hayat's family and lawyers say he traveled to Pakistan in 2003 to find direction in life, search for a wife and care for his mother, who had returned for medical treatment.

But prosecutors say the 23-year-old seasonal farm worker went to Pakistan to attend an al-Qaida training camp and then returned to the United States to carry out attacks against grocery stores, banks and hospitals.

After a nine-week trial, a federal jury on Tuesday convicted Hayat of supporting terrorists by attending the training camp and lying about it to the FBI. Defense attorneys argued that the government had no clear evidence that Hayat had attended a camp, but prosecutors characterized their case as pre-emptive.

"Our mission in the post-9/11 context is to prevent that crime from ever happening," U.S. Attorney McGregor Scott said at a news conference after the verdicts were read.

Hayat was convicted of one count of providing material support to terrorists and three counts of lying to the FBI. He faces a minimum of 30 years in prison when he is sentenced July 14. His attorney, Wazhma Mojaddidi, said she would seek a new trial.

"I am obviously devastated and disappointed," she said. "I believe they are wrong in their decision. Hamid Hayat never attended a terrorist training camp. This fight is not over."

The verdicts came hours after a separate jury hearing a case against Hayat's father deadlocked, forcing the judge to declare a mistrial.

The father, 48-year-old ice cream truck driver Umer Hayat, is charged with two counts of lying to the FBI about his son's involvement in the training camp. Defense attorneys and prosecutors will meet in court May 5 to decide whether he should be retried.

Both men are U.S. citizens and have been in custody since June.

The case focused on videotaped confessions the men gave to FBI agents and a government informant who secretly recorded conversations but whose credibility was challenged by the defense.

Prosecutors described Hamid Hayat as

having "a jihadi heart and a jihadi mind." They presented no evidence that such attacks were imminent or planned.

Defense lawyers said the confessions were made under duress, after the men had been questioned for hours in the middle of the night. The father and son eventually told the agents merely what they thought they wanted to hear, without realizing the legal consequences, their lawyers argued.

The trial is the result of what the government initially thought might be a much larger case. Its investigation into the 2,500-member Pakistani community in Lodi, a quiet agricultural community south of the state Capitol, began after agents received a tip in 2001 that area businesses were sending money to terrorist groups abroad.

That investigation ultimately fizzled, but it did lead agents to Naseem Khan. The 32-year-old former Lodi resident was working service jobs in rural Oregon when agents approached him in October 2001.

Khan, a Pakistan native who moved to the United States as a teenager, was recruited to infiltrate Lodi's Pakistani community.

He initially investigated the money laundering allegations and then targeted a pair of local imams before finally befriending Hamid Hayat.

After Hamid Hayat left for Pakistan in spring 2003, Khan kept in touch and recorded their telephone calls — in some of which Khan urged Hayat to attend a jihadi camp. In one conversation, Khan exhorted Hayat to "be a man — do something!"

Hamid Hayat's lawyers seized on such conversations in an effort to show that the FBI informant pushed Hayat to attend a training camp, but ultimately produced no evidence that he had.

The investigation became public last year when authorities arrested the Hayats and detained two local imams. The clerics and one of their sons were later deported for immigration violations, and the Hayats were the only people criminally charged in the probe.

Prosecutors said additional charges could be filed. "Certainly there are people of interest to us," Scott said.

Attorney General Alberto Gonzales praised the verdicts and said the case was part of the federal government's effort to "detect, disrupt and prevent terrorist acts."

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NATIONAL



Utah wants image other than 'that looks familiar'

BY BROCK VERGAKIS
Associated Press Writer

SALT LAKE CITY — Utah has nowhere to go but up when it comes to branding the state for tourists. A nationwide survey on Utah's image shows that tourists don't have a negative perception of the state — they just don't have much of a perception at all. Images that Utah residents always thought defined their state — the golden spike at Promontory Point, Delicate Arch at Arches National Park and the Salt Lake City skyline — apparently aren't all that identifiable with Utah.

Pictures of those locations and six others that tourism officials always considered iconic to Utah were more closely associated with surrounding states, according to the survey's findings, which were released Tuesday.

"It's shocking," said Bob Syret, a Utah Board of Tourism Development member.

The results of the survey underscore what tourism officials say is a difficult road ahead to regain Utah's share of the domestic tourism market, which has steadily eroded in the past decade even after hosting the 2002 Winter Olympics.

"One of the issues is that our icons are not yet our icons," said Denise Miller, vice president of Strategic Marketing & Research Inc., which conducted the survey for the Utah Office of Tourism.

The only images survey respondents picked as being located in Utah more than other states were pictures of the Olympic Park skeleton race track and of Zion National Park. But even the selection of Zion National Park as being in Utah can be misleading. So many survey respondents put the park in one of 10 other Western states that Utah received the greatest concentration of votes at 19.7 percent, Miller said.

The lack of familiarity with Utah is bad news for a state banking on its five national parks and other outdoor activities to be a major component of its effort to bring outdoor enthusiasts in for a vacation.

"We're kind of a blind date to people," said tourism board member Colin Fryer.

The state is banking on a new advertising campaign to help brand the state and improve its image and recall among consumers, particularly adventure travelers who earn more than \$75,000 a year. A new slogan — Utah: Life Elevated — replaces Utah! Where ideas connect.

Many of the ads that will run nationally as part of the campaign depict several locations that people surveyed said they believed were in other states.

Tourism is a growing \$5.45 billion industry in Utah that attracted more than 18.2 million visitors in 2005, an increase

of 4 percent. But Utah's domestic travel market share has declined from .86 percent to .75 percent in the past decade.

In 2005, the Legislature appropriated about \$10 million to market the state this year, an increase of about 1,000 percent from previous years. This is the first time Utah has had the budget to effectively tell the state's story and develop a brand, said Leigh von der Esch, director of the Utah Office of Tourism.

Most survey respondents associated Salt Lake City's mountainous skyline, its state Capitol and the distinctive spires of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints' downtown temple with Colorado, just as they did with summertime photo of a ski tram.

Arizona was a popular choice for the location of other Utah landmarks, especially those found in Utah's red rock country.

The Golden Spike National Historic Site, where the last spike of the first transcontinental railroad was driven in on May 10, 1869, was more closely associated with New Mexico than Utah. The spike and two trains, coming from the East and the West, are featured in one of three designs being considered for Utah's commemorative quarter.

Delicate Arch was associated with Arizona by 39 percent of people surveyed, compared with 27 percent who correctly placed it in Utah. That misidentification is particularly frustrating to tourism officials because the arch is depicted on thousands of Utah license plates.

Arizona was a popular choice for the location of other Utah landmarks, especially those found in Utah's red rock country, including Bryce Amphitheater in Bryce National Park and Chimney Rock in Capitol Reef National Park.

