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Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS
7 15 24 43 44
Meganumber: 22
Jackpot: \$80M

Super LOTTO
5 6 42 44 45
Meganumber: 15
Jackpot: \$28M

Fantasy 5
19 26 27 35 38

DAILY 3
MIDDAY: 5 7 4
EVENING: 1 5 4

DAILY DERRY
1st: 02 Lucky Star
2nd: 06 Whirl Win
3rd: 07 Eureka!
RACE TIME: 1:49.16

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Curtis Gokey filed a claim against the city of Lodi, Calif., after a municipal dump truck rammed his car in December, but the claim was dismissed when it was learned that the actual driver of the dump truck was city employee Curtis Gokey. (Subsequently, Gokey's wife declared that she would sue, instead.)

■ Adult education teacher Robert Colla was hospitalized in Ventura, Calif., with severe burns and shrapnel wounds, and lost part of his right hand, when he tried to smash a bug with the paperweight on his desk. The "paperweight," which Colla had found years ago, was a 40mm artillery shell, which, unknown to Colla, was still live.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 132nd day of 2006.
There are 233 days left in the year.

On May 12, 1943, during World War II, Axis forces in North Africa surrendered.

In 1870, Manitoba entered Confederation as a Canadian province.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Dissent is not sacred;
the right of dissent is."

THURMAN ARNOLD
AMERICAN LAWYER (1891-1969)

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GIVING PEACE A CHANCE: This mural design created by a Santa Monica student for the high school has come under scrutiny.

Art Courtesy

In the eye of the beholder

Mural created to promote peace at Samohi is sending mixed messages

BY KEVIN HERRERA

Daily Press Staff Writer

SAMOHI — It's back to the drawing board for artist Jun Cha, a student here whose design for a school mural promoting peace and racial harmony was rejected earlier this week by a committee charged with approving public art on campus.

Cha, 17, was asked to design the mural by a student group, Against All Odds, which has been working to unite Santa Monica High School following incidents of racial conflict on campus over the past year. The group wants to create a mural that will remind students about the dangers of discrimination and racial hatred, while simultaneously honoring Eduardo

"Eddie" Lopez, a 15-year-old Samohi student who was killed earlier this year by a suspected gang member.

"The mural is supposed to symbolize all of us coming together to try and take down the thing that is dividing us, with the gang-banging, drugs ..." Cha said. "I'm willing to make changes to the mural as long as the original message of peace still stands."

The mural, which some students hope to place near the center of campus, shows angry African-American and Hispanic men charging a black wall, some with their fists in the other while others are depicted throwing rocks or carrying bats to bash it down. Behind the wall are

See **MURAL**, page 6

Something to fret about



Alejandro Cesar Cantarero II/Daily Press

Ed Gorsk of Koreatown, strums a left-handed acoustic guitar alongside Ken Oak, also from Koreatown, who plays the cello. The Ken Oak Band entertained passersby on the Third Street Promenade on Thursday.

For some, the perfect community can be built

BY KEVIN HERRERA

Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE — Robert and Rayni Joan Moskowitz don't just want to know their neighbors, they want to purchase a home with them.

The Santa Monica couple is looking to create a co-housing development, or intentional community, in which families band together, purchase property and collectively design, finance and develop land to fit their definition of the perfect neighborhood.

Under most models, each family would own a portion of the development, including their own residence

See **COMMUNITY**, page 7

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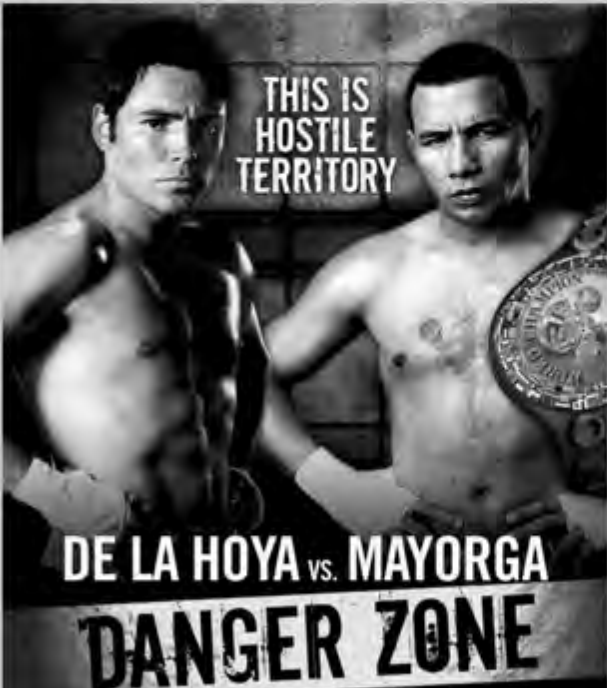
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SAT 4.28 HENRY CHICK (ALL FEMALE TRIMBLE TO LEO JEROME) AND JOE (ALL FEMALE TRIMBLE TO JONATHAN TALL)



FRI 5.05 BLUE JAMES BAND + HUMDINGER



SAT 5.13 TRAINWRECK



FRI 5.19 SOCCER MOM + SILENT FILM



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HOROSCOPES

As you wish, Scorpio

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)

★★★★★ Don't be surprised if you are a bit stretched financially. You also might "need" to spend some money for your own well-being. Consider this a mental-health treat. A meeting could test your patience. Tonight: Head for the hills!



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★★ The upcoming Full Moon in your sign provides reason for discussions, but also optimism if you can take criticism well. Gain a better understanding of what makes others tick. Think before you leap into action. Tonight: Let someone else express his or her feelings.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ You could feel burdened by what you need to do. The good news is that you have the necessary energy to complete a project. Information you are getting from someone "in the know" might not be 100 percent accurate. Tonight: Easy does it.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★★ You might want to work through a problem or get past a hassle or issue. A child or loved one cannot get enough of your time and attention. Your laughter helps others back off of their position and ease up. Tonight: Frisky, aren't we?



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ You might want to veer in a different direction, but certain situations demand your full attention. You might feel like saltwater taffy being pulled. Stay centered and avoid being reactive, if possible. Tonight: Know that you aren't getting the whole story.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★★ Aim for more of what you want. You easily might feel overwhelmed by all the ground you need to cover. You have what it takes, though your mind could work overtime. Know when to pull back and say no. Tonight: Busy, busy, busy.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ You might want to take charge of your finances before your checkbook goes in the red. Others might tell you what they want, but be realistic with how much you can do. Your intentions might be good, but you might not be able to follow through. Tonight: Pay attention to the bill.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ You might want to share more and be all smiles. You could be tired from dealing with what others want and demand from you. Claim your power and say no if need be. Consider your options. You have the power to realize your hopes. Tonight: As you wish.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ Knowing when to call a halt to the present trend could be important. Yes, you are on overload. Please, do not put anything else on your plate. You have enough to juggle without adding to your burden. Tonight: Say yes.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ Keeping your eye on the big picture could make a big difference in the outcome of a problem. Messages could be distracting. Your weakness could be financial in that someone expects more from you than you want to spend or give. Tonight: Happy with people.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ You cannot shirk your responsibilities, though you might want to. Someone might be pushing all your buttons. Also, you might not be hearing the whole story. Try to listen, even if you might want to block out some of the words. Tonight: A must appearance.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ Your unpredictability could trigger a lot of questions and encourage a very different attitude or approach. You know what you want, though getting there might take detaching rather than demanding. Tonight: Try a new place or a different type of happening.



Santa Monica Daily Press

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1427 Third Street Promenade, Ste. #202 • Santa Monica, CA 90401 • www.smdp.com

PUBLISHER

Ross Furukawa ross@smdp.com

EDITOR

Carolyn Sackariason editor@smdp.com

STAFF WRITER

Kevin Herrera kevinh@smdp.com

SANTA MONICA PARENTING

Nina Furukawa nina@smdp.com

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Fabian Lewkowicz FabianLewkowicz@aol.com

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Robbie P. Piubeni rob@smdp.com

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Rob Schwenker schwenker@smdp.com

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Ryan Martin ryanm@smdp.com

TRAFFIC MANAGER

Connie Sommerville connies@smdp.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Alejandro Cesar Cantarero II alex@smdp.com

PRODUCTION ARTIST

Io Still production@smdp.com

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Lori Luechtefeld lori@smdp.com

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Michael Tittinger MoNeY.Tea@LeBahG@smdp.com

CLASSIFIEDS SALES MANAGER

Annie Kotok anniek@smdp.com

CIRCULATION

Keith Wyatt

CIRCULATION

Glenn Bolan

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Dave Danforth dave@smdp.com

MASCOT

Maya Furukawa maya@smdp.com

LOCAL



COMMUNITY BRIEFS



Photo Courtesy

Searching for a ‘Pulse’ at SMC

By Daily Press staff

It’s time to kick up your heels in the name of cultural diversity. Folklorico de SMC — the acclaimed world dance company that has performed throughout California and Mexico — will present a program of world dance — One Pulse — at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. on Saturday, May 13, and Saturday, May 20, at the Santa Monica College Concert Hall, 1900 Pico Blvd.

On the program will be dances from South America, Mexico, Europe, the Middle East, Africa and the United States. They will include salsa, flamenco, hip-hop, jazz and ballet.

“The intent of this program is not solely to entertain, but to represent the diversity of cultures that is a proud part of our college community,” said dance professor Judith Douglas, Folklorico de SMC co-artistic director. “All of the performed dances are kept in their authentic forms. They preserve particular world cultures as well as educate our students and audiences of their beauty and legitimacy.”

The faculty and guest choreographers are distinguished professors and artists that include an Emmy Award nominee and the “Salsa Diva of Los Angeles.” They are Judith Douglas; Raquel Ramirez, who is also Folklorico co-artistic director, Laura Canellias; Angelina Meany; Jeffrey Page; and Alejandro Ruiz.

Student choreographers are Tara Adkins, Gabriel Avila, Kimberly Bent, Gerardo Ferrero, Rosalba Jasso, Jasmine Henderson, Israel Meza, Tenneh Powers, and Monique Zierling.

The Folklorico de SMC — with its performances, music and costumes — seeks to train performers, educate audiences, and disseminate information about the rich history and lore of Latino and other cultures.

The troupe has toured extensively throughout Mexico and California for more than 16 years at schools, festivals and special events.

Tickets are \$15. Call (310) 434-3000.

School district hires new staff

By Daily Press staff

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) has announced several individuals who will fill administrative vacancies.

Tara Brown from the Lancaster School District to assume the principalship of Franklin Elementary School. Brown not only served as principal for the past five years,

See BRIEFS, page 5



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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 156" - 180"	LIFT HOURS 7:30 AM - 3:00 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: 59°

SWELL FORECAST (2-3 FT)
TODAY THE 12TH IS LOOKING LIKE A MEAGER SWELL DAY WITH KNEE HIGH + SW AND KNEE TO WAIST HIGH NW WIND SWELL.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS
LONG-PERIOD, INFREQUENT TASMAN SEA SWELL 16TH-17TH...

