

FREE

TUESDAY, JUNE 3, 2003

Volume 2, Issue 173

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

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FANTASY 5
02, 13, 28, 30, 39

DAILY 3
Afternoon 8, 1, 6
Evening: 8, 1, 7

DAILY DERBY

1st Place: 10, Solid Gold
2nd Place: 04, Big Ben
3rd Place: 05, California Classic
Race time: 1:47.91



NEWS OF THE WEIRD
by Chuck Shepard

The annual World Pole-Sitting Championships began May 1 in Berlin (and if the winner is decided after Nov. 17, he will have a new world record). Contestants sit on a 15-inch-by-23-inch platform, 24 hours a day, and electronic sensors detect if anyone leaves the platform for any reason except for the 10-minute break every two hours. The event's organizer said the Dutch are the sport's "purists," that in Dutch competitions, "you don't get to sit on a board, and you can't come down (for restroom breaks)."



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"In literature as in love, we are astonished of what is chosen by others."

— André Maurois



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June zoom



Del Pastrana/Daily Press

While gloomy skies ruled Santa Monica on Monday, the sun was bright at Will Rogers State Park, as this mountain biker discovered

Santa Monica voters to decide Measure S today

By Daily Press staff

Residents of Santa Monica and Malibu head to the polls today to decide the city's latest hot-button issue: funding for public schools.

Thanks mainly to a decrease in money from the state level, the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District will operate under a \$13 million budget deficit next year.

And the situation is not expected to improve anytime soon.

Consequently, the district has been forced to look elsewhere to find funds not only to pay teachers, administrators and support staff, but to keep school libraries open, after-school programs running and music classes part of the curriculum.

This newest school-funding proposal is known as Measure S

and it is the only issue that will be decided in today's election.

If approved by two-thirds of voters in Santa Monica and Malibu, Measure S would levy a \$225 flat tax on every parcel of land in the two cities and generate \$6.5 million a year for the district for six years.

Supporters — who have been out in large numbers canvassing neighborhoods, manning phone banks and writing letters to the editor — say that while fiscal mismanagement may be to blame for the budget crisis, schools, children and the community in general deserve the added funds.

Opponents of Measure S — who have been outspent by nearly \$200,000 by supporters — blame

See MEASURE S, page 4

Fireworks show to return to the city

Community donations save Santa Monica's only July 4th party

BY JOHN WOOD

Daily Press Staff Writer

The city's only fireworks celebration, which was canceled recently in the face of a statewide budget crisis, will be held after all, officials are expected to announce today.

The free event, called "Celebrate America" and held at Santa Monica College's Corsair Field for the past 20 years, attracted more than 20,000 people last year.

"It is one of the nicest, safest events we have," said Santa Monica City Councilman Herb Katz, who helped raise more than \$3,500 to save the event. "This event makes people feel good about themselves, about Santa Monica and certainly about our country."

"I just think it's so good, you don't give it up."

The announcement to stage the event — which will be held Saturday, June 28 — comes just one month after "Celebrate America" was canceled by SMC, where officials said it didn't seem right to stage a party while teachers were being laid off and whole departments were being eliminated.

But after the city launched an intense fundraising effort, residents and local businesses began mailing in checks earmarked for the event.

Roughly 70 percent of the \$50,000 needed has already been raised. More than \$25,000 has come in through private donations and \$10,000 has come directly from the city, said Don Girard, SMC marketing manager.

And judging by the response in

the community so far, officials said Monday they are certain the rest of the money will follow.

"It is one of the nicest, safest events we have."

This event makes people feel good about themselves, about Santa Monica and certainly about our country. I just think it's so good you don't give it up."

— HERB KATZ
City Councilman

Sponsorship money from Coca-Cola and a handful of other companies that goes to SMC will go toward the event, Girard said.

The SMC Board of Trustees was expected to vote last night to formally reinstate what has been Santa Monica's sole Independence Day celebration for more than 10 years.

The city canceled its popular Fourth of July event in 1991, citing liability concerns. Controlling the massive crowds that congregated along the Palisades Park bluffs and the beaches below became too difficult, city officials said.

At this year's celebration, barbershop group the Santa Monica Ocean Aires, the Santa Monica High School Marching Band and the J.D. Hall Band are expected to perform, with fireworks handled

See FIREWORKS, page 4

Your life at your fingertips — courtesy of Pentagon

BY MICHAEL J. SNIFFEN
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Coming to you soon from the Pentagon: the diary to end all diaries — a multimedia, digital record of everywhere you go and everything you

see, hear, read, say and touch.

Known as LifeLog, the project has been put out for contractor bids by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, or DARPA, the agency that helped build the Internet and that is now developing the next generation of

anti-terrorism tools.

The agency doesn't consider LifeLog an anti-terrorism system, but rather a tool to capture "one person's experience in and interactions with the world" through a camera, microphone and sensors worn by the user. Everything from

heartbeats to travel to Internet chatting would be recorded.

The goal is to create breakthrough software that helps analyze behavior, habits and routines, according to Pentagon documents reviewed by The Associated

See PENTAGON, page 5

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HOROSCOPE

Tonight is playtime, Pisces



JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

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

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Tuesday, June 3, 2003:

