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Santa Monica Daily Press

May 28-29, 2005

A newspaper with issues

Volume 4, Issue 169

DAILY LOTTERY

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

Defensive back Randall Gay wore a New England Patriots jersey as a member of this year's Super Bowl-winning team, but when one of his former college professors tried to order a personalized jersey in tribute to Gay in mid-February, she was turned down. The National Football League's official online merchandiser, NFLshop.com, refused to imprint "Gay" on the back of a Patriots jersey because it was a "naughty" word, one of 1,159 the shop has banned. (Two weeks later, after the Web site Outsports.com picked up the story, the word was removed from the list.)

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 148th day of 2005.
There are 217 days left in the year.

On May 28, 1934, the Dionne quintuplets — Annette, Cecile, Emilie, Marie and Yvonne — were born to Elzire Dionne at the family farm in Ontario, Canada.

In 1972, the Duke of Windsor, who had abdicated the English throne to marry Wallis Warfield Simpson, died in Paris at age 77.

In 1977, 165 people were killed when fire raced through the Beverly Hills Supper Club in Southgate, Ky.

In 1985, David Jacobsen, director of the American University Hospital in Beirut, Lebanon, was abducted by pro-Iranian kidnappers (he was freed 17 months later).

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SMPD officer is killed in Iraq

BY RYAN HYATT

Daily Press Staff Writer

IRAQ — A well-respected Santa Monica police officer was killed in combat this week.

Officer Ricardo A. Crocker, 39, who was known as "Rick," was a 10-year veteran of the Santa Monica Police Department and a major in the United States Marines Corps. He was killed on May 26 in a rocket propelled grenade attack in the province of Al-Anbar, according to the SMPD.

It's unknown if there were additional casualties in the attack.

Crocker was identified by his dog tags and the name badge on his uniform. He was single and had no children.

Crocker is survived by his mother, Jeanette; father, Curtis; sisters, Maria and Marisa; and brother, Carlos. Linda, a deceased sister, passed 11 years ago.

Crocker held the rank of cap-

See CROCKER, page 8



Photo courtesy of Patty Loggins-Tazi
Santa Monica Police officer Ricardo A. Crocker (far right) poses with a group of kids from the Police Activities League during a trip to Yosemite in August of 2003.

Pyro techniques



Fabian Lewkowicz/Special to the Daily Press

Chief Tama G of Honolulu performs 'Nifoafi,' a Samoan fire dance at the 'Our American Story' third-annual Asian Pacific Heritage Celebration at Santa Monica College this week.

SMC campus is growing at a rapid pace

BY WINTER JOHNSON

Special to the Daily Press

Santa Monica College continues to expand within the community with more than \$90 million in new facilities coming on line in the next two years.

Four projects, all scheduled to be completed by 2007, will serve various purposes, including modernizing the campus, creating more space for students, and fixing damages created by the 1994 Northridge earthquake, college officials say.

SMC — a two-year community college accredited by the Western Association of Schools and



Renderings courtesy

(Top) Santa Monica College's liberal arts building is expected to open in the spring of 2007.

(Top Right) SMC's Main Stage building is set to open later this year.

(Bottom right) A 541-seat theater at the college's Madison Campus on 11th Street and Santa Monica Boulevard is expected to open in the winter of 2007.

Colleges — opened in 1929 with just 153 students. It has now grown to a campus with 25,000 students and majors in more than 80 fields of study. Given its growth and the emergence of new

See SMC, page 9



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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)

★★★★ Your perspective and natural inclinations take you down the right path for you. Friends surround you and might be unusually instrumental. Communication becomes active. Tonight: Charge a discussion with your point of view.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ You find that many seek you out for advice to help make fun plans or to chip in and make a celebration even better. You might want to stop and think about an expenditure before it is a done deal. Tonight: Till the wee hours.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Mercury, your ruler, moves into your sign, adding to your charisma and wit. You have an interesting style or presentation. Others respond to your ideas, whether for play or to solve a situation. An invitation that takes you into new turf might be very exciting. Tonight: Take the path less trodden.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Others have much to share, but so do you. You might want to find the right time and place to talk through a problem or venture. Understand that you could be unusually sensitive right now. Let others reveal their true colors. Tonight: Let someone else decide.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Finally, you can let go and enjoy yourself. Pressure builds because so many invitations come in. It is clear that you cannot be alone. Others won't permit it. Pick and choose your parties. Tonight: A friend could be very important.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ You have your set of errands and projects. Others have other ideas, as you will quickly discover. You might need to juggle your personal desires with other commitments. Relax. You're good at doing just that. Tonight: Do only what you want — finally.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ A new flirtation or relationship could dominate many Libras' thoughts. If you are attached, you still might want to act sillier and less grown-up. Delight in an invitation heading in your direction that could be very different. Tonight: Add that sparkle.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Relax at home and invite others over if you want. You are able to see what others don't. A close friend believes he or she is doing something for one reason, when really it is another. Say nothing. Tonight: Be the lord or lady of the manor!



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Your words carry weight, and others listen. The good news is that you don't need to say much; others love the repartee and sharing. Don't hang at home. Get out the door. Have lunch out. Take a walk. Enjoy the day. Tonight: Favorite people, favorite places.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Investigate the costs of a purchase that might make a major difference in your lifestyle. Look to efficiency and a better quality of life. There is not one way or one choice. Do what your heart says. Tonight: Where there is music.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ You roll into the weekend, ready to enjoy yourself. Plan on special time with a child or loved one. Share a childhood pastime. If you are single, a conversation could lead to something more. Don't plunge in. Tonight: Play out a dream.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ You might be more comfortable staying close to home. Others seek you out, but you might want or need some time to yourself. A discussion with a family member could be unusually deep and touching. Tonight: Keep it a secret.

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Santa Monica Daily Press

Published Monday through Saturday

Phone: (310) 458-PRESS (7737) • Fax: (310) 576-9913

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LOCAL



Men are back



Fabian Lewkowicz/Special to the Daily Press
Bodybuilders show what they’ve got on Thursday during a contest in Venice. The competition continues this Memorial Day at Muscle Beach, one of three bodybuilding contests staged there throughout year. Admission is free.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

‘An American Story’ to be told

By Daily Press staff

Music and pain will blend together on the stage next month. The Manzanar Youth choir will perform with the American Youth Symphony and the Santa Monica College Chamber Choir in “Manzanar: An American Story,” about the Second World War Japanese-American internment. The Manzanar Youth Choir consists of Southern California teens, ages ranging from 11 to 18, of varying ethnic backgrounds and who also participate in SMC’s Madison Project program. The program aims to educate youth through participation in the arts. Sen. Daniel K. Inouye will narrate Manzanar. In addition, Olympic skating gold medalist Kristi Yamaguchi, actor John Cho, screen and stage actor Sab Shimono, and Broadway actress Pat Suzuki will be readers. Manzanar will be performed on June 2 at UCLA’s Royce Hall. For tickets and information, call (310) 825-2101 or visit www.uclalive.org.

Elks sighted on Memorial Day

By Daily Press staff

Memorial Day will be celebrated in Santa Monica Elks style. At 8 a.m. on each Memorial Day, the Santa Monica Elks place U.S. flags and flags that represent the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks on graves at the Elks Rest portion of Woodlawn Cemetery. The central flag is raised to full height and then lowered to half-mast. At 11 a.m., the ceremonies begin. This year, there will be presentations of wreaths and flowers by the Santa Monica Police Department, the Santa Monica Fire Department, Ken Miller, president of the Santa Monica Emblem Club No. 154, and Bob Jacobs, past commander of American Legion Post No. 123, and other fraternal and service groups. After the services, people are invited to the Santa Monica Elks Lodge at 1040 Pico Blvd. for a barbecue lunch, which is priced at \$8.

See BRIEFS, page 10



SURF REPORT

Today is looking like another small day. Wind swell favored 48 hours ago hasn’t materialized, and we’re in for some more small doldrums: knee- to possibly waist-high, best size at south facing beaches. Sunday is looking small, very small. There’s only a slight touch of SW from the southern hemisphere that will help south-facing breaks get some slow, lumbering, infrequent sets in the knee- to waist-high zone.

Write us at alex@smdp.com and tell us what the surf is doing today at your local break.

