

FREE

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Santa Monica Daily Press

The city's only daily newspaper

SMPD cuts \$300K; disbands mounted patrol

BY ANDREW H. FIXMER

Daily Press Staff Writer

(Editor's note: This is the last installment of a week-long series examining the city's proposed budget cuts.)

The police department is proposing to disband its mounted patrol and leave two civilian positions unfilled next year, as part of a plan to cut more than \$300,000 from its budget.

Police Chief James T. Butts, Jr. briefed the city council Tuesday on how his police department plans to cut expenses as part of a city-wide effort to cut \$23.1 million for next year's \$387.3 million budget.

About 90 percent of the department's \$43.3 million budget is dedicated to salaries, which are bound by union contract. The other 10 percent of the budget pays for everything from pencils to bullets.

In its current form, the police department's budget

would not fill a parking enforcement supervisor position and a full-time records position at a savings of \$100,297.

**"We're losing the horses.
But not the riders."**

— JAMES T. BUTTS, JR.
Santa Monica Police chief

There would be a decrease of \$50,000 for training and \$78,000 for replacement vehicles next year, and a reduction in practice shooting ammunition by \$24,826. Almost \$3,000 less would be available for new uniforms and tools.

Butts also is proposing to disband the department's

mounted patrol, which would cut \$33,336 annually. Currently the department pays to house four horses and employs a part-time worker to care for the animals. Officers assigned to the unit ride when needed but their main duties are as patrol officers.

"We're losing the horses," Butts said. "But not the riders."

The city council began a series of detailed budget hearings this week to discuss the depth to which city services and department operating expenses will be cut. A final budget will be voted on June 18.

Unfilled hotel rooms and unsold merchandise in 2001 led to the first decline in tax revenue for the city in more than a decade. The shortfall has produced one of the most severe budget shortages in Santa Monica since the recession of the early 1990s.

In response, the city manager's office has asked each

See POLICE, page 5

Body slam!



Jesse Haley/Special to the Daily Press

Alex Darkhovsky, 11, flips his 12-year-old brother Lev Darkhovsky at the YMCA on Thursday. The pair won the California state Judo championship in San Diego last weekend. The two boys are on the Santa Monica YMCA Judo team.

Twilight series brings big acts to Santa Monica

By Daily Press staff

Jefferson Starship and Delbert McClinton will headline an eclectic list of musical acts as part of this year's Twilight Dance Series at the Santa Monica Pier.

The names of 17 acts participating in the 18th annual free concert series were released this week. All the concerts, except for one, will be held on Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.

Shuggie Otis and The Brother Johnson — blues rock and funk bands, respectively — will kick-off the series June 27 and

Jefferson Starship, a classic rock band, will close out the series on Aug. 27.

Here is a brief description of the bands:

The Brothers Johnson are the originators of the sophisticated funk R&B style that shook a generation and influenced almost every musician who came after them. They are back together after 18 years apart. The group began playing music together in the '70s with Billy Preston and collected seven Grammy nominations and six Gold and Platinum LPs. The Brothers were discovered by Quincy Jones who produced them and brought them to stardom.

Shuggie Otis was lured from semi-seclusion to the Pier stage by the prospect of performing with the Brothers Johnson. Otis is the author of The Brothers mega hit, "Strawberry Letter #23." Shuggie is a prodigy guitar hero whose performances are rare these days.

Jazz on the Latin Side All-Stars, which appear July 3, is the series only Wednesday concert. Jose Rizo put together a special group for special occa-

sions that includes Poncho Sanchez, Justo Almario, Francisco Aquabella, Alex Acuna, Danielo Lozano, and Rizo. Most of these guys have performed on the Pier before but never at the same time. A dance floor will be available for the Salsa crowd.

Eileen Ivers is a seven-time All-Ireland Fiddle Champion, star of Riverdance, and more than 80 recording credits. Ivers' band delivers her unique, new, groove-oriented genre of rock, Latin and African rhythms with driving Celtic melodies.

Brother is a favorite at the Pier, using their rich Australian heritage to grab attention to their powerhouse rock. Bagpipes and didgeridoo add a unique flair to their Aussie Celtic rock.

Rosie Flores jams rockabilly-style. But you may remember her from her Screaming Siren days in the 1980s, one of her first bands.

Laura Love plays Afro-Celtic-hip-alachian-funkabilly-R&B music. With seemingly incongruous musical influences, Seattle's Laura Love's talent is her ability to get peo-

See SERIES, page 5

Cheerleader car wash called a fraud

By The Associated Press

GIG HARBOR, Wash. — Four incoming freshman have been removed from a high school cheerleading squad for holding a fund-raiser without school permission.

Coach Lindsay Cady said the girls' May 19 car wash at an empty Tacoma car lot improperly used the school's name to raise money.

"This was not a sanctioned school activity," Cady wrote in a letter to each of the ousted cheerleaders May 23. "Your actions constitute fraud."

"I kind of feel like a criminal," cheerleader Chelsey Nesbitt told The News Tribune. "They're telling me I'm a fraud. I'm like 14 here. ... I don't know what 'fraud' means."

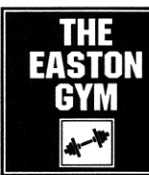
The cheerleaders say they were told it would be OK to go ahead with the fund-raiser as long as parents supervised. They said they spent about five hours in the rain, raising about \$80 washing mostly relatives' cars.

They were raising the money to help pay for their uniforms and an upcoming cheerleading camp.

Cady said she told them not to hold the car wash that weekend.

"My concerns were for their safety," Cady said. "They could not tell me specifically whose parents were going to be there, and they could not specifically tell me where it was going to be held."

The cheerleaders violated rules by failing to get school approval for the car wash and by not turning in money they raised to the school's bookkeeper, said Lillian Ebersole, the school's assistant principal.



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★★-So-so ★-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★★ Understand someone better. Pretend to be him or her. A long-term goal becomes an even greater possibility if you're willing to walk past some of your mental blocks. Listen carefully to another before you make a major decision. Tonight: Follow a friend's suggestion.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Not everyone agrees with your ideas, especially those about an important venture. If you are looking for a consensus of opinion, you might as well forget it. A partner asks you to join him or her later on. Is there any reason to think twice about this? Tonight: Go for togetherness.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Though you might not realize it, it is obvious that your mind isn't at work. If you were really honest, you would walk out the door and head into the weekend. Summer folly seems to preoccupy your mind. Make travel plans in the near future. Tonight: Use your incredible imagination!