This birthday year could be unusually meaningful. Your creativity needs to come into play financially. Investments might not come to roost as quickly as you would like, though there is a possibility of amassing a considerable amount in the next few years. In some ways, you will feel lighter and easier than in past years. You have a strong desire to understand others, visit different cultures and learn more. Travel and education could play key roles in your life. If you are single, you will certainly meet people you find quite exotic. Be open to different styles. If you're attached, your relationship will benefit from working on communication together. CANCER can be a stick in the mud.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★★ What you say and how you say it could make all the difference in what goes down. You will find that Saturn changing signs today could make you feel more weighed down than you would like. Deal with problems. Tonight: Let it all hang out.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★★ What you say carries more weight than in the past. Others care about what you think and how you say it. Consider options rather than dwelling on a problem with a partner. Finances could be involved. Tonight: At a favorite hangout.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ Deal with finances. You sense a lightening up of personality, but the area of money will take on greater importance in the next few years. Think in terms of gains, ultimately, though your investments might take a while to turn. Tonight: Treat someone to dinner.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★★ Saturn goes into your sign for two and a half years. This cycle will allow you to accept responsibilities more willingly. You also need to take better care of yourself. Reach out to someone you care about. Tonight: Whatever knocks your socks off — go for that.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ Take your time making a decision that is important to you. Your instincts come through for you. You need to evaluate your work situation more frequently. Others will demand a lot. Will you or won't you meet their expectations? Tonight: Only you can say.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★★ You might become even more goal-oriented than in the past. Aim for more of what you want. Although you might have to work hard to achieve those goals, you will. A friendship plays a big role. Tonight: Do something special for a friend.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ Keep reaching out, even though you might feel that someone is being hard on you. You find a boss to be unusually cantankerous or touchy. Understand more of what you want from your work situation. Tonight: Work late. Then find a pal.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ Keep reaching out for new information, especially if you don't feel comfortable with what you're hearing. Listen to others' feedback. Those around you choose to pitch in and make a difference. Tonight: Read between the lines. The real message lies there.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ Others might clamp down, especially financially. Deal on a one-on-one level. Someone might be a bit more difficult than usual. Your intuitive nature comes into play with a loved one or an associate. Tonight: Go for what you want. Someone responds.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ Investigate possibilities knowing that a resource might dissolve soon. You might want to become more independent and stronger about what you want. Deal with finances creatively. You don't need another's permission. Tonight: Say "yes" to another's offer.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ Your work takes a high priority. You want to think in terms of gains and growth. Note that your energy might be a little off. Take the time to get a checkup, especially if you don't feel up to snuff. Tonight: Easy does it. Do only what you need to do.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ You might want to reconsider a choice more carefully. Just because someone says something one way doesn't mean that you have to take it as a given. Reach out for others; make that extra effort. A relationship might be taking an interesting twist. Tonight: Play time. Romp away.

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LOCAL



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Two days left for SM Playhouse fundraising

By Daily Press staff

The deadline for the Santa Monica Playhouse to come up with a \$500,000 down-payment to keep its building was extended to midnight on Wednesday.

Supporters of the theater raised more than \$100,000 in May, but officials said Monday the playhouse is still \$15,000 short of its goal.

If it fails to come up with the cash, the old theater will finish its current shows and classes and most likely draw the curtains for good. The cost of moving would be even more costly, officials said.

Fundraising has kicked into high gear this week, with actors and volunteers manning telephones from 8 a.m. until midnight.

Tickets for next weekend's Dear Gabby gala benefit performances count toward the goal.

The internationally-acclaimed playhouse, which is the oldest continuously producing theater company and conservatory in the city, opened in its current location, on Fourth Street between Wilshire Boulevard and Arizona Avenue, in 1962.

Back then, it paid \$200 a month in rent, said Sandra Zeitzev, director of public relations. Today, it pays \$10,000 and if it stays past June 4, the rent will be bumped up to \$13,000.

Fundraising for the Santa Monica Playhouse began 18 months ago. According to the terms of the deal with the landlord, local attorney Jules Kievits, the Santa Monica Playhouse must hand over a \$500,000 down payment for its portion of the property — which includes two theaters, a rehearsal area and a dressing room.

The playhouse has met each of its six-month goals over the past year and a half to make sure it's on track for the deadline. If they're successful in purchasing the theater, playhouse officials expect the mortgage payment to be as little as half as much as current rent payments.

To donate to the Santa Monica Playhouse, call 310-394-9779, ext.1.

SMC to hold 'conversation' with actor Olmos

By Daily Press staff

Santa Monica College will present "An Evening with Edward James Olmos," featuring a screening of "Stand and Deliver" and a conversation with the actor, who received an Oscar nomination for his starring role in the film.

The free event will be held Friday, June 13 at 6 p.m. in Room 214 of the SMC Art Complex, 1900 Pico Blvd. It will begin with a screening of the 1988 movie, followed by an audience dialogue with Olmos, led by SMC cinema professors Josh Kanin and Shirley Saint-Leon.

Seating is first come, first seated and parking is free. For information, call (310) 434-4588.

The event is part of a continuing SMC series of dialogues held with prominent entertainment figures, which have included Oliver Stone, Sidney Poitier, Norman Lear, Fay Kanin, Eva Marie Saint and Arthur Hiller.

Olmos is a multi-talented film and television actor, producer, director and community activist who has been named by Hispanic magazine one of the most influential Latinos in America. His credits include "Zoot Suit," "Selena," "American Me," "My Family/Mi Familia" and more.

In addition to Oscar, Emmy, Tony and Golden Globe nominations, he has also been honored for his distinguished community service and tireless involvement in a number of causes, including racial unity. Olmos is also the president of the Los Angeles Latino International Film Festival.

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Santa Monica Daily Press



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Special thanks to the City of Santa Monica for the completion of the new wastewater conveyance system.

For info: www.mainstreetsm.com



The combo of swell has kept things interesting and fun over the past few days. If you can find the right break and the right conditions, you might be able to find some waves in the waist-high range today.

BAD NEWS: Both the SW and the NW are on their way down.

GOOD NEWS: Look for a slight boost in wind swell today.

OUTLOOK: More rideable waves throughout the week. The SW has something brewing for this weekend and there's some action off of southern Mexico that could be promising.

Today the water is:

66°

**Sunrise: 6:00 a.m.
Sunset: 7:58 p.m.**

	LOW TIDE				HIGH TIDE			
	Morning	Height	Evening	Height	Morning	Height	Evening	Height
SATURDAY	12:11	2.1	12:03	0.4	5:31	3.9	6:51	4.7
SUNDAY	1:04	1.5	12:41	0.7	6:37	3.8	7:17	5.0
MONDAY	1:46	1.0	1:13	1.0	7:31	3.8	7:40	5.2
TUESDAY	2:22	0.5	1:40	1.3	8:19	3.7	8:03	5.4
WEDNESDAY	2:55	0.1	2:06	1.6	9:02	3.7	8:25	5.6
THURSDAY	3:27	-0.2	2:31	1.8	9:43	3.6	8:49	5.7
FRIDAY	3:59	-0.4	2:56	2.1	10:23	3.5	9:15	5.8

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The Q Line

Four years ago, the Santa Monica City Council passed an ordinance banning fees on ATM withdrawals by a 4-3 vote. The banking industry immediately filed lawsuits against the law and in July of 2000, a U.S. district judge in San Francisco struck it down.