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	1:35AM	1.47FT	1:17PM	0.88FT
HIGH TIDE	7:14AM	3.85FT	7:46PM	4.79FT
TUESDAY				
LOW TIDE	2:09AM	0.92FT	1:41PM	1.09FT
HIGH TIDE	7:59AM	3.84FT	8:04PM	5.11FT
WEDNESDAY				
LOW TIDE	2:42AM	0.41FT	2:05PM	1.31FT
HIGH TIDE	8:41AM	3.80FT	8:25PM	5.41FT
THURSDAY				
LOW TIDE	3:14AM	-0.03FT	2:29PM	1.54FT
HIGH TIDE	9:22AM	3.74FT	8:47PM	5.67FT
FRIDAY				
LOW TIDE	3:48AM	-0.40FT	2:54PM	1.77FT
HIGH TIDE	10:04AM	3.65FT	9:13PM	5.87FT

The QLine

PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY

Pssst, do you want to sign a marijuana petition? Santa Monicans have been asked that question in recent weeks, as the Santa Monicans for Sensible Marijuana Policy is gathering signatures in the hopes of placing a measure on the November ballot that would make the drug's criminal enforcement a low priority.

Top police officials have already come out in opposition to the measure.

So this week, Q-Line wants to know: **Do you feel laws against personal marijuana use should be strictly enforced, or should police focus their attention elsewhere?**

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your responses in the weekend edition.



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EDITORIAL

Going postal quite understandable



The old adage that “neither rain, nor snow, nor sleet” stops the mail from being delivered doesn’t apply here in Santa Monica. And we hardly have any rain.

Since last year, the repeated delays in our mail delivery system have proven more than a little inconvenient. Postal officials claim they’ve fixed the problems — yet that check that was supposed to be in mail still hasn’t shown up. And when it eventually does, it’s typically back in the mailbox of the sender.

A Christmas card sent to a Daily Press staffer finally made its way back to the sender just a few weeks ago. A package recently sent from Minneapolis took four and a half weeks to arrive in a mailbox in the 90405 zip code. The Pony Express would have beat this system by 20 furlongs.

And if not receiving mail isn’t infuriating enough, the message from officials that everything is A-OK makes you want to go postal on someone. In response to resident complaints, the U.S. Postal Service made some changes to increase its efficiency late last year. And now, supposedly hiring more employees, “realigning postal routes” and consolidating post offices in Santa Monica has eliminated the problem.

Really? Tell that to the residents of Sunset Park who were so frustrated by the snail’s-paced delivery and a recent stoppage because of a postman-versus-dog incident that they asked U.S. Rep. Henry Waxman (D-Los Angeles) to intervene. Waxman told the Daily Press last week that he is aggressively working on the delay and said he met with postmaster general John E. Potter to discuss issues specific to Santa Monica.

That’s exactly what Santa Monica postal managers need — some heat from the top — if anything is ever going to be resolved. They’ve had several months to fix the solution and haven’t. What’s even worse is that they are in denial about it — they believe there is no problem.

Larry Dozier, U.S. Postal Service spokesman, said things have “gotten under control” and “things are running smoothly now.” He added that there was a slight “learning curve” that needed to happen when the post office moved the Marina del Rey mail sorting center to the main office in South Los Angeles. But Dozier admitted the closing of the Marina del Rey facility had nothing to do with late mail delivery.

Residents are to blame partially for Dozier’s delusion. Complaints have dropped from 25 per day to about four per day, despite the persisting problems. If letters aren’t showing up in Santa Monica mailboxes, residents are encouraged to call (800) 275-8777. A representative will take callers’ complaints and send them to the local post office. From there, we can only hope the postmaster cares enough to act quickly.

We agree with Santa Monica residents and have also grown tired of the U.S. Postal Service’s excuses. We want action. More importantly, we want our mail.

The U.S. Postal Service ought to have stricter screening processes to ensure that it is getting high quality employees who care enough and understand how important their jobs are. There should be a higher level of integrity among postal workers, especially because what they do is so vital to the city.

We understand there is a lot of pressure facing postal workers — 6 million pieces of mail are sorted daily at the South Los Angeles sorting center. But we’ve got our pressures, too. Some of us rely on our mail more than others — like the elderly who need their Social Security checks. For some, it is a matter of eating at the end of the month.

The first pieces of mail delivered by the Pony Express, which was considered a major advancement for the U.S. Postal Service, took 10 1/2 days. The fastest mail delivery on record for the Pony Express was in March 1861, when President Abraham Lincoln’s inaugural address was carried in seven days and 17 hours.

Maybe Santa Monica can beat that record one day.

GUEST COMMENTARY BY JOHN WHITEHEAD

Careful, that ID just might be transmitting

The New Hampshire House recently passed an amended bill to prohibit that state from participating in any national ID card system. Although the state Senate, by a narrow vote, turned aside the amendment, the move may indicate that some of us are waking up. Some innocent citizens, however, have already been snared in the ID trap.

For example, Deb Davis thought her time commuting to work would be better spent reading and working than driving. So she decided to start riding a public bus. But on the first day, while the bus was stopped at the Denver Federal Center, which houses various government offices, a security guard boarded the bus and demanded the identification of every passenger. Feeling uneasy about the situation and not sure what to do, Davis, like all the other passengers, followed the guard’s orders. The guard barely glanced at her ID and handed it back to her without comparing it to any “no ride list” or “terror watch list.” Davis went on to work and rode the bus home without any trouble.

However, when she got home, she began to think more about what had happened that morning. She began to reflect on what she remembered about her rights as a citizen and restrictions on law enforcement agents. Davis remembered from her eighth-grade civics class that she was not required to carry an ID.

On Sept. 26, 2005, Davis’ bus pulled up at the Denver Federal Center. A guard boarded and demanded to see everyone’s identification. When the guard reached Davis and asked if she had ID with her, she said “yes.” He then asked to see it, to which she replied “no.” The guard then ordered her off the bus, but she refused. The guard returned with a federal agent, who demanded to see her ID. Again, Davis refused.

The agents then arrested and handcuffed her. However, the government later decided to drop the charges.

While this story is disturbing, it is not without historical precedent. In fact, the idea of requiring citizens to carry a national identification card is not new. Many authoritarian regimes of the past have used the ID system to control the people.

Presently, many countries in Europe, Asia and South America require all citizens to carry specific documents at all times. If caught without the proper identification, they can be punished.

The term “national identification card” includes a broad range of various technologies. Most, if not all, of these cards are “machine readable,” allowing any government agent to scan for any information necessary. Of the suggested ID cards, the most discussed and the one with the most potential for privacy invasion would be a card that included a Radio Frequency identification (RFID). RFID is a type of automatic identification system.

The purpose of the RFID system is to enable data to be transmitted by a portable device, called a tag, which is read by an RFID reader and processed according to the needs of a particular application. Currently, RFID is used in many ways, including by private businesses to track the quantity of a product available on the shelf. But RFID has other potential uses, such as allowing the government to track the moment-by-moment movements of American citizens — even in their homes.

Corporations and politicians, eager to please security-conscious voters, have jumped at the opportunity to provide and produce a national ID card.

After all, the terrorists on 9/11 used identifications issued by the government. Moreover, “Claims that the government will protect the privacy of Americans when implementing a national identification card ring hollow,” Congressman Ron Paul (R-Tex.) argues. “We would do well to remember what happened with the Social Security number. It was introduced with solemn restrictions on how it could be used, but it has become a de facto national identifier.”

Clearly, we are at a crucial crossroads in American history. And it is our response as citizens that will determine whether we have a “government of wolves.” Remember, it is the sheep who get eaten.

(Attorney and author John W. Whitehead can be contacted at johnw@rutherford.org.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Smoking ban argument goes up in smoke

Editor:

I try to be a considerate smoker. Every morning, I have breakfast at an outdoor restaurant on the Promenade, and I enjoy my cigarette after I eat. I always make sure that I am sitting next to no one, so my smoke doesn’t bother other customers. I check the wind direction. I even smoke non-filter cigarettes, so the litter problem of filter-tips is eliminated.

To those who object, I just say three calm words: “Relax. We’re outside.” I am stumped by the “study” mentioned that outdoor second-hand smoke is just as dangerous as indoor (SMDP, May 10, page 1). A moment’s reflection will prove that this is impossible. There is lots of air out there.

Speaking of air quality, how do those who are whining about cigarette smoke get themselves to the Promenade? Probably by car. This is rank hypocrisy. Until they put away their internal combustion engines forever and ride the bus, as I do, I expect to hear no more from these gross polluters, while I enjoy my cigarettes in peace.

Robert Barrett
Santa Monica

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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LOCAL



CRIME WATCH

By Daily Press staff

Victim robbed, then struck by car

On Friday, May 6, at 11:57 p.m., Santa Monica Police officers responded to the 1300 block of Santa Monica Boulevard regarding a report of a strong-arm robbery. Police said a man was walking to a local gas station when he was confronted by three male Hispanics who assaulted him and took his cell phone. As the alleged victim tried to flee, he was struck by a car at the intersection of 14th Street and Santa Monica Boulevard, sustaining minor injuries. After being treated at a local hospital, the victim gave a description of the suspects to officers.

A short time later, officers responding to a call regarding noisy neighbors in the 2800 block of Pico Boulevard identified two of the robbery suspects at the location of the disturbance. The two suspects were arrested. One was identified as Antonio Tapia, 24, of Los Angeles. He was booked for robbery and his bail was set at \$50,000. The other suspect was a juvenile, therefore, his name was not released.

On Friday, May 5, at 10:50 a.m., officers responded to a beach parking lot regarding a report of assault with a deadly weapon. When officers arrived, they were contacted by two men who said they were doing routine maintenance work when another man approached them and spit in one of their faces. The man began shouting threats and chased one of the workers around with a large wooden stick, eventually striking him, police said. The two workers said they jumped in their truck and tried to escape. The man with the stick allegedly hit the truck several times, breaking the side-view mirror. The workers identified a suspect, who was taken into custody by police and booked for assault with a deadly weapon. He was identified as Hugo Pedroza, 24, a transient. His bail was set at \$30,000.

On Wednesday, May 3, at 2 p.m., officers responded to the 1300 block of Second Street regarding a report of an assault. When officers arrived, they spoke with the victim who said he was sitting in front of a business when he was punched in the face by another man whom he knew from prior contacts. The alleged victim provided a description of the suspect, who was apprehended a short time later in Palisades Park. He was identified as Stephen Carroll, 43, a transient. He was booked for assault and battery. His bail was set at \$20,000.

On Sunday, April 30, at 2:30 p.m., officers responded to the 1900 block of Euclid Street regarding a report of domestic violence in progress. When officers arrived at the scene, they detained two subjects who had been involved in a verbal dispute. Upon further investigation, officers found both to be in possession of narcotics, with one subject carrying a concealed weapon — a Shuriken Throwing Star. The drugs were marijuana and Xanax, and neither suspect had a prescription, police said. The two were identified as Mikki Millard, a female, 26, and Paul Thompson, 35. Both reside in Santa Monica. Millard's bail was set at \$20,350. She also had outstanding warrants, police said. Thompson's bail was set at \$20,000.

On Thursday, May 4, at 5:55 a.m., officers in the 1200 block of the Third Street Promenade noticed two men walking with a shopping cart that belonged to Costco, a violation of the municipal code. The two were arrested and booked for the illegal possession of a shopping cart. The two were identified as Lisa Hawkins, 43, a transient, and Felipe Zamora, 27, also a transient. Zamora's bail was set at \$35. Hawkins had outstanding warrants, so her bail was increased to \$6,800, police said.

