

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

LOTTO

FANTASY 5

1, 6, 10, 24, 39

DAILY 3

Afternoon picks: 8, 7, 3

Evening picks: 1, 8, 0

DAILY DERBY

1st Place: 08, Gorgeous George

2nd Place: 11, Money Ba

3rd Place: 01, Gold Rush

Race Time: 1:44.06



NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

News of the Weird has reported twice on incredibly long daily commutes to work (a 25-year U.S. Navy Department employee, 342 miles round trip from Trenton, N.J., to Washington, D.C., reported in 1992, and a 39-year veteran rural West Virginia newspaper carrier, 200 miles round trip, reported in 1996). A January 2004 Boston Globe profile of retirement-fund analyst Stephen Jordan described his 340-mile daily round trip from his farm in Augusta, Maine, to his downtown Boston office, but unlike the other two, who drove all the way, Jordan drives only to Portland and takes a train to Boston (on which he "get(s) a ton of work done," he said).



THOUGHT OF THE DAY

The Tao that can be told is not the eternal Tao.



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Building a better footing



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

Workers dig up the ground in order to lay a concrete sidewalk in front of the stairs leading down to the beach from Broadway and Palisades Park. The stairway, as well as the one off of Montana Avenue, will be closed for two months while crews install railings, restore vegetation, install lights and replace stairs. The \$437,000 project is paid for by grants from the California Department of Transportation, which owned the staircases until it gave them to the city in 1999.

Arts endowment sends Jackson Browne to school

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON
Daily Press Staff Writer

Arts education supporters are far from running on empty as they prepare for what they hope will be a \$100,000 weekend when the legendary Jackson Browne takes center stage at Barnum Hall.

Browne, who lives in the area and has a nephew who attends John

Adams Middle School, agreed to play at the Santa Monica High School theater on May 14 as part of a three-day fundraising event to pump money into arts education throughout the local school district.

Browne, who has been singing, song writing and producing albums since the 1960s, sits on the honorary committee for "For The

See BROWNE, page 7



File photo

Legendary musician Jackson Browne led a rally in front of City Hall last June to ask local politicians to give more money to the school district. Browne, a local resident and supporter of the school district, will play a benefit concert on May 14 to raise money for an endowment campaign dedicated solely to arts education in local schools.



CITY HALL: DOLLARS & SENSE

A month-long series examining the Santa Monica City Hall finances

Tax time: Increase might appear on November ballot

Hotel bed tax pumps millions into City Hall

BY JOHN WOOD

Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL — Voters this fall might decide whether the local tourism industry should be taxed as much as \$3 million, money that likely would help bail out struggling public schools.

At 12 percent, Santa Monica's hotel bed tax is expected to generate \$18.5 million for City Hall this year. For each percentage point the bed tax increases, officials estimate an additional \$1.5 million would be raised.

However, raising the tax

could turn away some potential business — especially travel agents, who buy package deals in bulk. Those agents often will choose Santa Monica because the bed tax is lower here than in surrounding areas, including Beverly Hills, Marina Del Rey and West Hollywood.

Before the matter can appear on the ballot, the City Council must agree an increase is justified and decide how much to request. Council members on Tuesday said they are considering a 2 percent hike.

"I think that makes sense," City Councilman Ken Genser said.

Setting the bed tax at 14 percent would generate about the same amount City Hall needs to

See BED TAX, page 6

Shots ring out in eastside Pico neighborhood

By Daily Press staff

PICO NEIGHBORHOOD — A man was shot in the leg Monday night here during a drive-by shooting.

The victim, who refused to give Santa Monica Police detectives any information regarding the incident, was taken to a local hospital and later released. The shooting occurred at 9:20 p.m. in the 1800 block of 17th Street, a common place for gunfire, gang activity and drug dealing.

"He is not giving away any information regarding the suspects," said SMPD Lt. P.J. Guido, adding the investigation is ongoing and it's unknown whether the shooting was gang related. "We can't rule it out because the victim

is uncooperative."

The victim has had numerous contacts with local police in the past, but Guido couldn't elaborate on the circumstances.

The shooting occurred in front of a low-income housing project, operated by Community Corp. of Santa Monica, where other crimes have been committed in the past.

Witnesses described a white vehicle, possibly a Nissan or Toyota, leaving the area shortly after the shooting.

Anyone with information regarding the shooting is asked to call the SMPD robbery/homicide unit at (310) 458-8451. Callers who wish to remain anonymous also may call the We-Tip national hotline at 1-800-78-CRIME.

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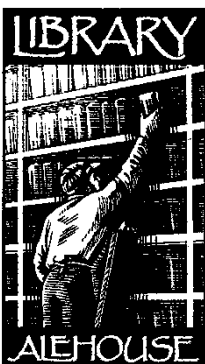
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Aquarius, take a break this week



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)

★★★★ You could be startled by someone else's thinking this morning, but this could change rapidly. Putting an emphasis on goals could be disappointing but might take you to a new level. Reach out for someone at a distance whom you care about. Tonight: Think "vacation." Think "Memorial Day weekend."



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ You wake up to a mixed bag. You and/or those around you have expectations that cannot happen. Clear through the confusion, allowing others to share more of themselves. Discuss problems with one person at a time. Tonight: Work as a team.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Proceed into work ready to check out information or a wild idea. You might be disappointed that an idea is not as solid as you would like. Work on filling in the gaps. Others seek you out later in the day. Tonight: Just don't be alone.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Visualize more of what you want; listen to feedback a partner or associate gives you. Understand that you don't have all the right ideas. Be willing to exchange and brainstorm with others. Extreme feelings come out in a partnership. Tonight: Work as late as necessary.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Dealing with others could be frustrating, as they might not be able to work on facts and insist on visualizing. You also could be putting a family member or roommate on a pedestal. Work in the here and now in order to achieve success. Tonight: Express your playfulness.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Clearly, your objectives might not match those of co-workers or associates. You might decide that others are in la-la land. Base your actions on reality and what is true for you. Examine mutual interests and home in on the details later. You find others hazy at best. Tonight: Vanish home.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ You could be dealing with finances under a false haze. Also, how you see a personal matter could be the effect of rose-colored thinking. Avoid risks. Use the later part of the day to work out problems through conversations and tracking events and information. Tonight: Chat the night away.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ You wake up feeling your Wheaties, though somehow you stumble into others. Be gracious and thoughtful when dealing with a family member and those in your immediate circle. You might not like everything you hear. Take a strong hand with finances. Tonight: Treat yourself.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ You might be deceiving yourself about how much you will need to spend. Key in to where the problem might lie. Avoid making monetary commitments until you have a better sense of where your funds will be going. You won't get a clear perspective until late in the day. Tonight: Indulge yourself.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ You might be deceiving yourself about how much you will need to spend. Key in to where the problem might lie. Avoid making monetary commitments until you have a better sense of where your funds will be going. Tonight: Take a night for yourself.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Visualize, but don't consider your ideas grounded just yet. Test out concepts with someone whose opinion you value, preferably a person who doesn't always agree with you. Meetings provide more feedback. Tonight: Take a midweek break.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ You might not be sure of your facts. Repave recent groundwork, realizing what might need to be done in order to handle an issue that involves work. Don't listen to office gossip. Find the experts, if you can. Later today, you'll gain a better perspective. Tonight: Out late.

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LOCAL



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SMC students head to D.C.

By Daily Press staff

Four Santa Monica College students have been selected to be summer interns in the White House, U.S. Congress and National Institutes of Health.

The students, who come from a variety of backgrounds and interests, will gain experience through the eight-week internship program, which is believed to be unique for a community college. Interns will receive stipends to cover transportation, housing and other expenses.

The Dale Ride Internship program — which in 12 years has sent 71 students to the White House, Congress and other agencies — is underwritten by the SMC Foundation President's Circle, Stratton-Petit Foundation, US Bank and Verizon. Other contributors include the Dale Ride Family Fund and the SMC Associates, a private community support organization that funds speakers and special programs on campus.

The interns and their assignments are:

■ Sanam Dabir-Babakan, of Los Angeles, will be in the office of U.S. Representative Dan Burton (R-Ind.). A certified paralegal, Dabir-Babakan is a women's studies major who has made the SMC dean's list and is a member of the Women's College Association and Black Collegians. A native of Iran who was raised in the United States, she volunteers with Project Angel Food and works with the elderly. She plans to become a lawyer and serve underprivileged minority women and children.

■ Juanett Davis, of Los Angeles, will serve in the office of House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.). President-elect of the SMC Associated Students, Davis is a broadcast journalism major who is active with the Venice/Santa Monica chapter of the NAACP and with student government. A recipient of the Jean Litsy O'Brien Scholarship, she has been named to the National Dean's List. She plans to transfer to USC's Annenberg School of Communication with the goal of working in television.

■ Ray Emanuel, of Santa Monica, will serve at the National Institutes of Health in Bethesda, Md., just outside Washington, D.C. A biology major, Emanuel is the president of SMC's Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and has served as the Associated Students' director of financial support. A native of Burma who grew up in the San Francisco Bay Area in a family that could not afford health insurance, he plans to go into the field of health administration with an emphasis on health care policy and reform.

■ Terez McCall, of Los Angeles, will serve her internship at the White House Initiative on Educational Excellence for Hispanic Americans. A sociology and women's studies major, she is a member of SMC's Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society and Black Collegians, and is vice president of the Women's College Students Association. A native of South Central Los Angeles, Terez hopes to work for the U.S. Department of Education and concentrate on increasing post-secondary enrollment, especially among disadvantaged youth.

The internship program was established in 1991 in the memory of a man who had a long, distinguished career as an educator, administrator and public servant. Ride taught political science and served in administrative posts at SMC for 33 years until his death in September 1989 at the age of 67.



