

FREE

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The city's only daily newspaper

Senate vote may help group clean-up SM Bay



Seth Kotok/Special to the Daily Press

A beach along the Santa Monica bay was closed Friday. Contaminated urban run-off has long-polluted the bay, creating potential health problems.

BY ANDREW H. FIXMER
Daily Press Staff Writer

A Sacramento bill may empower work being done by a local group trying to clean-up the Santa Monica Bay.

A bill being sponsored by State Senator Sheila James Kuehl (D-Santa Monica) that would allow the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Project to become a state commission — giving the group a budget and allowing it to legally receive and give grant money — sailed through the senate this week.

In essence, the group would be able to help coordinate funds for projects to collect and treat run-off water throughout the Los Angeles region before it makes its way into the rivers and streams that empty into the Santa Monica Bay.

"The Santa Monica Bay is the most beautiful in California, but one of the most polluted," said Kuehl in a prepared statement. "It can be clean again, and, since it is key to our tourist and fishing industry and an important recreational spot for the people who live there, we must do what we can to make that happen."

The bill will now head to the state

Assembly where it is expected to pass with little trouble, mainly because the bill does not have any financial implications on the already cash-strapped state budget.

If enacted, the commission will coordinate the work of federal, state and local agencies involved with the restoration of the bay and follow an action plan developed by California's top marine scientists.

The Santa Monica Bay extends from the Ventura County line to Point Fermin, south of Palos Verdes Point. Its 50 miles of coastline — including 22 separate public beaches — offer recreation to at least 45 million people each year, including more than 500,000 visitors a day at the height of summer.

The bay, which is home to over 5000 species of birds, fish, mammals, plants and other wildlife, including threatened and endangered species, and which provides a necessary habitat for migratory waterfowl and shorebirds, was identified as a Superfund cleanup site in the late-1980's, because it has been fouled with toxic pollution caused by urban runoff, oil spills and industrial discharges.

See BILL, page 4

Pier budget gets realistic

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON
Daily Press Staff Writer

It's no longer fantasy world on the Santa Monica Pier when it comes to finances.

The Pier Restoration Corp., which oversees the pier, tweaked its budget last month to make its revenue projections a bit more realistic.

Up until this year, the PRC had budgeted about \$100,000 in projected sponsorship revenue annually, but it never came close to hitting the goal, said board member Abby Arnold.

So this year, the PRC decided to be more cautious and projected \$30,000 in sponsorship revenue.

"We felt that we should be more prudent this year," she said, adding the PRC's focus for the past five years has been to lure large corporate sponsors on the pier. But the effort hasn't paid off, Arnold said.

Arnold added that because the PRC was unrealistic in thinking it could attract that much money in sponsorships in past years, many items like marketing brochures and a Web site redesign were routinely put on hold. Board members thought the PRC would collect more than it did and every year there would be a shortfall.

The PRC's adopted budget also reflects a shift in staffing patterns and priorities. Instead of using a high-

See BUDGET, page 4

Traffic stop ends in drug bust

By Daily Press staff

What began as a routine traffic stop turned into a substantial narcotics bust by Santa Monica Police officers.

Santa Monica resident Jeremy Naidoo was arrested Friday for possession of cocaine base for sale, possession of narcotics paraphernalia, battery of a police officer, driving under the influence of a controlled substance and other related charges.

Around 3:30 a.m. police officers say they witnessed a vehicle being driven by Naidoo speeding on Fourth Street in Santa Monica's Ocean Park neighborhood.

Allegedly, Naidoo then failed to stop at a stop sign on the corner of Fourth Street and Marine Street.

The officers attempted to pull the vehicle over, and only after a short distance did the car slow down and pull into the driveway of an apartment complex on the 3000 block of Third Street.

As officers approached the vehicle, they allegedly saw the suspect place his hand under the front seat. The Naidoo allegedly started yelling at the police officers and refused to cooperate with their instructions, police say.

See BUST, page 3

California power grid operators issue first alert in nine months

By The Associated Press

FOLSOM — California power grid operators issued their first alert in nine months, saying energy supplies were low because of a heat wave in the Southwest that forced out-of-state wholesalers to divert electricity elsewhere.

The California Independent System Operator declared the alert Thursday. It was the lowest level of warning used by the agency and called on power generators to avoid unnecessary outages.

The alert did not continue Friday.

Power alerts were almost a daily occurrence in the summers of 2000 and 2001 when California was strapped

for energy and threatened with rolling blackouts.

Thursday's warning came as a heat wave swept through Nevada, Arizona and New Mexico. Two large nuclear power plants in California were closed for routine maintenance, and there was a disruption in a north-south transmission line, said ISO spokesman Gregg Fishman.

State power grid operators predicted last month that there was enough power to avoid rolling blackouts this summer. Fishman said the alert issued Thursday did not change that, although it also could serve as a reminder that consumers still need to conserve.

"I don't think we ever said we're completely out of the woods," he said.

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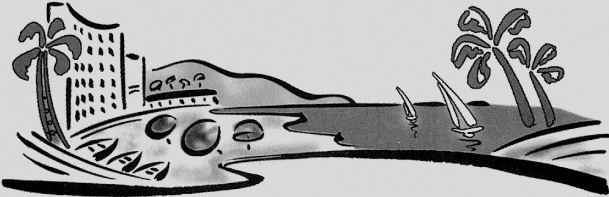
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ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★★ Excitement surrounds friends and communication. Even you, who has been anticipating something of this nature, could be stunned. Review a personal matter with a loved one and decide on your limits. Tonight: Where the gang is.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★★ Unexpected developments occur out of the blue. A boss, parent or older friend could demand your attention right now. Though you're very generous with your time, you might be a little irritated by this request. Schedule a special outing just for you. Tonight: Where you are, the party is.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ Follow a longtime desire when making plans. You might want to take off for the beach or go for a picnic near a waterfall or creek. You relax in new surroundings. Surprises happen when you least expect them. Go with the moment and flow. Tonight: Opt for different.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★★ Another's overture might be too good to say no to. Together you could illuminate your relationship with some intimate sharings. Do not be surprised at what another does once he or she feels comfortable with you. Flow like a true Moonchild. Tonight: Dinner for two.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ Others make a big difference in how you deal with a loved one. Getting together with friends provides wonderful light and happiness in your day. Don't deny yourself this experience. When another does the unexpected, you do a double take. Tonight: Say "yes."