On Wednesday, May 3, at 6 p.m., officers responded to the 300 block of Santa Monica Boulevard — Tower Records — regarding a theft investigation. When officers arrived, they spoke with store security officers who said two men entered the store and stuffed roughly \$89 worth of merchandise in their pockets and attempted to leave the store without paying. When security officers confronted the men, one began to fight with them, police said. The two were eventually detained by store security. When officers arrived, they searched the men and found one suspect to be in the possession of cocaine. He was identified as Fructuoso Lopez, 21, of Los Angeles. He was booked for petty theft and possession of a controlled substance. His bail was set at \$10,000. The other suspect, Sergio Cruz, 25, of Los Angeles, was charged with robbery because he fought with security officers, police said. His bail was set at \$50,000.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

BRIEFS, from page 3

but she also was a middle school assistant principal and an at-risk teacher/administrative intern, totaling 14 years with her previous district.

Tristen Macon has been selected for the math coordinator position in the educational services department. Macon has been a teacher at Will Rogers Learning Community for the last eight years. As a national board certified teacher, Macon understands differentiated instruction strategies, shares her extensive knowledge with her peers and supports all student learning, school officials said. Macon has been recognized for her collaborative working relationships, clear communication skills, and results-oriented leadership.

Irma Lyons has been selected for the principalship of Will Rogers Learning Community. Lyons began as a classroom teacher at Will Rogers in 1992 and was promoted to assistant principal in 2003. As interim principal for the 2005-2006 school year, Lyons has demonstrated that she is an instructional leader, an effective communicator, and a committed educator, school officials said. Besides being a parent of students in the local district, Lyons is a Carnegie scholar, mentor teacher and a life-long learner.

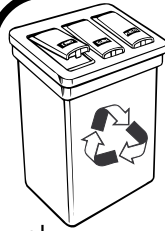
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LOCAL

Committee mulls mural as artist plans revisions

MURAL, from page 1

images of Mahatma Gandhi, Che Guevara, Dr. Martin Luther King, Notorious B.I.G. Tupac Shakur, John Lennon and Malcolm X. The word "peace" is written in bold, black letters against a blue and white background. Opposite, a man in the corner carries a banner that reads "bang the Hate."

Lopez' image is also displayed prominently in the mural. The popular student-athlete is seen wearing his football jersey, leading the charge, something which his family and friends said he would do today if it was another student who fell victim to gang violence.

Members of the committee — which included art teachers, students, administrators and parents — felt the mural was too violent and did not convey the message Cha intended.

"I don't believe the mural is appropriate for our high school," said parent Louise Jaffe, past president of the Samohi Parent Teacher Association, who attended the mural committee meeting. "The artist said the mural was about people coming together for peace, but that was not the message I took from it. But we'll see what happens. We had a good discussion, the process is moving forward and I think we will have a good outcome."

Jaffe said it is important to follow the process and come up with a consensus, as the mural will be on display for generations to come.

Meanwhile, Against All Odds is circulating a petition to show student support for the mural. According to member Franky De La Torre, who says the student group is just trying "to do something positive," they have already amassed more than 400 signatures in just a few days.

"Through this process, we are trying to show administrators that we can unite together," said de la Torre.

The mural committee, which was formed in 1995 in response to wall deterioration resulting from students posting fliers and other notices, recommended Cha redesign the mural so that it includes women, more ethnicities and displays the word "Peace" more prominently. Cha was also asked to design the figures in a way that didn't seem

as menacing to some.

"It was a very powerful image and I was amazed that a high school student could create an image that had so much drama, so much energy to it," said Samohi art instructor David Wood, co-chair of the mural committee. "It had a lot of angular shapes and lines which are very active and at times can be interpreted as somewhat violent. That's not a critique on the message. The message is very inspiring. It's a powerful piece and I would be very happy if I was the artist and was able to produce that."

Wood said he was enthused by the fact that so many people attended the committee meeting, and that the discussion was civil.

"Sometimes when people feel passionate about things they start lobbing insults, but

"It was a very powerful image and I was amazed that a high school student could create an image that had so much drama, so much energy to it."

DAVID WOOD
SAMOHI ART INSTRUCTOR

that didn't happen here," Wood said.

Cha said he was not offended by the comments from concerned parents, and is currently hard at work designing a mural following the requests of the committee. Still, he feels there is a disconnect between the adults on the committee and the students.

"Personally, I don't think it's violent," he said. "I think the administrators, the parents, the teachers — they don't really understand where we kids are coming from ... It's crazy out there right now with the gangs, the drugs. We have to come together now more than ever."

"There's always going to be problems with murals, but the message we are trying to offer is positive and we are trying to do something good for the people of Santa Monica and for the school."

Masse appeal



Alejandro Cesar Cantarero II/Daily Press

Julian Richardson, 24, lines up a pool shot on Wednesday night. The New Jersey resident was taking on his cousin at Barney's Beanery on the Third Street Promenade.

LOCAL



Couple has designs on creating utopia in city

COMMUNITY, from page 1

with the option to sell it if they choose. There is usually a community house or, in many urban areas, a community condo, where neighbors meet, have dinner and share life lessons while their children play safely in streets free of traffic and crime.

"This is not a commune. We don't swap wives or anything like that," said Robert Moskowitz, 60. "We want to have meals together maybe three times a week, buy in bulk, have friends around all the time. There are a lot of advantages to co-housing. We think it's a great idea and we're shocked no one thought of it before."

Robert and Rayni Moskowitz are trying to locate 25 to 100 Santa Monica families who would be interested in that type of living situation. They've printed fliers and distributed them to some community centers, parks and other high-traffic areas. As of Tuesday, May 9, they've received no responses.

"We have a lot of confidence that people in Santa Monica will be open to this once they learn of all the possibilities," said Rayni Moskowitz, who has lived in co-housing developments across the country and cherishes the old-fashioned sense of community, where every neighbor feels comfortable enough to engage in conversations with those who live around them.

"It's more than just knowing your neighbor or the guy who lives across the hall," she added. "You share ownership. There's some level of collective decision-making. You decide what activities go on in your neighborhood, whether it be yoga classes or guest speakers, dances, all kinds of things."

Co-housing developments are nothing new, said Douglas Kleine, executive director of the National Association of Housing Co-ops in Washington D.C.

"They got their start in New York City in the late 19th Century as the only way to own in a vertical environment," Kleine said. "The concept of real estate is from the center of the Earth to the heavens, so if I'm on the third floor, I can't own my home because my feet aren't on the ground. Condo legislation in the '60s changed that, but housing co-ops were the first."

From there, the concept evolved into intentional communities, where interested families could design neighborhoods to fit their lifestyles. There are communities with a strong religious focus, those that cater to students. Some are centered around agriculture while others focus on the arts.

There are roughly 3,000 intentional communities in the U.S. and Canada, according to the Fellowship for Intentional Community.

Raines Cohen has helped create several communities as a board member of the Co-Housing Association of the United States. Cohen currently lives in a co-housing development in Berkeley. Before that, he lived in Swan's Market, a co-housing development Oakland.

The benefits of living in that kind of housing are plenty, Cohen said. For one, all members go through an intense screening process before any land is acquired. It helps weed out those who are not serious about the project or can't afford it, and it identifies those who may not be the best people to live with. Basically, prospective home buyers have a say in who

their neighbors are going to be, something not found in the open market.

There also is an opportunity to save money on purchasing a home, with financing for the property at a fixed rate of 30 to 40 years. It protects home buyers from fluctuating interest rates. Buyers can get more amenities as well, such as a pool or large patio, without having to pay for the total cost themselves.

Security also is enhanced as neighbors look out for one another, co-housing enthusiasts said.

"It's terrific," Cohen said. "I can't imagine living any other way. I know my neighbors, but I have privacy. We're not sharing bathrooms. We're not sharing kitchens, but we do have meals together a few nights a week. We support each other in a variety of ways. We share car trips, baby-sit. Yesterday, I borrowed some cold medicine from my neighbor and my fiancée borrowed some of the neighbors' kids to help water some plants."

However, there are some drawbacks.

"I have to make sure that I leave extra time in the morning before work because I know I'm going to run into people who want to talk," Cohen said. "I like that, but you have to be prepared for it."

Don Cram, a resident of Los Angeles who is working with co-housing groups in Pasadena and Ventura County, said the process can be discouraging, taking anywhere from two years to a decade to identify a core group of families who actually like one another. They then must secure financing, purchase property, hire an architect and develop the site. Sometimes aesthetics can divide people.

To create an intentional community takes a lot of hard work, patience and money, co-housing experts said.

"There have been plenty of groups that have formed and failed, particularly in Southern California, where land values are so high, but I'd like to play a part in changing that," said Cram, who is interested in co-housing because he is thinking of starting a family and likes the idea of extra security provided by an intentional community.

Many of the co-housing developments in the state are located in Northern California, where land values are not as expensive and there is open space to buy, experts said.

"I think the only real way to succeed is to hire a developer or work with municipalities and participate in public land offerings for redevelopment," Cram said. "It's just extremely hard for a group of people interested in co-housing to learn the development game and to bid competitively."

Robert and Rayni Moskowitz know they have an uphill battle ahead of them, particularly with Santa Monica land values being so high, but they are confident people in the city will respond given Santa Monica's reputation for embracing new ideas.

"Santa Monica is a great place to live," Robert Moskowitz said. "It's walkable, the people are lovely, the weather is lovely, the architecture is lovely. I think you can't live in a better place than Santa Monica. But we want to live in a co-housing situation and create that extended family."

Those interested in learning more about the co-housing effort should send an e-mail to changetheworld@knowledgetree.com.

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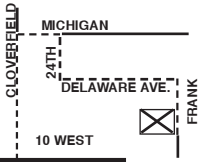


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STATE

STATE BRIEFS

Time for the county to pay up

By The Associated Press

THOUSAND OAKS — City officials voted to bill Ventura County hundreds of thousands of dollars to pay for hot meals for seniors, crossing guards and other services they said the county should be providing.

The City Council decided Tuesday to send the county a letter seeking \$635,000 for the current fiscal year and \$550,000 a year in the future.

“The county is buying a new \$14 million office building and is looking to expand its reserves,” Mayor Dennis Gillette said. “But they are not addressing where we have been required to pick up the costs for programs we used to jointly share with them.”

The county and Thousand Oaks have sparred over who pays for services since the city incorporated in 1964. The current dispute comes as the county finds itself flush with soaring property tax revenue.

County officials say City Council members are being heavy handed with their demands.

“If someone called and said, ‘hey, why don’t we talk about cost shifts over the years,’ that’s one thing,” County Executive Officer Johnny Johnston said.

“But they are making it sound like the county is freeloading off of the poor city of Thousand Oaks,” he said.

Letting the voters have a say on development

By The Associated Press

SANTA PAULA — A state appellate court cleared the way for a measure to be placed on the November ballot that would require voter approval of large development projects.

Judges with the 2nd District Court of Appeal said Tuesday that supporters of the measure properly gathered signatures to get it on a ballot.

In May 2005, Santa Paula’s city clerk ruled there were enough valid signatures but said the measure violated state law by not clearly explaining how the city’s General Plan could be affected.

The initiative would apply to projects of 81 acres or more.

On Monday, the City Council was expected to discuss whether to appeal the ruling to the state Supreme Court or place it on the November ballot, City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz said.

District wants a second opinion

By The Associated Press

POMONA — The school district has hired an outside auditor to examine the spending of \$2.3 million for laptop computers after a federal probe determined the money was misspent.

School board members had previously discussed creating a panel of district employees to do the review but on Tuesday voted to contract with Funds For Learning to conduct the audit.

“An outside firm with no agenda can bear out the facts and put this whole thing to rest,” board member Richard Rodriguez said.

