

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

DAILY LOTTERY



7 11 22 27 31
Meganumber: 33
Jackpot: \$54M



2 9 11 27 28
Meganumber: 27
Jackpot: \$19M



1 5 25 30 37



MIDDAY: 5 1 6
EVENING: 1 4 3



1st: 06 Whirl Win
2nd: 08 Gorgeous George
3rd: 09 Winning Spirit
RACE TIME: 1:45.51

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

The El Bulli restaurant in Barcelona, Spain, has long waiting lists for reservations for innovative dishes such as strawberry walnut mayonnaise, foie gras ice cream, cocoa butter with crispy ears of rabbit, and Kellogg's Paella (Rice Krispies, shrimp heads and vanilla-flavored mashed potatoes), according to a February report in The Times of London. The meals of the artistic chef Ferran Adria cost the equivalent of \$240 a person, but the world's leading restaurant critics rate it at the top of their lists.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 124th day of 2006.
There are 241 days left in the year.

- On May 4, 1945, during World War II, German forces in the Netherlands, Denmark and northwest Germany agreed to surrender.
- In 1626, Dutch explorer Peter Minuit landed on present-day Manhattan Island.
- In 1904, the United States began building the Panama Canal.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The greater the number of laws and enactments, the more thieves and robbers there will be."

LAO-TZU
CHINESE PHILOSOPHER (C.604-531 B.C.)

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High times, low crimes

Advocates, critics are fired up about possession petition

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE — A group of Santa Monicans wants to make it easier for adults to smoke marijuana in their own homes without fear of being arrested.

Santa Monicans for Sensible Marijuana Policy is gathering sig-

natures from registered voters to place a measure on the November ballot that would require the Santa Monica Police Department to make investigations, citations, arrests, property seizures and prosecutions for private, adult marijuana use the lowest law enforcement priority.

The proposed measure would

prohibit police from working with federal officials investigating adult marijuana use, and the SMPD would be required to file a report with the City Council within seven days of an arrest, citation or seizure for any adult marijuana offense. Those who feel officers violated the lowest pri-

See POT PETITION, page 8



A petition currently making the rounds in Santa Monica supports placing a measure on the November ballot that would make marijuana a low priority offense.

Making the color barrier



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

Shucheta Shegufta (left), 15, and Safiul Islam, 17, cultural exchange students from Bangladesh, work on the memorial mural at the Santa Monica Red Cross on Wednesday. Eight exchange students from the South Asia nation will be doing community service projects and participating in cultural exchange programs over the next three weeks as part of Relief International, which stresses cultural exchange, community service, conflict resolution and the development of leadership skills.

STATE

Minutemen out to drive points home

BY PETER PRENGAMAN
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES — Leaders of the Minuteman Project began a cross-country trek Wednesday amid screaming matches about whether illegal immigrants are taking jobs from blacks or should be embraced as fel-

low minorities looking for a better life. The caravan to Capitol Hill departed from a park in a heavily black Los Angeles neighborhood as part of a push by the civilian border patrol group to attract more blacks as members.

"If we are going to be giving preference to anybody ... prefer-

ence should go to the American-African community that has suffered more than anybody," Minuteman founder Jim Gilchrist told a crowd of 40 supporters that included about 10 blacks.

Gilchrist had to yell the remarks

See MINUTEMEN, page 9

LOCAL

SM Place shake-up continues with sale

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

SM PLACE — Seeking more flexibility in the redevelopment of their shopping centers, The Macerich Co., owner of Santa Monica Place, announced Wednesday that it will purchase 11 former Robinsons-May stores, including one here that has sat vacant for more than a month.

With the sale, Macerich plans to move forward with discussions about the future of Santa Monica Place, which could include adding another major retailer to replace Robinsons-May, or remodeling that section of the mall so that it is more in line with recent trends in retail construction — open-air shopping centers, or "lifestyle centers," complete with retail, restaurants, movie theaters and recreation.

"With the feedback we've received through the community meetings, the insights from our retailers and this announcement, we have a tremendous opportunity to re-invent Santa Monica Place," said Jean Huber, who manages the mall for Macerich. "With the acquisition, we can look at different ways to work with the space and come up with a great plan that we will be able to unveil."

Huber said no plans have been finalized.

Residents are closely watching Macerich following an attempt in 2004 to tear down

See MACERICH, page 9



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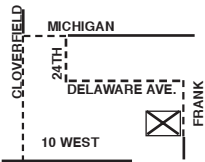


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HOROSCOPES

As you wish, Leo

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)

★★★★★ Though you could be overwhelmed by what drops on your plate, you have the ingenuity to clear it out. Someone might be helpful if you just ask. You don't need to carry the world on your shoulders. Tonight: Go with an off-beat idea.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ You might want to rethink a situation before accepting it as it is. Someone might be pushing you very hard to have you think like he or she does. Be willing to head down a different avenue. You'll discover how unpredictable someone else can be. Tonight: Happy at home.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ Your ability to communicate sharpens to a new level of understanding. Ask for greater feedback, thus enlisting others in a project. Ultimately, you discover that cooperation makes nearly every project or situation easier. Tonight: Hang out.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★★ Take your time and check out a money risk. What seems extraordinarily high or out of whack is. Don't question your judgment. Your ability to do something differently or come up with a solution makes a difference. Tonight: Treat someone to dinner.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ Extremes hit, though you are more than capable of handling them. On some level you could feel pulled in two separate directions. Establish better understanding, and you will be much happier. Think positively and work with others. Tonight: As you wish.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ Envision your life in a way that will please you. You will find that you have many more alternatives than you realize. Be open to someone else's suggestions. You might be delighted by the end results of a change. Tonight: Take your time.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ Emphasize Lady Luck and opportunity, both of whom are likely to knock on your door presently. You will want to follow through on what works for the majority, not necessarily for you. Success will greet you as a result. Tonight: Enjoy your friends.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ Through accepting your responsibilities, you will gain the kind of acknowledgment you have always wanted. Listen well to what a child or creative person in your life asks. Think positively when dealing with a creative risk. Tonight: On top of your life.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ You might want to follow through on an important call. Someone at a distance could be involved. You are coming from a securer spot than you have been in a while. Your mind could be working overtime. Tonight: Try a new type of cuisine.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ Deal with others directly. You might want to get past an immediate hurdle or change. Your friends and those around you might push you to a new level. Think twice about a key financial or emotional relationship. Tonight: Togetherness works.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ Others really want to assume more than their share of responsibility and/or control. Make sure that if you let go, someone else understands his or her role. Your professional or community life demands your attention. Tonight: Say yes to an invitation.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ You have so much energy touched by a high level of mental activity, you will blaze a new trail at work. You need to change gears and go for what you want. Information heads your way. Don't be surprised if you are on overload. Tonight: Do whatever you need to do to relax.



Santa Monica Daily Press

Published Monday through Saturday
Phone: (310) 458-PRESS (7737) • Fax: (310) 576-9913
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LOCAL



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Pacific Wheel is out of sight

By Daily Press staff

The Pacific Wheel at Pacific Park in Santa Monica has been named “Best Solar System” by the editors of Reader’s Digest magazine. The recognition was mentioned in the April 18 issue. After speaking to hundreds of experts and ordinary folk, the editors tested, tasted and debated everything from the best sandwich to the best must-have gadgets to the best buzz cut. “Our country is full of hidden treasures, creative products and inspiring stories that often don’t grab the national spotlight,” said Jackie Leo, editor in chief. “We had great fun putting this lively and surprising issue together.” Soaring 130 feet above the ocean, the Pacific Wheel was unveiled in 1998 as the world’s first solar powered Ferris wheel. “We’re thrilled that the Pacific Wheel was selected by Reader’s Digest as one of the Best of America,” said Ann Powell, CEO and general manager of Pacific Park.