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★★ Though you might have plans for a lazy day, before you know it, you have a major project cooking, or you could actually be at work. You might feel overwhelmed by what is happening, as it all occurs so quickly. Understand that you cannot always charge in like this. Tonight: Do for yourself.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ Clearly another has plans for you. In fact, don't be surprised if someone blindfolds you and takes you on an adventure. Whether you're at an amusement park, your favorite history museum or stargazing at the planetarium, you enjoy yourself. Tonight: Still another surprise.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ Think through a decision involving your family and home, even though someone might gleefully turn your mind around to his or her thinking again. Work with different perspectives and listen to another's information. Consider your options. Tonight: Play away.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ You might be quite excited by your plans or what happens today. Celebrate the day with a friend or partner at an upcoming event or whatever you want. Let the good times rock and roll. An unexpected development comes your way. Tonight: Out and about.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ Carefully investigate an expenditure before deciding that you can handle this new stress on your budget. Sometimes even in the wise Goat can make a mistake. Another pushes a bit harder than you think is necessary. State your case. Schedule a get-together later on. Tonight: Where you can visit with friends.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ Your energy can make or break a situation. Your playfulness takes you, as well as your friends, in a new direction. Perhaps you'll try something you never have before. Using your ingenuity unlocks many doors for you. Tonight: Let another woo you.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ Take it easy in the morning, knowing that this could be a long day. You might need to clear out additional work at home or the office. The good news is, when you relax, you really do enjoy yourself. Nap if you can, because the good times start soon. Tonight: Out on the town.



QUOTE of the DAY

“By the time we've made it,
we've had it.”

— Malcolm Forbes

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LOCAL



Samohi student takes California's top Judo title

BY JESSE HALEY
Special to the Daily Press

After first place finishes at all five state Judo tournaments this year, Santa Monica High School first-year student Alex Darkhovsky is prepared to make his presence felt at the national level.

At the California State Games on May 25 in San Diego, the soft-spoken fourteen year old beat all three opponents by ippon (pronounced ee-pon), Judo's equivalent to a knock-out.

Regular matches are four minutes long, but Darkhovsky won each of his in less than two minutes — one by choke, two by throws. Because he is well-known for his quick victories, at the forty second mark of his second match team parents and spectators heckled Alex for taking so long.

The winning throw came soon after that as Darkhovsky beat Wesley Yoshimura, bronze medal winner at last year's high school nationals.

Currently, Alex and his younger brother Lev have their sights set on gold at the United States Judo Federation Youth and Team National Judo Championships on June 4-7 in Sacramento.

However, the calm confidence Alex Darkhovsky exudes is rare in athletes his age. Rooting

through his gym bag before a recent practice, he commented of his most recent victory, "Yeah, I expected to win [the California State Games] — a small tournament like that."

Besides boasting an undefeated record, the quiet teen maintains a 4.0 Grade Point Average at Samohi, where he says he's more drawn to science and math than English or social studies. He's also branching out, trying his hand at Greco Roman wrestling this year.

Darkhovsky's weekly work outs include three days of practice with the YMCA Judo Team, five days of practice with the Samohi wrestling team, and running one or two days.

At his first state tournaments, Darkhovsky surprised his competition with a rare natural ability and understanding of the sport.

At Speed Harada Memorial tournament, on April 28 in Norwalk, he won the 14-15 year division, then challenged up and took first place in the 15-16 year junior brown belt division.

"They know me now, because I beat them," purple belt Darkhovsky said of his elder, brown-belt competitors.

Darkhovsky's talent is impressive, but the expert training he's received under his coach, Sensei Jim Nieto is not to be overlooked.



Jesse Haley/Special to the Daily Press

Alex Darkhovsky applies a choke on teammate/brother Lev Darkhovsky during practice. The undefeated duo is poised to make a clean sweep of their divisions.

In eighteen of his twenty years in competition, one or more of Nieto's students have won gold medals at the national level.

Nieto requires at least a B average from all members of his team and he chooses not to principally reward wins and physical achievement. Instead, students advance belt rankings more slowly by meeting different requirements.

"Most important are responsi-

bility, maturity, and teaching ability," Nieto said.

The Darkhovsky's moved their family to Santa Monica in 1993 from their native Ukraine. Alex's mother and father — a legal clerk and software engineer, respectively — encouraged their two sons to pursue athletics, Judo in particular.

Alex began studying five years ago, and has since won three con-

secutive State Championships. This year, he and younger brother Lev, 12, each entered five tournaments and have ten gold medals between them.

Already, Alex holds titles in the California State Championship, West Covina Tournament, Speed Harada Memorial, Sawtelle Dojo Invitational, Silver State Championship in Las Vegas, and the California State Games.



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

Police capture suspect only after brief struggle

BUST, from page 1

While one officer was standing at the driver's side door, the suspect began to pull his hand from underneath the seat. Fearing the suspect may have had a weapon under the seat, the officer cautiously backed away.

Naidoo took the opportunity to open his car door and attempt to flee the scene. As he was running from the officers he threw a plastic bag into the street.

When officers caught up with Naidoo, he allegedly tried to fight free from their grasp but eventually he was subdued.

When officers retrieved the plastic bag, they said they found it contained several grams of powder cocaine, rock cocaine, marijuana and narcotics paraphernalia.

Naidoo is described by police as a 28-year old black male. He was booked at the Santa Monica Jail and charged with possession of cocaine for sale. Bail was set at \$50,000.

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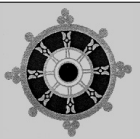
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LOCAL

Parked auto target of drive-by Pico shooting

By Daily Press staff

A small compact parked car is the latest victim of a drive-by shooting in a troubled eastside Santa Monica neighborhood.

On Thursday at approximately 10 p.m., Santa Monica Police officers responded to the 1800 block of 17th Street in the Pico Neighborhood for a call of shots fired.

When the officers arrived on the scene, an eye-witness informed them a new model, dark colored-SUV with tinted windows pulled alongside the car, lowered its passenger window and fired several shots at the vehicle. The SUV then sped southbound on 17th Street, the witness informed officers.

A similarly described SUV was involved in a drive-by shooting on March 10 along the 1900 block of Delaware Street — which is near where Thursday's incident occurred. A young black man riding a bicycle was shot in the abdomen and

has since recovered.

However it is unknown if the two incidences are connected.