Today the water is:

62°

	LOW TIDES				HIGH TIDES			
	Morning	Height	Evening	Height	Morning	Height	Evening	Height
SATURDAY	8:19	-0.8	7:42	2.9	12:30	5.8	3:36	3.8
SUNDAY	9:22	-0.5	9:33	2.7	1:41	5.2	4:35	4.1
MONDAY	10:20	-0.2	11:10	2.1	3:06	4.6	5:23	4.6
TUESDAY	11:13	0.2	12:24	1.4	11:13	0.2	12:24	1.4
WEDNESDAY	12:24	1.4	11:59	0.7	6:00	3.9	6:39	5.5
THURSDAY	1:22	0.6	12:41	1.1	7:13	3.8	7:13	5.9
FRIDAY	2:18	0.9	1:17	0.9	8:09	3.4	7:45	5.2

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THE Q-LINE
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WE HAVE THE QUESTIONS.
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CHECK OUT THIS WEEK’S Q-LINE
RESPONSES ON PAGE 4.



MATT CRABBS

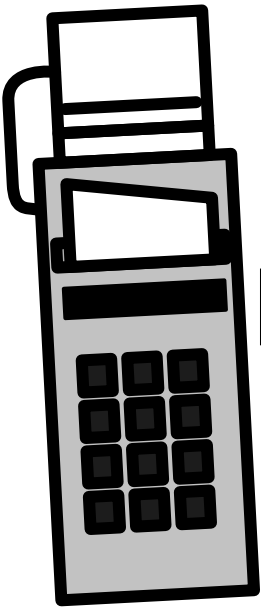


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OPINION

The QLine

WANTED: 'MAN OR WOMAN FOR ALL SEASONS'

This past week, Q-line asked:
"What qualities should the next president of SMC possess and what issues will he or she need to address?"

Here are your responses:

© "The first order of business for the new president of Santa Monica College would be to hire a penny-pinching financial officer who is well-experienced at getting a \$1.25 worth of merchandise for every dollar spent."

© "For the college, they should get somebody who has a background in education, who has actually taught a few classes — so that would obviously leave out the Santa Monica City Council members. They need someone who will handle the parking problem, who will stop people from driving near the college because it's such a hassle to park. They need to get somebody who will listen to the students to see what classes people want — classes that will help people get jobs, classes that will work for people, classes that students want to take versus canceling them once they get them. That's about it."

© "I was a past student of Santa Monica College and I think it's very important to have someone who's aware of global issues because this is a globally-known town. Why not have the same guy who's in interim — make him be the head of it? You have to have someone who is multi-culturally aware because this is a multi-cultural world that we're dealing with now."

© "The qualities needed are opposite of those of Piedad Robertson — what a disaster to city college and this town she was. City college eggheads have duped the simple-minded in this city with two big bond measures. Boy, I bet the school district is green with envy right now at not being that devious at raising funds. Return half of that money to the taxpayers. You notice how fast the college is spending that money? The rest should be used to hire staff and refund some kind of vocational studies — maybe with local business helping. And what's with all the millions that the city and college are spending for artificial turfs

— I thought we were teaching our young people about live green open space, not plastic? Stop wasting the taxpayers' money on dumb ideas."

© "It used to be that anyone applying for any city job — from policeman to garbage man — was given extra points and consideration if they were born and raised in that city. This helped the city in many ways because it kept the local talent here, and they were hiring people who really knew and cared about their own city. LA and Santa Monica seem to think it's great to look and hire people from New York to run things. Go back to community-based hiring, and hire someone who attended our schools, and has a real stake in keeping our great city."

© "Qualities of the next president of SMC are: bisexual, hermaphrodite, liberal, politically correct, and a person of color. And insofar as the qualities of stupidity and ignorance are not included in the qualities of liberalism and political correctness, those qualities should also be included in the necessary qualities. The issues to address are: privatizing and self-funding the school so that taxpayers are not coerced into supporting the spawn of others, whether from Santa Monica itself or across the border."

© "With regard to what qualities of the next president of SMC possesses and what he or she should address, the new president will have to be a person who will be called 'a man or woman for all seasons.' In the past, we've had not only a tumultuous relationship with the college, the citizenry, City Hall, etc., but in the past too, the college has ignored the age-old problems of the gang-infested Pico neighborhood. The new president of the college has to become involved in local community affairs and assist in the eradication of the gangs of the Pico neighborhood."

Forget me not: Few secrets safe in future



MODERN TIMES

BY LLOYD GARVER

According to a recent Yale University study, preschoolers are being expelled at a surprisingly high rate these days. What kind of offenses are they guilty of? Excessive drooling? Poor balance? Mispronouncing their "R's?"

Actually, the most frequent grounds for expulsion include kicking, biting, and hair pulling. While I agree that preschoolers should not be allowed to do these things at school, I think that it's possible for them to be taught not to. In fact, I'm positive of it. Otherwise, most of the adults that you and I hang out with would still spend a lot of their time kicking, biting, and pulling hair. And unless you're either a professional wrestler or a local politician, that's unlikely.

Obviously, parents should teach their kids how to behave. But isn't teaching preschoolers how to behave with each other one of the important functions of preschool? They don't have to learn how to read or do multiplication before they start kindergarten. But it would be nice if they learned how to respect their teachers and fellow students. And I doubt that a three-year-old will "learn his lesson" by getting booted out of school.

And think of the kid's parents. In some communities, getting into the preschool of choice is just slightly harder than getting into Harvard. Parents do research on the schools. They kiss up to those who run them. Sometimes, they make generous donations to ensure that little Mikey has a good spot in the sandbox. When their kid is accepted, they believe that he or she is on the right track — the right track to the right elementary school, and eventually the right university, and the right profession. The parents celebrate the kid's acceptance at the right country club. Can you imagine how these parents react when they're told their kid can't come back to preschool because he kicked some kid who was hogging the Play-Doh?

Some of these parents are going to think it's all over for their kid because he got ejected from "Tiny Tots" or the

"Early Education and Cultural Center for Socialization and Finger Painting."

I hope these parents will be wise enough to avoid telling their children, "They kicked you out because you're a bad kid." Instead, they probably say something like, "It just wasn't the right school for you. We found you a better one ... way on the other side of town." But kids are smart, so they'll know something's wrong.

Education experts don't feel that kids have suddenly discovered misbehaving. They say there is just not enough money being spent on training teachers, psychologists, and social workers. This is a shame, of course, since recent research suggests how important preschool can be. I hope more and more places find the money so kids can learn how to behave in schools instead of being kicked out of them. I also hope this trend comes to an end soon, so kids won't be branded for life by the experience.

Back when I was in elementary school, I was, well, asked not to continue in my public school for a while. And I was told that my dismissal would be written down on something that was supposed to frighten every child: my "Permanent Record." I never believed in the specter of the Permanent Record, but in today's information age, it might not be so far from the truth. I'm sure there is some website you could go to that could help you learn how I offended Mrs. Dunbar in the fifth grade. (If you do find out, please let me know).

So, I worry that these kids aren't just going to switch to another school and everyone will forget about their little misadventure. Nothing can be kept secret today. So, even though you may agree with getting rid of that kid who made your daughter cry today, what about forty years from now? You don't really want some Senator to stand up and say, "I'm sorry, but I cannot support the nomination of Amanda Thompson for Supreme Court justice. Let's face it. Once a hair puller, always a hair puller."

(Lloyd Garver has written for many television shows, ranging from "Sesame Street" to "Frasier." He writes the "Modern Times" column for CBSnews.com's opinion page and can be reached at smdp@lloydgarvermoderntimes.com.)

Walking to the nearest newsstand increases circulation.

Santa Monica Daily Press

COMMENTARY



Culture shock shows we all need an outlet



**EXERCISE
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BY THADDEUS REICHLEY

I drove to Auburn, Calif. to compete in the Auburn International Ironman last weekend. The weekend schedule was your basic relaxing endurance event format that included seven hours of driving, followed by seven hours of sleeping, four and a half hours of racing, and then seven more hours of driving. Somewhere around mile 200 coming home on I-5, as I was driving through a sea of cows, I found myself wondering what people in the area might do for fun. As I changed lanes to make room for a two-story RV, towing an SUV and a trailer of ATVs, it became pretty clear. Silly people, I thought as I shifted my cramping legs and sipped my caffeine to stay awake.