Film kicks off mental health series

By Daily Press staff

May is mental health month and Step Up on Second, a premier mental health agency which provides support to individuals with mental illness, is providing a free documentary film screening and lectures series. The documentary film “Out of the Shadow,” by Susan Smiley, chronicles the filmmaker’s schizophrenic mother as she suffers through the chaos of the mental health system, as well as that of her own mind. The film will be screened on Saturday, May 6, at 11 a.m. in the Laemmle Theater, 1332 Second St. The lectures series will address different aspects of mental illness and are facilitated by experts in the field. The lectures are informative and an opportunity to learn about mental illness from the experts. The lecture series will take place on three consecutive Tuesday evenings, May 9, 16 and 23, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. The schedule is as follows: May 9: “Understanding the Ups and Downs of Bipolar Disorder” with Dr. Michael DiPaolo. May 16: “Medications 2006: A Discussion about Medications & Treatment of Mental Illness” with Dr. Dino Tripodis. May 23: “What is Psychosocial Rehabilitation and Why is it the State of the Art Treatment for Mental Illness” with Dr. Alex Kopelowicz. DiPaolo has a private practice in West Los Angeles and is a consultant with the UCLA Psych Rehab Program. Tripodis is the medical director of Hillview Medical Health Center and assistant clinical professor of psychiatry at the UCLA School of Medicine. Kopelowicz is the medical director of the San Fernando Mental Health Center and associate professor of psychiatry at the UCLA School of Medicine. The lectures will be held in Santa Monica at 1299 Ocean Ave. Enter on Arizona Avenue at Dimensional Fund Advisors. All events are free and open to the public, but reservations are required. Call Cory O’Connell at (310) 394-6889, ext. 22 to reserve a seat.

Daybreak sale rolls out

By Daily Press staff

Women who are working to overcome mental illness will offer a variety of arts and crafts, the proceeds of which will be used to help support them. Daybreak Designs, the women’s business started in 1999, will hold its annual spring sale from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Friday, May 5 and from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, May 6 at 1610 Seventh St. in Santa Monica. Items for sale will include a variety of specially designed arts and crafts including hand painted greetings, jewelry items, afghans, gifts for mothers, graduates, babies and other collectibles. Daybreak Designs is an extension of Daybreak Shelter, a transitional housing program through the Ocean Park Community Center. The shelter provides group living for up to 15 mentally ill women.



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SNOW AND SURF REPORTS

SNOW CONDITIONS

DATA PROVIDED BY ONTHESNOW.COM

BEAR MOUNTAIN
CLOSED

JUNE MOUNTAIN
CLOSED

MAMMOTH MOUNTAIN

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs) 0"	BASE DEPTH 168" - 192"	LIFT HOURS 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM	RUNS OPEN 50	LIFTS OPEN 7/28
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CONDITIONS: MACHINE GROOMED, SPRING

MOUNTAIN HIGH
CLOSED

MT. BALDY

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs) 0"	BASE DEPTH 12" - 18"	LIFT HOURS 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM	RUNS OPEN 20	LIFTS OPEN 3/4
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CONDITIONS: MACHINE GROOMED, SPRING

SNOW SUMMIT
CLOSED

SNOW VALLEY
CLOSED

SURF CONDITIONS

WATER TEMP: 60°

SWELL FORECAST (4+6 FT)
TODAY WE HAVE A SLIGHTLY BETTER BURST OF **SW** DUE, AND A BIGGER **SW** SWELL WILL TRAIL BEHIND THIS ONE ON FRIDAY INTO THE WEEKEND

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS
SIGNIFICANT **SW** HITS FRIDAY INTO WEEKEND...
NW BEING TRACKED FOR 10TH...

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

The Q Line

PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY

With the fifth anniversary of 9-11 approaching, Hollywood is releasing a pair of prominent movies — including this week’s “United 93” — that re-enact in harrowing detail the events that transpired on September 11, 2001. A recurring question being posed is whether or not America is ready to relive the tragedy of the terrorist attacks in an entertainment medium.

So this week, Q-Line wants to know: **Do you feel it’s a good time for Hollywood to dramatize the attacks, still fresh in our collective memories? Do you plan on seeing “United 93”? Why or why not?**

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we’ll print your responses in the week-end edition. Please try to limit your comments to a minute or less.



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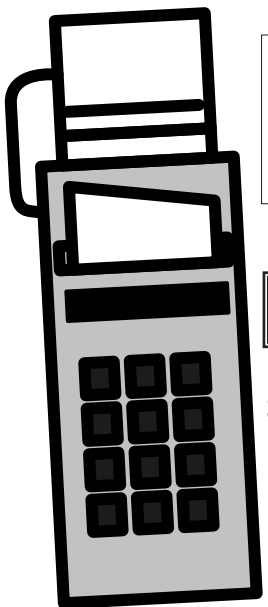
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OPINION

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

CLARE offers answers for addicts

Editor:

"I was rescued, and when I say rescued, I mean arrested." So begins one woman's story of how she overcame her drug addiction, through a diversionary court program that allowed her to receive treatment rather than face incarceration for a non-violent drug charge. It is on this principle of treatment in lieu of incarceration that Proposition 36 is based.

The voters made a progressive choice back in 2000, when they voted Prop. 36 into law. This enlightened proposition gives non-violent drug crime arrestees a choice between jail time or addiction recovery services. For the last five years, we at the CLARE Foundation have been treating the addicts that the taxpayers entrusted to us. We are Prop. 36 in action and we know it works.

The CLARE Foundation is a non-medical drug and alcohol addiction recovery service on the Westside of Los Angeles, and is a major provider of both outpatient and residential treatment under the auspices of Prop. 36. Once the case of a person charged with a non-violent substance offense is referred to a Prop. 36 court, that person goes for a full bio-psychological evaluation. The evaluation determines the severity of the addict's dependency, and based on the outcome, either outpatient or residential treatment is prescribed. Both avenues consist of a rigorous course of one-on-one counseling, group meetings, and frequent drug testing by a nationally certified lab.

Prop. 36 is currently receiving a great deal of attention due to two studies recently published, one from UCLA and the other from the Justice Policy Institute in Washington, D.C. Both studies show excellent results at both the treatment level and the taxpayer level which the media has been quick to highlight. The savings to the California taxpayers of \$2.50 for every dollar spent are definitely worth celebrating. So is the downturn in the rate of drug addiction among California's prison population from 28 percent down to 21 percent, also a result of Prop. 36.

What is harder to quantify are the lives redeemed, the families that have been reunited, the knitting back together of our social fabric. Although difficult to measure, we can see such effects for example in this month's announcement by California State correction officials that recidivism — the rate at which past offenders break the law again — is down 40 percent, the lowest it's been in 25 years. I can't help but think that giving addicts a road to recovery rather than allowing them to languish in a jail cell plays a major role in that statistic.

Most families know someone whose life has been marred and scarred by substance abuse. Do our sons and daughters belong in prison because of this ill? Wouldn't we want to see our brother or sister treated for the addiction they suffer? The CLARE Foundation strongly supports the continued funding for Prop. 36. The financial savings aside, the real victory is in the human savings. We believe that everyone who comes in contact with the legal system as a result of their addiction should be availed of treatment. There is a saying in the world of recovery, "Keep coming back." It's a mentality we ought to adopt as a society. We can't afford to give up on those who are suffering. Recovery is not an event but a process, and it takes compassionate legislation like Prop. 36 to sustain that process.

Nicholas Vratovic

Executive director, CLARE Foundation

When the fruits of victory don't taste all that sweet



NEWS ON THE EDGE

BY RON SCOTT SMITH

Has cronyism given way to fetishism? The walls in the office of Joshua Brewster Bolten, new chief of staff for the president of the United States, are lined with close-up pictures of his boss's hands.

Not that there's anything wrong with it.

Good hands are hard to find and I knew we were in them when they rolled out that Iraqi-villains card deck thing — with Saddam Hussein the designated Ace of Spades — a few weeks after U.S. troops stormed into Baghdad three years ago, even though whoever came up with the idea is probably a couple cards short of a full deck. It reminded us, after all, that although many a tyrant has to fall, it's all in the game.

Yes, I knew we were in good hands even though that road to Baghdad was a ghost road, undefended, allowing our army to roll in there faster than you could say Ahmaninejad. It turns out to be kind of like that cartoon where Roadrunner darts full-speed to the brink of a cliff only to stop on a dime while the unsuspecting Wile E. Coyote in full chase flies right on over the edge. Was that the clever Ace of Spade's plan all along — to let the overzealous invaders in without so much as a whimper, and then unleash all of hell's fury in the form of urban guerilla warfare that has now taken at least 2500 American lives?