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Another clearly has a different agenda than you. Reorganize your schedule if you must. Express your agreeable and considerate nature. You might feel as if another could be pushing you past your natural resistances. Tonight: Accept an invitation.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ Others know how to spark your interest. Promises might be one thing, but for now, you still have to get your work done. A friend will wait, as will a loved one. Do one thing at a time, making sure you won't have to go back to it. Tonight: Skip on out the door.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Don't take procedure for granted. Take your time as you clear out additional work. Double-check everything you do. Someone around you might be vague or somewhat witty. You might need to fill in for this person's errors. Tonight: Buy a favorite treat on the way home.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ An early-morning call or idea could be most distracting. You might, as a result, need to reorganize your schedule so it works for you. Ask a co-worker to chip in. After all, you, too, would like to start the weekend. Tonight: Play away.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ You might be distracted by a domestic matter. Realize that you might need to establish a limit. Understand more of what you need to do with a loved one to make him or her comfortable. Finances play a substantial role in your decisions. Tonight: What's your favorite takeout? Order it!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ You might do a reversal out of the blue, leaving others wondering and drifting. You do need to think through a decision. Listen well to another's "brilliant" idea. Let this person down gently. Think how you would feel in the same circumstances. Tonight: Do your normal Friday-night thing.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Your instincts surround money right now. On the other hand, you might not be as careful as you need to be when counting your change. Double-check your figures. Listen to another carefully. Pace yourself at work. Don't make any great plans. Tonight: Indulge yourself.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ A friend impacts your plans. You're in prime shape, knowing what you want and exactly how far you will go. Others seek you out. You're unusually successful when dealing with groups. A child or loved one could be moping. Tonight: What will make your heart sing?

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★ You might be inspired, but it is also important to keep a matter hush-hush. Listen more often to a boss, even if at times you find this person to be downright disagreeable. Schedule some work that can be done alone, if possible. Tonight: In your thoughts.

QUOTE of the DAY

"Only the mediocre are always at their best."
— Jean Giraudoux (1882-1944)

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LOCAL



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SMPD up for an Emmy

By Daily Press staff

The Academy of Television Arts & Sciences has announced that the Santa Monica Police Department-produced “Every 15 Minutes” documentary, “For My Friends,” was one of two entries nominated for the Los Angeles Emmy Award in the Children/Youth Programming category.

The Emmy Award winner will be announced on June 29 at the Academy’s Leonard H. Goldenson Theatre, in North Hollywood.

The documentary, hosted by John Beard, of Fox11, depicts the tragic effects of teen-age drinking-and-driving. It was produced by SMPD Chief James T. Butts, Jr., Lauralee Asch of the SMPD’s community relations and Tom Mitchell of City TV, and directed and written by Tom Mitchell of City TV.

Every 15 Minutes “For My Friends” was a two-day proactive project utilizing St. Monica High School students, their parents, Santa Monica police, fire personnel and Santa Monica/UCLA emergency room medical professionals.

Every 15 Minutes “For My Friends” is being aired on Santa Monica City TV and has been used as an educational tool for all graduating seniors at St. Monica High School, Santa Monica and Olympic High Schools and Crossroads High School.

Homeless shelters get a remodel

By Daily Press staff

The city’s homeless shelters and facilities have recently undergone major improvements.

The Daybreak Shelter, an Ocean Park Community Center transitional living program for mentally ill homeless women was remodeled. The OPCC Access Center also was renovated with new office space and five new emergency beds for homeless women.

The city’s main shelter, SAMOSHEL, has had a complete renovation. The shelter now has bunk beds instead of cots, and has added 10 new emergency beds. The shelter now offers 110 beds.

The city funds portions of 22 homeless services in and around Santa Monica. Last year, the city helped nearly 2,000 homeless people progress from the streets to the city-funded emergency shelter, transitional living programs and permanent housing.

School principal to be honored

By Daily Press staff

The community is invited to a picnic lunch to celebrate John Adams Middle School principal Jerry Kantor’s retirement.

The event will be on Sunday, June 2, from 1-4 p.m. on the school’s lawn in front of the auditorium. The school is located at 16th Street and Pearl Street.

People are asked to bring a picnic lunch. Drinks and desserts will be provided. Also, bring a favorite photo or memory to add to a scrap book that will be compiled and given to Kantor.

Samohi students awarded for arts

By Daily Press staff

Seven Santa Monica High School students will be honored today as California Arts Scholars.

The board of trustees of the California State Summer School for the Arts and the board of directors of the California State Summer School Arts Foundation have announced the selection of 170 Los Angeles County students as the state’s arts scholars.

The seven SAMOHI students are Jonas Aaron, Tiffany Baker and Young Jun (visual arts majors); Lilly Aldriedge (animation major); Christine Kitano (creative

See BRIEFS, page 4

The Q Line

Residents offer proposed budget cuts

The city of Santa Monica is facing an \$8 million revenue shortfall this year. City administrators have proposed slashing more than \$2 million from City Hall’s departmental operating budgets. And millions of dollars in capital improvements will be cut from what was budgeted last year. Officials are currently looking at ways to cuts the city’s expenses.

Here are your responses to this week’s Q-Line question:

“Where would you cut from the city budget?”

■ “I think this could be very controversial because I know the city won’t like this, but I think they should cut back on lawsuits and personal campaigns such as the one they are going to be doing in November to raise the wages of the hotel workers in downtown Santa Monica. It’s a noble thing but the hotels depicted even in the Santa Monica Daily Press have been much affected by the very shaky economy and the downturn in tourism. The hotels are suffering and have had to reduce their room rates. Why in the hell are we trying to increase their expenses by paying their workers more money? If anything they should encourage them to go back to school and qualify for higher paying jobs. My other point is they should stop spending so much money on high priced housing in downtown Santa Monica. I think it’s very good that they are building apartments downtown, however the rents start at \$1,500 a month for a very small space. We already have a plethora of expensive apartments in Santa Monica. We don’t need any more.”

■ “I would like to advise the city to forget monies for the new Santa Monica Library. It is nothing but a rest stop for the homeless. The present library is sufficient.”

■ “That’s easy! Close the offices. Santa Monica taxpayers are tired of listening to answering machines and unable to talk to anyone anyway!”

■ “The city budget could appreciate a large savings of money by not flooding our city water with the toxic chemical fluoride. I understand this so-called program will be implemented at year end and will initially cost some \$300,000. Fluoride is toxic and should not be ingested. If a person wants to poison their body they should do it on their own. Sugar is the real health culprit.”

■ “Re-sell the traffic signals that the city seems to have put on every corner over the last couple of years. Then, terminate every city employee who has anything to do with the unbelievable mis-management of Santa Monica traffic.”

■ “Top of the list, I’d kill the plans for a new main library. It’s an unforgivable waste of money. If more space is really needed, an extension to the present library is all that should be considered. Second, cut the number of Big Blue Buses in half. From personal observation, I’d say 50 percent of them drive around empty. I cannot believe they

See Q-LINE, page 4



Today looks like there will be a boatload of different swells in the water. Southeast and northwest swells are building, making wave heights in most areas hovering between three and four feet by the afternoon. Breaks exposed to two or more of these swells should have four-to five-foot surf with possibly bigger sets. Conditions will be fair and waves will be waist to head high.