Dale Ride Internship program summer D.C. interns

See BRIEFS, page 6

surf report

Look for fading NW wind and ground swell and slowly fading S swell today. Northern LA spots will see surf in the knee- to chest-high range at many spots, with some occasional shoulder sets at standout S/combo breaks. South Bay spots see mostly the NW energy with ankle- to waist-high surf at average areas and some chest-high sets at best NW/combo breaks in the north half of the bay. Winds will be light out of the S to light and variable in the morning, building out of the SW to W up to 10 knots+ in the afternoon.

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SUNDAY	2:21	0.3	2:12	0.4	8:20	4.5	8:28	5.7
MONDAY	3:01	-0.4	2:44	0.7	9:09	4.5	8:58	6.1
TUESDAY	3:44	-0.1	3:17	1.1	9:59	4.3	9:31	6.4
WEDNESDAY	4:30	-1.3	3:51	1.5	10:52	4.1	10:08	6.5
THURSDAY	5:20	-1.4	4:29	1.9	11:52	3.7	10:49	6.4
FRIDAY	6:16	-1.3	5:12	2.3	1:02	3.5	11:37	6.1

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The Q Line

The Santa Monica City Council is considering raising the bed tax on hotel users. The tax hike would have to be voted on by Santa Monica citizens this November.

Santa Monica's bed tax is lower than in many surrounding cities, and some think keeping it low will allow Santa Monica to remain competitive. Others think if it's raised slightly, it will bring in needed revenue and that money can be

used to fund local schools.

So, this week, Q-line wants know, "Will you support a bed tax increase? Why or why not?"

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

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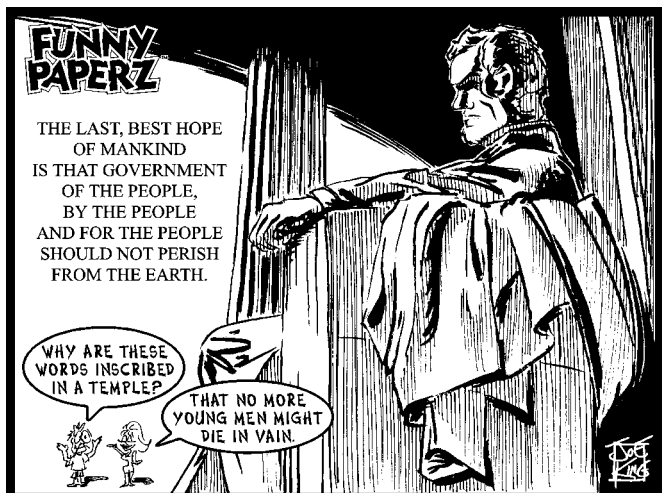
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"It doesn't cost
a lot to treat
mom right."



OPINION

LETTERS



Member: AAEC, NCS, SCCS

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Quit using homeless as scapegoats

Editor:

In the May 3 edition (page 4), I see yet another letter ("More furniture coming for homeless") ranting against Santa Monica's homeless.

Yes, many of Santa Monica's homeless population have been in town for years. They consider it their home. They're not about to leave, regardless of anti-homeless city ordinances and hypocritical venom. Adding new "furniture" will not of itself draw additional homeless to our city though it may look that way because more current homeless will be able to take advantage of it.

Personally, I expect to see a concerted effort by the Bayside District Corporation to move the homeless currently using the Promenade to Second and Fourth streets once this "furniture" is installed!

If the business community, the City Council and the general public really wanted the homeless off the streets, they long ago would have provided them a drop-in center to stay at during the day. If the business community, the City Council and the general public really wanted cleaner streets, they long ago would have provided restrooms for the city's homeless — but then they'd have no defenseless scapegoats to blame for problems caused by, for example, the new smoking ban which will cause prospective tourists to decide to visit more friendly locations, or the recent anti-business emphasis on signage.

And, of course, some people probably believe it's the homeless who have caused Santa Monica Place and the Promenade to lose business, not the fact that both have become chainstore-laden "cookie cutter" copies of every local mall in the country. Some people probably even condemn the homeless for the constant traffic jams and street closures (actually caused by the traffic malls or the construction of new "luxury" apartment complexes), which cause people to avoid coming to town to shop in the first place.

To everyone who wants to see Santa Monica rid itself of its homeless population, I suggest they come up with serious, positive ways to do so, not simply (as usual) using them as scapegoats to excuse the city's real problems.

Kenneth McCrae
Santa Monica



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

'Bush II' not first Bush to manipulate us into Iraq war



INCITES

By Ed Silverstein

The mission has not been accomplished, and the Iraqis are more against us than with us. And recent reports suggest that as much as 20 percent of the multi-billion dollar reconstruction budget is going to bribes, payoffs and other illegal corruption.

Bush's war justifications have been drying up faster than bullshit in Baghdad, or even camel crap in Crawford. There was no active nuclear program, no weapons of mass destruction, no mobile chemical labs, no connection between Saddam and 9/11 and, at least before the war, no connection between Iraq and al Qaeda.

Bush's most recent revision is that the war is a humanitarian mission of liberation from a brutal dictator. But the president's promises of no more mass graves and the elimination of state-sponsored torture will be of little comfort to the many thousands of Iraqi casualties who are buried in individual graves. Nor will the Iraqi prisoners or war, who were softened up for interrogation through systematic abuse and torture by American soldiers acting under instructions from intelligence officers, appreciate the subtle nuances of American humanity.

So was Bush just a hapless victim of faulty intelligence? Was there was no way for him to know that Saddam did not represent an imminent threat?

Not according to a report prepared at the request of Rep. Henry A. Waxman (D-Santa Monica, www.henrywaxman.house.gov). The report is a comprehensive examination of 237 misleading or false statements made by President Bush, Vice President Dick Cheney, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld, Secretary of State Colin Powell and National Security Advisor Condoleezza Rice about the threat posed by Iraq.

The report was careful not to include any statements that were supported by the intelligence community views at the time but later turned out to be erroneous. In other words, these top Bush Administration officials, including the president, deliberately made statements that were misleading, half truths or outright lies in what can only be construed as a premeditated strategy of misinformation designed to manipulate Americans into a highly questionable war.

But this might not be the first time a Bush has duped us into going to war against Iraq.

In 1990, George H.W. Bush led the worldwide coalition against Iraq after they invaded Kuwait. But British reporters obtained a tape and transcript of the following meeting that occurred between Saddam Hussein and U.S. Ambassador April Glaspie:

"Ambassador Glaspie: I have direct instructions from President Bush to improve our relations with Iraq. We have considerable sympathy for your quest for higher oil prices, the immediate cause of your confrontation with Kuwait. (sic) For this reason, I have received an instruction to ask you, in the spirit of friendship — not confrontation — regarding your intentions: Why are your troops massed so very close to Kuwait's borders?"

"Saddam Hussein: As you know, for

years now I have made every effort to reach a settlement on our dispute with Kuwait. There is to be a meeting in two days. I am prepared to give negotiations only this one more brief chance. (pause) When we (the Iraqis) meet (with the Kuwaitis) and we see there is hope, then nothing will happen. But if we are unable to find a solution, then it will be natural that Iraq will not accept death."

"Glaspie: What solutions would be acceptable?"

"Hussein: If we could keep the whole of the Shatt al Arab — our strategic goal in our war with Iran — we will make concessions (to the Kuwaitis). But, if we are forced to choose between keeping half of the Shatt and the whole of Iraq (in Saddam's view this included Kuwait) then we will give up all of the Shatt to defend our claims on Kuwait to keep the whole of Iraq in the shape we wish it to be. (pause) What is the United States' opinion on this?"

"Glaspie: We have no opinion on your Arab — Arab conflicts, such as your dispute with Kuwait. Secretary (of State James) Baker has directed me to emphasize the instruction, first given to Iraq in the 1960s, that the Kuwait issue is not associated with America."

Eight days later Saddam invaded Kuwait. Many questioned whether Pappy Bush set a trap by giving Saddam the green light to attack Kuwait, then using the invasion as an excuse to go to war. But there were few answers.

Glaspie would later claim that the transcript, though accurate in many ways, was a fraud meant to discredit her. But a telex to Secretary of State James Baker, which might have shed light on the incident, was quickly classified by the Administration, as were several secret cables sent by Bush to Hussein. Later, Glaspie and then acting Secretary of State Eagleburger were not permitted to appear at a Senate Foreign Relations Committee hearing looking into the matter.

Sound familiar? There's more. Bush Senior's defense secretary was accused by the United Nations of exaggerating the amount of nuclear material held by Saddam, much as Rumsfeld has been accused of exaggerating the threat of Saddam's weapons of mass destruction. And the French foreign minister, Claude Cheysson, claimed that Americans were determined to go to war from the start and that State Department officials led Saddam into a trap.

So was "HW" also guilty of manipulating America into a war with Iraq? We might have had the definitive answer in 2001 when Bush 1's presidential papers were scheduled to be made public, but Bush Junior defied the 1978 law and postponed their release until after the 2004 election. But taking into account the Bush family's incestuous ties to the oil industry, not to mention the Saudi Royal family, anything is possible. One thing is for sure, when it comes to secrecy, obstruction and manipulation, the oil didn't fall far from the well.

ASIDE: An angry Bush on American POWs being shown on (gasp) Iraqi television: "I expect them to be treated, the POWs I expect to be treated humanely. And — just like we're treating the prisoners that we have captured humanely. If not, the people who mistreat the prisoners will be treated as war criminals."

(Ed Silverstein is a freelance writer living in Santa Monica. There is an imminent threat that he will read all comments sent to edsincites@aol.com.)