We were still in good hands, and stylish hands, just six weeks after the invasion when George W. Bush, calling himself the "War President," stepped out onto the deck of an aircraft carrier dressed in full-out jet-fighter-pilot garb, looking for all the world like an action figure from Toys R Us, "The Decider" if you will, and declared to all who would listen, "Mission accomplished."

A few months later, when we finally found the Wile E. old Ace of Spades himself hiding in a hole in the ground, and immediately got him an appointment with a menacing-looking dentist, I knew for sure that we were in good hands because that video of Saddam's mouth being probed went all around the world, serving notice that we will extract information using whatever methods necessary, "Marathon Man" methods included.

And I liked the hands we were in when our leaders started giving out nifty names to people and things other than themselves — names like Dr. Germ, Chemical

Ali, Curveball — although you'd think maybe they might have come up with something a little more reassuring than "Curveball" for the intelligence agent who gave them the false information they needed to justify war, but nobody's perfect.

Oh my, then they started naming the bombs.

We're proud owners now of the Daisy Cutter, the Whiskey Pete, the Bunker Buster, and, sit down — this now — Divine Strake, the name given to a 700-ton mega-monster scheduled to be tested in the desert near Las Vegas in June. The Department of Energy, like they don't have better things to do what with the exploding price of gasoline, released a statement assuring neighboring citizens that the mushroom cloud they will see rising in the distance from Divine Strake is of no danger to them. What happens in Vegas stays in Vegas.

I was reminded again of the good hands we're in when Bush said about bin Laden, "I just don't spend that much time on him," because what he does spend it on is his ongoing three-year war in Iraq of which he said, "We will win and it will be a major blow to bin Laden." Some would argue that victory in Iraq appears to be more of a major blow in bin Laden's favor, as the secular state of Iraq, formerly led by the Al Quada-hating Saddam, appears to be transforming in a Baghdad minute into the fundamentalist Islamic state bin Laden could have only wished for in his wildest dreams — with us doing the dirty work for him.

How sweet the fruits of victory. Afghanistan, our other "liberated," are feeling liberated enough to show off their new-found freedom by doing things like sentencing guys to death for converting from Islam into Christianity.

This just in. Right-wing commentator for the Fox News Channel, Tony Snow, has been hired as the new Bush press secretary. Taking one for the good-hands team, Snow will get less money to shill for the President in the White House than he did on Fox.

And with the floodgates now wide open that allow arch-conservative broadcasters into government, rumors are flying that Bill O'Reilly stands poised to take over the State Department, bringing his signature "shut up" to world diplomacy; Sean Hannity will take over at F.E.M.A. with his vast experience covering national disasters like Natalee Holloway and Terri Schiavo; and Rush Limbaugh — opiate addict or no opiate addict — will take the helm at the Department of Health and Human Services, bringing much-needed euphoric energy to a downbeat capital.

Ron Scott Smith can be reached at edge-ofthewest@aol.com.

Bitch! Whine! Complain!

Check out our Q-Line™ question on Page 3.

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COMMENTARY



GUEST COMMENTARY BY PETER SCHWARTZ

Democracy + force does not = freedom

America's foreign policy has led to a bizarre contradiction. President Bush claims to be pursuing freedom in the world, so that Americans will be safer. Yet this campaign's results — a more zealous proponent of terrorism in the Palestinian Authority, and the prospect of theocracy in Iraq — are posing even greater threats to us.

The cause of this failure is Mr. Bush's hopeless view that tyranny is reversed by the holding of elections — a view stemming from the widespread confusion between freedom and democracy.

Ask a typical American if there should be limits on what government may do, and he would answer "yes." He understands that each of us has rights which no law — regardless of how much public support it happens to attract — is entitled to breach. An advocate of democracy, however, would answer "no."

The essence of democracy is unlimited majority rule. It is the notion that the government should not be constrained, as long as its behavior is sanctioned by majority vote. It is the notion that the function of government is to implement the "will of the people." It is the notion we are espousing when we tell the Iraqis, the Palestinians and the Afghans that the legitimacy of their new governments rests essentially on their being democratically approved.

And it is the notion that was repudiated by the founding of the United States.

America's defining characteristic is freedom. Freedom exists when there are limitations on government, limitations imposed by the principle of individual rights. America was established as a republic, under which government is restricted to protecting our inalienable rights. This should not be called "democracy." Thus, you are free to criticize your neighbors, your society, your government — no matter how many people wish to pass a law censoring you. But if "popular will" is the standard, then the individual has no rights — only temporary privileges, granted or withdrawn according to the mass sentiment of the moment. The Founders understood that the tyranny of the majority could be just as evil as the tyranny of an absolute monarch.

Yes, we have the ability to vote, but that is not the yardstick by which freedom is measured. After all, even dictatorships hold official elections. It is only the context of liberty — in which individual rights may not be voted out of existence — that justifies, and gives meaning to the ballot box. In a genuinely free country, voting pertains only to the particular means of safeguarding individual rights. There is no moral "right" to vote to destroy rights.

Unfortunately, like Mr. Bush, most Americans use the antithetical concepts of "freedom" and "democracy" interchangeably. Sometimes our government upholds the primacy of individual rights and regards one's life, liberty and property as inviolable. Many other times it negates rights by upholding the primacy of the majority's wishes — from confiscating an individual's property because the majority wants it for "public use," to preventing a terminally ill individual from gaining assistance in ending his life because a majority finds suicide unpalatable.

Today, our foreign policy upholds this latter position. We declare that our overriding goal in the Mideast is that people vote — regardless of whether they care about freedom. But then, if a Shiite, pro-Iranian majority imposes its theology on Iraq — or if Palestinian suicide-bombers execute their popular mandate by blowing up schoolchildren — on what basis can we object, since democracy is being faithfully served? As a spokesman for Hamas, following its electoral victory, correctly noted: "I thank the United States that they have given us this weapon of democracy ... It's not possible for the U.S. ... to turn its back on an elected democracy." The Palestinians abhor freedom — but have adopted democratic voting.

The Iraqis may reject freedom, in which case military force alone — as dismally inadequate as our efforts in that realm have been so far — will have to ensure our safety against any threats from them. But if we are going to try to replace tyranny with freedom there, we must at least demonstrate what freedom is. We should have been spreading the ideas and institutions of a free society, before allowing elections even to be considered. For example, we should have written the new constitution, as we did in post-WWII Japan. Instead, we deferred to the "will of the people" — people who do not understand individual rights — and endorsed a despotic constitution, which rejects intellectual freedom in favor of enforced obedience to the Koran, and which rejects economic freedom and private property in favor of "collective ownership." The consequence: looming neo-tyranny in Iraq.

We need to stop confusing democracy with freedom. Morally supporting freedom is always in our interests. But supporting unlimited majority rule is always destructive — to us, and to all who value the rights of the individual.

Peter Schwartz is a distinguished fellow at the Ayn Rand Institute in Irvine. The Institute promotes the philosophy of Ayn Rand, author of "Atlas Shrugged" and "The Fountainhead."

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Shape up or ship out

Cleaner ports a start

By The Associated Press

SEATTLE — Seattle is inviting more cruise ships to plug into its electric grid and shut off their engines, hoping to cut about 30 percent of the air pollution created by the big ships as they load passengers for Alaska cruises.

Seattle has two electric berths for cruise ships, but environmentalists point out that still leaves plenty of diesel-powered ships to belch more than a ton of pollution every time they're in town.

"We're encouraged that the port is considering increasing the number of shore-side hookups," said Teri Shore of the Bluewater Network, a San Francisco group that fights cruise-ship pollution. "But that is not going to get them off the hook for increased emissions to surrounding communities. They still need to do more."

Princess Cruises started plugging two of its ships, the Diamond Princess and the Sapphire Princess, into city power last year. Holland America Line will do the same with two of its three Seattle-based ships this season, at \$1 million per ship to install new electrical equipment plus \$1.8 million to install hardware on shore. The company is paying most of the cost.

The cruise ships typically
rely on their
diesel-powered engines to
produce electricity even
while docked.

"I think the fact that we're the first cruise port, to our knowledge, in the world that has two berths with shore power available speaks for itself," said Mick Shultz, a Port of Seattle spokesman. "I think this shows the cruise industry and the port are eager to reduce their emissions."

Juneau, Alaska, began plugging in Princess Cruises ships into a berth there in 2001.

The addition of Holland America Line ships to the program means that at least 30 percent of the 200 cruise-ship visits this year will use electricity while in port, Shultz said.