Saturday and Sunday breaks remain big, with Monday’s surf tapering off a foot with waist to shoulder high waves in good conditions.

Information compiled by Jesse Haley

Location	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Water Quality
County Line	3-6/fair	3-6/fair	3-5/fair	3-4/fair	A
Zuma	3-6/fair	3-5/fair	3-5/fair	3-5/fair	A
Surfrider	3-5/fair	3-5/fair	3-4/fair	2-4/fair	A
Topanga	3-5/fair	3-5/fair	3-5/fair	3-5/fair	A
Breakwater	3-6/fair	3-6/fair	3-5/fair	3-5/fair	A
El Porto	3-5/fair	3-5/fair	3-5/fair	3-4/fair	A



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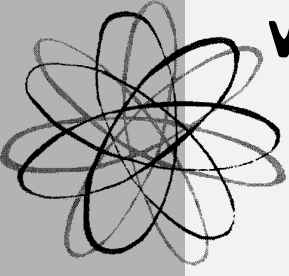


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LOCAL

The QLine

Q-LINE, from page 3

carry 80,000 passengers a day as they claim. That's almost the entire population of Santa Monica. Thirdly, street signage has gotten out of hand. The latest crop of signs tell us how to navigate the walk signals at intersections. Council, please note ... we are not imbeciles."

■ "The first thing the city might do is change its grandiose ideas for rebuilding the Santa Monica Public Library. The present library is perfectly adequate for current use, and in view of the financial crisis, they might reconsider the design and postpone any work on it. The other thing that the city ought to consider is its arrogance and hostile attitude towards its own residents that result in idiotic lawsuits. How much did they spend fighting a resident about a tree-house? And how much is it going to cost the city to defend itself against the Boathouse on the pier? The city should look into why it has these legal expenses defending itself against angry residents."

■ "The first thing I would do is eliminate this foolish minimum wage law the city adopted last year which will cost the city several million dollars, depending

upon how the businesses do and how many employees the city has."

■ "I think they should reduce the number of lawyers. Also, the rent control board is too over bloated."

■ "I oppose the redesigning of the Santa Monica Library. A while back Santa Monica Library made constructive changes to eliminate asbestos because of its harmful effect. The redesigning should not be a priority. Now it's a time of shortage of funds. Affordable housing should be "the focus."

■ "I have lived in this town for 40 years. I think you could cut the budget at least 5 percent by not feeding the homeless. The homeless that you feed are nothing but bums. I've talked to many of them in my time here and those guys are there because that is where they want to be. They don't want to pay taxes; they don't want to pay anything. They want to live off of the city. It would be minimal, but that is my opinion."

■ "A very simple place to cut the budget is the remodeling of the library. It's a fabulous building and I've been going there for years and years. It seems as though they've just remodeled it a few years ago! They want to build a new one? Shame on them!"

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

BRIEFS, from page 3

writing major); Lily Oh (music vocal major) and Eric Schub (theater major).

The young artists will be awarded a governor's arts scholar medallion at a ceremony today at noon.

The award recognizes students who have been selected to attend, or are on the wait list for the month-long California State Summer School for the Arts, an intensive pre-professional training program established by the state legislature 16 years ago.

Students are honored for accomplishments in animation, creative writing, dance, music vocal, film/video, theater and visual arts.

The 2002 scholars, chosen from 1,400 applications statewide, represent nearly 80 public and private schools throughout Los Angeles County.

YMCA offers family fun day

By Daily Press staff

Families throughout the westside are invited to participate in the first family fun day at the Santa Monica Family YMCA on Sunday, June 2 from 2-6 p.m.

There will be activities for parents to enjoy with their children including basketball, racquetball, swimming, arts and crafts activities, paddle tennis and an open gym.

In its 100th year, the YMCA is located at 1332 Sixth Street, across from the main library in Santa Monica. The YMCA opened its new 45,000-square-foot addition in February that features a double-wide gymnasium, a new free weight room, racquetball courts, a youth fitness gym and community facilities.

For more information, call the YMCA at (310) 393-2721.

Santa Monica jury trial begins in metal box case

By Daily Press staff

A Santa Monica jury may be asked to decide whether a former piano shop employee commonly walks hunched over and looks down.

The demeanor of the man, David Henson, is at issue because he walked off an elevator, turned right, and walked straight into a metal box with a sharp lip. He is suing AT&T, the owner of the box, for damages in a jury trial which started Wednesday.

The incident happened in April 1999 at the Field's Piano building on Pico and Bundy in West Los Angeles. Henson, at the time a sales executive for Field's, was leaving the second story elevator with two clients when he hurt himself. AT&T, which

maintained a cell phone store on that floor of the building, installed the metal box for couriers who used it after hours to pick up cell phones for delivery to customers.

Henson claims AT&T was negligent in locating the box. AT&T says no one else had been injured since its installation in 1996 and that the accident happened because Henson "simply wasn't paying attention," according to opening arguments by a company lawyer, Toni Kern.

A former AT&T employee testified that Henson "walks hunched over, looking down."

Attorneys will make their arguments to the eight women, four men jury in Santa Monica Superior Court using a wooden model of the fateful box.

LOCAL



Police department at full staff in about four months

POLICE, from page 1

department head to prepare two budgets this year, one with 2.5 percent in cuts and the other with 5 percent in reductions.

More than \$2 million is being cut from the city's departmental operating budgets, and about \$20 million in capital improvements will be cut from what was budgeted last year.

Councilman Ken Genser and Mayor Pro Tem Kevin McKeown both said they would like to find a way to keep the mounted patrol, which was created in 1987.

But Butts warned that any decision to keep the patrol would need to be made soon. Reviving the program at a later date would be much more expensive than continuing the program this year.

"The mounted unit's expertise is a manageable skill that requires continual training by horses and their riders," he said. "We are walking down a road that would be hard to walk back down (at a later date)."

The horses have helped the police department with crowd control during large demonstrations and gatherings. Mounted officers have a high vantage point and can easily patrol crowds for incidences.

"We consider each horse to be worth five officers in those situations," Butts said.

Despite the budget reductions, Butts informed the council that the police department will be fully staffed in about four months. Last year the department hired 35 new cops, increasing the roster from 188 officers to about 223.

The department has been authorized by the city council to have 229 officers on the force. Butts said the city manager's office has approved assigning officers to two vacant officers dedicated to the Third Street Promenade.

The department has historically paid its officers more than most communities in the area. New Santa Monica police officers make about \$50,000 a year.

Funk, jazz and much more music on tap this summer

SERIES, from page 1

ple to listen beyond their own boundaries.

Rachid Taha's music pulls together Europe, America, and the Maghreb into one shining melodic and rhythmic whole.