OPINION



War on terror abuses victims around world



POLITI-GIRL

By Beth Solomon

WASHINGTON — The vicious regime of Saddam Hussein sent its opponents to a prison called Abu Ghraib, 20 miles west of Baghdad, where they were tortured, beaten and abused in barbaric cells.

When U.S. troops arrived to liberate the Iraqi people, they closed the prison. Then they renovated it. Then they began torturing Iraqi citizens again.

This week, six U.S. military police were charged with torture and other abuse of Iraqi citizens at Abu Ghraib. According to military charges, U.S. service men and women forced prisoners to lie in "a pyramid of naked detainees" and jumped on their prone bodies. Detainees were ordered to strip and perform or simulate sex acts. A hooded man allegedly was made to stand on a box of meals ready to eat and was told that he would be electrocuted if he fell off. A soldier unzipped a body bag and took snapshots of a detainee's frozen corpse inside. Several times, soldiers were photographed and videotaped posing in front of humiliated inmates. One gave a thumbs-up sign in front of the human pyramid.

These are just the first stories to emerge in a burgeoning investigation of American torture of Iraqi soldiers and civilians. Photographs and video of alleged torture and sexual abuse of Iraqi women and children have not yet been released.

The story, broken by CBS's 60 Minutes II and the New Yorker's Seymour Hersh, is making headlines in the United States. It's the main story — the only story — on Arab and Muslim TV networks around the globe.

It's horrifying to think that U.S. service men and women — in significant numbers — have been perpetrating unspeakable crimes under the authority of our government.

But in another hot, sandy area — just a few miles away from Santa Monica in Pomona, Calif. — a parallel story is emerging.

An affidavit released this week reveals how FBI counterterrorism officials badly misused the laws of the United States to wrongly incriminate a dozen young environmentalists and subject them to harassment, fear and damage to their reputations.

With no evidence, but plenty of suspicion about "eco-terrorists," FBI officials wove a tissue of disparate facts together to falsely implicate a young solar-panel installer, Josh Connole, in the 2003 firebombings of 72 Hummers near San Bernardino.

The FBI considered Connole a suspect because "individuals who commit illegal actions in the name of the Earth Liberation

Front movement, (sic) are generally tied to aboveground (sic) groups that promote environmental, social and political goals similar to the those of the ELF."

Connole's crime was organizing a weekly peace vigil in his hometown of Brea in conservative Orange County.

The FBI put that information together with an anonymous tip from a Pomona resident warning that Connole and his housemates had pro-environment stickers on their cars. Even more suspiciously, the environmental cooperative owned electric cars that also carried pro-environment bumper stickers. And one of Connole's housemates — along with his father — had criticized excessive use of fossil fuels on a Web site.

FBI officials took this "evidence" and concocted a narrative in which Connole was the chief antagonist — I mean eco-terrorist. Back in Washington at FBI headquarters, officials compared images of Connole and silhouettes from the Hummer fire surveillance videos. They concluded that both images depicted tall, lanky men with brown hair.

Finally, an FBI canine was able to trace the scent of Connole back to his house after he walked the same route from a nearby convenience store.

The FBI hauled Connole into jail and threatened him with life in prison if he didn't confess to the crime.

In an eerie foreshadowing of prison incidents 10,000 miles away, counterterrorism officials kept Connole in a metal cell with the lights on all day and all night. They served food that, as a vegetarian, he could not eat.

The degree of the FBI's humiliation, abuse and misuse of power pales in comparison to the latest reports coming out of Iraq, but the common elements warrant close attention.

While U.S. government officials — whether in Pomona or Iraq — are under pressure, operating in an environment with real threats, the government's ability to misconstrue facts, manufacture nonexistent connections and inflict devastating abuse on innocent people is more frightening than any exterior threat facing our country.

A much bigger threat is the destruction of the credibility of the U.S. government and the frontal attack on our democracy by our own officials. Forget about selling democracy abroad — I'm talking about re-learning how to it at home.

Our democracy works because we have been able to hold our government accountable. In Pomona and Iraq, the U.S. government clearly is not.

On public radio, Seymour Hersh could have been talking about Pomona when he said the following about U.S. military torturers in Iraq: "It comes back to this town, to this government, to a bunch of people who thought they were going to smoke 'em out."

(Beth Solomon is a Left Coast writer reachable at bethsolomon@earthlink.net.)

Back Pain?

West L.A., CA — According to a recently released back pain relief report, most back pain sufferers have no idea how to eliminate their pain. Some use heat, others ice. From sleeping on the floor, to pillows underneath the legs, back pain relief techniques vary. But thanks to a free report, local back pain sufferers finally know exactly what to do. To get a copy of the free "Back Pain Relief Report".

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LOCAL

Effect of possible tax hike on local merchants open to speculation

BED TAX, from page 1

cover its stated ambition of giving local schools \$6 million this year. The city already gives schools \$3 million in ongoing funds but is looking for an additional revenue source to double that.

The proposed hike would put Santa Monica on par with Beverly Hills, West Hollywood and Los Angeles, which all charge 14 percent. Other cities — like Hermosa Beach, Manhattan Beach and Redondo Beach — have kept their bed tax at 10 percent, which is where Santa Monica's was until it was upped in 1989. But while those South Bay cities might not be direct competitors, some closer neighbors are.

City Councilman Bob Holbrook said he likely would oppose an increase that pushes Santa Monica's bed tax higher than Marina Del Rey's, because there are several competing hotels in the Marina that could attract Santa Monica business. The bed tax is 13 percent in the Marina.

Still, Holbrook said he supported the idea of some increase.

"Generally speaking, unless you have a family visiting the city, it's not going to affect you personally," he said. "It's a tax that's probably 99.9 percent borne by visitors to this

"We feel that it's extremely important that funds raised from this tax go back into tourism."

— KATHY DODSON

President and CEO, SM Chamber of Commerce

city. The important thing about it is that we remain competitive. We don't want to price ourselves out of the tourist market."

The bed tax is expected to generate \$18.5 million for City Hall this fiscal year — the most since the 2000-2001 year, when \$19.2 million was raised, according to Dave Carr, City Hall's assistant treasurer.

It's unclear what effect the change would have on business. Santa Monica already charges more, on average, for hotel rooms than most surrounding communities.

"The negative part of it is because our rates are already much higher than any other area around us, so this will add even more to the sales process, which lessens our value and diminishes our competitive edge," said Francois Khoury, general manager of the Doubletree Guest Suites Hotel on Fourth Street. "Of course,

nobody looks forward to a change like that, because it changes some of the sales strategies that we have — that we use as

an advantage today — which would be taken away."

Misti Kearns, executive director of the Santa Monica Convention and Visitors Bureau, said she expects hotel occupancy to stay relatively strong this year — between 75 and 76 percent — and expects the daily average rate to grow by about 5 percent. That rate in 2003 was \$183.96.

"I can tell you that performance wide, we're doing pretty well," Kearns said. "We ended the year 2003 at a 73.9 percent occupancy and a \$183.96 average daily rate, which was a 2.6 percentage growth in rate — that hasn't been happening."

Asked about the possible bed tax hike, Kearns said she only hopes if the bed tax is raised, at least a portion of the new revenue is reinvested in tourism. That sentiment was echoed by Kathy Dodson, president and CEO of the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce.

"We feel that it's extremely important that funds raised from this tax go back into tourism," Dodson said. "At least some portion. You can increase the percentage, but if you're not promoting tourism, the income could actually decrease."

In mixed company

A breakdown of how much nearby cities tax tourists for staying in their hotel rooms:

Beverly Hills	14 percent
Inglewood	14 percent
Los Angeles	14 percent
West Hollywood	14 percent
Marina Del Rey	13 percent
Culver City	12 percent
Hawthorne	12 percent
Long Beach	12 percent
Malibu	12 percent
Santa Monica	12 percent
Torrance	11 percent
Burbank	10 percent
Hermosa Beach	10 percent
Manhattan Beach	10 percent
Redondo Beach	10 percent

The tax man

Hotel bed tax revenue is a major source of income for City Hall. Here's a breakdown of bed tax revenue over the last five fiscal years:

2003-2004*	\$18,550,000
2002-2003	\$17,058,749
2001-2002	\$16,348,320
2000-2001	\$19,218,221
1999-2000	\$17,880,110
1998-1999	\$15,418,238

*From the revised budget, which is based on expected income.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

BRIEFS, from page 3

Sheryl Crow to perform at SM airport

By Daily Press staff

The sounds of top musicians and artists will emanate this Saturday from the Barker Hangar at the Santa Monica Airport.

The second annual "Night With The Friends of El Faro Fundraiser" is a concert fundraiser to benefit the Casa Hogar El Faro 2 Orphanage in Tijuana, Baja Calif.

The event will feature musical performances by Sheryl Crow, Dwight Yoakam, Vonda Shepard and The Dan Band. Special guests will include celebrity entertainers Kathy Najimy,

Sharon Lawrence, Maria Bello and Andrew Keegan, to name a few.

There also will be a DJ and dancing, silent auction, photo exhibit, as well as food and drink provided by a variety of vendors including Trader Joe's, Whole Foods, Red Bull and many more.

The event will be held May 8 from 7 p.m. to 12 a.m. at the Barker Hangar, 3021 Airport Ave.

Casa Hogar El Faro 2 is home to 100 children, ages ranging from birth to 18 years old. Officials say it is in dire need of financial support to provide the basic necessities — nutritional food, adequate water and sanitation — for its children.

Tickets are \$100 and can be purchased by calling (949) 476-1144, ext. 311, or by visiting www.corazondevida.org. The ticket price is tax-deductible.