The cruise ships, which can accommodate thousands of people, typically rely on their diesel-powered engines to produce electricity even while docked. On the West Coast, cruise ships typically use fuel with 2.4 percent sulfur, and that sends up as much as 2.5 tons of pollutants in an eight-hour stay in port, the Port of Seattle estimates.

Next year, the port will start requiring the ships that don't plug into the grid to use fuel with a 1.5 percent sulfur content while in Seattle.

STATE BRIEFS

Spay it, don't spray it

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — County supervisors passed an ordinance requiring most dog owners in unincorporated areas to spay or neuter their dogs and tag them with identification microchips.

The move came in response to a massive overpopulation of stray dogs. Last year, the county euthanized more than 18,000 strays, according to the Animal Care and Control Department.

Under the ordinance approved Tuesday, dogs must be spayed or neutered when they are 4 months old.

The new law will not apply to dogs that compete in shows, work in law enforcement or assist the disabled.

Owners can obtain exemptions by providing documentation such as proof of competition in a dog show in the last year or a title from a purebred dog registry.

"Our intention is not to end purebred dog breeding," animal control department director Marcia Mayeda said. "What we want to stop is the uncontrolled strays and the uncontrolled, unwanted breedings."

Sent away for long haul

By The Associated Press

RIVERSIDE — Ten people were charged with illegally transporting hazardous waste after a two-day sting operation, authorities said.

The sting targeted people who advertised themselves as trash haulers in local publications, officials said Tuesday.

Investigators hired the people and allowed them to load the waste into their vehicles. They were later stopped and arrested, authorities said.

"If this is getting dumped, it's getting dumped in places that affect all of us," Assistant District Attorney Rod Pacheco said.

Two of the suspects who brought along teenage family members to help were also charged with child endangerment.

The sting was conducted on March 28 and 29 by fire officials and environmental health authorities.

What the devil?

By The Associated Press

RIVERSIDE — Vandals spray-painted a church with satanic symbols in what police called a hate crime, officials said.

Officials on Tuesday found a pentagram, upside-down crosses and obscenities written in white paint on the outside doors of Magnolia Presbyterian Church, senior pastor Rev. Brad Copeland said.

Benches were overturned and flowers uprooted outside, he said.

The building has a security system, but the grounds are open.

"You can fortress your church by putting gates all around, but we try to avoid that sort of thing," Copeland said.

Police are treating the vandalism as a hate crime because a church was targeted, Riverside police Lt. Rick Tedesco said.

No arrests were reported.



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Matter of perception how eagle might live

By The Associated Press

SALT LAKE CITY — The search continued Wednesday for a 7-year-old captive bald eagle, blind in its left eye, that flew away from its handler.

The female eagle, Anami, a resident of the Tracy Aviary in Salt Lake City, was practicing Sunday for the free-flight portion of a bird show when she decided to catch a spring thermal.

Anami came to the Tracy Aviary from the Cascade Raptor Center in Oregon after she was rehabilitated from the injury that took her eye.

“She had (a wild) eagle for a mother so she knows she is an eagle and she will try to be an eagle,” training and program manager Sharon Dale said. “But it will be difficult for her to hunt because she has no depth perception due to the loss of her left eye.”

Aviary officials said the bird is likely dehydrated, hungry and disoriented, but can survive one to two weeks without food.

Julie Brown, community relations director for the aviary, said Anami is comfortable on the ground and would be looking

for dead animals to eat, along with water.

“She’s very comfortable on the ground. Anytime we hear there’s an eagle on the ground, we’re taking it seriously,” she said.

Birds participating in the free-flight program have a transmitter attached in case they take off. The transmitter has a range of 100 miles, but Anami’s signal was not picked up during an aerial search flight Tuesday.

“Either she has left the area or the transmitter has stopped working,” Brown said.

Dale said Anami, who is a fixture at school, church and community events, has been training for the last six to eight weeks for the bird show.

“I’m not sure what caused her to leave,” said Dal. “We have had a few birds take off and spend some time in the park, but they have always come back. Chances are she will not fly back to the aviary.”

Brown said people should not try to catch her if they see her.

“She is a wild bird under significant stress. Don’t pick her up. Her talons are incredibly strong and she could crush bones,” she said.

Kempthorne supported the sale of federal lands as U.S. senator

CHRISTOPHER SMITH
Associated Press Writer

BOISE, Idaho — In the six weeks since he was nominated as secretary of the interior, Idaho Gov. Dirk Kempthorne has sidestepped questions about whether he backs President Bush’s proposal to sell off public lands to reduce the deficit and help rural schools.

But that will be difficult Thursday. Several members of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee opposed to the land sales are expected to grill Kempthorne during his confirmation hearing.

“There are strong feelings about that proposal on both sides of the aisle and there’s no question it will come up during the hearing,” said Marnie Funk, press secretary to Sen. Pete Domenici, R-N.M.,

chairman of the panel that will vote later whether to forward Kempthorne’s nomination to the Senate floor for confirmation.

“We think the sale proposals stinks, but we understand Governor Kempthorne hasn’t taken a position yet because he’s been a senator and knows how it works around here,” said Bill Wicker, spokesman to the ranking Democrat on the committee, Sen. Jeff Bingaman of New Mexico. “The quickest way to get your head shot off is to start talking like you are already confirmed.”

Kempthorne is expected to support Bush’s plan to sell 125,000 acres of Bureau of Land Management property and 300,000 acres of national forest land to the highest bidder to raise money for the U.S. Treasury.

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LOCAL

Gang green spreads

POT PETITION, from page 1

ority measure would be able to file a grievance with City Hall.

The proposed measure would not apply to the public use of marijuana or when someone is caught driving under the influence. "Adult" means someone who is over 21 years of age, proponents of the measure said.

"This has nothing to do with legalizing marijuana, but rather it gives the residents of Santa Monica the power to control their own drug enforcement policies and make sure resources are being spent on the most serious of crimes," said Kelsey Nunez, co-treasurer of the campaign.

"With more people in jail for non-violent, misdemeanor marijuana offenses than any other civilized country in the world, it is evident that the war on drugs is not working," Nunez added. "The federal government has refused to change and has instead stepped up the prosecution of those who use marijuana for medicinal purposes. Since they refuse to change, we are trying on the local level."

The effort here is being mirrored in other cities across the state, including West Hollywood, Santa Barbara and Santa Cruz, as part of a larger campaign by the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws, which seeks to decriminalize marijuana use by adults.

The cities of Oakland and Seattle have already passed a law similar to the proposed Santa Monica measure, Nunez said.

SMPD Chief James Butts and the Santa Monica Police Officers Association are strongly opposed to the measure. Butts is concerned it would weaken an officer's ability to sniff out more serious crimes if they were unable to investigate incidents of marijuana use.

"This initiative is unworkable," Butts said. "There's no way to establish what lowest priority means. Does that mean if someone complains of marijuana use, we can't respond if there is another call on the board ... This is just bad public policy."

Butts said in recent weeks, officers were able to arrest suspects for growing large quantities of marijuana or who were in possession of harder drugs because the officers smelled the presence of pot. If the measure were to pass, Butts said those arrests may not have been possible.

Butts said even if the measure is approved, he will not enforce it unless it was upheld by "a court with confident jurisdiction."

"I don't believe this is lawful," Butts said.

Sgt. Greg Smiley, president of the officers' association, said police officers are prepared to campaign against the measure if it qualifies for the ballot.

"We'll spend the money if we have to," Smiley said. "We've got to let people know this is a bad thing for officers and for the public."

Smiley said the measure is flawed in that it does not properly define personal use. The measure also includes "all parts of the cannabis plant ... (and) resin extracted from any part of the plant," which Smiley said includes hash and hash oil, the possession of which is a felony.

There is also concern from officers about the oversight component of the measure, which would require officers to spend more time preparing reports instead of being out on the street.

Nunez said officers have contacted her about the measure and the oversight requirement, however, proponents of the measure believe "it is the appropriate level of local governance" and have no plans to remove this requirement.