The survey showed that of the six states Utah most often competes with for tourists — California, Arizona, Nevada, Colorado, Washington and New Mexico — Utah ranks last in terms of familiarity and in likelihood to be visited within the next two years.

Utah's problem isn't that it has a bad image, but it has no image nationally, said Mike Deaver, deputy director of the Utah Office of Tourism. About 87 percent of the state's visitors come from the West.

"Where they know us, they love us," Deaver said.



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NATIONAL

Passport rules may consider 'Aunt Tilly'

BY LARA JAKES JORDAN
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration, facing complaints from border-state lawmakers, is considering scaling back strict passport security requirements for people who infrequently travel between the United States and Canada.

The concession may not be enough for lawmakers who want to delay rules requiring passports or other tamper-resistant ID cards for all who enter the United States beginning Jan. 1, 2008.

The administration may initially address part of what some in Washington call the "Aunt Tilly" problem — occasional visitors to Canadian border communities who might be prevented from returning to the U.S. because they didn't know to bring acceptable ID. The law applies to U.S. citizens and foreign visitors alike.

"We are working on that, we're concerned about that, and the last thing we

want to do is discourage traffic," Jim Williams, director of a Homeland Security Department program that monitors international travel to the U.S., said in an interview. "We've got to come up with solutions that meet people's needs."

Specific plans are still being worked out. Williams said the administration was looking at issuing short-term passes, or one-day passes, for legitimate border travelers who have neither a passport nor the proposed "PASS" card that is being developed.

To people who repeatedly try to cross the border without the right ID, however, "we might say, 'Look, we won't let you back in if you continue to do this and not get a passport or card,'" Williams said. "We don't want to discourage that person's travel, but, on the other hand, we want to move people to where we can identify them."

The ID rules were part of a 2004 intelligence overhaul law, overwhelmingly approved by Congress, to tighten U.S. borders against terrorists. They have since

"We all recognize the security issues. But there's practical and economic impacts that me and my colleagues all have been hit with, and we're sensitive to."

SEN. NORM COLEMAN
R-Minn.

pitted lawmakers from border states against those from the heartland, strained relations with Canada, and forced Homeland Security to roll out technology and training under a deadline that may prove too aggressive to meet.

Concerns were highlighted last week by Canadian Public Safety Minister Stockwell Day, who questioned Homeland Security Secretary Michael Chertoff over whether the rules would be ready.

"Obviously I raised concerns, some of the same questions that you raised, in terms of, is it feasible?" Stockwell told reporters in Washington. "Those are concerns of interest, those are concerns neighbors raise because they might be concerned about what their neighbor is doing."

The rules are not as controversial on the nation's southern border, where more than 8 million Mexican and U.S. citizens carry laser visas that let them easily travel between the two countries. Those who enter the U.S. from Canada now need only common forms of identification, such as a driver's license and a birth certificate.

Critics fear the rules will dramatically

reduce travel and tourism across the northern border, damaging local economies, as visitors shy away from the \$97 cost of a passport. The PASS cards are expected to cost half that much, and perhaps far less, said Assistant Secretary of State Maura Harty.

Lawmakers want to delay the rules by up to 18 months to give the administration more time to allay lingering concerns.

"We all recognize the security issues. But there's practical and economic impacts that me and my colleagues all have been hit with, and we're sensitive to," said Sen. Norm Coleman, R-Minn.

Homeland Security "needs to tell us exactly how this is going to work, exactly what the costs are going to be," said Coleman, who voted for the 2004 law mandating the border crackdown. "We don't think we're at that stage."

Congress this week is holding hearings on the program — dubbed the Western Hemisphere Travel Initiative — and a bipartisan group of senators are threatening to push for the delays in immigration legislation that will be considered as early as next month.



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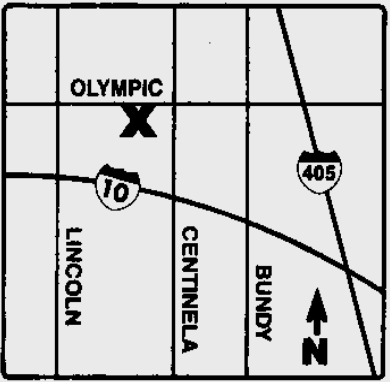
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NATIONAL



Easing pain of motorists proves difficult

BY H. JOSEF HEBERT
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — High gasoline costs and the political fallout they may create are producing a flurry of proposals from both Republicans and Democrats aimed at soothing motorists' anger.

But nobody is predicting prices will ease anytime soon. Democrats are blaming Republicans, especially President Bush, while Republicans argue that congressional Democrats have stood in the way of more domestic oil production.

Bush directed his environmental agency Tuesday to stand ready to ease clean air rules if they interfere in gasoline supplies this summer. Industry analysts said that likely would have only a marginal influence on prices.

The president also announced that the government would not take 10 million barrels of oil out of the market for the U.S. emergency reserve as had been planned.

Bush maintained that "every little bit helps," even though industry analysts said that was so little oil it would have no impact on prices.

The president expressed frustration at his inability to force down prices.

"What people are seeing at their gasoline pumps reflects the global economy in which we live," he acknowledged in a speech aimed at countering critics who have accused him of being soft on oil companies and ignoring high prices at the pump.

Bush vowed to pursue any collusion or price gouging and directed the Justice Department to help states pursue allegations that "gas prices have been unfairly manipulated."

The White House opposes additional federal laws to address price gouging or strengthen antitrust laws as they pertain to oil companies, as some members of Congress have proposed.

"There are very good laws on the books," said Al Hubbard, the president's chief economics adviser. "What's important is that those laws are enforced aggressively."

Bush also urged Congress to repeal \$2 billion in oil industry tax breaks over 10 years, declaring, "Taxpayers don't need to be paying for certain of these expenses on behalf of the energy companies."

He said he was opposed to price controls or a windfall profits tax on oil companies. "These plans have not worked in the past," he said.

Democrats quickly countered with their own proposals, including a renewed call for taxes on oil industry profits and for a 60-day "holiday" from the 18.4 cent a gallon federal gasoline tax.

Sen. Robert Menendez, D-N.J., said the tax suspension would provide "immediate relief" of \$100 million a day to motorists, although critics argued it also would increase the federal deficit unless Congress found new revenue. Menendez's proposals would make up the shortfall by new taxes on oil companies.

Sen. Byron Dorgan, D-N.D., noted that his windfalls profits tax proposal garnered only 35 votes in October, but with oil companies making record profits from crude at more than \$70 a barrel he said he's now optimistic about passage.

The country's three largest oil companies — Exxon Mobil Corp., Chevron and ConocoPhillips — were expected this week to report more than \$16 billion in profits during the first quarter of the year. Exxon Mobil earned \$36 billion last year, the most ever by a U.S. company.