Shortly thereafter, the DJ on the local radio station was talking about the new "Star Wars" movie and all the loonies who had camped out overnight, wearing nothing but their "Lord Vader" costumes, just to catch a first showing. How dumb, I thought, as I slipped off my shoes to relieve the pressure on my swelling feet, missing toenail, and newly formed blisters.

As I pulled into a rest station on my athletic high horse, I noticed a man in a semi-truck giving me a strange look. As I stepped out of my bike-laden car with my clean-shaven legs and bold black numbers still decorating my calves, quads and arms I saw him shaking his head. What's his problem, I thought as I waddled to the bathroom, painfully aware of the chafing I had received in a rather sensitive place from running 13 miles in wet shorts.

As I got back in the car, I was still a little perturbed and was thinking about catching up with the guy and returning his dirty look. So what if I shave my legs? At least I don't sit on my butt in a truck all day. Then it dawned on me. He probably thinks that what I do is about as strange as camping out at a theatre just to see a "wookie" battling the dark side. And honestly, when I really think about it, it's true. Most people would consider what I,

and the rest of my endurance-junkie brethren do in the name of fun, to be rather insane. I guess that is why I try not to think about it too much.

We all have our obsessions and hobbies to make it sound less clinical. Some of us futz around in the garage working on cars, others tinker with our bikes and others build dollhouses. There are probably even people out there who build tiny little cars and bikes to go with the dollhouses. Hobbies are what give us focus, provide relaxation, and make life a little more interesting. The trick in life is in managing your time and energy between the often-monotonous reality of day-to-day existence, and all of those exciting hobbies we would rather be doing. It's OK to focus your energy on training for a "century ride," but just not at the expense of other obligations and loved ones in your life. It helps to have people in your life who will shoot you straight and tell you when you are crossing over the line. But beware — if someone is wearing spandex and saying, "just another 20 miles and we'll turn around," they are probably not the ones you need to look to for this guidance.

Another thing to keep in mind is that no one hobby or sport is better than another. Whether you are into drag racing or sled dogs, it is easy to get a little high and mighty about what you do. All hobbies have their own cultures, which can often become exclusive and even elitist.

So whatever you are planning for this weekend, have a ball. Just remember, it is the responsibilities of everyday life that make what we do in our free time that much more enjoyable. Balance is a wonderful thing. And, if your leisure plans involve traveling, give a little wave to a trucker. Chances are that their chosen profession is what delivered the equipment, food, and gas that you are using to do what you love. We are all just out there trying to have fun so share the road, share the trails, share the water, and play hard because on Monday you have to go back to work.

(Thaddeus Reichley is a middle-school teacher and triathlete living and training in Santa Monica. Look for his columns on the weekends and send comments to thadsthoughts@yahoo.com.)

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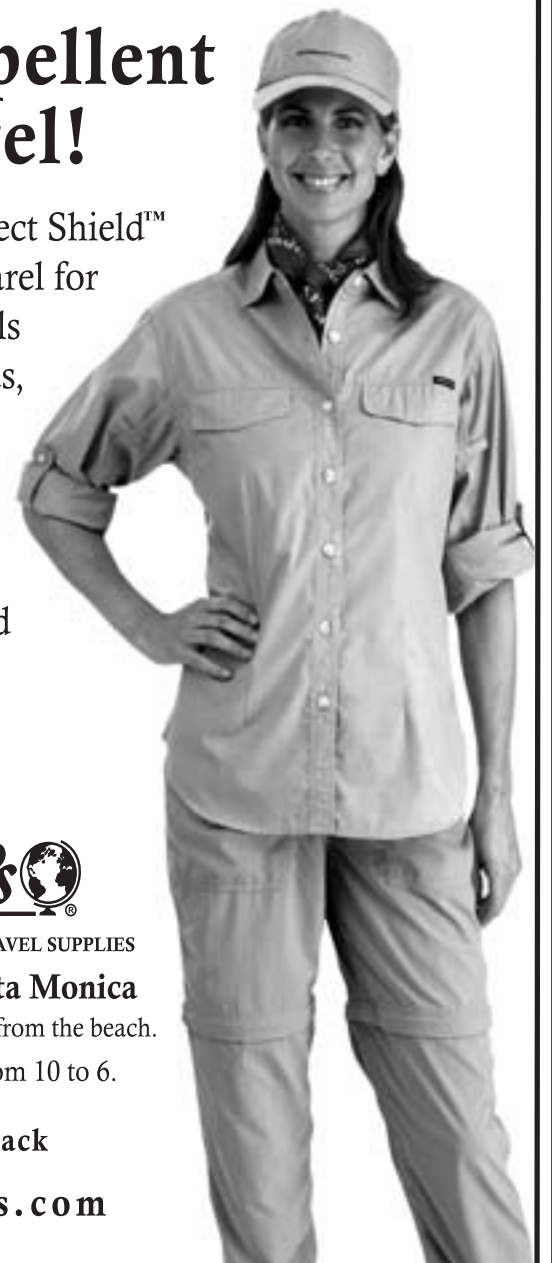
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STATE

Wine industry at war with tiny sharpshooters

BY MICHELLE LOCKE
Associated Press Writer

NAPA, Calif. — “Not in my backyard!” is the bold-faced cry of the sign posted beside the Napa highway.

The interloper in question, though, isn’t a hulking new development or stinky chemical plant. It’s a little brown bug called the glassy-winged sharpshooter that can take down mighty vineyards with deadly precision.

The NIMBY campaign enlisting Napa County residents as vector vigilantes is

part of California vintners’ war with the sharpshooter, which spreads a fatal vine affliction known as Pierce’s disease.

This month, grape growers are being asked to continue the defense by extending a special assessment that raises money for research on the bug and the disease it carries.

“Once the pest becomes established — you’ve already lost the game,” said Central Valley grower Steve Schafer, who is voting yes. “We have to contain it and try to eradicate it.”

Pierce’s disease has been around for

decades, caused by bacteria that flourish along waterways. But in the past, damage was limited because the bacteria was carried by insects that couldn’t go very far. The trouble with the glassy-winged sharpshooter, which showed up in California about 15 years ago, is that it can soar for up to a quarter-mile.

In the late 1990s, the disease ravaged Southern California vineyards, causing an estimated \$40 million in losses in Riverside County’s Temecula area.

So far, Napa and adjoining Sonoma counties are sharpshooter-free, but a few sharpshooter egg clusters have been found on nursery shipments from Southern California, raising alarm.

The assessment election being conducted by mail-in ballot this month asks grape growers to extend until 2011 a tax set at a maximum of \$3 per \$1,000 worth of grapes sold.

There is no formal opposition to the measure, and backers believe the assessment will pass.

Supporters point out that the tax, set to expire in 2006 unless the election is successful, has already raised \$17 million that, along with matching grants, has been leveraged into millions more through matching funds for research.

Among the projects is an attempt to turn grapes into warriors by developing fruit with resistance to Pierce’s disease.

Wild grapes already exist that can fight off the disease; unfortunately they aren’t too tasty. University of California, Davis, viticulture professor Andrew Walker is using traditional crossbreeding techniques to try to come up with a disease-resistant grape that tastes good.

Researchers say the fruit quality has improved significantly in two generations and the plants remain highly resistant to Pierce’s disease.

Walker and his lab are also developing molecular maps that are providing DNA markers to accelerate breeding and help locate the resistance genes in wild grapes.

The eventual goal is to insert the genes into classic wine grape varieties.

That is a far more controversial area of research, although Walker notes it is grape-to-grape as opposed to inserting DNA from a nonrelated species.

Genetically engineered grapes are at least a decade away and aren’t likely to be used in wine unless public attitudes change. For now, it seems unlikely they’d be embraced by detail-obsessed wine connoisseurs who want to know precisely where the grapes in their bottle originated.

Still, biotech opponents are concerned about what may happen.

In the key wine-producing region of Sonoma County, adjacent to Napa Valley, voters are expected to decide this November whether to become the fourth California county to ban genetically modified organisms.