Federal auditors said in February that the purchase of the 460 computers was ineligible for funding from the federal E-Rate program, which provides money to connect schools and libraries in low-income areas to the Internet.

District officials have defended the purchase and said they plan to appeal the federal audit.

The results of the independent audit are expected by midsummer.

Calling out the mayor

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Schools chief Roy Romer said Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa was demoralizing students and teachers with his request for an achievement audit.

Villaraigosa, who is campaigning to take over the Los Angeles Unified School District, joined mayors from other cities served by the district in signing a letter to state legislators seeking the audit.

Romer said Wednesday that he welcomed the review but rejects the continued attacks on the district.

“It’s not only incorrect, it is demoralizing for the hundreds of thousands of children, teachers and parents who are making progress,” he wrote.

Janelle Erickson, a spokeswoman for the mayor, replied that Villaraigosa doesn’t blame children and teachers for the school system’s failings.

“It’s a bureaucratic district that prevents teachers from teaching and doesn’t give our children the education they need and deserve,” she said.

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STATE



Legal immigrants wooed

Registering non-voters seen as key to affecting change

BY PETER PRENGAMAN

Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES — Juana Elba Benitez is studying for the U.S. citizenship test she failed eight years ago — a test the 75-year-old native of El Salvador swore she'd never take again.

Then she learned how Congress was debating a crack-down on illegal immigrants, and Benitez worried that legal residents like her might be next. So she is memorizing the first 13 states and who said "Give me liberty or give me death," all to be able to vote.

She is far from alone: Citizenship applications among legal immigrants are up nearly 20 percent over last year.

It's likely just the beginning of a new trend, one organizers of the burgeoning immigrants-rights movement hope to accelerate as they launch nationwide campaigns this week to register 1 million new voters by the fall. They also plan to lobby members of Congress, both with a letter-writing campaign and Capitol Hill appearances beginning May 17.

Among the targets of the campaigns are immigrants who could — but haven't — applied to become an American. The more than 8 million legal immigrants represent a potentially powerful bloc for converting street protest into political change.

"Every day the laws are getting more rigid," said Benitez, poring over an American history study guide alongside about 40 students at a Mexican social services center. "I'm afraid that one day they might say, 'A green card isn't good enough. Whoever isn't a citizen is out of here.'"

Green card holders can live and work in the United States but cannot vote. Those who have lived here five years are eligible to take citizenship exams; the wait is shorter if the applicant is married to an American.

Unions, religious groups and immigration activists are launching campaigns to seek out these legal residents, then prepare them with free civics courses and, when necessary, English classes. The immigrant movement that already has announced its intent to register more American voters is reaching deeper into its reservoir of support.

At a citizenship drive in Chicago two days before the national work boycott May 1, organizers hoped to assist 1,000 would-be applicants. So many showed up that organizers had to see 850 people on a later day, said Joshua Hoyt, executive director of a Chicago-based group that is among those leading the citizenship push.

"We are building a program to find out who these people are," said Eliseo Medina, executive vice president of the Service Employees International Union, which on Wednesday announced new citizenship and voter registration drives

nationwide. "They are going to hear about citizenship at Mass, at union gatherings and at civic organization meetings."

The campaigns aim to extend the current spike in citizenship applications. Between January and March, the Department of Homeland Security received 185,400 naturalization applications — a 19 percent increase over the same period last year.

Activists attribute the increase to legislation the House passed in December to criminalize illegal immigrants and anyone who helps them, and fence an additional 700 miles of the U.S.-Mexico border.

They argue that other crackdowns on immigrants, like Wednesday's launch of a 250-member sheriff's led posse in Phoenix aiming to arrest human smugglers, could push even more green card holders to apply for citizenship.

"During more calm times citizenship can be a personal decision, but when your community is attacked it becomes urgent," said Chung-Wha Hong, director of the New York Immigration Coalition, which next month is converting its regular citizen-

"There are women who've been working two jobs for 20 years to raise their children. It's hard to tell them to learn English. At what time?"

MAYRON PAYES
CITIZENSHIP CENTER COORDINATOR

ship services department into an outreach campaign.

Getting many legal immigrants to apply, and then pass the tests, won't be easy.

Application fees of about \$400 can be hefty for low-wage earners. Those with little formal education may struggle with the civics and English fluency tests.

"There are women who've been working two jobs for 20 years to raise their children," said Mayron Payes, who is launching a citizenship center in Los Angeles. "It's hard to tell them to learn English. At what time?"

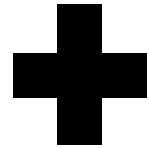
There is little government money for citizenship services. In California, where 2.3 million legal residents are eligible to apply — far more than any other state — the Legislature earmarks \$1.5 million in annual grants to organizations offering preparatory courses and other help.

While the drives are nonpartisan, there's no secret they're inspired by lawmakers seen as unfriendly to immigrants. Some organizers are quick to name over a dozen swing states where between 50,000 and 600,000 legal residents are eligible to apply for citizenship — the kinds of numbers that could influence elections.

The vote is what ultimately pushed Rosalyn Cuenca, a housewife who came from Mexico 13 years ago, to apply for citizenship.

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MOVIE REVIEW

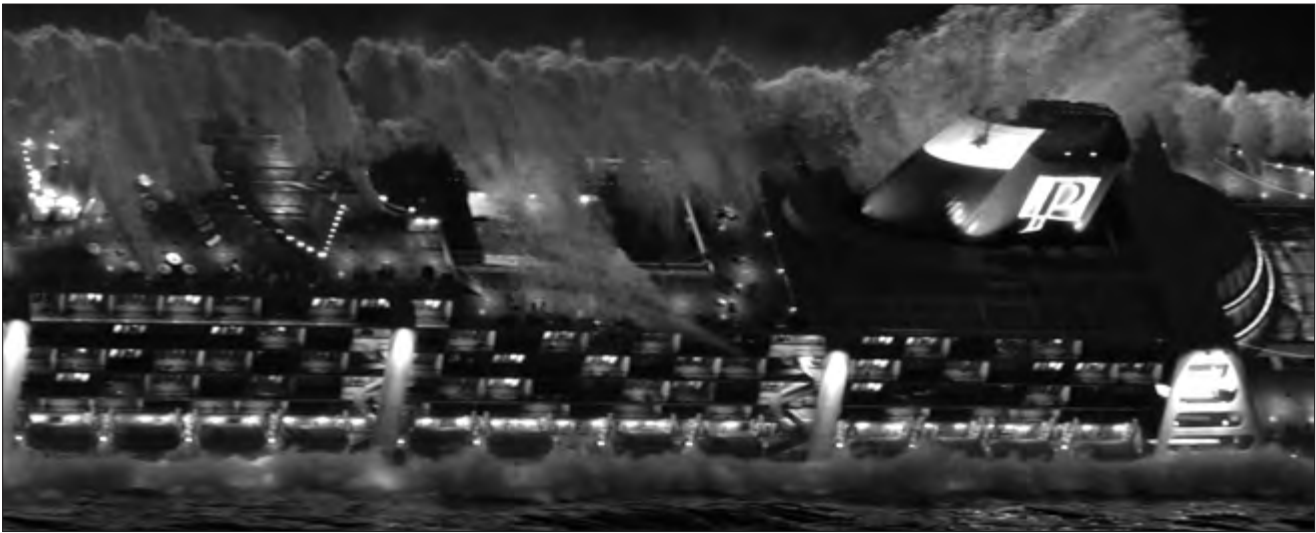
BY DAN DUNN

Special to the Daily Press

THE MOVIE: Poseidon
THE DIRECTOR: Wolfgang Petersen
THE STARS: Josh Lucas, Emmy Rossum, Kurt Russell, Richard Dreyfus, Jacinda Barrett

Like the passengers aboard the doomed titular ocean liner, most filmgoers who venture into theaters to see “Poseidon” won’t know what hit ‘em until it’s too late. This \$160 million paean to overkill (and that’s meant in the literal sense) is a “rogue wave” of an action flick designed to swiftly overwhelm its viewers then gradually drown them in senses-battering computer-generated imagery, stilted dialogue and cringe-inducing melodrama. The main characters are wantonly devoid of dimension and the plot is ludicrous, but disaster-meister Wolfgang Petersen (“The Perfect Storm,” “Das Boot”) deserves credit nonetheless for ensuring that “Poseidon,” if nothing else, will leave audiences breathless. Filled with relentless action and enough cheese to feed an army of rats or Hollywood development execs, this mindless remake is, quite simply, one of the most entertaining really bad event movies ever made.

“Poseidon” offers a boatload of preposterous circumstance and prodigiously silly moments that, unintentional as they may have been, are guaranteed to keep you in stitches long after the boat and the closing credits have rolled. For



SHIP HAPPENS: Passengers on ‘Poseidon’ take a tumble.

starters, the story takes place on a cruise ship, so where the hell are all the old folks? What’s the point of venturing to the multiplex to watch pretty young hipsters in the water with no chance of making it, when it’s so easy to TiVo the hot tub scenes from “8th & Ocean”? Oh, and ya gotta love the almost instantaneous transformation of Josh Lucas’ cocky, self-centered professional poker player into the chivalrous love spawn of MacGyver and David Blaine. Then there’s the scene in which “Six Feet Under’s” diminutive Freddy Rodriguez hangs from the leg of Richard Dreyfus’ gay, suicidal millionaire in a fiery elevator shaft as a hysterical Lucas screams, “You’ve got to shake him off or you’ll both die!” at the guy who won the Best Actor Oscar for “The Goodbye Girl.” A solid 9.4 on the “Did That Really Just Happen?” scale. Kurt Russell pitches in solidly as ever as the second-fiddle hero, proving in one looooong improbable underwater sequence that Shelley Winters ain’t got nothing on him.

(Rated PG-13. Running time: 99 minutes)

Director channels his inner Peckinpah

MOVIE REVIEW

BY DAN DUNN

Special to the Daily Press

THE MOVIE: Down in the Valley
THE DIRECTOR: David Jacobson

Despite having hatched an exceedingly high concept, writer-director David Jacobson (“Dahmer”) fails to achieve tremendous elevation in “Down in the Valley,” an ambitious but imperfect modern-day take on classic Hollywood westerns. Edward Norton and Evan Rachel Wood shine as Harlan, an anomalistic 30-something cowpoke from South Dakota, and Tobe, a rebellious suburban teenager, who fall for one another in Southern California’s San Fernando Valley. Jacobson’s grasp of the Peckinpah-esque style of Westerns is impressive, and he effectively conjures the aura of loneliness and isolation endemic to LA’s sprawling, highway-strewn suburbs, but at times the incongruous pairing has the unfortunate effect of distracting us from the central narrative.

Despite the film’s shortcomings, it boasts several strong performances. For as good as Norton and Wood are, the ever-reliable David Morse fares even better as Tobe’s father, Wade, a rough-cut guard at a juvenile detention center struggling to raise two kids on his own (Rory Culkin plays 13-



YOU ‘DOWN’?: Wood and Norton form an unlikely alliance.

year-old loner Lonnie). Wade disapproves of Stetson-wearing Harlan from the get-go, pegging him as more of a creep than a curiosity, and it isn’t long before his suspicions prove to be on the mark. Jacobson puts too fine a point on this in a ridiculous scene that has Harlan in front of mirror getting in touch with his inner Travis Bickle. This sets the stage, unfortunately, for a third act in which credulity is stretched beyond the limits.