"The detectives handling the case will be reviewing past incidences for possible connections," said Lt. Frank Fabrega, an SMPD spokesman.

Police could not say if the witness had provided officers with the suspect's license plate number.

"As usual though, (SMPD detectives) will be contacting surrounding local jurisdictions to determine if they have had similar incidences or if similar vehicles had been stopped in their jurisdictions," Fabrega said.

The unoccupied parked car sustained minor gunshot damage, and no injuries were reported from the incident.

Anyone with information is encouraged to contact the Robbery/ Homocide unit of the SMPD at (310)458-8451 or the watch commander's office at (310)458-8426.

Group wants L.A. cities to treat their run-off water

BILL, from page 1

Santa Monica is one of the first cities in the Los Angeles region to build a waste water treatment facility to collect run-off water before it can contaminate the ocean. The city is also experimenting with building materials that would absorb water before it is released back into the environment.

"We are generally doing cutting edge stuff," said Mayor Mike Feinstein. "We are generally already doing the right thing and I think formalizing the restoration project is only going to help share our experiences with all the agencies that affect the health of the bay and improve our collective performance as a result."

Since 1988, the bay restoration group has been designated by the United States

Environmental Protection Agency to plan and oversee the restoration of Santa Monica Bay.

Among the bay group's accomplishments are the development of the first municipal storm water permit for control of urban runoff in L.A. County; the restoration of the Zuma Creek Wetland; and the creation of the Public Involvement and Education (PIE) Fund, a program which provides funding for schools, inner-city youth, environmental groups and municipalities to learn about and help to preserve the bay and to prevent pollution.

The group also directs the preeminent research and analysis of the scope, nature and possible solutions of the pollution in the Santa Monica Bay.

PRC cuts amount of cash expected from sponsorship

BUDGET, from page 1

ly paid staff person to attract corporate sponsorships, the PRC voted to spend the estimated \$70,000 annual salary toward a staff member who will focus on more community-based, local events and co-sponsoring of local businesses.

The PRC also eliminated a public relations position that cost about \$32,000 a year. Instead, a part-time person will focus on local promotions.

The PRC's expected revenue this year is more than \$600,00, which includes a \$467,200 subsidy from the city of Santa Monica. The rest comes from sponsorships, special events, promotions and filming.

The largest expense for the PRC is the summer-long Twilight Dance Series, which costs \$170,000 annually. Other big ticket items for the PRC are its salaries and marketing, which cost about \$88,000 annually; \$46,000 on operations and another \$67,000 on professional services.

While the PRC comes close to making its budget every year, there are some fac-

tors this year that have increased its costs. The PRC's insurance has gone up considerably because it is involved in \$50 million lawsuit.

Naia Sheffield is suing the PRC and the city for breach of contract. She claims her restaurant, the Boathouse, was kicked off the pier unfairly.

The suit alleges that the city and the PRC, which handles leases on the pier, reneged on a 25-year lease Sheffield negotiated in 1993.

She sued the PRC in federal court, but the suit was dismissed because the statute of limitations had run out.

The city, which owns the pier, ended its month-month lease with the Boathouse last July to make way for movie-themed chain restaurant Bubba Gump Shrimp.

PRC Chairman Michael Klein said when the insurance policy ended this month, the board had trouble finding another insurance carrier to cover the PRC because of the lawsuits. The board did eventually get a policy signed, but at a significantly higher cost.

STATE



Stalled bill could raise California wine costs

BY STEFANIE FRITH
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO— A measure that small wine importers feared would wipe out their businesses and monopolize the state's wine market has been shelved.

The bill, pushed by Diageo, a British beverage conglomerate, and the wine industry's trade group, was pulled from the Assembly Appropriations Committee earlier this month. The bill's author, Assemblyman Marco Firebaugh, D-Los Angeles, said he wants to bring the bill back, but isn't sure when.

The bill would have allowed only an importer designated by the winemaker to bring its brands of wine into California. Called a "primary source" law, the proposal would benefit consumers by allowing greater quality control for wine, according to the Wine Institute, an industry trade group.

Marketing experts and small wine

owners disagreed, saying that Diageo and its allies just sought to lock up a greater share of California's huge wine market.

Diageo, a multinational corporation, already owns Guinness, Seagram, Sterling and Beaulieu Vineyards as well as Burger King. With its purchase of Seagrams last year, Diageo can now claim the No. 1 or No. 2 make in each category of the world's biggest spirits market, the United States.

Diageo officials did not return calls for comment.

The recently created California Fine Wine Alliance, a coalition of small wine importers that formed against the bill, said AB1922 would cost more than \$100 million in retail wine sales each year, and California would lose \$10 million in sales taxes.

Two giant wholesalers, Young's Market and Southern Wine and Spirits, are supporters of the bill, and Rick Lehman, a spokesman for the CFWA, said because there are only two distributors, the bill would allow a complete consolidation of the industry.

Man with wired jaw wasn't allowed clippers on plane

By The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — A U.S. Army lieutenant whose jaw is wired shut from a bullet wound he received in Afghanistan claims screeners at San Francisco International Airport denied him permission to pass through security with wire clippers used to snap open his jaw in an emergency.

Lt. Greg Miller, a combat medic and member of a special forces patrol, was shot in Kandahar in April. The bullet passed through his jaw, severing nerves and leaving him without feeling in his mouth.

He said his jaw was wired shut at a hospital in Germany, and his doctor issued him a pair of wire clippers to carry at all times in case he became sick and needed to open his jaw to avoid choking.

Miller had flown to the Bay Area to visit his mother, the administrative assistant to the superintendent of the Millbrae

School District. Miller, who lives in College Station, Texas, said he was told at his local airport that the clippers weren't prohibited on the plane. Security personnel there even gave him a sticker saying they were allowed.

But when Miller wanted to fly back home, he said the sticker didn't convince security screeners. He said San Francisco airport security personnel told him the tool, with a rounded blade less than one-inch long, was dangerous and confiscated it. Miller complained to an American Airlines official, and Miller said the official responded he was too busy to help.

Miller then went to a pay phone and called several media outlets, telling them his story before boarding the plane. Once aboard, Miller said flight attendants told him there was nothing on board to open his jaw if he became sick.

Parents of disabled pleased with Early Start program

BY JESSICA BRICE
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO — A program designed to help families with developmentally disabled infants and toddlers is a big hit among parents, who say they are able to get the help they need when they need it, according to a report released Friday.

