



FREE!

Santa Monica Daily Press

May 15-16, 2004

A newspaper with issues

Volume 3, Issue 159

LOTTO

FANTASY 5
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DAILY 3

 Afternoon picks: 2 1 5
 Evening picks: 2 1 9

DAILY DERBY

 1st Place: 05 California Classic
 2nd Place: 12 Lucky Charms
 3rd Place: 03 Hot Shot
 Race Time: 1:43.07

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
 by Chuck Shepard

THINNING THE HERD

■ A 21-year-old junior at the University of California at Berkeley became the latest drinking-contest fatality, in a March game among friends repeatedly downing shots of tequila, vodka and whiskey. ("He) was a competitive guy," said his roommate.)

■ A 20-year-old Carleton University (Ottawa, Ontario) student plunged to his death in February during a contest to see who could spit the farthest off an 11th-floor balcony. He had taken a running start.



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Staying on tract: City mulls land purchases

 BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON
 Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL — Officials here are eyeing more than a half dozen properties throughout Santa Monica for possible purchase.

What they'll be used for range from parks to offices for city workers to parking lots to a light rail station. Officials stress that all plans are preliminary and costs associated with possible purchases aren't being revealed during negotiations. City Council members wouldn't comment while negotiations are ongoing.

City officials were scheduled to discuss behind closed doors last week the acquisition of five pieces of land — four

of which are owned by the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District. The other property is at 1601 14th Street, the site of Fisher Lumber. That property, located just north of Memorial Park, could be converted into recreational space and serve as an extension of the park or as open space, said Jeff Mathieu, director of City Hall's resource management department.

"Anytime there is an opportunity for open space or parks, we identify it as a potential," he said. "That's when we bring properties of interest to the City Council's attention."

The four pieces of land owned by the school district could be used for a variety

See LAND, page 5

Ex-Corsairs take the ball and run with it in the NFL



File courtesy

Carolina Panthers star Steve Smith is one of three former Corsair wide receivers flying high in the National Football League.

 BY JOHN WOOD
 Daily Press Staff Writer

SMC — Long regarded as one of the strongest junior colleges in California when it comes to academics, Santa Monica College has proven it can also hold its own on the gridiron.

Three former SMC football players will be lining up at wide receiver for different NFL teams this fall. Isaac Bruce of the St. Louis Rams played at SMC in 1991. Steve Smith of the Carolina

Panthers and Chad Johnson of the Cincinnati Bengals played together for the Corsairs in 1997.

"It's pretty unusual. A lot of teams are not blessed with great players like that," said Robert Taylor, 59, a coach at SMC for the last 20 years. "You know, it brings back a lot of good memories — some bad, some good. These guys, they paid the price. All three of them are graduates, and we just like to look at them as ambassadors for the football program and the college."

In turn, the players credit SMC and Taylor with playing an integral part in their success.

"I went to a black college in Oklahoma, Langston University," Johnson said Friday. "I had some troubles, ended up on the West coast to better myself educationally, you might say. Of course it didn't happen that way. I was really focused on the football aspect of life, and if it wasn't for Taylor and some of the people at (SMC), I wouldn't be where I am today."

"They stuck with me even though I was a knucklehead."

Johnson, who then went on to Oregon State, was drafted by the Bengals in 2001.

See NFL, page 5

Pole position



John Wood/Daily Press

The first person to accurately describe where this photo was taken will receive two free movie tickets for Loews Cineplex Broadway on the Third Street Promenade. The previous mystery photo of Obey Giant was taken on the Promenade, and last week's shot was of a sunflower on a construction wall outside of Saint John's Health Center.

Frog-feasting fish sales land grocer in hot water

 BY LAUREN BONIFACIO
 Special to the Daily Press

Apples: 49 cents a pound. Broccoli: 99 cents a pound. Slithery, snake-headed fish that breathe air, walk on land and feed on frogs, crawdads, birds and other fish: \$14.99 a pound.

A man was pulled from his Koreatown supermarket on Friday morning and arrested for allegedly selling the dangerous, frog-eating northern snakehead fish alongside produce and poultry in his store.

The northern snakehead species (or Channa argus) is native to parts of Asia and Africa, and is illegal in the United States because of its potential to kill off other ani-

See SNAKEHEAD, page 5

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Aries, whatever you want



JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

The stars show the kind of day you'll have:

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★★ You're in weekend mode, and so are those around you. Get together with friends and start celebrating the upcoming season. Plant flowers. Set up the barbecue. Invite others over for one of the first outdoor events of the season. Tonight: Whatever you want.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★ Take off for the day. You need some time away from others. As a result, you'll recycle and see your life differently. Work and responsibilities might call. Avoid being available. Don't pick up your messages. Tonight: Be mysterious. Vanish.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ You cannot and should not drag yourself away from your friends. If you are single, you could meet someone quite intense. Take your time checking out this person. Follow the music. You will enjoy yourself in different settings. Tonight: Carry on as only you can.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ You're on top of dealing with your responsibilities. Still, you could be overly serious. Allow your imagination to help you loosen up and make plans. Understand what someone wants and expects from you before making an agreement. Tonight: On top of it all.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ Think "new horizons" and "new places." Take off and explore. Invite a friend or close family member to join in. This happening could be an adventure you will remember and talk about for a while. Tonight: Continue to go for unique.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Plan on spending time with the apple of your eye. Don't hesitate to pull the shades or do your own thing together. Decide what would be the most fun for the two of you. Focus on each other and your friendship. Tonight: Togetherness.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ Share your strong feelings with others. Someone serves as a muse, coming up with different ways and styles to achieve your desires. You could be surprised by what happens when you share your dreams. Share more often. Tonight: Accept an invitation.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Delight yourself by tackling something you have always wanted to do or a project that will add to your home. Water or a fountain could add to your pleasure on the home front. Invite others for a get-together. Tonight: Anything goes.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ Use your sixth sense and don't just react. Loved ones, associates and friends seek you out to brainstorm and to tap into your innate creativity. Help someone close take a risk. You could find yourself a life coach for the day. Tonight: Romp away.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★ Stay as active as you want, understanding that you might be needed around the home front. Others appreciate your ideas and efforts. Work as a team and relish what you are doing. As you relax, you'll share more of yourself. Tonight: At home.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ You might be more instrumental in forming plans than you intended. Tossing out one idea after another, you could be surprised at what others like. Wherever you are, you are with friends, enjoying yourself. Tonight: The less structure, the better off you are.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ A hunch could pay off financially, as long as you can afford the loss if it should occur. Someone you care about pushes you into the limelight. Accept being the lead actor. Your sense of fun is contagious. Tonight: Overindulging.

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LOCAL



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Social justice: Refuerzo gets recognition

By Daily Press staff

A local hospital worker has been honored nationally for her service to the community. Rebecca Ritarita Refuerzo, executive director of the Child and Family Development Center at Saint John's Health Center, has been named as "Social Worker of the Year" by both state officials and the National Association of Social Workers. Refuerzo was recognized last month by the California Chapter.

As the center's executive director for the past 10 years, Refuerzo has led the organization in increasing its responsiveness to the community's mental health needs and in providing the highest quality services available to the poor and vulnerable, hospital officials said. They added that her inspirational leadership is driven by her personal conviction that it is one's "moral duty to make a difference."