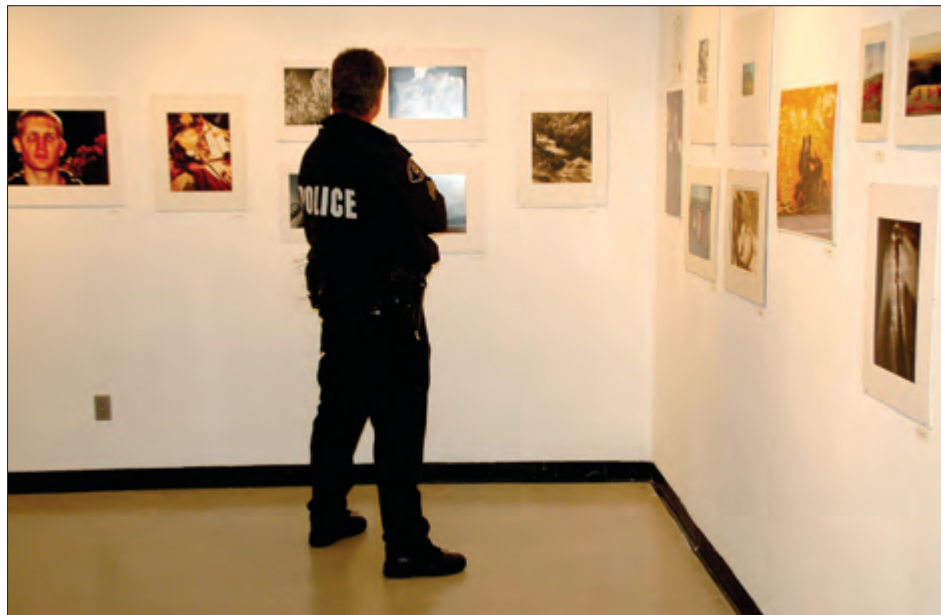
"We have respect for law enforcement," said Nunez, who doesn't smoke marijuana. "All we are saying is that the people of Santa Monica want law enforcement priorities shifted away from adult marijuana use. Police resources could be better allocated towards serious criminal offenses instead of wasting billions of dollars every year on locking up law abiding citizens whose only crime is to smoke marijuana."

In order to be included on the November 7 ballot, the measure's proponents will need to collect at least 5,580 signatures, which is 10 percent of the 55,801 registered voters living in Santa Monica, according to the City Clerk's Office.

Nunez said supporters are aiming for 8,000 signatures, "just to be safe." Nunez expects the signatures to be turned into the City Clerk's Office sometime this month.

Those looking to add their name to the list can do so by contacting Nunez at sensiblesantamonica@gmail.com.

No mugshots these



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

Sgt. Kurt Trump, of the Santa Monica College Police Department, admires photographs currently on exhibit as part of SMC's 27th Annual Student Photo Show. The show is being staged at the Santa Monica Photography Gallery in Drescher Hall through May 13.

LOCAL



Vintage wheels



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

A group of senior citizens from WISE Senior Services recently tested their driving abilities in a simulated exercise offered by the Santa Monica Police Department in a mobile trailer outside of the Ken Edwards Center on Fourth Street.

Macerich makes next move

MACERICH, from page 1

Santa Monica Place and replace it with mixed-use development that included three buildings as high as 21 stories.

Recently, a group of concerned citizens known as the Coalition for a Livable Santa Monica won a settlement with the city over internal communications with officials from Macerich, City Council members and city staff. The coalition wanted to see how an initial proposal to redesign the mall turned into a request for redeveloping the site with added commercial and residential space.

Federated Departments Stores Inc. is selling the 11 properties after closing scores of Robinsons-May stores across the country, including 14 in California; the aftereffects of a merger last year between Federated and May Co., the parent of Robinsons-May.

As part of the \$11 billion merger, Federated said it would close all Robinsons-May stores in malls where

there was also a Federated-owned Macy's. Santa Monica Place fell into this category.

Macerich put plans on hold for the redevelopment or "re-merchandising" of the mall, waiting for Federated to make the next move.

"The thing with retail is you don't want to stay static," Huber said of Macerich's desire to change the look of Santa Monica Place, which the company purchased in 1991. "Everything is evolving, so you're always looking at ways to make your property better."

The price of the 11 properties being sold by Federated was not disclosed by Macerich, with the deal not expected to close until July 6.

The malls involved in the sale include: Santa Monica Place, The Oaks Shopping Center in Thousand Oaks, Los Cerritos Center in Cerritos, Lakewood Center Mall in Lakewood, Pacific View Mall in Ventura, and several other shopping centers in Arizona and Connecticut.

'Minnie' driver gets mixed reviews

MINUTEMEN, from page 1

over a dozen mostly black protesters who chanted "Minutemen go home!" and "KKK go home!"

Gilchrist repeatedly stopped his speech to address the protesters, telling them "Ours is not a racial cause. It's a rule of law cause."

As Gilchrist spoke, supporters and opponents engaged in a heated debate.

"Hispanics are taking away our jobs," said Angela Broussard, 38, a black playwright. "They are moving into our neighborhoods, so now where are we going to go?"

Morris Griffin held a sign rejecting a measure passed by the House that would make it a felony to be in this country illegally and penalize people who aid undocumented immigrants.

"Don't pit the blacks against the browns, like they do in the jails and schools," Griffin told Broussard.

When the chants and arguments persisted, Gilchrist stepped up his rhetoric toward someone urging the group to go home.

"Minutemen, stand your ground," he

said. "Do not fire unless fired upon. And if it's a war he wants, then let it begin here."

Gilchrist then boarded an RV with "Minnie" written across the side in small blue letters that was followed from the park by two other RVs and a few cars.

Organizers hoped the Los Angeles to Washington, D.C., trip will help counter marches staged Monday around the nation by more than 1 million people demanding amnesty for some 11 million illegal immigrants.

The Minuteman Project wants to garner support for its get-tough border stance and pressure federal lawmakers considering immigration reform. They also intend to mobilize voters and recruit members along the way.

According to the Minutemen Web site, the caravan is scheduled to stop in President Bush's vacation haven of Crawford, Texas, as well as Phoenix, Albuquerque, N.M.; Abilene, Texas; Little Rock, Ark.; Memphis and Nashville, Tenn.; Birmingham, Ala.; Atlanta; Richmond, Va.; Greensboro, N.C.; and Washington, D.C.

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Refund haste makes waste

MARKET MATTERS

BY BRIAN HEPP

For the millions of taxpayers who have recently completed their income tax filing, another annual ritual is beginning — the anticipation of waiting for a tax refund. If you're one of those who will be receiving a refund this year, you may already be making plans for how you'll spend that money. But before you get caught up in the excitement of spending that check right away, you may want to consider some other options that could provide you with significant benefits down the road.

The tradeoff between instant gratification and long-term gain is a difficult balance to manage. But now, with a tax refund on the way, you're in a perfect position to make considerable progress in your personal savings.

Following are a few ideas to help you spend your refund wisely.

■ **Start a savings plan.** First of all, if you don't already have a savings plan in place, the money from your tax refund could be the perfect starting point. Opening a savings account with that money is a good first step, but you'll also want to put a plan in place to keep that account growing. Many financial institutions allow you to set up automatic savings plans, where funds are deposited into your account on a regular basis. You can even have those deposits taken directly from your paycheck, so you won't even miss the money. Your tax refund can provide a solid foundation on which you can build this savings plan.

■ **Add to your investment portfolio.** If you're already on the right track when it comes to savings, you can use

your refund money to give your other investments a boost. Consider using your refund check to purchase additional shares of stock, or bonds, or any other vehicle you are currently invested in. Regardless of the type of investment you choose, your tax refund could add significantly to any regular investments you're already making.

■ **Increase your 401(k) contribution.** One of the most effective ways to save for retirement is through an employer-sponsored plan such as a 401(k). Hopefully, you are already taking advantage by participating in such a plan, which allows you to make regular contributions with pre-tax money straight from your paycheck. These programs have limits on how much you can save, but if you're not already maximizing it, you may want to consider increasing your contribution rate. For example, if you're currently putting away 3 percent, you could increase your contribution rate by a percentage point or two, and use your tax refund to cover other expenses you would normally pay for with that portion of your income.

■ **Open an IRA.** If you have already taken full advantage of an employer-sponsored program, or if you work for a company that does not offer one, your tax refund check could be the ideal source of funds to open an Individual Retirement Account. As with the savings strategy mentioned earlier, you'll want to establish a regular pattern for adding to this account. But your tax refund will get you started off on the right foot.