Santa Monica's summer concert series will be highlighted by Jefferson Starship and Delbert McClinton, but acts covering many genres have already been booked. All concerts are free and take place at 7:30 p.m. on Thursdays, except for the concert on July 3. For more information call (310) 458-8900 or go to the Web Site at www.twilightdance.org.

June 27
Shuggie Otis / Blues rock The Brother Johnson / Funk
July 3
Jazz on the Latin Side All-Stars / Latin Jazz
July 11
Eileen Ivers Band / Celtic rock fiddle BROTHER / Celtic rock
July 18
Rosie Flores / Rockabilly Laura Love Band / Eclectic
July 25
Rachid Taha / N. African Afro/rock Natacha Atlas / N. African Afro/rock
August 1
Graham Parker / Blues/Rock Preston Smith & the Crocodiles / Blues/Rock
August 8
Morgan Heritage / Reggae Upstream / Reggae
August 15
Delbert McClinton / Blues Teresa James / Blues/Rock
August 22
Quetzal / Contemporary Latin B-Side Players / Latin funk
August 29
Jefferson Starship / Classic rock

Natacha Atlas, formerly with Transglobal Underground, has put out four solo albums since leaving TGU five years ago. Her multi-cultural background and Egyptian heritage colors her immersion in "shabbi," Egypt's indigenous, bluesy pop music.

Graham Parker is known mostly for his witty songwriting. Parker writes songs about the wild passions lurking behind every day drudgery. Along with Elvis Costello, Joe Jackson and the Police, Parker was part of the late '70s British invasion.

Preston Smith & the Crocodiles has sung for Barbara Streisand's wedding, played harmonica and scat rapped alongside Salt n' Pepa on Quincy Jones TV show "Vibe."

Morgan Heritage is reggae family style. Patriarch Denroy Morgan and a portion of his 29 offspring bring you real, heart-felt, up-in-the-hills roots reggae from Jamaica.

Upstream performs an energetic style of rock influenced reggae, techno, funk, hip hop and soca.

Delbert McClinton won a Grammy this year for his latest album and another Grammy last year for his duet with Bonnie Raitt from her "Luck of the Draw" album. He has numerous songwriting credits on albums by Wynona, Vince Gill and many others.

Teresa James is a long-time Pier favorite and powerhouse blues singer

Quetzal is fueled by their drive to bring a contemporary urban reality to foundational forms of music. Quetzal mixes folk blends with rock, jazz, R&B, and hip-hop influences, weaving together with various son genres.

The B-Side Players, from the San Diego area, offer a blend of Latin funk, rock, reggae, and soul.

Jefferson Starship features a stellar cast of old and new players including Jefferson Airplane founders vocalist Marty Balin and songwriter/guitarist/vocalist Paul Kantner, both of whom were crucial in developing the renowned "San Francisco sound." Veterans of Woodstock, Altamont, and the Monterey Pop Festival, they were there through it all.



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STATE

Reality film?



Mark Fellman/Associated Press

Actor Ben Affleck appears in a scene from Paramount Pictures "The Sum of All Fears," as Jack Ryan, the central figure in Tom Clancy's popular political and espionage thrillers, which opens today. Ryan was first brought to the screen by Alec Baldwin in "The Hunt for Red October" in 1990, then by Harrison Ford in 1992's "Patriot Games" and 1994's "Clear and Present Danger."

Budget deadlock clears way for financial negotiations

BY STEVE LAWRENCE
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO — Lawmakers broke an initial state budget deadlock Thursday after Senate Democrats agreed to remove \$3.5 billion in tax increases from a preliminary budget plan.

The move cleared the way for the Senate to approve its version of the budget 27-12, and for a six-member, two-house conference committee to begin efforts to put together a budget compromise.

Senate Budget Committee Chairman Steve Peace, D-El Cajon, said the committee will have to resolve "very substantial differences of opinions," including how to close a \$4.5 billion budget hole.

Democrats want to fill \$3.5 billion of that gap with tax hikes, he said. Republicans want more budget cuts.

The Assembly also approved its \$99.3 billion version of the budget Thursday, but only after Democratic leaders stripped out appropriations to allow the measure to move to the Senate on a simple majority, 49-28 vote.

The Senate refused to use that tactic and its budget plan stalled initially Thursday two votes short of the two-thirds majority it needed.

But Senate Minority Leader Jim Brulte, R-Rancho Cucamonga, and Sen. Maurice Johannessen, R-Redding, agreed to vote for it after the tax increases were removed. One Democrat, Sen. Ed Vincent, D-Inglewood, was absent.

Democrats have majorities in both houses but they need at least one Republican in the Senate and four in the Assembly to put together the two-thirds majorities that will ultimately be needed to approve a budget bill.

The chief budget stumbling block for Republicans is increases in vehicle fees and tobacco taxes and a suspension of business loss tax write-offs proposed by Gov. Gray Davis to help close a \$23.6 billion revenue shortfall.

Peace warned that if the conference committee didn't start work soon lawmakers wouldn't make the June 15 constitutional deadline for putting a budget on the governor's desk.

There's no penalty if they don't pass a budget by that frequently missed deadline, but Senate President Pro Tem John Burton, D-San Francisco, warned that state school aid could be cut off and state employees' pay cut to minimum wages if a budget isn't in place by July 1, the start of a new fiscal year.

An appeals court ruled Wednesday that state Controller Kathleen Connell can pay minimum wages to state employees, make payments on state debts and pay judges' salaries in the absence of a budget.

But the court said the state can't make support payments to public schools without a budget in place.

Sen. Don Perata, D-Oakland, warned Republicans that if they hold up the budget and cripple state government it could backfire on them in the November elections.

"If this body allows the government of the state to be impaired the way the federal government was impaired in 1995, then the public will see its way clear to find out who was responsible," he said.

"Making operation of the state a partisan rather than a nonpartisan operation does not benefit anyone."

"This is not partisanship," replied Sen. Ross Johnson, R-Irvine. "Republicans have been telling you for years that we were on course for a fiscal train wreck. The day of reckoning has come and we're still waiting for ... a complete budget plan, a budget plan that will work."

Sen. Richard Polanco, D-Los Angeles, challenged Republicans to offer their own budget proposals. "If you're not interested in this particular plan then submit where you want the cuts to occur," he said.

"Let's get this budget over to the Assembly side. Let's not sit around here day in and day out."

NATIONAL



New rules give FBI some leeway to domestic spying

BY NANCY BENAC
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON

Who's keeping tabs on your Internet chat? Who's in the next pew or on the next prayer rug? Who's got their eye on you at the library?

Could be the FBI, under rules announced Thursday that give agents more leeway in domestic spying just about anywhere that people congregate publicly — including cyberspace.