The Environmental Protection agency said it would consider environmental waivers on a case-by-case basis if gasoline supply problems or price spikes become apparent as a result of shortages of cleaner-burning summer-blend gasoline in a specific area.

The waivers could be given in response to requests by states where supply problems exist. The agency also could suspend its requirement for low-sulfur gasoline and diesel — both of which kick in this year — but EPA officials said they do not anticipate those requirements will cause a problem.

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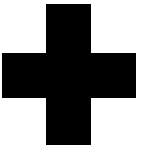
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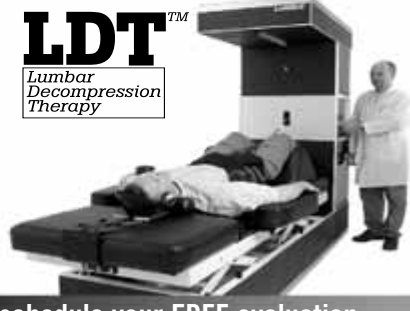


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No jail time for last two defendants

SM HONDA, from page 1

co-conspirator in the case, turned himself in earlier this year and cooperated with prosecutors. He only worked at the dealership for a few months while the scam took place. Holterhoff, 63, the former general manager, played a small role, prosecutors said.

“(Alkasem) cooperated right from the start,” said Los Angeles Deputy District Attorney Dana Aratani. “With Holterhoff, admittedly, it was a weak case, but we felt we had enough evidence. He was still general manager and we went under the ‘should have known’ theory. It appeared that it was really the finance managers who were responsible.”

The other four defendants — Ali Asghar Hussain, Hamid Reza Khaki, Yaprem Zohrab Yaralian and Ahtamet Uersunthornwattana — agreed to settlements in March.

Hussain, 37, who was director of finance at the dealership from December of 2000 to June 2002, pleaded no contest to 13 misdemeanor counts. Khaki, 38, who was finance manager from December 2000 to July 2002, pleaded no contest to six misdemeanor counts. Uersunthornwattana, 44, who was finance manager from January 2001 to August 2001, pleaded no contest to three misdemeanor counts. Yaralian, 39, pleaded no contest to three misdemeanor counts.

Under the terms of the settlement, multiple felony counts of grand theft that the defendants originally faced were reduced to misdemeanors for negligence, according to the DA’s office. The four defendants who settled in March will be required to pay nearly \$10,000 in fines. They also will be on probation for the next three years.

Violation of probation, including any other misdemeanor arrests, may cause the defendants to be subject to spend six months in county jail for each misdemeanor count to which they have pleaded.

The alleged scam primarily involved finance managers tacking on charges of “theft etch” to customers’ contracts without their knowledge. Theft etch marks a vehicle’s parts with traceable numbers in the event of a theft. The after-market product would show up on the sales contract as a VT registration charge, which doesn’t exist, prosecutors said.

According to the felony complaint, 33 customers were bilked out of nearly \$30,000 between 2001 and 2002, when all of the defendants worked in the finance and sales departments at the dealership, located at 1720 Santa Monica Blvd.

In addition, the Department of Motor Vehicles will have the option of revoking the defendants’ dealership business licenses, according to Deputy District Attorney Jeff McGrath, a prosecutor in the case.

Under a recent civil settlement, an estimated 1,500 customers who were ripped off can expect to be reimbursed in coming months by Sonic Automotive, Inc., the parent company of Honda of Santa Monica.

The settlement of the civil complaint, which was signed by a judge on Feb. 8, is separate from the criminal case. However, the fact that victims will receive restitution and that defendants will likely lose their business licenses led prosecutors to agree to a settlement, under which they believe justice has been served without having to go to trial.

“At this juncture, it got resolved without having to bring in all of the victims; it’s a satisfactory total package,” Aratani said.

Those who might be eligible for restitution are customers who purchased or leased a vehicle from the dealership between April 7, 2000 and Oct. 31, 2002.

Sonic Automotive Inc. has agreed to hire an outside firm to serve as an administrator in handling the reimbursements, which will determine how much each customer will receive. Aratani said the reimbursements range from \$100 to \$1,000, with the average claim being \$400. It’s estimated that Sonic Automotive Inc. will pay back about \$829,000 in reimbursements.

Sonic Automotive Inc. has turned over a list of eligible customers to the DA’s office, which has been checked



COUNCIL COUNTDOWN

The following is a summation of what went on in the Santa Monica City Council chambers during the council’s meeting April 25, including a timeline, notable public comments and excerpts taken.

TIMELINE:

