

# Santa Monica Daily Press

April 29-30, 2006

A newspaper with issues

Volume 5, Issue 144

**DAILY LOTTERY**

**MEGA MILLION**  
16 29 32 36 55  
Meganumber: 12  
Jackpot: \$30M

**Super LOTTO**  
13 24 31 33 39  
Meganumber: 27  
Jackpot: \$16M

**Fantasy 5** 6 22 27 29 37

**DAILY 3** MIDDAY: 7 9 3  
EVENING: 5 8 2

**DAILY 5**  
1st: 10 Solid Gold  
2nd: 07 Eureka!!!  
3rd: 06 Whirl Win  
RACE TIME: 1:47.88

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site: <http://www.calottery.com>

**NEWS OF THE WEIRD**  
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

In February in Pattaya, Thailand, the woman who was the former Guinness Book recordholder for living in a cage with scorpions was married to the man who holds the equivalent record for time spent with centipedes, with consummation immediately afterward in a coffin. (Kanchana Ketkaew had stayed 32 days with 3,400 scorpions and Bunthawee Siengwong 28 days with 1,000 centipedes.)

## TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 119th day of 2006.  
There are 246 days left in the year.

■ On April 29, 1945, during World War II, American soldiers liberated the Dachau concentration camp; the same day, Adolf Hitler married Eva Braun and designated Admiral Karl Doenitz his successor.

■ In 1429, Joan of Arc entered the besieged city of Orleans to lead a victory over the English.

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## Coming 'round again

### Echo team shoots for Shanghai after second-place finish in '05

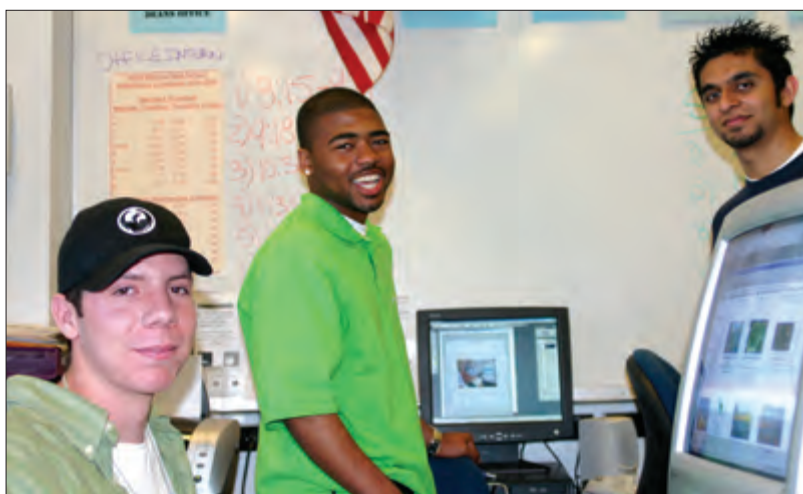
BY KEVIN HERRERA

Daily Press Staff Writer

**SAMOH** — This was the last place one would expect students to be during spring break, but there they were, eight budding entrepreneurs huddled together in front of a row of computers.

They could have been lounging at the beach or cruising the mall like many of their classmates, but the students enrolled in Santa Monica High School's entrepreneurship program Project Echo decided to spend the lion's share of their vacation preparing for today's SAGE competition in Chico, Calif., where students from across

See PROJECT ECHO, page 13



Kevin Herrera/Daily Press

A FAMILIAR RING: Project Echo members (left to right) Eric Burger, 18, Chris Peterson, 17, and Malik Moosa, 17, prepare for today's statewide competition pitting young entrepreneurs against each other.

## NATIONAL

## U.S. economy 'is cruising', reports show

BY JEANNINE AVERSA

AP Economics Writer

**WASHINGTON** — Popping out of a year-end rut, the economy zipped ahead at the fastest pace in 2 1/2 years during the first quarter of 2006 as consumers picked up spending and businesses regained their footing.

Inflation looked tame, too, though the latest figures didn't include last week's oil-price spike.

"The U.S. economy is cruising along now," said Bill Cheney, chief economist at John Hancock Financial Services, after Friday's latest report by the Commerce Department.

Gross domestic product

See ECONOMY, page 15

## Chip off the old block



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

Santa Monica Police Officer John Gallagher maneuvers his way through a cone pattern course at the Santa Monica Beach, testing his skills before the watchful eyes of SMPD Motor Officer David Enriquez, who coaches him along on Friday. Gallagher is preparing for an upcoming motorcycle training school.

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- Not Bank/CU guaranteed
- Not a deposit
- Not insured by any federal agency

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HOROSCOPES

Socialize away, Aries

Santa Monica Daily Press



JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS The stars show the kind of day you'll Have:

★★★★-Dynamic ★★★★★-Positive ★★★★★-Average ★★-So-so ★-Difficult



ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★★ Everyone wants to have a chat with the Ram. Right now your popularity punctuates your decisions. What you had planned for a project could change radically. Flow with opportunity. What a great time to get to know someone better! Tonight: Socialize away.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Your possessive streak emerges when dealing with a family member. You could be surprised at what someone you care about reveals. Your instincts and/or inner voice leads your actions. You might know more than you think. Tonight: Your treat.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ You finally have a level playing field. Plans you make might involve a special visit or happening. A friend has some fun news to share. Feel free to make happen what you would like. Tonight: What you want.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ You might want to take a back seat and do more observing than acting. Sometimes you need to rethink your thoughts with an eye to potential. You might want to clear the air with a special person in your life. Tonight: A long-overdue talk.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ Find your friends and make plans. Socialize and let go of problems. Understand what might be motivating others by sharing and talking more. Imagine what it might be like to be this person. Tonight: Where the action is.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Take charge and schedule a happening or family get-together. You intuitively seem to know what makes others happy. Check in with a special friend who might have some suggestions. Take time for yourself. Tonight: A must appearance.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ How you first saw someone could be very different from how you see him or her now. You might be able to walk in this person's shoes and understand his or her thinking and actions even better. Someone could be full of words but no action! Tonight: Where there is music.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Happiness surrounds a special relationship. Take time to relax and enjoy yourself with this special person. What is intended as a compliment triggers a complete conversation. You might be surprised by what you find out about this person. Tonight: Togetherness.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ Others run with the ball, but you are certainly included in their planning. Think positively about what is going on or what will happen. A conversation opens up feelings. Affections flow naturally. Tonight: Say yes to an invitation.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Finally, make time for a favorite hobby or pastime. Your ability to think outside the box or make a situation or project workable emerges. You need to consider an investment before you walk in. It could be a leaky faucet for your finances. Tonight: Easy does it.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ Your words have a nearly magical influence on others. Use them well. Create more fun and good times. Romance warms up the atmosphere for those who are open to it. Tonight: Let fun happen. Let the party begin.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Listen to what is going on behind the scenes. Evaluate what might be going on with a family member or domestic issue. You might need to spend some money in order to clear up a problem. Caring flows naturally. Tonight: Entertain at home.



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# LOCAL



## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Stay abreast of health during Expo

By Daily Press staff

Santa Monicans will have opportunities to learn more about health and fitness during an exhibition being organized by local health care organizations.

The Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce has announced the 24th Annual Health Festival, featuring exhibitors from all areas of healthcare. The event — sponsored by Los Angeles Orthopaedic Hospital, Saint John's Health Center, and Santa Monica — UCLA Medical Center — will be held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, April 29, on the parking lot on the Santa Monica Pier.

"This family-friendly event helps residents (be aware) of the latest in developments in health and fitness," said Jean McNeil Wyner, Health Festival chair. "Santa Monica is blessed with world-renowned hospitals and related health care businesses. This is their chance to give back to the community."

In addition to more than 40 participants, there will be a wide variety of health-care demonstrations and presentations as well as public safety information. The event will include: free blood pressure screenings, chair massage, body fat analysis, eye screening, postural analysis, face painting for kids, information on alternative directives, introductory pilates and self-defense training, health assessments, chiropractic and dental care, senior resources and samples of health care products.

### Auction aids Catholic scholarships

By Daily Press staff

A week-long Caribbean cruise on a fully-manned private yacht tops the program at St. Monica's scholarship dinner and auction this year.

The 13th annual St. Monica's Academic and Spiritual Heritage (SMASH) will be held Saturday, April 29 at the Ritz Carlton Hotel in Marina del Rey.

St. Monica parish community's parishioners and friends of the elementary and high schools are invited to the benefit.

The growth of the school endowment since the first SMASH has enabled St. Monica to distribute more than \$500,000 in tuition assistance over the last decade. This year, the endowment has provided more than \$100,000 in tuition assistance to more than 60 students.

Without the contributions made to SMASH each year, other students might not have the opportunity to receive a Catholic education that prepares them for college.

Other auction offerings include two-week trips to Oahu with airfare, a 25-foot Catalina sailboat, golf and spa/salon packages, dinners at various restaurants, tickets to sporting and theater events, as well as various collectibles.

There also will be a \$10,000 raffle drawing.

Ultimately, the success of the event rests on the collective effort of the committed parents, friends, and parishioners of St. Monica Parish Community.

The ticket price is \$125 per person. Tickets must be purchased in advance by check or credit card and submitted to "St. Monica SMASH," 725 California Ave., Santa Monica, CA 90403.

For more information about this year's SMASH dinner and auction, contact Diane Techam at [diane@stmonica.net](mailto:diane@stmonica.net) or (310) 566-1526.

### Parents pack punchlines

By Daily Press staff

It's said that to raise children, parents need a lot of qualities, including a sense of humor.

SMASH School and Jersey Girl Productions present "SMASH Comedy Night — Parents with Punchlines" at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, May 2, at Lula, 2720 Main St.

Listen and laugh with professional comedians as they discuss the insights and blunders of parenthood.

Tickets for the show are \$20 in advance at the SMASH office, 2525 Fifth St., or \$25 at the door.

Admission does not include food. Proceeds benefit SMASH educational programs.



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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    | BASE DEPTH  | LIFT HOURS        | RUNS OPEN | LIFTS OPEN |
|-------------|-------------|-------------------|-----------|------------|
| (24 Hrs) 0" | 180" - 204" | 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM | 100       | 14/28      |

CONDITIONS: MACHINE GROOMED, SPRING

##### MOUNTAIN HIGH

**CLOSED**

##### MT. BALDY

| NEW SNOW    | BASE DEPTH | LIFT HOURS        | RUNS OPEN | LIFTS OPEN |
|-------------|------------|-------------------|-----------|------------|
| (24 Hrs) 0" | 8" - 18"   | 9:00 AM - 4:30 PM | 20        | 3/4        |

CONDITIONS: MACHINE GROOMED, SPRING

##### SNOW SUMMIT

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

CONDITIONS: MACHINE GROOMED, HARD PACKED, SPRING, VARIABLE

##### SNOW VALLEY

**CLOSED**

#### SURF CONDITIONS

**WATER TEMP: 58°**

**SWELL FORECAST ( 2-4 FT )**  
TODAY SHOULD STILL HAVE SOME WAIST HIGH + SETS FROM THE SW'ER AS THE NW ENERGY REMAINS NIL.

**LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS**  
SIGNIFICANT SW BEING TRACKED FOR THE 5TH...

---

#### TIDE FORECAST FOR SANTA MONICA

| SATURDAY  |         |         |         |        |
|-----------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| LOW TIDE  | 5:20AM  | -1.17FT | 4:27PM  | 1.87FT |
| HIGH TIDE | 11:49AM | 3.67FT  | 10:46PM | 6.18FT |
| SUNDAY    |         |         |         |        |
| LOW TIDE  | 6:10AM  | -0.93FT | 5:01PM  | 2.31FT |
| HIGH TIDE | 12:52PM | 3.33FT  | 11:24PM | 5.77FT |
| MONDAY    |         |         |         |        |
| LOW TIDE  | 7:06AM  | -0.56FT | 5:36PM  | 2.7FT  |
| HIGH TIDE | N/A     | N/A     | 2:14PM  | 3.11FT |
| TUESDAY   |         |         |         |        |
| LOW TIDE  | 8:10AM  | -0.17FT | 6:24PM  | 3.05FT |
| HIGH TIDE | 12:07AM | 5.26FT  | 4:09PM  | 3.14FT |
| WEDNESDAY |         |         |         |        |
| LOW TIDE  | 9:23AM  | 0.15FT  | 10:51PM | 3.05FT |
| HIGH TIDE | 1:01AM  | 4.72FT  | 5:45PM  | 3.39FT |
| THURSDAY  |         |         |         |        |
| LOW TIDE  | 10:35AM | 0.33FT  | 10:51PM | 3.05FT |
| HIGH TIDE | 2:17AM  | 4.23FT  | 6:25PM  | 3.66FT |
| FRIDAY    |         |         |         |        |
| LOW TIDE  | 11:33AM | 0.44FT  | N/A     | N/A    |
| HIGH TIDE | 3:54AM  | 3.93FT  | 6:50PM  | 3.92FT |



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## THE Q-LINE RESPONSES ARE IN!

CHECK OUT THIS WEEK'S Q-LINE RESPONSES ON PAGES 4.



*invites you to a spring fundraising event!*

## Love Letters by A.R. Gurney

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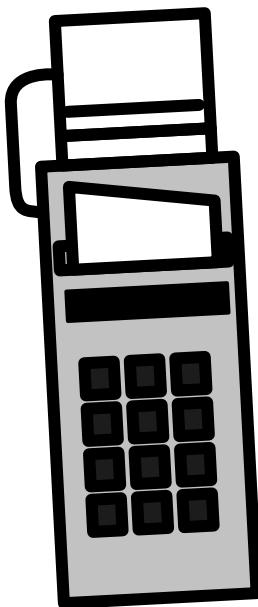
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## The Q-Line

### TAKING A PASS ON THE GAS

This past week, Q-line asked:

**"To what lengths will you go to save money when filling up your tanks — long lines, other neighborhoods, shun the car altogether?"**

Here are your responses:

© "I plan to drive slower to save on gas and to do less driving, walk more and take the bus more often. Also, I'm joining the national boycott, which is boycotting Exxon, until the price of gas goes down, and then boycott the next company on the boycott list, until their prices go down. And, of course, we all know this is one big contrived rip off."

© "I think that the oil companies continuing to gouge the American people with these outrageous gas prices while showing unprecedented and huge profits is totally unconscionable. During World War II, it would have been called profiteering, but since the administration is in bed with the oil companies, this is what we have, so there it is."

© "What to do is to drive less, walk more and use the bicycle more and laugh at all the idiots with their gas-guzzling SUVs. They are the ones who deserve to pay the high prices anyway. The best thing we can do is hope someone gets rid of Bush and Cheney and puts the oil companies under government control. It may cost money, but at least the profits would be going to the government and not the greedy corporations, because they don't deserve it."

© "Residing and working in Santa Monica, I found it easy to deal with the high gas prices. When prices went up past the \$2 a gallon, that was the last time I filled my gas tank. Now I walk everywhere, up to eight miles a day, and when needed, I use public transportation."

© "I have prudently budgeted my consumption of gasoline, since gasoline prices started its upward climb from 29 cents a gallon. I have eliminated all of my luxury driving and have refined the driving that I consider to be essential by combining as many destinations as possible on one trip. Also, I'm walking to nearby destinations or riding my bicycle. I also considered manufacturers' product coupons to be manna from heaven for those products I would normally purchase. The money I normally save on coupons goes toward the purchase of fuel. To quote Benjamin Franklin, 'A penny saved is a penny earned.' Still, the hardest entities hit are the non-essential businesses that the consumer will shy away from due to the obscene price

of gasoline, taking away the consumers' play money. It should also be noted that California has the highest price of gasoline, as much as 50 cents a gallon higher than other states. I also suspect that Californians have more need for automobile usage than other states. I sense the aroma of extortion. If a change for the better does not take place in the lowering of gasoline prices, then only those drivers who can afford to drive and those who are forced to drive, will be behind the wheel. E-mail, write or call those politicians in your area who are elected to let them know they are on thin ice in getting your vote the next time, if the gouging of the gasoline consumer is not stopped."

© "I think that people should be environmentally friendly, or just use diesel powered cars. I'm a disabled person and I can tell you, these streets need to be fixed up, so put the money where it really needs to be."

© "I gifted my car to charity in 2000 and I've been happy about that decision ever since. The Big Blue Bus is clean, safe, basically on time and a friendly environmental choice which I made consciously. It saves a ton of money and makes me feel good about my decision and I'm not feeling the brunt of this gas problem at all. I encourage everyone to donate their car to charity and get on the bus. I walk everywhere and I've had no problems purchasing everything I need. Walking and busing, try it you'll like it and you'll lose weight too."

© "Please tell me where does the auto club AAA come up with their estimate on prices of 31 cents higher now than at the same time just one year ago? I paid \$2.27 per gallon for the middle-grade gasoline at Chevron in the valley which was 30 cents less than in Santa Monica on New Year's Eve four months ago. Last week, I paid \$3.27, \$1 more, for the same middle-grade gasoline at Chevron in Santa Monica. And it is even higher this week. I only use my car when there is no alternative, when it is necessary to be at a specific location at a specific time."

© "It's a lesson in futility, knowing that the politicians are gloating with all the extra revenue from the taxes on the gasoline prices going higher."

# Porn likes it on top, ahead of 'industry'



## MODERN TIMES

BY LLOYD GARVER

Like it or not, in the next few years, you're probably going to be following the lead of the porn industry. I'm not talking about wearing high heels to bed or making noises like a wounded rhino. I'm talking about video technology. If you are into electronic home gadgets, you may already have a high definition television in your home. Now you're probably trying to decide which of the two formats for recording and playing HD DVDs you should buy. Toshiba has the HD DVD format and Sony has the Blu-Ray format. In the spirit of corporate stupidity, the two formats are not compatible, and based on the history of the Betamax versus VHS war, only one format will survive. The porn industry recently made a commitment to Blu-Ray, so mainstream movie companies will probably be closely behind them, so to speak.

Hollywood knows now that it would be foolish to ignore technologies used by the porn industry. Pornography customers were among the first to buy home video players so they could watch their porn on their own TVs. This was a much more comfortable environment than some seedy movie theater. Hollywood studios didn't pick up on this right away. In fact, some studios fought home video all the way to the Supreme Court before making it one of the most profitable aspects of their business. Adult entertainment fans were among the first to buy DVD players so they could watch their porn on DVDs rather than videotape. And when the mainstream studios were saying that nobody would watch movies on the Internet, the porn industry blazed the trail there, too. It's no coincidence that porn's adult entertainment expo runs at the same time and place as the largest U.S. technology fair, the consumer electronics show. Surprise, surprise, they're both held in Las Vegas.

Why does the porn industry have such an influence on the rest of the movie and video business? They have a huge audience, and porn fans will buy the latest equipment. In 2005, the porn business had sales of approximately \$12.6 billion. That means that not only is that creepy guy who

lives down the block a fan of porn, but so is that nice couple who live next door. So, when all those new HD DVD — or Blu-Ray — players are in the porn enthusiasts' homes, regular movie companies don't want to get caught with their pants down. They'll want to use a format that the vast porn audience will already be using.

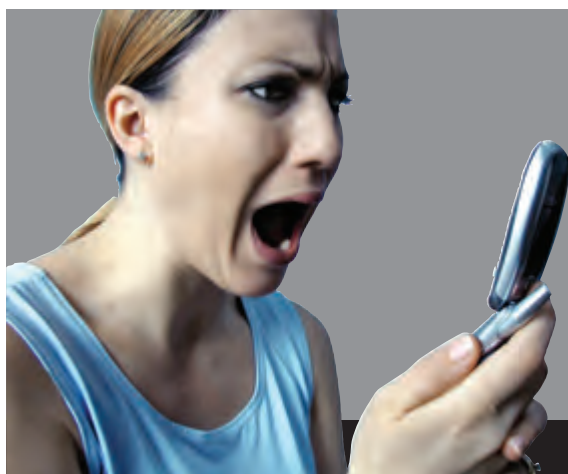
So, I guess the prudent thing for consumers to do is to wait. See if the porn industry really dictates the technology, and see which format survives before purchasing those expensive new machines that will be able to record and play HD DVDs on your TV.

But I'm not betting against the porn industry. It seems to get bigger and bigger each year, just like its stars. The industry releases about 11,000 videos on DVD each year. That's 11,000 different porn movies annually. Obviously, this far exceeds the number of "legitimate" movies that are released. Forgetting the commercial aspect for a moment and just thinking about the writing and producing of these movies, 11,000 is a staggering number. Are there really 11,000 different pornographic stories? Per year? How different can each of those 11,000 videos be? How many variations can those clever porn writers think of when it comes to, "Come on in. My husband's out of town?" Since stories are secondary in pornographic movies, could there possibly be 11,000 different positions? What are the other 10,977?

I don't have HD TV, but I've seen it in stores and at friends' houses. It's great, especially for sports and movies. But I'm not sure how it would enhance watching a porn video. Will it make the siliconed breasts look even more unreal? Is it going to make that motel wallpaper look any cheaper? Do you really need to see men with pale legs and black socks in high definition?

Apparently so. Both the adult and the tech companies are banking on viewers grabbing this technology faster than a porn star can take off her nurse's uniform.

(Lloyd Garver has written for many television shows, ranging from "Sesame Street" to "Family Ties" to "Frasier." He also has read many books, some of them in hardcover. He writes the "Modern Times" column for CBSnews.com's opinion page and a weekly column for SportsLine.com. He can be reached at [smdp@lloydgarver-moderntimes.com](mailto:smdp@lloydgarver-moderntimes.com).)



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STATE



# 9,000 nabbed in fugitive roundup

## ‘Operation Falcon’ dragnet targets sex offenders — ‘the worst of the worst’

BY MARK SHERMAN  
Associated Press Writer

**WASHINGTON** — Hundreds of California residents are among 9,037 fugitives arrested nationally in a weeklong roundup that focused on sex offenders, top law enforcement officials said Thursday.

The arrests were made as part of “Operation Falcon II,” a 27-state dragnet led by the U.S. Marshals Service and timed to coincide with National Victims Rights Week.

More than 1,100 of the fugitives nationally were wanted in connection with violent sex crimes, a group that Attorney General Alberto Gonzales has made a priority in his 15 months at the Justice Department. The operation “targeted the worst of the worst,” Gonzales said at a news conference at the Justice Department.

Among the 256 apprehended in the inland region that stretches from Bakersfield to the Oregon border was a murder suspect from Mexico living in Modesto who will be deported, said Antonio Amador, marshal for that district.

Four of the 256 were homicide suspects, 30 were suspected of sex crimes, 108 were wanted on drug charges and 49 for allegedly committing other violent crimes.

“As law enforcement knows, fugitives

generally have criminal records and continue to commit crimes,” Amador said at a Sacramento news conference. “In fact, 95 percent of those arrested had (previous) criminal records.”