Santa Monica (as well as the City of San Francisco, which passed a similar ban) appealed that decision to the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, which also overturned the law. City officials then appealed the decision to the U.S. Supreme Court, which refused last week to hear the case.

Some city officials have grumbled that

they knew the law would never stand up and that Santa Monica wasted thousands of dollars on attorney fees pursuing the case. Others say it was a "consumer protection issue."

So this week Q-Line wants to know: "Was the ATM fee ban a waste of time and taxpayer money from the beginning? Or was it a valid case of protecting residents from being gouged?"

Call (310) 285-8106 with your response before Thursday at 5 p.m. We'll print them in Friday's paper. Please limit your comments to a minute or less. It might help to think first about the wording of your response.



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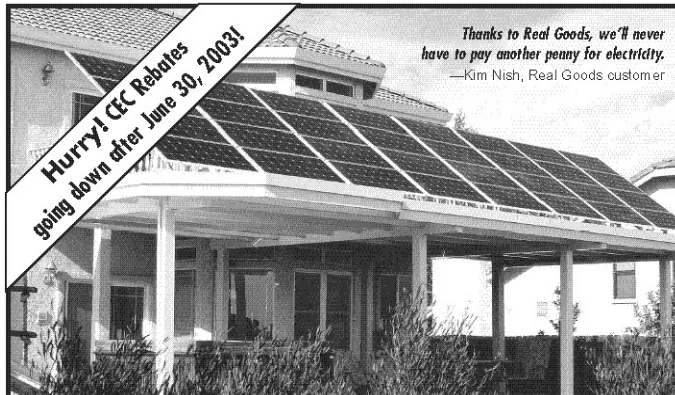
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Dennis C. Hardin, M.F.T., Ph.D., is a licensed psychotherapist and marriage counselor specializing in personal growth and goal achievement. He is the author of *THE ETHICS OF PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT*. He has also been certified by the Albert Ellis Institute in the techniques of rational-emotive therapy. His specialty is developing self-help methods which enable clients to retake control of their lives and remake their own destiny.

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LOCAL □ STATE



Bill setting up marijuana identity card passes Senate

By The Associated Press

SACRAMENTO — Medical marijuana users could get identity cards designed to protect them from arrest by state and local law enforcement officers under legislation approved Monday by the state Senate.

Sen. John Vasconcellos, D-Santa Clara, said his bill "makes for clarity for all concerned."

It would require the state Department of Health Services to develop the card program. County health departments would verify the qualifications of applicants.

Proposition 215, approved by California voters in 1996, allows Californians with cancer, HIV and certain other chronic medical conditions to grow and use marijuana to ease nausea and other health problems, if a physician recommends it.

Supporters of Vasconcellos' bill say the identity cards would help law enforcement officers determine who has a valid medical reason for using marijuana.

A 23-11 vote sent the bill to the Assembly.

Cultivation, possession and use of marijuana remains a crime under federal law.

Senate joins Assembly to urge congressman to resign post

By The Associated Press

SACRAMENTO — The California Senate joined the state Assembly on Monday in urging Rep. Howard Coble to resign as chairman of a House subcommittee because of his comments justifying the internment of Japanese-Americans during World War II.

Coble, a North Carolina Republican who heads the House Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism and Homeland Security, said during a Feb. 4 radio show that the internment was for the Japanese-Americans own protection.

"We were at war," Coble said. "For many of these Japanese-Americans, it wasn't safe for them to be on the street."

He also said that some Japanese-Americans "probably were intent on doing harm to us, just as some of these Arab Americans are probably intent on

doing harm to us."

The California Assembly voted 70-0 last month to approve a resolution condemning the comments. Assemblyman George Nakano, who was interned at age 6, said Coble's comments amounted to a rewriting of history.

"I still remember guards' rifles pointing inward to the camp — not to protect us but to keep us in," said Nakano, D-Torrance.

The Senate approved the same resolution Monday by a 31-0 vote. Sen. John Vasconcellos, D-Santa Clara, urged his colleagues to vote for the measure "on behalf of what we stand for as Americans."

Coble has refused comment, except to say that he regrets that "many Japanese- and Arab-Americans found my choice of words offensive because that was certainly not my intent."

SM's fireworks show saved

FIREWORKS, from page 1

by Fireworks & Stage FX America, Inc.

Gates open at 5 p.m. on June 28, and the festivities are scheduled to begin at 6 p.m.

Parking at SMC's Corsair Field, which is located at 16th Street and Pico Boulevard, is \$5. Attendees may bring picnics or buy dinner from one of the several food vendors. Alcoholic beverages, glass containers, barbecues and personal fireworks are not allowed at the event.

Donations for "Celebrate America" are still being accepted. Checks made out to "Celebrate America/Santa Monica College" can be mailed to Judy Neveau, Director of Community Relations, Santa Monica College, 1900 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica, 90405.

Parcel tax to fund schools to be decided by voters today

MEASURE S, from page 1

politicians for the shortfall and say the tax is unfair and that it should be based on square-footage or a business' profit margin.

Polls will be open from 7 a.m. until 8 p.m. Be aware that some polling places have changed.

To find your polling place, go to http://regrec.co.la.ca.us/voter/where_vote.htm, then click the link entitled "polling place inquiry for all county/city elections" and follow the instructions from there.

For more information, call the Santa Monica City Clerk's office at (310) 458-8211 or the L.A. County Registrar, which will be conducting the election, at (562) 466-1310.

Supporters of Measure S will gather at Moonshadows, 20356 Pacific Coast Highway in Malibu, to await results. Opponents did not plan a gathering.

To receive updates on the ballot count, check www.lavote.net. Results are expected at about 11 p.m.

NATIONAL



Privacy experts raise concerns about diary

PENTAGON, from page 1

Press. The products of the unclassified project would be available to both the private sector and other government agencies — a concern to privacy advocates.

DARPA's Jan Walker said LifeLog is intended for users who give their consent to be monitored. It could enhance the memory of military commanders and improve computerized military training by chronicling how users learn and then tailoring training accordingly, officials said.

But John Pike of Global Security.org, a defense analysis group, is dubious the project has military application.