The survey, released by the state Department of Developmental Services, measured the satisfaction of parents with kids in the Early Start Program.

The federally funded program is an early intervention tool parents can use to get services for kids with mental retardation, cerebral palsy, autism or other developmental delays.

Through 21 service centers around the state, the program provided health services, physical therapy and counseling to more

than 30,000 infants and toddlers last year. The most common services that families receive are speech and language therapy, as well as physical and occupational therapy.

More than 97 percent of the survey respondents said the services they received through the program enhanced their child's quality of life.

Because the program is designed to help children as soon as they are born, it can greatly improve their chances to develop later in life, said Dan Clark of the regional center in San Diego.

"Finding these kids early on has had marvelous results," Clark said. "The services are so much more powerful if you start early."

More than 96 percent of the families also said the early intervention services, which include counseling and training for the parents, helped them cope with their child's development.

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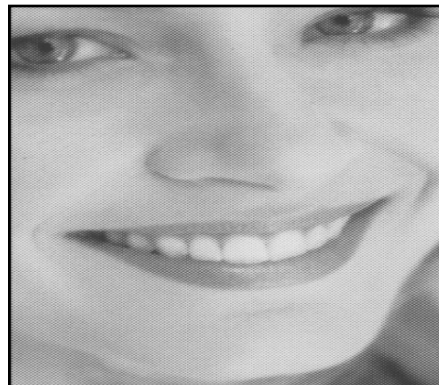
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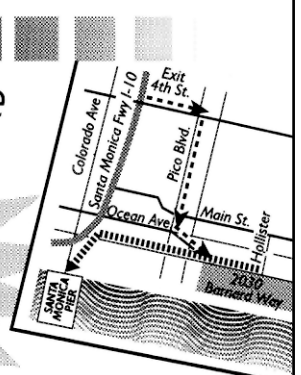
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NATIONAL

National Cowgirl Museum opening in new building

BY ANGELA K. BROWN
Associated Press Writer

FORT WORTH, Texas — They broke in broncos on their ranches and dangled from galloping horses in Wild West shows and Hollywood flicks.

Often overlooked in history books, women who helped tame the West — and others sharing their pioneering spirit — are riding high in the National Cowgirl Museum and Hall of Fame.

Their tales of grit and grace are being told in the new \$21 million, 33,000-square-foot building, set to open next weekend in Fort Worth's cultural district.

"These women are great role models — often ordinary women who did extraordinary things because they had to get done," said Patricia W. Riley, the museum's executive director. "These are inspirational lessons whether you're 6 years old or 60."

Corralling cattle isn't necessarily a requirement to be a cowgirl. The 158 Hall of Fame inductees include former slave and businesswoman Clara Brown, author Laura Ingalls Wilder, painter Georgia O'Keeffe and potter Maria Martinez.

Among this year's five inductees is Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, who plans to attend the museum's Friday ribbon cutting. The El Paso native, whose 1981 appointment made her the first female Supreme Court justice, grew up on her family's ranch straddling the Arizona and New Mexico border.

Pam Minick, a champion team roper and a 2000 Cowgirl Hall of Fame inductee, said museum visitors may be surprised by some of the 400 women featured — from Lewis and Clark's American Indian guide Sacajawea to bootmaking businesswoman Enid Justin.

"The common thread, whether they're a cowgirl at heart or a competitor, is perseverance and looking at obstacles as a stepping stone," said Minick, also the first

woman rodeo announcer in the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association. "It's hard to put into words how proud I am to be part of it."

The museum, billed as the world's only museum dedicated to documenting women's contributions to the American West, came from the humblest of beginnings in 1975 in Hereford, near Amarillo.

When the town planned to host an all-women rodeo, resident Margaret Formby thought there should be a museum honoring cowgirls. She stored a growing collection of photos and memorabilia — sent from rodeo stars and families of Western pioneer women — in the Deaf Smith County Library basement.

The museum opened in a donated house six years later, but by the early 1990s Formby and others decided it needed more space in a larger city. Nearly three dozen cities lobbied to be the museum's new home.

Ultimately, the choice was Fort Worth, dubbed "Cowtown" decades ago because it was a frequent stop for cattlemen traveling along the Chisholm Trail.

However, the museum has not had a permanent home since moving to Fort Worth in 1994, so the collection has been in storage while organizers raised \$21 million from donors and planned the project. The new museum is set to open to the public June 9, two days after the ribbon-cutting ceremony and a day after a parade featuring many Hall of Fame inductees.

Names of the Hall of Fame inductees are on illuminated stars along the first-floor walls of the rotunda, where glass-tiled murals along the second-floor level depict faces and scenes that slowly shift.

The pop culture gallery features pictures of actress Barbara Stanwyck, singer Patsy Montana and Dale Evans — as well as her stunt double, Alice Van Springsteen. Other displays feature stereotypical cowgirl advertisements, books, posters and album covers.

Biologists hit golf courses in Virginia for fowl census

By The Associated Press

WILLIAMSBURG, Va. — Daniel A. Cristol and Josh LeClerc don't golf. In fact, Cristol jokes, "My handicap is 100 percent."

But the pair will hit Virginia's links this month in search of birdies — the feathered kind — for what they believe is the first census of birds on golf courses.

Cristol, a biology professor at the College of William and Mary, and LeClerc, a graduate student, want to learn what the golf course building boom is doing to wildlife.

Citing statistics from golf trade publications, Cristol said new courses are opening at the rate of one per day in the United States, many as part of suburban housing developments. Birds can be an important environmental indicator.

"Birds, being high on the food chain, are a good indicator of everything that is happening below them," Cristol said. "So if a golf course can support a good food chain, there will be birds at the top of it, and you can count those birds and know everything is OK."

From Saturday until June 15 — peak

breeding time, when birds are "singing like crazy," Cristol said — the researchers and about 100 volunteer amateur bird-watchers will spend four hours every morning on fairways, looking and listening to try to identify birds.

They will visit about a third of Virginia's estimated 350 courses.

Some volunteers also will take a bird count in different habitats, from pine forests to agricultural areas to neighborhoods, so researchers can compare how birds are faring.

LeClerc, a 25-year-old from Pennington, N.J., will spend the summer crunching the data. The census is part of his master's thesis.

The United States Golf Association supports the project.