Authorities in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties rounded up 262 fugitives, including two wanted on murder charges, 81 on drug charges, 59 on violent sex charges and 11 for allegedly failing to register as sex offenders.

Among the 262 was William Wisham, who authorities said failed to register as a sex offender when he moved to a motel in Victorville. Investigators found letters to children, notes explaining why he enjoys sex with children, child pornography, candy and methamphetamines, Marshal Adam Torres said in a statement.

Police are working to locate children listed in Wisham’s diary-style notes.

In the San Francisco Bay area, 146 fugitives were apprehended, including 23 charged with sex offenses and 44 with narcotics violations.

In San Diego and Imperial counties, 194 fugitives were caught, including five charged with murder, 124 with narcotics violations, six with violent sex offenses and five with failing to register as sex offenders.

Primo Montes was arrested April 18 in Escondido, 10 years to the day after he and another man allegedly raped and

molested a 14-year-old girl. Montes fled to Mexico before trial, but investigators staked out his pregnant wife’s home in Escondido after receiving a tip that he might visit.

In southern Nevada, 35 of the 100 people arrested were wanted on sex charges or for allegedly failing to register as sex offenders. A local task force also arrested two individuals wanted on murder charges, 39 on drug charges, 13 on assault charges and seven wanted on weapons charges.

Nationwide during the week of April 17-23, federal, state and local authorities arrested 1,102 people wanted for violent sex crimes or for failing to register as a sex offender after a prior conviction for sexual assault.

It was the largest number ever captured in a single law enforcement operation, the department said. The arrests were made mainly in states west of the Mississippi River.

The Marshals Service spent \$531,000 on the weeklong exercise, most of it to pay overtime to local and state police, said David Dimmitt, chief deputy U.S. Marshal. More than 2,100 officers from 786 federal, state and local law enforcement agencies took part.

Last year’s sweep netted more than 10,000 fugitives, 10 times the average in a week, but just 1 percent of the 1 million fugitives in the FBI’s national database. Marshals Director John Clark said there are a “few million fugitives” in the United States, most of them wanted on state and local charges.

Marshals arrested 35,500 federal fugitives for all the government budget year that ended Sept. 30. They worked with state and local authorities to nab another 44,000 people, according to the Marshals’ Web site.

ON THE NET

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## STATE

# Facing re-election, governor shifts warily

BY MICHAEL R. BLOOD

AP Political Writer

**LOS ANGELES** — Last year, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger backed a federal plan to build a stretch of border fence between San Diego and Tijuana. This week, he said walling off hundreds of miles of the California-Mexico border is a strategy from the Stone Age.

It's not the only example of his complex — and sometimes shifting — views on illegal immigration, an issue that has given rise to a national movement during his time in office.

California's governor certainly should have a role in the debate over leaky borders and the not-so-invisible illegal labor econ-

omy. The state has more illegal immigrants than any other — an estimated 2.4 million, more than the population of Nebraska.

And Schwarzenegger himself is one of America's most visible immigrants. He often talks of his immigrant history.

But his positions also reflect the state's immigration politics and the popularity-challenged governor's struggle to win a second term; a recent Field Poll found that just 36 percent of voters are inclined to re-elect the governor.

In the 1990s, he supported a ballot proposition to deny illegal immigrants many basic services, including public education and nonemergency health care. Today, Schwarzenegger says the fight over illegal immigration is at the borders, "not

in our schools and not in our hospitals."

Recently he stressed the economy needs "a free flow of people" to thrive; he also embraces the Minuteman patrol movement, which warns of a nation "plundered by the menace of tens of millions of invading illegal aliens."

The governor's "schizophrenic view" mirrors divisions among voters and within Schwarzenegger's own party, said independent pollster Mark DiCamillo. One statewide survey Thursday ranked immigration as the most important issue in the state, overshadowing even education.

"I think you will see a bigger than expected turnout among Latinos because of this one issue," said DiCamillo, noting that Latinos are the state's fastest-growing voting bloc.

As part of his campaign strategy, Schwarzenegger needs to lure Latinos, a traditionally Democratic-leaning group, but he also must consider Republican conservatives who want a border clampdown. And then there's the state's multibillion-dollar agriculture machine — a powerful political force which relies on a steady supply of low-priced labor.

Schwarzenegger has said he favors a temporary worker program, an approach the U.S. Senate has debated, but has said little about how such a plan should work. He does not support blanket amnesty, and thinks it's impractical to consider deporting millions of illegal immigrants.

Other border state governors have taken different steps.

Last year, New Mexico's Bill Richardson declared a state of emergency in border counties, letting him funnel state money to local governments and law enforcement. Texas Gov. Rick Perry has shifted state public-safety officers and equipment to provide more border security. Gov. Janet Napolitano signed an order in March to expand the Arizona National Guard's border presence to help with illegal immigration.

"There's a great deal of frustration in the Republican ranks right now about the fact that the Republican leadership — whether Arnold Schwarzenegger or George Bush — is not making it a priority to close the border to illegal immigration," said GOP consultant Karen Hanretty, a former chief spokeswoman for the state Republican Party.

Schwarzenegger spokeswoman Margita Thompson said the governor has laid out a consistent policy proposal on immigration, but stressed that ultimately it is Congress' job to hammer out details. The governor considers fences of use in some instances, she said, coupled with increased patrols and surveillance.

"He's ... doing everything he can to pressure the federal government to provide a comprehensive solution," she said.

The actor-governor came to the United States nearly four decades ago. He became a naturalized citizen in 1984, retaining his Austrian citizenship.

Once elected in 2003, Schwarzenegger inherited an issue that bedeviled governors before him. Shortly after taking office, he repealed new legislation enacted under his predecessor, Gov. Gray Davis, to give undocumented immigrants drivers' licenses.

The issue has particular importance for a moderate governor in a state where only about one in three voters is registered Republican.

A voter survey Thursday by the Public Policy Institute of California found that only two of 10 Latinos approve of the gov-

ernor's leadership. The governor won about a third of Hispanic voters in the 2003 recall election that put him in office, even though Lt. Gov. Cruz Bustamante, a Hispanic Democrat, was on the ballot.

This week, the governor has taken steps to make an impression with the Hispanic community. On Monday, Schwarzenegger made a point of publicly saying how troubled he was by threats against Bustamante and Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa. He has also endorsed the mayor's plan to take control of city schools, an issue that has strong appeal in Latino communities.

And yet his caution was evident in an appearance just days after a half-million people jammed Los Angeles streets to protest a threatened federal crackdown on illegal immigrants.

Schwarzenegger met dozens of Hispanic business leaders near Los Angeles, and talked at length about the state economy and small businesses.

He didn't say a word about the protest.

## STATE BRIEFS

### Going greased lightning

By The Associated Press

**RIVERSIDE** — A car that runs on leftover restaurant grease and gets 1,000 miles between fill-ups was demonstrated at the University of California, Riverside.

"It's 100 percent free transportation, that's the best thing about it," Ian Balcom said of the 2000 Volkswagen Jetta.

The modification allows the vehicle to switch between diesel and the more environmentally friendly vegetable oil.

Balcom gets his grease from local restaurants. It is filtered through the \$800 conversion system in his car.

With gas prices soaring, Balcom said he has saved nearly \$500 in fuel over the last six months.

Balcom gave a two-hour demonstration of the system Thursday. He belongs to Sustainable UCR, an on-campus environmental group.

### Sleepy bear mills about

By The Associated Press

**THOUSAND OAKS** — A bear that has roamed city hillsides for the past few days is probably hungry after a long winter sleep and shouldn't pose a danger unless provoked, authorities said.

The bear was sighted Wednesday and Thursday in the eastern area of town, including on a ridgeline in a gated neighborhood called North Ranch Country Club Estates. It also was spotted near Westlake High School.

Lou Miraglia said he looked out the window and saw the bear about 20 feet away, just beyond his patio.

"We looked at each other for three or four minutes," Miraglia said. "He was beautiful, had a great coat. It looked like it should have been in the zoo."

An effort to shoot it with tranquilizing darts failed because the animal wandered away before the tranquilizer arrived.

The bear may have wandered into town from the nearby Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area, said Troy Swauger, a state Fish and Game spokesman.

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# STATE



## The Minutemen contend mainstream found them

### Immigration marches provided unexpected recruitment tool

BY GILLIAN FLACCUS

Associated Press Writer

IRVINE, Calif. — Laurie Lisonbee worried about illegal immigration but figured it was somebody else's issue — until she saw hundreds of thousands of immigrants and their supporters marching across her TV screen.

Soon, Lisonbee had recruited several friends to attend a demonstration by the Minuteman Project, a volunteer group that patrols the border to keep out illegal immigrants. Now, the 51-year-old art professor checks the group's Web site daily and plans a summer trip to the Mexican border to help build a fence.

Minuteman organizers say this spring's marches have proved to be an unexpected recruitment tool for Americans who feel uneasy about the burgeoning immigration movement but may have considered the organization a pack of gun-toting vigilantes.

"We're not trying to be more mainstream — mainstream has found us," said Stephen Eichler, the group's executive director. "They're saying, 'These guys actually have teeth, they don't all chew tobacco, they don't all have a gun rack in the back of their truck.' They're saying, 'They believe what I believe,' and they're joining us."

Lisonbee, a registered Republican, said only one issue matters to her now.

"My vote will go to the candidate who's the toughest on immigration, whether they're Democrat or Republican," she said from her home in Orem, Utah. "Before, we were pretty much the types of people who would call our congressmen and not take to the streets. But that's all changed now."

The Minuteman Project first gained attention last year when Orange County resident and former tax accountant Jim Gilchrist helped lead its first 30-day patrol of the border in Arizona. The group has added mainstream political tools, including a network of local chapters and e-mail lobbying campaigns.

In December, Gilchrist, a former Republican, ran as a third-party candidate

in a special House election in Orange County, Calif., finished a respectable third with 25 percent of the vote.

Since this spring's huge pro-immigrant rallies, 300 people nationwide have applied to start local chapters, according to Eichler. The group's goal is 500 chapters by December and a membership of 1 million within 1 1/2 years, Eichler said.

Eichler claimed the organization's membership has climbed to more than 200,000.

But Heidi Beirich, deputy director of the Southern Poverty Law Center's Intelligence Project, which monitors the Minuteman Project for racist rhetoric, said that estimate appears to be ridiculously high. She offered no estimate of her own.

"At the border during this last outing, they had maybe 50 people. If they have 200,000 people, it doesn't seem right," she said.

Beirich also questioned the premise that pro-immigrant rallies will help the Minuteman Project. She said many recruits may attend one or two rallies, but leave after they discover what she called the group's extremist attitudes.

"They get in there and they're like, 'My God, I didn't sign on for this,'" she said.

In the coming weeks, the Minuteman Project plans to set out in a caravan from Los Angeles to Washington, with stops in 13 cities, including President Bush's vacation haven of Crawford, Texas. It is also raising money to build a private fence along parts of the California-Mexico border.

Increased security along the border is a popular idea on Capitol Hill, where the immigration debate will soon resume. How to treat the approximately 11 million illegal immigrants now here is where Congress splits — a House bill would criminalize the immigrants, a Senate bill would offer guest worker status and a potential path to citizenship.

David S. Meyer, a professor of sociology and political science at the University of California, Irvine, said the growing Minuteman movement has "stiffened the spine" of conservative politicians who might otherwise be wary of publicly identifying with the organization's views.