Senator Kuehl to give keynote in Santa Monica

By Daily Press staff

State Sen. Sheila Kuehl (D-Santa Monica) will be the keynote speaker at City Hall's Social Services Commission on Thursday.

Kuehl is scheduled to speak at 7 p.m. at the Police Activities League, 1401 Olympic Blvd. She will discuss access to resources and assistance for local low-income working families and individuals on the Westside.

Community members are encouraged to attend the two-hour event to learn about social services and resources available in Santa Monica, as well as to share their concerns with the commission, Kuehl and City Hall's human services division staff.

LOCAL



Weekend fundraiser 'For The Arts' to get festive on the Santa Monica Pier

BROWNE, from page 1

Arts," a campaign launched by local parents two years ago. For the Arts plans to create a \$15 million endowment so programs in music, visual arts, dance and drama are in every school throughout the district. Since its inception, For the Arts has raised \$1.5 million.

When the tickets for the Jackson Browne concert went on sale April 19, the \$65 tickets sold out in six hours, said Linda Gross, executive director of the Education Foundation, a nonprofit organization that raises money for the school district and has teamed up with For The Arts. Gross added that 187 of the \$250 tickets have been sold and 20 tickets for \$1,000 have been put aside for those who want VIP treatment, including a chance to meet Browne, as well as attend a reception and live auction at the Santa Monica Pier Carousel before the benefit concert. The live auction will be moderated by the famous Christie's Auction House and will be conducted by members of the TV show, "The West Wing."

The concert and reception is the kick-off to an entire weekend of fundraising on the Santa Monica Pier for For The Arts. On Saturday and Sunday, there will be a free festival that will feature continuous music and performances by Santa Monica and Malibu students, as well as related workshops, art vendors, community nonprofit organizations and food provided by local restaurants. Vendors will donate a portion of their proceeds to the campaign.

The responsibility of an honorary member for For The Arts includes lending their name to the cause, a financial contribution and offering one thing to contribute outside of a financial commitment. Browne, who has been active in supporting the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District in the past, figured a benefit concert would be the perfect fit to kick off the weekend. His only stipulation was that part of the proceeds go directly to music programs within the district, Gross said. Browne will perform with a local band, Venice.

For The Arts focuses on raising money for four disciplines — music, drama, visual arts and dance. The endowment campaign was started by Santa Monica residents Carol and Greg Foote. When Carol Foote became a parent at Roosevelt Elementary and got involved in the PTA there, she noticed the disparities throughout the district in terms of what schools offered for arts education.

Some schools, which have students and parents who are more affluent, are able to raise more money than those across town. Although Santa Monica and Malibu are cities known for their affluence, there are plenty of poor students throughout the district. According to school officials, 31 percent of all families

in Santa Monica have an average income under \$22,500 and one third of students in the district qualify for free or reduced-fee lunches. What's more, there is no district-funded choral music program at the elementary level, or funding for visual arts, dance, drama and music in the elementary schools.

"It isn't to give privileged kids more but to level the playing field," Carol Foote said. "It's sad that public schools have become a charity."

The Education Foundation, which was created in 1982 to preserve, support and enhance programs within the school district, is working with For The Arts to ensure the campaign continues for years to come, Gross said. The foundation has raised \$1 million for a literacy endowment and raises \$100,000 annually. Every year, the foundation gives \$35,000 in grants to teachers for special projects so they can buy supplies and other tools to educate their students, Gross said.

And while there are 75 people directly involved in the endowment campaign and hundreds of donors, Gross said it would have never gotten off the ground if the Footes hadn't started the effort.

"Carol and Greg have been the driving force with this endowment," she said, adding it will create an ongoing funding source to ensure that children in all socioeconomic classes get artistic education. "It's forever, it's not raise and spend."

Beyond fundraising events — For The Arts raised \$165,000 last year during an arts auction — there are hundreds of people who have contributed to the cause over the past two years. But more effort needs to be put into individual fundraising, Foote said.

"We are getting them to use their own lists to find other contributors," Foote said. "There are very generous people here, they just need to know about us."

Foote and others believe that there is no reason children should go without a full education when surrounded by so much wealth.

"It's so great to use this wealth to benefit so many people," Foote said, adding that there are plenty of people not yet tapped. "With your tax cut, we know what you can do."

The Jackson Browne concert begins at 8:30 p.m. and is scheduled to go until 11:30 p.m. The VIP reception will begin at 5:30 p.m. and will last until 8 p.m. VIP guests will be transported to Samohi campus for the show. There are still tickets available for the concert in the 991-seat Barnum Hall. Those interested can call (310) 396-4557. The festival, which is sponsored by the Santa Monica Pier Restoration Corp., which manages the pier, will begin at 11 a.m. and run until 5 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday.



Jackson Browne

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STATE

Wildfires burn over thousands of acres in SoCal

BY TIM MOLLOY
Associated Press Writer

CORONA — Thousands of people were evacuated from their homes Tuesday as wildfires burned through Southern California brushlands parched by blistering spring heat waves that led to an early fire season declaration by the state.

Some homes and outbuildings were destroyed but there were no reports of losses on the scale of the destruction that occurred across the region last fall when thousands of homes were gutted by firestorms.

Weather appeared to be improving Tuesday, with forecasters saying a ridge of high pressure over the West was weakening. That would allow a return of a moist onshore flow from the Pacific that raises humidity. Highs Tuesday in the areas with the biggest fires were expected to reach the mid-90s, about a 10-degree drop from Monday.

"The reports I get here in Washington are that this could be the worst fire season in history," U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein told KNX-AM on Tuesday.

The California Democrat suggested that recreational areas may have to be closed during the peak fire season.

"It's hardship for some, but on the other hand the worst hardship is to have one of these major firestorms in play," Feinstein said.

The two biggest fires burned in Riverside County, an inland region east-southeast of Los Angeles. Fires also burned in San Diego County and up the coast in Santa Barbara County.

As many as 600 people were evacuated as the 5,000-acre Cerrito Fire in Riverside County between Corona and Lake Elsinore approached their homes. Another 2,000 to 3,000 people may have left their homes voluntarily and remain displaced, said Rick Griggs, an engineer with the California Department of Forestry.

Abraham Contreras said firefighters warned him Monday night that flames were coming toward his home. He said he got in his tractor and cleared debris around his 33-acre property, including his home and horse corral.

"I went with the tractor and made a circle around the property," said Contreras, who added that the fire burned everything except for his and his neighbor's home.

"The reports I get here in Washington are that this could be the worst fire season in history."

— DIANNE FEINSTEIN
U.S. Senator

"The fire can't come back, everything's burned," he said.

The blaze was just 15 percent contained Tuesday, fire officials said. Three outbuildings, two unoccupied mobile homes and an unidentified structure were destroyed.

A man identified as Richard Drew Brown was arrested Monday night for investigation of two felony counts of "recklessly causing the fire with equipment," said CDF Capt. Julie Hutchinson. She said Brown "didn't intentionally inflict damage, he did something that was negligent."

The fire started around 1:30 p.m. Monday in Temescal Canyon near Interstate 15 and grew fast.

Also in Riverside County, the 4,000-acre Eagle Fire south of Temecula destroyed or damaged "multiple structures" overnight, Griggs said. He did not know of the buildings were homes. "I was given multiple structures damaged," he said.

The destroyed structures included the Dorland Mountain Colony, said CDF Capt. Jason Neuman. The colony is a cluster of buildings used as an artists retreat.

Evacuations were ordered along Highway 79. Containment was estimated at 10 percent.

The fire was burning about 10 miles south of an area that burned in last fall's wildfire siege.

"There's a lot of areas out there that haven't burned in many years so there's plenty of fuel to burn," CDF Capt. Steven Diaz said.

Officials expected the blaze to keep spreading toward Cleveland National Forest and the San Diego County line.

Meanwhile, the Federal Emergency Management Agency declared both the Cerrito and Eagle fires as major disaster areas that could allow firefighting agencies to be eligible for federal funds.

Capt. Rick Vogt of the Department of Forestry said authorities were hoping to question three motorcycle riders seen in the area of the fire near Temecula when it ignited Sunday afternoon.

Nearly a dozen firefighters among the thousands on the job throughout Southern California were treated for injuries, including heat stroke and dehydration. At least two people fleeing a fire in Los Padres National Forest were treated for injuries including smoke inhalation and cuts and bruises.

The Gafford Fire southeast of Lake Elsinore burned across 375 acres and was about 85 percent contained, with full containment expected Tuesday morning. About 350 firefighters were battling it, aided by water-dropping aircraft. One firefighter suffered heat stroke battling the blaze and another sprained an ankle.

Elsewhere, a fire that broke out in the Los Padres National Forest in Santa Barbara County grew Monday night to about 150 acres. Vehicles and structures on private property inside the forest were damaged, and two people fleeing the flames were treated for minor injuries, said fire information officer Joanna Guttman.

Firefighters said they had managed to slow a blaze that scorched 1,825 acres near the Camp Pendleton Marine base in San Diego County. It was about 75 percent contained early Tuesday, with no structures damaged and no injuries reported.

Full containment was expected Wednesday, said Camp Pendleton spokesman Staff Sgt. Jim Goodwin. The fire was headed east toward an area burned by a 2002 fire, which was expected to slow its progress, Goodwin said.

On Sunday, sheriff's deputies asked 80 families to voluntarily leave their homes and go to an evacuation center set up by the Red Cross.

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— President Andrew Jackson

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NATIONAL



Warming temperatures spell changes for ocean fish

(Editor's note: This is the fifth article in a series examining global warming.)

BY JEFF BARNARD
Associated Press Writer

NEWPORT, Ore. — Herb Goblirsch is not sure whether he believes in global warming, but he has no doubt his ability to make a living as a fisherman can turn on a difference of just a few degrees in water temperature.

