

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

DAILY LOTTERY

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DAILY 3

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Evening: 1 2 2

DAILY DERBY

1st: 07 Eureka
2nd: 01 Gold Rush
3rd: 02 Lucky Star
RACE TIME: 1:45:14

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

In the news recently, the Norwegian tree ski-jumping championship was held in Hallingskarvet, in which the object was to ski into a tall tree and hang from it at a higher point than anyone else (March). And parent Peter Dukovich was acquitted of most charges in the post-game assault of a high school basketball referee after he testified that he didn't know the man was a referee (despite the striped shirt and his repeatedly blowing a whistle during the game) (Allegheny County, Pa., January). And two financially unsavvy Ramsey, N.J., teenage burglars were arrested after taking \$100,000 in cash from a home but ignoring \$900,000 in fully negotiable bearer bonds (January).

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 133rd day of 2005.
There are 232 days left in the year.

On May 13, 1981, Pope John Paul II was shot and seriously wounded in St. Peter's Square by Turkish assailant Mehmet Ali Agca.

In 1607, the English colony at Jamestown, Va., was settled.

In 1846, the United States declared that a state of war already existed against Mexico.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The worst-tempered people I've ever met were people who knew they were wrong."

WILSON MIZNER
AMERICAN PLAYWRIGHT (1876-1933)

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A fair interruption



Fabian Lewkowicz/Special to the Daily Press

The Santa Monica College Job Fair on Thursday is interrupted by students protesting against military recruiters on campus.

Former chief executive of Nasdaq-listed company sentenced to federal prison

Executive vice president of NewCom, Inc. also sentenced to prison time for 'cooking the books'

By Daily Press staff

The former chief executive officer of NewCom, Inc. was sentenced Wednesday to two years in federal prison for devising and carrying out an elaborate scheme to defraud the company's investors and the United States Securities and Exchange Commission by falsely inflating revenues.

Sultan Warris Khan, 60, of Pacific Palisades, who was the president, chief executive officer and chairman of the board of directors of NewCom, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Florence-Marie Cooper. Khan received the prison sentence for

orchestrating an extensive accounting fraud scheme at NewCom, a publicly traded company that sold computer peripherals. NewCom was based in Westlake Village from 1994 through 1999.

Asif Mohammad Khan — no relation to Sultan Khan — 60, of Westlake Village, the former executive vice president and a director of NewCom, also was sentenced Wednesday by Judge Cooper to two years in federal prison.

Both defendants were ordered to pay a \$15,000 fine.

In sentencing the defendants, Judge Cooper determined that the

Khans' sentence under the United States sentencing guidelines should be 57 months in prison. But relying upon the U.S. Supreme Court's decision earlier this year in United States vs. Booker, which declared the sentencing guidelines to be only advisory and not mandatory, Judge Cooper reduced each defendant's sentence to 24 months in federal prison, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office in Los Angeles. In reducing the sentences, Judge Cooper cited the defendants' lack of prior convictions, their age and particular medical conditions.

Appearing in U.S. District Court in Los Angeles, Sultan Khan was sentenced after pleading guilty in

See CEO SENTENCE, page 5

City's lawsuit against self dies

BY RYAN HYATT
Daily Press Staff Writer

SACRAMENTO — City Hall suffered a third strike last month when the state Supreme Court refused to hear a case that involved the city suing itself, losing, appealing and losing again, over an initiative approved by voters more than four years ago.

The California Supreme Court decided last month not to review a previous decision made by the court of appeals in upholding Proposition LL, an initiative approved by Santa Monica voters in 2000 that limits public officials from receiving gifts and campaign contributions from companies that contract with the city. It blocks officials who award contracts of more than \$50,000 from receiving campaign contributions, gifts or employment from the party to whom the benefit was awarded.

The Supreme Court's decision not to review the case means the lower court's decision to put the initiative into law will likely be final. The law has never been implemented.

Nearly 60 percent of Santa Monica voters in November of 2000 voted in favor of Prop. LL, which was designed to stop city workers and elected leaders from collecting cash, gifts and other perks from individuals who are affected by their decisions.

Carmen Balber, a consumer advocate with the Foundation for Taxpayer and Consumer Rights, the Santa Monica-based group that drove the initiative, said the decision means officials in Santa Monica will have to ensure the public projects they approve are not funded by campaign contributions.

"The city needs to accept

See CITY SUIT, page 4

Jacquie Banks

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LOCAL

Practice patient



Photo courtesy Gita Mirzaei, RN, from Saint John's Health Center's post-cardiac care unit, tests out "Pat," a mannequin patient, during an open house at the hospital's newly opened learning lab as part of Nurse Appreciation Month. Other resources for nurses in the learning lab include a computer terminal with access to 30 online nursing journals, reference books, anatomy diagrams and a fully equipped crash cart that can be used to practice emergency care on the mannequin.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

College alumni take the stage at SMC

By Daily Press staff

It's time to get your groove on this weekend at Santa Monica College. SMC's Synapse Dance Theater will present a program called "New Works" by current students and alumni. The program of innovative modern dance, hip-hop, jazz and tap celebrates the dramatic possibilities of dance, college officials say. Synapse choreographers include Marshall Bang, Cortney Cantrell, Ola Hudson, Moo Kim, Amber King, Octavio Moreno, Nguyen Nguyen, Kathryn Rossum, Robert Whidbee, and guest artists Ron Brown, Linda Gold, Michael Skelton, Diane Takamine, Martha Thomas and Roberta Wolin-Manker. The works were previewed at the American College Dance Festival, Citrus College Dance Festival, Los Angeles Community College Consortium, Moorpark College's Evening of Choreography and Crossroads School in Santa Monica. Synapse is under the artistic direction of Linda Gold, a dancer and choreographer who has toured throughout the world and consistently won critical praise from such publications as The New York Times. Her recent performances in Spirit Dances 6 and The World Festival of Sacred Music in Los Angeles were commended by the Los Angeles Times. A member of Dance Films Association, she has been part of selection juries for the American Choreography Awards presented by the Academy of Dance on Film. Synapse, SMC's contemporary dance ensemble, performs regularly at SMC and throughout the Southwest. Past performances have included the Getty Center, Cast Theater in Hollywood, Electric Lodge in Venice, and American College Dance Festivals in New Mexico, Arizona and Southern California, as well as area high schools and SMC.

See BRIEFS, page 10

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SURF REPORT

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SUNDAY	4:19	-0.8	3:30	1.7	10:39	3.8	9:46	6.1
MONDAY	4:59	-0.8	3:57	2.1	11:28	3.5	10:15	5.9
TUESDAY	5:39	-0.6	4:22	2.4	12:21	3.3	10:45	5.6
WEDNESDAY	6:23	-0.4	4:46	2.7	1:25	3.1	11:18	5.3
THURSDAY	7:13	-0.1	5:07	2.9	2:56	3.0	11:56	4.9
FRIDAY	7:40	0.0	5:35	3.1	3:17	2.8	12:31	4.4

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The QLine

In outlining broad themes to be used to shape Santa Monica's land use and transit policies in the coming decades, city officials said future decisions should consider the need for the city to maintain a small-town feel. Some residents have said this goal fails to look at the city from a regional perspective and ignores the outside pressures of the Los Angeles area.