He said the recent workplace crack-down at a pallet manufacturer that resulted in 1,100 arrests at 40 U.S. sites was part of an attempt by the Bush administration to appease the Minuteman Project and its congressional supporters. Bush supports a guest worker program.

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## California subpoenas oil company records

By The Associated Press

**SACRAMENTO** — California will subpoena records from the state’s 21 oil refineries and a half-dozen major oil companies as part of an investigation into rapidly rising gasoline prices, Attorney General Bill Lockyer said Thursday.

ChevronTexaco, ExxonMobil, ConocoPhillips, Valero, Shell and BP officials will be required to provide financial details to prove their multibillion dollar profits aren’t from profiteering, Lockyer said.

“The companies and their CEOs keep telling us to avert our eyes from the profits and focus on their costs. But they want us to take their word on faith. They never provide the numbers, so we can see exactly how much of their skyrocketing margins are costs and how much are profits,” Lockyer said a statement.

Joe Sparano, president of the Western States Petroleum Association, which represents all the subpoenaed companies, said they routinely file public financial disclosures with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

“There have been countless investigations that have said there’s nothing wrong, there’s nothing illegal,” Sparano said. Thirty of those investigations have been in the last 20 years by attorneys general and the Federal Trade Commission, he said.

Lockyer said seven oil companies control 95 percent of the state’s refining capacity, and that profit margins are far greater than the national average.

# Oil on troubled waters

## Something appears to be broken in the economics of natural gas

**BY JEFF DONN**  
Associated Press Writer

**BOSTON** — On the brink of the 21st century, a group of energy experts peered into the future of natural gas, and what they saw was quite rosy — and quite wrong.

To satisfy growing demand, producers could crank out a third more natural gas over the next decade at “competitive prices.” It could “power our economy” for decades beyond. Or so said the National Petroleum Council in its 1999 report.

But natural gas prices soon headed skyward, with prices charged by producers spiking late last year at nearly five times 1999 levels. This past winter, though starting off warm, saw the average gas-heating household spend a record \$867, a 17 percent increase, according to federal data. As for that predicted robust supply, the country’s annual gas output has strangely slipped by 3 percent over the past six years.

Something is broken in the economics of natural gas, say people inside and outside the industry. The bright dream of an economy built squarely on clean-burning natural gas is slowly deflating. Although we still derive almost a quarter of the country’s energy from natural gas, its share will slip in coming decades, federal forecasters now say.

“What’s going on now is so dysfunction-

al, it is really remarkable,” says industry consultant Jim Choukas-Bradley.

Retired Yale economist Paul MacAvoy says price jerks and fuel crimps could soon rival California’s electricity nightmare of 2000-2001. “Everything that has gone wrong in electric power is going to go wrong with natural gas, unless we do something,” he says. “It’s just a few miles down the road.”

What went so wrong with natural gas? The industry largely blames old fields and self-defeating government policy, and such explanations are widely accepted. The trouble is, they don’t explain the breakdown very well.

Skeptics are beginning to suspect other powerful forces — ones at work within the industry itself.

**GAS PAINS**

Some consumers simply look to their gut and blame the industry.

After 26 years, retirees Anna and Frank Siracusa are selling their nine-room, gas-heated home in Methuen, Mass., for something smaller. At age 72, they’re tired of turning down the thermostat and piling on sweaters each winter.

“Someone is ripping us off,” grumbles Mrs. Siracusa.

The level of discontent even makes the industry nervous. “We’re good corporate

citizens. We’d like to have prices at a level where people and congressmen are not screaming all the time,” says R. Skip Horvath, president of the National Gas Supply Association.

Industry leaders say they’re trying to fix things, but declining gas fields and harder-to-reach new ones are limiting output. “You’ve got to drill more wells, you’ve got to run faster, just to replace what has declined,” says Bobby Shackouls, CEO of producer Burlington Resources and past chairman of the Petroleum Council.

While government policy turned less-polluting natural gas into the fuel of choice for new electric plants in the late 1990s, federal rules kept drillers away from vast stretches of public land, the industry complains. Then came last year’s hurricanes.

However, most drilling restrictions were imposed years ago and added no new impediments to output during the price run-up, say federal energy officials. And the hurricanes only added the latest insult to a market with much bigger, older injuries.

Also, other trends should have cooled off prices. Yes, gas-fired generators did use almost 1 trillion more cubic feet of

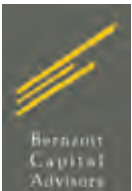
See NATURAL GAS, page 9



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# NATIONAL



## Gas pains on the rise

NATURAL GAS, from page 8

natural gas last year than in 1999. But at the same time, factories cut back, using almost 1.5 trillion less, federal data show.

The country is not running out either. There's enough natural gas to last beyond 65 years — much longer than oil, according to the best forecasts.

Despite the federal barriers to drilling, the amount of economical, ready-to-capture gas — under existing wells within reach of pipelines — rose 15 percent during the four years ending in 2004, according to the latest federal data. The American Gas Association, a group of utilities, has made a preliminary estimate of another 4 percent rise last year.

"There's a lot of natural gas in the world," says Jerry Langdon, an executive at producer and marketer Reliant Energy.

Why, then, isn't it reaching users?

Despite their protests, maybe some producers aren't really trying, industry critics suspect. Maybe they're happy to take it easy and rake in record yearly profits. Many natural gas producers are the same companies benefiting from rocketing gasoline prices in recent years — familiar petroleum names like Exxon Mobil, Chevron, Shell and BP.

Drivers, of course, can respond immediately to high prices by traveling less. It's harder for people to turn down their natural-gas heat. "As soon as companies that control the resource figure out how to keep prices high, they'll do it, and I believe that's what were seeing in gas," says Ezra Hausman, analyst for Synapse Energy Economics in Cambridge, Mass.

Some Midwestern cities are accusing producers of doing it by collusion. In an antitrust lawsuit, they suggest that producers have reached either a secret agreement or tacit understanding to bottle up production.

"I think the increase in prices is a designed thing," says Charles Wheatley, a lawyer for the 18 communities from Texas to Indiana suing five leading gas producers in federal court.

They haven't found a smoking gun proving that. Yet, in Associated Press interviews, some industry executives acknowledge that, during their 1999 sessions, members of the Petroleum Council talked privately of a supply and price crunch in the near future — purportedly as a result of external factors.

Why, then, didn't they warn people? Former council leaders indicated that they wanted to keep pressure on demand. "We needed to give comfort to our customers that gas was going to be available," says Joe Foster, a retired gas executive who was council chairman in 1999.

Shackouls, his successor, puts it this way: "We were doing it to grease our own wheels."

In the end, the council issued its reasserting report, and demand stayed strong.

On the other hand, industry leaders insist that collusion to sit on supplies cannot happen. After all, the five leading producers supply less than a fifth of domestic natural gas. So if they were to charge unjustifiable prices, smaller ones could undersell them, right?

Maybe not, if producers are more unified than they seem. Many small producers own rights, not rigs. They take a back seat to bigger companies that actually do the drilling under joint ventures, shared leases and royalty agreements.

Former federal energy regulator John Wilson estimates that the five producers named in the antitrust lawsuit can influence most domestic output through such

arrangements, without changing their official production figures.

"Prices have stayed up because people in control of supply decided they could keep them up," says Wilson, who has supported the lawsuit with his analysis.

"That's not how we operate," answers Bob Davis, a spokesman for lead defendant Exxon Mobil Corp. "This concept ... is simply ridiculous."

And ridiculous it would have been a generation ago, when government regulators set prices across the whole marketplace.

Since the 1990s, the marketplace itself has increasingly set producer and pipeline prices under pressure from new hordes of traders, many betting on the future prices of natural gas. In theory, traders would enable better deals through the magic wand of competition. And the theory seemed sound in the first years of market pricing, when supplies were robust.

**"I think it is very difficult, if not impossible, to foster truly competitive markets when you're dealing with energy."**

**TYSON SLOCUM**  
Consumer advocate  
Public Citizen

During the production-pricing bind, though, something else appears to have happened. Conditioned by an irrepressible string of price increases, futures traders — who contract for future gas deliveries at fixed prices — tend to settle at even higher fixed prices, many analysts believe. Since the market uses these fixed prices as a reference point for its day-to-day prices, overestimates by traders can turn into self-fulfilling prophecies.

"One thing that's out there that I think is a bit of a negative is: Traders love volatility," says Reliant Energy's Langdon, who once worked for a predecessor to disgraced energy trader Enron.

Middleman traders — also children of deregulation — now sell much of the gas, taking their cut without producing or transporting it. They were supposed to bring better deals to buyers, but not everyone's so sure they do — even setting aside outright market manipulations blamed on traders like Enron in recent years.

"I sometimes wonder if these are the prices that would really be arrived at, if the user of the gas was dealing with the producer of the gas," muses Foster, the former Petroleum Council chairman.

Others harbor deeper doubts. Is real competition possible, they wonder, for a product that buyers absolutely need? They're not like shoppers, after all, who can simply shift to a cheaper product on the store shelf — maybe apples instead of peaches.

"I think it is very difficult, if not impossible, to foster truly competitive markets when you're dealing with energy," says Tyson Slocum, a consumer advocate at Public Citizen.

At six-years-and-counting, you might think supply has to expand to meet demand before long. Yet there's little sign of it yet. The industry's supply group warns of more upward pull on prices.

Even the administration of President Bush, a former oilman, hasn't come close to opening enough federal land to drilling and stripping away enough bureaucracy from permits, the industry complains.

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## NATIONAL

# Colorado mine a national laboratory finalist

BY JON SARCHE  
Associated Press Writer

**DENVER** — A far-flung group of scientists, government officials and a mining company are working to help the United

States accomplish something Albert Einstein himself struggled with over the last 30 years of his life: develop a theory to account for all the forces of nature.

The group is looking to the Colorado Rockies — deep inside a working molybde-

num mine west of Denver — as a possible site for a new laboratory that would house experiments thousands of feet under Harrison Mountain.

If everything works as planned, the work could include a search for a “grand unified theory,” said group leader Chang Kee Jung, a particle physicist at Stony Brook University in New York.

The Henderson Mine, about 60 miles west of Denver near the base of Berthoud Pass, and the shuttered Homestake gold mine near Lead, S.D., are the finalists for the \$300 million Deep Underground Science and Engineering Laboratory that will be run by the National Science Foundation.

Jung said the lab would help restore the United States’ status as a world leader in particle physics after years of seeing top scientists join labs in Europe and Japan.

“I came here to be a leader, to be involved in pioneering and cutting-edge experiments,” he said. “We really need to do something in the U.S. to get that leadership back and do something exciting.”

Jung and others believe Henderson is an ideal spot. It’s a short drive, mostly on Interstate 70, from Denver International Airport and the amenities and other services of Denver. Brief car rides also could bring scientists to the University of Colorado, the Colorado School of Mines or Colorado State University, all partners in the proposal.

Among other things, the lab will house experiments in geology, microbiology and other disciplines. Jung’s group and a similar group promoting the Homestake mine each received \$500,000 from the agency to conduct tests and develop detailed proposals to build laboratories deep underground, insulated from cosmic rays that would contaminate certain experiments.

Those proposals are due June 23. After a site is selected, Congress and the president would have to approve funding before construction can begin. Jung said the earliest that could happen here would be 2009.

Jung hopes the lab someday could include highly sensitive particle detectors that would gather information on some of the fundamental building blocks of matter. That would cost an additional \$500 million and require separate approval, Jung said.