"We at Saint John's are very proud of Rebecca and the recognition she has received," said Bruce Lamoureux, CEO of Saint John's Health Center. "Through her work at Saint John's CFDC, she's improved the lives of so many children and families in the community."

Refuerzo's professional career of service to the community has spanned 30 years and three states. She has previously worked as the clinical director at the Didi Hirsch Center; as a senior lecturer at the UCLA School of Social Welfare; and as a private practitioner. In addition, she is an advocate on policy issues affecting mental health services and under-represented populations.

She was nominated for the national award by her colleagues at the city of Santa Monica, the Los Angeles County Department of Mental Health, UCLA faculty and by her colleagues at Region H.

Refuerzo received her bachelor's degree at the University of California at Davis and received her master's degree in social welfare from the University of California at Berkeley. She lives in West Los Angeles with Ben, her husband of 35 years, and their 7-year-old daughter Jade.

The Saint John's Health Center Child and Family Development Center has been providing a range of mental health, developmental, educational and outreach services in response to community needs since 1962. Child-centered and family-focused services are provided by a multidisciplinary team, which includes clinical social workers, psychologists, psychiatrists, teachers and occupational and speech therapists.

Photographic memory: Acclaimed artist returns home

By Daily Press staff

A world-renowned travel photographer and Southern California native will be hosting a worldly event in Santa Monica.

Glen Allison spent eight years traveling the globe to some of the world's most remote and dangerous locations, including an active volcano in the South Pacific and a military coup in Thailand.

Allison has traveled to more than 137 countries and territories, with more than 50,000 of his photos in circulation.

For the first time in nearly a decade, he is returning home.

Allison will be hosting an event at the Santa Monica Barnes & Noble on May 16 at 2 p.m.

For more information, call (858) 467-1978, or log onto www.glenallison.com.

surf report

Look for a mix of increased NW wind swell and building S swell today. Northern LA spots see the mix of swells for knee- to waist-high surf at many breaks and a few bigger sets at best breaks. South Bay spots also see knee- to waist-high waves off the wind swell with some chest-high sets at best breaks in the north half of the bay. Look for light and variable wind in the morning to switch to the W and build in the 8-15 knot range for the afternoon.

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	LOW TIDES				HIGH TIDES			
	Morning	Height	Evening	Height	Morning	Height	Evening	Height
SATURDAY	2:07	0.5	1:42	0.8	8:00	4.1	8:05	5.5
SUNDAY	2:45	0.1	2:10	1.1	8:47	3.9	8:29	5.7
MONDAY	3:20	-0.3	2:36	1.5	9:30	3.8	8:52	5.8
TUESDAY	3:54	-0.5	3:00	1.8	10:11	3.6	9:16	5.8
WED	4:27	-0.5	3:23	2.1	10:53	3.5	9:41	5.7
THUR	5:02	-0.5	3:47	2.3	11:37	3.3	10:09	5.6
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Read this week's Q-Line responses on page 4. Check out the Q-Line this Monday for next week's question.

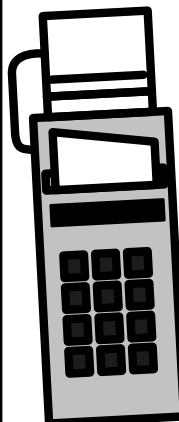


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OPINION

The Q Line

CHASE THE HOMELESS, BE COOL TO THE SCHOOLS

This past week, Q-line asked:
"If you had your way, where do you think the City Council should spend your money?"

Here are your responses:

■ "If I had my way, I think the City Council should spend my money on schools. Then, I think they should spend it on musical instruments for the schools. Then, I think they should spend it on art supplies for schools. Then, they should spend their money on costumes for plays in the schools. Then, they should take some money and spend it on public schools — not private schools, not magnet schools, not the Waldorf school, not Crossroads school. Public schools — the ones Schwarzenegger has his finger on."

■ "They should lower all the salaries of the City Hall employees. They are making way too much money. Spend whatever they can getting rid of the homeless. All the homeless, no shelters, no nothing. I used to care. Just get rid of them."

■ "No. 1, get rid of the homeless, vagrants, mental cases and drug addicts that have taken over the city. No. 2, clean up after them. The sidewalks and parks are filthy and wreak of human waste, just like all the alleys downtown. Then they could try reversing some of the things they have done to create the nightmare traffic we have. There are a few other things, but let's start with that."

■ "I would love to see them look at the budget for people removing graffiti from the city and see if they are paying them enough. They are doing a great job and I am sure they are getting less than they deserve."

■ "Instead of having extra curricular programs that teach about the interior of the White House, they should have parenting classes, self-defense for all the girls and personal safety programs for all. Our kids should be learning to be more aware. Learning about the inside of the White House is a total waste of time. Why aren't they spending more on real education and paying money to have fake snow every Christmas?"

■ "I would spend a lot more money on the public schools. The reason I moved here in the first place was for the schools. I have a daughter and I wanted her to be educated. Anywhere else you get half the quality of schools, and half

the quality of life. You have children that aren't being educated. They don't enjoy going to school. I would not continue to spend the money on homeless programs. I think this money is being wasted. People who remain homeless year after year are not being helped, clearly."

■ "The city would be best served by getting rid of these homeless people everywhere. I think they could also be more business friendly. That way we get more tourists. If they don't have to be confronted by filthy homeless people trying to rip them off or panhandle, we could bring more money in. It is a very difficult city to do business in or even live in for that matter."

■ "Take every red cent they spend on harassing businesses, complaining about hedges and creating traffic and use it to run the bums out of town. Then they should clean up the streets from all their filth and God-awful stench."

■ "Let's get the homeless people off the street. There is so much money here we should be able to afford getting them medical care, psychiatric care, job programs. Get them bathed. I mean, really, 2,000 people homeless just in Santa Monica? Ridiculous. I also feel like we should hire more teachers so we don't have to have bake sales to buy books."

■ "The downtown traffic is horrible. Just build a huge parking lot and have open air trolleys through the city. You can't move when you are in a car. That's my idea."

■ "Buy all the homeless bus tickets to the East Coast. Do you realize these people have a Web site? They are becoming an organized group. An organized group of beggars and losers that don't want to work, or are too crazy to keep a job or would rather drink and get high than work. Guess what? I would much rather drink all day than work. I don't want to have to crap in the street though. I like my house. I like my TV. I even like my job now and then. I cannot believe the sympathy this idiotic City Council has for a population that doesn't vote and destroys the city. And get rid of all the stupid islands in the road."

Quayle hunting: Kerry need not look further



MODERN TIMES

By Lloyd Garver

I heard that Laura Bush wants to take a second honeymoon, but George says he won't go unless Dick Cheney can come with them.

OK, I didn't really hear that, but it's the kind of silly joke that's being bandied about these days regarding the vice president's importance. The fact that people regard the office of the vice president as important today has great historical significance. The first vice president, John Adams, said that it was "the most insignificant office that ever the invention of man contrived or his imagination conceived." President Truman painted a more vivid picture, saying that all the vice presidents in history "were about as useful as a cow's fifth teat."