That makes some people uneasy, but others say law-abiding citizens have no reason to fear, reflecting the ambivalence with many people have felt since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

"That's a difficult one," said Mo Bey, pondering the new FBI guidelines before heading into the Islamic Center of Washington for prayers. "I don't think that citizens should be violated because of their religious affiliations. But Americans need to be attentive to terrorist movements."

Librarians, Internet surfers and other people expressed similar feelings of disquiet about someone monitoring them — even if their activity is right out in public.

"There could be agents in the library looking at what people are reading, looking over someone's shoulder while they're on the Internet," said Emily Sheketoff of the American Library Association. "What I'm afraid of as an American citizen is that they're going to look at the kinds of magazines I subscribe to and the kinds of things I'm interested in and use that as probable cause" to investigate further.

Armed with its new authority, the FBI could have gotten an eyeful Thursday if agents had poked around the Internet checking comments that people posted on electronic bulletin boards.

"The march to a police state goes on," complained one.

"I thought there was a set of laws protecting citizens against this sort of thing, such as The Bill of Rights," said another.

"I don't see any problem here," said a third. "So they can go to any public place you and I can go. Why is that a problem?"

Picking up fares on the streets of Washington, taxi driver Mazaffar Raja, who emigrated from Karachi,

Pakistan, said he just wants to be able to worship in peace.

"It doesn't violate my privacy as long as they don't disturb the prayer," he said.

But there were worries the law could be applied selectively — to single out mosques, for example, or to spy on people for no good reason.

"We were thinking we were part of this nation," said Taha Al-Alwani, president of the Graduate School of Islamic and Social Sciences in Leesburg, Va. "Now we feel there are things to isolate us from the American community and to look at us in this way which is unacceptable."

It wasn't just Muslims who were concerned.

Russ Siler, an official of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, said the government already has plenty of tools to fight terrorism. "We need to be very, very careful when, in the name of protecting our liberties and freedoms, we begin to take those liberties a little too much for granted," he said.

Richard Land of the Southern Baptist Convention reflected the mixed feelings of many when he said of the new rules: "I would not say it's a good thing, I would say it's a necessary thing."

If it takes monitoring religious sites, among others, to find suspected terrorists, "so be it," he said. "I don't see why churches should be exempt from the law."

Still, Land added, "I would hope that the FBI would make it clear that these are temporary measures and that once the state of emergency that we now face is over, that they would return to guidelines that are more in keeping with normal times."

Ghazi Khankan, interfaith affairs director of the Islamic Center of Long Island and a leader of the Council on American-Islamic Relations, said it would be good for the FBI to visit mosques and see that Muslims are peace-loving people. In fact, he said his group 10 days ago wrote to the FBI's New York office inviting officials to visit.

Clean up is over



Suzanne Plunkett/Associated Press

New York City police officers salute as the last steel beam from the World Trade Center disaster site is removed during a ceremony which officially ended more than eight months of cleanup and recovery efforts on Thursday in New York. The ceremony began at 10:29 a.m., at the exact time that the second tower collapsed on Sept. 11.

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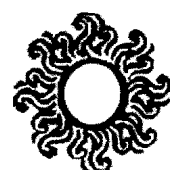
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SPORTS

Lakers impressed by Kings' performance under pressure

BY GREG BEACHAM

AP Sports Writer

SACRAMENTO — The Los Angeles Lakers once questioned the Sacramento Kings' ability to handle the pressure of a conference final.

Now even Rick Fox, one of the most vocal critics of Sacramento, is impressed.

"They've played better at bigger moments than I thought they were capable of playing," the Lakers' forward said.

The Kings' gritty victory in Game 5 of the Western Conference finals left them one win from eliminating the two-time defending champions.

Both teams held light workouts Wednesday in preparation for Game 6 Friday night at Staples Center. The Kings had lost 10 of 11 at the Lakers' home court before winning Game 3 and nearly taking Game 4, which Robert Horry won with a 3-pointer.

Point guard Mike Bibby, in his first trip to the post-season, has been the unlikely symbol of the Kings' play-off maturity.

In Game 5, Sacramento recovered from a fourth-quarter deficit to beat the Lakers — the first time Sacramento has made a late rally to defeat Los Angeles all season.

"It's hard to think of it that way, but we really haven't done anything," said Bibby, whose 22-foot jumper with 8.2 seconds left gave Sacramento a 92-91 victory Tuesday night. "Nobody's going to be satisfied with three wins. We know the hardest one is the one we haven't got yet."

To win the series, Los Angeles must beat the Kings in consecutive games, but Sacramento hasn't yet lost two straight in the playoffs. The Kings are 5-1 on the road in the postseason, and one road victory from the franchise's first trip to the NBA Finals since 1951.

"We haven't done anything that we didn't expect to do," center Vlade Divac said. "We're still realistic, though. These games are always going to be really close."

At their training complex Wednesday, the Kings were a relaxed team. Hedo Turkoglu stood behind a crowd of reporters, clowning to distract Chris Webber from his interview. The rest of the players milled around the court following a voluntary workout.

The scene was much the same in El Segundo, where the Lakers laughed and joked while fielding questions

about the prospect of a possible dynasty being cut short.

"We're in pretty good spirits," said Kobe Bryant, who had the Lakers' final six field goals in Game 5 but missed the shot that could have won it. "I don't see any heads down."

"(The Kings have) played better at bigger moments than I thought they were capable of playing."

— RICK FOX

Los Angeles Lakers forward

Like any champion, the Lakers believe their will should allow them to prevail. But so far only Horry's buzzer-beater, which capped two fine quarters of comeback ball, could be attributed to the Lakers' playoff experience.

The Lakers tried to resist the temptation to blame their

latest loss on the officiating, even though Shaquille O'Neal shot just one free throw in 32 minutes before fouling out. In addition, Los Angeles thought a deflection with 11.8 seconds to play went off Webber, but was awarded to the Kings.

"They talk about fouls, but we've been attacking those guys," Kings coach Rick Adelman said. "They do a lot of fouling and bumping and reaching, and we're putting them in a position where the officials see it."

Bibby's game-winner was the result of a tenacious effort by the Kings throughout the fourth quarter against the foul-plagued Lakers, who couldn't quite hang on to a lead.

"There's a point where a team just takes that next step," said Adelman, who led the Trail Blazers to the NBA Finals in 1990 and 1992.

"These guys are grabbing an opportunity, and they're getting even better in each round," he added. "I saw that with my guys in Portland, when they jumped to the next level in the playoffs and got us into the finals. Teams just have to make that leap, and I hope we're about to make it."