Backers of the South Dakota mine tout qualities including its depth, with shafts sinking to 8,000 feet. The mine already has scientific credentials: a University of

Pennsylvania researcher was a co-winner of the 2002 Nobel Prize for physics after using the mine to house equipment to detect neutrinos, tiny particles that provide valuable insight into how stars work.

But the Canadian mining company slated to donate the mine to the state of South Dakota shut down its pumps in 2003, allowing deeper areas of the mine to fill with water. Officials said the water has not risen to the 4,850-foot level, where backers hope to build an interim laboratory that would be the deepest in the United States and the second deepest in the world.

If the national lab is built at Homestake, it would include a lab area 7,400 feet below the surface.

Besides its proximity to Denver and three universities, Henderson’s supporters point out the mine has an industrial-strength lift that can carry up to 50 tons of material, that no new environmental permits would be needed for excavation and that the Phelps Dodge Corp. mining company is backing the project.

“You may call it subjective, but it isn’t,” Jung said. “It’s really a no-brainer.”

The mine is owned by a subsidiary of Phelps Dodge, which is expected to halt mining there in about 20 years.

“We have a responsibility to plan for the long-term use of the property there and a life after mining,” company spokesman Ken Vaughn said. “If this project can be developed concurrently with mining but have a life extending beyond mining, providing jobs and economic stimulation and also making good use of the property, that’s something we look at with all our properties.”

At Henderson, the laboratory would have three campuses. The upper campus, which would use existing mine openings, would have facilities about 4,000 feet below the surface. New excavation would be necessary for the central campus at 5,550 feet deep and the lower campus would be about 7,400 feet deep.

The labs would be isolated from the mining operations, all of which occur under adjacent Red Mountain. New shafts and ramps would be bored between the sites to connect the mine to the laboratory, which would include offices and dormitories on the surface.

## ON THE NET

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# A reluctant Council approves trash hikes

RUBBISH, from page 1

financial flexibility in the event of an emergency or dramatic fluctuation in expenses, such as the recent spike in the price of fuel.

While some councilmembers were hesitant to set the new rates without first addressing residents' concerns over subsidizing commercial trash hauling, the officials unanimously voted in favor of the 7-percent hike, giving analysts in City Hall the numbers they need to draft a budget in time for discussion in late May.

To ease some of their concerns, City Manager Lamont Ewell promised councilmembers his staff would prepare a detailed timeline for the restructuring of rates.

Ewell also said the council could adopt different rates when it approves the final budget for 2006-07, but only if the changes did not affect total revenue collected. If that were the case, the entire budget would need to be revised.

It is expected that the 7-percent increase will stand.

"I don't disagree that the current system is inequitable," Ewell said. "I'm only suggesting that during the (budget) workshops (in May, the council) have staff come back in a specified period of time with a more equitable rate structure."

Ewell said he hoped to have suggestions for a new rate structure by late summer.

Councilmembers Ken Genser and Kevin McKeown voiced the strongest concerns with increasing rates above 5 percent for inflation, suggesting that the public would not be pleased with a rate

hike if the council did not have a set schedule for looking into the revision of rates so that commercial collection is no longer subsidized.

"We are asking the residents of the city to shoulder increased bills at a time when we don't know exactly when the next step is, and at a time when our residents are subsidizing the business collection," McKeown said. "I know the reasons for that. I want business collection to include recycling and the other services that we do."

"Residents need to know where we are going before we ask for much more money."

It is believed that multi-family homes are subsidizing commercial to a tune of almost \$1 million a year, according to a report City Hall's consultant on trash hauling, Gershman, Brickner & Bratton Inc., or GBB.

In the coming weeks, the council will sit down with GBB and discuss a new rate structure, along with implementing improvements in efficiency to save money, and the possible franchising of commercial service to private trash haulers, which would bring in more money but may not require other services, such as recycling, be provided.

Mayor Bob Holbrook said he was concerned about the rate increase in light of the need to restructure rates, but supported the 7-percent hike because he didn't want reserves to "be paper thin."

The new rates should provide a reserve

See RUBBISH, page 14

## The sound and the fury



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

Tim Dillenbeck, 54, also known as the 'Bubble Man,' performs for a youngster on the Santa Monica Pier. Following a stay-away order, and then a plea bargain last week on multiple charges of illegal camping, Dillenbeck is back in business. The former sound technician for arena rock bands was ordered to serve three years summary probation.



## In Loving Memory of Alan Schultz

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# Entrepreneurs test their mettle for tickets to NYC

PROJECT ECHO, from page 1

the state present business plans with the hope of being crowned the world's brightest entrepreneurs.

"We're really anxious to get up there and do something big; put Samohi on the map," said Project Echo student Doug Monroy, 18, as he and his teammates last week put the finishing touches on their business portfolio and presentation. "We won second place last year, but we were so close to winning that we have high hopes of taking the prize home this year."

If Project Echo students pull out a victory, they will not only win \$4,000, they'll also go on to the national competition in New York City in May. If they win there, they'll then fly to Shanghai in August, where they will compete in the SAGE World Cup.

"We really want to go to China. That would be incredible," said student Chris Peterson, 17.

SAGE, which stands for Students for the Advancement of Global Entrepreneurship, is an international network that links secondary school student organizations to mentors from local universities and businesses. Its purpose is to advance global entrepreneurship in an ethical and socially-responsible manner.

Project Echo has similar goals in mind. But instead of just learning how to write a

## Bristling at the thought of it



Fabian Lewkowicz/Santa Monica Daily Press

David Jackson, 50, a machinist for Engler Brothers Auto Parts on Pico Boulevard, paints over graffiti that was painted on the building recently. Several other neighboring buildings were also tagged.

business plan, students put their newly-acquired knowledge to use by operating their own businesses, such as a cafe on campus, or selling cookies to raise money for the victims of Hurricane Katrina.

Starting next school year, Vike's — a soup, salad and sandwich bar on campus — will feature a low-calorie menu offering 100 percent fruit juices with no added sugar.

"It's pretty intense," Peterson said of

Project Echo's curriculum and requirements, which include spending a minimum of 47 hours outside of class working

See PROJECT ECHO, page 14

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# Young business program serves up success

PROJECT ECHO, from page 13

on environmental and community service projects, among others. "But if you have that motivation and desire, this class is for you. Instead of just sitting in a classroom all day, you're getting practical, hands-on experience, which has helped me become confident in what I want to do in life — running my own business."

Project Echo was founded in 1995, but the ball really didn't start rolling until the following year, when students opened up a cafe on campus and non profits began donating time and money to the project, said Teri Jones, Project Echo Instructor.

"We've grown tremendously over the years," Jones said of the class. "When we started out we had about 40 students. Now we have closer to 75 students, with the capacity to serve 90."

Jones said before the students took over operation of the student store, total sales reached \$20,000. This year, Project Echo expects to gross over \$125,000, and the student-run cafe, which sells only caffeine-free drinks, has

tripled in sales since students took over management.

"Beyond that, the entrepreneurship program has increased student empowerment, self-esteem and school spirit throughout the entire campus, as well as linked students to a strong curriculum in entrepreneurship. As a teacher, I have seen their level of enthusiasm for school rise along with their confidence and their ability to recognize how academics play in their lives."

Having worked out a profit-sharing agreement with the school district, students who participate in Project Echo can also earn a scholarship for college. Anita Kemp, a Project Echo instructor, said the school is able to give away up to \$10,000 a year in scholarships to Echo students who apply.

Those who have been through the course say it has changed their lives dramatically. Former students like Zehra Karim, 19, often find time to come back to campus to help younger students.

"In school you learn how to add and subtract, but here you have to apply it. It's completely different than anything out there," said Karim, a student at Santa Monica

**"You can't just go up there and say 'That was bomb.'"**

**TERI JONES**  
Project Echo Instructor

College who is transferring to USC in the fall. "It's really amazing. You learn life-long skills, patience, teamwork and how to deal with a crisis. They are basic, but crucial skills."

Angelina Resendez, 17, a Project Echo student, said she discovered a newfound appreciation for those working behind the counter of her favorite restaurants after having spent a semester managing the campus cafe.

"I started out working at the student store and then I moved up to cafe manager, where I learned how to handle money, take inventory, make sure no one is coming up short at their registers," Resendez said. "It was a lot of work, but it was fun. You get to learn first-hand about finances, marketing. I recommend this not just for those who want to go into business when they graduate, but really for everybody."

Jones said the SAGE competition is an extension of Echo in that it forces students to use all of the skills they've learned during the course, as well as those they've picked up in other classes, such as how to use proper grammar.

"You can't just go up there and say 'That was bomb,'" Jones said. "They have to sit down and do the math, do the research, and they have. They've gone well above and beyond. They are doing all this on their own. Every single student has taken the time from their spring break to come in here and work sometimes 8 or 10 hours a day preparing for SAGE, and I think they are doing a great job."

## Higher collection fees include rainy day fund

RUBBISH, from page 12

slightly higher than \$500,000 next year, decreasing to \$400,000 in fiscal year 2007-08, and be fully exhausted by 2009, according to a city staff report. The reserve would be minimal, but allow for a little flexibility, said Craig Perkins, director of environmental and public works management.

Perkins recommended an 8-percent increase to provide for an operating reserve of \$650,000 the first year, and \$700,000 in 2008, which would start to build the indus-

try-recommended three-month reserve — \$4.5 million — while further review of the trash hauling system is completed.

To balance all rates and ensure services are covered by revenues, GBB said the council could raise single-family rates by 12 percent, lower multi-family rates by 13 percent, and raise commercial rates by 20 percent.

However, since the city is in competition with other trash haulers for commercial business, consultants said raising the rate by 20 percent would lead to a loss in customers.

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## NATIONAL



# The Mormon Tabernacle Choir marks 4,000th radio broadcast

BY JENNIFER DOBNER

Associated Press Writer

**SALT LAKE CITY** — When music director Craig Jessop raises his baton this Sunday morning to direct the famous Mormon Tabernacle Choir, it won't be just another broadcast of the weekly program "Music and the Spoken Word."

It will be the 4,000th broadcast of the half-hour devotional — a milestone in radio broadcasting history.

"It's a very impressive number," said Steve Jajkowski, the former deputy director of the Museum of Broadcast Communications archives in Chicago. "Not only the length, but to stay on that kind of media when everybody's gone to television, there's no doubt there's an audience for them."

The Emmy Award-winning choir may be the best-known facet of the Salt Lake City-based Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. First formed in 1847 during the Mormon's trek across the plains to settle Salt Lake City, the 360-member choir has since performed around the world and earned a reputation as one of the finest chorale groups.

The group has produced more than 150 recordings (among them five gold and two platinum records), performed in 28 countries and sung for 10 presidents and at the 2002 Olympic Winter Games.

The choir's weekly Sunday program first aired July 15, 1929, on a single Salt Lake radio station and has continued without interruption. It now airs on more than 2,000 radio stations around the world. Only Nashville's Grand Ole Opry, claims a longer broadcast history. That program will mark its 4,191st airing this weekend, Opry spokeswoman Darlene Beiber said.

But there's no comparison when it comes to the appeal of the Tabernacle Choir, choir general manager Scott L. Barrick said. Program ratings data show "Music and the Spoken Word" is the most popular devotional program in every age demographic.

"It's just a great honor to be a part of this ongoing tradition of hope and inspiration and faith," said Jessop, who began his choir career as a singer in 1973 and became its music director in seven years ago.