- 5:53 p.m. Mayor Bob Holbrook calls the City Council meeting to order. After leading the council in the pledge of allegiance, Holbrook opens the floor for public comment on items on the consent agenda. There are two requests to speak.
- 6:00 p.m. Public comment ends. The council approves the consent calendar, which includes: amending an existing contract with Oracle USA in the amount of \$72,000 to upgrade the City Hall’s financial software; a contract with LaserFiche in the amount of \$120,000 for the purchase of a document imaging and content management system; an amendment to an existing contract with New Flyer of America in the amount of \$941,900 for the purchase of 10 liquefied natural gas (LNG) buses and spare parts; awarding a \$10 million contract with Clean Energy for LNG fuel for four years; approving a lease in the amount of \$9,636 with Google to use City Hall’s supply of dark fiber (or fiber optics that have yet to be used); and approving a contract with landscape architects ah’bé in the amount of \$450,000 for design services for 20th Street and Cloverfield Boulevard street improvements.
- 6:04 p.m. Council moves into closed session, in which it discusses several lawsuits involving City Hall.
- 7:23 p.m. Council reconvenes following the end of closed session. City Attorney Marsha Moutrie reports on three items, all settlements. In two cases involving accidents where the Big Blue Bus was determined at fault, the council agrees to pay a total of \$175,000. In another case involving a dispute over the creation of a driveway, the council approves a settlement in which the city will pay \$40,000 for the initial cost of constructing a driveway at the property, 161 Ocean Park Boulevard. If the project goes over \$40,000, City Hall will split the remaining costs with the property owners, up to \$70,000.
- 7:27 p.m. On behalf of the council, Holbrook declares May as “Older Americans Month.” A proclamation was accepted by Marilyn Wilson, co-chair of the Commission on the Senior Community. The council also welcomes Santa Monica College President Chui Tsang, Ph.D., who pledges to build great relationships with City Hall.
- 7:34 p.m. Council votes to move around items on the agenda to accommodate members who must leave early. Council approves ordinances allowing the Bayside Hotel to continue operating and for the creation a transportation preservation district to protect the Exposition Right-of-Way for future light rail. Council also holds the first reading of an ordinance allowing for the re-division of combined parcels, or lots.
- 7:56 p.m. Council approves the appointment of Dr. Kaveta Patel to the Pier Restoration Corp. Her term will end Nov. 10, 2009. Council also approves the appointments of Robert Schwenker to the Commission for the Senior Community for a term ending June 30, 2007, and Madeline Davis Heller for one special vacancy on the Commission on the Status of Women for a term ending June 30, 2007.
- 8:08 p.m. Staff gives a report on changes to the current zoning code addressing anomalies pertaining to “key lots” where current definitions of a side yard and front yard conflict with adjacent homes. Council hears from two residents in conflict over the construction of a wall that will block one resident’s views from his front yard. Council votes to have city staff prepare amendments to the zoning code to provide some relief for residents and instructs staff to investigate if there are other situations to bring back before the council.
- 8:26 p.m. Council hears an update from city staff on the status of homelessness in Santa Monica. Council approves an extension of the city’s chronic homeless program at a cost of \$189,000. The council also agrees to spend \$126,000 for The Urban Institute to conduct an audit of City Hall’s homeless programs. Council also expresses grave concern over the possible sale of land by the U.S. Army where a cold-weather homeless shelter is located. Council instructs city staff to contact representatives in Congress to see how they can help stop the sale.
- 9:11 p.m. Council considers changes to outdoor dining on the Third Street Promenade, voting to allow outdoor dining in the pavilion areas only. Staff is instructed to work with Bayside District Corp. to come up with standards for center court and sidewalk edge dining.
- 10:05 p.m. Council hears from staff and the public about changes to rates charged to residents and businesses for garbage collection. Council approves an interim rate hike of 7 percent, which includes inflation, so that the City Manager can devise a potential budget around that figure, which will be reconsidered as the council forms next year’s budget.
- 10:40 p.m. Council convenes for a special meeting of the Community Redevelopment Agency. The agency discusses and approves the purchase and rehabilitation of an 8-unit apartment complex at 1944 20th Street for low-income families. The total cost of the project is \$3,010,789. The apartment complex is expected to provide 24 beds. Each unit has three bedrooms.
- 10:40 p.m. Council reconvenes and receives public comment on items not on the agenda.
- 11:04 p.m. 11:04 p.m.: Council adjourns in the memory of former commissioner Anita Phillips and 50-year-resident Luz Ospitia, both of whom passed away recently.

BY THE NUMBERS

Time spent on the top three issues facing Santa Monicans, based on city surveys:

- Homelessness: 45 minutes
- Traffic: 0 minutes
- Parking: 0 minutes
- Public Comments: 1 hour and 6 minutes
- City Council/staff discussions: 2 hours and 44 minutes.



LET’S TALK CHIT

“Chits” (Public addressing City Council)

“There are apparently lots of important issues like hedges, property lines and fences, that I had no idea people were so concerned about.”

Madeline Moore, a senior at Santa Monica High School, telling councilmembers about her observations of the council meeting and urging them to focus more on homelessness.

“Why are we paying top dollar for a building that isn’t worth half that? You could look in some of the local papers and find better deals. Who’s getting paid off here?”

Resident Chuck Allard, who is critical of the City Council’s decision to spend more than \$3 million purchasing and rehabilitating an 8-unit apartment complex in the Pico Neighborhood for low-income families.

Joy Fulmer Incite: “Poor people should be paying less because the don’t buy as much and don’t have as much waste. You’re giving businesses a break with lower (trash) rates.”

QUOTE OF NOTE

“I don’t think we can afford to lose housing at any level of affordability, even if its unaffordable.”

Councilman Kevin McKeown, who fears that allowing property owners to purchase adjacent lots and expand their homes might prevent much-needed housing.

against its own internal list of names that stemmed from investigators’ probe into the dealership, Aratani said.

Sonic Automotive Inc. has until mid-May to notify customers that they are eligible for reimbursement. Customers must fill out the notice and release, and send it back within six months of the Feb. 8 judgment in order to be eligible. Once the claim has been sent in by the customer, Sonic Automotive Inc. has 30 days to send the reimbursement check, according to the settlement agreement.

The North Carolina-based automotive company has sent a check to the DA’s office for \$548,000. That’s for civil penalties and costs associated with violating provisions of the Business and Professions Code. Of that amount, \$73,000 is for costs of the investigation.

The DA’s office launched its investigation into the dealership in July 2002, after an employee tipped investigators off to the alleged scam. The dealership was raided by investigators, including FBI agents, who seized boxes of files and computers from the finance and sales departments on Sept. 25, 2002.

The investigation was concluded last year when the DA’s office filed a felony complaint against six former employees, alleging they overcharged customers to pad their own commissions.

“We suspect that it happens at so many dealerships,” Aratani said, warning consumers to be careful of any after-market products attached to purchase agreements.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

BRIEFS, from page 3

monies raised being donated to the Palisades/Malibu YMCA.

Players will enjoy a full day of 18-hole golf with dinner and prize raffle immediately following the tournament. A guaranteed grand prize drawing of \$10,000 will be given away, along with dozens of gifts and dinner/concert packages donated by area businesses.

In addition, players have several hole-in-one chances at winning a new Ford, Chrysler or Jeep vehicle.

The Palisades/Malibu YMCA is a family-centered organization that offers more than 100 different programs available throughout the year to residents in the community. All people are welcome at the Y regardless of age, sex, ethnicity or faith, and charity programs such as this tournament provide that no one is turned away from the Y regardless of their ability to pay.

Buerge Motors, a Westside community dealership operating since 1915, is a family-owned and operated business specializing in Ford, Chrysler and Jeep products.

Perspective players or corporate sponsors may contact Scott Davis at (310) 820-2631, ext. 2020.



Homeless programs put to test

HOMELESS HOW-TO, from page 1

officials included funding for the evaluation during last year's budget, labeling it a community priority.

"We heard last night how our service providers are doing such a wonderful job, but I don't know that," said Mayor Bob Holbrook, who voted in favor of the evaluation along with his council colleagues. "I know they are working hard, but I have to see results ... If we are being so effective in helping the homeless, then why do we still see so many here? If it's because people are continually coming in from other parts of the county, then we need to know that so we can identify our clients and draw the line.

"Santa Monica cannot solve this problem ourselves."

Miyasato said the institute will try to answer these questions: What programs are working? What needs improvement? Are clients getting what they need? Are there gaps in service? What does the city expect? What is our experience compared to other cities?

Martha Burt, a researcher with the insti-

tute who is currently evaluating housing and employment programs for the homeless in Los Angeles, said the institute will not advocate funding one program over another, but she said elected officials here will be able to tell which of the nine service providers and 21 programs are the most effective.