So this week, Q-Line wants to know,

"Should Santa Monica strive to maintain a small-town atmosphere and, if so, how can this be accomplished?"

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LOCAL

Councilman not surprised by high court's decision

CITY SUIT, from page 1

responsibility after a four-year battle and accept this is what the voters wanted and that only Santa Monica has had a problem with implementing it," Balber said, adding other cities in California passed similar ballot measures.

Officials at City Hall immediately criticized the new proposition. They called it poorly written, overly broad and a threat to the constitutional rights of everyone from low-level city workers to elected leaders sitting on the Santa Monica City Council.

City Hall had several major problems with the initiative. Among them are the city's contention the language of the law would unnecessarily affect low-level workers, put too stringent fundraising limitations on local officials running for state and federal office, unfairly keep officials from taking certain types of jobs after leaving their posts, put too heavy a burden on officials to know the economic interests of outside parties, and conflict with

state and federal law.

Officials also contend that civil and criminal penalties spelled out in the initiative are vague and overly broad, and that the initiative unfairly hinders donations from nonprofit groups.

To illustrate the impracticality of the law, the city argued a zoning administrator, an appointed official who has discretion to approve routine applications for zoning permits, would violate the law if he accepted sports tickets from a family friend who happened to be a partial owner of a construction company that does business in Santa Monica.

Just how to avoid those problems without blatantly ignoring the will of voters was a major concern for city officials. In May 2001, City Attorney Marsha Moutrie recommended, and the City Council agreed, that the city file a lawsuit against itself. It sued City Clerk Maria Stewart, who, on Moutrie's advice, had refused to implement the law for fear of treading on the constitution.

What followed was a legal struggle that

has lasted more than four years, consumed untold hours of city attorney time and cost tens of thousands of taxpayer dollars, which were spent hiring outside law firms to help handle the case.

The city and Stewart hired separate, outside law firms to represent both sides because the city attorney's office couldn't represent either of them. It's unknown how much lawyers have billed both city entities in the case.

City officials, who are normally supportive of campaign finance reform, think the measure — levied by a local taxpayer and consumer rights advocacy group — violates constitutional rights mostly because it's full of holes. The law was so poorly written that the city was forced to sue itself just to enforce it, city officials said.

When Prop. LL was supposed to go into effect, Stewart was unsure on how to enforce it because it was riddled with confusing provisions and is widely deemed too broad, therefore it violating due process, city attorneys argue.

The City Council wanted clarification

too, but it also wanted to make sure the city was honoring the "will of the people" — the 59 percent of Santa Monica voters who approved the law. And suing the group that forced the measure onto the ballot, the Oaks Project, wasn't an option because city officials didn't want to appear to be going against that will, officials said.

So the only way city officials thought they could clarify the law's constitutionality was to sue its own city clerk for not enforcing it, then wait for a judge to rule.

Marsha Moutrie, Santa Monica City Attorney, was unavailable to comment on the Supreme Court's decision. Other city attorneys declined to comment because they hadn't reviewed the high court's opinion.

Councilman Richard Bloom, who said he had heard of the court's decision not to review the case, said he was not entirely surprised.

"The California Supreme Court takes few cases," Bloom said. "It comes as a disappointment but not a huge surprise."



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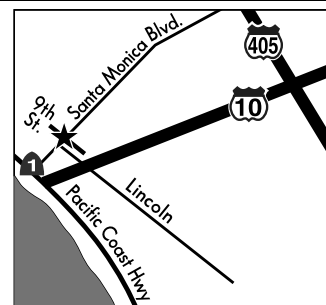
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LOCAL



CRIME WATCH

By Daily Press staff

At 11 p.m. on May 2, Santa Monica police responded to the 1500 block of 10th Street regarding a residential burglary. When officers arrived at the scene, they could hear commotion inside the apartment. When they entered, they saw a male and female who had blood on their hands and face. A third person was being detained by the male victim. The male victim said that while inside his apartment with his girlfriend, three suspects entered and displayed a baseball bat and attempted to steal items inside the apartment. During a fight that ensued, two of the suspects fled and the victims were able to detain the third. The suspects that fled took approximately \$550 worth of jewelry. Otto Leonel Menendez, 20, of Hawthorne, was taken into custody and transported to Santa Monica Jail, where he was booked for residential robbery. Bail was set at \$50,000.

At 4:53 p.m. on May 2, Santa Monica police responded to the 1200 block of Third Street Promenade Court No. 2 regarding an auto theft in progress. When officers arrived at the scene, they saw a subject detaining a male subject who turned out to be the suspect in the incident. Officers handcuffed the suspect, who according to witnesses was seen in the alley entering the victim's vehicle. While inside the vehicle, the suspect attempted to start the engine and was stopped by witnesses. Arthur Joe Cano, 43, of Picoima was arrested and charged with carjacking and robbery. Bail was set at \$100,000.

At 2:58 p.m. on May 3, Santa Monica police responded to the 1600 block of Ocean Front Walk regarding an assault investigation. They spoke to the victim, who said the suspect approached him and began to swing a fiberglass ax handle at him and attempted to strike him. The victim fled and called police. Responding officers saw the suspect in the area of Ocean and Bay. A field show up was conducted in which the victim positively identified the suspect. Tachowa Covington, 46, a transient, was booked for assault with a deadly weapon. Bail was set at \$30,000.

At 5:38 p.m. on May 6, Santa Monica police responded to the 1300 block of 14th Street regarding a possible burglary in progress. When officers arrived to the scene, they detained the described suspect and during their search located two bindles containing a white powder resembling cocaine. The suspect was arrested and transported to Santa Monica Jail. A preliminary test was conducted on the substance, which tested positive for cocaine. Morton Bernard Maser, 54, of Santa Monica, was booked for possession of a controlled substance.

-Staff writer Ryan Hyatt compiled this report.

Sentences reduced due to history, age and health

CEO SENTENCE, from page 1

October 2003 to conspiracy, filing false quarterly reports with the SEC, wire fraud and money laundering. In his guilty plea, Sultan Khan admitted that he and Asif Khan conspired to inflate NewCom's gross revenue through false sales, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office.

Sultan Khan also admitted that he aided and abetted the making of false statements in quarterly reports that NewCom filed with the SEC. Sultan Khan admitted that he caused NewCom to record revenue from fictitious sales that never occurred. Sultan Khan, with the help of Asif Khan, subsequently caused NewCom employees to create or forge false paperwork to substantiate the bogus sales. As a result, NewCom's gross revenue was overstated by more than \$20 million in its filings with the SEC for the fiscal quarters ending Aug. 31 and Nov.

30, 1998, according to the U.S. Attorney's Office.

Sultan Khan and Asif Khan also were convicted of defrauding their company by concealing more than \$1 million in "loans" made by a vendor of the company. In connection with the sentencing, prosecutors presented evidence that the monies described by the defendants as "loans" were, in reality, kickbacks from the vendor that the Khans laundered through an attorney's client trust account.

In addition to charges related to the false filings with the SEC, Asif Khan pleaded guilty in October 2003 to a count that charged him with fabricating phony invoices for products in an effort to deceive NewCom's accountants during an audit of the company's books.

The investigation into NewCom and its executives was conducted by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and IRS' Criminal Investigation Division.