National Basketball Association playoff schedule

By The Associated Press

ALL TIMES EDT CONFERENCE FINALS

(Best-of-7)

Saturday, May 18

L.A. Lakers 106, Sacramento 99

Sunday, May 19

New Jersey 104, Boston 97

Monday, May 20

Sacramento 96, L.A. Lakers 90

Tuesday, May 21

Boston 93, New Jersey 86

Friday, May 24

Sacramento 103, L.A. Lakers 90

Saturday, May 25

Boston 94, New Jersey 90, Boston leads series 2-1

Sunday, May 26

L.A. Lakers 100, Sacramento 99, series tied 2-1

Monday, May 27

New Jersey 94, Boston 92, series tied 2-2

Tuesday, May 28

Sacramento 92, L.A. Lakers 91, Sacramento leads 3-2

Wednesday, May 29

New Jersey 103, Boston 92, New Jersey leads series 3-2

Friday, May 31

New Jersey at Boston, 7pm

Sacramento at L.A. Lakers, 9:30pm

Sunday, June 2

Boston at New Jersey, TBA, if necessary

L.A. Lakers at Sacramento, TBA, if necessary

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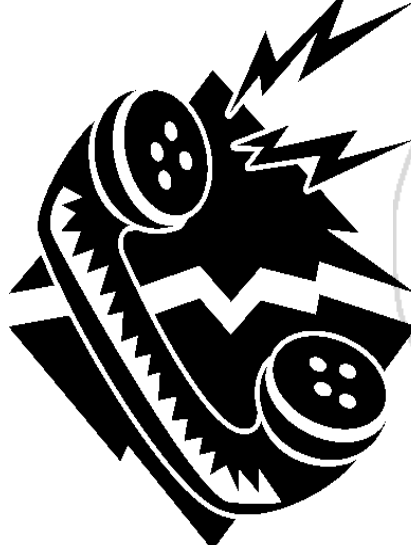
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NATIONAL □ INTERNATIONAL



Pakistan withdrawing troops from Afghan border

BY KATHY GANNON

Associated Press Writer

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — In a demonstration of his government's shifting priorities, Pakistan's president on Thursday began withdrawing troops helping fight al-Qaida terrorists on the Afghan border, and said he was considering moving them to Kashmir to face off against India.

"Our security comes first. We will use all our resources to protect our security," President Gen. Pervez Musharraf said at a news conference in Islamabad. He said his government was "very seriously contemplating moving them onto the eastern border if tensions remain as high as they are now."

The redeployment of what would likely be only a few thousand men would have virtually no impact on the balance of power in Kashmir, but it could deeply effect the U.S.-led war against terrorism.

The Pakistani troops on the Afghan border were deployed to help U.S.-led forces track down al-Qaida and Taliban fighters who had taken refuge in the wild and mountainous tribal region on both sides of the frontier, and they have been involved in the arrests of several prominent al-Qaida leaders.

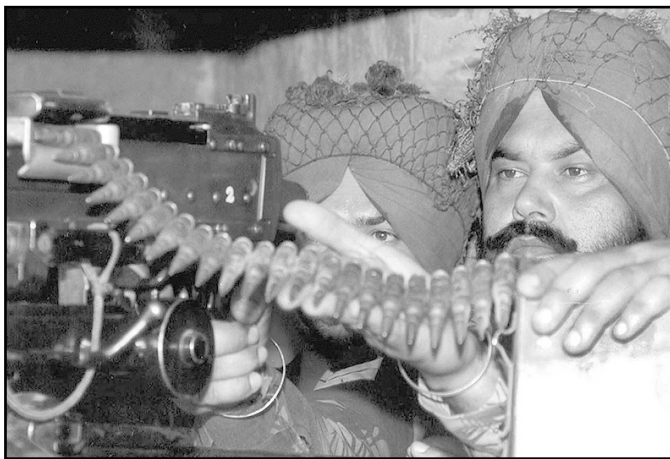
In Washington, President Bush said he was sending Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld to the region next week to help ease tensions between the two nuclear-armed neighbors, who have massed 1 million men along their tense border.

Rumsfeld said the United States had not seen any sign of a Pakistani withdrawal from the border with Afghanistan, and said he hoped none would be forthcoming.

"The number of Pakistani battalions that have been located along that Afghan border has not changed," Rumsfeld said. "And we hope it will not change."

But Rashid Quereshi, Musharraf's spokesman, confirmed a pullback of troops, and witnesses in the northwestern frontier area said Thursday they had seen scores of army trucks moving soldiers.

Quereshi claimed the pullback from the Afghan bor-



Channi Anand/Associated Press

Indian army soldiers man a machine gun inside a bunker along the India-Pakistan border near Jammu, India on Thursday. Cross-border shelling between India and Pakistan killed at least 28 people on both sides since Wednesday, amid international efforts to avert a full-fledged war between two nuclear powers.

der, where about 1,000 additional troops were deployed less than a month ago, would not affect Pakistan's relations with the U.S.-led coalition. It was believed Pakistan had about 6,000 total troops along the Afghan border, but the government never details troop strength.

With no sign either India or Pakistan was offering a diplomatic solution in Kashmir, concern mounted about a broader military conflict.

Pakistan's ambassador to the United Nations, Munir Akram, repeated his country's long-stated position that it would not sign a no-first-use policy on nuclear arms. India has one.

"India should not have the license to kill with conventional weapons while our hands are tied" by removing the first-use option, Akram said at United Nations headquarters on Wednesday.

That stance was harshly criticized by Indian Defense

Minister George Fernandes.

"Only those people can think about using a nuclear bomb whose thinking is not in order," he told The Associated Press. "One should not talk so loosely."

On Thursday, relentless cross-border shelling killed dozens in Kashmir, while Islamic militants attacked a police base in Indian-controlled Kashmir, killing four police officers before the insurgents were overcome and killed themselves.

At least 14 people — three Indian army soldiers and 11 civilians — were killed in overnight artillery shelling and mortar fire from the Pakistani side, Indian police said. Pakistan Television reported 14 civilians were killed in Pakistan by Indian shelling overnight. Neither report could be independently confirmed.

The new violence followed a U.S. State Department warning on Wednesday that "irresponsible elements" in India and Pakistan could spark a conflict against the wishes of both governments.

"The climate is very charged and a serious conflagration could ensue if events spiral out of control," spokesman Richard Boucher said. On Thursday, Bush urged Musharraf to "live up to his word" and stop cross-border attacks in Kashmir.

Musharraf told reporters in Islamabad that the attempt by world leaders to avert war on the subcontinent "helps, any mediation helps. We encourage it. I am reasonably sure that such contact, indirect contact between India and Pakistan has been a good thing."

India accuses Pakistan of supporting Islamic militant groups waging an insurgency in Indian-ruled Kashmir, a Himalayan province that has been the flashpoint of two wars between the uneasy neighbors, in 1948 and 1965.

Relations between the neighbors have been troubled since independence from Britain in 1947, but tensions soared in December after a deadly terrorist attack on India's Parliament that India blamed on the Pakistan-based Islamic insurgents. Pakistan says its support for insurgents fighting in Indian-ruled Kashmir is moral and diplomatic, and denies India's claim that it funds and trains them.