(Rated R. Running time: 114 minutes)

INTERVIEW

Weary ‘Poseidon’ stars towel off
BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON
Daily Press Staff Writer

Rising stars Josh Lucas and Emmy Rossum consider themselves fortunate that they got out alive after filming director Wolfgang Petersen’s action thriller “Poseidon,” which opens in theaters on Friday. Nearly every actor on the set got what was commonly referred to as a the “Poseidon crud.” Hospitalizations, surgeries, pneumonia and concussions became the norm for the actors on the set. Lucas and Rossum recently sat down to discuss the harrowing experience and how they rose from the sinking ship.

HOW PHYSICALLY CHALLENGING WAS FILMING?
JL: “My arms became black from the bruising because there was so much weight on body. I started to think, ‘God damn, this thing is already kicking my ass and I’m not even wet yet. And then once I got wet, I was wet for basically five months ... I would go to work and then literally go to bed. I would sit there and say, ‘thank God no one died today.’”
ER: “I knew it was going to be challenging physically but I didn’t really know how physically challenging it was going to be and then Wolfgang said ‘now you go to scuba diving training’ and I said, ‘huh?’ And then a day later I went to training and they introduced me to the cage of death, this Plexiglas cube that they would slowly sink over my head and then I would finally be trapped under water. It was pretty intense.”

DID EITHER OF YOU HAVE EXPERIENCE WITH WATER BEFORE?
JL: “I’m 34 and really the best shape of my life, a certified diver and I was hospitalized twice and had to have serious surgery. I would walk away from it, saying ‘what am I doing?’”
ER: “Once on vacation about two months before we started shooting and I was terrified. I was in the Caribbean with my friends. They convinced me to go and they took me down about 30 feet. I totally hyperventilated.”

HOW DID YOU DEAL WITH THE INTENSITY?
JL: “I drank hard and swam a lot. The moment I walked off that set, I would have a drink and bizarrely, I would sit in my pool because I was practicing sometimes just to hold my breath.”
ER: “I’m not good under crisis. I mean if I spill a cup of tea it is a disaster for me. A few of us had panic attacks. It was incredibly claustrophobic. If I had a panic attack I got out of there. I went to craft services and remembered I was in Los Angeles.”



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ENTERTAINMENT BRIEFS



Photo courtesy

Get some ‘Bright Ideas’ at Edgemar

By Daily Press staff

The Edgemar Center for the Arts is presenting the Los Angeles premiere of the award-winning comedy “Bright Ideas.” Directed by Neil Kinsella and produced by Alexandra Guarnieri “Bright Ideas” is a dark comedy about how far some parents will go to get their child into the “right” preschool. Josh and Genevra, two parents who want nothing but the best for their child, go to great lengths to start him off in the absolute best preschool, including murder. The comedy has been extended through May 20. Shows are Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. Edgemar Center for the Arts is located at 2437 Main St. Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased by calling (310) 392-7327. Edgemar Center for the Arts, located in Frank Gehry’s architectural landmark building, is host to theater productions, art exhibitions, film festivals and public arts programs.

Santa Monica artist inaugurates gallery

By Daily Press staff

Santa Monica-born artist Rosha Yaghmai opens the new gallery Bandini Art on May 16 with her first solo exhibition “The Song Remains the Same.” Yaghmai, who graduated at Crossroads School, takes beach culture as her subject, making her sculpture from shredded, vintage wetsuits. “There’s something compelling about the counter-culture movement of the 1960s and ’70s” she said. “The idea of self transcendence that is still being pursued on the West Coast. My work deals with the residue of that California dream.” Yaghmai’s sculptures hang above candles, or a doused beach bonfire, taking the shape of smoke clouds, or maybe multi-colored thought bubbles. In her hands, discarded remnants of beach life celebrate the innocent freedoms and cherished ideals of our Southern California culture, but also speak of their loss. “The Song Remains the Same” shows at Bandini Art, 2635 S. Fairfax Ave. in Culver City from May 16 to June 17. Phone, (310) 837 6230. www.bandiniart.com.

Bead show comes to SM

By Daily Press staff

My Favorite! Bead Show, coming to Santa Monica May 19-21, offers the latest trends in beads and materials, as well as instruction to make your own beaded creations. Celebrity jewelry designer and author Wendy Simpson Connor will be teaching a variety of beading techniques to attendees, who will learn the secrets of big jewelry designers. Under Connor’s supervision, they will learn to create all the fashion jewelry they desire, but haven’t been able to acquire. Connor, known as “The Bead Lady,” is the author of the “Beading Book Series” which includes “The Best Little Beading Book.” She teaches workshops around the country and her student roster includes many celebrities who love to “do it yourself” when it comes to jewelry. Connor is a frequent guest on HGTV and has produced two documentaries about beads. The first one, “The Bead Movement,” was a 1998 Oscar Qualifier and premiered at the Music Hall Theatre in Beverly Hills. The second one, “The Bead Movement/Director’s Cut,” won the Best Documentary Award at the New York International Independent Video and Film Festival in Manhattan. My Favorite! Bead Show is a division of the International Gem and Jewelry Show, the oldest traveling gem and jewelry show in the United States. There will be exhibitors with beads from around the world, demonstrations by artisans, and free instructional workshops in beading techniques and jewelry design. With man-made beads to semi-precious and precious stones, to pearls, silver, gold, crystals, coral, turquoise and other colorful gemstones in various shapes, the show has something for every beader. My Favorite! Bead Show will be at the Santa Monica Civic Auditorium at 1855 Main St. Show hours are Friday, noon to 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. Admission is \$7.

SANTA MONICA ART PALETTE
MAKING ARTS AND CULTURE COME ALIVE IN SANTA MONICA

Welcome to the Santa Monica Art Palette for the weekend of May 11. The goal of the Art Palette, created by City Hall’s cultural affairs division, is to showcase the many eclectic arts and cultural opportunities available in Santa Monica every week, highlighting one or more of the many happenings within our borders.

THE PIANO LESSON

On Friday night, the Santa Monica Theatre Guild presents August Wilson’s The Piano Lesson. At the heart of this haunting work stands an ornately carved upright piano, the Charles family’s prized, hard-won possession, which has been gathering dust in the parlor of Berniece Charles’ Pittsburgh home. Charles must choose between holding onto this family heirloom or selling it to finance a risky future for her family. The Piano Lesson won the Drama Desk Outstanding New Play Award, the New York Drama Critics Circle Best Play Award, the Antoinette Perry Award for Best Play, the American Theatre Critics Outstanding Play Award and brought August Wilson his second Pulitzer Prize for drama in 1990.

Friday, May 10 - Saturday, June 3
\$18 for general admission
\$15 for seniors and students

One More Actor
May 12 - August 13, 2006

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Álvaro Siza/architect: Drawings, models, photographs
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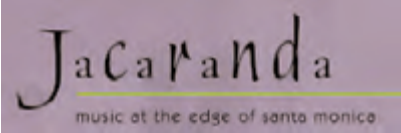
Also on Friday night, Santa Monica Museum of Art (SMMoA) will open their newest exhibition with a reception from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. This marks the first museum survey in the United States to explore the visionary 50-year career of preeminent Portuguese architect and Pritzker Prize winner Álvaro Joaquim de Melo Siza Vieira. Acknowledged as one of the greatest architects of our time, Siza’s inspired understanding of spatial relationships, considerations of scale, sensitivity to material and texture and use of light as an expressive and active element transforms the natural and built landscape with depth and originality. SMMoA is located at Bergamot Station, building G1, 2525 Michigan Ave. The museum is open Tuesday through Saturday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., closed Sundays, Mondays and all legal holidays. For further information about exhibitions and educational programming, call (310) 586-6488 or visit www.smmoa.org.



The Miles Playhouse is presenting A Springtime Jubilee Concert Saturday evening. This evening of classic melodies is designed to entertain audiences of all ages. The concert will feature the Santa Monica Symphony’s Woodwind Quintet performing works by composers Irving Fine, George Gershwin, Burrill Phillips, Bernard Garfield and Francois Poulenc in the intimate atmosphere of the Miles Playhouse. The concert is scheduled for one night only; Saturday, May 13 at 8 p.m. at the Miles Playhouse, located 1130 Lincoln Blvd. Doors will open at 7:30 p.m. The program should run about an hour. Cost of admission is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children 14 and under. Tickets may be reserved by calling (310) 458-8634. www.milesplayhouse.org

Exultant Jubilation: 250th birthday of Mozart

Also on Saturday night, Jacaranda celebrates the 250th birthday of Wolfgang Mozart. The orchestra will be performing the composer’s Exultate Jubilate, A Little Night Music, and High Holy Vespers. The concert features guest stars soprano Maria Lazarova



along with the Denali Quartet.

Concert starts at 8 p.m.
Tickets \$20; \$10 for students
Tickets are available at the door
First Presbyterian Church of Santa Monica
1220 Second St.
http://www.jacarandamusic.org/schedule.html#apr



If you would like to subscribe to the Santa Monica Arts Palette via e-mail, please send a blank e-mail with the word “Subscribe” in the subject line to artpalette.mailbox@smgov.net

City celebration: Where art, culture and the environment come alive.

A day of fun
The Santa Monica Festival kicks off with an interactive drum circle at 11 a.m. followed by an exciting day filled with international food, live art reflecting the cultural diversity that is Santa Monica and an Eco Activity Challenge. Join us in transforming Clover Park into Santa Monica’s own town square for a day.

The city of Santa Monica celebrates its history, diversity and environmental sustainability with an electric array of performances including sights and sounds from Brazil via Viver Brasil Dance Company; Africa through tough soulful sounds of MC Rai and Havana meets East Los Angeles’ funky fusions of LA’s beloved Quetzal. Eclectic food and drink to be enjoyed include lip-smacking ribs, fiery tamales, Italian ices, exotic teas and Latin American pastries. You and your family will be able to work off all of those calories by participating in many of the interactive workshops throughout the day: Eco Activity Challenge, Cache for Trash, mask and book-making all promise to incite learning and exhaust even the most active of families.

See the Santa Monica Festival Web site for more information.

Santa Monica Festival
May 13
11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Clover Park
2600 Ocean Park Blvd.
Free admission. Free parking.
Presented by the city of Santa Monica Cultural Affairs Division, Community & Cultural Services Department and the Santa Monica Arts Commission. Produced by Community Arts Resources
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WALK THIS WAY: Ticket holders (at left) tour a studio. (Right) An example of studio artist Bill Attaway's work.

Shhh! Artists' work goes on the block

By Daily Press staff

VENICE — More than 500 emerging and established Southern California artists will donate original works of art and photography for the Venice Art Walk's silent and live auctions, or will open the doors of their working studios to the public for tours from May 20-21.

The 27th annual Venice Art Walk and Auctions has expanded to two days raises funds for the Venice Family Clinic, the largest free clinic in the United States, and supports its work in providing medical care to uninsured individuals and families in Los Angeles County who would otherwise have no access to health care.

WEEKEND SCHEDULE

SATURDAY, MAY 20

■ "Architecture as Art" Self-Driving Tours: Docents walk you through architecturally significant Venice homes along Ocean Front Walk. Begin at Westminster School, 1010 Abbot Kinney Blvd. in Venice

Noon to 4 p.m.

Tickets are \$50 per person.

■ "Auction Party" live and silent art auctions: A Saturday night bash featuring 400 works by renowned LA-area artists, presided over by honorary co-chairs Will Ferrell and Viveca Paulin at Track 16 Gallery and Berman/Turner Projects in Santa Monica.