Jessop and a writer's team that includes Lloyd D. Newell, who performs the "spoken word" portion of each broadcast, plan out each 30-minute program about eight weeks in advance. The group chooses a theme and then Jessop works to find the right music to harmonize with the message. Sometimes the themes are tied to world events,

such as the bombing of Pearl Harbor in 1941 or the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks on the World Trade Center, Jessop said.

The desired result is a combined nondenominational message that crosses all demographic and religious lines. Hundreds of letters of praise that pour into church offices each year prove the choir hits the mark, Barrick said.

"We had a letter from a woman that said 'When it comes to religion, I'm as Lutheran as they come, but when it comes to music, I'm all Mormon Tabernacle Choir,'" Barrick said.

**"It's just a great honor to be  
a part of this ongoing tradition  
of hope and inspiration and faith."**

**CRAIG JESSOP**  
Music Director

Among the choir's fans is CBS radio newsman Charles Osgood has been a frequent guest master of ceremonies at choir performances and likens the experience to "floating on clouds."

"I think the Mormon Tabernacle Choir is as great as it is because it's become it's a labor of love," Osgood said Thursday in an interview from New York. "They love what they do. (Choir membership) comes from some special places in their lives, and it's such a privilege to be involved with that kind of music making."

Choir members, who can serve no more than 20 years, are all volunteers who devote countless hours to rehearsals and performances. It's a commitment Osgood said is as unparalleled as a run of 4,000 radio broadcasts.

"That's a number that in broadcasting is unimaginable," said Osgood, who taped a congratulatory message to the choir that will air during Sunday's broadcast.

Osgood won't be the only one lauding the choir during the broadcast. Church President Gordon B. Hinckley has also taped a segment, as has U.S. Sen. Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, and Gov. Jon Huntsman, who on Thursday signed a declaration making April 30 "Mormon Tabernacle Choir Day."

The 4,000th program will also reach back through history, with music from the original broadcast — "The Morning Breaks," a traditional Mormon hymn sung by the choir and an organ solo, "Pilgrim's Chorus," from an opera by German composer Richard Wagner.

## First quarter showing is best since 2003

ECONOMY, from page 1

advanced at a 4.8 percent pace in the January-to-March quarter. That marked a rebound from the feeble 1.7 percent rate in the final quarter of 2005, when fallout from the Gulf Coast hurricanes, including high energy prices, prompted people and companies to tighten their belts.

GDP measures the value of all goods and services produced within the United States and is considered the best barometer of the economy's fitness.

"This rapid growth is another sign that our economy is on the fast track," said President Bush.

Recent growth hasn't helped Bush's standing with the public. He is shouldering his lowest-ever job approval rating, at 36 percent, according to an AP-Ipsos poll.

Democrats contend that the economic expansion isn't benefiting all. "This growth is showing up in the bottom lines of companies, but not in the paychecks of workers," said Sen. Jack Reed, D-R.I.

On Wall Street, the Dow Jones industrials declined 15.37 points due to a tepid outlook from software company Microsoft Corp.

The first quarter's performance — the best showing since the third quarter of 2003 — was close to economists' forecasts of a 4.9 percent growth rate.

Even with the economy motoring ahead, inflation moderated.

An inflation gauge closely watched by the Federal Reserve showed that core prices — excluding food and energy — rose

by 2 percent, down from 2.4 percent in the fourth quarter.

The inflation reading, however, was taken before oil prices zoomed to a record high of more than \$75 a barrel last week. Although prices have retreated since then, they remain high.

A separate report from the Labor Department suggested that the strengthening job market isn't fanning inflation. Employers' cost to hire and retain workers — wages and benefits — rose by 0.6 percent in the first quarter, the slowest pace in seven years. That mostly reflected less generous benefits.

While the slower growth in compensation packages heartened economists, it isn't necessarily welcome news for workers. "People's wages are going up, but they are not keeping up with inflation," said Stuart Hoffman, chief economist at PNC Financial Services Group.

To keep inflation at bay, the Federal Reserve is expected to boost interest rates again at its May 10 meeting, which would mark the 16th increase since June 2004. But after that, the central bank could take a break — perhaps temporarily — in its 2-year-old rate raising campaign, Fed Chairman Ben Bernanke suggested Thursday.

Bernanke and other Fed policymakers indicated they don't want to hurt economic activity by pushing rates up too high.

In the first quarter, consumers — critical players in the shape of the overall economy — got their spending back in a more-normal groove. They boosted spending at a brisk rate of 5.5 percent, compared with paltry 0.9 percent pace in the fourth quarter.

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# Arizona jeep tours denting nature

BY MARK SHAFFER  
Associated Press Writer

PHOENIX — They roar through the ravines and mesas of some of Arizona’s most beautiful country, hundreds of tour jeeps carrying nearly 350,000 tourists annually.

But the tours are becoming so popular that they are not only threatening the solitude of the high country, but also the environment. “It’s hard to believe that this area has been used for spiritual renewal, given all the din now,” said Dianne Leibensperge, who lives in the upscale Broken Arrow neighborhood of Sedona, on the main thoroughfare to the vistas. She said the neighborhood has a carnival atmosphere and the jeeps have put hip-deep ruts in nearby roads.

As the state’s estimated \$15 million-a-year jeep-tour industry pits residents against operators, Forest Service planners are caught in the middle, trying to balance environmental concerns with the rights of businesses in Sedona and beyond.

One company, Safari Jeep Tours, recently announced its intent to expand to nearby Jerome and was greeted by a veritable lynch mob in the form of the Town Council.

The company finally received a business license from the former mining town

after threats of a lawsuit, but Jerome residents are urging Prescott National Forest officials to deny Safari a permit to operate on nearby Mingus Mountain.

A second jeep company has looked into Jerome and filed for a business license, Town Clerk Al Palmieri said.

In Sedona, Coconino National Forest officials are faced with devising a management plan for the next 10 years while also weighing the motoring desires of 4 million annual visitors. Draft environmental-impact studies are expected to be completed by May for an outfitters management plan for the Red Rocks area, and final plans are expected by the end of the year.

“I’m very concerned about how all of this is going to turn out,” Sedona Mayor Susan Solomon said. “Some say don’t let any of the tours go in, but it is federal land, and people should be able to experience it. But it also has to be managed very carefully.”

For years, Sedona company Pink Jeeps pretty much had the run of the colorful country to itself. The jeep tours were an outgrowth of real estate agents showing off the area to potential buyers, beginning in the late 1950s.

The tours were fairly subdued until a hotel boom in Sedona in the mid-1980s. Hotel owners wanted diversions for their visitors.

Bill Stafford, recreation staff officer for the Coconino National Forest, said the number of jeep tourists jumped from 17,000 to 87,000 in 1988 alone.

In the late 1990s, rival entrepreneurs challenged the cozy relationship that the established tour-jeep operators had with the Forest Service and the ease with which their five-year operating permits were renewed.

One outfitter filed a suit questioning whether the federal government had the authority to regulate tour groups on forest land. A federal judge ruled in 2001 that the Forest Service could regulate the private interests but had done so in a flawed manner.

That led to an explosion of new outfitter tour guides, in everything from jeeps to mountain bikes and horses, operating without permits over the next four years while the Forest Service came up with a new permitting system.

Stafford said 40 of the 50 permits on file were issued to companies offering motorized tours of the area.

Tour operators in the industry pay the Forest Service 3 percent of their gross proceeds, and that money is used to manage the area, Stafford said.

The off-road companies are monitored by competitors and the Forest Service for how

well they take care of roads and develop pullout areas, and whether they harm archaeological sites and intrude on wildlife during mating season, Stafford said.

“All of this comes up for discussion during permit-renewal time,” he said. “We’ve written a few tickets for guides operating without permits or being in a place they weren’t permitted for. But it’s been a long time since we jerked a permit.”

Ken Anderson, former district ranger for Coconino National Forest in the Sedona area, said 19 new permits were issued to outfitters last year, including three new jeep companies. Eight jeep companies now operate within the scenic area. All of the tour companies using motorized vehicles are prohibited from entering the large Red Rock-Secret Mountain wilderness area, so the tour operators are bunched in the most scenic parts of Sedona with road access.

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<http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/prescott>
- Coconino National Forest:**  
<http://www.fs.fed.us/r3/coconino>
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<http://www.pinkjeep.com>
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## Red Rock a world away from Strip

BY RYAN NAKASHIMA  
AP Business Writer

LAS VEGAS — Ten miles from the bright lights of Sin City, nestled near the entrance to a scenic national conservation area, is the priciest off-Strip casino resort ever built in Las Vegas.

Red Rock Casino, Resort and Spa, which opened April 18, is hoping to lure people away from the Las Vegas Strip to an opulent vacation spot set against the western mountains.

Just like resorts in the heart of Vegas, you can gamble here, be pampered in a spa, indulge in a fine meal or party in a decadent nightclub.

But unlike resorts in town, Red Rock — which cost nearly a billion dollars to build — also offers instant access to rugged adventures.

“We’re really capitalizing on the great outdoors, being so close to Red Rock Canyon,” spokeswoman Lori Nelson said. “By day, it’s truly a resort experience. You hang out at the pool, get your spa treatments, go do some adventure hiking, and at night you have the excitement of Vegas.”

The resort’s offerings include an “Adventure Spa” with guided activities like horseback riding, hikes in nearby Valley of Fire State Park, mountain biking and rock climbing in Red Rock Canyon. Prices for the outings range from \$59 for a vehicle tour of Red Rock Canyon to \$175 for a raft trip.

Indoors, the resort — which is hoping for a five-star rating — is thoroughly elegant. The lobby is swathed in brown Macassar ebony wood, teakwood sandstone and Michelangelo marble. The shapes, colors and designs throughout the structure mimic the surrounding rocky, desert landscape.

The glitz of Las Vegas shines through 3.1 million pieces of crystal used throughout the property, including a 32-foot high chandelier in the rotunda and a waterfall

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- RED ROCK CANYON NATIONAL CONSERVATION AREA:**  
<http://www.redrockcanyonlv.org/>

column that appears to spill over the bar in the Lucky Bar.

Midge Zarleng, 60, of San Diego, booked a room to enjoy the spa, pool, and to visit friends who live in Las Vegas. “I like it outside the Strip. It’s a little more peaceful, a little more under control,” she said. Her pooch Georgie was also treated to her own pet bed and dishes. “She loves it here. They’ve been very nice to her.”

The resort has 414 rooms, a 35,000 square-foot spa, 62 table games, 3,200 slot machines and a three-acre pool and beach area that has rental cabanas and outdoor dining.

Upstairs from nine restaurants, a poker room, a 16-screen theater and a sports book with three screens spanning 96 by 18 feet, guests will find rooms equipped with 42-inch plasma TVs and iPod-ready Bose stereo systems. Up to 850 rooms are to be ready by early next year.

At night, the operators expect to draw on the Los Angeles celebrity crowd to help fill its Cherry nightclub, owned by club magnate Rande Gerber, husband of supermodel Cindy Crawford.

To get to Cherry, fronted by a sculpture of two cherries by Japanese artist Takashi Murakami, patrons will walk through a red tunnel to pulsating music, Gerber said.

“Once you get into that tunnel, you’re not hearing the bells and whistles and slots of the casino,” he said. “All of a sudden you’re in this womb-like tunnel. There’ll be a lot of bass, it’s almost like a heartbeat, boom, boom, boom.”



## Tough adventure races want to see certification

BY DOUG ALDEN  
AP Sports Writer

**MOAB, Utah** —There is no easy route when trekking 500 miles over and around mountains, riding raging rivers and scaling sheer cliffs.