But all that's changed. Now it's a big deal to be vice president. I'm not just saying that because of all the attention Dick Cheney has been getting. Many people think whoever John Kerry chooses for a running mate could determine the outcome of this year's election. All of this got me thinking about one of the most entertaining former vice presidents — Dan Quayle. In fact, I've come to the conclusion that if Kerry wants to win, he should choose Quayle as his running mate.

Quayle just might be the answer for Kerry. First of all, he has the experience. So he knows where the office is, he knows the guy who parks the cars, and he knows where they keep the snacks. It would be a quick learning curve, and he could get right to work.

Quayle was mocked by Democrats and abandoned by Republicans. Like many famous people in history, it's quite possible that he was just ahead of his time. Why do I think his time is now? Let's see: He railed against Hollywood and the "cultural elite." He often spoke of morals and family values. He was mocked for not being able to spell "potato." People laughed at

the difficulty he had in putting a sentence together. He had trouble admitting mistakes and backing down from previous statements. His critics called him stupid. His friends called him passionate. Some said he was a spoiled, rich kid who had everything handed to him. Others said he came from a tradition of service. Doesn't all this sound just a little familiar?

In 2004, intellectualism is out, and bumbling is OK. Today, if Quayle said the same kinds of things he said when he was in office, like, "We're going to have the best-educated American people in the world," or "Republicans understand the importance of bondage between mother and child," the voters would embrace him. They'd laugh it off, and say he was a "regular guy, just like us."

If Kerry picked Quayle, one thing is for sure — there would finally be some quotable statements coming out of the Democratic camp. I can't think of anything that Kerry has said recently. Can you? Even if he said, "I think my running mate is an idiot, and I disagree with everything he says," we'd finally know where Kerry stood.

It would be a brilliant tactic. Having a running mate he disagrees with philosophically and politically would be an amazing innovation in American politics. Criticizing Quayle would be a clever way for Kerry to attack the policies of a popular wartime president without seeming "unpatriotic." The Democrats could point to the Kerry-Quayle ticket as proof that everyone is welcome "in their tent." They'd say, "We can disagree about everything and still be on the same team." Who would be the great uniter then? I'm telling you, Kerry-Quayle can't lose.

Some of you may feel I made a few leaps in logic and common sense in this column. But, to quote Quayle, "I stand by all the misstatements that I've made."

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

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

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LOCAL



City Hall still has sights set on Sears property

LAND, from page 1

of purposes, and most likely would be part of a joint use agreement between City Hall and the district, Mathieu said.

City officials are interested in possibly building a parking garage underneath the football field at Santa Monica High School, located on the corner of Fourth Street and Pico Boulevard. Just to the north, the school district owns the land where the Doubletree Hotel sits and another building where city offices are located. Both pieces of land are operated under a complex joint use agreement, but there could be a possibility to trade properties so city officials could occupy buildings on 16th and 17th streets, where the school district's headquarters are located.

City Hall is also considering what to do with the parking lot at Santa Monica College's Madison Campus, located at 11th Street and Santa Monica Boulevard. SMC's campus is owned by the school district and operates under a joint use agreement. Possibilities there could be a

city-operated parking lot or a park, Mathieu said.

However, SMMUSD Superintendent John Deasy said no formal discussions have taken place for any of the properties City Hall is considering.

"We have not been in any kind of conversation for land transactions, but it doesn't mean we wouldn't be glad to talk about future transactions," he said.

Mathieu added that the City Council has directed him to begin pursuing individuals and companies which own properties on Fourth and Fifth streets, between Arizona Avenue and Olympic Boulevard. Mathieu said he'll inquire about whether or not they are interested in selling. City officials have expressed interest in creating more parking downtown — part of a master plan developed two years ago.

Last week, the City Council also discussed the possibility of buying two pieces of land on the western edge of downtown where a new parking structure would be built. The properties — 101 Santa Monica Blvd. and 129 Santa Monica Blvd. — are

currently used as surface parking lots.

Negotiations for the Sears property, 402 Colorado Ave., have been ongoing for months. The 40,000-square-foot piece of land is currently owned by Sears and is used as a retail outlet and car repair shop.

Officials have said the land could be the ideal site for the western end of a proposed light rail line from downtown Los Angeles to Santa Monica. It also might be used to build more affordable housing or a new parking structure.

Plans for a light rail project from downtown LA to Santa Monica are still in

the preliminary stages, but \$505 million has been set aside for the first phase of the line, which threads into Culver City and is scheduled to be completed in 2012. No money has been earmarked for the second phase, which would bring the light rail line into Santa Monica.

The property is part of a master plan for the civic center area which is on hold because of the budget crisis. Officials hope to one day make a giant public space downtown, stretching from the Third Street Promenade, past City Hall and the Santa Monica Courthouse, to Main Street.

SMC stars catching on

NFL, from page 1

He rose to the elite ranks of NFL receivers last season, leading the AFC with a Bengals franchise-record 1,355 yards. Smith transferred to the University of Utah, where he graduated in 1999. A second-round draft choice of Carolina's, he was the only rookie elected to the 2001 Pro Bowl and led the NFC that year with a 25.6-yard kick-off return average.

Bruce, a probable Hall of Famer who currently ranks 15th all-time in the NFL for receiving yards, left SMC to study at the University of Memphis and is entering his 11th season with the Rams.

SMC plays with 86 other California community colleges in the Western States Conference of the "large class" division, according to Taylor, who coached at Los Angeles Southwest College and North Carolina A&T State before coming to SMC in 1984. Taylor was named head coach in 1994 and has since guided his team to three bowl games. Last year, Taylor was tapped as "Coach of the Year" in his division.

Johnson and Smith

recently returned to SMC to reunite with Taylor and former Corsair teammates Eugene Sykes and Anthony Cephas for the taping of an episode of "NFL Films Presents," to be shown on ESPN this fall. Missing from the reunion was the fifth of the "Fab Five" wide receivers from SMC's 1997 team. Demetrius Posey was killed in a March 2003 car accident in San Diego.

Taylor has kept in close touch with his former players, even while their careers have taken off. He recalled in the ESPN interview how

Smith — on his way to the January Super Bowl against the New England Patriots, where he scored a first-half touchdown — called Taylor to ask how he was doing. Taylor also recalled visiting the athletes' homes, getting special help for players with academic problems, and, at times, even calling Johnson's grandmother when Johnson needed some familial encouragement.

"I treat them all the same — fairly — but I tell them there's a responsibility, that they've got to go to class to get to the next level," Taylor told ESPN.

Freaky fish a big seller

SNAKEHEAD, from page 1

mals if released into local waters. Without any natural predators in the U.S., adult snakeheads feed on other fish, crustaceans, frogs and, sometimes, birds and mammals.

"The (snakeheads) breathe air, they can crawl on land and they can actually crawl from one river to the next," Johns said. "That makes them almost impossible to eradicate."

Even selling at such a steep price, the fish generated close to \$23,000 in sales at the Assi supermarket in Koreatown, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimated during their investigation.