The measure would prohibit the cultivation of genetically altered plants and animals for 10 years. It excepts agricultural or medical research conducted in labs with a high biosecurity rating. There is also a clause allowing county supervisors to amend the measure by unanimous vote.

Dan Solnit, campaign coordinator for GE-Free Sonoma County, said the measure gives the county time to gauge the effects of genetically engineered crops. “Until we know what we’re dealing with, we should not be putting it out in the fields.”

Opponents see the measure as too restrictive.

Nick Frey, executive director of the Sonoma County Grapegrowers Association, said a lot would have to change before the tradition-bound wine industry starts using genetically engineered grapes. But he thinks it can provide relief for problems like Pierce’s disease — and that’s research that needs to be done in the field.

“I’m a firm believer that understanding basic biology will have value,” he said.

Meanwhile, the sharpshooter remains insect non grata in wine country.

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STATE



Governor collects a cool \$2M to support elections

BY TOM CHORNEAU

Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO — Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger raised between \$2 million and \$3 million for his expected special election campaign during a three-state swing last weekend, his chief fundraising consultant said Thursday.

The governor said he intends to continue his aggressive fundraising schedule in hopes of pressuring Democrats to negotiate over the various measures he wants to place before voters in November.

"Just remember, math says we need around \$50 million altogether to fight the hundreds of millions of dollars the special interests and the unions are spending against our initiatives and against our reforms," Schwarzenegger told reporters during a media event Thursday in San Jose.

"So we are going to fight back," he said. "As I said during my recall election, if special interests are going to push me around, I'll push back. It's exactly what we are doing now."

Last weekend's trip was intended to generate money for Schwarzenegger's ballot committee, the California Recovery Team. It began with stops in Florida that featured Gov. Jeb Bush. On Monday, Schwarzenegger appeared at a lunch in Chicago hosted by billionaire developer Samuel Zell and then a dinner in Dallas hosted by oil tycoon T. Boone Pickens, and literary agent Jan Miller and her husband, Jeff Rich, chief executive of Affiliated Computer Services.

The trip generated between \$2 million and \$3 million, said Marty Wilson, a top campaign consultant who also helps oversee Schwarzenegger's fundraising. Names of donors won't be available until contribution reports are filed with the Secretary of State's office, which Wilson said would likely be next week.

"He's certainly viewed among Republicans as a true superstar," Wilson said. "So he's a draw in his own right. But in addition, there's keen interest in the kinds of reforms he's planning on putting before California voters."

The governor and his supporters have raised and spent close to \$15 million to

circulate petitions and conduct other activities this year aimed at qualifying three measures for a special election ballot in November. Schwarzenegger has until mid-June to call the election.

His three initiatives would place a new cap on state spending, mandate longer probationary periods for new teachers and have retired judges rather than lawmakers draw legislative district boundaries.

He has said he will call a special election in the fall if compromises cannot be worked out with the Legislature's Democratic majority.

Democratic consultant Bill Carrick said that while Republicans in other states are still drawn to Schwarzenegger as a celebrity, he suspects many of them have other agendas. He said corporations are focused on a measure that so far Schwarzenegger has not endorsed — an initiative that restricts the use of union dues for political purposes.

"It's the honey pot for corporations," Carrick said. "If you could get this started in California, it could become a national cause."

The so-called "paycheck protection" measure, pushed by Schwarzenegger supporters, would require public sector labor groups such as teachers unions, the California Correctional Peace Officers Association and the Service Employees International Union to get written permission from members to use dues for political purposes.

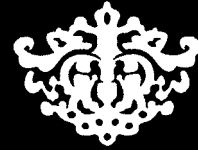
Schwarzenegger has asked his campaign staff to engage in polling and other activities in preparation of a possible campaign.

Democrats and unions have criticized the governor's fundraising, especially out-of-state trips that also have taken him to New York, Washington, D.C., and Cincinnati.

"All the money in the world hasn't been able to convince Californians that there's a need for a special election," said Steve Maviglio, spokesman for Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez, D-Los Angeles. "We've been willing to negotiate for four months. If we could get the governor to stay in his office instead of traipsing around the country fundraising, we might have a deal."

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NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF PROPOSED FY 2005-10 CONSOLIDATED PLAN AND FY 2005-06 ONE-YEAR ACTION PLAN ALLOCATING FEDERAL CDBG AND HOME FUNDS

Notice is hereby given that the City of Santa Monica has developed the Proposed FY 2005-10 Consolidated Plan and FY 2005-06 One-Year Action Plan. The Consolidated Plan, submitted every five years to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), is required in order for the City to receive Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and Home Investment Partnership Program (HOME) funds.

The Consolidated Plan outlines the City's housing and community development needs and presents the City's strategy in addressing these needs over the next five years. The Action Plan details specific projects and activities for one-year use of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME funds, per the needs specified in the Consolidated Plan. The City is seeking community comments on the Proposed Consolidated Plan and One-Year Action Plan.

Copies of the Proposed FY 2005-10 Consolidated Plan and FY 2005-06 One-Year Action Plan are now available to the public for a 30-day community review period ending June 21, 2005. Copies are available at City Hall, the Santa Monica Public Library (main and branch libraries), and on the web at smgov.net.

Please contact the Human Services Division, 1685 Main Street, Room 212, Santa Monica, CA 90401, telephone (310) 458-8701; TDD (310) 458-8696. Please send your written comments to the above address by June 21, 2005, or you may present your comments verbally at the City Council public hearing on that date.

The Council Chambers are wheelchair accessible. If you have any special disability-related needs/accommodations, please contact the Human Services Division.



LOCAL

Slain officer's services have yet to be finalized

CROCKER, from page 1

tain in the U.S. Marines when he was hired as a Santa Monica police officer on July 21, 1995. He had since been promoted to major in the Marines. As a reservist with the Marine Corps., Crocker had already served in Iraq and had been re-deployed.

Santa Monica Police Chief James T. Butts, Jr. said Crocker was an "excellent police officer and ambassador and protector of the community" and a "consummate caring professional who represented the highest standards and traditions of law enforcement and this department."

Described as being extremely fit, intelligent and tactically proficient, Crocker's last police assignment was serving with the Police Activities League where he was viewed as an outstanding mentor for the city's youth.

Patty Loggins-Tazi, a PAL supervisor who knew Crocker well, said his loss is significant for PAL and the community.

"Rick was an excellent role model for our kids," Loggins-Tazi said. "It was really an opportunity to know him. He was energizing to be around. He was very bright, and the kids really respected him."

Loggins-Tazi said Crocker was a proficient writer who did his undergraduate work at George Washington University

and received his masters degree in English and journalism from Pepperdine University.

He taught the ACT preparation class at PAL. He also was responsible for organizing some of PAL's most popular activities. In August of 2003 he took a group of youth camping in Yosemite. For many who participated, Loggins-Tazi said it was the first time they had been camping.

"He loved the great outdoors, and he loved taking kids on trips that involved the great outdoors," she said.

Memorial services have not yet been finalized. Although Crocker's parents live in the South Bay, he could be interred at Arlington Cemetery in Washington D.C. His remains will be returned within five to seven days to Dover Air Force Base in Delaware.

Crocker left a sealed envelope containing instructions for the type and location of services he wanted.

The envelope is to be opened by his mother in the presence of Marine personnel.

Butts said the SMPD will provide any assistance desired by Crocker's family.

"He will be missed by all of us," Butts said. "The city of Santa Monica has lost a great guardian and role model."

Crocker's family has asked that well-wishers, in lieu of flowers, send any donations to PAL, 1401 Olympic Blvd., Santa Monica, CA 90404

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LOCAL



College keeps spreading wings

SMC, from page 1

technologies over the decades, college officials have embarked on a long-term plan to expand the campus throughout Santa Monica.

"There are way too many students on campus, and that's why we're going to these satellite campuses," said SMC spokesman Bruce Smith.

Part of the funding for the projects come from funds generated through Measure U, a \$160 million voter-approved bond measure passed in March of 2002. And some funding will come from Measure S, a \$135 million bond which was passed in November 2004 — also specifically for SMC facilities.

In an effort to alleviate student overcrowding on SMC's main campus on Pico Boulevard, college officials over the last four years have embarked on a mission to branch out, with the \$46 million Airport Campus being the largest.