Silent art auction: 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Live art auction: 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Bergamot Station, 2525 Michigan Ave.

Tickets are \$50 in advance; \$75 at the door

Live and silent art auctions preview free to public from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

SUNDAY, MAY 21

■ Venice Art Walk in Venice. The legendary Southern California art event continues with a photography auction, cuisine, studio tours and exhibits and live entertainment. Catch a shuttle or head out on foot to view special exhibits and the private studios of more than 60 artists.

Registration opens at 10:30 a.m.

Studios and exhibitions open from 11:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Begin at Westminster School, 1010 Abbot Kinney Blvd. in Venice

Tickets are \$50 per person

Children 12 and under admitted free

■ This year for the first time the Venice Art Walk features an all new silent auction called "Focus on Photography," with more than 130 pieces of fine art photography to bid on. A special exhibit "The House is Small, But the Welcome is Big," will be featured. It is photographs by South African women living with HIV, a body of photography that gives a human face to the continuing global AIDS crisis and its impact on the lives of 15 HIV-infected mothers and children in Khayelitsha, an impoverished township in Cape Town.

11:00 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.

Westminster School.

■ Ceramics, cartoons and graphics silent art auctions: Featuring works by national artists.

11:00 a.m. to 5:15 p.m.

Westminster School

■ Deals and Steals silent auction: Travel getaways, restaurant certificates, jewelry collectibles, sports and entertainment tickets and more.

11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Westminster School

■ Food Faire: Westside restaurants dish out their own creative works

11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Westminster School

■ Live jazz and entertainment: On the main stage

Noon to 6 p.m.

Westminster School

Sunday tickets are \$50 per person. Children under 12 admitted free.

The public may preview the ceramics, cartoon, graphics and photography silent art auction on Saturday, May 20, from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. at Westminster School.

All proceeds from the Venice Art Walk and auctions support Venice Family Clinic. Founded in 1970, the clinic provides services to 22,000 low-income, men, women, children, teens, and seniors living in Los Angeles County who lack private insurance.

For more information call (310) 392-9255 or visit www.veniceartwalk.info

Venice Family Clinic's

**venice
art
walk
& auctions**

ARCHITECTURE AS ART MAY 20th, 2006 12:00 - 4:00PM

Purchase tickets the day of the event at the Westminster School, 1010 Abbot Kinney Blvd or contact the Venice Family Clinic at 310.392.9255. For more information visit www.VeniceArtWalk.info

No longer on the outside trying to peer in, Architecture as Art Ticket holders will have an inside-out view of the beach and beyond from the fabulous homes on Ocean Front Walk in Venice. Enjoy the ocean panorama through a two-story wall of glass while ascending the majestic four-story rotunda of the Miguel Angelo Flores designed home. Take in the scent and sound of the sea as the wind rushes through the eight-by-fourteen-foot rotating window in the Antoine Predock designed home. Ticket holders will view the boardwalk from vantage points only ocean front homeowners enjoy, speak to the designers and architects about their concepts, influences and use of non-traditional materials, as well as view unique sculpture and art created and collected by the homeowners.

FEATURED HOMES:

529 Rialto

Architect: Dennis Gibbens

This beautiful, light-filled, three story modernist beach house is in the heart of Venice. Its clean lines and fluidity accentuate this true example of Southern California architecture in the early 21st Century. A curved oak stairway leads to a double-height living space that soars over 18 feet. A courtyard and two exterior decks comprise over 1000 feet of finished outdoor space to make the most of outdoor living.



2201 Ocean Front Walk

Architect: CC Partners

A beautifully designed home that uses angles and arches to broaden the space and draw attention toward the front terrace and beach beyond. Changes in level maximize openness yet define living spaces and allow sunlight to filter throughout.



2307 Ocean Front Walk

Architect: Paul Bailey

Softly curved and juxtaposed floating concrete walls create intimate spaces and a cocoon-like kitchen in this home designed by the owner. In the spirit of a home being your castle, fortress shapes dominate in the master bedroom where a large round turret houses the shower in the master bath. Sculpture and art by local artists and the owner accentuate the influence of Venice's modern art scene.



2517 Ocean Front Walk

Architect: Lenny Steinberg Design Associates

The owner's design solved the problem of a narrow space and created dramatic volumes by exaggerating the loft, repositioning its overhang and designing the staircase to take up the least amount of space possible. The ocean view is brilliant when the large glass doors slide open and disappear completely into a corner wall, extending the living room into the terrace. Slightly canted walls increase the sense of breadth to the southern vista, while slits and ribbons of glass at unexpected levels pick up light and the eclectic panorama of Venice. Lenny's furniture design brings a cohesion of form and grace to the living spaces.



2315 Ocean Front Walk
Architect: Antoine Predock

Recipient of the 2006 AIA Gold Medal, Antoine Predock is renowned for designing buildings that grow out of their unique landscapes. This house examines the relationship between land and water and sets up a series of ocean vantage points. Through one three quarter by twelve inch deep fragment of glass cast into the concrete is a kaleidoscopic view of the ocean, sky and sand. In the entry, the divergent lines of a granite 'runway' reverse perspective, collapse space and bring the ocean closer. The noted black granite monolith that appears to dissolve behind a film of recalculated water, merges visually with the ocean when viewed from within.



2511 Ocean Front Walk

Architect: Miguel Angelo Flores

This design embraces the panorama of the ocean, beach, bike path and pier through a two-story wall of tinted glass that wraps around the sides of the house in a stepped pattern. The light filters into its core, illuminating a three story central atrium, which is animated by a swirl of arcing stairs and Paul Childov's Needle Waterfall that rises 20 feet from the ground floor entrance.



MAY 20th, 2006

12:00 - 4:00PM

Tickets 310.392.9255

www.VeniceArtWalk.com



Senators reach deal on reviving immigration bill

BY SUZANNE GAMBOA
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Senate leaders reached a deal Thursday on reviving a broad immigration bill that could provide millions of illegal immigrants a chance to become American citizens and said they'll try to pass it before Memorial Day.

The agreement brokered by Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., and Minority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., breaks a political stalemate that has lingered for weeks while immigrants and their supporters held rallies, boycotts and protests to push for action.

"We congratulate the Senate on reaching agreement and we look forward to passage of a bill prior to Memorial Day," said Dana Perino, deputy White House press secretary.

Key to the agreement is who will be negotiating a compromise with the House, which last December passed an enforcement-only bill that would subject the estimated 11 million to 12 million illegal immigrants in the United States to felony charges as well as deportation.

Frist said the Senate will send 14 Republicans and 12 Democrats to negotiate with the House, with seven of the Republicans and five Democrats coming from the Judiciary Committee. The remaining seven Republicans will be chosen by Frist and remaining seven Democrats chosen by Reid.

At least one opponent of the compromise measure, Sen. John Cornyn, R-Texas, will be among the remaining seven Republicans appointed to the committee, spokesman Don Stewart said.

Frist said a "considerable" number of amendments would be debated when the Senate begins debating the bill early next week.

It would be the most comprehensive rewrite of immigration laws since the so-called Simpson-Mazzoli bill some 20 years ago.

Reid acknowledged on the Senate floor Thursday morning that he "didn't get everything that I wanted" in the agreement, but said Frist didn't either. Reaching the agreement is "not easy with the political atmosphere," Reid said.

Reid had been taking some criticism for refusing to move forward on the bill after complaining that Republicans were trying to undermine it with amendments and insisting that Democrats be allowed to have a say in who serves on the conference committee.

Republicans, too, have had opposition from conservatives to the compromise proposal. These critics consider its path to citizenship provision for illegal immigrants and hundreds of thousands of future guest workers to be tantamount to "amnesty."

They've also had to contend with fallout from opposition to the House bill that triggered nationwide protests that drew hundreds of thousands in Los Angeles, Chicago and Dallas and hundreds more in other cities and small communities.

Presidential and midyear politics have been a subtext to the immigration debate. Frist and Arizona Sen. John McCain, one of the architects of the legalization proposal, are prominent in speculation for the 2008 GOP presidential nomination.

The compromise bill the Senate will consider builds on legislation approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee 12-6, with four Republicans voting with Democrats to approve the measure.

That measure absorbed a bill drafted by McCain and Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, D-Mass., that called for allowing illegal immigrants to work toward becoming legal permanent residents.

President Bush had helped accelerate progress on the bill after meeting with a bipartisan group of senators last month and stating clearer support for allowing illegal immigrants a path to citizenship.

"We congratulate the Senate on reaching agreement and we look forward to passage of a bill prior to Memorial Day."

DANA PERINO
WHITE HOUSE PRESS
SECRETARY DEPUTY

Delicate situation

Climber calls attention to famous arch in Utah by scaling it

BY PAUL FOY
Associated Press Writer

SALT LAKE CITY — Dean Potter climbed Delicate Arch, the soaring desert symbol of southern Utah. Now the National Park Service is making certain he doesn't get away with it again.

Arches National Park rushed Tuesday to tighten its rules on climbing after Potter announced, with photographs and video, that he made an unassisted climb of Delicate Arch just after daybreak on Sunday.

He did it several times, quickly rappelling down by aid of friends on a rope belay, to climb again.

"I've never heard of any climber going to the top," said Potter, a 34-year-old professional climber and ambassador for the Patagonia outdoor clothing company, but he is taking no credit for a first ascent. "I would think somebody a hundred years ago figured out a way to get up, maybe with ladders and rope. It's only 70 feet tall."

Arches Park Superintendent Laura Joss said she reported Potter's climb to the Interior Department's chief lawyers and that park rangers were investigating whether Potter did any damage to Delicate Arch, where a photographer was once charged with a misdemeanor for setting fires under the span.

Joss said she was rewriting rules Tuesday to ban climbing of any named arches or natural bridges in the park.

The old rules said Delicate Arch, which is the central feature on Utah license plates, was among landscape features that "may be closed for all or a portion of the year due to aesthetic, wildlife or other resource-related concerns."

Joss conceded that Delicate Arch wasn't specifically closed, but that most climbers understood it was off-limits.

Except for Potter.

"The Park Service didn't want me to do it, but no law was broken," he said.

Said Joss, "No other climber has interpreted these guidelines the way he did, but since he has, we clearly needed to strengthen the rules."

The new rules took effect Tuesday and were posted prominently on the park's Web site. Potter said he won't violate them.

Potter's climb was not witnessed by any park officials, who weren't on duty at dawn Sunday, but Potter said he drew the attention of park visitors, including photographers showing up for first morning light.

"It's one of the most beautiful things in the world to climb, and because it wasn't illegal I decided to climb it," he said.

For years Potter studied the cracks and crevices on the arch for a route he could take without climbing aids. He rated it a difficult climb, with some overhangs on the way up.

"I respected nature to the fullest. The most damage I did to the arch was to blow a little dust from the hand and footholds," he said.

Michael Fatali, an artist with a photo gallery in Springdale, Utah, was convicted in 2002 of setting two fires under Delicate Arch at night and banned for two years from Arches and Canyonlands national parks. He lit the fires in aluminum baking pans but the heat from the fires scorched the sandstone under the arch.

To settle the misdemeanor case, Fatali paid \$10,900 in restitution and completed 150 hours of community service.

ON THE NET

Arches National Park
www.nps.gov/arch/

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Americans, Iranians wonder why nations won't just meet

BY WILLIAM J. KOLE
Associated Press Writer

VIENNA, Austria — As the United States toughens its stance on Iran’s nuclear program, and bitterness toward America hardens on the streets of Tehran, many people can’t help but wonder: Why don’t the two countries hold face-to-face talks to ease the crisis?