"I have a much easier time understanding how Big Brother would want this than how (Defense Secretary Donald) Rumsfeld would use it," Pike said. "They have not identified a military application."

Steven Aftergood, a Federation of American Scientists defense analyst, said LifeLog would collect far more information than needed to improve a general's memory — enough "to measure human experience on an unprecedentedly specific level." And that, privacy experts say, raises powerful concerns.

DARPA rejects any notion LifeLog will be used for spying. "The allegation that this technology would create a machine to spy on others and invade people's privacy is way off the mark," Walker said.

She said LifeLog is not connected with DARPA's data-mining project, recently renamed Terrorism Information Awareness. Each LifeLog user could "decide when to turn the sensors on or off and who would share the data," she added. "The goal ... is to 'see what I see,' rather than to 'see me.'"

One critic sees a silver lining in the government taking the lead.

"If government weren't doing this, it would still be done by companies and in universities all over the country, but we would have less say about it," said James X. Dempsey of the Center for Democracy and Technology, which advocates online privacy. Because the government is involved, "you can read about it and influence it."

DARPA's Web site says the agency investigates ideas "the traditional research and development community finds too outlandish or risky."

But in LifeLog's case, some similar technology is already being funded and researched by well-heeled outfits.

Professor Steve Mann of the University of Toronto has spent 30 years developing a wearable camera and computer, progressing from intricate metallic headgear to dark frame eyeglasses and a cellphone-sized belt attachment. He's working with Samsung on a commercial version.

And Microsoft's Gordon Bell scans his

mail and other papers and records phone, Web, video and voice transactions into a computerized file called MyLifeBits. The company may include the capability in upcoming products.

Neither Mann nor Bell intends to bid on DARPA's project. Bell said DARPA wants to go further than he has into artificial intelligence to analyze data.

The Pentagon agency plans to award up to four 18-month contracts for LifeLog beginning this summer. Contracting documents give a sense of the project's scope.

Cameras and microphones would capture what the user sees or hears; sensors would record what he or she feels. Global positioning satellite sensors would log every movement. Biomedical sensors would monitor vital signs. E-mails, instant messages, Web-based transactions, telephone calls and voicemails would be stored. Mail and faxes would be scanned. Links to every radio and television broadcast heard and every newspaper, magazine, book, Web site or database seen would be recorded.

Breakthrough software would automatically produce an electronic diary that organizes the data into "episodes" of the user's life, such as "I took the 08:30 a.m. flight from Washington's Reagan National Airport to Boston's Logan Airport," according to the documents.

LifeLog's software also "will be able to find meaningful patterns in the timetable, to infer the user's routines, habits and relationships with other people, organizations, places and objects," DARPA told contractors in an advisory.

Walker said DARPA has no plans to develop software to analyze multiple LifeLogs. But DARPA advised contractors that ultimately, with proper anonymity, data from many LifeLogs could facilitate "early detection of an emerging epidemic."

Dempsey, the privacy advocate, says his concern is that users ultimately won't control LifeLog data.

"Because you collected it voluntarily, the government can get it with a search warrant," he said. "And an increasing amount of personal data is also available from third parties. The government can get data from them simply by asking or signing a subpoena."

He cites examples from current technology such as traffic cameras and automated toll booth passes that police already use to trace a person's path. Dempsey questions how LifeLog's analytical software will interpret such data and how Americans will be protected from errors.

"You can go to the airport to pick up a friend, to claim lost luggage or to case it for a terrorist attack. What story will LifeLog write from this data?" he asked. "At the very least, you ought to know when someone is using it and have the right to correct the 'story' it writes."

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OPINION

LETTERS

Vote against 'S' and avoid childrens' eyes

Editor:

Ron Yukelson, in his letter (SMDP, May 31) opposing Measure S based on our city's alleged legal fees in pursuit of consumer protection against bank fee gouging, has his figures (and his priorities) completely backward.

The only million dollars in the double ATM fee case was the refund Santa Monica customers would have gotten from a court-ordered escrow account, had we prevailed. The city's legal work was done in-house (and exceedingly well) by existing staff.

If you wish to vote against Measure S, you don't have to grasp at straws. All you have to do is be willing to avoid the eye of each and every child in this community for the next several years.

Kevin McKeown

Santa Monica City Councilman

Parcel tax is 'inequitable'

Editor:

The real issue with Measure S is not whether the schools need money, but the method of going about it. A parcel tax is the most inequitable way possible. And for Santa Monica to be subsidizing Malibu only compounds the inequity.

Marjorie Campbell

Santa Monica

Just do the 'good and noble thing'

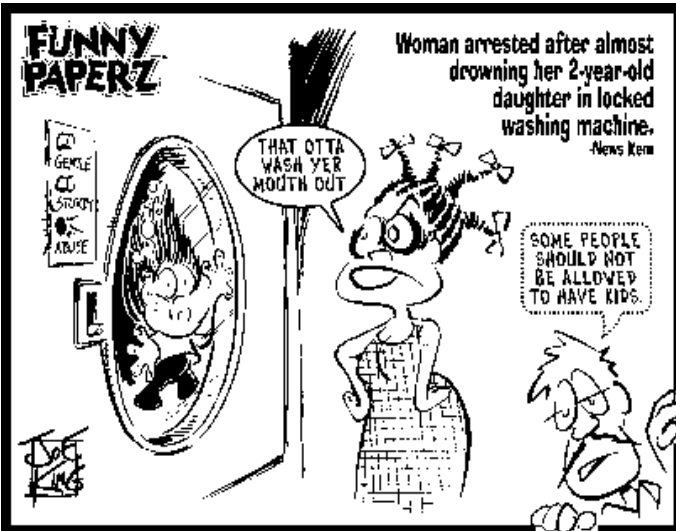
Editor:

Don't be fooled by the deceptive rhetoric of the "No on S" people. They are a small group of hyper-conservative tax protesters who are using Measure S as a way of forwarding their anti-social and community-damaging agenda. They say they are con-

cerned about the "fairness" of the school funding measure when the truth is that they are devotees of Howard Jarvis and are philosophically opposed to any form of taxation regardless of its intended purpose.

Our schools are in dire straits as a direct result of budget cuts made in Sacramento.