Funded entirely by Measure U, the 10.4-acre campus, located on Bundy Drive just north of the Santa Monica Airport, was purchased from BAE Systems in 2001 for \$30 million. The site has undergone about \$1 million worth of improvements, including underground utility improvements, removing a manufacturing building, and building a new sound wall and landscaping to provide a divide between the campus and the surrounding residential neighborhood.

Architects tBP of Los Angeles, have created an outdoor patio with palm trees for the Airport Campus' main building. Crushed seashells are enclosed in some of the exterior walks. Making use of natural light and glass, the structure includes 18 "wired" classrooms, conference rooms, computer labs, study areas, a food service room, a library, and more. Set to open on July 5, the \$15 million main building will house the nursing program, the community education classes and general education courses.

Slated to open in 2007, SMC's Madison Project is building a new visual and performing arts complex that includes a 541-seat multi-purpose theater, rehearsal hall, and the SMC Academy of Music. Opening in the winter of 2007, the building will feature a 2,025-square-foot rehearsal room, an orchestra lift, a state-of-the-art sound system and performance lighting, live broadcasting capabilities and more. Renzo Zecchetto Architects of Santa Monica will construct an outdoor garden, a reflecting pool and fountain, stone floors in the lobby with wood paneled walls, and perimeter landscaping at the Madison campus. Located on 11th Street and Santa Monica Boulevard, the \$38.9 million facility was funded by Measure U, Measure S, the U.S. Department of Transportation, and private donors.

The majority of the Madison Campus will be funded by Measure S funds — \$24 million. Another \$3 million will come from Measure U; \$1 million from the U.S. Department of Transportation and the remaining \$7.4 million will come from private donors. SMC still needs to raise \$3.5 million in private donations.

"We come up with general ideas of what is needed and wanted out of each building, especially from the departments involved," remarked Smith of the new developments.

While SMC's projects do include new developments, renovation also has become a necessity as the college has grown in population and its structures have weathered the elements.

SMC's new liberal arts building, constructed in 1952, is being overhauled because the current edifice sustained heavy damages from the Northridge quake, and repairs have not satisfactorily restored the structural and seismic strength of the building, college officials say. As a result, the present liberal arts building will be demolished when the new complex is finished.

The new liberal arts complex — priced at \$26.6 million — will be built in two phases, with completion expected in April of 2007. Funded by city of Santa Monica Earthquake Redevelopment Project funds, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, the state of California, and Measure U, the new 53,000-square-foot-complex will contain the history, social science, and psychology departments. Located north of parking structure C, the Roman brick building will face onto a campus quad, and was designed by the same architects on the Madison Project— Renzo Zecchetto Architects.



Photo courtesy

Santa Monica College's Airport Campus on Bundy Drive is expected to open July 5.

"This building marks an important step in SMC's ongoing effort to recover fully from the devastating earthquake and to modernize the campus," said SMC interim president Dr. Thomas J. Donner.

Continuing to move forward, campus officials have undertaken the re-creation of the Main Stage theater arts building on campus. Also built in the early 1950s, the building was initially built as a children's theater. The renovation of the Main Stage building also was funded by Measure U, and is set to open in late 2005.

The new \$13 million, 20,000-square-foot complex will provide burgeoning actors and actresses with a 300-seat theater with full backstage capabilities, a "black box" performance space, a lobby and shop, dressing rooms and more. Architects LEO A DALY, Los Angeles hopes to create a contemporary feel in the architecture of the building, with a high angular roof that canopies the theater's lobby and outdoor balcony. The shape of the facility communicates the expressive nature of the theater arts department, college officials say.

With all of the new developments, SMC officials are taking the campus into a new era and creating a new definition of the word "campus," an educational place that spans an entire community. In addition, another goal of the facilities planning department is to make each major more self-contained, eliminating the need for students to travel between campuses.

"We have to serve our students the best way that we can," Smith said.

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LOCAL

Their 'Lion's' share



Fabian Lewkowicz/Special to the Daily Press

The immortals perform the 'Chinese Lion Dance' at 'Our American Story' third-annual Asian Pacific Heritage Celebration at Santa Monica College this week.

BRIEFS, from page 3

For more information, call Curt Curtiss at (310) 645-8989.

Students put their art out for public consumption

By Daily Press staff.

Artistic Santa Monica College students are exposing themselves to the public.

The Santa Monica College Annual Student Art Exhibit, featuring various media, will continue at the college's Pete & Susan Barrett Art Gallery and the SMC Photography Gallery. The art gallery is located at the Madison campus, Santa Monica Boulevard at 11th Street. This exhibit will continue until June 3.

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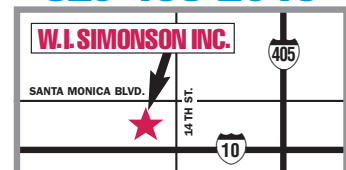
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Governor is able to shrug off poll results on special election

BY BETH FOUHY

AP Political Writer

SAN JOSE, Calif. — A day after protesters staged massive rallies against his agenda, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger said the number of people who signed his initiative petitions illustrates wide support for the special election he wants.

Schwarzenegger traveled to San Jose on Thursday to promote his plan to direct \$1.3 billion in new revenue to road and transit projects. But with a small group of protesters heckling in the background, he spent most of his time defending his proposed initiatives and discounting a new poll that shows most California voters oppose a special election this year.

"We have millions and millions of signatures we've gotten from the people of California for the various different ballot initiatives. It's what speaks for itself," Schwarzenegger said. "There are millions of people in our state who want to go to the polls, and they want to make changes because they are dissatisfied with the performance of our legislators ... If the legislators don't do their jobs, then the people of California will."

Schwarzenegger's political team has gathered enough signatures to qualify three initiatives for a November special election ballot. The governor has until mid-June to decide whether to call that election but has indicated he will do so.

His proposals are aimed at reducing the power of public employee unions and the Democrat-controlled Legislature. They include an automatic state spending cap and a plan to redraw legislative and congressional districts. He also wants to make public school teachers work longer before gaining tenure.

Another measure that has qualified would require

unions to get written permission from their members before using dues for political purposes. Schwarzenegger has not taken a formal position on that initiative, but it is being promoted by his political allies.

Schwarzenegger's remarks came a day after thousands of nurses, teachers, firefighters and other union members appeared at twin rallies in Sacramento and downtown Los Angeles to protest the special election and a range of other hot button issues, such as Schwarzenegger's education funding. The governor has dismissed their unions as special interests intent on blocking needed reforms.

Even on a secluded street in San Jose, Schwarzenegger could not escape the protesters who have come to be a fixture at most of his public events.

During the transportation announcement, where the governor hoisted a shovel and helped a road crew pave a pothole, he and several other speakers were partially drowned out by a small but vocal crowd of demonstrators. They carried signs with messages demanding more money for schools.

While the governor tried to make light of their presence — "they are making their noise over there, and I'm making mine over here" — he also dismissed them as both obstructionist and insignificant.

"We in our state have 36 million people, so when you see a few protesters around, it just shows you what the percentage of people are, really, who are out there protesting. We don't pay very much attention to them at all," Schwarzenegger said.

But Cindy Chavez, the vice mayor of San Jose, said she hoped the governor would find a way to tamp down the angry feelings around the special election and begin to patch up relations with the unionized workers.

Republicans try to show Rossi really won

BY REBECCA COOK

Associated Press Writer

WENATCHEE, Wash. — In the first four days of their election challenge trial, Republicans have claimed that a combination of election officials' errors, illegal votes and fraud stole the 2004 Washington governor's election from Dino Rossi.

They want Chelan County Superior Court Judge John Bridges to nullify the 129-vote victory of Democratic Gov. Christine Gregoire, prompting a new election.

After hearing from King County elections officials who acknowledged errors in handling and counting ballots, the court heard Thursday from four expert witnesses — a pair each from the Republicans and the state Democratic Party. The Democrats have intervened on the side of the state to defend Gregoire's election.

The GOP witnesses said the way to tell who really won the election is to deduct illegal votes from both candidates' totals, according to voting patterns in their precincts. So if 10 illegal votes were found in a precinct that voted 60 percent for Gregoire and 40 percent for Rossi, one would deduct six votes from Gregoire and four from Rossi.