In a criminal complaint filed earlier this week, grocer Sung Chul "Daniel" Rhee, 46, was said to have labeled the snakeheads as "sea bass" or "bass, fresh water fish" and hidden them in larger shipments of fresh food sent from South Korea in June 2003.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Joseph O. Johns said Rhee was selling the snakeheads live as food.

"I don't know what they taste like,"

Johns conceded, adding that snakeheads are considered a delicacy in the Korean community, especially valued by new mothers for their medicinal properties.

But the Fish and Wildlife Service and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement have come down hard on Rhee, a Glendale resident.

"Our concern here in California is that some enterprising rocket scientist will purchase a live snakehead fish, maybe a couple, breed them and release them," Johns said.

With their "voracious appetites," Johns said, snakeheads have decimated fish populations in Maryland, Wisconsin and Florida after having found their way into U.S. waters.

Intent on stopping the illegal imports before they wreak havoc in California, federal authorities charged Rhee with three counts of illegally importing live injurious fish into the country. If convicted, he could spend 15 years in prison for his grocery gaffe.

Rhee was expected to make his initial court appearance Friday afternoon in U.S. District Court in Los Angeles.

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People & Places



Sheryl Crow performed last Saturday night in the Barker Hangar at Santa Monica to benefit El Faro 2, an orphanage in Tijuana.

Photo courtesy of Jolson Creative

Friends of El Faro take flight at the SM Airport

By Daily Press staff

Sheryl Crow headlined last weekend's fundraiser at the Santa Monica Airport, which raised thousands for an orphanage in Tijuana.

It was a night filled with food, drink and music as hundreds packed the Barker Hangar. Crow performed, as did Dwight Yoakam, Vonda Shepard, Lili Haydn and The Dan Band, to name a few.

All proceeds from "The Second Annual Night With Friends of El Faro," which included revenue from \$100 tickets and a silent auction, went to El Faro 2, a Mexico orphanage.

The first annual fundraising concert was held in 2003 and more than 800 guests raised some \$50,000 for the children.

Friends of El Faro, a Los Angeles-based group of volunteers, began making monthly pilgrimages to El Faro 2 in 2000 after reading an article in the Los Angeles Times. In addition to providing the kids with affection, the group assists the limited, over-worked staff with cooking and cleaning help, volunteers said.

Through their efforts, many improvements have been made to the physical condition of the grounds and home — a playground has been built and reliable transportation has been found, volunteers said.

The Casa Hogar El Faro 2 Orphanage was founded in 1998 by Jorge and Carmen Gonzales, who sold their home and invested their retirement funds to care for homeless children on the eastside of Tijuana. The orphanage grew quickly and soon the small structure located on a tiny piece of land with no indoor bathrooms was home to 50 children. Today, more than 100 children call El Faro home. But in 2002, the sponsor which had been covering the basic monthly costs of food and utilities for the orphanage withdrew its support, creating a huge deficit in El Faro's operating budget, volunteers said. They added that small fundraisers and individual donations aren't enough to keep El Faro in operation and its children with the proper nutrition, adequate water and sanitation.

For more information, log onto <http://www.friendsofelfaro.com>.

Kristine Johnson Fountain of Joy

The Kristine Johnson Fountain of Joy is seeking donations. Situated in a courtyard garden visible to the community, the fountain will be a respite for those seeking faith, peace and hope amongst the challenges of the world.

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Carolyn Sackarison/Daily Press

A host of celebrities were on hand last Saturday for the 'Second Annual Night With The Friends of El Faro' fundraiser to raise money for a Tijuana orphanage. Among those showing their support were (clockwise) singer Vonda Shepard; actor Nicholas Gonzalez; actress Sharon Lawrence; 'Star Child,' an entertainer on stilts; Dr. Anthony Griffin from ABC's 'Extreme Makeover'; and Latin singer Constantina.

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STATE

Governor 'pumped up' about proposed budget

BY TOM CHORNEAU
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO — Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger said he was "pumped up" to take on the state budget as he released a \$102.8 billion plan this week to restore California's financial health that spares programs he vowed to slash in January.

As promised, the budget plan contained no new taxes, but failed to deliver on a much-anticipated overhaul of the public health system.

Schwarzenegger backed off severe cuts he had proposed to health care for the poor, partly because of income from higher than expected tax collections in the last three months.

Many questions surrounding the proposal remained unanswered, but support among several interest groups has prompted the governor to urge lawmakers to act before June 15 — the constitutional deadline for adopting a budget that has not been met since 1986.

"The people are tired of the summer slamfest in the Capitol," the governor said. "I am proud, and I'm all pumped up and I'm ready."

Democrats, who control both houses of the Legislature, may not be as ready.

They said that the governor has pushed many tough decisions into the future through a mix of borrowing and accounting gimmicks. But Schwarzenegger said he was proud of the proposal.

"I am determined to protect essential services, not only for this generation of Californians but the next generation as well," Schwarzenegger said. "If we don't get our fiscal house in order, we threaten every program for years to come. I remain firmly opposed to tax increases because no state can tax its way to prosperity or financial health."

The Legislative Analyst's office estimated in January that the budget shortfall next year would be \$17 billion.

The governor was helped greatly in cutting down the shortfall by passage of Proposition 57 in March, which not only gave him money to pay off the state's existing bills but also provided about \$4 billion to spend on next year's shortfall.

His plan proposes to erase the rest of next year's problems through a variety of one-time savings, program cuts, increased federal support and a windfall of unexpected tax money generated by an amnesty program and an improving economy.

But some key components of the budget do little to address the state's fundamental spending imbalance.

The plan includes, for instance, an agreement with cities and counties that saves the state \$1.3 billion this year and next, but requires the state to begin making the payment in three years. There's an accounting change in how taxes will be counted that saves the state about \$1 billion in one-time money. There's also a \$1 billion loan from transportation taxes that will have to be repaid.

Also, there elements that some say may

only be partially realized, such as \$500 million in expected income from tribal gambling interests under an agreement that has yet to be finalized. He also expects to save about \$300 million from renegotiating the state's labor agreement with prison guards.

"There's a lot of uncertainty here," said Assemblyman Darrell Steinberg, D-Sacramento. "There's a lot of things we must look closer at."

The governor chose to use a lot of the additional tax revenue to spare \$900 million in public health services that he put on the chopping block in January. He wanted to cut payments to doctors and home health care providers.

Noting that public health services has become one of the fastest-growing segments of the budget, Schwarzenegger originally proposed a massive overhaul that would have asked patients to pay a greater share for care.

Last week, administration officials said they would be ready to unveil a reform package the same day as the revised budget. But Thursday, Schwarzenegger said the Medi-Cal overhaul probably won't be ready for the Legislature until August.

Still, most Democrats said they were relieved that health care was spared. "I'm very pleased with all the restorations that the governor has put back into the budget," said Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez, D-Los Angeles.

Anthony Wright, executive director of Health Access, a coalition of labor and consumer organizations, said he too was relieved that the administration backed away from enrollment caps on medical services to the poor — but remains concerned about the plan to reform Medi-Cal.

Schwarzenegger has made on-time passage of the budget a priority, as he's negotiated several spending deals in recent weeks with key interest groups, such as the state's powerful education lobby. In doing so, he's removed major roadblocks that could drag out passage of the spending plan weeks beyond the July 1 start of the fiscal year.