"This is definitely not an audit," Burt said. "It's really a look at how city agencies are working together, or not, with providers."

20,000 reads under the sea



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

On its first day of business, Bookmark Cafe server Efrain Gonzales decorates the patio with in the Santa Monica Main Library's courtyard. The cafe's patio is situated beneath the public artwork entitled 'Underwater Canopy' by Carl Cheng.

NATIONAL

Arizona and Utah working together on school official probe

By The Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — Arizona officials have asked Utah authorities to help serve grand jury subpoenas for documents involving a former school official in the polygamist communities bordering the two states.

The Arizona attorney general's office filed papers in state court in Salt Lake City on Tuesday asking Utah authorities to help serve the subpoenas for any financial documents, invoices, tax forms, contracts or correspondence involving Jeffrey P. Jessop between 2000 and 2005.

Jessop resigned as financial director of the Colorado City Unified School District at the end of December. He had held the post since 2000. The state of Arizona took over the district after teachers went months without pay and allegations of financial mismanagement.

The Salt Lake County district attorney has agreed to serve the subpoenas for the Arizona attorney general. All of those subpoenaed were asked to appear before the grand jury in the Maricopa County Superior Court in Phoenix on May 24.

Jessop apparently provided accounting services for several businesses in the communities of Hildale and Colorado City, Ariz., which are dominated by the polygamist Fundamental Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints.

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America going for broke; buy gold



THE WEEKLY RECKONING

BY BILL BONNER

America is going broke ... in style. We say that not to alarm you. It's just one of those certainties in life that you should point out to your children, such as "the dollar will be worthless" and "we're all gonna die."

There's not even any great shame in it. Going bust is what every great empire does sooner or later. Besides, it may not happen for another quarter of a century — or maybe sooner.

Last month, ominously, the U.S. government registered a record deficit of \$85.47 billion. That is, for every dollar the Feds sucked in, they managed to burn

through a \$1.50. But, why run up such hefty losses now? After all, the nation revels in "full employment," does it not? The economy is going like gangbusters, is it not? And, housing and stocks have soared to near all-time highs. If the government can't break even now, when will it ever break even?

If you have to ask the question, you must be out of step with the times. Every policy wonk, number abuser, and budgetary contortionist in Washington knows the U.S. government will never run a genuine un-manipulated surplus. Every Beltway

buffoon in a suit is counting on it. Every parasitic politician knows that the positive numbers touted during the Clinton years were a ripe fraud, achieved only by pretending that Social Security was not a government program. Now, even that larcenous legerdemain won't change the ink color; the numbers are red from top to bottom, and getting redder all the time.

Among the seven wonders of the modern world is that lenders and merchants the world over are still not only willing to accept U.S. paper, but they are positively craving it. Last year, China alone racked up more than \$200 billion in its trade surplus with the United States, and what did they do with all that money?

"China is on a buying spree in U.S.," says a headline in the Houston Chronicle.

"See," we can almost hear gorgeous George Gilder whisper in our ear, "the money comes back to us. What's the worry?"

No worry. Just an observation. The money leaves home a servant; it comes back a master. The dollars are spent on consumer items. In other words, Americans use paper to buy junk while the Chinese hold on to it as capital and use it to pocket U.S. debt, U.S. factories, and U.S. assets. Americans used to be able to say what they wanted to the Chinese. Now they must say, "Yes sir." And it wouldn't hurt to learn to kowtow; the Chinese like that sort of thing.

Another observation: the dollar is losing ground against the things that aren't junk. The price of oil continues to edge up. A headline in the Financial Times tells us, "Gold could reach \$850." That is the top price the metal reached in the last bull market, when Jimmy Carter was still president. Well, duh.

(For more insight and analysis, visit www.dailyreckoning.com.)

Patience is a virtue, and a proven method for building wealth

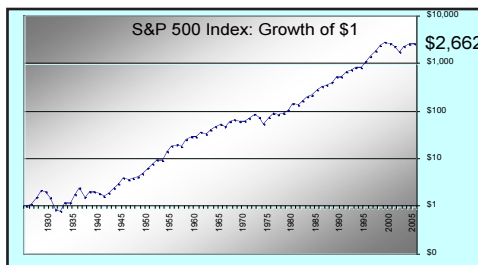
BY DR. DARIUS G. GAGNE, CFA, CFP

Special to the Daily Press

Markets go up, and markets go down, but over the long run, markets go up.

On a daily basis, we are inundated with financial information from shows such as CNBC, NPR or even the "market update" during a basketball game. This deluge of information makes the investment world appear challenging and overly complex, insinuating that investors need to discover the latest and greatest tip in order reap the rewards that the market has to offer. Fact of the matter is, no one has a crystal ball. Fortunately, however, no one needs one because good long run returns are simply there for the taking.

Consider the plot above. It is not by chance that \$1 invested into the S&P in 1926 would be worth much more today, namely



\$2,662. This is a manifestation of our capitalistic market economy which is nearly 200 years strong and which implies that fair returns must be earned in the long run or else the system would not exist, that is, there would be no capital invested. In other words, markets work. Markets sky rocket in some years, while in other years they disappoint, but over the long run, an investor earns a fair return on his capital at risk.

But not everyone is convinced. For

instance, this growth of \$1 over the 80-year period represents over a 10 percent average annual return. Not a bad return. Not a staggering return. Just the average U.S. equity market long-run return. But you would be surprised how few financial advisers achieve this return over the long run. Why? Because they think they need — and worse, they think they have — a crystal ball. They try to outsmart the financial markets with speculation and market timing, or the thought that they somehow know more than the rest of the world combined.

Well, the financial markets embody the collective wisdom of millions of investors around the globe communicating at the speed of light. And the financial markets are extremely efficient, meaning that any hot idea one might have is almost certain to already be reflected in the markets. So,

it does not matter how smart a money manager is, he will not out-smart the markets in the long run.

Investing is the responsible and discipline act of joining the markets to take advantage of long-run returns. In fact, earning solid returns over the long run is the easy part of investing. The biggest challenge in investing is discipline — sticking firm to your investment plan in the face of the deluge of short-term focused financial news and its resulting short-term volatility.

So, if markets work, does that mean everyone should just buy the entire market and earn an average 10 percent long-run return? Absolutely not. Stay tuned for a future article which will describe in detail how to divide up or segment the markets along key dimensions of risk and return in order capture any one of a wide range of long-run market returns.

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Keeping it SIMPLE works just fine

MIND YOUR BUSINESS

BY KIRK G. AGUER

The Savings Incentive Match Plan for Employees of Small Businesses (SIMPLE) is a retirement plan designed to help employees working for small businesses save for retirement on a tax-favored basis, while allowing employers current-year tax deductions. A SIMPLE Plan may use a SIMPLE individual retirement account (a SIMPLE IRA) to receive plan contributions. Here are some questions and answers about the SIMPLE IRA retirement plan.