See LETTERS, page 7



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THINK
twice

Election Day thoughts on Measure S



Evelyn Jerome

■ Schools in Santa Monica and Malibu are top-notch and we should do everything we can to help them stay that way.

The state budget crisis has forced our well-run school district to cut many of the programs that have made our schools successful. Our schools need more funding but Measure S is the wrong way to do it.

I'm ready to say it: I'm voting no on Measure S today. Please postpone your rage at me long enough for me to explain why.

Measure S is regressive. It's the Steve Forbes approach — a flat tax. Under Measure S, all homeowners, condominium owners, apartment building owners

and businesses will pay the very same \$225. Does that seem fair, equitable or progressive to you?

Measure S treats homeowners, condominium owners and business owners the same, regardless of their ability to pay.

But it treats renters differently based on the size of their building. Renters in a small building will pay more than renters in a large building, as the landlord will along on the cost.

So why does SMRR support the parcel tax? You'd think an organization that claims to protect renters would have taken umbrage at a measure that pits them against each other, costing some renters drastically more than others.

And why is the business community backing this parcel tax, blessing their charitable little hearts? Because a more equi-

tably crafted measure would have businesses paying MORE than residents, either based on their sales or the amount of space they occupy.

And finally, who attends our Santa Monica-Malibu schools?

Kids from Santa Monica and Malibu, you say? Yes. But of the 12,000 kids in Santa Monica-Malibu schools, 2,500 of them do not live in Santa Monica or Malibu and will not pay this parcel tax. They don't pay the current parcel tax that we pay now. They don't pay anything because the school district has never asked.

If the district charged these families just the amount of this proposed tax, they could instantly raise more than a half a million dollars from the people who actually use the school system. What a concept.

I have my checkbook ready. I'm ready to pitch in to ensure that our schools remain excellent. I understand that their success has increased my property value.

Usually being in the minority in Santa Monica means being on the losing side, but they need two-thirds approval to pass this measure. Your vote really counts.

Let's send a message to the committee that drafted this parcel tax. Make them draft a better proposal — one that's equitable and progressive, like we would expect in Santa Monica and Malibu.

(Evelyn Jerome is the past president of Los Angeles County Young Democrats, founder of a communications consulting firm and a Santa Monica homeowner. To respond to her, e-mail evelyn_thinktwice@yahoo.com.)



Todd Flora

■ I can only hope you've picked up a copy of the Daily Press on your way to the polls today, where you will proudly vote "yes" on Measure S.

Not only is it important to support this six year revenue boost for our schools, but it is also important to vote. We may not be used to a June ballot with only one local initiative, but the future of education in Santa Monica and Malibu is at stake.

There are several reasons you should vote yes on S.

The first is necessity. Our schools face \$13 million in painful cuts if voters fail to act. Forget whether or not it "should

never have come to this" or whether certain persons or policies should be blamed. We're \$13 million short, period! There is no guarantee that the state will restore the necessary level of funding to SMMUSD schools once nasty budget negotiations have concluded in Sacramento.

Second, Measure S provides funding to fill almost half of the budget gap — \$6.2 million. This alone won't solve the problem but will help keep our Santa Monica/Malibu schools at the high quality level we have come to expect. (Hey homeowners — communities with good schools maintain higher property values.)

Measure S funds will, in part, preserve 91 valuable teachers that will otherwise be terminated. The measure will also preserve after-school athletics and music and will keep funds available for librari-

ans and school nurses.

Third, Measure S has built-in accountability. It mandates that an independent audit be conducted annually and establishes a citizens' oversight committee to ensure the funds raised are spent in the right places.

Opponents will tell you that this tax is regressive. They say that as building owners pass on the costs of the initiative, it would affect renters differently based on a building's number of rental units.

They are right. Opponents also make a strong point that a progressive structure could have been put in place that would have prevented the wealthiest homeowner, the average Main Street boutique and condo owners like Evelyn from paying the same \$225 per year.

But I would compliment the Measure

S committee, who worked hard not only to produce a measure that will help our schools, but also one that has gained an unprecedented level of diverse political support in Santa Monica.

Today, let's seize on this community consensus and back Measure S. If we don't, the cuts will be real and visible.

(Todd Flora is a professional issues manager who has served as state director of the California Clean Money Campaign, a campaign finance reform effort, and the Concord Coalition, a budget watchdog organization. He serves on the Steering Committee of Santa Monica's Allied for Responsible Tourism. To respond to or reach Todd, e-mail him at junkfood@aol.com.)

OPINION



LETTERS

LETTERS, from page 6

We, as a community, have an opportunity to step in and help our schools bridge the funding gap for the next six years as our state economy is given a chance to recover.

And this is something we must do because nobody else will. In these strange times the federal government is spending billions of dollars in the Middle East while at the same time Gray Davis is slashing our state education budget and investing millions of additional dollars into prisons.

And who bears the brunt? The children. Voiceless, vote-less, they are having their education plundered and their futures limited by situations beyond their control.

It is up to us, the adults of this community, to stand up and say, "Not here, not in our community. Here we stand by our children and support their education even when the federal and state government has abandoned them."

Voting yes on Measure S is a good and noble thing to do. Let's do it.

John Petz
Cofounder

Citizens For School District Reform

Don't put 'miracle workers' out of a job

Editor:

The many arguments for the school funding measure finally come down to a single word. It's the last word spoken at the climax of "The Miracle Worker" after Anne Sullivan shatters Helen Keller's curtain of darkness with the light of knowledge.

Helen has just discovered the wonder of language, suddenly realized that her previously chaotic universe can be described, labeled, understood through words. And then Helen pokes Anne's shoulder, demanding to know the word, the name, for the magical being who's opened the world to her. Anne gently takes Helen's hand, taps seven letters into her palm and whispers, "teacher."

Teacher.

Ninety-one teachers, right here in our community, are about to lose their jobs unless we act and convince our neighbors to act with us. Anne Sullivan told Helen Keller, "One word and I can place the world in your hand."

One word, and we can do the same for our children. The word is "yes." Yes to saving our schools. Yes on Measure S. We can't put 91 miracle workers out of work.

Bennett Tramer
Santa Monica

'CAVE people' aren't interested in facts

Editor:

"My Write" by Bill Bauer (SMDP, May 30) seemed to be more of a "My right to make it up as I go along..."