The budget has only been signed on time eight of the last 25 years and the former actor and muscleman called for a bipartisan effort to meet the deadline.

Senate President Pro Tem John Burton, D-San Francisco, scoffed at the notion that the Legislature would move quickly.

"On time budgets are very helpful in the press, they mean nothing in the outside world," he said. "The money markets and bond markets are going to look at whether it is a sound budget, not whether it was on time."

The agreement to cut state university support by \$660 million is likely to also draw opposition not only because it imposes higher tuition on students but also because it caps enrollments for next year.

"Next year is going to be devastating," said John Travis, a political science professor at Humboldt State University and president of the California Faculty Association representing professors and other instructors in the 23-campus California State University system.

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NATIONAL



America's moral might called into question

BY WILLIAM J. KOLE
Associated Press Writer

VIENNA, Austria — Has America lost its moral authority?

That provocative question is on the lips of politicians, human rights activists and ordinary citizens worldwide as the Iraqi prisoner abuse affair exposes damning evidence against U.S. troops.

Many wonder how the United States — embroiled in allegations that its soldiers brazenly ignored the Geneva Conventions — can credibly challenge human rights violations in places such as Haiti or Sudan.

As the scandal unfolds, the debate rages over the degree to which America's reputation and role as a global moral agent have been tarnished.

"It erodes the perception of the United States as a government with human rights as its political basis," said Aaron Rhodes, executive director of the Vienna-based International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights.

But the world shouldn't rush to judgment, and Washington deserves credit for acknowledging and condemning the abuses, Rhodes said Thursday.

"There probably isn't a single country in the world where you can't find human rights violations in prisons," he said. "The problems in Iraq are serious, of course. But the willingness to acknowledge these abuses at the very highest levels of government is a positive example that reveals the nature of the system."

Others insist the United States has lost credibility on the human rights front.

In a stinging rebuke, Austrian opposition leader Alfred Gusenbauer called on European governments Thursday to unite in condemnation of the "barbaric" humiliation and abuse of Iraqi inmates at the Abu Ghraib prison.

Europe, the Socialist Party chairman suggested, should supplant America as an example by holding it firmly accountable for its "contempt for human beings."

By concealing early evidence of the abuse from the public, U.S. leaders "placed themselves outside the bounds of

"It erodes the perception of the United States as a government with human rights as its political basis."

— AARON RHODES

Executive director,
International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights

international law, their own code of justice and their much-admired constitution," The Guardian newspaper of London said this week.

Britain, too, has been pulled into the double-standard fray, with some of its soldiers also implicated in the abuse of prisoners in Iraq.

At a press conference with visiting Chinese Premier Wen Jiabao, Prime Minister Tony Blair was asked if he still had the moral authority to criticize Chinese human rights abuses. He appeared exasperated and sidestepped the question.

The scandal unmasks America as a hypocrite rather than a global defender of the downtrodden, contends a human rights scholar in China, which Washington repeatedly has rebuked for abuses.

Dong Yunhu, secretary-general of the China Society for Human Rights Studies, told the official Xinhua News Agency the affair undermines the United States "as the incarnation of human rights, often criticizing other countries' problems."

Some foreign leaders, unwilling to disqualify America as a leading example of human rights and the rule of law, say they're still looking to the United States as a role model.

German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer, visiting Washington this week, pleaded with the Bush administration to restore the moral authority of the United States by bringing those involved to justice.

"We need the United States," Fischer said, flanked by Secretary of State Colin Powell. "We need the moral leadership of the United States. It is important for the

West, for all of us."

Americans also are questioning whether the country forfeited its right to condemn abuses abroad — and, if it did, how it can reclaim the bully pulpit.

"We have to bring back the moral authority we once possessed in the world," Betty Bumpers, the wife of former Arkansas governor and U.S. senator Dale Bumpers, told a luncheon held in her honor earlier this month.

The Courier newspaper in Findlay, Ohio, conceded the scandal has opened

the United States to justified criticism. But "all of America's alleged 'abuses' in Iraq cannot even begin to compare with those that take place routinely in many of the nations that so enjoy condemning us now," it said in an editorial.

Some of the week's most biting criticism came from Nelson Mandela, the former South African president and Nobel Peace Prize laureate who was himself imprisoned for 27 years by his country's apartheid-era regime.

Mandela scolded the United States and Britain — "two of the leading democracies, two leading nations of the free world" — for their roles in the scandal.

"Americans feel they're high and mighty — that they're the best," said Jeffrey McKenzie, a native of Gasport, N.Y., and an anti-war activist who recently moved to Austria.

"The fact is that we've had a long history of abuses, not just in Iraq. But most Americans ignore it."

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NATIONAL

Energy firms paying up to develop in Colorado

BY COLLEEN SLEVIN
Associated Press Writer

LAKEWOOD, Colo. — Energy companies plunked down \$6.6 million this week for a chance to explore and develop nearly 72,000 acres of prime oil and gas land in western Colorado.

Much of the land — owned by the federal Bureau of Land Management — is also being eyed by environmental and citizen groups for wilderness protection. They filed protests on all but 13 of the 70 parcels, delaying any development for months.

BLM officials did not immediately identify most of the 52 buyers but said they expected to release a list Friday.

Lease buyers get oil and gas development rights for 10 years. The BLM can also sell leases for other activities, such as cattle ranching, on the same land.

Mark Nieslanik runs cattle on a Carbondale-area parcel that was auctioned off for petroleum development. He said he and other residents are concerned about oil and gas wells in a pristine area treasured by outfitters, hunters and ranchers.

"It's going to make it a lot more difficult for us to continue to run cattle up here," he said at a Glenwood Springs news conference about the auction. "I'm really not sure how large the impact is going to be, but it will impact us."

Environmental groups won a partial victory when the BLM withdrew four

parcels before the auction, saying further environmental study was needed. One includes 91 acres in the Paonia State Recreation Area south of Carbondale.

Parcels on Big Ridge, Oil Springs Mountain and Dragon Canyon near Meeker were taken off the auction block because of information about the character of the land provided by the Colorado Environmental Coalition, BLM spokesman Vaughn Whatley said.

They were among 59 areas that environmental groups and a host of local government, citizens and business groups believe should be designated as wilderness.

They are also included in a wilderness bill sponsored by Rep. Diana DeGette, D-Colo. The bill is pending in Congress.

Oil and gas companies had proposed that leases also be offered on another parcel that citizen groups want designated as wilderness, 15,539 acres in the Vermillion Basin in northwest Colorado. The BLM decided not to offer it, saying more environmental studies were needed.

Wilderness Society spokesman Steve Smith said the BLM has not studied many of the areas up for lease since the 1970s, leading his group and others to submit their own studies.

"There is an encouraging pattern here that at least they are taking the time to look at our information," he said.

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NATIONAL



Oil, gas firms request record amount of acreage

BY TRAVIS REED
Associated Press Writer

SALT LAKE CITY — Oil and gas companies have requested a record number of parcels in Utah to be available in the upcoming Bureau of Land Management lease sale — nearly two-thirds of them areas previously unexplored for drilling.