QUESTION: What is a SIMPLE IRA Retirement Plan and what are its advantages?

ANSWER: A SIMPLE IRA plan is a type of "salary reduction" retirement plan for small businesses. Due to its basic design features, it is not subject to the complex eligibility and nondiscrimination requirements associated with traditional 401(k) plans or Salary Reduction-Simplified Employee Pension Plans (SARSEPs). Administrative and other plan costs, therefore, are minimized.

Another advantage of SIMPLE IRA plans, from an employer's standpoint, is that SIMPLE IRA plans are not subject to

annual reporting and testing requirements. Also, the employer will not be subject to fiduciary liability resulting from an employee exercising control over the assets in the employee's SIMPLE IRA account.

QUESTION: Who can adopt a SIMPLE Plan?

ANSWER: Any employer who has 100 or fewer employees and who does not maintain another plan may adopt a SIMPLE IRA plan. Employees with compensation of \$5,000 or more in up to any two preceding years must be included in the SIMPLE IRA plan. The employer may be a corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship, tax-exempt organization, or a state or local government or agency.

QUESTION: How does a SIMPLE plan work?

ANSWER: A SIMPLE IRA plan allows employees to make pre-tax elective contributions to a SIMPLE IRA. Employee contributions may be any percentage (not over 100 percent) of total compensation (or net earned income) so long as the dollar amount contributed for any year does not exceed \$9,000 for 2004 and \$10,000 for 2005, plus any allowable catch-up contributions. That's subject to cost-of-living adjustments for later years. Under a sunset provision in the 2001 tax act, the enhanced limits will expire in 2011 unless Congress extends the act. Eligible employees who are at least age 50 by the last day of the

year may defer an additional \$1,500 for 2004, \$2,000 for 2005 and \$2,500 for 2006 and later years. Catch-up contributions are also subject to the sunset provision in the tax law discussed in the note above.

Also, employers must contribute to the employees' SIMPLE IRA accounts using one of two contribution formulas:

1. Under the matching contribution formula, employers are required to match employee contributions dollar-for-dollar up to 3 percent of each participating employee's compensation. A special rule allows employers to elect a lower percentage matching contribution rate but not less than 1 percent of each employee's compensation. Employers may not elect to use a percentage lower than 3 percent for more than two out of any five consecutive years.

2. Instead of making matching contributions, for any year, employers may select a non-elective contribution formula of 2 percent of compensation on behalf of each eligible employee regardless of whether the employee is making contributions. The employer may require that each such employee actually receive at least \$5,000 in compensation during the year to be eligible to receive this employer contribution. For this purpose, compensation taken into account may not exceed \$205,000, as indexed for inflation.

The employer must give written notice specifying the employer's contribution formula for a particular year to every eligible employee at least 60 days before the start of the year.

SIMPLE IRA contributions may only be made to a SIMPLE IRA account. Except for rollovers from other SIMPLE IRAs, no other contributions may be made.

QUESTION: Who is eligible to participate?

ANSWER: Generally, any employee who received at least \$5,000 in compensation during any two prior years, and who is reasonably expected to receive at least \$5,000 in compensation during the current year, is eligible to participate in a SIMPLE plan. An employer may elect more liberal eligibility rules. All SIMPLE contributions (employee and employer matching) are fully vested when made.

QUESTION: Can a SIMPLE IRA account be rolled over to an IRA?

ANSWER: If two years have passed since the employee first participated in the SIMPLE IRA plan, a SIMPLE IRA may be rolled over to a Traditional IRA on a tax-free basis. A SIMPLE IRA account may also be converted to a Roth IRA if the employee's modified adjusted gross income does not exceed \$100,000 and two years have passed since the employee first participated in the SIMPLE IRA plan. However, any future employee and employer contributions under the SIMPLE IRA Plan may only be made to a SIMPLE IRA account.

(To reach Kirk Aguer, call him at his MorganStanley office at (310) 319-5220.)

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INTERNATIONAL

Rumsfeld, Rice sent to Iraq

BY ROBERT BURNS

Associated Press Writer

BAGHDAD — President Bush dispatched America's top two foreign policy officials to Iraq on Wednesday in separate, surprise missions calculated to demonstrate a strong show of support for the country's emerging new government.

The top American commander in Iraq expressed optimism that Iraq's selection of top government leaders marked a major step toward creating conditions that could allow a substantial number of U.S. troops to leave in the months ahead.

"I'm still on my general timeline," Army Gen. George Casey told reporters after meeting with Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld, who arrived unannounced for a daylong series of meetings with top U.S. commanders and the newly selected Iraqi leaders.

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice flew in from Turkey a few hours later to shore up the U.S. show of support.

"We just want to make sure there are no seams between what we're doing politically and what we're doing militarily," Rice told reporters on her plane en route to Iraq. "Secretary Rumsfeld and I are going to be there together because a lot of the work that has to be done is at that juncture between political and military."

She and Rumsfeld huddled with the U.S. ambassador and other top U.S. military and civilian officials for lunch and then planned to meet jointly with the newly designated prime minister.

Rice scheduled a separate one-on-one meeting with him later.

Casey did not elaborate on his timeline for reducing U.S. forces, but he has said in the past that a "fairly substantial" reduction could be made this year if the insurgency did not grow worse and if Iraq made continued progress on the political and security training fronts.

Asked whether the breakthrough agreements last week-end to name Jawad al-Maliki as prime minister and to fill six other top government posts moves U.S. officials closer to implementing the expected troop reductions this year, Casey replied, "It certainly is a major step in the process."

He added that more needs to be accomplished on the political side, particularly in filling key government ministry jobs.

The Pentagon has not said when it expects to make decisions about further troop reductions. Casey had said late last year that he expected to submit his recommendation this spring.

"We are seeing the situation a little clearer, I'd say," as a result of the latest political progress, Casey said. "And the

clearer I see it the better I can make my recommendations."

Rumsfeld, who appeared with Casey before reporters, said one of the subjects they had discussed was engaging the emerging Iraqi government in talks on the future of military bases and the division of security responsibilities between American and Iraqi troops.

"There is no question but that as the new government is formed and the ministers are in place, that it's appropriate for us to begin discussions with the new government about the conditions on the ground and the pace at which we'll be able to turn over responsibility in the provinces," Rumsfeld said.

"I'm still on my general timeline."

GEORGE CASEY

Army General

Rumsfeld said the United Nations Security Council resolution that forms the legal basis for U.S. operations to stabilize and rebuild Iraq is to expire at the end of the year so there will have to be talks with the Iraqi government on arrangements beyond this year.