Entitled, "Politicians refuse to choose between agendas and schools," it more truthfully could have been entitled, "My loathing and obsession with SMRR."

I got the part about how Mr. Bauer sees SMRR as the antichrist. I missed the part of how it had much to do with Measure S or my students.

I'm a teacher at McKinley Elementary School. I'm also one of SMMCTA's representatives to CTA's Representative Assembly. This group of about 600 teachers from around the state meets quarterly and sets policy for the California Teachers' Association.

Thus I can inform you that another of your contributors, Tony Street, is way off-base blaming teachers for Gov. Gray Davis. CTA President Wayne Johnson and Gray Davis aren't even on speaking terms. I was in the room when Johnson made his recommendation to the Representative Assembly for the governor's reelection bid. Nada. As in nothing. Not one red dime.

Thus, Mr. Street's analysis of the election and blaming Davis on teachers and CTA is pure fantasy.

(Mr. Street also made some disparaging comments about teachers and their vacations. For the record, my colleagues and I work 183 days and are paid for 183 days. We are not paid for time off. While we have negotiated a contract that balances our paychecks over the course of the school year, we are not paid for Thanksgiving, Christmas or spring break any more than we are paid for weekends. Thus our so-called vacations are actually unpaid time off. And from July 5 until September 20, teachers receive no paychecks at all. That is unless, like many of my colleagues, they have summer jobs or tutor to help make ends meet.)

I've also proudly represented the teachers of Santa Monica and Malibu on the Save Our Schools Committee and I can attest to the fact that SMRR co-founder Denny Zane is a member and contributor but not the leader in this campaign.

Before Bill decides to refute me on account of my being closely aligned with the antichrist, I would remind him that I ran against Richard Bloom (and SMRR) in the '98 special election. But that would be a fact and I'm not sure how much stock he places in such quaint ideas.

The one fact that neither Bill nor Tony nor any of their half-dozen or so naysaying co-conspirators have been able to refute is that just about every reputable civic leader in both Santa Monica and Malibu is supporting Measure S and our children.

Democrats, Republicans and Greens. Conservatives, moderates and liberals. Men, women and children. Much of the opposition I see and read appears to be composed of CAVE people (Citizens Against Virtually Everything).

And that's fine. It is a democracy. But as I often remind my students, let's play nice. And let's stick to the facts.

Marc J. Sanschagrin
Santa Monica

Measure S is a simple question

Editor:

On Saturday, we canvassed door-to-door for Measure S. Most people were supportive and a few shared polite doubts and we had good conversations with them about why we thought it was important.

Another group though was just downright cynical about Measure S and anything tied to taxes or government. They ragged on Sacramento or the City Council or the teacher's union.

We can't let this group control the future of Santa Monica and with a two-thirds majority needed to pass, they can have power greater than their number.

There is good reason to be skeptical about government and to remain vigilant and informed. But this is not a referendum on the handling of the state budget deficit, the lottery, or Enron.

It's about the kids in the neighborhood. It's about the kids who can get easily lost in a classroom of 40 who will go home to empty houses and trouble because there are no after school programs, who will start first grade already yards behind their wealthier peers because there are no preschool programs, who will have to slog through school and life without music or art.

It's about kids looking at their schools and classrooms and feeling that this community either really doesn't care much about them or that we're willing to sacrifice something for their success.

Finally, on Wednesday, real estate agents in Santa Monica are either going to say to prospective home-buyers, "Santa Monica has great schools. They just passed a parcel tax to continue programs hurt by the state budget cut." Or agents in L.A. are going to say, "The Santa Monica schools' reputation is a thing of the past. The voters just turned back two referendums."

And that is going to cost us a lot more than \$225 down the line — a lot more.

No one in Sacramento is going to hurt a bit or learn some lesson if Measure S doesn't pass. The only ones who will hurt will be kids we pass on the playgrounds of Will Rogers, McKinley, Roosevelt, Grant, Franklin, Edison and John Muir. It's that simple.

Bill and Randi Parent
Santa Monica

'High quality community' at stake

Editor:

In 1849, Robert Semple, a delegate at the first Constitutional Convention of California, made the following remarks:

"I think that here, above all places in the Union, we should have, and we possess the resources to have a well regulated system of education. Education, sir, is the foundation of republican institutions; the school system suits the genius and the spirit of our form of government. If the people are to govern themselves, they should be qualified to do it. They must be educated; they must educate their children; they must provide means for the diffusion of knowledge and the progress of enlightened principles."

This requirement for "a well regulated system of education" is as true — or more true — today as it was in 1849. But reeling from the current financial crisis, the State of California has let down our schoolchildren.

Here in Santa Monica and Malibu, however, we are fortunate to have a local solution to this state-caused crisis. On June 3, Santa Monica and Malibu residents will be able to vote for Measure S, a local school funding measure that will restore a large portion of money we're losing from the state and save our schools from drastic budget cuts.

Measure S requires strict taxpayer accountability. As the impartial analysis in your ballot pamphlet states: Measure S would "ensure district accountability by providing resident taxpayer oversight and independent annual audits of revenue and expenditures."

Measure S funds will be used to restore 91 teachers as well as some nurses, librarians and custodial support. Seniors 65 and over who own and reside in their residence may apply for an exemption. Measure S is supported by a large, multi-partisan coalition of parents, teachers, seniors, business, labor, homeowners, renters, Democrats, Republicans, Independents and Greens.

Our ability to continue to provide a high quality education for our children and a high quality community for ourselves is at stake. Please join us in voting Yes for Measure S.

Shari Davis and Louise Jaffe
Co-chairs
Community for Excellent Public Schools

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

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Santa Monica

A weekly look at events and programs

Baby-proofing house is a multi-step process

Guest Commentary

By Christina Pols, R.N.

QUESTION: I want to make sure my home is safe for my baby when I bring her home from the hospital. What steps should I take to make it baby proof?

ANSWER: If you haven't already begun to safety proof your home, you should start immediately. Even before babies begin to crawl, there are numerous safety considerations to follow, particularly in the bedroom and crib area.

Make sure the crib mattress fits tightly, with no more than two fingers width between the mattress and side of the crib. Crib slats should be no more than 2 3/8 inches apart to avoid injury.