The BLM will offer 281,530 acres for oil and gas drilling in its June 25 sale, or about 70 percent of what industry requested. That is more than double the highest number of acres requested by industry in the past under current BLM procedures.

Businesses asked for 398,000 acres, but the BLM trimmed the figure after a resource analysis, including a review of environmental effects.

Analysts say the move to explore land that hasn't been previously drilled reflects an increased willingness to take risks on land that may not pay off, and is likely spurred by soaring fuel prices.

"What you're seeing is a response to elevated commodity prices. The longer they stay elevated, the more people will move up that ladder of risk," said John Baza, associate director of oil and gas for the Utah Division of Oil and Gas Mining.

"What you're seeing is a response to elevated commodity prices. The longer they stay elevated, the more people will move up that ladder of risk."

— JOHN BAZA
Associate director,
Utah Division of Oil and Gas Mining

Two-thirds of the land — in Juab, Millard, Sanpete and Sevier counties — has not been a historical source of oil and gas, the agency reports.

The leaseings have occurred for years, but recently opened up to areas previously considered wilderness quality, drawing protests from conservation groups.

Steve Bloch, attorney for the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, said the group hadn't yet analyzed the parcels offered in the June sale to determine what it

would protest, but that the leaseings of previously unexplored lands were troubling.

"Why are we leasing these lands to companies when we know that there isn't anything there — and allowing them to scar the landscape when all the research shows these areas don't have the resources?" he asked.

Mining companies that want to lease land can nominate parcels of BLM property that become available at quarterly auctions. Once land is approved, interested parties can bid on the parcels starting at \$2 per acre.

Winning bidders then pay nominal fees over the lease's 10-year life. They pay 12.5 percent royalties on any profits, split between the federal and state governments.

Robert Lopez, branch chief of leasing for the Utah BLM, said companies that request specific acres to be offered in auctions have likely conducted geologic studies of the regions to help determine if they have oil or gas to offer. The names of the requesting companies are not public, Lopez said.

Included in the land approved by the BLM for the June lease sale is 15,582 acres within the Manti-LaSal National Forest, which was approved by the U.S. Forest Service, Lopez said. He said the Forest Service places greater restrictions on forests, making them less attractive to businesses.

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NATIONAL

Aging octopus discovers it's never too late to love

BY MARY PEMBERTON
Associated Press Writer

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — It looks like J-1 is in love.

After meeting the very fetching and slightly younger Aurora, he changed color and his eight arms became intertwined with hers. Then, the two retreated to a secluded corner to get to know each other better.

We're talking about giant Pacific octopuses here.

Aquarists at the Alaska SeaLife Center in Seward introduced the 5-year-old J-1 to Aurora on Tuesday morning. The two really hit it off. Spermatophores were seen hanging from J-1's siphon.

"We really were not sure he had it in him," SeaLife Center aquarium curator Richard Hocking said Wednesday.

Love almost passed J-1 by. At 5 years of age and 52 pounds, he's reaching the end of the line for his species, the largest octopus in the world. J-1 is in a period of decline that occurs before octopus die. His skin is eroding. His suckers have divots.

"He's not as strong as he used to be," said aquarist Deanna Trobaugh.

With so little time left, J-1 wasn't going to let the sweet Aurora slip through his eight octopus arms. While she had to make the first move, he caught on quickly, especially for an octopus who was collected on a beach near Seldovia in 1999 when he was about the size of a quarter and has lived the bachelor life since.

To get the two together, aquarium staff put Aurora in a plastic bag and then gently poured her into J-1's 3,600-gallon exhibit tank. She sank to the bottom of the tank and then made the first move, going over to J-1, who was hanging on a rock wall.

She reached out an arm and touched him. Only then did he wake up to the fact he had company. Contact made, she went back to her corner of the tank. J-1, dis-

pellling water from his siphon to get quickly across the tank, was in hot pursuit.

"They both were gripping the back wall of the tank. He just about covered her completely," Hocking said.

The two remained intertwined for about eight hours. It's possible that during that time when J-1 was exploring Aurora's mantle with his many suckered arms that he passed his sperm packet to her, Hocking said.

What the aquarium staff does know is that when they separated, J-1 flashed some colors, turning almost white and then dark red.

"It looks like instinct took over during that encounter and they did what they were supposed to do," Hocking said.

If Aurora did get cozy with J-1 and accept his spermatophores, or sperm packet, which is delivered from the only arm without suckers, she will produce anywhere from 60,000 to 100,000 eggs, which when hatched will look like little squid.

"It is just possible, we may see several thousand fertile eggs soon," Hocking said. "We can only wait now and see what nature does."

If with many, many children, Aurora — who was about the size of a grapefruit when she was found in 2002 living inside an old tire in front of the SeaLife Center — will stop eating while she tends her eggs. She will weaken and die soon after they hatch.

Hocking said it seemed only right to give J-1 a chance to do what octopuses normally do before he dies.

In his younger days, J-1 was an easy-going sort who did not try to escape his tank a lot, Hocking said. When aquarium staff would come by to clean, the octopus would reach out and grab hold of someone's arm or a window cleaning tool.

"The goal for this was to let him lead a full life," Hocking said.



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NATIONAL



Primary races proved to be showcase for VP

BY NEDRA PICKLER
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — If the Democratic primary was also a tryout for potential vice presidential picks, some candidates probably would be better off if they had never started their quixotic bids.

Sen. Bob Graham and Wesley Clark have traits of an attractive vice presidential candidate, but stumbled in their own White House campaigns. Clark tripped over explanations of his positions on Iraq and abortion, while Graham's effort quickly fizzled before many voters even knew who he was.

Alternatively, North Carolina Sen. John Edwards and Missouri Rep. Dick Gephardt may have improved their chances with campaigns that impressed Democrats. Neither won overwhelming votes — Gephardt dropped out after a distant fourth-place finish in Iowa and Edwards only won his native state of South Carolina before quitting — but both were disciplined on the stump.

"You don't want a vice presidential candidate who is going to say something that is going to sidetrack your campaign for a few days or weeks with questions about how you are going to clean up their problems," said Joel Goldstein, an expert on the vice presidency at St. Louis University. "You don't want to worry about how they are going to perform in prime time."

Graham and Clark have impressive credentials that are keeping them under consideration for the No. 2 spot on the ticket of presumptive nominee John Kerry, but their missteps during the primaries may have diminished their standing.

Both are Southern moderates who could balance Kerry's image as a Massachusetts liberal. In a time of war, both could provide national security expertise — Graham as former chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee and Clark as a former four-star Army general.

But each failed to catch on with voters as a result of their late starts. Graham couldn't raise enough money to keep his bid alive and bizarrely announced he was quitting in the final minutes of an episode of CNN's "Larry King Live" on the mauling of illusionist Roy Horn.

Clark geared up his campaign as Graham was exiting and, like the Florida senator, ran as a national security expert opposed to the Iraq war. But Clark's political inexperience showed when he fumbled out of the gate on his signature issue — he said he probably would have voted for the Bush-backed congressional resolution authorizing use of force in Iraq, then reversed course a day later to say he never would have voted for the war.