Using this method and relying on one GOP list of 1,183 allegedly illegal votes, Cal Tech political science Professor Jonathan Katz said Rossi actually won the election by at least 71 votes. The GOP's list of illegal votes is changing by the minute, so attorneys said they don't know what the final tally will be — but they believe it will help their case.

"This really is the best possible way to analyze illegal votes," Rossi spokeswoman Mary Lane said.

Democrats said the method is guesswork.

"If you look carefully at the evidence, it doesn't come close even to the standard," Democratic attorney David Burman said.

The two expert witnesses for the Democrats said the so-called proportional deduction method was flawed and unscientific. University of Washington political scientist Christopher Adolph said the Republicans' list of illegal voters was biased and incomplete, and that you can't assume how people voted based on their precinct.

"Science would tell us to be very skeptical of this method," he said.

Adolph was once a graduate student studying with Katz.

"Bottom line, our expert was one of the most prominent political scientists in the country, versus his grad assistant," said GOP attorney Mark Braden.

Democrats dispute the GOP list of illegal votes, and have their own list of different, allegedly illegal votes in Rossi-friendly precincts.

Bridges decided to defer a ruling on whether the GOP's expert testimony meets admissibility standards — but he let the experts testify in the meantime. Ever since the challenge was filed, Bridges has consistently ruled to include as much evidence as possible. On Thursday he explained his reasoning:

"Ultimately the court is driven here by a desire to make sure that as much evidence as possible is available ... and still try to follow some basic rules, which I've interpreted rather liberally because of my desire to make sure the Supreme Court has as large a record as possible — for which they may not thank me."

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NATIONAL



Forest Service reinstates heavy tanker fleet

BY JOHN HEILPRIN

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The Forest Service will reinstate a fleet of 25 heavy tankers and other large aircraft to join hundreds of smaller planes and helicopters in combatting what is expected to be another tough wildfire season this summer.

Officials said Thursday that despite some recent safety concerns, they have contracted to use nine P2V tankers and seven former Navy P-3 Orion turboprops to fight wildfires across the West. The large fixed-wing aircraft can drop up to 3,000 gallons of chemical fire retardant on blazes.

In addition, an old Douglas DC-7 propeller-driven airliner, retrofitted with fire monitoring equipment, will be used to gather data on wildfires. Eight of the military's enormous C-130 transport planes, each outfitted with firefighting gear, also are being made available for use.

Those 25 larger aircraft will be deployed around the nation, along with six large helitankers and large helicopters and more than 700 smaller choppers and planes.

On April 20, a P-3 air tanker crashed in the Lassen National Forest of Northern California during a training flight, killing all three pilots aboard. There has been no indication the plane suffered structural failure in flight.

"Aerial firefighting is an inherently high-risk business," Agriculture

Undersecretary Mark Rey, who directs U.S. forest policy, said Thursday. "Our job is to minimize that risk."

Rey said routine inspections would be done to check "areas of particular concern," including the chances of "catastrophic metal fatigue" among parts of the aging aircraft.

"If we find some evidence of cracking, we'll replace the part. But that alone shouldn't ground the aircraft," he said.

Nina Hatfield, an Interior Department deputy assistant secretary, said the contracted aircraft is of particular help in determining how each fire is managed.

Last year, the Forest Service and Interior Department terminated \$30 million in contracts with private companies for 33 heavy tankers, after the National Transportation Safety Board said it could not guarantee their airworthiness. Three such planes crashed between 1994 and 2002, killing seven crew members.

During the 2004 season, eight P-3s were returned to service, and three other planes were used in a limited capacity after Western lawmakers complained the large planes were needed.

Federal wildfire forecasters said Wednesday that unusual rainfall patterns in the West this winter and spring have boosted growth of grasses and low-lying vegetation that will dry to fuel, setting the stage for a worse than normal fire season in the Southwest, Northern Rockies and Alaska.

Forecast: Hot, hot, hot

BY CHRISTOPHER SMITH

Associated Press Writer

BOISE, Idaho — Federal wildfire forecasters say unusual rainfall patterns in the West this winter and spring have boosted growth of grasses and low-lying vegetation that will dry to fuel, setting the stage for a worse than normal fire season in the Southwest, Northern Rockies and Alaska.

"We are very concerned because we've had all the grass growth but the forests in the higher elevations of the Northwest and the Northern Rockies have missed out on all their snowpack," Rick Ochoa, the national fire weather program manager for the National Weather Service, said Wednesday at a briefing with federal land agency fire managers. "Usually, when that snowpack gradually melts, you are basically watering the trees every day, but we're missing that this year."

While the Rocky Mountain region had a dry winter and wet spring, the precipitation pattern flip-flopped in the Southwest. A wetter-than-normal winter caused flooding and mudslides in Arizona, New Mexico, southern Nevada and Southern California, followed by a dry spring.

As a result, there are "wildflowers blooming in Death Valley and we've got grasses growing chest-high in places in the Southwest where we've never seen grasses before," Ochoa said. Because of the dry spring in the Southwest, much of that vegetation has already dried or "cured," dramatically boosting fire potential this summer.

Forecasters at the National Interagency Fire Center here don't expect a repeat of last year's record-setting fire season in Alaska, when nearly 6.4 million acres were scorched. But Ochoa said they anticipate higher-than-normal fire activity in the western Kenai Peninsula, where stands of spruce killed by insects have created a significant fire potential.

Alaska's summer is expected to be warmer than normal, while the fire season in the Northern Rockies could be marked by a wetter-than-average summer. That doesn't translate into a slow fire season, said Boise National Forest fire and aviation officer Guy Pence.

"The worst fire seasons I've experienced have been during the wettest years, because you always have storms pushing through," he said. "Storms usually mean lightning and that's where we get the ignition for most of our fires in this region."

Drought further jeopardizing the lives of endangered wildlife

BY ANANDA SHOREY

Associated Press Writer

SAN BERNARDINO VALLEY, Ariz. — Green and black spotted frogs loiter beneath the surface of the glassy water in a concrete pond, occasionally allowing their bumpy heads to break through into the desert air.

Others hop into the artificial pool from behind tall tufts of dry grass, diving below their glistening eggs nestled in tangled masses of floating plants. When the pond level drops, a plastic float opens a pipe and allows a rush of water to replenish it.

A rancher transported the threatened Chiricahua leopard frogs to the pond in southeastern Arizona because they were dying in a nearby reservoir that was being reduced to dried, cracked mud by years of drought.

"I knew something needed to be done," said rancher Matt Magoffin, who spent years hauling water to the reservoir before moving the frogs with the approval of the federal government.

Providing artificial safe havens for the frogs is one of many efforts being carried out to help threatened and endangered species throughout the West that have been further imperiled by the drought.

Elsewhere in the state, biologists are plucking leopard frogs and eggs out of drying pools and taking them to museums and zoos to protect the adults and allow tadpoles to develop.

To make sure endangered Sonoran pronghorns in southern Arizona get enough nourishment, officials are watering the desert to replenish shriveled plants.

The federal government gave New Mexico money to refurbish wells to help a threatened fish.

Meanwhile, farmers in the Northwest have sold water to increase flows for threatened and endangered fish; and environmental groups, developers and government agencies are working to protect a federally listed ground beetle, tiger salamander and several shrimp that live in seasonal pools.

Most of the efforts are intended to help the fish and animals survive through the drought. But facing the threat of future dry spells, ongoing water shortages due to population spikes and global warming, officials also are investigating long-term solutions to help jeopardized wildlife.

Besides creating temporary artificial homes for the leopard frogs, wildlife officials are working on a recovery plan to prevent further deterioration of the frogs' status while also trying to eventually get the frog off the Endangered Species List, where it has been protected since 2002.

Since they have disappeared from more than 75 percent of their natural range in Arizona and New Mexico, it isn't expected to be a swift process, said U.S. Fish and Wildlife biologist Jim Rorabaugh.

"I wouldn't say that we are looking at extinction, but the species is in dire straits in certain geographic areas," Rorabaugh said.

The majority of listed fish and animals are where they are for many reasons, including logging, livestock overgrazing, the invasion of nonnative species, urban sprawl, global warming, or the construction of wells and dams that have harmed

wildlife habitat and reduced river flow. The drought has just made their fights for survival more difficult.