"There is little more than anecdotal evidence of birds breeding on golf courses in the eastern U.S.," Michael P. Kenna, research director for the USGA, wrote in a letter of endorsement. "We need to gain a better understanding on which birds use golf courses and what specific features of golf courses encourage bird use."

NATIONAL



Federal law will not force public libraries to filter out Internet pornography

BY DAVID B. CARUSO

Associated Press Writer

PHILADELPHIA — Public libraries cannot be forced to use Internet filters designed to block pornography, three federal judges said Friday in overturning a new federal law.

In a 195-page decision, the judges said the Children's Internet Protection Act went too far because the filters can also block access to sites that contain protected speech.

"Any public library that adheres to CIPA's conditions will necessarily restrict patrons' access to a substantial amount of protected speech in violation of the First Amendment," the judges wrote.

The law, signed by President Clinton in 2000, would have required public libraries to install the filters by July 1 or risk losing federal funding. It had been widely criticized by First Amendment groups.

"There is no correction to the law that can be made here to save it," said Stefan Presser, the American Civil Liberties Union's legal director in Pennsylvania. "The technology cannot block simply obscene speech, or speech that is harmful to minors, without blocking an enormous amount of speech that is constitutionally protected."

The judges, who heard nearly two weeks of testimony in April, wrote that they were concerned that library patrons who wanted to view sites blocked by filtering software might be embarrassed or lose their right to remain anonymous because they would have to ask permission to have the sites unblocked.

Any appeal of the decision by 3rd U.S. Circuit Judge Edward R. Becker and U.S. District judges John P. Fullam and Harvey Bartle III would go directly to the U.S. Supreme Court.

A message left for a Justice Department spokesman was not immediately returned Friday.

The decision was applauded by the

American Library Association and the ACLU, which contended the law was unenforceable, unconstitutional, vague and overbroad. They argued it denied poor people without home computers the same access to information as their wealthier neighbors because the software could mistakenly block Web sites on issues such as breast cancer and homosexuality.

Schools and school libraries are still subject to the law, the American Library Association said.

Justice Department lawyers argued that Internet smut is so pervasive that protections are necessary to keep it away from youngsters, and that the law simply calls for libraries to use the same care in selecting online content that they use for books and magazines.

They also pointed out that libraries could turn down the federal funding if they want to provide unfiltered Web access.

David Burt, a spokesman for N2H2, a Seattle-based maker of filtering software, said that while the programs do improperly block some sites, the error-rate is low enough that libraries should be able to use them.

The Children's Internet Protection Act was the third anti-Internet-porn law brought before federal judges for constitutional challenges.

The 1996 Communications Decency Act made it a crime to put adult-oriented material online where children can find it. It was declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court.

The 1998 Child Online Protection Act required Web sites to collect a credit card number or other proof of age before allowing Internet users to view material deemed "harmful to minors." The 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals barred enforcement of that law, saying the standards were so broad and vague that the law was probably unconstitutional.

The Supreme Court partially upheld the law in May, but did not rule on its constitutionality as a whole. It remains on hold for further action in lower courts.

Police see car get dumped in canal, find body in trunk

By The Associated Press

MIAMI — Police staking out an area known for illegal dumping watched two men ditch a car into a canal, then found a body in the trunk after chasing the men down.

Officers with the Miami-Dade Police Environmental Investigations Unit said they spotted two cars by the canal in northwestern Miami-Dade County Thursday night.

They watched as two men push one car into the water, then get into the second car. The officers blocked the road, then chased the two men down after they ran into a Palm Springs subdivision, police said.

The dead man, believed to be in his 20s, was discovered after the car was pulled from the canal by a wrecker. Police did not immediately release his name or say how he died.

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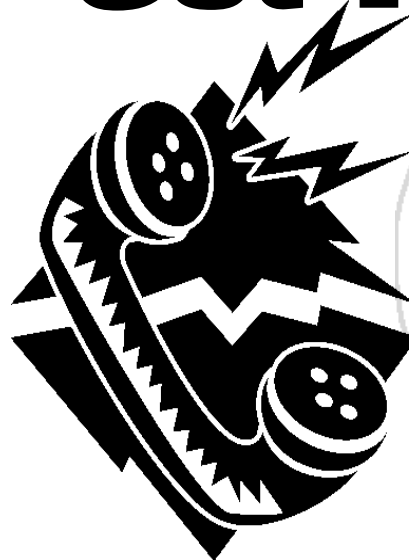
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SPORTS

New Jersey topples Celtics, moves on to finals

BY CHRIS SHERIDAN

AP Basketball Writer

BOSTON — This is no joke: The former laughingstocks of the Eastern Conference are going to the NBA Finals.

Jason Kidd became the first player in 35 years to record three triple-doubles in an NBA playoff series, and the New Jersey Nets finished off the Boston Celtics and their disappearing duo of superstars with a 96-88 victory in Game 6 on Friday night.

Everyone got quite a laugh last summer when the Nets acquired Kidd and he boldly predicted that the perpetually downtrodden franchise would be able to win 40 games. But no one is laughing now at the franchise that won two ABA titles but only one NBA playoff series prior to this year.

L.A. Lakers beat Kings to tie series

BY GREG BEACHAM

AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES — Shaquille O'Neal simply wouldn't allow the Los Angeles Lakers' dream of a dynasty to die at home.

Carrying his teammates on his broad shoulders one more time, O'Neal had 41 points and 17 rebounds as the two-time defending champions forced a Game 7 in the Western Conference finals, beating the Sacramento Kings 106-102 Friday night.

With everything from savage dunks and delicate hook shots to a string of 10 straight free throws, O'Neal wouldn't allow this epic playoff series to end early. He went 13-for-17 from the line, not a remarkable feat for most players — but an indication of just how seriously O'Neal took this game.

Now, it will end appropriately: With the champs matched against the NBA's best regular-season team in a winner-take-all game on Sunday.

The winner of Game 7 at Arco Arena will play host to the New Jersey Nets, winners of the Eastern Conference, in Game 1 of the Finals on Wednesday night.

Kobe Bryant had 31 points and 11 rebounds in the Lakers' first elimination game since the 2000 conference finals against Portland.

Los Angeles went nearly six minutes without a field goal down the stretch in the fourth quarter, but made 18 free throws over the final 6:21 to hold off the Kings. Bryant made four free throws in the final 19.8 seconds.