Clark led the national polls and was an impressive fund-raiser. But he decided against entering Iowa's first-in-the-nation caucus and won just a single primary — Oklahoma — before dropping out.

Clark's standing also is not helped by Kerry advisers' belief that the former general helped spread rumors that Kerry had had an affair with a young woman.

Larry Mullins, a first-time delegate from Morristown, Tenn., who is backing Kerry, said he originally liked Clark but lost interest when Clark skipped Iowa.

"I don't care if he didn't go and stay but an hour, that was bad politics,"

Mullins said.

Now Mullins hopes Kerry will pick Edwards because he thinks the Southerner will be popular in Tennessee, especially with women.

"We want a winner," he said. "And number one, he's real popular with the female population because he's a good looking man."

Darryl Paulson, a political scientist at the University of South Florida who has studied the vice presidency, said Edwards' victory in a single primary although he was the last standing, viable opponent to Kerry was "hardly an overwhelming statement of public support for him."

But Paulson said Edwards' performance still has him in a better position than the more experienced Graham or Clark. Part of the problem for Graham and Clark, Paulson said, is they had to run to the left of their centrist views to compete with perceived front-runner Howard Dean.

"They were Dean-ized," he said. "That's where they saw the action was."

Still, Graham and Clark have impressed Kerry's advisers with their work for him on the stump. And their undeniable expertise on international affairs and national security could still win them the second spot.

Searchers are on the lookout for lost climber

By Daily Press staff

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — A Utah man attempting a solo climb of Mount Sanford did not return to a designated rendezvous point, and searchers have found no trace of him.

Jason Harper, 28, set out May 4 to climb the 16,237-foot peak in Wrangell-St. Elias National Park, National Park Service spokesman Smitty Parratt said.

For the past two days, searchers in airplanes and an infrared radar-equipped Air National Guard helicopter have traced the route Harper was supposed to take and an alternate route, but have not located Harper.

Harper was carrying about 40 pounds of food, skis and climbing gear, but no tent, Parratt said. He was dropped off at 3,000 feet on the mountain, 20 miles northwest of the summit, at an area known as Windy Ridge.

Harper planned to climb Sheep Glacier to the summit and return in five days. Parratt said most climbers start earlier in the year and take seven to 11 days on the same route.

Pilot Harley McMahan, of the Gakona-based McMahan Guide and Flying Service, told Park Service officials that he was to pick up Harper last Sunday.

Harper did not appear at the rendezvous, McMahan said. After searching the area, both on foot and then in his airplane, and seeing no sign of the climber, McMahan thought Harper might have misunderstood the rendezvous date.

But by Wednesday, recalling how little food and gear Harper carried, McMahan notified the Park Service that the climber was overdue, said his daughter, Rebecca McMahan.



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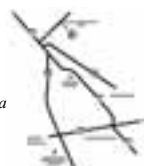
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NATIONAL

Lawmakers promise to get tankers back in air to fight fires

BY ERICA WERNER
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Lawmakers said they want to get grounded air tankers back in the air to fight wildfires.

"I don't think we have an adequate substitute out there," Rep. Peter DeFazio, D-Ore., said this week at a hearing of the House Resources subcommittee on forests.

DeFazio and other lawmakers sharply denounced the government's decision to ground the 33-tanker fleet this week, just as the fire season had kindled. Rep. J.D. Hayworth, R-Ariz., called it "a knee-jerk reaction."

Officials with the Forest Service and Interior Department testified they had no choice after the National Transportation Safety Board determined that the airworthiness of the big fixed-wing aircraft could

not be ensured.

One problem is the Federal Aviation Administration lacks the authority to inspect the former military tankers and certify them as airworthy for firefighting, because the FAA deals with civilian — not government — flights. The Forest Service and the Interior Department are not well-equipped to carry out such inspections, officials said.

Subcommittee chairman Rep. Greg Walden, R-Ore., pledged to meet Tuesday with the head of the FAA to resolve the problem. The FAA does inspect and certify many of the same aircraft for non-government purposes.

"I think we've discovered we have a law we have to fix," Walden said.

Federal officials at the hearing welcomed the potential solution.

"If we had FAA certification for these planes for this mission, then we would have the assurance that NTSB says is lacking today to allow these planes to fly with an acceptable level of risk," said Mark Rey, the agriculture undersecretary in charge of forest policy.

"I think we've discovered we have a law we have to fix."

— REP. GREG WALDEN

Chairman,
House Resources subcommittee on forests

The air tankers can drop 3,000 gallons of fire-retardant slurry on a blaze. They make up less than 10 percent of an aerial firefighting fleet, which includes hundreds of helicopters, smaller single-engine tankers and lead planes. Still, some Western-state lawmakers view the air tankers as indispensable.

Safety concerns arose, though, after three air tankers crashed between 1994 and 2002, killing seven crew members. The NTSB investigated and concluded last month that the tankers' airworthiness couldn't be ensured.

Forest Service and Interior Department officials this week said they were grounding the tankers and replacing them with other aircraft, including as many as eight

military C-130s.

The government terminated contracts with the seven private companies and their subsidiaries throughout the West that own and operate the tankers.

It would cost between \$26 million to \$40 million to ground and replace the fleet, Rey said, insisting there would be no loss of firefighting capacity.

California Democratic Sens. Dianne Feinstein and Barbara Boxer have released letters to Agriculture Secretary Ann Veneman urging her to reconsider. Gov. Bill Richardson of New Mexico on Thursday made the same request.

California relies on 14 of the grounded planes, while New Mexico usually has four based around the state during fire season.

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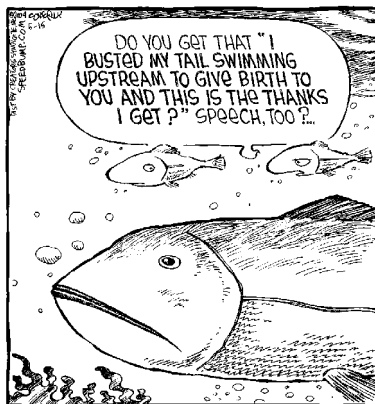
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MINUTE MAN Parking seeks valet parkers. Experience preferred, no placement agency. 310-214-1888

MORTGAGE BANKING Assistant P/T 10am-4pm Mon-Fri Assist commercial loan officer w/administrative tasks. Good pay. Email resume w/cover letter to DSpinelli@gemb.com

SALES ROUTE Career. Break-fast and lunch service 1/2 day. Earn up to \$200-\$300 per week. Must have reliable car. Near Venice/Robertson. (310)253-9091

Employment

NATIONAL TOUR Company Near LAX is expanding their Sales Department!! Flexible 30-hr/week, Work P/T & Earn F/T Income. Base+ Commission+Paid Training. No cold calling. Call Aaron at 1-800-421-6890 x555. See our website: goymt.com

ORTHODONTIC DENTAL Office-Exclusive Office in Pacific Palisades. Exceptional opportunity please call 310-454-6317

PT/FT WORK ON Food cart, Venice Beach Boardwalk, good pay, fun job. Call (310)430-0468.

SALES: UNIQUE Santa Monica based company seeks P/T & F/T Sales representatives. E-mail resume to info@winter-springs.com.