Alluding to recent calls by several retired generals for Rumsfeld to resign, a reporter asked the 73-year-old defense secretary whether this visit — his 12th — would be his last trip to Iraq as Pentagon chief.

He replied with one word, and no smile: "No."

U.S. officials have made clear their concern that the emerging Iraqi government place a high priority on disarming or otherwise controlling armed militias that are accused of sectarian violence.

Lt. Gen. Peter Chiarelli, the second-ranking U.S. general in Iraq, said in an interview with a small group of reporters that militias are an urgent threat to the country's stability.

"That to me is an issue we've got to get fixed," Chiarelli said.

Casey had said last year that if the insurgency did not worsen and the Iraqis remained on track toward establishing a government of national unity, then fairly substantial reductions in the U.S. troop presence were likely this spring and summer. So far, the total has been reduced only slightly, from about 138,000 to about 132,500 and no further cuts have been announced.

Rumsfeld's press secretary, Eric Ruff, told reporters aboard the defense secretary's overnight flight from Washington that Rumsfeld's trip was designed to convey Bush's encouragement at the latest steps toward putting in place Iraq's first fully constitutional government since the fall of the Saddam Hussein regime three years ago.

'Nothing Gringo' boycott is likened to 'shooting oneself in the foot'

NOTHING GRINGO, from page 1

Mexicans' refusal to "buy American" on May 1 could further polarize the debate and make reform supporters seem anti-American at the very moment that lobbyists are trying to persuade lawmakers in Washington to pass a bill that would benefit migrants, worries Larry Rubin, the chamber's president.

"This is like shooting oneself in the foot," Rubin said. "U.S. companies have been the first to lobby, launching a huge lobbying effort for immigration reform. ... Why hurt something that is helping you?"

Migrants and their supporters in the United States are being encouraged to skip work and school and not spend money for one day to demonstrate the migrants' importance to the U.S. economy.

South of the border, Mexicans are targeting American stores and chain restaurants — "That means no Dunkin' Donuts, no McDonald's, Burger King, Starbucks, Sears, Krispy Kreme or Wal-Mart," reads one e-mail making the rounds.

But even activists are confused about which companies are U.S.-owned. Sears is cited by boycott organizers, despite the fact that Sears' Mexico stores were bought by Mexican billionaire Carlos Slim in 1997. And few organizers mention Vips — the chain of ubiquitous Mexican diners — even though they are owned by Wal-Mart Stores Inc.

A quarter of Mexico's formal private-sector jobs with regular pay are provided by U.S. firms, according to the chamber, including Walmex, the Mexican Wal-Mart subsidiary that is the nation's biggest private employer with 140,000 workers. Delphi Corp., the U.S. auto parts maker, is second with 70,000 workers.

"Certainly, companies could be hurt," Rubin said at a news conference Wednesday.

The chamber represents more than 2,000 American and other foreign companies doing business in Mexico, and says its members are responsible for \$100 billion of investment in the country.

The companies say they're helping Mexico by providing jobs, but activists counter they pay so little that Mexicans have little choice but to head north.

Backers of the Mexican boycott insisted Wednesday that the protest could send a message that American companies should offer better pay and benefits to their Mexican workers.

"They continue to exploit Mexicans with badly paid jobs and no labor rights," said Roberto Vigil, who works in the Mexico City office of the California-based immigrants rights group Hermandad Mexicana. "They're kind of two-faced: they support, but they exploit."

Unskilled workers at U.S. companies usually start with Mexico's minimum wage of \$4.35 a day. While many earn more, such as seamstresses making an average of \$5.89 a day — even these wages pale in comparison to paychecks offered by the same companies north of the border, conceded the chamber's Humberto Banuelos.

A cashier at Subway (or "sandwich artist," as the company refers to them) earns about \$189 a month in Mexico City. In Colorado, Subway cashiers make four times that — \$824.

Companies also often hire workers for three-month periods to avoid paying health insurance or other benefits, activists say.

"Yes, we are aware that they are the largest employers in the Mexican republic, but they are paying crumbs," said Martha Suarez Cantu, coordinator of Alianza Braceroproa, a Mexican labor-rights group helping organize the boycott.

The only way to stem immigration is to narrow the income gap between the two countries, said Robert Pastor, director of the Center for North American Studies at American University in Washington. He pointed to the European Union, where migration slowed after heavy investment reduced the income gap in its poorer countries.

Washington does not invest directly in job creation in Mexico.

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Copperfield pulls a fast one

By The Associated Press

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — David Copperfield has magically escaped getting robbed.

The 49-year-old illusionist was walking with two female assistants to their tour bus after his show Sunday at a performing arts center when four teens pulled up in a black car, a police report said.

Two armed robbers allegedly got out of the car and demanded the group's belongings. One woman handed over \$400 from her pockets and the other gave up her purse with 200 euros, \$100, her passport, plane tickets and a cell phone. Copperfield refused to empty his pockets, the report said.

Copperfield says he turned his pockets inside out to reveal nothing in them, even though he was carrying his passport, wallet and cell phone.

"Call it reverse pickpocketing," Copperfield told The Palm Beach Post for Wednesday's editions.

Copperfield read the license plate number of the car to an assistant while she called 911, the report said.

Four teenagers were arrested and charged with armed robbery. They were held without bond, police said. The women's property was recovered.

LONDON — Kevin Costner was accused of performing an indecent act as he received a massage at a Scottish hotel, in a claim by a former spa worker filed with a British employment tribunal.

The 34-year-old woman claimed the actor exposed himself and carried out a sex act as she gave him the massage at the Old Course Hotel in Fife, Scotland, in October 2004, said papers filed with the tribunal.

Her allegations were not taken seriously by hotel staff, the papers said.

Tribunal chairman Nicol Hosie said the woman, who cannot be named for legal reasons, had agreed to settle her claim of unfair

dismissal and sexual discrimination out of court.

The tribunal, sitting in Dundee, Scotland, on Tuesday, did not consider whether her allegations were true.

"This was never about Kevin Costner. It is a dispute between a hotel and an ex-employee," the 51-year-old actor-director's spokesman, Paul Bloch, told reporters.

Hosie lifted a restriction that had been imposed to prevent Costner's identity from being revealed, saying there was no reason for it to be withheld from reporting.

An earlier hearing had been told Costner and his wife were staying at the hotel at the time of the alleged incident.

"It is the company's position not to comment on matters of litigation," said an Old Course Hotel spokesman, speaking on condition of anonymity, in a written statement. "The parties have settled this matter. The terms are confidential and undisclosed."

LOS ANGELES — Teri Hatcher suffered an eye injury when a light bulb exploded on the set of ABC's "Desperate Housewives," People magazine reported.