Keep crib side rails up and secure bumper pads to the crib. Do not place any heavy wall hangings directly above the crib and secure all drapery and mini blind cords out of the child's reach. When your child can sit, remove all crib gyms and mobiles. Once your child can stand, remove the bumpers and any large stuffed animals that she can climb on to prevent her from falling from the crib. Falls are the most frequent cause of

injury to children younger than six years old.

Once the baby begins to move on his or her own, you should safety proof the entire house. Most babies begin to crawl before six months of age.

When checking for possible child hazards in your home, experts recommend getting down on the floor and crawling from room to room, mimicking the movements that your baby will be making in the months ahead. There are also professionals available who can evaluate your home and do all the safety proofing for you.

If you plan to purchase and install safety devices yourself, the following are some of the basic safety equipment recommended for all homes:

- Electrical outlet covers;
- Cabinet door latches for kitchens and bathrooms;
- Toilet latches;
- Stove guard;
- Stairway gates/barriers;
- Furniture screws and bolts to attach heavy/bulky items to walls.

If your home has a pool, spa or hot tub, make sure they are secured with high fences, locked gates, locking covers and pool alarms. A child can drown in a matter of seconds and it is usually silent.

In kitchens and bathrooms, make sure all cleaning products, prescription medicines, cold remedies, cos-

metics, shampoos, perfumes, insect sprays, etc., are kept in high, locked cabinets. Many of these products can be poisonous to infants and toddlers, including items as innocuous as mouthwash, which can be fatal if swallowed.

Bathrooms in particular can contain many sources of possible danger to your baby. Make sure any appliance that you leave plugged in, such as a hair dryer, does not have a cord long enough to reach any water source. Install a toilet lock and, if possible, install circuit breaker outlets in bathrooms.

When bathing your infant or toddler, use only a few inches of water in the tub and place bathmats on the bottom to prevent slipping. Never leave your child unattended even for a second while filling up the tub or during bathing and drain the bathtub immediately after use. If the bathroom door has locks, remove them so your child cannot accidentally lock herself in.

These are just a few of the safety issues to consider. Many hospitals offer parent education classes for expectant moms and dads on infant and child safety. Contact your ob/gyn or hospital to find out what services are available to you.

(Christina Pols, R.N., is the parent education coordinator at Saint John's Health Center in Santa Monica. For more information, 310-829-8731.)

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TUESDAY

Storytelling

Main Library - Toddler Story Time at 10:00 and 10:30am - Reed Park/West Auditorium/7th and Wilshire - 2 yr-olds with parent. 310-458-8922

Fairview Branch - 2101 Ocean Park Blvd - 310-450-0443

Lap Time - 11:00am, April 29 - June 3 for 0-24 month olds

Twilight Story Time - 7pm - an ongoing program for 3-5 year olds.

Cuentos Para Pequenos - 10am - April 29 - June 3 - a 6-wk program of stories in Spanish for 2-3 years old.

Montana Avenue Branch - 1704 Montana Ave - 310-829-7081

Family Story Time - 7pm - Stories for the entire family.

Breastfeeding Group

The Pump Station, 310-826-5774, no pre-reg required, \$10 per class, first class free. Moms/babies 0-4months, 1:00 - 2:30pm

Yoga

Yoga Baby (Venice) - 310-306-9381, Prenatal yoga - 7:00-8:15pm, \$13, Mommy and Me (ages 0-5) - 10-11am, \$9

Yoga Works - 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150, Pre/Postnatal - 12:15 - 1:45pm, \$15, Mommy and Me - 1:45-3pm, \$15

Other

Recreational Swimming - Santa Monica Swim Center at SMC - corner of Pico and 16th, 4 - 6:30pm, Residents pay \$2.50 per adult, \$1.00 per child. 310-458-8700

WEDNESDAY

Storytelling

Fairview Branch - 2101 Ocean Park Blvd - 310-450-0443, Preschool Story Time - 10:30am - April 30 - June 4, 3-5 year olds able to be on their own

Ocean Park Branch - 2601 Main St. - 310-392-3804

Lap Time - 9:20 and 10:20am - stories and songs for 0-2 year olds. Thru June 12, begins again July 10th.

Twilight Story Time - 7:00 to 7:30pm - for parents with 3-5 year olds.

Barnes and Noble, Westside Pavilion - 2 pm - ages 2-5 - 310-475-4144

Border's, Westwood - 11am - 310-475-3444

Breastfeeding Group

The Pump Station - 310-826-5774, no pre-reg required, \$10 per class, first class free. Moms/babies 0-4months, 1:00 - 2:30pm

Yoga

Yoga Baby (Venice) - 310-306-9381, Prenatal yoga - 11:15am - 12:30pm, \$13, Mommy and Me (ages 0-5) - 10-11am, Mommy and me (infants) 1-2pm, \$9

Yoga Works - 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150, Pre/Postnatal - 12:15 - 1:45pm, \$15

Yoga Garden - 310-450-0133, www.yoga-gardenstudios.com, Restorative yoga for pre/postnatal - 6:30pm

The Pump Station, Jennifer Triggs - 310-451-9051 (call first), Pre-natal - 6:30 - 7:30pm, \$10

Other

Puppetolio - 1:00pm, 310-656-0483, 1255 2nd St, ages 3 & up, reservations suggested

Recreational Swimming - Santa Monica Swim Center at SMC - corner of Pico and 16th, 4 - 6:30pm, Residents pay \$2.50 per adult, \$1.00 per child. 310-458-8700

THURSDAY

Storytelling

Main Library - Preschool Story Time - 10:30am - Reed Park/West Auditorium/7th & Wilshire, Stories for ages 3-5 able to be on their own. 310-458-8922

Fairview Branch - 2101 Ocean Park Blvd - 310-450-0443

Toddler Story Time - 10:30am - May 1 - June 5 - 6 week series for 2-3 year olds with adult.

La Hora Del Cuento - 7:00pm - Stories in Spanish for all ages.

Montana Avenue Branch - 1704 Montana Ave - 310-829-7081

Preschool Story Time - 11:15am - for 3-5 year olds.