"The ocean was like a desert," Goblirsch recalled of the El Nino that warmed ocean temperatures off Oregon in 1982 and 1983. "The salmon we were catching were long and skinny, like a northern pike. When I saw fish that should have dressed out at 17 pounds dressing out at 11 pounds and going into the medium pile, I said, 'That's it. I'll give the fish a break.'"

Climate changes are no stranger to commercial fishermen. El Nino generated warmer waters in 1982-83 and again in 1997, bringing a host of warm-water species that were caught off Oregon. Scientists have also seen changes in migrations of some species of krill, the tiny zooplankton at the foundation of the food web.

"There are a lot of things that haven't been seen before," said Bob Francis, a professor in the University of Washington School of Aquatic and Fisheries Sciences. "But whether that's due to global warming or not, people don't know. Because nobody has that kind of perspective."

As an in-between zone, the West Coast does not have as much physical evidence as the Arctic and tropics to point to global warming, said Nate Mantua, a research scientist with the University of Washington Climate Impacts Group in Seattle. In the Arctic, for example, pack ice is thinning. In the tropics, coral reefs are being bleached. Both can be linked to warmer water.

One new source of evidence for the waters of the Northwest lies in the shells of goosduck clams, said Mantua.

Research published in March in the journal *Geophysical Research Letters* showed growth rings on goosduck clam shells could be used to track coastal water temperatures.

Using clams from the Strait of Juan de Fuca between Washington and Vancouver

"There are a lot of things that haven't been seen before. But whether that's due to global warming or not, people don't know. Because nobody has that kind of perspective."

— BOB FRANCIS
Professor

University of Washington School of Aquatic and Fisheries Sciences

Island, British Columbia, that lived as much as 160 years, the authors found the 1990s to be the warmest decade for summertime water temperatures there since the 1850s. They hope to push the record back even farther by digging for the shells of long-dead clams buried in sediments.

What is better known is that the atmospheric conditions known as El Nino, based in the southern Pacific, and the Pacific Decadal Oscillation, based in the northern Pacific, drive climate in the West, in the ocean as well as on land.

Between them, they can swing coastal ocean temperatures as much as 10 degrees Fahrenheit, making it practically impossible to see the 1- to 3-degree increase ascribed to global warming, said Mantua.

The ocean-warming El Ninos may offer a preview of what to expect from global warming, said William Pearcy, professor emeritus of oceanography at Oregon State University in Corvallis.

Pearcy compiled a list of warmwater species not normally seen this far north that were caught off Oregon in the 1997 El Nino. They include California barracuda, dorado, striped marlin, yellowtail, yellowfin tuna, and jumbo squid. The squid were abundant again last summer.

"Those are El Nino events which may or may not be linked to global warming," he said. "Certainly you can use what happens in an El Nino event as an indication of what may be happening with long-term global warming. If you have increased temperatures, you will have different species up here. And that will not be good news for salmonids."

El Ninos have meant less food for salmon in the ocean and more warm-

water predators such as jack mackerel and whiting to eat them when they migrate out of their native rivers to the ocean. On land, warming climate predictions generally call for less snowpack in the mountains, which means lower and warmer summertime flows in the rivers where salmon spawn and spend up to a year before heading to sea.

"So it's a double whammy," Pearcy said.

A flip in the Pacific Decadal Oscillation in 1998 is widely considered responsible for the current upsurge in salmon runs because it cooled the ocean and generated winds that churned the water so that nutrients settled on the bottom were drawn up, feeding plankton that are the foundation of the food chain.

Bill Peterson, an oceanographer with NOAA Fisheries in Newport, is watching the Pacific Decadal Oscillation for signs of global warming.

Identified only 10 years ago, the PDO is like El Nino in that it goes through phases that produce colder and warmer ocean waters and changes weather patterns. But the PDO's phases are longer — 20 to 23 years, compared to three to seven years for El Nino.

The PDO apparently flipped from warm phase to cool phase in 1998 — a judgment scientists are still trying to confirm. In the past, flipping to the cool phase has meant colder waters and northerly winds producing good upwelling from the Gulf of Alaska down past Oregon into the California Current, and warmer waters in the Bering Sea. That translates into lots of food and good returns for Northwest salmon, and less food and poorer returns for Alaskan salmon. When the PDO is in

the warm phase, Alaskan sockeye salmon traditionally thrive while Northwest salmon starve.

But this time, the water wasn't as cold as in 1977, Peterson said. The winds didn't shift the same way, either. After getting warmer as in the past, the Bering Sea turned cold last winter.

"That's what confuses people," Peterson said. "We're not getting this pattern of 20 years one way vs. 20 years another way."

"It is much more subtle issues and important issues than whether the ocean is warmer by 1 degree," Peterson added. "How fast are currents flowing? What does the community of animals look like? What are the nutrient concentrations in deep water that you can hope to upwell and cause production?"

After the PDO shift, more than just salmon rebounded, Peterson said. Groundfish, a broad group of fish including rockfish and ling cod whose numbers crashed precipitously, had their first good spawning season in years in 1999.

"I don't think we know where we are headed with this other than that it's going to shift (fish) communities to the north," Peterson said. "That's what's predicted to happen with land communities, too."

The impacts can be huge, economically as well as ecologically.

Whiting, for example, is a huge fishery that produces the raw material for imitation crab, known as surimi. If it moves north with warming waters, it will move into Canadian waters, out of reach of the American fleet. If the whiting pass the Oregon Coast when young salmon are emerging from their native streams, their feeding could produce major losses for salmon fishermen.

Scientists are just beginning to look for ways to translate what they know about climate and the ocean into long-range predictions to help fisheries managers set harvests.

Whatever happens, Goblirsch expects fishermen will follow the fish, the way they always have.

"A lot of fishermen moved to Alaska during the El Nino years and made their fortunes," he said. "If we have to move, we will."

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DAYS ON THE MARKET

By Jodi Summers

People who live in Santa Monica are blessed. By some means and motivation, they're willing and able to pay \$500,000 or more to live here. And with our vast array of social services and low-income housing programs, our city has become a microcosm for life in the United States.

Of all 95 million Americans, a full one-third of the population has one or more housing problems, according to "America's Neighbors: The Affordable Housing Crisis and the People it Affects." Of the people with housing issues, 43.6 million have incomes below \$25,000. The study cites the most common housing problem as the cost burden, with 55.5 million low-income people paying more than 30 percent of their income towards housing. In addition to the expense, housing problems can include substandard conditions, overcrowding or homelessness, according to a report released from the National Low Income Housing Coalition.

The inability to purchase a home has

become somewhat of a socioeconomic dividing line. In today's easy-mortgage society, home ownership has again become the American dream. It's been proven easier for homeowners to build economic wealth, which can later be used to buy college educations, as well as to fund retirement living and provide for other privileges that otherwise would be beyond reach.

"Home ownership is perhaps the best illustration of how access to credit can create new wealth-building opportunities," confirms Federal Reserve Board Governor Mark W. Olson.

The recent round of low mortgage rates has allowed a growing number of Southern California renters to become homeowners. The percentage of homeowner households increased by 1.5 percent from 1998 to 2001, and gains in home ownership in the two lowest income groups increased by 1.8 and 2 percent in the same period, according to data collected from the Fed's most recent Survey of Consumer Finance.

The home ownership rate in the Los Angeles area is about 40 percent, lagging well behind the national rate of about 70 percent. California households have a median household income of \$52,320, making them \$41,360 short of the \$93,680 qualifying income needed to purchase a median-priced Golden State home

at \$406,390. If you're lucky, that \$406,390 might get you a two-bedroom condo in Santa Monica. If you're part of the 43.6 million who have incomes below \$25,000, go talk to local housing officials.

Ever the socialist republic, Santa Monica is attempting to remedy home affordability issues by proposing to offer two- and three-bedroom condos for less than half of their current market value.

"We are not shifting our major focus, commitment away from very low-income rental housing," notes Joan Ling, executive director of the Community Corp. of Santa Monica. "It's just that we want to try something different, because we know the teachers and the classified workers in the district are priced out of being here."

Currently, the Community Corp. of Santa Monica oversees more than 2,400 low-income units on 78 properties throughout Santa Monica.

Many details still need to be worked through to make this project viable. Ling estimated close to \$100,000 in subsidies from the federal, state and local governments will be needed for each condo in order for CCSM to sell them below market rates.

To sweeten the possibility of home ownership for all who are motivated, the California Housing Finance Agency (www.calhfa.ca.gov) has announced three revisions to its first-time homeownership

program. These revisions include:

■ An increase in income limits — elevating the amount a borrower can earn and still qualify for CalHFA's low interest rate financing.

■ Newly revised sales price limits are the highest allowable by federal law. The new sales price schedule shows an increase for most of the state's 58 counties. Price limits in some areas increased as much as 66 percent.

■ Mortgage interest rate reduction — CalHFA has reduced its already low mortgage interest rates by a point, making them one of the lowest cost mortgage programs in the state.

"Homeownership continues to be one of the most solid and durable investments a California family can make. And our recent revisions give even more strength and versatility to our homeownership programs," declares California Housing Finance Agency Executive Director Theresa A. Parker.

If there is motivation to work through the system, there can be home ownership options available to many who considered it out of their reach.

(For your real estate needs, e-mail Jodi Summers at jodis@boardwalkrealty.com, or call (310) 309-4219.)