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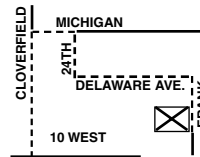


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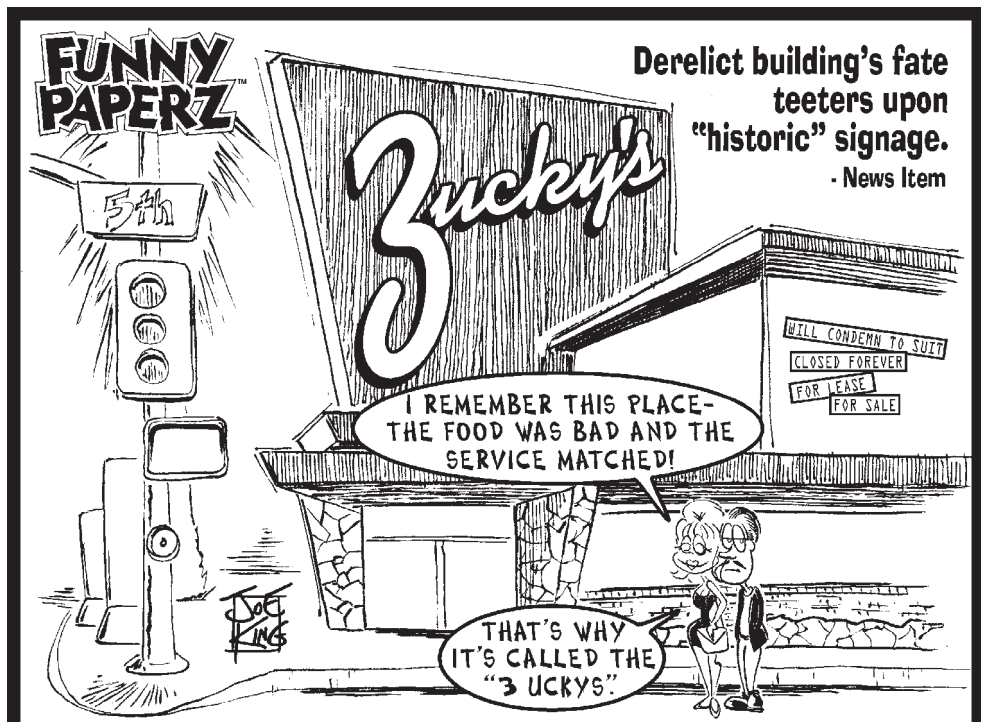
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OPINION



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Not seeing the unity in the coalition

Editor:

This is in response to the article "Parents, students speak up for unity" (SMDP, May 7-8).

First a working definition: "Racism: 1. The belief that some races are inherently superior to others. 2. To include, exclude or select based on race." Source: Webster's Dictionary.

I ask this question: Does the Unity Coalition actually have representation of all races within the Unity Coalition?

Haven't heard any concern with this important and applicable point. If not, then it cannot be called a Unity Coalition. It can be called whatever else is dominant in that coalition. For example, if there was a Unity Coalition that had only whites, that would not be a Unity Coalition. I think it is obvious that the Unity Coalition must actively recruit representatives of all races to participate. It seems funny that no one has pointed this out, perhaps sad as well.

The highlights of the Unity Coalition's plan definitely is a good start, however far from a completed plan. In the interest of everyone being on the same page I wanted to take a close look in detail, as it was reported in the Santa Monica Daily Press.

1. "The SMMUSD must engage in much greater efforts to address institutionalized racism in the district." The obvious question has to be: What is the Unity Coalition referring to? Specifics anyone?

2. "Increase outreach and recruitment of faculty of color, who can relate to students backgrounds and life experiences." White is a color, white is not translucent. And to think that someone can only relate to someone because they're of the same race is in itself a racist proposition.

3. "Develop a restorative justice approach to student discipline so there is less focus on punishment and more on transformation." Obviously, if you are a student who prefers to act out in violent ways toward others of different races, you will really love this idea being assured that the focus is not on punishment or expulsion, but on "transformation." If we are to be honest with ourselves, the focus needs to be on both — a strict and enforced no tolerance, and efforts for rehabilitation, or transformation of the offender(s).

4. "Increase student engagement by celebrating the culture, history and accomplishments of African-American and Latino students." If you're going to increase celebrations of culture, history and accomplishments of any race specifically, then it only makes sense to celebrate all races present. Else wise once again, the practice of racism comes to the forefront.

5. "Ensure the curriculum itself and the manner in which it is taught is culturally respectful and relevant." To be respectful is to encourage one to act from their highest self. To be disrespectful is to encourage one to act from their weakest self. It's hard to imagine any curriculum at Santa Monica High School that is not respectful of all students in attendance. This definitely needs to be specifically looked at, both the request for ensuring the curriculum and in which the manner it is taught. Otherwise you have a specification that is basically fluff, and insinuates a built-in suspicion of racism. This is hardly a proactive element.

6. "Develop a new protocol on addressing inter-cultural conflict that includes a parental and community involvement." Hey, that's something everyone can get behind.

7. "Ensure the efforts are coordinated with middle school reform efforts." If this hasn't been thought of already, then definitely it is something we can all support.

8. "Develop a master plan for African-American and Latino student achievement." Why not develop a master plan for all students' achievement? Is this to say that there's only been a master plan for races other than African-American and Latino students? And that's why they started to fight each other? Of course that is ludicrous, and in this day and age unacceptable. But remember, to select just two races out of the many races that attend our schools for a "master plan" of achievement is in itself a racist proposition. Remember inclusion is the key, not exclusion.

See LETTERS, page 7

Homeless czar a bold move for City Hall



OUR TOWN

BY TED WINTERER

I have a confession to make: I watch City Council meetings on CityTV. You might think this means I need to get a life. You might be right. But at times the meetings are compelling drama, with antagonists on the dais and a chorus of public input embellishing the theatrics.

At other times they're quite tedious, which is when I usually surf over to TV Land to catch a rerun of "Leave It to Beaver," checking back on the City Council every so often to see if any fireworks are about to be launched.

So two weeks ago I was prone on the couch eyeballing the latest episode of "Desperate Councilpersons." I glanced at my watch — getting near bedtime — and thought about crawling under the covers to read a few pages of "French Women Don't Get Fat" before snoozing. Just then Councilman Bobby Shriver introduced an intriguing motion: That the city should hire a homeless czar, an upper-echelon staff person reporting directly to the city manager whose sole job would be to seek innovative and effective ways to reduce homelessness.

The notion was provocative enough that I sat up and decided to forego an hour of sleep to see how it would play out. Why is it that homelessness, the No. 1 resident priority year in and year out, always seems to get buried at the end of the council agenda? After all, here was a bold new idea and I was curious to see how the City Council would vote — while our elected leaders are all progressive individuals, they are often collectively timid about novel approaches to our problems.

Clearly the strategies pursued by City Hall since the 1991 report of the Task Force on Homelessness have had mixed results. City staff have done a good job of monitoring the use of public funds by the local homeless services network, which has directed many individuals off the streets to self-sufficiency. And they've recently had success with a pilot program to assist the most service-resistant chronically homeless.