"It is important to help them through a drought because of all of the other additional problems we have laid on them," said Melanie Lenart, research associate with Climate Assessment for the Southwest, a University of Arizona project.

The drought has been crippling the West for years. A rainy winter brought some relief across the Southwest. Arizona and New Mexico had one of their wettest winters in more than a century, Lenart said.

"The question is, is this just a blip of nice precipitation in the middle of drought, which does happen, or are we really coming out of the drought?" Lenart said. "That really remains up in the air."

If summer rains don't adequately drench the desert, wildlife officials in southern Arizona have an alternative plan.

At a breeding facility on the Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge, where 17 Sonoran pronghorns are living to help rebuild their population, a watering system was built to revive plants and grasses, said Paul Krausman, a University of Arizona wildlife conservation and management professor.

"We dug wells and we are pumping water into the desert to enhance the nutritional value of the plants they eat," Krausman said. "Those are drastic measures."

With only about 60 Sonoran pronghorns left in the United States, unconventional measures have become a necessity, wildlife officials say.

Coast is clear for Casa Grande — wildfires no longer a threat

By The Associated Press

CASA GRANDE, Ariz. — A 7,000-acre wildfire about 20 miles west of Casa Grande was 10 percent contained by Friday morning and no longer threatening about 100 structures in the area, authorities said.

Maricopa and Pinal county officials had planned to evacuate about 300 people in the area if necessary but the fire calmed down late Thursday night and authorities said the evacuation was called off.

Another blaze burning about 20 miles south of Casa Grande, dubbed the Green fire, was at 952 acres by Friday morning but was not threatening any structures, said Arizona State Land Department spokesman Cliff Pearlberg.

"There's no forward movement at this time in either fire," said Pearlberg, adding that crews were able to build fire lines around the blazes overnight with cooler temperatures, decreasing winds and higher humidity also slowing the flames.

There was no immediate estimate for full containment for either fire, Pearlberg said.

Both fires broke out Thursday afternoon and spread quickly through dry grass and brush.

Authorities were investigating how the fires started but "we're pretty sure they're human caused," Pearlberg said.



NATIONAL

Democrats force Senate to delay Bolton vote

BY ANNE GEARAN

AP Diplomatic Writer

WASHINGTON — Democrats said they hoped the Senate's vote to delay confirmation of John R. Bolton as U.N. ambassador would force the White House to release long-sought classified information about the embattled nominee, or perhaps to pick someone else for the job.

In a renewal of intense partisanship, the Senate put off a final vote on Bolton on Thursday, the latest setback for the tough-talking conservative whom President Bush has called strong medicine for corruption and inefficiency at the United Nations.

Democrats forced the delay in part because they claim that the White House has stonewalled on information that might prove damaging to Bolton, whose brusque style Democrats said would be ill-suited to U.N. diplomacy.

"I would hope the president will think about what happened here," said Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif. "I hope cooler heads will prevail and we see a new nominee."

The procedural vote to advance Bolton's nomination to a confirmation vote was 56-42, four short of the 60 votes that Bolton's Republican backers needed.

Republicans hold a 55-44 majority in the Senate, with one independent, and the

White House has predicted repeatedly that Bolton would eventually win confirmation.

A final vote on Bolton will not take place until at least June, after the Senate returns from a Memorial Day recess.

"What you see here is partisanship, and that is unfortunate," said Sen. George Allen, R-Va., adding that Republicans plan to keep fighting for Bolton.

Thursday's vote lasted about 50 minutes — far longer than the 15 minutes generally allowed for roll calls — as GOP leaders futilely hunted for enough support to prevail.

The outcome raised questions about Bush's ability to win speedy confirmation of some of his more ideologically conservative appointees as he begins his second term in the White House. And it was a setback for Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn., who was hoping to end nearly three months of delays and investigation and finally deliver Bolton's nomination for the president.

Frist said the Bolton matter soured the air of cooperation the two parties' centrists forged just days ago after months of wrangling over Bush's judicial nominees.

"John Bolton, the very first issue we turned to, we got what looks to me like a filibuster," Frist said. "It certainly sounds like a filibuster ... it quacks like a filibuster."

White House spokesman Scott McClellan said the administration was pleased that Republicans would revisit the vote after the recess and criticized Democrats for the newest delay.

"Just 72 hours after all the goodwill and bipartisanship, it is a shame to see the Democratic Senate leadership resort back to such a partisan approach," McClellan said. "This is a nominee that enjoys majority support."

The material Democrats have sought for weeks involves Bolton's use of government intelligence on Syria, and instances in which he asked for names of fellow U.S. officials whose communications were secretly picked up by a U.S. spy agency.

"I think the Senate, by voting this way, has increased the likelihood that we might get access to this information," said Sen. Christopher Dodd, D-Conn., who also made a personal pitch to Bush in an unrelated White House meeting Thursday to make the data available.

A deal to turn over part of the information fell through earlier Thursday. Sen. Joseph Biden of Delaware, the top Democrat on the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, rejected an offer to see edited versions of the classified communications picked up by the National Security Agency that would not reveal the names

of the U.S. officials.

Sens. Mark Pryor of Arkansas, Ben Nelson of Nebraska and Mary Landrieu of Louisiana were the only Democrats to break ranks and support the move to have an immediate final vote. Frist was the only Republican to vote against ending the delays, but he only did so because that gave him the procedural right to force the Senate to vote again on the issue.

Sens. Daniel Inouye, D-Hawaii, and Arlen Specter, R-Pa., did not vote.

Thursday's daylong debate touched on the issues that have made the Bolton nomination one of the Bush administration's toughest fights: Bolton's dismissive remarks about the United Nations, his reputation as an uncompromising and hot-headed conservative, and allegations that he shut out or retaliated against any voices of caution or dissent.

The White House has lobbied hard for Bolton, especially among a handful of moderate Republicans with public misgivings about his temperament. Only one Republican, George Voinovich of Ohio, spoke against Bolton on the Senate floor.

Voinovich's surprisingly strong opposition to Bolton had forced a delay of last month's planned Foreign Relations Committee vote on the nominee, and the panel subsequently denied Bolton its customary endorsement.

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NATIONAL



Energy company chief wants to make a deal

BY JUDITH KOHLER

Associated Press Writer

DENVER — Landowners worried about plummeting property values amid western Colorado's flourishing natural gas development would have a place to turn under an unusual plan by a Garfield County official.

Harlan Hansen, chairman of the county energy advisory board, has proposed forming a company to buy the land at pre-drilling prices. The land would be sold when development is complete, with the investors reaping the anticipated increase in real estate value.

The idea for the Western Colorado Land Purchase Corp. was inspired by tales of people who can't sell their land because of gas wells, compressors and other equipment on or near their property. Most people own the surface while energy companies own or lease the minerals underneath.

State and federal law gives the companies the right to the reasonable use of the surface to extract the minerals.

The escalating drilling in mineral-rich western Colorado is producing new jobs

and tax revenue, said Hansen, a retiree who lives in Battlement Mesa, about 200 miles west of Denver.

"The one group of people, in my opinion, almost completely left out of the loop are the landowners who own no mineral rights," he added. "I have talked to several landowners who've had land on the market for some time and can't even get anyone to bid on it because of the land being devalued through no fault of their own."

Groups working with landowners and industry officials said they have not heard of a similar program, which is different from energy companies buying individual properties. The county commissioners have encouraged Hansen to pursue the idea.

"We have people in Garfield County who can't get appraisals for selling or refinancing and they have no quality of life left," Commissioner Tresi Hout said.

Area homebuilder Duke Cox, who started discussing the idea with Hansen earlier this year, likened the venture to buying certificates of deposit, pension plan annuities or investing in the stock market.

"If industry would buy into this plan, they're the ones who could make it successful because they're the ones with all the capital," said Cox, a member of the Grand Valley Citizens Alliance, a conservation group.

While the proposal is getting a lot of attention, Hansen acknowledges crucial details must be worked out: the investors, business plan, identifying eligible land. He is talking to business and civic leaders about the plan and considers energy companies as prime, potential investors.