It's risky, so organizers of the most arduous adventure races want to make sure the competitors have the needed experience in such disciplines as kayaking, orienteering and climbing.

"It's serious situations out there," said Rich Brazeau, CEO of Primal Quest. "We just want to make sure they're very prepared. We sleep better at night knowing that they are."

Primal Quest is a true expedition race — up to 10 days while trying to plot a course through the rugged West by foot, bicycle, kayak, horse and about any other nonmotorized means necessary.

There are strict requirements that the participants be certified in climbing, kayaking and swimming. In addition, two members of each team must be certified in first aid, two in horseback skills and two in navigation.

Finding qualified instructors for the different disciplines can be difficult, so some racers do it all at once in weekend courses.

Gravity Play Sports Marketing, a Durango, Colo., company that puts on adventure races, has added certification camps to the introductory weekend courses it offers.

"It fit right in line with what we were already doing, so it was a good match," said Will Newcomer, who runs Gravity Play with his wife, Jenny. "Most people kind of had to go to different spots to find someone who was certified in that particular discipline."

Training is recommended, although it isn't required for all races. There are risks regardless of racers' experience levels; two years ago, Primal Quest was suspended for two days after a 300-pound boulder struck a racer in the head as he ran down a rocky slope.

The determining threshold for races that require certification is usually based on length of competition. Multiple-day races — expeditions — are the more difficult ones, and racers need to know what they're doing. In a sprint, which can take a day or even an afternoon, general fitness can get the racers through.

The paperwork is verified over about two months, then each racer must show two days before the race starts that he or she can back up the certification.

"There's a large difference between an expedition race and some of the smaller races," Brazeau said. "That's why we require competitors to go through such great lengths."

# Novices prepare to take on nature in adventure racing

BY DOUG ALDEN  
AP Sports Writer

**MOAB, Utah** — Adventure racers proudly tell of feet too blistered for walking, of pushing themselves well beyond exhaustion. And their tales have a common theme:

It is soooooooo worth it!

Adventure racing, basically translating a triathlon into wilderness and whitewater extremes, seems to be inspiring more people than it's scaring away.

"It's getting through something almost nobody else has done and coming out on the other end — limping, mind you, but coming out at the other end," said Jodie Levitt, a 45-year old neurosurgeon attending a weekend certification camp for this summer's Primal Quest.

Primal Quest, or PQ as racers call it, is for the most advanced adventure racers, who need to be certified in skills such as rock climbing and kayaking before venturing out into the woods for hundreds of miles over several days.

But scaled-down adventure races, which give novices a taste of competing for an afternoon instead of more than a week, have been growing in popularity. And weekend clinics are available to people who are interested but not quite sure about the whole thing.

The U.S. Adventure Racing Association in Austin, Texas, has gone from sanctioning about 30 events six years ago to 350 last year. And many of the races are "sprints" — shorter, tamer versions designed for newbies who know their limits.

"We're seeing a real change," association founder Troy Farrar said. "We kind of did our sport backwards. We started out with these multiday monsters."

Adventure racing is a broad classification. Races are usually for teams. The disciplines include biking, hiking and sometimes orienteering, and some sort of water element — usually paddling. Checkpoints can be scattered over a remote area or downtown in a city.

It's like an extreme triathlon for teams of two to five, who compete together rather than in a relay. Events can last 10 days or a few hours, depending on the teams. The most grueling, such as Primal Quest, require competitors to have certification in the different disciplines because there are risks.

Adventure retreats, such as the one Levitt attended recently in Moab, provide racers a chance to practice and be certified during a long weekend.

Workshops and retreats are held throughout the coun-

try, as are the actual races. It doesn't take mountainous wilderness to make an adventure race. The USARA summer schedule has races from Florida to Alaska in all sorts of environments, and for a variety of teams.

And for those who really don't want to venture too far outdoors, Houston is hosting an urban race through the city in July.

Adventure racing caught on in the United States with the Eco-Challenge, created by "Survivor" producer Mark Burnett. The physical hardships and squabbling among the teammates made for great TV, and many current racers got the bug to try it.

"It takes a different breed of person to be an adventure racer. Most people would rather sit back on the couch and watch a reality show," said Dean Baumgartner, a 41-year-old engineer from Geneva, Ill.

Primal Quest begins June 25 in Utah, though the starting point and 500-mile course for the 90 teams won't be announced until closer to the race. Organizers don't want participants to get a head start on navigating the wilderness.

Experts don't recommend major endeavors such as PQ for even the heartiest newcomers. A sprint, with maybe a few miles of trail running, seven to 10 miles of mountain biking and a 30-minute paddle is a good introduction. Shorter races also often include a mystery event, such as climbing a cargo net or some sort of team challenge.

After that, participants can work their way up to something like Primal Quest.

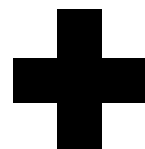
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# IAEA report says Iran continues uranium enrichment in defiance

BY GEORGE JAHN  
 Associated Press Writer

VIENNA, Austria Iran has defied a U.N. Security Council call to freeze uranium enrichment and is stonewalling efforts to determine if it is developing nuclear arms, the International Atomic Energy Agency said Friday in a report that strengthened Western calls for sanctions.

The United States and its allies reacted quickly, with Britain pledging to introduce a resolution next week for the council to issue a mandatory order for Iran to abandon uranium enrichment. Russia and China, however, have sought to avoid a showdown and opposed escalating pressures on Tehran.

President Bush said “the world is united and concerned” about what he called Iran’s “desire to have not only a nuclear weapon but the capacity to make a nuclear weapon or the knowledge to make a nuclear weapon.”

But, reflecting the lack of consensus on punishing Iran, he added, “I think the diplomatic options are just beginning.”

Iranian President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad was defiant, saying that whatever resolution the Security Council adopts, it cannot make Iran give up its nuclear program. “The Iranian nation won’t give a damn about such useless resolutions,” he told a cheering crowd in northwestern Iran.

The eight-page report, drawn up by IAEA chief Mohamed ElBaradei for the Security Council and obtained by The Associated Press, contained few new revelations.

But it is larded with phrases reflecting Iran’s refusal to cooperate with the Vienna-based agency, stymieing IAEA efforts to determine whether Tehran has made any efforts to build atomic weapons during 25 years of nuclear activity — most of it clandestine.

“Iran declined to discuss these matters,” the report said of the IAEA’s questions about Tehran’s enrichment program. “Iran continues to decline the agency’s request for a copy of the document,” it says about plans showing how to mold highly enriched uranium into the shape needed for a nuclear bomb.

“After more than three years of agency efforts to seek clarity about all aspects of Iran’s nuclear program, the existing gaps in knowledge continue to be a matter of concern,” the report said. “Any progress in that regard requires full transparency and active cooperation by Iran.”

The report’s primary importance was to serve formal notice that Iran ignored an informal 30-day deadline set by the council for suspending by Friday all activities linked to uranium enrichment.

Iran, which insists its program has only the peaceful purpose of producing fuel for nuclear reactors to generate electricity, played down the report — and the unanswered questions.

"From our point of view, these few questions are not

important. The main questions have been settled,” Mohammed Saeedi, deputy head of Iran’s Atomic Energy Organization, told Iranian state television.

Contending the report “does not contain negative points,” he said it shows the IAEA has the capacity to investigate Iran’s nuclear program and called the effort by some nations to have the Security Council take up the matter “completely wrong and misleading.”

But with the report in, the council will now debate further steps, including the potential threat of sanctions and military action if Iran continues to defy the international community.

“We are concerned about the continued work that Iran is doing to acquire nuclear weapons capability,” U.S. Ambassador John Bolton told reporters at U.N. headquarters. “We do think there’s a sense of urgency here and we hope that we can get council action just as soon as possible.”

Other world leaders expressed concern and underlined the need for international unity in dealing with Iran, although the common message appeared to be a reluctance to pursue coercion rather than diplomacy.

French Foreign Minister Philippe Douste-Blazy said that while the report was worrisome, “we continue, nevertheless, to say to Iran that the door to negotiation is not closed.”

Germany’s foreign minister, Frank-Walter Steinmeier, echoed that sentiment. “We maintain that the only solution is a diplomatic one,” he said.

Russia and China, which have important business dealings with Iran, have strongly opposed taking harsh steps against the Tehran regime, arguing that would worsen the dispute. As two of the five permanent members on the Security Council, they have the power to veto its actions.

Deputy Russian Foreign Minister Sergei Kislyak described ElBaradei’s report as a “very serious document,” telling the Interfax news agency that the Kremlin would study it “very carefully.”

The Chinese government indicated it had not changed its mind about opposing tough action.

“All we want is to work for a diplomatic solution because this region is already complicated, there are a lot of problems in the region, and we should not do anything that would cause the situation (to be) more complicated,” said China’s U.N. ambassador, Wang Guangya.

Bolton suggested the council was not likely to soon issue a resolution backed by the threat of sanctions or even military force.

“The first resolution would be simple and straightforward, ‘making mandatory’ last month’s council requests on suspension of enrichment and full cooperation with IAEA inspectors,” Bolton told The Associated Press in a phone call to Vienna.

"We would give Iran a short time to come into compliance. Then, if Iran doesn’t come into compliance, we would consider what the next steps would be ... likely targeted sanctions."

# New Hampshire maneuvers to protect presidential primary

BY ANNE SAUNDERS  
 Associated Press Writer

CONCORD, N.H. — New Hampshire has done what needs to be done to protect its first-in-the-nation presidential primary, state leaders declared Thursday.

Gov. John Lynch signed into law a measure expected to make it easier for presidential hopefuls to campaign here without fear of retribution from other states.

“We haven’t kept our leadoff status just by some miracle,” said Portsmouth Rep. Jim Splaine, who sponsored the measure. “We have kept our status of being first through the years by being smart and outmaneuvering other states.”

The law gives the secretary of the state the flexibility to adjust the filing period for candidates running for president, a move that would allow candidates to commit to campaigning in New Hampshire before anyone knows the date of the primary.

“That eliminates the ability of the national parties and or other state, big or small, from keeping the candidates from running in New Hampshire,” Splaine said.

The secretary of the state is already directed by state law to set New Hampshire’s primary at least seven days ahead of any similar contest.

Secretary of the State Bill Gardner said he wasn’t too worried about California’s latest proposal to move up its primary, saying similar jockeying has gone on for decades.

“We’re going to see a lot of this and we’ve seen a lot of it in the past,” he said.

California’s proposal would require its secretary of state to schedule the election as early as Jan. 2 and conduct it by mail.

“If that happens, we will be able to deal with it,” Gardner said, arguing other states lack the flexibility to beat New Hampshire at a game of primary leapfrog.

Some Western states also are pressing for a regional presidential primary early in the year. Utah Gov. Jon Huntsman is hoping Mountain West states will follow Utah’s lead to create an early super-primary stretching from Montana to the Mexican border.

National Democratic Party leaders have announced plans to change the primary schedule by adding one or two caucuses after the Iowa caucus but before the New Hampshire primary. Many states already have applied for those early slots.

The Democrats’ goal is to get more diverse voters involved in winnowing candidates early in the game.

But New Hampshire officials say other states can’t replicate this state’s long tradition of giving unknowns a chance at the nation’s top office while subjecting all candidates to New Hampshire skepticism.