But the fact is City Hall has only one employee working full-time on homelessness. By all accounts she does a great job, but one person can only do so much. So Shriver's concept made a lot of sense: Hire for one year on a trial basis a politically-connected, charismatic person to

advance new solutions such as a sobering center and a homeless court, and to schmooze and cajole the leaders of the 88 cities involved in the "Bring Home LA" coalition into regional answers to homelessness.

My cynicism was unwarranted, as the City Council voted to approve Shriver's motion by a 4-2 margin. And I say "Huzzah!" Kudos to the City Council for giving homelessness the attention it deserves. And if our new homeless liaison succeeds in just one effort, such as procuring housing at the VA site, the money will have been well spent.

But there's more still to be done. There was much debate about whether or not hiring a homeless bigwig would count against the city's cap on spending for this issue. It turns out that, in reaction to the prospects of an ill-conceived voter initiative to cap annual spending on the homeless, the City Council in 1994 passed an ordinance to "(p)revent an increase and, whenever feasible, reduce overall city expenditures relating to homeless services."

Now I've suggested before that the growth of City Hall's expenditures is unsustainable — I guess that makes me a municipal budget hawk. But in this case I think such fiscal restraint is penny wise and pound foolish. Wouldn't spending that reduced our street population generate enormous direct savings to the city's coffers through reduced costs for emergency services, correctional facilities and park upkeep? And wouldn't residents benefit from not having to indirectly subsidize the costs born by local health care facilities to treat the homeless?

The city's 2005 review of homeless services notes that "city general fund support for operating costs related to the continuum of care (for homelessness) has not increased substantially over the past decade." Yet since fiscal year 1996-97, City Hall's expenditures from the general fund have increased 45 percent. Consequently, our government now spends a smaller proportion of its annual outlays on homelessness than it did eight years ago. Does it make sense to anyone that we spend less each year on our citizens' primary concern?

I say it's time to get rid of the cap on homeless spending and allocate whatever funds are necessary to improve the quality of life in our town for both the housed and the homeless.

(Ted Winterer is a writer who lives in Ocean Park. He can be reached at ourtownsmdp@aol.com.)



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

LETTERS, from page 6

(see definition again above)

9. “Bid for outside experts to conduct residency patterns of youth who experience academic failure and assess the status of the neighborhoods in which they live.” Do we not have academic achieving students that come from all neighborhoods? Do we not have academic failing students that also come from all neighborhoods? Of course, it is not the neighborhood where you live but the effort you put into your learning that decides the results.

10. “Develop a model with community input to train school staff and parents on how to create an empowering learning environment for students.” Once again something I think we all support, and has been enforced long as I can remember as a goal of most every school.

The article quotes Ana Maria Jara as saying “This isn’t about African-Americans and Latinos fighting.” Well according to all accounts it is. I spoke personally with many members of the community from the Santa Monica chief of police to students who saw what took place, read the coverage and listened to media people investigating the melee. Not a single person has mentioned that any other race was involved. And each and every person I spoke to informed me that it was African-Americans against Latinos, or as the news reporter put it, “blacks against browns.” In fact, some reported that it was the Hispanics that started the racial offense.

To put our heads in the sand, or deny that the king has no clothes, does nothing to serve in identifying the solution to the problem. To hide from the facts is to allow them to fester and create more problems. Simple logic here is all it takes.

The article points out that the student body at Santa Monica High School “is 47 percent considered minority.” That the “staff and administration is largely white.” OK, so? This is no surprise, and, if you go to the Watts or Compton communities, you will see that the staff and faculty are largely the reflection of the community in which they serve. Santa Monica has more people of white color than any other color. This should not be shocking or a surprise, nor is it a reason to make changes. This reminds me of LA council person Mark Ridley Thomas’ comments on the radio a while back. When I asked him if a white qualified applicant could effectively serve in a black community, his answer was that “since it was a majority black community, that it would require qualified applicants who were also black.” Either Mr. Thomas is correct or incorrect. If he was correct, then the racial status we see today of the administration and staff at Santa Monica High School is also correct. This double standard of “if it benefits my race it is right” is not in the service of equality.

Finally, I wish to point out that if Mr. de la Torre wants to help, he needs to remember that we don’t fight fire with fire most of the time ... we use water. To bring apparent gangsters to a school rife with gang violence is not in service of the greatest good. Where did the idea come from to bring in gangs to speak to students about not being in such? This is again contrary to logic.

Do we bring in burglars to speak about not burglarizing? Do we bring in drop-outs to speak about staying in schools, or criminals to speak about going into police work? No, of course not.

It makes much more sense to bring in people who have not gone into crime, or have quit school. We want people who have worked hard to make something good of themselves. That is a true role model and where we must start and end with if you truly want positive change. This erroneous idea that we even want anything other than upstanding people to speak to our future citizens is not only damaging but outright stupidity.

I know that what I have covered here is not what some will even be open to, but it doesn’t matter as someone needs to speak up and tell the king: “Yes king, you have no clothes and please put some on.”

Remember always that all people are people of color. We really have more in common than any of us ever acknowledge. White is a color. No one is translucent. As well, inside we are all of many colors. To stop others thinking in terms of colored and others not colored, we might cease using these terms all together.

Derek Lantzsich
Santa Monica

School board member crossed the line

Editor:

I am dumbfounded by the current letter-writing campaign that is practically nominating Oscar de la Torre for sainthood. Have the defenders of Oscar not read the police report of his behavior on the day he brought two former (perhaps current — we don’t really know) Latino gang members onto the Samohi campus at lunchtime, just days after racially motivated fights had occurred there?

Sergeant Joaquin Vega writes that he repeatedly asked de la Torre to leave the campus because he and his friends’ presence there could cause a riot. After several refusals, Vega reports:

“I told de la Torre that if he didn’t leave I was going to have to place him under arrest. He said, ‘You can’t arrest me.’ De la Torre turned and put his hands defiantly behind his back as if he was getting handcuffed, then started laughing. I told him I would arrest him and that he was endangering the students. I once again ordered him off campus.”

Here we have a school board member — in front of hundreds of high school students — defiantly mocking a police officer who is trying to protect students. And not only is he a school board member — his neighborhood center, including his salary, is funded by the city of Santa Monica.

I do not know how this could have happened, but I do know Oscar de la Torre should be voted out of office and not supported with our tax dollars.

Juan Lopez
Santa Monica

GUEST COMMENTARY **BY HENRY WAXMAN**

New energy policy costly

In April, the House of Representatives passed comprehensive energy legislation that the Republican leadership says will help meet the nation’s energy needs while protecting the environment and safeguarding consumers.

These are the right goals, but there is one major problem: The bill accomplishes none of them.

Instead, this is an anti-environment, anti-consumer, anti-taxpayer bill.

This legislation is the progeny of the energy policy task force chaired by Vice President Dick Cheney shortly after President Bush took office in January 2001. The Cheney task force met in secret with representatives of the petroleum, coal, nuclear, natural gas and electric utility industries, producing a final report that heavily promoted regulatory and tax breaks for energy companies.

Like the Cheney task force report, the House-passed bill fails to provide secure, sustainable and affordable energy supplies. It does nothing about the most important energy issues facing our nation, such as global warming and reducing the nation’s dependence on foreign oil. It does, however, lavish tens of billions of dollars of taxpayer subsidies on big energy companies, while weakening our environmental laws.