The Nets are the first team since the 1977-78 Seattle SuperSonics to make it to the Finals after failing to qualify for the playoffs the previous season.

Kidd was Mr. Everything for the Nets, finishing with 15 points, 13 rebounds and 13 assists. He joined Oscar Robertson (1963) and Wilt Chamberlain (1967) as the only players with three triple-doubles in a series.

Kidd all but clinched the game with 33.9 seconds left, blowing two kisses to his family — just as he always does when he shoots foul shots — and knocking down two free throws for a 96-88 lead.

Kenyon Martin took his shirt off and jumped into the arms of a teammate as the final buzzer sounded, but the rest of the team didn't celebrate all that much.

The Nets will play the winner of the Los Angeles-Sacramento series beginning next Wednesday night.

The Celtics, meanwhile, head into their offseason wondering what happened to Paul Pierce and Antoine Walker down the stretch. Walker went scoreless in the fourth quarter, and Pierce did not score again after making a 3-pointer with 11:10 remaining.

For the first time in this year's playoffs, neither Pierce nor Walker led the team in scoring. That distinction went to ex-Net Kenny Anderson, whose 18 points weren't enough with Walker scoring 16, going 1-for-9 from 3-point range, and Pierce getting only 14.

Martin had 16 points, seven rebounds and five assists for the Nets, while rookie Richard Jefferson scored 15 points, Lucious Harris had 12 and Keith Van Horn and Todd MacCulloch each added 11.

Van Horn hit a 3-pointer as the shot clock expired with 50 seconds remaining, giving New Jersey a 94-88 lead. Walker and Pierce each missed 3-pointers on the Celtics' next two possessions, leading to the foul shots by Kidd that all but sealed it.

The Nets were the more poised team over the final 12 minutes, bringing a fitting finish to a series that New Jersey controlled most of the time.

Kidd got his third triple-double of the series when he passed for his 10th assist with 6:44 remaining, hitting Harris on a backdoor cut for a layup that gave the Nets a 79-74 lead.

Walker jacked up two 3-point shots in a span of eight seconds on Boston's next possession, missing both, and Kidd got his 11th assist by finding Aaron Williams for a layup that turned into a three-point play for an 82-74 lead.

Erick Strickland scored four consecutive points to pull the Celtics to 83-80 with 4:12 left, and layups by Strickland and Rodney Rogers sandwiched around a missed jumper by Kidd made it 85-84 with 2:52 left.

Kidd hit a pull-up jumper coming out of a timeout to restore a three-point lead, then fed Martin for a backdoor alley-oop dunk and an 89-84 lead.



By The Associated Press

National Basketball Association playoff schedule

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 96, Boston 88, New Jersey wins series

L.A. Lakers 106, Sacramento 102, series tied 3-3

Sunday, June 2

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



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INTERNATIONAL



Indian officials say border with Pakistan is stable

BY BETH DUFF-BROWN

Associated Press Writer

NEW DELHI, India — India's defense minister insisted Friday the border with Pakistan was stable, even as Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz warned that a war between the South Asian rivals would be "somewhere between terrible and catastrophic."

Diplomatic pressure grew to avert another war between the nuclear-armed rivals, and the United States, Britain, New Zealand, Canada and Australia urged their citizens to consider leaving India.

Indian officials played down fears of a conflict over disputed Kashmir, even as Pakistan pulled soldiers away from the Afghan border, where they had been helping the U.S.-led war on terrorism. Pakistani officials said they were considering moving the soldiers toward India.

"There isn't any change on the ground," Indian Defense Minister George Fernandes told The Associated Press in Singapore, where he was attending an Asian defense conference. "The situation is stable."

Wolfowitz, who was also at the conference, said U.S. efforts to prevent war include both promises of incentives and warnings of punishments. He did not say what the incentives or punishments would be.

A top Indian military officer said Friday on condition of anonymity that the diplomatic pressure on both countries was unprecedented and playing a major role.

Shelling continued Friday across the tense frontier separating India and Pakistan in Kashmir, the divided Himalayan region both nations claim and have fought two wars over.

Pakistan's military said Indian shelling killed one Pakistani and injured two others Friday. India said Pakistani shelling killed one border guard and four sol-



Asim Ali/Associated Press

Pakistani Col. Iftikhar, the commanding officer of Chakoti sector, 58 kilometers (36 miles) from Muzaffarabad, capital of Pakistan-held Kashmir, points at a Kashmiri map to discuss Indian troops' concentration along the Line of Control Thursday, May 30, 2002. Pakistan and Indian forces are exchanging artillery due to rising tension between arch-rivals India Pakistan over Kashmir dispute.

diers. In another incident, five Indian police were injured when suspected Islamic militants lobbed a grenade.

The rivals have about 1 million soldiers on high alert along their border, and Pakistan's President Pervez Musharraf said he was considering moving more troops to Kashmir.

Pakistan was believed to have about 6,000 troops along the Afghan border. They were deployed to help U.S.-led forces track down al-Qaida and Taliban fighters who took refuge in the mountains on both sides of the frontier.

Rashid Quereshi, a spokesman for Musharraf, confirmed a pullback of troops Friday and said their deployment depended "on how the threat continues to increase from India."

Musharraf and Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee will attend a summit in Kazakhstan next week, where Russian President Vladimir Putin hopes to organize face-to-face talks.

Pakistan has agreed. But an Indian Foreign Ministry official reiterated that Vajpayee had no intention of attending private talks with Musharraf until cross-border infiltration by Islamic militants ends.

With no sign that either India or Pakistan was offering a diplomatic solution in Kashmir, concern mounted about a broader military conflict. Both India and Pakistan tested nuclear weapons in 1998, raising the stakes in their long-standing rivalry.

India regularly informs the United States through diplomatic channels that it intends to go to war over Kashmir if attacks by extremists are not curtailed, a senior U.S. official told The Associated Press. But India has not advised the Bush administration how it would conduct such a conflict, said the official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

India accuses Pakistan of supporting Islamic militant groups waging an insurgency in the Indian-ruled portion of Kashmir, and has demanded it stop cross-border infiltrations. Pakistan says it provides moral support for the insurgents, but denies funding or training them.

Israeli forces round up Palestinian men in refugee camp

BY MOHAMMED DARAGHMEH

Associated Press Writer

NABLUS, West Bank — Israeli troops rolled into a refugee camp on the edge of Nablus on Friday, rounding up hundreds of Palestinian men, imposing a curfew and blowing up the home of a suicide bomber.