“The most effective way to resolve the international stand-off ... is through direct talks between Tehran and Washington,” said Lebanon’s The Daily Star newspaper in an editorial.

Experts say that a meeting between Iranian leader Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and President Bush would seem an obvious follow-up to Ahmadinejad’s letter to Bush this week. But many doubt a summit, even if arranged, could bridge the two nations’ virtually irreconcilable differences.

Bush doesn’t want direct dialogue with the head of a state he labeled part of an “axis of evil,” along with Iraq and North Korea. Doing so would acknowledge Ahmadinejad’s legitimacy.

And Ahmadinejad’s letter was laced with old grievances against an America that Tehran brands the “Great Satan” and included a long list of Iranian demands.

Shen Dingli, director of the Institute of American Studies at Fudan University in Shanghai, China, said the countries regard each other as enemies and approach the nuclear issue from opposite directions.

“Iran believes it must acquire nuclear weapons to ensure state security. The United States does not want to have direct talks with Iran, just like it does not want to talk with North Korea,” he said.

Shahin Gobadi, spokesman for the Paris-based National Council of Resistance of Iran, an exile group, said a Bush-Ahmadinejad summit is implausible because Tehran “has not been willing to accept the norms and rules of conduct of the 21st century.”

“This regime is built on the concept of medieval religious tyranny. It’s not compatible with dialogue,” he told The Associated Press.

If Ahmadinejad’s 18-page menu of grievances sums up Iran’s position, then “there is no prospect of negotiation,” said Steve Hoadley, associate professor of political studies at New Zealand’s Auckland University.

“The countries are ideologically, politically, strategically quite different,” he said. “They are on a collision course because Iran has ambitions to regional leadership. Nuclear weapons are part of that equation.”

Iran and the United States have had no diplomatic relations since 1979, long before the nuclear standoff. That’s when Iranian students stormed the U.S. Embassy in Tehran and held its occupants hostage for 444 days to protest Washington’s refusal to hand over the toppled shah, Mohammad Reza Pahlavi.

Deborah Elms of the Institute of Defense and Strategic Studies in Singapore said there still are no official channels for U.S.-Iranian talks, and Washington doesn’t want one. “The Bush administration has long-standing policy of what

they call not negotiating with blackmailers,” she said.

The long-standing rift between the United States and Iran is far from unprecedented. For decades, Britain refused to talk directly with Sinn Fein, the IRA-linked party that represents most of Northern Ireland’s Catholics.

Spain has always rejected negotiations with ETA, the armed Basque separatist group, unless it lays down its weapons. Yet there were at least two rounds of talks between in the 1980s and 1990s.

In a speech this week in Seattle, former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright urged direct talks with Iran, saying: “The last thing we need is to invade another country.”

Fearing that the United States might resort to military force to stop what it insists is a covert nuclear weapons program, world leaders made fresh pleas this week for high-level dialogue.

“They are on a collision course because Iran has ambitions to regional leadership. Nuclear weapons are part of that equation.”

STEVE HOADLEY
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF POLITICAL STUDIES
NEW ZEALAND'S AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY

Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono, after talks Wednesday with Ahmadinejad in Jakarta, said that he believed Iran was willing to find a diplomatic solution. He offered to help mediate.

Malaysia also urged Washington to seek an amicable solution with Iran at the negotiating table. Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi said he told Bush by telephone last week: “A diplomatic solution would be better than another approach.”

China believes “the best way to solve the issue is to go through diplomacy and negotiation,” said Foreign Ministry spokesman Liu Jianchao. China and Russia have balked at U.S. efforts to put forward a draft resolution under Chapter 7 of the U.N. Charter. Such a move would declare Iran a global threat and could lead to sanctions or possible military action if Tehran does not suspend uranium enrichment.

Konstantin Kosachev, the Kremlin-allied head of the Russian State Duma’s international affairs committee, said talks were unlikely. He called on the international community to find a unified position, to restrain “the most radical forces in both Washington and Tehran.”

Rasul Bakhsh Rais, professor of political science at Pakistan’s Lahore University of Management Sciences, said before talks there must be trust.

“Their strategic visions are so conflicting and their roles in the Middle East, perceived by each other, are so antagonistic,” he said. “Even thinking that they will sit together at the negotiating table ... is really irrational.”

Report: British didn't miss threats

BY DAVID STRINGER
Associated Press Writer

LONDON — The decision by British intelligence agencies not to concentrate on two of the London transit bombers before last year’s attacks was understandable given the scale of the threat and limited resources, said a legislative report released Thursday.

The report by the Intelligence and Security Committee said resources were shifted to concentrate on “known plans to attack the U.K.”

The report said the degree of al-Qaida involvement in the July 7 attacks, if any, was unclear, and it had found no links between the attacks and those who mounted failed bombing attempts against the London transit system two weeks later.

The report said intelligence agents were aware of Siddique Khan, the leader of the attacks which killed 52 bus and subway passengers, but had not confirmed his identity until after the bombings.

The decision was madenot to investigate Khan and another bomber agents were aware of before the attacks,

Shazad Tanweer, because “there were more pressing priorities at the time, including the need to disrupt known plans to attack the U.K.,” the report said.

“When resources became available, attempts were made to find out more about these two and other peripheral contacts, but these resources were soon diverted back to what were considered to be higher investigative priorities,” the report said.

The man later identified as Khan had been mentioned by people detained outside Britain in 2004, the report said. “This reporting referred to men from the UK known only by pseudonyms who had travelled to Pakistan in 2003 and sought meetings with Al Qaida figures.”

The report confirmed that Britain’s alert status had been downgraded from “severe general,” the second-highest, to “substantial” on May 26.

“The main reason given ... was that there was no intelligence of a current credible plot to attack the U.K. at that time _ i.e. a group with established capability and current intent,” the report said.

Under watchful eyes, U.S. tries more accommodating tact on Middle East issues

BY ANNE GEARAN
AP Diplomatic Writer

WASHINGTON — Twice this week, international partners forced a tough-talking Bush administration to swallow a more accommodating, slower approach to difficult problems in the Middle East that the United States cannot solve alone.

In the confrontations with Iran and Hamas, the message for the world’s only superpower seems to be that when it comes to diplomacy, you still need your friends.

The administration seemed prepared to accept the fuzzing up of formerly hard lines as the cost of maintaining harmony with European allies and Russia, foreign policy analysts said.

“You have two significant shifts in policy, not because we have decided that we were wrong, but because we know we need international support,” said Jon Alterman, Middle East program director at the Center for Strategic and International Studies.

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice had hoped to use a dinner Monday in New York with other permanent members of the U.N. Security Council to take the next step toward sanctions or other penalties for Tehran over its disputed nuclear program. A revolt by European allies, backed by Russia, led Rice to agree to a two-week delay before any new push to punish or coerce Iran through the Security Council.

European diplomats told her they were uncomfortable with the rising temperature on the Iran issue, a disappointment for Washington after a year in which European nations became its closest partners in dealing with the Iran threat.

The Bush administration has been pushing for strong Security Council action for more than two years, arguing that Iran may respond to the threat of punishment and international isolation by the powerful international body.

The United States has little independent diplomatic or economic leverage over Iran, and needs other nations both to negotiate with the Tehran government and to give meaning to any threat of economic loss.

Iran and the U.S. have had no diplomatic relations since shortly after the 1979 storming of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran in which U.S. diplomats were held hostage, and the United States has cut nearly all economic ties.

On Hamas, the United States went along with a plan announced Tuesday to set up a new fund for international aid donations to the Palestinians, even though the money could indirectly help the Hamas militants now leading the Palestinian government.

Even if the United States never pays a dime into it, the new fund represents a softening of the categorical stance the Bush administration had taken against any engagement that could benefit Hamas.

Both the United States and the European Union list Hamas as a terrorist organization because of bomb attacks on Israel. The E.U. had joined the United States in cutting off direct and most indirect aid to the Palestinian government now that Hamas is in charge, but European leaders were increasingly uneasy about the cost that the boycott imposed on ordinary Palestinians.

Public opinion in Europe often favors Palestinian causes and governments are leery of looking too harsh.

European governments were by far the largest donors to the previous, secular government. The possibility that the money could be restored offers Hamas a more powerful incentive to change than the United States can dangle alone.

The new fund is meant only to head off a building humanitarian crisis in the impoverished Palestinian territories precipitated by the boycott. But the money also could ease pressure on Hamas from within by restoring services Hamas has been unable to provide. That may be particularly true if the money goes to pay some of the 165,000 Palestinian civil servants whose paychecks Hamas cannot now fulfill.

By bowing to the wishes of allies, the administration may also be acknowledging political weakness at home, said Patrick Jackson, a professor at the American University School of Foreign Service who specializes in trans-Atlantic relations.

When President Bush was riding high in U.S. polls, he felt freer to pursue a go-it-alone foreign policy that rankled Europeans and other allies, he said. The 2003 Iraq invasion, broadly opposed among European publics, is probably the best example.

Mrs. Chappelle wants answers

By The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Dave Chappelle is still explaining to his wife why he left his Comedy Central show and walked away from a \$50 million contract.

“My wife is still a little salty with me,” Chappelle joked on NBC’s “Late Night With Conan O’Brien” on Wednesday night. “She’s not mad at me, but don’t think you can walk away from \$50 million and your wife is just going to be cool with it.”

In frequent TV appearances over the past few months, the comedian has repeatedly defended his sudden departure last year from the popular and lucrative “Chappelle’s Show.”

With humor and candor, Chappelle, 32, has laughed at claims that he’s “crazy,” and said he had doubts about how racial elements of his show were received.

He has since returned to performing standup and released the concert documentary, “Block Party.”

On “Late Night,” he also joked about his quick exodus to Africa, where he stayed after leaving “Chappelle’s Show.”

“When you go to Africa, especially your first time, you have this overwhelming feeling like you’re home,” he said. “I had a feeling of ‘man, this feels like home.’

“I think I felt that way because there was a McDonald’s in the airport.”

LONDON — Snoop Dogg has accepted responsibility for using “threatening words or behavior” in a brawl last month at Heathrow airport.

The 34-year-old rapper, whose real name is Calvin Broadus, appeared at Heathrow police station and “accepted a caution for a Section Four Public Order Act matter, using threatening words or behavior,” police said Thursday.

A caution means a person has accepted responsibility for the offense, and a record will be made. No further action will be taken, police said.

Snoop and five other men were arrested on

charges of violent disorder and starting a brawl, and spent the night in jail after trouble flared when some members of the rapper’s party were denied entry to British Airways’ first-class lounge.

Seven officers received minor injuries _ mainly cuts and bruises _ and one suffered a fracture to the hand.

British Airways has banned Snoop from future travel on the airline, it said last month.

NEW YORK — Jerry Hadley, a tenor who has performed in the world’s leading opera houses, has been arrested for being intoxicated while sitting behind the wheel of his parked car, the district attorney’s office said.

Hadley, 54, was arraigned Wednesday night in Manhattan Criminal Court on charges of operating a vehicle while intoxicated and impaired, said Barbara Thompson, a spokeswoman for Manhattan District Attorney Robert Morgenthau.

He was sitting in the parked car with the key in the ignition when he was arrested on the Upper West Side on Wednesday, Thompson said. A woman had reported seeing him in a drunken state before getting into the car, she said Thursday.