I have been in Congress for more than 30 years. And I have never encountered a time when the disconnect between rhetoric and reality has been so enormous.

The president says he wants to “save” Social Security, yet he proposes a plan that would cut benefits and privatize the program. Republicans in Congress say they want “limited government,” yet they enact legislation intruding on the end-of-life decisions of a Florida family. Congressional leaders say they support high moral standards in government, yet they tried to gut the ethics process in the House.

And in this so-called “energy bill,” we shower billions of dollars on special interests while ignoring our nation’s serious energy needs.

The Republican energy plan is a bonanza for the energy industry. Since President Bush was elected, natural gas, heating oil and gasoline prices have skyrocketed. Experts are warning of a “super spike” in gasoline prices yet to come. The energy bill’s response is nonsensical, proposing new ethanol requirements expected to actually increase the price of gasoline.

While consumers face record prices, energy companies are racking up record profits. Earlier this year, Shell Oil reported the highest corporate profits in the history of the United Kingdom. ExxonMobil announced the largest annual profit ever made by a public company: \$25 billion in 2004. Astonishingly, ExxonMobil reported that its first quarter profits this year were

up 44 percent from 2004, putting them on track for setting yet another all-time record for profits.

Of special concern to Californians, the House bill fails to address the market abuse and manipulation that caused the California energy crisis, costing consumers in California and other Western states billions of dollars. It also carves loopholes in the laws protecting our coastlines, our forests and our public lands.

Under this bill, when an oil company pollutes community drinking water, the oil company will no longer be held responsible for cleaning it up. This is a windfall for the oil industry, but an attack on communities facing contaminated drinking water.

The bill makes the most significant change to the Clean Air Act in 15 years, inserting a loophole that allows corporate polluters to expose 53 million Americans to air pollution for years longer than current law.

And incredibly, the bill does nothing to reduce America’s dependence on foreign oil. In fact, our nation would actually become more dependent on foreign oil. If the bill is enacted into law in its present form, oil imports will grow by 75 percent over the next 20 years.

I proposed an amendment to the energy legislation that would require the Administration to take “voluntary, regulatory and other actions” to reduce oil demand in the United States by 1 million barrels per day by 2013. This amounts to a reduction in oil demand of just 4 percent from projected future levels.

My amendment was exceedingly modest. It could have been met by simple steps, such as keeping automobile tires properly inflated, weatherizing homes or simply obeying the speed limit. Yet even my amendment was defeated.

During the California energy crisis, Gov. Gray Davis asked Californians to turn off unneeded lights, adjust thermostats and take other measures to save electricity. His call for conservation worked, helping to moderate prices and keep the lights on.

Yet there is no similar leadership emanating from Washington, D.C. While the president asks our troops to make the ultimate sacrifice in the Mideast, he and Cheney have yet to ask Americans to make any changes to lessen our dependence on this volatile region.

Our energy challenges are difficult, but they are not intractable. What they require is leadership that puts the goals of energy security and a clean environment ahead of the narrow vested interests of the energy industry.

(Congressman Henry Waxman represents Santa Monica in the 29th District.)

OPINIONS EXPRESSED are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff.

Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters will be published on a space-available basis. It is our intention to publish all letters we receive, except those that are libelous or are unsigned. Preference will be given to those that are e-mailed to editor@smdp.com. All letters must include the author’s name and telephone number for purposes of verification. Letters also may be mailed to our offices located at 1427 Third Street Promenade, Suite 202, Santa Monica, 90401, or faxed to (310) 576-9913. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content.

Entertainment

Will Ferrell hamstrung in 'Kicking and Screaming'

BY DAN DUNN
Special to the Daily Press

Warning: The Will Ferrell you'll encounter in this lightweight family comedy bears little resemblance to his hard-partying "Old School" persona, Frank the Tank. Nor will you find much in common between the SNL alum's endearingly childlike "Elf" and Phil Weston, the namby-pamby youth soccer coach he plays here. Sure, Ferrell exhibits a fair degree of goofball charm, especially when surrounded by all the diminutive moppets, but he seems a bit hamstrung in a role that offers too few opportunities to release dynamic bursts of his signature manic wit. That minor disappointment aside, "Kicking and Screaming" is good clean fun, and certainly a welcome departure from the CGI-fueled sensory onslaughts that pass for kids' fare these days.

Director Jesse Dylan borrows several elements from "The Bad News Bears" (the



official remake of that film is due later this summer), casting Ferrell as a sheepish pill salesman who reluctantly takes the helm of his son's team of lovable losers, only to be transformed into a raving lunatic who forces his impressionable young charges to adopt a

win-at-all-cost attitude. Robert Duvall also stars as Phil's hyper-competitive old man, Buck, coach of the league's best team and catalyst for his only son's descent into madness. Former Chicago Bears tough guy Mike Ditka acquits himself well as Buck's

ornery neighbor, who teaches Phil a thing or two about aggressive leadership.

(Rated PG for thematic elements, language and some crude humor. Running time: 95 minutes)

'Mindhunters' could give you brain damage at the box office

BY DAN DUNN
Special to the Daily Press

"Mindhunters" is a curious title for a film directed by Renny Harlin considering the Finnish director's filmography — riddled with dreck such as "The Adventures of Ford Fairlane," "Driven," "Exorcist: The Beginning" and "Deep Blue Sea" — is

testament to a dogged, career-long pursuit of brainless material. Here, Harlin's dumbed it again with a whodunit inspired by Agatha Christie's "Ten Little Indians." "Mindhunters" is an ill-fated attempt to meld the cutting edge forensics of "CSI" with the unsettling murkiness of "Seven." Among the film's numerous shortcomings are a lame-brained script and a conspicuous dearth of interesting characters. Christian Slater, Val Kilmer, LL Cool J and Kathryn Morris ("Cold Case") are the principal players in a story about a group of eight would-be FBI profilers whose training exercise on a remote island turns



out to be more than a simulation. Yep, a real serial killer is on the loose, and no one is above suspicion.

Harlin and scribes Wayne Kramer and Kevin Brodbin invite us to freely suspend disbelief throughout, most notably with

the film's dubious core proposition: That someone from the group of trainees, all of whom seem to have been plucked from an Abercrombie & Fitch catalogue, is actually an evil genius with an unquenchable thirst for gore. Granted, the American intelligence community has some problems, but could the agent screening process really be this porous? Harlin attempts to draw attention away from gaping holes in logic with some spectacularly elaborate death scenes that, while occasionally clever, tend to be more puzzling than effective ... unless you happen to be the sort who always suspected dominoes could kill. Then there's this, from the "Things That Make You Go Hmm ..." file: "Mindhunters" sat on a shelf at Miramax/Dimension for more than two years and is just now being released in the wake of the departure of studio chiefs Bob and Harvey Weinstein.

(Rated R for violence/strong graphic images, language and sexual content. Running time: 106 minutes)

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Vaughn's 'Layer Cake' is sweet

BY DAN DUNN
Special to the Daily Press

Hard-boiled toughs, gorgeous babes and an eminently watchable urbane drug lord inhabit a London underground that crackles with excitement in Matthew Vaughn's rousing directorial debut. Having cut his teeth producing Guy Ritchie's campy British gangster films "Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels" and "Snatch," Vaughn bests his former partner's efforts with a film that is hipper, smarter and boasts a more interesting cast of characters. "Layer Cake" doesn't seek to reinvent the new-mafia crime genre defined by great films such as "The Limey" and "Sexy Beast," but it succeeds in polishing it up a little bit.