Just a few miles from Nablus, a Palestinian gunman was shot dead after infiltrating a Jewish settlement.

The confrontations came as diplomats converged on the region, looking for ways to end, or at least reduce, 20 months of Mideast violence. But no new peace initiatives have emerged.

The almost daily Israeli forays into Palestinian territory, which once drew widespread international criticism, now produce little reaction, aside from Palestinian condemnations.

In his meeting with U.S. Assistant Secretary of State William Burns, Prime Minister Ariel Sharon cited the possibility of "progress" on the diplomatic front, although he quickly added conditions.

Sharon's office quoted the prime minister as telling Burns of "Israel's position that cessation of terror, violence and incitement and a thorough reform of the Palestinian Authority were conditions for progress in the diplomatic process."

Sharon played host Friday to Burns and Osama el-Baz, adviser to Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. CIA Director George Tenet was expected in the region over the weekend.

The Israeli troops entered Nablus and the adjacent Balata refugee camp in dozens of tanks and armored personnel carriers, saying the incursion was carried out "in the wake of recent murderous attacks."

The camp is a stronghold of the Al Aqsa Martyrs Brigade, a militia that has carried out many deadly attacks, and

which is linked to Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement.

Arafat, speaking in Ramallah, denounced the incursion, saying, "this is Israel's message to the whole world, and proof they do not want to reach any agreement or any political settlement."

In the camp, soldiers used loudspeakers to call on Palestinian males, ages 15 to 45, to turn themselves in. Hundreds of Palestinians walked through the dusty streets, their hands raised or clasped behind their heads, to an open area near a factory at the front of the camp.

As the Israelis checked the identities of the men, some were blindfolded and handcuffed.

Soldiers also went house to house in the camp. In some instances, they broke through interior walls to go from one house to the next, rather than walk in the streets, where they would be exposed to snipers, residents said.

One Palestinian man was seriously wounded by Israeli gunfire, hospital doctors said.

In the city of Nablus, Palestinians set off two mines under Israeli tanks, and the tanks fired several shells, knocking out electricity in the eastern part of the city.

The Israeli incursion kept Palestinians off the streets. Soldiers went to a number of homes looking for militants and arrested about 10 suspects, including Issam Abu Bakr, a local Fatah leader, Palestinians said.

The Israeli military said a curfew was imposed in Nablus and the refugee camp and that the operation was continuing.

Nablus, which has close to 200,000 residents, was the scene of heavy fighting when the Israel troops occupied the city for a week in early April. More than 70 Palestinians were killed and ancient parts of the city were destroyed.

Also Friday, a Palestinian cut through a fence and infiltrated the Jewish settlement of



Brennan Linsley/Associated Press

An Israeli Army soldier leads blindfolded and handcuffed Palestinian men being detained into a vehicle for transport on the first day of an Israeli military incursion in the West Bank city of Nablus, Friday, May 31, 2002. Dozens of tanks and armored vehicles swept into Nablus early Friday and have completely closed down the most populous city in the West Bank.

Shavei Shomron, north of Nablus. He was shot and killed by a settler, the military said.

Soldiers also arrested 23 Palestinians in the Gaza Strip on Thursday and Friday, mostly at roadblocks, the military added.

In two instances, the army arrested armed suspects they believed were on their way to carry out attacks — including one man who was disguised as a woman, said Lt. Col. Erez Katz.



COMICS

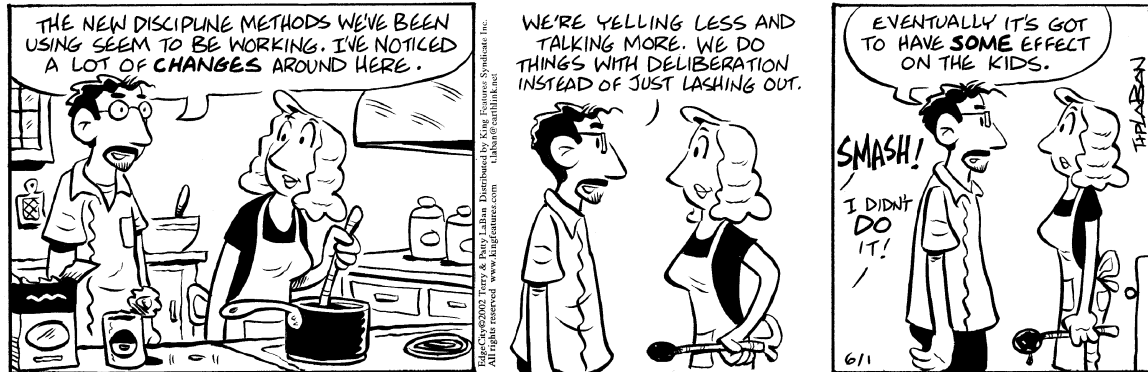
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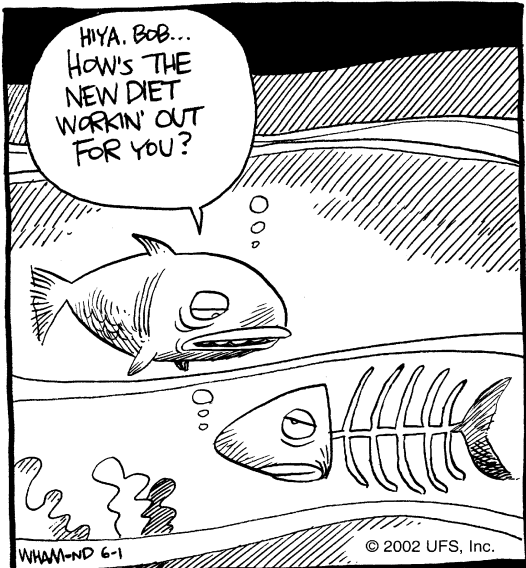
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 - 25 Correspondent, of a sort
 - 26 Weather-influencing current
 - 27 "Twelfth Night" role
 - 28 Wanderers
 - 29 Visibility lowerers
 - 31 Yarns
 - 33 Feed the swine
 - 36 Big head
 - 38 Everything

H	O	L	E	D	T	A	M	P	S
O	R	A	T	E	U	S	A	L	
L	A	D	E	S	N	E	R	V	E
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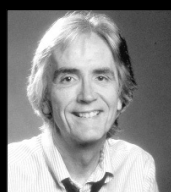
Yesterday's answer

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
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13					14			
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32			33			34		
35			36		37	38		
39					40			
41						42		

6-1

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-3168! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.