While it may be difficult to resist the temptation to spend your tax refund money now, you can see that there are other ways to make use of those funds. And even though there are many things you may want right now, the money you put away now could come in very handy down the road to help cover the cost of things you need.

Brian Hepp is a financial consultant with A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc. He can be reached at (310) 453-0077 or brian.hepp@agedwards.com.

A debt of gratitude for enemies of U.S.

THE WEEKLY RECKONING

BY BILL BONNER



From the Financial Times comes a report on the sorry state of U.S. federal finances — the “President’s Budget” shows a deficit of \$319 billion for this fiscal year. But the president’s financial intelligence is subject to the same persuasion as his strategic intelligence. His budget shows not what is, but what he wished were.

The Treasury Department also produces its own budget, called the “Financial Report of the U.S.” It shows a budget deficit of twice as much: \$760 billion. The difference? The U.S. Treasury Department prepares the budget on an accrual basis. It takes into account not only cash outlays, but contracts and commitments. The president’s budget is merely a statement of cash in, cash out. Were GM and Ford to account for their businesses that way, they’d be gushing profits, too.

The U.S. Treasury Department also comes up with a number for how much Americans actually owe, thanks to federal deficits. Are you sitting down? It’s a chunky number: \$750,000 per household. That’s what you get when you take the total commitments of the feds — \$49 trillion — and divide them by the number of families.

The Financial Times goes on to note that it took 204 years for the U.S. government to accumulate its first \$1 trillion in debt. Now, it adds that much every 18 months. George W. Bush has added more debt than any president who ever lived ... combined.

But as we keep saying, nature abhors a vacuum and it loathes a monopoly. When the Soviet Union collapsed, the United States stepped into a vacuum. It became the world’s only superpower. Nature must have found the United States too big for her britches, and decided to find a way to take her down a peg. She came up with George W. Bush.

How long can the world fail to notice? The United States has been running up debt as if it were a banana republic — only without the bananas, even though for the last 18 months or so, the dollar has actually gone up. But, how long could that trend last? Not long, was our guess. Looking at a chart today, it looks as though it came to an end in December. Since then, the dollar has trended down.

And last week, Ben Bernanke came out with a warning: Maybe the Fed wouldn’t keep raising rates after all. The currency markets shuttered. The dollar dropped, but what were speculators going to do? They looked around and found the anti-dollar. The one thing that has been rising relentlessly ever year of the Bush administration: gold. The yellow metal surged; June contracts rose above \$638.

What can we say? There’s a bull market in gold, and a bear market in paper. So far, only the dollar has been noticeably affected, but it is just a matter of time before other paper is, too — bonds, stocks, mortgages, and derivatives.

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



Businesses help sustain quality of life

By Daily Press staff

Numerous businesses were honored Tuesday for their environmental stewardship.

The Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce and City Hall staff announce this year’s Sustainable Quality Award (SQA) winners at a luncheon at Le Merigot Hotel.

“This was one of the most diverse and highly accomplished groups of applicants we have had,” said Dean Kubani, acting manager of City Hall’s environmental programs division. “Our hope is that we can promote a business climate where all businesses achieve the level of commitment to sustainability that these award winners exemplify.”

The voluntary activities the businesses have undertaken result in cleaner air and water, less waste, reduced traffic and pollution, improved quality of life for residents and workers, and a strong and viable local economy, environmentalists said.

Five out of the 11 finalists participated in the Sustainable Works Business Greening Program. The Business Greening Program is a free service for businesses located in Santa Monica and provides the SQA with several strong candidates each year.

The 2006 SQA Winners are:

THE AMBROSE

The Ambrose hotel is a partner and member of the Green Hotels Association, a participant in Sustainable Works’ Business Greening Program and California Sustainable winner. They recycle and compost more than 60 percent of their waste output. The Ambrose donates regularly to local non-profit organizations.

EDSA

EDSA is an international landscape architecture and planning firm that offers ecological and ecotourism planning. The local office introduced EDSA’s first “green team” to bring sustainability into office operations. They procure eco-friendly products and services ranging from biodegradable cleaning products to 100 percent recycled tissue paper.

KONING EIZENBERG ARCHITECTURE

All of Koning Eizenberg’s projects express a commitment to sustainability. They have designed numerous

LEED projects including Virginia Avenue Park. Their office is a living laboratory for green building design and highlights a passive solar vented wall, and extensive day lighting and natural ventilation to reduce energy use.

PATAGONIA

Patagonia, Santa Monica is part of a \$250 million international company that designs and distributes outdoor clothing. Patagonia recycles in-house materials and also collects worn-out garments from customers and recycles them into polyester (PET) used to make new filament yarns.

RAND CORP.

RAND conducts research and provides analysis to address challenges that face the United States and the world. The newly constructed Santa Monica RAND headquarters features a dual plumbing system linked to City Hall’s reclaimed water facility (SMURFF) for toilet flushing and for perimeter landscape irrigation.

UNURBAN COFFEEHOUSE

Unurban Coffeehouse is one of the last bohemian cafés and community-driven social houses in Santa Monica. They incorporate organics into their menu of homemade meals and hot and cold beverages. They support local artists and make their space available for community meetings and cultural events.

WALDORF EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTER

Using a “zero waste” mindset, teachers prepare homemade snacks for children using ceramic plates, silverware and cloth napkins. Teachers and children pick produce from the school garden for lunches and snacks.

CALIFORNIA RECYCLES

California Recycles is a registered electronic waste collector in West Los Angeles. They prevent various hazardous waste items from ending up in landfills.

EUPHORIA LOVES RAWVOLUTION

Euphoria is the first and only raw, vegan market in the USA. Currently, about 95 percent of all foods are USDA certified organic. They require all of their vendors to stock certified organic alternatives.

‘Idol’ star’s release hits home

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Watching his “American Idol” daughter from prison made the time pass faster, Clyde “Bo” Pickler says.

Kellie Pickler was released from the Fox network show last week when the finalists were narrowed to five. Her father was released from prison this week after serving three years for stabbing a man in Florida.

Watching Kellie on television made time move more quickly, Pickler told TV news-magazine “Inside Edition” for an interview that was to air Wednesday.

“I can’t take credit for what Kellie’s done,” said Pickler, who has been staying in a Tampa, Fla.-area hotel room since his release. “She’s accomplished a lot in her 19 years of life.”

Pickler kept in contact with Kellie through letters during his prison term and he says he’s looking forward to an in-person reunion.

“It’ll be great to see her,” he said. “I’m going to try to patch up a few burnt bridges and get some things back in order.”

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — Jeff Timmons of ‘90s boy band 98 Degrees has been arrested on charges of drunken driving and driving without a valid license, Brevard County sheriff’s officials said.

Authorities pulled over Timmons’ white Mercedes on April 23 when they spotted him driving 60 mph in a 45-mph zone, according to a report.

Timmons, 33, said he was from out of town and didn’t have his driver’s license, the report said. Authorities said Timmons’ eyes were “very glassy” and he told police he had “a lot” to drink. Later, he told deputies he only had two beers.

Timmons’ attorney, Donald W. Wruck III, released a statement Wednesday: “We believe the incident is a result of a misunderstanding and that Jeff will ultimately be

cleared of all charges.”

The two passengers in the car “were very intoxicated,” according to the police report. One passenger identified himself as Mitch English, host of the syndicated TV show “The Daily Buzz.” English told police Timmons was driving his car for him because he had too much to drink, the report said.

English didn’t return phone calls seeking comment Wednesday.

Timmons was arrested and held on a \$500 bond, which he posted the same day, said Brevard County Sheriff’s Office spokesman Lt. Andrew Walters.

SYDNEY, Australia — Dame Edna Everage’s alter ego, Barry Humphries, punched a photographer who pursued him outside a restaurant, his publicist said.

The 72-year-old Australian actor, who plays the purple-haired character with oversized rhinestone eyeglasses, struck celebrity freelance photographer Malcolm Ladd, 54, said publicist Suzie Howie.

“I can confirm to you that Barry did hit him,” Howie said. “He was obviously very upset.”

“But at least he didn’t throw a phone,” added Howie, referring to Australia-based actor Russell Crowe, who was given a conditional discharge by a New York court last year after pleading guilty to throwing a phone at a hotel receptionist.