FBI, officers are looking for Arabs to work as agents

BY WAYNE PARRY

Associated Press Writer

PATERSON, N.J. — Once again, FBI agents are heading to this heavily Arab-American community where at least six of the Sept. 11 hijackers lived. But this time they are not looking to lock anyone up.

Instead, the bureau wants to sign them up — as FBI recruits in the war on terrorism.

It may prove to be a hard sell in a community where many Muslims can tell of relatives and friends grabbed for questioning and not seen again for months.

"I don't think I'd be terribly interested in that," said Ali Erikenoglu, 40, an American-born Turk who was interrogated a week and a half after the attacks by four FBI agents. The agents questioned his patriotism and asked, "What kind of American are you?" he said.

Agents rummaged through his belongings and demanded his Social Security

number, passport, work address and the names and phone numbers of his friends, he said. The agents told him an informant claimed he made disparaging remarks about America after the attack on the USS Cole, something Erikenoglu denies doing.

It questioning like Erikenoglu's that led to Saturday's job fair at Paterson's leading mosque, the Islamic Center of Passaic County.

After community leaders and residents complained about the tone and manner of questioning, the FBI and state and local law enforcement agencies held a series of meetings to mend fences. Agents were informed about Muslim customs and culture, and residents were assured the government was not out to harass them.

The American Muslim Union decided to sponsor the career day, inviting the FBI, New Jersey State Police, Paterson Police Department and the Passaic County Prosecutor's Office to interview

potential recruits.

"Sure, people will have reservations," said Mohamed Younes, the group's president. "But we are part of this community — all of it. You can't complain that someone doesn't know you or understand you if you don't make an effort to teach them. We are as American as anybody else, and this country's problems are our problems, too."

The need for Arab-American officers and agents is great. Of the more than 300 FBI agents assigned to New Jersey, not one speaks Arabic, though the bureau has one staff translator, spokeswoman Sandra Carroll said.

Paterson is where a half-dozen of the hijackers rented an apartment shortly before the Sept. 11 attacks.

The job fair was planned weeks before FBI Director Robert Mueller announced plans to hire an additional 900 agents to fight terrorism, but the event fits nicely into those plans, Carroll said.

Candidates must be U.S. citizens who have completed four years of college and can pass a written and physical test and a background check. Applicants not accepted for agent training could still work for the agency as translators.

"The pitch will be no different than it would to any other group," said John Page, supervisory agent in the FBI's West Paterson office. "We're hoping to convey that it would be a terrific occupation that would let them serve their country."

"Are these people going to be used as pawns against the community?" asked Hani Awadallah, president of the Paterson-based Arab-American Civic Organization. "You wonder."

Awadallah said there is a clear need for Arab-Americans to serve in law enforcement, but he questioned the timing.

"Why didn't they ask us before Sept. 11?" he said.

South African Breweries buying Miller Brewing for \$3.6B

BY BRUCE STANLEY

AP Business Writer

LONDON — Building on its strength in Asia and Africa, South African Breweries PLC splashed into the U.S. beer market Thursday by announcing an agreement to buy Miller Brewing Co. for \$3.6 billion in stock.

The buyout would lift SAB, the world's fourth-largest brewer by volume, into second place, and make it a much tougher competitor for No. 1 Anheuser-Busch Cos. The new company, to be called SABMiller PLC, would also likely boost exports of Miller brands outside the United States.

"This is a deal that reshapes the top tier of the global brewing industry," SAB chief executive Graham Mackay said.

SAB agreed to assume \$2 billion in Miller debt, raising the acquisition's total value to \$5.6 billion. Miller's parent company, Philip Morris Cos. of New York, would

gain a 36 percent stake in SABMiller and intends to remain a long-term shareholder.

Miller spokesman Michael Brophy said the buyout would not lead to any job cuts at Miller's seven U.S. breweries. SAB expects to complete the acquisition in July, pending shareholder and regulatory approval.

Miller was founded in 1855 in Milwaukee, a city renowned for its breweries. SAB, though it may not be well known in the United States, has brands that dominate Africa and are among the market leaders in China, Russia and much of Eastern Europe.

SAB exports Pilsner Urquell, a Czech lager, to the United States. U.S. sales of Pilsner Urquell surpassed 2.6 million gallons in 2001, about double the previous year's level but still less than half a percentage point of all beer sold in the United States. Mackay said he hopes SABMiller can increase these sales by selling Pilsner

Urquell through Miller's distribution channels.

The company's other major brands include Castle in southern Africa, Tyskie in Poland, Zolotaya Bochka in Russia and Zero Clock in China.

The United States is "by far the most attractive beer market in the world," Mackay said. It's the biggest, and — unusually for a mature market — it has continued to grow.

Miller claims 20 percent of U.S. beers sales, behind Anheuser-Busch's 49 percent and ahead of Coors' 11 percent share.

SABMiller would be headquartered in London, with Miller's Milwaukee, Wis., headquarters operating as a subsidiary.

SAB already brews Miller under license in Russia and plans to do so soon in Poland. Analysts said SABMiller would likely become more aggressive in selling Miller's leading brands overseas.