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REAL ESTATE



SANTA MONICA RESIDENTIAL REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

SOLD DATE SOLD 04/30/2004	808 ADELAIDE PL SANTA MONICA 90402 SQFT: 5,112 LIST PRICE: \$5,500,000 BED: 6 LOT SIZE: 12,700 SOLD PRICE: \$5,200,000 BATH: 5	SOLD DATE SOLD 04/28/2004	2246 25TH ST SANTA MONICA 90405 SQFT: 1,549 LIST PRICE: \$895,000 BED: 3 LOT SIZE: 7,791 SOLD PRICE: \$900,000 BATH: 2	SOLD DATE SOLD 04/28/2004	1325 9TH ST #7 SANTA MONICA 90401 SQFT: 918 LIST PRICE: \$449,000 BED: 2 HOD: \$110 SOLD PRICE: \$486,000 1.75
SOLD DATE SOLD 04/30/2004	577 E CHANNEL RD SANTA MONICA 90402 SQFT: 5,719 LIST PRICE: \$3,650,000 BED: 5 LOT SIZE: 27,878 SOLD PRICE: \$3,650,000 POOLBATH: 5.5	SOLD DATE SOLD 04/30/2004	515 OCEAN AVE #SPHC SANTA MONICA 90402 SQFT: 3,175 LIST PRICE: \$3,350,000 BED: 3 HOD: \$1,777 SOLD PRICE: \$3,350,000 YESBATH: 4.5	SOLD DATE SOLD 04/29/2004	2035 4TH ST #105C SANTA MONICA 90405 SQFT: 699 LIST PRICE: \$429,000 BED: 1 HOD: \$262 SOLD PRICE: \$445,000 POOLBATH: 1
SOLD DATE SOLD 04/30/2004	241 19TH ST SANTA MONICA 90402 SQFT: 6,465 LIST PRICE: \$3,250,000 BED: 5 LOT SIZE: 8,938 SOLD PRICE: \$3,185,000 POOLBATH: 6	SOLD DATE SOLD 04/30/2004	944 17TH ST #1 SANTA MONICA 90403 SQFT: 2,841 LIST PRICE: \$1,150,000 BED: 4 HOD: \$160 SOLD PRICE: \$1,400,000 BATH: 3.5	SOLD DATE SOLD 04/28/2004	2025 4TH ST #201A SANTA MONICA 90405 SQFT: N/A LIST PRICE: \$390,000 BED: 1 HOD: \$262 SOLD PRICE: \$435,000 POOLBATH: 1
SOLD DATE SOLD 04/30/2004	210 GEORGINA AVE SANTA MONICA 90402 SQFT: 2,824 LIST PRICE: \$2,400,000 BED: 4 LOT SIZE: 10,400 SOLD PRICE: \$2,597,000 BATH: 3	SOLD DATE SOLD 04/30/2004	2203 3RD ST #1 SANTA MONICA 90405 SQFT: 2,312 LIST PRICE: \$1,080,000 BED: 2 HOD: \$450 SOLD PRICE: \$1,200,000 BATH: 2.5	SOLD DATE SOLD 04/28/2004	2002 4TH ST #312 SANTA MONICA 90405 SQFT: 678 LIST PRICE: \$369,000 BED: 1 HOD: \$172 SOLD PRICE: \$400,000 POOLBATH: 1
SOLD DATE SOLD 04/30/2004	417 MESA RD SANTA MONICA 90402 SQFT: 3,485 LIST PRICE: \$2,095,000 BED: 3 LOT SIZE: 7,688 SOLD PRICE: \$2,120,000 YESBATH: 2	SOLD DATE SOLD 04/27/2004	201 OCEAN AVE #1809 P SANTA MONICA 90402 SQFT: 1,556 LIST PRICE: \$980,000 BED: 3 HOD: \$0 SOLD PRICE: \$980,000 POOLBATH: 2.5	SOLD DATE SOLD 04/27/2004	1419 15TH ST #2 SANTA MONICA 90404 SQFT: 588 LIST PRICE: \$299,000 BED: 1 HOD: \$206 SOLD PRICE: \$321,000 BATH: 1
SOLD DATE SOLD 04/29/2004	923 22ND ST SANTA MONICA 90403 SQFT: 2,393 LIST PRICE: \$1,576,000 BED: 3 LOT SIZE: 8,000 SOLD PRICE: \$1,756,000 BATH: 2	SOLD DATE SOLD 04/27/2004	2222 NEILSON #101 SANTA MONICA 90405 SQFT: 1,950 LIST PRICE: \$829,000 BED: 2 HOD: \$450 SOLD PRICE: \$890,000 BATH: 3	SOLD DATE SOLD 04/29/2004	1343 OAK ST SANTA MONICA 90405 SQFT: 1,648 LIST PRICE: \$895,000 GI: \$0 LOT SIZE: 6,290 SOLD PRICE: \$950,000 GRM: 0.00
SOLD DATE SOLD 04/26/2004	603 7TH ST SANTA MONICA 90402 SQFT: 2,175 LIST PRICE: \$1,799,000 BED: 3 LOT SIZE: 7,448 SOLD PRICE: \$1,550,000 POOLBATH: 3	SOLD DATE SOLD 04/30/2004	2311 SCHADER DR #308 SANTA MONICA 90404 SQFT: 2,222 LIST PRICE: \$679,000 BED: 3 HOD: \$405 SOLD PRICE: \$825,000 BATH: 2.5	SOLD DATE SOLD 04/29/2004	1801 9TH ST SANTA MONICA 90404 SQFT: 2,566 LIST PRICE: \$900,000 GI: \$0 LOT SIZE: 8,999 SOLD PRICE: \$900,000 GRM: 0.00
SOLD DATE SOLD 04/29/2004	40 HALDEMAN RD SANTA MONICA 90402 SQFT: N/A LIST PRICE: \$1,260,500 2 LOT SIZE: 11,326 SOLD PRICE: \$1,360,500 BATH: 2	SOLD DATE SOLD 04/30/2004	3019 3RD ST #204 SANTA MONICA 90405 SQFT: 1,371 LIST PRICE: \$749,000 2 HOD: \$491 SOLD PRICE: \$775,000 BATH: 2	SOLD DATE SOLD 04/28/2004	2801 KANSAS AVE SANTA MONICA 90404 SQFT: 3,454 LIST PRICE: \$799,000 GI: \$56,637 LOT SIZE: 7,143 SOLD PRICE: \$775,000 GRM: 13.07
SOLD DATE SOLD 04/28/2004	2520 CALIFORNIA SANTA MONICA 90403 SQFT: 1,498 LIST PRICE: \$1,249,000 BED: 3 LOT SIZE: 5,060 SOLD PRICE: \$1,250,000 BATH: 2	SOLD DATE SOLD 04/27/2004	1228 14TH ST #305 SANTA MONICA 90404 SQFT: 1,552 LIST PRICE: \$675,000 BED: 3 HOD: \$381 SOLD PRICE: \$702,000 BATH: 2	SOLD DATE SOLD 04/29/2004	1807 9TH ST SANTA MONICA 90404 SQFT: 2,566 LIST PRICE: \$750,000 GI: \$0 LOT SIZE: 7,497 SOLD PRICE: \$750,000 GRM: 0.00
SOLD DATE SOLD 04/27/2004	1726 WELLESLEY DR SANTA MONICA 90405 SQFT: N/A LIST PRICE: \$990,000 BED: 3 LOT SIZE: 6,486 SOLD PRICE: \$1,120,000 BATH: 1.75	SOLD DATE SOLD 04/30/2004	1418 26TH ST #5 SANTA MONICA 90404 SQFT: 1,497 LIST PRICE: \$569,000 BED: 2 HOD: \$300 SOLD PRICE: \$580,000 BATH: 2.5	SOLD DATE SOLD 04/30/2004	2502 7TH ST SANTA MONICA 90405 LIST PRICE: \$1,050,000 \$/SF: LSZ N/A OP-2 DOM: 38 LOT SIZE: N/A SOLD PRICE: \$915,000 N/A
SOLD DATE SOLD 04/27/2004	1720 WASHINGTON AVE SANTA MONICA 90403 SQFT: N/A LIST PRICE: \$1,089,000 BED: 4 LOT SIZE: 2,531 SOLD PRICE: \$1,050,000 BATH: 3	SOLD DATE SOLD 04/30/2004	2339 34TH ST #2 SANTA MONICA 90405 SQFT: 1,285 LIST PRICE: \$539,000 BED: 3 HOD: \$265 SOLD PRICE: \$570,000 BATH: 2.5		
SOLD DATE SOLD 04/29/2004	1930 11TH ST SANTA MONICA 90404 SQFT: 2,325 LIST PRICE: \$895,000 BED: 0 LOT SIZE: 7,497 SOLD PRICE: \$950,000 BATH: 0	SOLD DATE SOLD 04/30/2004	1144 17TH ST #7 SANTA MONICA 90403 SQFT: 1,000 LIST PRICE: \$574,000 BED: 2 HOD: \$246 SOLD PRICE: \$555,000 1.75		

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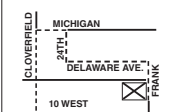
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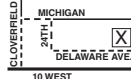
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**NATIONAL**

Missed Pentagon deadline draws senator's protest

BY ERICA WERNER
 Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon missed a deadline for sending Congress a report on perchlorate contamination at defense sites nationwide, prompting complaints from California Sen. Dianne Feinstein.

Feinstein, the top Democrat on the appropriations subcommittee that handles military construction, released a letter to Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld saying she was "deeply disappointed" the department missed Friday's congressionally mandated deadline.

"Additionally, I am troubled by the fact that the department has consistently avoided providing information to Congress about perchlorate contamination on Defense Department sites, and describing what, if anything, it has done to remediate the contamination," Feinstein wrote.

Perchlorate, an ingredient in rocket fuel, has been found in drinking water supplies in 22 states where it was manufactured and handled. It has been linked to damage to the thyroid and may be especially harmful to infants.