Daniel Craig affects McQueen-esque cool as a dashing, nameless drug kingpin who sees little difference between the drug business and other lucrative, more legally defensible ventures. He wants out, but his supplier (Kenneth Cranham) — the icing on the cake in the criminal caste system — has other plans: Craig is to sell off a large supply of ecstasy stolen from a band of ruthless Serbs, while tracking down the strung-out daughter of a well-heeled muscleman named Eddie Temple (the magnificent Michael Gambon). Things aren't what they seem — they never are in these seedy circles — and Craig's character quickly becomes a marked man. As he desperately scrambles to try and save his skin and maybe add a few quid to his suddenly depleted coffers, our man gets a lift from a sexy siren played by Sienna Miller. Brit theater veteran George Harris and Colm Meaney ("Mystery, Alaska") deliver strong supporting performances.



(Rated R for strong brutal violence, sexuality, nudity, pervasive language and drug use. Running time: 104 minutes)

Christensen revels in the dark side of Darth Vader

BY DAVID GERMAIN
AP Movie Writer

SAN RAFAEL, Calif. — Half of Hollywood is playing a superhero these days, it seems. Hayden Christensen is more than content to play the super-villain.

Amid the current onslaught of heroes such as "Spider-Man," "Batman," the "Fantastic Four" and "X-Men," Christensen takes ultimate bad guy Darth Vader to the dark side with "Star Wars: Episode III — Revenge of the Sith."

The last installment in George Lucas' space opera about the Skywalker family, "Revenge of the Sith" completes the story explaining how a brash young Jedi knight was seduced by an evil mentor and became the venomous Vader.

After landing the role of Anakin Skywalker as a lovesick, discontented teen in episode two, "Attack of the Clones," Christensen finally got to the moment he — and every other "Star Wars" fan — has been waiting for with "Revenge of the Sith."

"I just really wanted to put the costume on," Christensen told The Associated Press in an interview at Lucas' Skywalker Ranch. "Who wouldn't?"

The new film follows Anakin's descent into evil and lust for power, which lead him to near-fatal injuries and a rebirth as the part-flesh, part-machine Vader behind the black helmet, mask and cape made famous in Lucas' original "Star Wars" trilogy.

Christensen, 24, appears only briefly in the Vader get-up near the movie's end, but those scenes electrified even those working on the film. The day he appeared in full costume, the whole team turned up on set to "bear witness to Darth Vader for the first time," Christensen said.

"It was absolutely overwhelming, just from the aspect of getting to act behind a mask," Christensen said. "That is a very freeing position to act from, and to have that mask be the mask of Darth Vader is extremely empowering."



HAYDEN CHRISTENSEN



THE IMBIBER

BY DAN DUNN

Readers have intoxicating questions

The e-mail has been piling up in the general inbox ever since I fired the latest intern for insubordination. I really didn't want to do it, but the damn kid kept showing up for work sober, and that sort of monkey business simply doesn't fly here at Imbiber Headquarters. It's a shame he had to go because not only was the intern an ace at pretending to be me responding to reader mail, in so doing he somehow managed to make me seem like a pretty decent human being. Clearly I'm not — decent, that is — because I've ignored your correspondence since he left and would gladly continue to do so were I not so hard-up for material to fill this week's space. But I am, so here goes ...

People say you shouldn't mix hard liquor and beer. What do you think?

— Ben Wenger

People say lots of stupid things, Ben, and I've found that nothing drowns out the meaningless drivel quite like a few stiff Irish Car Bombs. In fact, your note just inspired me to have one. So thanks for that.

If you were stranded on a deserted island and could only have one bottle of alcohol, what would it be?

— Valeria DiFrancesco

A deserted island? Well, that's easy — a nice dessert wine! (Insert rimshot here!)

Your column gives me the inspiration to have a cocktail each and every Friday! Good looking out! I wanted to return the favor: I recently tasted a new vodka on the market called Orange V. I strongly suggest you check it out!

— Your faithful reader, Elizabeth Mateo

Thanks for the tip on the Orange V! I plan on drinking an entire bottle of it this afternoon! Straight, of course, since I am — above all else — a PROFESSIONAL! Also, many thanks for tuning in each week — counting you, Elizabeth, I have five "faithful" readers! There used to be six, but my mom quit on me! (P.S. I love the exclamation point, too!)

What's in a Long Island Iced Tea?

— Robert Green

A future hangover. (Ta-dum-dum ... Somebody hose me down, please, 'cuz I'm on fire today!) But seriously, folks, most Long Island Iced Teas are prepared with the same five key ingredients: Vodka, tequila, light rum, gin and Triple Sec. Now stop with all the blasted questions, please. At least until I find myself another intern.

(E-mail questions, comments or suggestions for the Imbiber to ddunn@metro.us.)

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LOCAL

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

BRIEFS, from page 3

The event will be held at 7 p.m. Sunday, May 15, at Highways Performance Space, 1651 18th St. Tickets are \$15 general admission and \$12 for students and senior citizens. Call (310) 315-1459 for more information.

Dream home tour to begin

By Daily Press staff

Having the perfect home might be nothing more than a dream, but admiring it from the inside can be a reality.

The American Institute of Architects/Los Angeles (AIA/LA) has announced its annual summer home tour schedule, featuring contemporary homes by Los Angeles' leading architects and designers.

The self-guided home tours provide a rare opportunity to see inside beautiful, cutting-edge residences designed by esteemed architects, according to AIA. Participants receive a ticket, map, driving directions and information about each home on the tour. Architects, designers and docents will be available on site to answer questions. The tour features the following architects: Michael Folonis (AIA); David Hertz (AIA); Koning Eizenberg, and Vaughan Trammel (AIA). Many of the homes have been featured in top publications such as Dwell, the Los Angeles Times Magazine and Architecture Digest.

The tours will begin on Sunday, May 15, in Venice. The next tour will take place on Sunday, June 5, in the Pacific Palisades. The tour will end on Sunday, June 26, in Santa Monica. All homes are open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. — the last entry is at 3:45 p.m.

Tickets are priced as follows: \$65 per person per tour; \$100 per person for a package of two tours; \$130 per person for a package of three tours. There are limited tickets available for the day of the tour for \$80. For tickets call (213) 639-0777, or visit www.aialosangeles.com. Tickets and directions are mailed out one week prior to tour. The will-call station at Westminster School, Abbot Kinney at Westminster, Venice, is open on Sunday, May 15, from 10:30 a.m. to noon only for will-call and day-of-tour tickets.

Blossoming music at SMC

By Daily Press staff

May is a month of music at Santa Monica College.

Starting this week, the SMC music department will present an range of concerts in May, including a SMC Symphony Orchestra program celebrating the college's 75th anniversary. All but one of the concerts, many of them free, will be held in the SMC Concert Hall, 1900 Pico Blvd.