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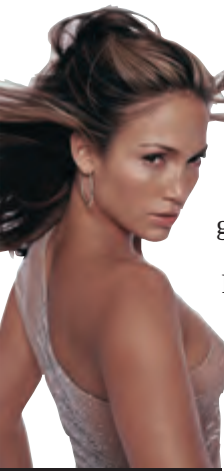
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# Lopez is still *mas bella*

By The Associated Press



Jennifer Lopez

**NEW YORK** — While Angelina Jolie tops People’s most beautiful issue, Jennifer Lopez graces the cover of the magazine’s Spanish-language version.

Lopez is on the cover of People En Espanol’s annual “50 Most Beautiful” issue, on newsstands Monday.

“I’ve never tried to hide the fact that I’m Latina,” the Bronx-native tells the magazine. “I think that’s why

Hispanics are like ‘she’s ours ... she belongs to us.’ And that’s true; with the Latino community, I am theirs, I do belong to them.”

The 37-year-old actress-singer was also named as one of People’s 100 most beautiful people. While many fans await the birth of Jolie’s child with boyfriend Brad Pitt, Lopez isn’t currently planning a baby with husband Marc Anthony.

“That would be nice for sure,” she says. “I feel that will happen naturally when it does.”

People En Espanol’s unranked list of Hispanic celebrities also includes Eva Longoria, Ricky Martin, Shakira, Jessica Alba, Eva Mendes and Daddy Yankee.

**LOS ANGELES** — The Ecstasy made her do it.

Amy Fisher says she was strung out on the club drug when she shot her boyfriend’s wife in the face in 1992.

“I was using Ecstasy, a lot of Ecstasy,” Fisher, nicknamed the “Long Island Lolita,” tells “Entertainment Tonight” in an interview that was to air Thursday. “I had no control.”

Fisher was 16 when she visited the home of her much-older lover, Joey Buttafuoco, a car mechanic on New York’s Long Island, and shot his wife, Mary Jo, as she answered the door.

The drug made her feel “stronger and confident,” she says.

“I just did something totally irrational,” Fisher says. “Believe me, rational people don’t go to do something like that in the middle of the day. It’s just insane.”

She served seven years in prison for the attack.

Buttafuoco pleaded guilty to one count of statutory rape and served four months in jail. His wife survived the shooting. The couple remained together after the Fisher affair, but divorced after moving to California.

**NAIROBI, Kenya** — Angelique Kidjo left Africa in 1985 to pursue a music career. She found success, but always felt the pull of her native continent.

“I think that people like me because they see that my continent is not a commercial thing for me, it’s not fake,” says Kidjo, who is from the West African country of Benin. “I’ve been using my talent and my voice for this continent since day one.”

Kidjo, now 45, gave her first-ever concert in Kenya on Wednesday, which featured African, funk and jazz styles. “Everywhere I go in the world I try to give a little bit of this African joy,” she said.

During her stay in Kenya, she toured the drought-ravaged area of Wajir, where 70 percent of the population live below the poverty line and depend on cattle and goats for survival.

The Grammy-nominated singer said raising awareness about poverty and natural disasters is a natural extension of her music.

Julian Pallister, 53, was among the throng of concertgoers who crowded under a huge white tent to watch her performance.

Pallister said he has been a fan of Kidjo’s music — which updates traditional tunes from across Africa — for a decade.

Her social conscience is a bonus, he said. “That only adds to my respect for her.”

Kidjo already has ties to this East African country; one of her first hits was a cover of “Malaika” by Kenyan musician Fadhili Williams.

**SYRACUSE, N.Y.** — Sigourney Weaver helped Syracuse University dedicate a new Life Sciences Complex, calling on more women to study science.

Younger students, and women in particular, might decide not to study science because it isn’t taught in an interesting and exciting way, the 56-year-old actress said Wednesday during an appearance with “60 Minutes” co-anchor Steve Kroft, a Syracuse alumnus.

“We haven’t taken care of our educational system for the last 30 years,” she said. “It doesn’t surprise me that kids are not ignited by what they are studying.”

Weaver, whose screen credits include the “Alien” movies and “Gorillas in the Mist,” said she’s fascinated by new discoveries and advancing technologies.

“I’m a serious science junkie,” she said, speaking to about 100 students and faculty in the university’s Hendricks Chapel.

She also is an animal-rights and endangered species activist, and recently completed a BBC documentary on the humanitarian crisis in Rwanda.

Santa Monica Daily Press

## MOVIEGUIDE

SHOWTIMES: APRIL 29-30, 2006

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

**American Dreamz** (PG-13)  
2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:00  
**The Benchwarmers** (PG-13)  
1:45, 4:05, 7:00, 9:30  
**The Sentinel** (PG-13)  
2:15, 5:10, 7:45, 10:30  
**United 93** (R)  
1:30, 4:20, 7:20, 10:15

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

**Hard Candy** (R)  
11:50am, 2:20, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10  
**Ice Age: The Meltdown** (PG)  
11:40am, 2:00, 4:20, 6:40, 9:00  
**La Mujer de Mi Hermano** (R)  
12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 7:50, 10:20  
**Lucky Number Slevin** (R)  
11:30am, 2:10, 5:00, 7:40, 10:30  
**Take the Lead** (PG-13)  
12:50, 3:50, 7:00, 9:50  
**V for Vendetta** (R)  
12:40, 3:40, 6:50, 10:00

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

**Akeelah and the Bee** (PG)  
11:20am, 2:00, 4:40, 7:30, 10:15  
**Inside Man** (R)  
1:10, 4:00, 7:10, 10:00  
**RV** (PG)  
11:45am, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30  
**Scary Movie 4** (PG-13)  
11:30am, 1:30, 3:35, 5:40, 8:00, 10:20  
**Silent Hill** (R)  
12:00, 2:40, 5:30, 8:20, 11:10  
**Stick It** (PG-13)  
11:10am, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30, 11:40  
**The Wild** (G)  
1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:40, 9:40

**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

**Friends With Money** (R)  
12:45, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00  
**Kinky Boots** (PG-13)  
1:40, 4:25, 7:10, 9:45  
**Water** (PG-13)  
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:55

Information: calendar@smdp.com

### MORE TODAY IN HISTORY

- **In 1861**, Maryland’s House of Delegates voted against seceding from the Union.
- **In 1862**, New Orleans fell to Union forces during the Civil War.
- **In 1916**, the Easter Rising in Dublin collapsed as Irish nationalists surrendered to British authorities.
- **In 1946**, 28 former Japanese leaders were indicted as war criminals.
- **In 1974**, President Nixon announced he was releasing edited transcripts of some secretly made White House tape recordings related to Watergate.
- **In 1981**, truck driver Peter Sutcliffe admitted in a London court to being the “Yorkshire Ripper,” the killer of 13 women in northern England during a five-year period.



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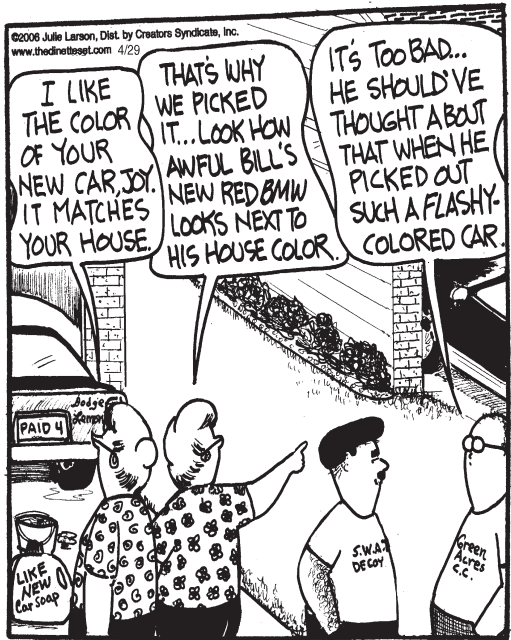
"If you're gonna play the game you're gonna need the energy"



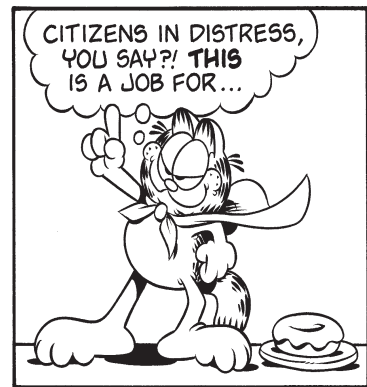
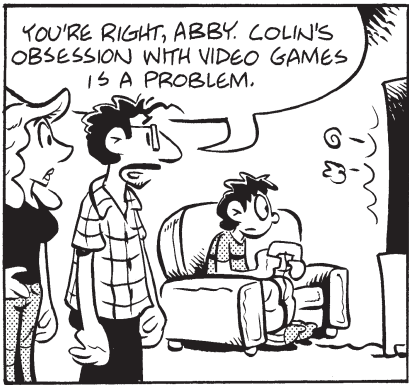


# COMICS

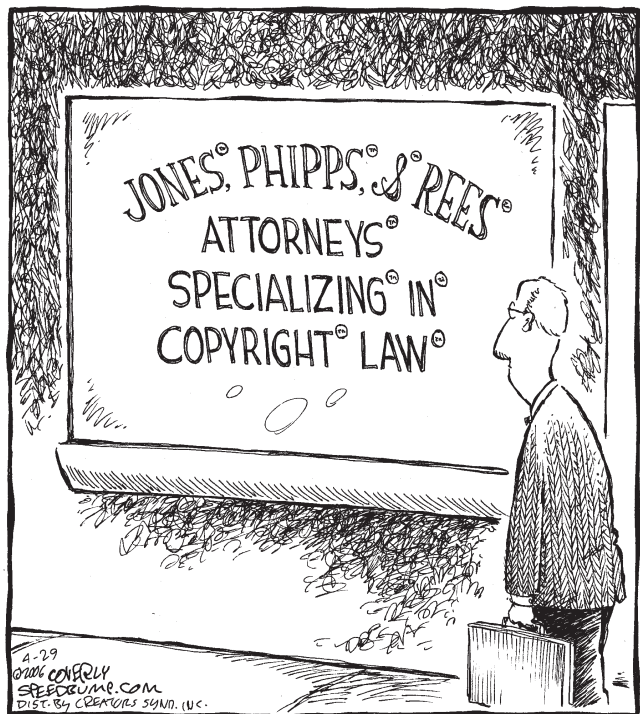
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- 10 Kind of committee
- 12 Acid type
- 13 Take care of
- 14 Tropical fruit
- 15 Tennis star Shriver
- 16 Planet
- 18 Corrode
- 19 Basic need
- 21 Cronos
- 22 Bus rider's need
- 24 Seine straddler
- 25 1945 film musical
- 29 Ring
- 30 Churchill's successor
- 32 Indulgent
- 33 Brunched
- 34 Techies' place
- 35 Fancy neckwear
- 37 Slur over
- 39 Match setting
- 40 Frisco player

### DOWN

- 41 Dictionary word
- 42 Tabloid fodder
- 1 Nest insects
- 2 Think
- 3 To — (extremely)
- 4 Young one
- 5 Easy dupe
- 6 "— Believer"
- 7 Musical handi-cap
- 8 Hire
- 9 1977 miniseries
- 11 Jazz fan
- 17 Fall back
- 20 From the Vatican
- 21 Fights
- 23 First point in tennis
- 25 Fall, for one
- 26 Campaign promise
- 27 Big Ten's Fighting —
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- 31 Roeper's colleague
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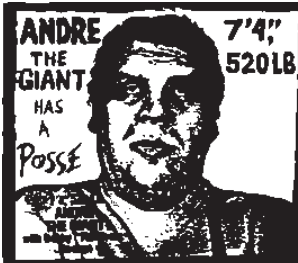
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