The April 30 deadline for a report on the contaminant was contained in a military construction bill passed last year.

Pentagon spokesman Glenn Flood said the report should be ready within days. He said there was no particular reason for the delay other than trying to make sure the report was prepared correctly.

"Each site is different and we have to make sure we analyze it very carefully to make sure we know the information we're

getting is accurate. There's no deliberate delay at all," he said.

Lawmakers have been seeking a comprehensive report on perchlorate from the Defense Department for over a year. Last year they received what they complained was a sketchy, bewildering document from defense officials that surveyed just 305 of the nation's 5,000 former and active military bases.

Democrats have complained the Pentagon is resisting full disclosure because it could face billions of dollars in cleanup costs and liability for health problems.

A spokesman for California Sen. Barbara Boxer also complained about the missed deadline. "It's been a pattern that DOD has thus far refused to step up to the plate and take responsibility for perchlorate contamination," said spokesman David Sandretti.

There is debate about what constitutes dangerous levels of perchlorate. The Environmental Protection Agency is working on a first-ever national standard for perchlorate in drinking water but is not expected to issue a final standard until 2006.

California officials last month set the state's public health goal at six parts per billion — the first such level set in the country for the toxin. EPA's draft proposal is stricter — one part per billion.

California has a particular problem with perchlorate, because of its decades-long involvement with the defense industry, military and space programs.

Contamination from the toxin has shut down hundreds of wells that tap polluted groundwater, and perchlorate has been found in crops produced in affected areas.

Scientists petition to expand endangered species list

BY ARTHUR H. ROTSTEIN
 Associated Press Writer

TUCSON, Ariz. — Scientists including noted wildlife biologist Jane Goodall joined environmental groups Tuesday in petitioning the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to add 225 plants and animals to the endangered species list.

The species are not new to the agency; four-fifths have been on the agency's waiting list for a decade. Some species have been on the "warranted but precluded" list since 1975. The average is 17 years.

Goodall, known for her pioneering research on chimpanzees, signed the petitions, joined by other prominent scientists including biologists E.O. Wilson of Harvard University and Paul Ehrlich of Stanford University.

"Wildlife is facing serious threats almost everywhere," Goodall said in a statement. But she said the Bush administration seeks to undermine the Endangered Species Act.

"Some species have been on the federal waiting list for more than 20 years, and more than 30 species have become extinct or missing while waiting for protection," she said.

Robert Hass, former poet laureate of the United States, said it's not too late to save the 225 plants and animals "languishing on the federal candidate list. It's time to open the doors of the ark and let them in."

Eleven individuals and three environmental organizations filed the petitions, said Brian Nowicki, a conservation biologist

with the Center for Biological Diversity, which organized the effort.

But a spokesman for the Interior Department accused the Tucson-based group of misrepresenting the realities of the endangered species program in recent years. Spokesman Hugh Vickery attributed a decline in listing new species to "a flood of lawsuits" filed by the center and other plaintiffs since 1997.

The litigation requires Fish and Wildlife to designate critical habitat for species already listed and diverts resources and staff from listing new species as endangered, he said.

The 225 species listed in the petitions are from 39 states, Puerto Rico, Guam, the Mariana and Northern Mariana islands and American Samoa. Nearly half are from Hawaii.

They range from Alabama's black pine snake and California's Coachella Valley round-tailed ground squirrel to Utah's Aquarius paintbrush plant and Puerto Rico's Elfín woods warbler. Fish and Wildlife has declined to list them as endangered, deferring to other species considered higher priority or more endangered, Nowicki said.

More than 1,200 species have been placed on the endangered list since the Endangered Species Act became law in 1973, Nowicki said. The Bush administration has listed only 31 species as endangered, in contrast to an average of 65 a year by the Clinton administration and 59 a year under the first President Bush.

NATIONAL



Fairchild Air Force Base buys renewable energy

BY JOHN K. WILEY
Associated Press Writer

SPOKANE, Wash. — Fairchild Air Force Base is making the largest single purchase of "green" power in the Northwest, buying enough energy from renewable sources to meet all of its electrical load.

Most of the base's annual power requirements will come from electricity generated by wind turbines — at least in theory, Bonneville Power Administration spokeswoman Debra Malin said Monday.

In essence, the base just west of Spokane is paying slightly higher rates for energy generated from wind projects under contract with BPA, Malin said.

Fairchild will pay for the renewable energy in its monthly electricity bill from BPA, a little more than \$400,000 a year, Malin said.

Once electricity enters the power grid, it is impossible to separate the sources, but the military base gets the credit for using renewable sources.

"They get to take the claim to that power," said Natalie McIntire of Renewable Northwest Project, a Portland, Ore., organization that promotes electricity from wind, solar, biomass and other sources.

"Once an electron gets into the grid, you can't tell where it was produced," she said. "It's like a bathtub. When it's full, you have enough to serve all your needs. If we can put more clean power in, we can take off less efficient energy producers. Their purchase has helped to make a cleaner pool of electricity for all of us."

The air base, home of KC-135 tankers that refuel military planes in flight, requires about 7.5 average megawatts of

power, the amount used by a community of about 5,000 homes.

"Fairchild is very proud of its reputation as a good steward of our environment and of the taxpayers' dollars," Col. Anthony M. Mauer, Commander of the 92nd Air Refueling Wing at Fairchild, said in a news release.

The announcement is significant because it signals that even government agencies are willing to pay more for energy to avoid consuming power made from fossil fuels, Malin said.

"The military is usually viewed as being very conservative, so when it steps out and does something 'green', that tells regional leaders it's not so far out," she said. "It sends a huge market signal."

Fairchild's energy mix includes the outright purchase of electricity, as well as renewable energy certificates, or "Green Tags," each guaranteeing that one megawatt-hour of wind energy is produced in the Northwest during the year.

BPA buys power from six wind generation plants in the Pacific Northwest. The tags are offered by BPA to offset the costs of renewable energy development and production in the region.

Fairchild is a BPA direct service customer, meaning it purchases its electricity directly from the regional federal power marketing agency, rather than a local utility.

"Fairchild is the first federal facility in the Northwest, and our first customer, to support all of its electrical load with renewable energy," BPA Administrator Steve Wright said. "This kind of support helps diversify our region's hydropower system and sends a strong market signal."

Former banker convicted of obstruction, tampering

BY ERIN MCCLAM
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK — Former investment banker Frank Quattrone was depicted at his retrial as a skilled multitasker, juggling several major deals at a time and firing off e-mails by the dozen.

In the end, jurors said they decided he was too sharp not to have been keenly aware of federal investigations into his bank when he sent an e-mail encouraging his subordinates to destroy files.

Quattrone, 48, who shepherded some of the most important companies of the dot-com stock boom to the public market, was convicted Monday of obstructing justice and witness tampering.

The verdict means the former banker, who made \$120 million in 2000 at Credit Suisse First Boston, will likely go to prison — possibly for more than a year. Sentencing was set for Sept. 8.

"Frank Quattrone was at the top," said juror Sheldon Silver, 58, a public-relations firm receptionist. "You don't get to the top without being aware of a lot of different things."

The case was the second consecutive big win for Manhattan federal prosecutors in their pursuit of white-collar crime, coming just two months after Martha Stewart was found guilty of lying about a stock sale.

Both Stewart and Quattrone were

charged with obstructing investigations in which they were not charged with the underlying crime.

In addition, prosecutors have wrung guilty pleas from an array of other corporate stars, including high-ranking former executives of WorldCom Inc., Enron Corp. and ImClone Systems.

U.S. Attorney David Kelley said the verdict showed prosecutors were dedicated to upholding the integrity of investigations by federal grand juries and the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The Quattrone case turned on his response to a Dec. 4, 2000, e-mail from Credit Suisse First Boston banker Richard Char that encouraged investment bankers to "clean up" their files before the holidays.

The next day, Quattrone sent a 22-word reply to the bankers, citing his own experience as a key witness in a securities trial and adding, "I strongly advise you to follow these procedures."

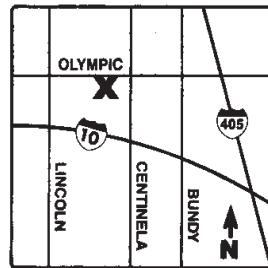
Former CSFB lawyer David Brodsky testified at the trial that he had already told Quattrone that a federal grand jury was investigating the bank, and advised him on Dec. 5 to retain his own lawyer.

Jurors ultimately rejected the heart of Quattrone's defense — that he was not thinking about the investigations when he sent the e-mail. He contended it was a simple reminder to follow the company's document-retention policy.

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Murderer of Indian activist asks for mental evaluation

BY CARSON WALKER

Associated Press Writer

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. — The lawyer of a man sentenced to life in prison for the 1975 killing of American Indian activist Anna Mae Pictou Aquash has appealed the conviction and renewed a request for a mental evaluation of his client.

In motions filed Monday in U.S. District Court in Sioux Falls, Cleveland lawyer Terry Gilbert again asked for a mental health test on Arlo Looking Cloud. Gilbert also filed a notice of appeal to the 8th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

A Rapid City jury convicted Looking Cloud in February of first-degree murder committed in the perpetration of a kidnapping for Aquash's slaying. He was sen-

tenced April 23 to a mandatory life prison term and remains jailed in Pennington County.

Gilbert tried unsuccessfully to get an evaluation done before Looking Cloud was sentenced, saying his client had abused drugs and alcohol for years.

U.S. District Judge Lawrence Piersol denied the request because it appeared Looking Cloud was lucid during a videotaped confession and he earlier refused to cooperate with a mental health expert. Piersol has not yet ruled on the latest request.