SANTA MONICA Nail & Hair Salon has 4 hair stations for rent.\$395/mo or Commission Plus a Facial/ Waxing Room for rent. 2106 Wilshire Boulevard 310-829-5944

SIGN INSTALLER: Will train. We are an equal opportunity employer that installs commercial advertising signs on the inside and outside of buses. We are a drug-free workplace & perform pre-employment drug screens and background checks. This is a F/T position working 8pm-4:30am Sun-Thurs. (This job is located in Santa Monica) We offer a starting wage of \$10/hr & a competitive benefits package. For information or applications please contact Sharon Nygoyen: 562-801-3597(P); 562-801-5569 (F); Sharon@s.perez.com; or 11803 E. Smith Ave, Santa Fe Springs, CA 90670

WLA LAW FIRM seeks P/T Bookkeeper/Office Manager 25-30hrs/wk. Must be proficient in Quickbooks, Timeslips7, and WP9 Fax resume 310-820-4005

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7 FT Down Sofa, Moss green w/piping-\$700 Oversized matching chair, \$300 310-968-1523

HAND PAINTED toys & gifts. Sunday May 16, corner of 12th & Broadway from 10am -?

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Pick Up, Oversize Tires & Wheels, Auto, A/C, Sharp (ID#610134)

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Red, A/C, Leather (ID#71978) \$10,995

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Supercab, 4x4, Auto, Alloys (ID#PA09009) \$7,995

'02 Chevy Tahoe LT

(ID#R193678) \$23,895

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Auto Sales Dealer

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low miles, one owner
VIN 018256 \$21,995

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Redone w/everything new.
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For Rent

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and large 2 bd 2 ba with wrap-
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Pets OK, \$2250/mo. Large
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SANTA MONICA, stove, patio,
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VENICE BEACH front 1930's
brick building. Single w/ full
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YOU MAY BE ELIGIBLE IF YOU ARE:
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Participation will last approximately 1 year (including screening) which includes blood
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Saturday May 22, 2317
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Lunch will be served
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Bid date: Tuesday, May 25, 2004 @ 2:00 pm
SUBBIDS DUE no later than Monday, May 24, 2004 @ 12:00 noon

THEATRE ARTS RENOVATION, Santa Monica, CA

Bid date: Wednesday, May 26, 2004 @ 2:00 pm
SUBBIDS DUE no later than Tuesday, May 25, 2004 @ 12:00 noon

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8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Monday - Friday

Firms interested in bidding should contact

Turner Construction Company
555 West Fifth Street, 37th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Attention: Saad Daghestani
213 891-3115 FAX 213 486-9837

For technical questions please contact:

Liberal Arts: Catherine Wong - 213 891-3063 cwong@tcco.com
Theatre: Bert Bertany - 805 432-4949 bbertany@tcco.com

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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Diggin' the 'Quarry': Kilborn strikes musical coup

By The Associated Press

■ **NEW YORK** — Morrissey, former lead singer of The Smiths, is making a rare appearance on late-night television when he spends a week on "The Late Late Show With Craig Kilborn."

The reclusive singer first appeared on Kilborn's talk show in September 2002. This time, he'll sit down for an interview on May 24 and will serve as the musical guest that night through May 28. He'll perform songs from "You Are the Quarry," his first studio album in seven years, which comes out Tuesday.

"We're thrilled to have Morrissey back," Kilborn said in a statement Thursday. "His music conveys the loneliness and despair of a man hosting a 12:30 a.m. talk show on CBS."

Morrissey, 44, is known for songs that juxtapose jaunty rhythms with depressing lyrics. His solo hits include "November Spawned a Monster," "Interesting Drug" and "Hairdresser on Fire."

His songs with The Smiths in the '80s include "Panic," "Stop Me If You Think You've Heard This One Before" and "Girlfriend in a Coma."

■ **NEW YORK** — Supermodel Naomi Campbell is having an intimate gathering — about 800 friends and Cirque du Soleil — in St. Tropez next week to celebrate her 34th birthday.

The three-day party at a trendy St. Tropez resort will culminate next Thursday with a "red and white" gala. All guests must wear red or white.

Campbell's gown is being designed by Alexander McQueen.

"He's a friend of mine, and I just love his work," Campbell told The Associated Press.

She was flippant about the lavish party, saying it was organized by family and friends and she's just planning

on showing up and having fun.

"I'm 34 years old and proud of it," she said this week. "I never lie about my age." Her birthday is on May 22.

■ **MEMPHIS, Tenn.** — The soulful chef is inviting tourists to Tennessee.

Isaac Hayes, the voice of Chef on Comedy Central's "South Park," is featured in a new 30-second commercial by the Tennessee Department of Tourist Development.

Hayes, a Memphis native, says: "In Tennessee, the stage is set for you. Just go out and play, baby ... on this stage, it's all good."

Dolly Parton also has been featured in the ad campaign.

The commercial will air in regional markets such as Atlanta; Birmingham, Ala.; Little Rock, Ark.; Louisville, Ky.; and St. Louis.

Tourism is one of Tennessee's largest industries, generating more than \$10 billion in direct revenues last year and employing more than 173,000 people.

■ **MOBILE, Ala.** — John Larroquette says he realized he was an alcoholic more than 20 years ago, though at one time, he didn't think he had a problem.

"I could show up and be hung over and still get the job done," the 56-year-old actor said at a Drug Education Council luncheon this week.

But people around him who had abused drugs and alcohol through the 1960s and 1970s began dying. Police began knocking on his door.

"I was arrested twice in the same week by the same police officer for driving on the same sidewalk," he said. "I read some literature, and it proved to me what was wrong, and it proved absolutely that I was an alcoholic."

Larroquette, star of television's "Happy Family" and

"Night Court," said he had relied on drugs and alcohol to help him cope with what he perceived to be personal shortcomings.

"I was concerned that there was something missing in me, and drugs and alcohol put it back," he said. "It made me witty. ... It made pain less sensational. Whatever part of me I thought was missing was somehow found when I was drunk."

■ **INDIANAPOLIS** — Team Rahal is now Rahal Letterman Racing in recognition of a certain late-night TV host's longtime business partnership with car owner Bobby Rahal.

"It's a great day in my life, something I've dreamed of since I was a kid," David Letterman said this week in a statement distributed by the team. "I'll try not to embarrass the team."

Letterman, an Indianapolis native, has had a minority interest in the Hilliard, Ohio, operation since 1996, although the official name remained Team Rahal. Bobby Rahal, a former Indy winner as a driver, announced the name change for his IndyCar program before the start of Indianapolis 500 practice this week.

"I have always felt the name Team Rahal didn't truly reflect the partnership or Dave's involvement in the business," Rahal said. "He has been an integral part of the team's success, and I can't think of a better place to announce this name change."

Rahal said Letterman's involvement with the team has not changed, but the new name reflects his own desire to give the comedian more credit.

Rahal has entered cars for drivers Buddy Rice, Roger Yasukawa and Vitor Meira. The team's primary driver is 1999 Indy winner Kenny Brack, who is still recovering from serious injuries he suffered in a horrific crash at Texas Motor Speedway in the final race last season and will not drive this year at Indianapolis.

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