The lineup is:

■ Friday, May 13, at 8 p.m.: Jazz: "WIG" Celebration, a tribute to jazz pianist Gerald Wiggins. (Free)

■ Saturday, May 14, at 8 p.m. and Sunday, May 15 at 4 p.m.: SMC Opera Theatre Presents Highlights from "Don Giovanni" and "The Rake's Progress." Under the direction of Sue Ann Pinner, the program will feature guest artists and SMC alumni who are rising young opera stars. (Tickets are \$16)

■ Tuesday, May 17, at 11:15 a.m.: Piano Duo Recital: Jung Eun Kim & Mi Ran Song. (Free)

■ Thursday, May 19, at 11:15 a.m.: SMC Flute Choir Recital, with Peter Sheridan, conductor. (Free)

■ Sunday, May 22, at 4 p.m.: SMC Jazz Band, under the direction of Keith Fiddmont. (Tickets are \$10)

■ Sunday, May 22, at 8 p.m.: SMC Jazz Vocal Ensemble, under the direction of Cindy Bourquin.

■ Sunday, May 28, at 7:30 p.m.: SMC Concert Chorale, under the direction of James Smith and featuring a joint performance with the Santa Monica Symphony Orchestra of Beethoven's Ninth Symphony. The event will take place at the Santa Monica Civic Auditorium, 1855 Main St. (Free)

■ Tuesday, May 31, at 11:15 a.m.: SMC Musical Theatre Workshop Highlights, under the direction of Adrienne Harrop and Frank Turner. (Free)

■ Tuesday, May 31, at 4 p.m.: SMC Symphonic Band, featuring Peter Sheridan, conductor. (Free) For tickets and information, call (310) 434-3000 or (310) 434-4323.

Medical center hosts fundraising gala

By Daily Press staff

Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center is building for the future, but first it needs money to do so.

Sponsored by the First Federal Bank of California, Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center will host its biannual fundraiser "The Gala 2005: Building for the Future" this weekend. The black-tie-optional event will feature a reception and silent auction, dinner, dancing and music by Wayne Foster Entertainment.

Proceeds from the event will benefit Santa Monica-UCLA's \$275-million rebuilding project, currently taking shape around the existing hospital. Plans call for the 271-bed new hospital, which will be named Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Orthopedic Hospital, to be completed in phases beginning next spring. The new name reflects an alliance between UCLA Healthcare and Orthopedic Hospital in downtown Los Angeles, according to hospital officials. Under the alliance, Orthopedic Hospital will move its inpatient services to Santa Monica while continuing to provide outpatient services at the downtown facility.

The event will take place at the Regent Beverly Wilshire, 9500 Wilshire Blvd. on Saturday, May 14, at 6 p.m. For tickets or information about other giving opportunities at Santa Monica-UCLA, please call Wendi Morner at (310) 825-5328.

NATIONAL



Alaska still holds wealth of oil

By The Associated Press

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — A U.S. Geological Survey study of Alaska's central North Slope estimates that it has 4 billion barrels of oil and 37.5 trillion cubic feet of natural gas yet to be discovered.

The agency on Wednesday released a summary of its three-year study, the first formal assessment of the central North Slope. It follows similar assessments of undiscovered oil and gas in the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska and the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge.

Not all the oil in the estimates could be extracted using current technology. The agency has not estimated how much could be produced profitably, said Ken Bird, a USGS geologist who co-managed the project.

The central North Slope lies between the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska and the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. It contains Prudhoe Bay and all the state's big oil fields. It extends from the Brooks Range foothills to the Beaufort Sea.

So far, more than 15 billion barrels of oil have been pumped out of the area down the trans-Alaska pipeline to the tanker port at Valdez, with roughly 7 billion more barrels already discovered left to be produced, Bird said.

The new assessment does not include that oil and or the 35 trillion cubic feet of known natural gas reserves in

the Prudhoe Bay area, Bird said.

"We're talking about an additional 4 billion barrels of oil and another 37.5 trillion cubic feet of gas," he said. "This is a fabulously rich piece of real estate, and it's owned mostly by the state of Alaska."

The agency released only a summary of its findings.

A study of how much of the estimated oil and gas could be produced with sufficient profit is likely to be finished by the end of June. A detailed accounting of where the undiscovered oil might be will be released later in the year, Bird said.

Alaska gets most of the money it uses to run state government from taxes and royalties collected from North Slope oil producers, and officials were guardedly optimistic after seeing the USGS report.

"This is a good general benchmark, and I think points to particularly good prospects," said Mark Myers, director of the Alaska Division of Oil and Gas. "As for the long-term effects, we'll just have to wait and see."

The study marked the first time the agency focused on the region. It previously had surveyed the entire North Slope.

The agency has estimated there are 10.6 billion barrels of oil and 73 trillion cubic feet of natural gas in NPR-A and 10.4 billion barrels of oil and 9 trillion cubic feet of natural gas in ANWR that could be produced.

American scales 14 highest mountains

BY BINAJ GURUBACHARYA

Associated Press Writer

KATMANDU, Nepal — Climber Ed Viesturs reached the summit of Nepal's towering Mount Annapurna on Thursday, becoming the first American to scale all the world's tallest peaks, reports from the mountain said.

Viesturs, 44, of Bainbridge Island, Wash., reached the 26,540-foot summit in the afternoon, which was the last of the world's 14 peaks that are higher than 26,240 feet in height.

He has become the 12th mountaineer to achieve the feat. The first was Italian Reinhold Messner.

According to the Web site www.firstandbest.msn.com, which sponsored and followed his trip, Viesturs reached the summit with Finnish climber Veikka Gustafsson.

The trip to the summit took longer than expected because windy conditions slowed him down on the last leg of his journey.

Viesturs, described as America's leading high-altitude mountaineer, has scaled Mount Everest, the world's highest mountain at 29,035 feet, six times.

Viesturs was on Everest on May 10, 1996, when eight people died in the deadliest single tragedy in the mountain's climbing history, an event chronicled in Jon Krakauer's best seller, "Into Thin Air."

He also was involved in the making of the IMAX film "Everest."

Though Annapurna is the 10th highest peak in the world, it is considered to be one of the most difficult to climb. It was also the first of the highest mountains to be conquered — by French climber Maurice Herzog in 1950.

Viesturs began his mission some 16 years ago by scaling Mount Kangchenjunga, the third tallest mountain, which lies along the border between Nepal and India.

Like many of his previous climbs to other mountains, he scaled Annapurna without using bottled oxygen to aid

breathing, which is typical for most climbers at higher altitude where the air is thin and oxygen level low.