"Glass lodged in my right eye and proceeded to scratch my cornea," Hatcher was quoted as telling the magazine following Tuesday's accident. "I was taken to a wonderful eye doctor, and am now wearing a most glamorous eye patch over the right half of my face."

Hatcher, 41, said she should be back to work in two days and was trying to see the humor "in the oddity of it all."

The injury forced the actress to cancel her appearance at a Tuesday night party for the AmberWatch Foundation, which is dedicated to preventing child abduction and molestation. Hatcher is the group's new spokeswoman.

HONG KONG — Jackie Chan, whose character protects an infant from kidnappers in his new action comedy, wasn't happy with the

baby's performance as he finished filming at a Hong Kong prison.

"When it was time to film the first shot today the baby fell asleep," Chan, wearing prison stripes, grumbled to reporters Tuesday. "We spent so much money for the baby to sleep."

"Rob-B-Hood" is expected to open in Hong Kong later this year.

Chan said he is still recovering from a chest injury sustained last month when a stuntman kicked him with the wrong shoes.

ENTERTAINMENT

'United 93': Is America ready to relive Sept. 11?

BY DAVID GERMAIN

AP Movie Writer

LOS ANGELES — Hollywood is about to test your emotional fortitude with a simple, searing question: Are you ready to relive Sept. 11?

"United 93," the first big-screen dramatization about the terrorist attacks, is a painfully authentic and detailed account of the hijacked plane that crashed in rural Pennsylvania after passengers fought to retake the jet from hijackers.

The film is horrific, distressful, unbearable. It's the plane wreck you know is coming, yet in true Hollywood fashion, you hope for a different outcome even as you agonize over the climactic frenzy on board.

Like so many stories of Sept. 11, the film also offers rays of hope and resilience amid the terrible consequences.

As the five-year anniversary of Sept. 11 approaches, "United 93" and Oliver Stone's upcoming "World Trade Center" will help gauge whether audiences have the stomach for big-screen treatments of the tragedy.

"United 93" director Paul Greengrass acknowledges that some people may never be ready for films about Sept. 11.

Santa Monica Daily Press

MOVIEGUIDE

SHOWTIMES: THURSDAY, APRIL 27, 2006

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

American Dreamz (PG-13)
1:50, 4:30, 7:20, 10:00

Brick (R)
2:30, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30

The Sentinel (PG-13)
1:30, 4:05, 7:00, 9:40

Somersault (NR)
2:10, 5:00, 7:40, 10:15

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

Ice Age: The Meltdown (PG)
12:00, 2:30, 4:50, 7:20, 9:40

La Mujer de Mi Hermano (R)
12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:50, 10:20

Lucky Number Slevin (R)
11:40am, 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:30

Standing Still (R)
12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 10:00

Take the Lead (PG-13)
1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50

V for Vendetta (R)
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:10

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

The Benchwarmers (PG-13)
1:05, 3:15, 5:30, 7:40, 10:05

Inside Man (R)
1:00, 2:20, 3:50, 7:00, 8:10, 9:50

Scary Movie 4 (PG-13)
1:10, 2:45, 3:20, 5:00, 5:40, 7:10, 8:00, 9:40, 10:30

Silent Hill (R)
1:40, 4:30, 5:20, 7:30, 10:35

The Wild (G)
1:20, 3:30, 5:45, 7:50, 10:00

Nuwilshire Theatre
1314 Wilshire Blvd
(310) 281-8228

The Notorious Bettie Page (R)
12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

Thank You for Smoking (R)
11:45am, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:50

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

The Almost Guys (PG-13)
11:45am, 2:10, 4:45, 7:10, 9:35

Friends With Money (R)
12:45, 1:45, 3:00, 4:00, 5:20, 6:20, 7:40, 8:40, 10:00

Kinky Boots (PG-13)
11:45am, 2:20, 4:55, 7:30, 10:10

Information: calendar@smdp.com

MORE TODAY IN HISTORY

In 1805, during the First Barbary War, an American-led force of Marines and mercenaries captured the city of Derna, on the shores of Tripoli.

In 1822, the 18th president of the United States, Ulysses S. Grant, was born in Point Pleasant, Ohio.

In 1865, the steamer Sultana exploded on the Mississippi River near Memphis, Tenn., killing more than 1,400 Union prisoners of war.

In 1967, Expo '67 was officially opened in Montreal by Canadian Prime Minister Lester B. Pearson.

In 1973, during the Watergate scandal, Acting FBI Director L. Patrick Gray resigned.

In 1978, convicted Watergate defendant John D. Ehrlichman was released from an Arizona prison after serving 18 months.

The advertisement features a blue background with a large, stylized white and yellow diamond logo containing a drop shape. Below the logo, the text "LIQUID ICE ENERGY DRINK" is written in a bold, yellow, blocky font. To the right, the phrase "This Is No 'Bull'" is written in a large, red, cursive script. In the bottom right corner, there is a detailed illustration of a blue and silver can of Liquid Ice Energy Drink, showing the brand name and a small logo. At the bottom left, the text "If you're gonna play the game you're gonna need the energy" is written in a large, yellow, blocky font.

The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



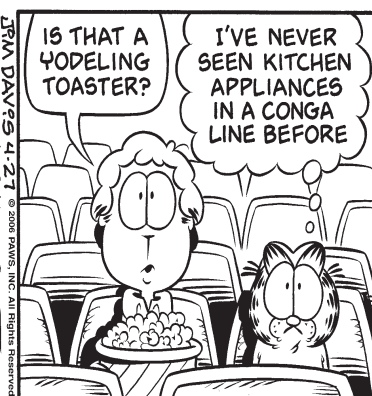
edge City

by TERRY & PATTY LABAN

"Ward...I think there's something wrong with the Beaver."



I LOVE ANIMATED MOVIES



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4-27

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Beauty
Salon

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SUMMER

THAT'S WHEN THINGS GOT UGLY.

- 1 Political alliance
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- 3 Egg outline
- 4 Handles
- 5 Increase
- 6 Early Mexican
- 7 Command to Spot
- 8 Ball point?
- 9 Important age
- 11 Barber-shop sight
- 15 Pool tools
- 17 Singer Jackson
- 18 Rational

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28 Yummy	38 Miniature

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: SYLVIA R. SEAVER CASE NO. SP006805

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of SYLVIA R. SEAVER.

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by TODD F. SADOW in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that TODD F. SADOW be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's WILL and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The WILL and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act with limited authority. (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 06/16/06 at 9:15AM in Dept. F located at 1725 Main St., Santa Monica, CA 90401

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting 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 person 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

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form is available from the court clerk. Attorney for Petitioner ALBERTO J. CAMPAIN 2029 CENTURY PARK EAST 21ST FL LOS ANGELES CA 90067 4/20, 4/21, 4/27/06 CNS-956133# SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS

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