Humphries became upset when Ladd followed him from Dee Bee’s Cafe in Sydney’s exclusive Double Bay, where the actor had lunch Wednesday with musical director Andrew Ross, Howie said.

New South Wales state police had not received a complaint about the punch, a police spokeswoman said on customary condition of anonymity.

Ladd’s photos of Humphries at lunch appeared in early editions of News Corp. newspapers in Australia on Thursday.

“It knocked my glasses off.
It was a good punch —
it still hurts.”

MALCOM LADD
CELEBRITY FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHER

He told News Corp. that Humphries punched his face as he tried to take a close shot outside the restaurant.

“It knocked my glasses off. It was a good punch — it still hurts,” Ladd was quoted as saying. “It’s the first time I’ve been attacked and I’ve photographed just about everyone before.”

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Chris Young of Murfreesboro, Tenn., beat out two other finalists to win the fourth edition of the “Nashville Star” talent search series.

The 20-year-old singer was chosen by viewers Tuesday night. Vote totals weren’t immediately announced.

Young won a recording contract with the RCA Label Group, plus other prizes, including an appearance on the Grand Ole Opry.

“The whole time, I’ve just been trying to get to this moment,” he said moments after the show ended. “You can’t beat fan-voted competition.”

Other finalists were Casey Rivers, 23, of Lindale, Texas, and Nicole Jamrose, 34, of Schererville, Ind.

The finalists were chosen from 10 contestants culled from tens of thousands of hopefuls during a nationwide talent search.

Wynonna Judd and Cowboy Troy hosted the show’s fourth season. Phil Vassar was one of the judges.

The USA network series, which combines elements of reality TV with a talent competition, has launched the recording careers of Buddy Jewell and Miranda Lambert.

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)
1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:45

Inside Man (R)
1:10, 4:00, 7:05, 9:50

RV (PG)
12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:50, 10:10

Scary Movie 4 (PG-13)
1:20, 3:35, 5:40, 8:00, 10:15

Silent Hill (R)
1:30, 4:20, 7:20, 10:05

Stick It (PG-13)
12:20, 2:45, 5:05, 7:30, 10:00

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 1886, at Haymarket Square in Chicago, a labor demonstration for an eight-hour work day turned into a riot when a bomb exploded.

In 1916, responding to a demand from President Wilson, Germany agreed to limit its submarine warfare, thereby averting a diplomatic break with Washington.

In 1927, the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences was founded.

In 1932, mobster Al Capone, convicted of income-tax evasion, entered the federal penitentiary in Atlanta.

In 1946, a two-day riot at Alcatraz prison in San Francisco Bay ended, the violence having claimed five lives.



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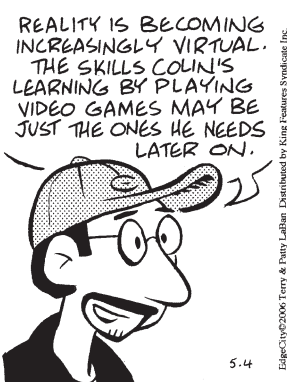


COMICS

The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



edge city by TERRY & PATTY LABAN



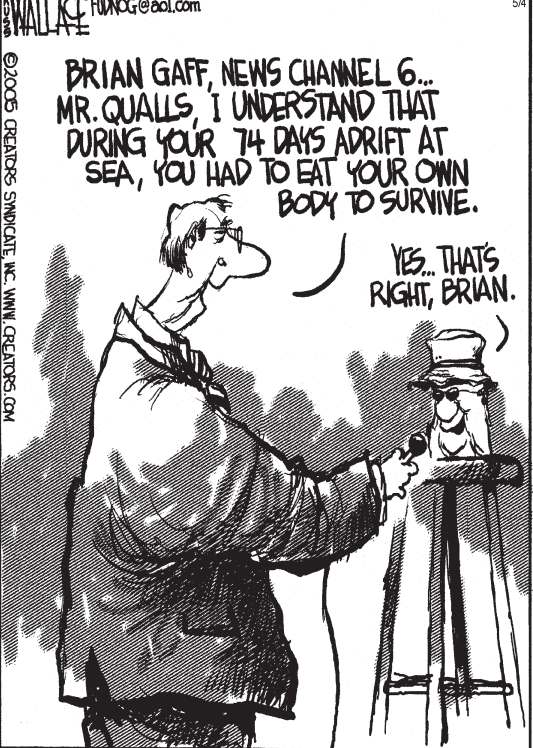
Garfield® By Jim Davis



Speed Bump® By Dave Coverly



Natural Selection® By Russ Wallace



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Showed up
- 5 Walks unevenly
- 10 Gather
- 12 Neptune's domain
- 13 Canary, for one
- 14 — cotta
- 15 Self
- 16 Seedy building
- 18 Vile
- 20 Writer Tarbell
- 21 A party to
- 23 Parking area
- 24 Sticky stuff
- 26 Cameo stone
- 28 Party staple
- 29 Ump's call
- 31 Easter find
- 32 Florida team
- 36 Moose's cousin
- 39 Hogwash
- 40 Humble
- 41 Andean carrier
- 43 Cuba's Castro
- 44 Complete
- 45 Girder material
- 46 Heredity unit

DOWN

- 1 Casual eateries
- 2 Pal for Pedro
- 3 Fancy home
- 4 PC key
- 5 Politico Trent
- 6 "Law & Order: SVU" co-star
- 7 How we roll along
- 8 Absurdity
- 9 Be short with
- 11 Gets littler
- 17 Hubbub
- 19 Loud commotion

A	L	T	A	R	S		B	I	A	S
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Yesterday's answer

- 22 Insurance type
- 24 Ethernet unit
- 25 Software buy
- 27 Ensnare
- 28 Coffee-bar orders
- 30 Before now
- 33 Give an address
- 34 Director Polanski
- 35 Shop-worn
- 37 Understanding comment
- 38 Front desk feature
- 42 Record

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5-4

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NOTICE OF PETITION TO AD-
MINISTER ESTATE OF
JAMES PATTERSON ERVINE
Case No. BP098089
To all heirs, beneficiar-
ies, creditors, contingent creditors,
and persons who may otherwise be
interested in the will or estate, or
both, of JAMES PATTERSON ER-
VINE

A PETITION FOR PRO-
BATE has been filed by Donald M.
Ervine in the Superior Court of Cali-
fornia, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR
PRO-BATE requests that Ada
P.Sands be appointed as personal
representative to administer the es-
tate of the decedent.

THE PETITION re-
quests authority to administer the
estate under the Independent Ad-
ministra-tion of Estates Act. (This
authority will allow the personal re-
presenta-tive to take many actions
without obtaining court approval.
Before taking certain very important
ac-tions, however, the personal re-
pre-sentative will be required to give
notice to interested persons unless
they have waived notice or con-
sented to the proposed action.) The
independent administration authority
will be granted unless an interested
person files an objection to the peti-
tion and shows good cause why the
court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the peti-
tion will be held on May 30, 2006 at
8:30 AM in Dept. No. 9 located at
111 N. Hill St., Los Angeles, CA
90012.

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

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

YOU MAY EXAMINE
the file kept by the court. If you are
a per-son interested in the estate,
you may file with the court a Re-
quest for Special Notice (form
DE-154) of the filing of an inventory
and ap-praisal of estate assets or of
any petition or account as provided
in Probate Code section 1250. A
Request for Special Notice form is
available from the court clerk.

Attorney for petitioner:
SANFORD M EHRLMANN ESQ
SBN 26708
9606 SANTA MONICA BLVD
3RD FL
BEVERLY HILLS CA 90210-4420

Notices

Santa Monica Daily Press
CN751368 ERVINE May 4,5,11, 2006

NOTICE OF PETITION TO AD-
MINISTER ESTATE OF KATY
SUE CAMPBELL

Case No. BP098093
To all heirs, beneficiar-
ies, creditors, contingent creditors,
and persons who may otherwise be
interested in the will or estate, or
both, of KATY SUE CAMPBELL
A PETITION FOR PRO-
BATE has been filed by Willard M.
Reisz in the Superior Court of Cali-
fornia, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR
PRO-BATE requests that Willard M.
Reisz be appointed as personal rep-
resentative to administer the estate
of the decedent.

THE PETITION re-
quests the decedent's will and codi-
cils, if any, be admitted to probate.
The will and any codicils are avail-
able for examination in the file kept
by the court.