EnCana USA, one of the largest gas producers in Garfield County, is interested in hearing more about the proposal, said Doug Jones, leader of the company's team dealing with landowners in the southern Rockies.

"It could have some applicability in some unique circumstances," Jones said.

Jones and Sher Long, who represents EnCana on the energy advisory board, said they believe better, less intrusive technology, communication with landowners and education of banks and appraisers that residential and energy development can coexist are long-term

solutions to minimizing landowners' problems. Lenders aren't as concerned about energy production in northeastern Colorado, site of oil and gas development for about 40 years, Jones said.

Long said a study by Garfield County on the impacts of energy production would explore the issues raised by Hansen.

Jill Morrison, an organizer with the Wyoming conservation group Powder River Basin Resource Council, said some property owners in that state took 30 percent hits when they sold land in areas under intense energy development. She said landowners faced higher insurance rates because of seismic exploration until reaching an agreement with the insurance companies.

The kind of land purchase company proposed by Hansen could solve people's immediate problems while providing investors future payoffs, Morrison said.

"But I don't think it addresses the root problem, which is how and where do we have gas development that really minimizes the impact, instead of just moving people off the land," Morrison said.

County to cremate remains of unidentified illegal border crossers

By The Associated Press

TUCSON, Ariz. — Using a state law that became effective last October, Pima County is going to begin cremating the remains of deceased illegal border crossers it cannot identify.

Forty-one of the unidentified dead bodies in Pima County last year are believed to have been illegal border crossers, said Dr. Bruce Parks, the county's medical examiner.

And so far this year, 12 suspected illegal immigrants have gone unidentified,

despite the efforts of forensic anthropologists who use everything from the person's teeth patterns and tattoos to extensive assistance from the Mexican Consulate to identify the people.

County official Anita Royal said the state cremation law instructs counties that they have the option to cremate unclaimed bodies.

She said Pima County will do that only after exhaustive searches for a name or a family have been completed, and some searches take up to one year.

"We look and look and look. We try to

identify that person so that we can find loved ones," Royal said.

She said the county is aware of the public-relations perception the cremations will give but it has no choice.

Cremation instead of burial is expected to save the county some money, according to Royal.

She said the cheapest burial costs \$835 while the most basic cremation costs \$475 at Evergreen Mortuary, which provides the service for the county.

The decision to cremate will have nothing

to do with the person's country of origin, said county Administrator Chuck Huckelberry.

Juan Calderon Jaimes, the Mexican consul in Tucson, said through a spokeswoman that he had not received any information about Pima County's cremation plans.

Erica Dahl-Bredine, a manager for Catholic Relief Services Mexico Program in Tucson, said "to suggest that we're simply going to cremate these people is sending a signal to Mexico that the lives of these people aren't worth as much."

Border Patrol to correct discrepancies in immigrant death count

By The Associated Press

TUCSON, Ariz. — The U.S. Border Patrol, reacting to claims that it is undercounting deaths of illegal immigrant, says it will determine why its numbers are different than those of Arizona medical examiners.

Last year, the Border Patrol counted 172 illegal immigrant deaths in Arizona, while medical examiners recorded 221 deaths.

Michael Nicley, chief of the Tucson

sector of the Border Patrol, said the agency has not intentionally lowered the death count, as many migrant advocates have charged.

"I certainly know it gives the appearance of that," he said. "The numbers are what they are. These are human beings out there. We need to be capturing that data."

Nicley added that the public needs to know the Border Patrol is aware of the magnitude of the problem "and that we're taking steps to address it."

He said the Border Patrol will analyze all cases that medical examiners have classified as involving migrants who died trying to enter the country illegally.

The agency would include any of the deaths that met the Border Patrol's criteria, regardless of whether the bodies were found by agents.

If a body is found by Tohono O'odham tribal police, "it should be included in our figures," said Nicley, referring to a case from Tuesday that went unrecorded by the

Border Patrol.

That agency's current statistics include only those deaths that involve Border Patrol agents.

Nicley said the analysis would go back as far as possible to make sure Border Patrol figures are accurate.

Advocates and border enforcement officials say immigrants are often unprepared for the extreme heat or unaware of the conditions and long hikes they'll face once they cross into Arizona.

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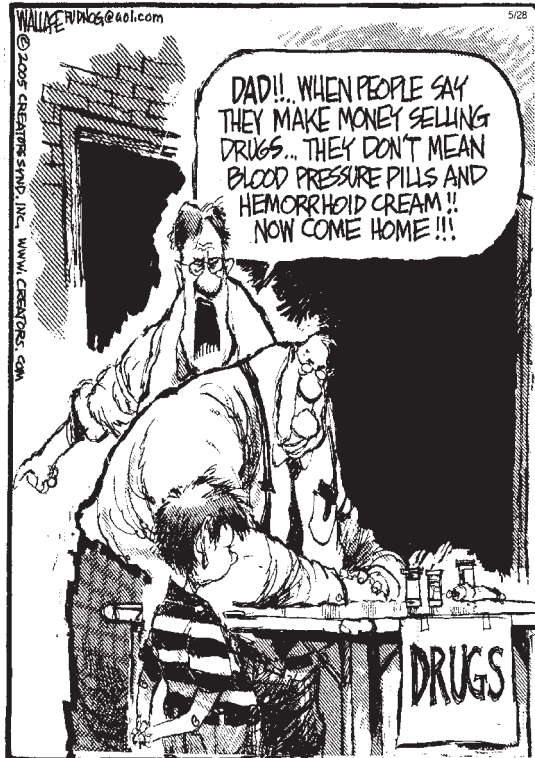
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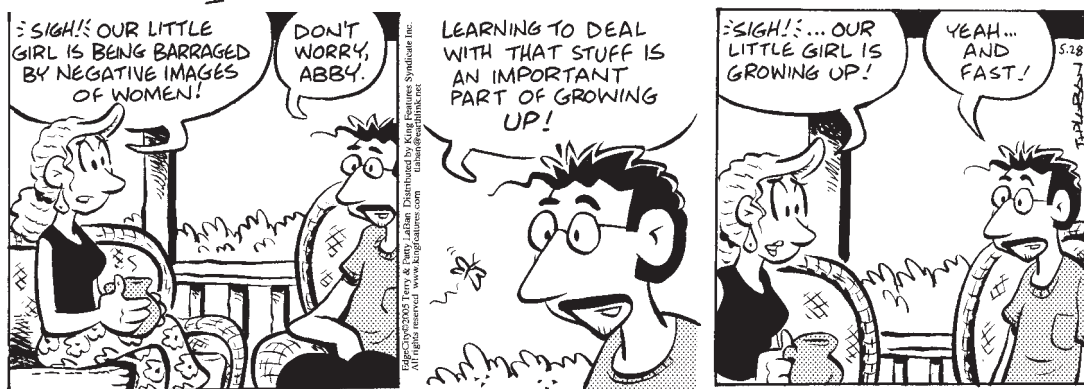
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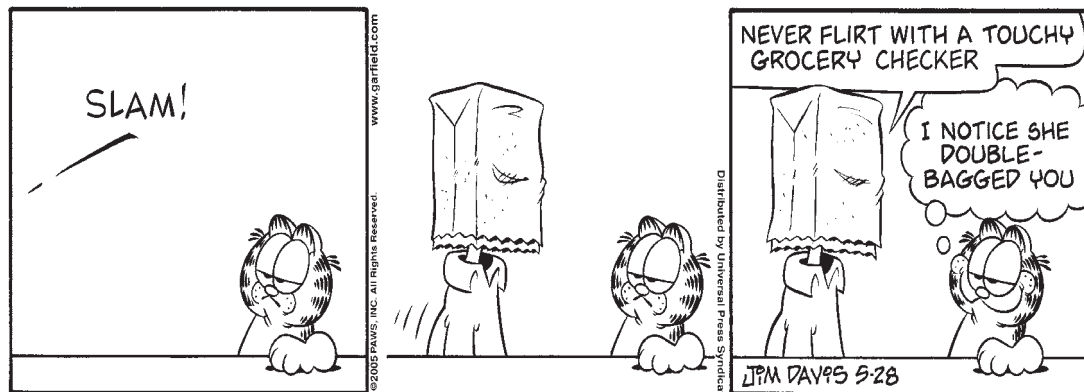


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