COMICS

The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



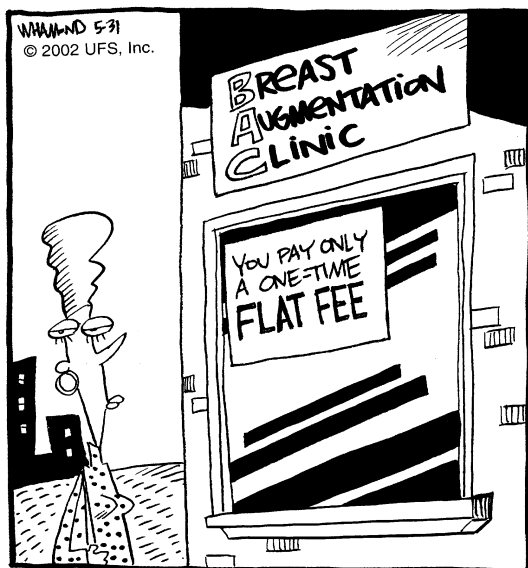
Natural Selection® By Russ Wallace



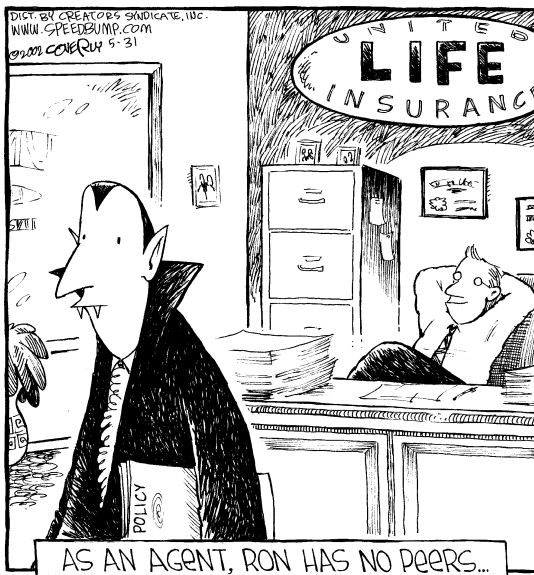
edge city by TERRY & PATTY LABAN



Reality Check® By Dave Whammond



Speed Bump® By Dave Coverly



CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 — up (hid out)
- 6 Packs down
- 11 Give addresses
- 12 Regular
- 13 Stores cargo
- 14 Gall
- 15 Gelid
- 16 Massaged
- 18 Yale backer
- 19 Blue
- 20 Hosp. areas
- 21 Budget amount
- 23 Contented sounds
- 25 Pull
- 27 Grier of "Jackie Brown"
- 28 Valentino persona
- 30 Neophyte
- 33 Minuscule
- 34 Ed McBain's "Death"
- 36 Musical note
- 37 Southern capital
- 39 Misery
- 40 Play grounds?
- 41 Michelangelo work
- DOWN**
- 43 Small dogs
- 44 Villainous expression
- 45 Watermelon waste
- 46 Diary bit

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Yesterday's answer

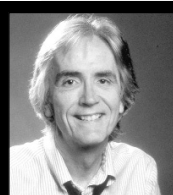
- 7 Drifting
- 8 Phillip Marlowe film
- 9 Road workers
- 10 Toboggans
- 17 Siesta
- 22 Boot part
- 24 Squealer
- 26 Testimony giver
- 28 Sofa's kin
- 29 Young fox
- 31 Fan
- 32 Noted cow owner
- 33 Yellow jackets
- 35 Small error
- 38 Like fine wines
- 42 Hostel

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43						44				
45						46				

5-31

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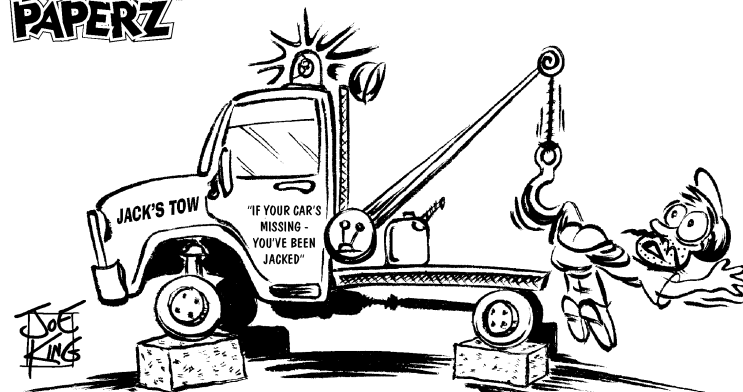


NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

Pitcher blames bat company for being hit in the head by a line drive

High school baseball pitcher Daniel Hannant, after being hit in the head by a line drive, filed a lawsuit in Chicago in April against the makers of Louisville Sluggers, claiming that the company's aluminum bats are "unreasonably dangerous" to pitchers because they are designed to hit baseballs very, very hard.



Judge puts Tow Company "on hook" for scam.
-News Item

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Santa Monica Daily Press



BACK PAGE

Mom whose daughter was expelled poses for Playboy

By The Associated Press

RANCHO CORDOVA — Days after giving up her job as a stripper so her 5-year-old daughter could finish kindergarten at her Christian school, a Rancho Cordova mother pocketed an undisclosed sum to pose nude for Playboy's Web site.

Undercover officer at school drug sting results in 14 arrests

By The Associated Press

ALTOONA, Pa. — She acted like a high school student, taking tests, doing homework — even winding up in detention for misbehavior.

But the Altoona Area High School student, who claimed to have transferred from another school, was really an undercover agent from the state attorney general's office on a drug sting.

On Wednesday, authorities announced the three-month operation led to the arrests and drug charges against six students and eight adults.

More than 50 drugs buys were made during the sting, including two allegedly on school property, police said.

Altoona Area School District officials went to law enforcement authorities with the idea of the sting as part of an anti-drug campaign. Teachers had no idea, however, since the undercover agent apparently behaved like a problem student to learn which students were using and selling drugs, police said.

"I think the other message is that we can be as creative as they can," said Superintendent Dennis Murray.

Two other adults are being sought, police said.

Officials at Capital Christian School in Sacramento were shocked when they found out Wednesday that Christina Silvas, 24, once again violated the standards of the agreement she had signed. This time though, they said they would not expel her daughter, who has only a week left in the school year.

"This is a big disappointment and a big setback from the path that we appeared to be on," Pastor Rick Cole told The San Francisco Chronicle afternoon edition Thursday.

The problem erupted two weeks ago when school officials discovered that Silvas was working as a nude dancer at a Sacramento strip club.

Silvas told Cole that she was forced to take the job to pay for the school's \$400 monthly tuition.

Silvas refused to quit when Cole reminded her of the

Christian Philosophy agreement she signed. Church officials then expelled Silvas' daughter with three weeks of school left.

But after Silvas' plight received national attention, the school allowed her daughter to return. Silvas received numerous job offers and took a job at a morning radio station program in Sacramento. She agreed to quit strip dancing, at least until her daughter could finish the school year.

But this week, Silvas flew to Chicago to shoot her nude Playboy.com centerfold and sit down for an interview.

Silvas told Playboy.com that although she had agreed to quit stripping so that her daughter could return to school, she hadn't agreed to not pose nude for Playboy.

"Before all of this happened, I was extremely interested in posing," Silvas said.

Former Playboy Playmate Anna Nicole Smith joins reality TV trend

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — She's already married a millionaire and posed nude for Playboy. Now Anna Nicole Smith is about to get her own reality TV show.

The daily life of Smith, 33, will be televised on E! Entertainment Television's new "The Anna Nicole Smith Show," network officials said Wednesday.

Its creators promise that the half-hour show, scheduled to debut in August, will provide an inside look at the former stripper who married a Texas oil man 63 years her senior in 1994 and has been fighting with his family over his fortune almost ever since.

"We've gone with Anna to the dentist, we've gone with her to a Guess jeans 20th anniversary party, we're going to go with her to get her driver's license," said the cable network's Jeff Shore. "It's really about Anna's life outside the home."

E! officials said they had the idea of chronicling Smith

before "The Osbournes," which follows rocker Ozzy Osbourne and his family, became a hit this season on MTV.

"It's really about Anna's life outside the home."

— **JEFF SHORE**
E! Entertainment Television

Smith has been fighting court battles in California and Texas over the fortune of her late husband, who died at age 90 in August 1995, just 14 months after their wedding.

Smith, whose real name is Vickie Lynn Marshall, met oil tycoon J. Howard Marshall in 1991 when she was working as a stripper. The couple married three years later when she was 26 and he was 89.

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