THE PETITION re-
quests authority to administer the
estate under the Independent Ad-
ministra-tion of Estates Act. (This
authority will allow the personal re-
presenta-tive to take many actions
without obtaining court approval.
Before taking certain very important
ac-tions, however, the personal re-
pre-sentative will be required to give
notice to interested persons unless
they have waived notice or con-
sented to the proposed action.) The
independent administration authority
will be granted unless an interested
person files an objection to the peti-
tion and shows good cause why the
court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the peti-
tion will be held on May 30, 2006 at
8:30 AM in Dept. No. 5 located at
111 N. Hill St., Los Angeles, CA
90012.

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

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

YOU MAY EXAMINE
the file kept by the court. If you are
a per-son interested in the estate,
you may file with the court a Re-
quest for Special Notice (form
DE-154) of the filing of an inventory
and ap-praisal of estate assets or of
any petition or account as provided
in Probate Code section 1250. A
Request for Special Notice form is
available from the court clerk.

Attorney for petitioner:
FREDERICK S REISZ ESQ
SBN 143962
10880 WILSHIRE BLVD
STE 2240
LOS ANGELES CA 90024-4123
Santa Monica Daily Press
CN751361 CAMPBELL May 3,4,10, 2006

NOTICE OF PETITION TO AD-
MINISTER ESTATE OF JOSE
GAETA aka JOE GAETA
PEREZ

Case No. SP006722
To all heirs, beneficiar-
ies, creditors, contingent creditors,
and persons who may otherwise be
interested in the will or estate, or
both, of JOSE GAETA aka JOE
GAETA PEREZ

A PETITION FOR PRO-
BATE has been filed by Rosa Gaeta
Singrin and Teresa Gaeta
Ferman-dez in the Superior Court of Cal-
ifornia, County of LOS ANGE-
LES.

THE PETITION FOR
PRO-BATE requests that Rosa
Gaeta Singrin and Teresa Gaeta
Ferman-dez be appointed as per-
sonal rep-re-sentative to administer
the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION re-
quests authority to administer the
estate under the Independent Ad-
ministra-tion of Estates Act. (This
authority will allow the personal re-
presenta-tive to take many actions
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Notices

actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on June 9, 2006 at 9:15 AM in Dept. No. F located at 1725 Main St., Santa Monica, CA 90401.

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

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

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for petitioner:
MARCK F VON ESCH ESQ
SBN101452
VON ESCH & VON ESCH
810 E COMMONWEALTH AVE
FULLERTON CA 92831
Santa Monica Daily Press
CN753691 16924 May 4,5,11, 2006

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: WILLIAM S. DIMSDALE CASE NO. SP006813

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of WILLIAM S. DIMSDALE.

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by JOEL DIMSDALE in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that JOEL DIMSDALE be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act . (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on 06/30/06 at 9:15AM in Dept. F located at 1725 Main St., Santa Monica, CA 90401

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

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above. YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an

Notices

inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code Section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner
BRETT BARENHOLTZ
EPHRON & BARENHOLTZ
1901 AVENUE OF THE STARS,
#1030
LOS ANGELES, CA 90067-6012
5/3, 5/4, 5/10/06
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NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF: IRENE YOUNG BRIGGS CASE NO. SP006815

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of IRENE YOUNG BRIGGS.

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by SANDRA B. SCIORTINO in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that SANDRA B. SCIORTINO be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act . (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on 06/02/06 at 9:15AM in Dept. F located at 1725 Main St., Santa Monica, CA 90401

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

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

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code Section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner
CYNTHIA CATALINO
CATALINO LAW OFFICES
1875 CENTURY PARK E., #700
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 FOR 27 MONTHS
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 +88¢ TAX PER MONTH
 FOR 27 MONTHS
 FULLY EQUIPPED

\$399.88 + tax first months payment for 27 months on approved credit. \$3287 cap cost reduction + \$795 acquisition fee = \$4082 total due at signing (\$0 security deposit). MSRP \$53,475. Tier 1 Credit. 7.5K Miles/yr. 25¢ per mile excess. OTHERS AT SIMILAR SAVINGS.

RED TAG MERCEDES-BENZ CERTIFIED

'02 CLK320 ASKING PRICE \$32,981	\$29,981
COUPE, WHITE/ASH, CD, LOW MI, CERTIFIED, 27103918	
'05 C230 ASKING PRICE \$32,981	\$29,981
WHITE/BLACK, CD, CERTIFIED, 5F564191	
'00 S430 RED TAG PRICED	\$31,981
NEW CAR TRADE, VALUE PRICED, CERTIFIED, YA004614	
'03 E320 ASKING PRICE \$35,981	\$32,983
BLACK/STONE, VALUE PRICED! CERTIFIED, 152784	
'04 SLK320 ASKING PRICE \$37,981	\$35,981
NEW CAR TRADE, CD, CERTIFIED, 4F306438	
'06 E350 RED TAG PRICED	\$43,981
PEWTER/CHARCOAL, CERTIFIED, 6A797170	
'02 S430 ASKING PRICE \$47,981	\$43,981
SPORT, BL/BL, CHROMES, CD, CERTIFIED, 226152	
'01 CL600 ASKING PRICE \$56,981	\$46,982
BLACK/BLACK, CERTIFIED, 1A013138	
'02 G500 ASKING PRICE \$52,981	\$47,983
LOCAL CAR, LOW MILES, CERTIFIED, 2X129441	
'04 S430 ASKING PRICE \$56,981	\$51,984
WHITE/JAVA, NEW CAR TRADE, LO MI, CERTIFIED, 407597	
'03 G500 RED TAG PRICED	\$51,984
NEW CAR TRADE, CERTIFIED, 3X138243	
'03 SL500 ASKING PRICE \$69,981	\$64,984
SPORTS PKG, CHROMES, CD, CERTIFIED, 3F022029	

RED TAG MERCEDES-BENZ

'99 C280 RED TAG PRICED	\$11,982
BLACK/TAN AND MORE!, XA678640	
'99 E320 ASKING PRICE \$20,981	\$17,981
BLACK/BLACK, CHROMES, CD, VALUE PRICED, XA923465	
'97 S420 ASKING PRICE \$22,981	\$17,981
WHITE/TAN, BEAUTIFUL, LOW MILES, 345354	
'02 CLK320 ASKING PRICE \$32,981	\$29,981
COUPE, WHITE/ASH, CD, LOW MILES, 27103918	
'00 S430 RED TAG PRICED	\$31,981
NEW CAR TRADE, CHROMES, YA00614	
'04 SLK320 ASKING PRICE \$37,981	\$35,981
NEW CAR TRADE, CD, 4F306438	
'95 E320 CAB RED TAG PRICED	\$CALL!
CABRIOLET, BLK/BLK, CHROMES, CD, MUST SEE! SC279701	

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RED TAG OTHER MAKES/MODELS

'04 LANCER ASKING PRICE \$19,981	\$9,984
NEW CAR TRADE, SILVER, AUTO, 40009491	
'04 MUSTANG RED TAG PRICED	\$14,984
COUPE, RED, ONLY 7400 MILES, 4F117580	
'04 BEETLE ASKING PRICE \$25,981	\$21,984
CONVERTIBLE, LOW MILES, AUTOMATIC, 4M324124	
'05 MINI COOP ASKING PRICE \$29,981	\$26,983
AUTO, CONVERTIBLE, SPT, LOW MILES, STG10499	
'03 M45 ASKING PRICE \$28,984	\$26,984
CHARCOAL/BLACK, VALUE PRICED, 004514	
'02 BOXSTER ASKING PRICE \$28,981	\$26,981
LOW MILEAGE, 6 SPEED, 2U620852	
'04 PILOT ASKING PRICE \$29,981	\$27,982
NEW CAR TRADE, DVD, LOW MILES, 534565	
'01 XK8 ASKING PRICE \$38,981	\$33,982
JAGUAR, CONV, NAVI, CHROMES, LOW MILES, 22084	
'05 AUDI S4 RED TAG PRICED	\$39,981
2.7 LT, BLACK/TAN, MUST SEE!, 5A047677	
'04 CAYENNE ASKING PRICE \$44,981	\$42,98
TIPTRONIC, PRICED TO SELL, LOW MILES, 4LAG5825	

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