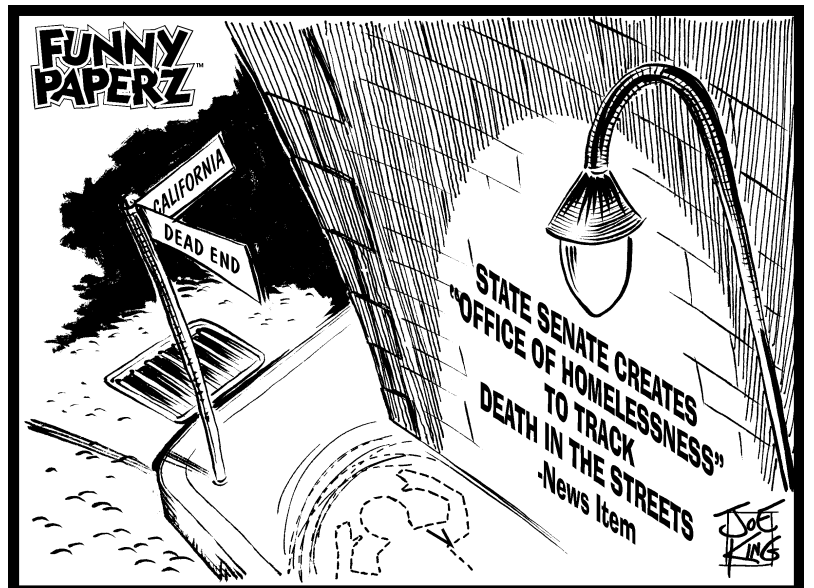
NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

Civilian-friendly revolutionaries

•Kinder, Gentler Revolutionaries: In May, leaders of a Colombian right-wing paramilitary, the AUC, publicized an e-mail address for reporting complaints about their forces' mistreating of civilians; senior leader Carlos Castano admitted that he has killed many people himself, but that he is concerned about his organization's "excesses."

• In Nepal in April, American Raymond Coughron told reporters that his mountain-climbing party had been robbed by revolutionaries devoted to the philosophies of Mao Tse-tung; the rebels first negotiated with the victims about what property they would take (finally settling on money only) and then wrote out a crude receipt for the amount taken.



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Carolyn Sackariason
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BACK PAGE

ODDS & ENDS

Buns can't break bullet-proof glass

By The Associated Press

HILLSBORO, Mo. — He may have buns of steel, but Jefferson County jail officials weren't impressed.

Authorities charged Garrette Bellew with second-degree property damage after trying to break a bullet-proof window with his bare behind.

Authorities said Bellew, 21, allegedly dropped his pants, ran toward a door and struck it with his naked posterior while a guard was on the other side.

Bellew was awaiting trial on two counts of first-degree burglary in the May 19 incident. The property damage charge filed Thursday carries a fine of up to \$1,000 and one year in jail.

Sports bra disqualifies track team

By The Associated Press

STEVENS POINT, Wis. — Brandi Chastain, beware.

A Wisconsin track team could become as synonymous with the sports bra as the soccer player who stripped off her shirt at the World Cup.

The Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association disqualified the Stevens Point Area Senior High School's 800-meter relay team after one of the runners wore an illegal sports bra. The association later reinstated the team.

The team of Jackie Kropp, Molly Sprouse and Emma and Kara Tauchman won the race at Thursday's sectional meet in Ashwaubenon by 9 seconds. But a meet official disqualified them because a runner had a sports bra that was white with one-quarter-inch black trim on the straps.

WIAA rules stipulate a visible sports bra must be one

solid color, either black, gray or white.

WIAA executive director Doug Chickering said the association was served with an injunction Tuesday filed on behalf of the girls' parents, who wanted to stop the state meet unless the team was reinstated.

The association's legal counsel determined the rule will need to be rewritten because it is more restrictive for girls than boys, Chickering said.

Duck beds down in K-Mart

By The Associated Press

CHARLES CITY, Iowa — A duck in need of a nesting spot improvised a little and made a home in the bedding plants at a Kmart garden center.

The mallard duck was first noticed by a customer a couple of weeks ago, said assistant store manager Linda Adams. Named Mama by store employees, the duck likely strolled up from the nearby Cedar River.

"It's been kind of fun," Adams said. "It's just been a little novelty thing. The kids seem to enjoy her."

Kmart employees put up a "duck with egg" caution sign to give the duck privacy. She's ensconced in a six-pack of gold, long-stemmed flowers.

Adams said the flowers probably won't be sold once Mama and her ducklings move out.

"She's made her bed in them and that's about all we're going to be able to do with them, I think," she said.

Boy buys jet, helicopter over Internet

By The Associated Press

ROGERS, Ohio — A 13-year-old boy spent about \$2 million in a science class buying a helicopter, a jet and other items over the Internet using a password belonging to a friend's mother, authorities said.

The Columbiana County Sheriff's Department said the

boy made the purchases May 24 on the eBay auction website using a computer at Beaver Middle School in this eastern Ohio town about 40 miles south of Youngstown.

The purchases included a \$1.1 million helicopter and a \$199,000 jet, authorities said. The boy also bought motorcycles and a pickup truck, they said.

The woman discovered the purchases the day the helicopter's owner called and asked how she intended to pay for the aircraft.

She is having the purchases canceled, a sheriff's spokesman said.

The boy's actions are under review within the county's juvenile justice system.

School officials are considering disciplining the boy, Principal Tom Sapp said.

Worker steals laundry mat quarters

By The Associated Press

AUBURN, Maine — A former maintenance worker has been indicted for allegedly stealing more than 180,000 quarters from an apartment complex's laundry facilities over the course of about six years.

Wilfred Ayotte, 54, of Lewiston, used to collect change from washers and dryers at the Auburn Mall Apartments. It wasn't until after Ayotte was laid off last summer that his manager suspected something was amiss, a lawyer for the apartment complex said.

"The property manager took over the duty of collecting the money from the machines," said David Van Baars, "and she noted immediately that the deposits were much higher."

He said bank records revealed that Ayotte must have begun stealing the money in 1996.

Ayotte has pleaded innocent to a theft charge. The apartments' owners have also sued Ayotte for \$45,790, the amount they say he took.



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