In his latest motion, Gilbert said an evaluation was needed before Looking Cloud could be placed in a federal prison and rehabilitated.

Before Looking Cloud was arrested in March 2003, he was living homeless in Denver.

Gilbert could not be reached Tuesday for comment.

Prosecutors can't talk about the case. But in his response to Gilbert's request, Assistant U.S. Attorney Robert Mandel said Looking Cloud has already been sentenced and a mental evaluation is not required.

Another man, John Graham, is also charged with Aquash's killing. He has pleaded not guilty and plans to fight extradition from Vancouver, British Columbia.

Witnesses at Looking Cloud's trial testified that he, Graham and fellow AIM member Theda Clarke took Aquash from Denver to Rapid City and eventually to the Pine Ridge Indian Reservation, where Graham shot her in the back of the head.

A rancher found her frozen body in February 1976 near Wanblee.

Schwarzenegger meets with king, former hostage

BY MICHAEL R. BLOOD

Associated Press Writer

RAMSTEIN AIR BASE, Germany — California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger met with wounded U.S. troops and escaped hostage Thomas Hamill on Monday after talks with Jordan's King Abdullah II.

Schwarzenegger "talked about the situation in the Middle East" during a private visit with Abdullah at Jordan's royal palace, the governor told a small group of California reporters. Staffers arranged the stop after criticism from some Arab-Americans that his trip to Israel didn't include meetings with Palestinian groups.

Schwarzenegger said Monday he supports the creation of a Palestinian state and that Palestinians "were not forgotten" on his trip. But he noted that "we got no invitation" to meet with any Arab group. "We are ready to meet anybody, any group, at any time," the governor said.

He spoke with Hamill for about five minutes in a room at the U.S. military's Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, and said the 43-year-old civilian contractor appeared to be in good health.

"I just tried to let him know we support him and good luck," Schwarzenegger said. "It must be unbelievable to be under the threat of maybe dying," he said, referring to Hamill's three weeks in captivity in Iraq. Hamill escaped his kidnappers over the weekend and was being treated at the base for a gunshot wound.

The movie star-turned-governor said it was a coincidence that the two were at the hospital at the same time, and that Hamill requested the visit after learning from

military officials that Schwarzenegger was there.

Wrapping up his first trip overseas as an elected official, Schwarzenegger also cheered up hundreds of troops on the base with a speech that veered from raucous jokes to a pep talk in which he told them "you serve the cause of peace."

"I play the Terminator, I play the commando," Schwarzenegger said to loud applause. "You are the true action heroes."

Airman 1st Class Jonathan Ivy of Lovejoy, Ga., said Schwarzenegger was "the first celebrity here since I've been here. It lifts morale. I love his movies."

Staff Sgt. Ronnie Caballero of New Orleans came with his wife and 9-month-old son.

"He's one of my role models. He's doing a great job in California. ... He's real people, he's not like other politicians making money," said Caballero, holding a magazine photo of Schwarzenegger he hoped to get autographed.

The governor appeared on a stage in a hangar with dozens of airmen before a huge American flag. Portions of his remarks were broadcast live in parts of California and on national U.S. news networks.

"I have to say that my career in the (Austrian) military was not spotless," Schwarzenegger told the crowd. "There was one night when I woke up in the morning and my tank was gone. I forgot to put the right gear in there and it rolled into the river in front of us. That's where I found it the next morning."

The governor followed his humor-laced speech with the more somber task of visiting wounded troops at the base hospital.

"I have seen some incredible injuries ... there's a lot of

suffering in this hospital," he told reporters, adding that there was "incredible optimism" among those injured. "They are ready to go even though they can't," he said.

Asked whether the U.S. was doing the right thing in Iraq, Schwarzenegger said, "I think everyone is actually asking themselves the question. ... Any war concerns me. Anytime people lose their lives it concerns me."

Schwarzenegger flew out Monday evening en route to California.

Over the weekend he was in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem, where he paid tribute to the millions of Jews killed in the Holocaust and helped dedicate a planned museum of tolerance.

Schwarzenegger's father was a member of the Nazi party. Asked whether his visit to Israel would put to rest questions about that part of his background, he said, "It doesn't matter how many years pass by. It would never be just simply behind us."

In Jordan, Schwarzenegger had lunch with Abdullah and gave the king a large sculpture of a seashell carved out of redwood. On the menu was pan-fried salmon, beef, Cajun chicken and spaghetti. The king is a personal friend of the governor and had previously visited Schwarzenegger's Los Angeles home.

On a trip with all the trappings of a presidential visit, including meetings with heads of state, Schwarzenegger himself joked in his speech about the possibility of running for president. But in the later interview, he said, "I'm not even thinking about it."

He called the trip an overall success, saying it was a "straight 10."

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Officials: Pakistan 'soft' on terrorism

By The Associated Press

KABUL, Afghanistan — The Afghan government said Tuesday that it was worried that Pakistan was going "soft" on terrorism, joining the United States in urging a tough line against Taliban and al-Qaida militants along the border.

The Pakistani government has offered an amnesty to hundreds of foreign fighters holed up in its South Waziristan region as well as several tribal leaders accused of harboring them.

Asked about the offer, Afghan presidential spokesman Jawed Ludin said a more robust line was needed to "clear the area of terrorist elements" and stem a fresh wave of Taliban-led violence across the border in Afghanistan.

"We are concerned about being soft on terrorists," Ludin told reporters.

The top U.S. commander in Afghanistan said Monday that he was watching closely how Pakistan dealt with the rebels, but said a "significant" number of Arabs, Chechens and Uzbeks had to be "killed or captured."

"It's very important that the Pakistani military continue with their operations to go after the foreign fighters in particular, who in my view will not be reconciled," Lt. Gen. David Barno said.

Jury: 'Sharp' banker convicted

By The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Former investment banker Frank Quattrone was depicted at his retrial as a skilled multitasker, juggling several major deals at a time and firing off e-mails by the dozen.

In the end, jurors said they decided he was too sharp not to have been keenly aware of federal investigations into his bank when he sent an e-mail encouraging his subordinates to destroy files.

Quattrone, 48, who shepherded some of the most important companies of the dot-com stock boom to the public market, was convicted Monday of obstructing justice and witness tampering.

The verdict means the former banker, who made \$120 million in 2000 at Credit Suisse First Boston, will likely go to prison — possibly for more than a year. Sentencing was set for Sept. 8.

Quattrone was tried on the same three charges — obstructing a grand jury, obstructing federal regulators and witness tampering — last fall, but that trial ended in a hung jury.

Quattrone's lawyer, John W. Kecker, vowed an appeal. CSFB paid \$100 million to settle related civil charges. Quattrone left the bank in early 2003, after his e-mail became public. The bank had no comment on Monday's verdict.

Kerry wants more brain food

By The Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — Democrat John Kerry says if he's elected president, he will push for 1 million more students to graduate high school within five years.

In a series of events this week, Kerry is challenging President Bush on one of the signature issues of his presidency — education. The Massachusetts senator voted for Bush's education policy known as No Child Left Behind, but now says the president has failed to back up the law with enough money to help schools raise academic standards.

On Tuesday, Kerry was focusing on the estimated 1 million to 1.25 million students who drop out each year. Kerry says Bush is ignoring the part of his law designed to help stem dropouts and that under current regulations, administrators can push lower-achieving students out of school to boost test scores.

Bush spokesman Steve Schmidt said the senator's criticism of No Child Left Behind is "another example of John Kerry saying one thing and doing another."

"John Kerry voted for No Child Left Behind legislation, but has turned against it and now criticizes it at every turn for purely political reasons," Schmidt said.

Bush goes blue collar

By The Associated Press

DETROIT — President Bush has a hard sell in Ohio to convince voters, especially blue-collar ones facing a bleak job market, that he's the man to guide the U.S. economy for another four years.

So, as he did Monday in Michigan, the first leg of a two-day campaign bus tour, Bush will acknowledge the despair faced by unemployed workers and tell them that the U.S. economy is on the rebound.

"Manufacturing communities have been especially hard-hit," Bush said Monday night to several thousand supporters who gathered, under a full moon, at an outdoor amphitheater just outside Detroit. "There are workers who are concerned about their jobs. I understand that. I understand that."

"Our economy is in a time of transition and if you're the one going through transition, it's not an easy experience."

Ohio's unemployment rate has risen from 3.9 percent to 5.7 percent since Bush took office. More than 222,000 jobs have been lost in the state where the manufacturing sector is shrinking.

Bush narrowly won Ohio in 2000 and he desperately wants to win the state's 20 electoral votes again this November. At four stops there on Tuesday, Bush will rally his base of supporters and try to get swing voters to slap a Bush-Cheney bumper sticker on their vehicle.

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- 28 Archaic
- 29 Gets away
- 31 Race segment
- 32 Uncle Tom's creator
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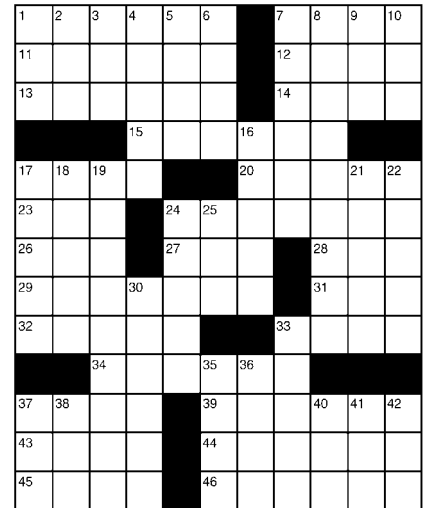
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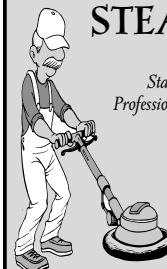
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