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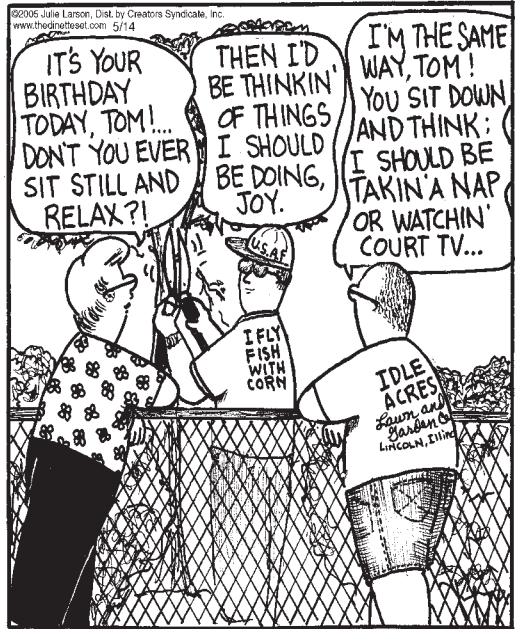
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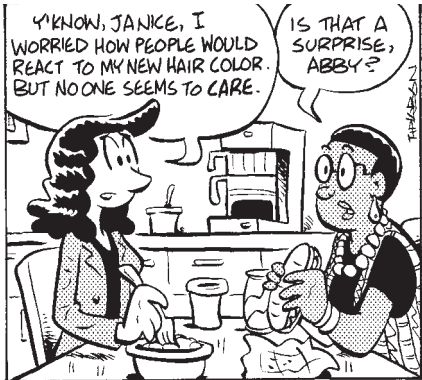


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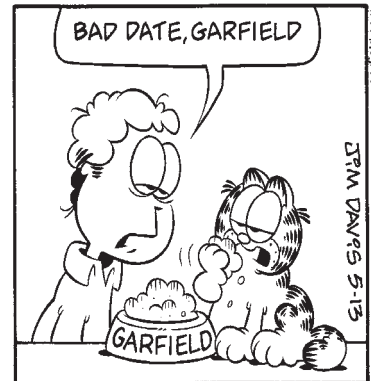
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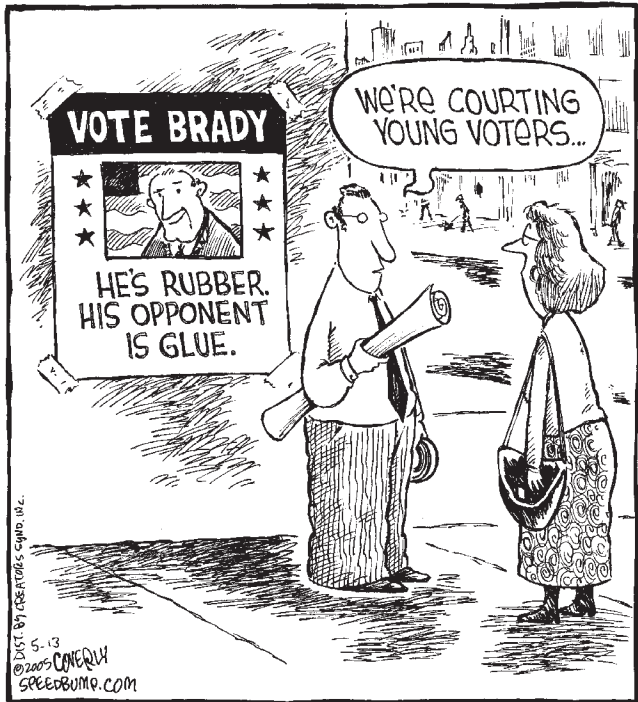
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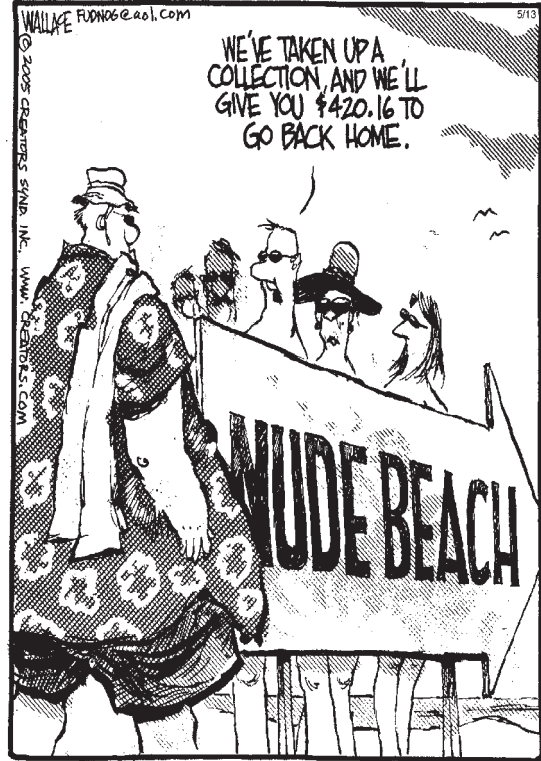


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6 MO./6 MO. ARM 4.25%
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*Rates subject to change
* As of April 12, 2005
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2ND \$100,000 @ 7.75% \$645.00 P/MO
Total: \$2,395.00 P/MO
* Not Including Tax & Insurance

\$650,000
1ST \$520,000 @ 5.25% \$2,275 P/MO
2ND \$130,000 @ 7.75% \$839 P/MO
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Yard Sales

GARAGE SALE: 230 16th St., Santa Monica. Enter in Alley ONLY btwn 15th & 16th. Sat. May 14th, 9am-12pm. Furniture, TV, video games & much more!

MULTI-FAMILY YARD Sale, Saturday, May 14th. 410 21st Place, SM between Wilshire and Montana 8:30A-2:00P, no early-birds. Boyscout Troop 67 benefit.

VENICE HIGH School flea market. 13000 Venice Blvd., Los Angeles, CA. Antiques, toys, crafts, collectibles, jewelry, clothes. May 14, 2005, second Saturday each month. 9am-4pm. Free admission & free parking. Vendor information call (310) 390-5851.

YARD SALE! First United Methodist Church 1008 11th St, Santa Monica. **Sat. June 04, 2005** at 8a.m-1p.m **North of Wilshire, South of Montana. Not accepting yard sale donations please!** Furniture, Household items, Small appliances, Electronic equipment, and more.

YARD SALE! Saturday and Sunday May 14-15, 10am-3pm 1503 Idaho between Wilshire and Montana!

Lost & Found

FOUND: KEYS on key ring, Monday 5/2/05 approx. 2:45pm on top of SMDP paper rack. Southwest corner of Arizona & 5th St. (310) 260-0029.

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 0805135 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as JNH Designs, 1777 Westwood Blvd., #200, Los Angeles, CA 90024. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Jerod Helt, 1804 Industrial St., Los Angeles, CA 90021 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)4/1/2005. /s/: Jerod Helt This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 4/1/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 5/6/2005, 5/13/2005, 5/20/2005, 5/27/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 0795292 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as The Abbott Group, 1271 Stoner Ave, #303, Los Angeles, CA 90025. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Loronjac, Inc., 1271 Stoner Ave., #303, Los Angeles, CA 90025 This Business is being conducted by, a corporation. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)10/8/1996. /s/: Loronjac, Inc., President, Jack Brown This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 10/8/1996. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 5/6/2005, 5/13/2005, 5/20/2005, 5/27/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 0868103 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Magic Lantern Screening Room, 7966 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles,

DBAS

CA 90048. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : David P. Garonzik, 1229 12th St., #7, Santa Monica, CA 90401 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)3/21/2005. /s/: David P. Garonzik This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 3/21/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 5/13/2005, 5/20/2005, 5/27/2005, 6/3/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 0878898 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as True Spirit Records, True Talent Worldwide Music, 1245 S. Orange Grove Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90019. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Richard C. Callaway, 1245 S. Orange Grove Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90019 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)4/15/2005. /s/: Richard C. Callaway

This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 4/15/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 5/13/2005, 5/20/2005, 5/27/2005, 6/3/2005

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