Thompson said a person doesn’t have to be operating a vehicle to be charged with driving while intoxicated; “intent” is enough to be arrested.

No bail was set. Hadley was released; he is scheduled to return to court July 27.

Hadley’s lawyer, Lou Freeman, said the singer never intended to drive. He said Hadley realized he was too tipsy to drive once he got behind the wheel.

“I don’t believe a crime was committed,” Freeman told the Daily News, adding that Hadley was coming from a business lunch when he was arrested.

Hadley, a graduate of the University of Illinois School of Music, has performed at major opera houses including the Metropolitan Opera and the Royal Opera in London.

He has sung works as varied as composer John Harbison’s “The Great Gatsby” and Mozart’s “Cosi fan tutte,” in which he appeared with mezzo-soprano Cecilia Bartoli.

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — Johnny Cash’s boyhood home is among 10 historic places in danger of being lost through neglect or development, a preservation group said.

The small house in which Cash grew up in the northeast Arkansas town of Dyess topped the list issued Tuesday by the Historic Preservation Alliance of Arkansas. The group has compiled similar lists since 1999 in an effort to educate people about the importance of the state’s historic sites.

Mark Stodola, president of the alliance, said the group focused on the home partly because of the increased attention Dyess received from “Walk the Line,” the 2005 film about Cash’s rise to country music stardom.

“Dyess definitely had a huge role in that movie, and this is a great piece of history,” Stodola said. “There’s some tremendous opportunities to preserve this structure and tell the history of Johnny Cash and Arkansas.”

Cash was born in Kingsland and moved to Dyess as a child. The Cash home in Dyess is privately owned and occupied, according to the group’s report. The owner has offered the property for sale, but at a prohibitive cost, preservationists said.

TOKYO — Ken Watanabe said he hopes a new Clint Eastwood film about the bloody World War II battle for Iwo Jima, in which he plays a main role, can help young Japanese face their country’s wartime history.

“As we went through this film, we realized that until now, we haven’t really looked at Japan’s past. We kind of looked away from it,” said Watanabe, who stars in “Red Sun, Black Sand.” “But we have to look at it and accept the fact that this is what our fathers and grandfathers have actually done.”

Santa Monica Daily Press

MOVIEGUIDE

SHOWTIMES: FRIDAY, MAY 12, 2006

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

An American Haunting (PG-13)
1:00, 3:20, 5:35, 8:00, 10:30
Inside Man (R)
1:20, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50
Just My Luck (PG-13)
2:10, 5:00, 7:40, 10:15
United 93 (R)
1:50, 4:30, 7:20, 10:00

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

Ice Age: The Meltdown (PG)
11:10am, 1:20, 3:30, 5:40
Mission: Impossible III (PG-13)
11:20am, 12:00, 1:10, 2:20, 3:10, 4:20, 5:10, 6:20, 7:20, 8:00, 9:30, 10:20, 11:00
Poseidon (PG-13)
11:00am, 11:30am, 1:30, 2:00, 4:00, 4:30, 6:30, 7:00, 7:50, 9:10, 9:40, 10:30, 11:45

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

Akeelah and the Bee (PG)
11:25am, 2:00, 4:35, 7:10, 9:50
Goal! The Dream Begins (PG)
11:30am, 2:20, 5:05, 7:50, 10:35
Hoot (PG)
11:00am, 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8:00
Keeping Up With the Steins (PG-13)
11:20am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00
RV (PG)
11:50am, 2:30, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10
Scary Movie 4 (PG-13)
2:25, 4:50, 7:05, 9:30
Silent Hill (R)
11:40am, 10:20
Stick It (PG-13)
11:10am, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40

Nuwilshire Theatre
1314 Wilshire Blvd
(310)281-8228

Art School Confidential (R)
11:30am, 2:00, 4:35, 7:10, 9:50
Thank You for Smoking (R)
11:40am, 2:15, 4:45, 7:30, 10:00

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

Down in the Valley (R)
1:30, 4:15, 7:10, 9:55
Friends With Money (R)
12:45, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00
Wah-Wah (R)
1:45, 4:30, 7:20, 9:45
Water (PG-13)
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:55

Information: calendar@smdp.com

MORE TODAY IN HISTORY

In 1932, the body of the kidnapped son of Charles and Anne Lindbergh was found in a wooded area of Hopewell, N.J.

In 1933, the Federal Emergency Relief Administration and the Agricultural Adjustment Administration were established to provide help for the needy and farmers.

In 1937, Britain’s King George VI was crowned at Westminster Abbey.

In 1949, the Soviet Union announced an end to the Berlin Blockade.

In 1965, West Germany and Israel exchanged letters establishing diplomatic relations.

In 1975, the White House announced the new Cambodian government had seized an American merchant ship, the Mayaguez, in international waters.

Ten years ago: Authorities in Florida called off the search for possible survivors from the crash of ValuJet Flight 592, a day after the jetliner nose-dived into the Everglades with 110 people on board.

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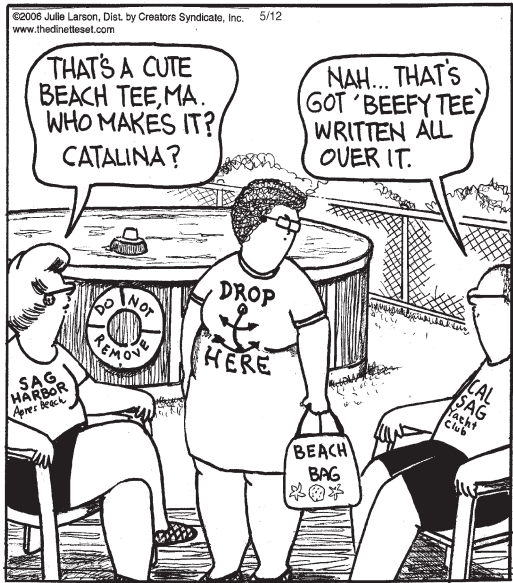
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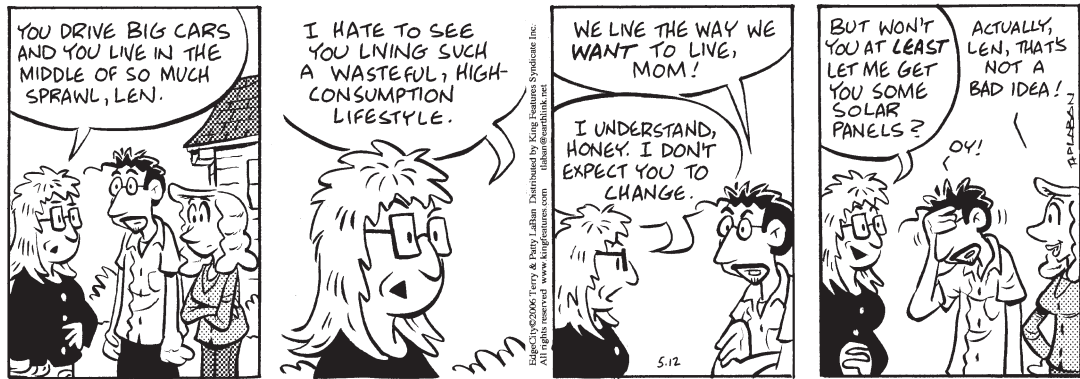
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The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



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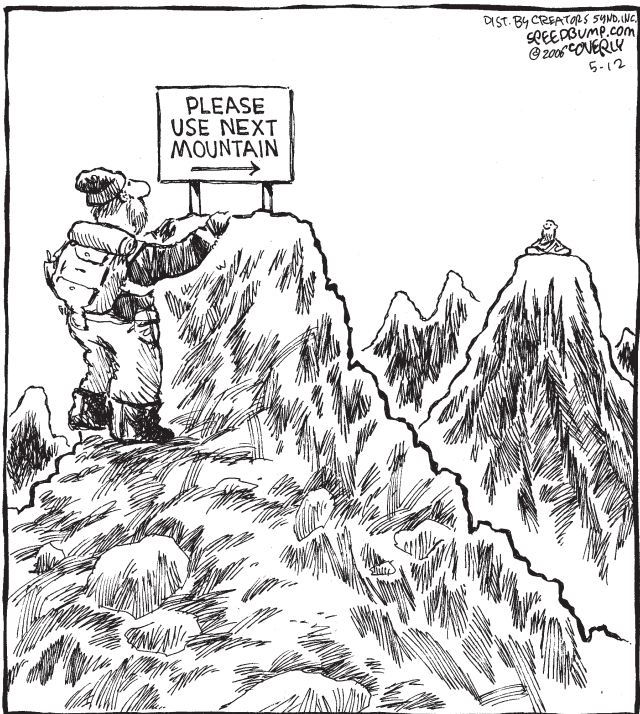
edge city by TERRY & PATTY LABAN



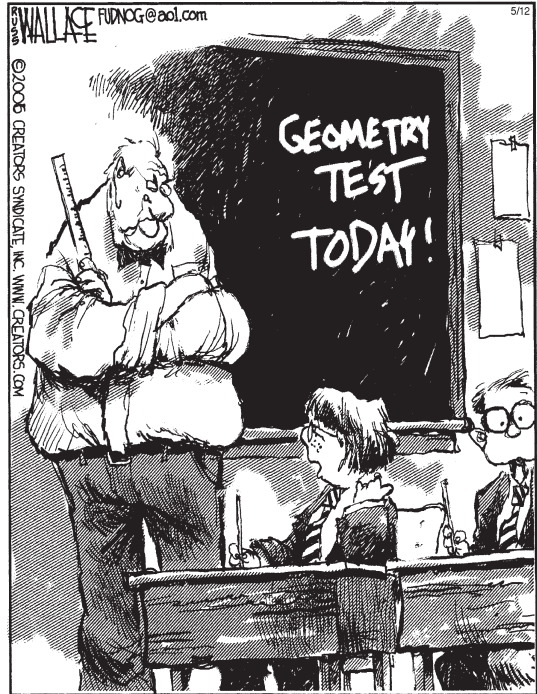
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By THOMAS JOSEPH

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- 5 Misleads
- 6 Singer Elliott
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- 8 Dave Robicheaux mysteries author
- 9 Ready to come home
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- 17 Makes a victim of

- 23 Tire track
- 24 Handful of
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Ocean House is looking for a part time overnight caregiver to work 2 days per week at upscale retirement community on Ocean Ave. Will be responsible for meds and care of residents. Please come by and fill out an application at 2107 Ocean Ave. SM, CA 90405 or fax a resume with salary history to (310) 314-7356.

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Notices

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

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

A HEARING on the petition will be held on 07/07/06 at 9:15AM in Dept. A 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.

Petitioner In Pro Per
BRUCE CHARNAS
139 BAYVIEW DRIVE
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CNS-965679#

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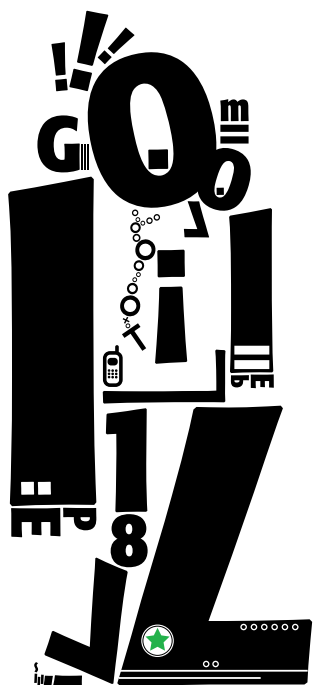
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