Ocean Park Branch - 2601 Main St. - 310-392-3804

Lap Time - 9:20 and 10:20am - stories and songs for 0-2 year olds. Thru June 12, begins again July 10th.

Twilight Story Time - 7:00 to 7:30pm - for parents with 3-5 year olds.

Barnes and Noble, Westside Pavilion - 2 pm - ages 2-5 - 310-475-4144

Border's, Westwood - 11am - 310-475-3444

Breastfeeding Group

The Pump Station - 310-826-5774, no pre-reg required, \$10 per class, first class free. Moms/babies 4-8 months, 1:00-2:30pm

Other

Yoga Baby (Venice) - 310-306-9381, Prenatal yoga - 7:00-8:15pm, \$13, Mommy and Me (ages 0-5) - 10-11am, \$9

Yoga Works - 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150, Pre/Postnatal - 12:15 - 1:45pm, \$15, Mommy and Me - 1:45-3pm, \$15

Other

Recreational Swimming - Santa Monica Swim Center at SMC - corner of Pico and 16th, 4 - 6:30pm, Residents pay \$2.50 per adult, \$1.00 per child. 310-458-8700

FRIDAY

Yoga

Yoga Baby (Venice) - 310-306-9381, Prenatal yoga - 11:15am - 12:30pm, \$13, Mommy and Me (ages 0-5) - 10-11am, Mommy and me (infants) 1-2pm, \$9

Yoga Works - 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150, Pre/Postnatal - 12:15 - 1:45pm, \$15

Classes

Pump Station - 2415 Wilshire Blvd, SM, 310-826-5774

HOT TOPICS FOR MOMS with babies 6-12 months - 1:00 - 2:30pm, \$15, no pre-registration required, space is limited. June 6th - Superwoman...Reality vs. Myth: Rachel Karu, MS

Other

Recreational Swimming - Santa Monica Swim Center at SMC - corner of Pico and 16th, 4 - 6:30pm, Residents pay \$2.50 per adult, \$1.00 per child. 310-458-8700

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SATURDAY

Storytelling

Children's Book World - 10580 W. Pico Blvd, LA, 310-559-800K, 10:30 am, ages 3-8 (May 3, 10, 17, and 24)

Barnes and Noble, 3rd St. Promenade - Kid's Story Time - 10am - 310-260-9110

Barnes and Noble, Westside Pavilion - 10:30am - ages 2-5 - 310-475-4144

Yoga

Yoga Baby (Venice) - 310-306-9381, Prenatal yoga - 9:15 - 10:30am, and 10:45 - noon, \$13

Santa Monica Yoga - 1640 Ocean Park Blvd. - 310-396-4040, Prenatal yoga - 12:30 - 2:00pm, \$14

Other

Puppetolio - 1:00 and 3:00pm, 310-656-0483, 1255 2nd St, ages 3 & up, reservations suggested

Recreational Swimming - Santa Monica Swim Center at SMC - corner of Pico and 16th, 10:30am - 4:30 pm, Residents pay \$3.00 per family (up to two adults and two children). 310-458-8700

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Other

family (up to two adults and two children). 310-458-8700

MONDAY

Storytelling

Main Library (programs for the Main Library are being presented in off-site locations during renovation)

NEW PROGRAM BEGINS JUNE 16. Lap Time for parents and children up to 24 months, 9:30am, Joslyn Park/Craft Room/633 Kensington - 310-452-6132.

Barnes and Noble - 3rd St. Promenade - Toddler Story Time - 10am - 310-260-9110

Other

Puppetolio - 1:00 and 3:00pm, 310-656-0483, 1255 2nd St, ages 3 & up, reservations suggested

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Ex-governor safely descends from Everest summit

By The Associated Press

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Former New Mexico Gov. Gary Johnson has returned to the Mount Everest base camp after summiting the 29,035-foot peak Friday, and his wife Dee said Monday his elation came through clearly during a satellite telephone call.

"I asked him what he felt when he got to the top. He said, 'I just felt total elation that I'd actually done this.' Because on the way up, high winds had come up everyday and taken people back down the mountain and he thought it would happen to them. ... When the winds never came up

"I asked him what he felt when he got to the top. He said, 'I just felt total elation that I'd actually done this.'"

— DEE JOHNSON
Wife

and they just kept going, that's all he thought about when he got to the top. Here he was, standing on the top."

The team headed off Monday on the first leg of the homeward journey, Dee Johnson said.

The 50-year-old former governor was walking from base camp to Pheriche, at the foot of another Himalayan challenge,

22,500-foot Ama Dablam, according to a Web site posting from Eric Simonson, director of International Mountain Guides of Ashland, Wash., which arranged the trip.

"He says he's fine. ... He has a little bit of frostbite, a nip on his left big toe, that they're treating. ... It's not a full-blown frostbite but he says he's hobbling a bit," she said.

She said he was happy to be back in base camp when he called, and was especially glad to get through the mountain's icefall on the return trip, telling her that was his least-favorite part.

"There were some big breaks when they were going through it this time and he was glad to get through that area," she said.

Dee Johnson said it would probably "take a couple of days to hike down from there," then the team has to wait for yaks with some of their supplies.

She expects her husband to fly to Katmandu, Nepal, on Thursday, but said he might stop in Bangkok, Thailand, for a couple of days on the way back to New Mexico.

Denver eases water restrictions but warns drought not over

BY P. SOLOMON BANDA
Associated Press Writer

DENVER — With spring runoff filling reservoirs, the Denver Water Board eased watering restrictions Monday but warned that the drought is not over.

New sod now may be watered as needed for up to two weeks, and residents with large yards may water their entire lawns. Residents also may wash their cars when they're dirty instead of having to wait for specific watering days, except for Monday when there is a complete ban.

Residents still must observe designated watering days, no watering between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m., and drought surcharges that range from 80 cents to \$11.85 per thousand gallons for using more than 18,000-gallon per two-month billing period.

"There are two ways to suppress the demand for water. One is rules, telling you what you can and can't do, and the other way is to jack up the price so people can figure out a way they can use less," said Chips Barry, manager of Denver Water. "If you have a big yard and water all of it, you're going to pay for it."

Denver's nine-reservoir system is still below the levels from this time last year. As of Sunday, they were at 62 percent capacity compared with last year's 73 percent, Denver Water spokeswoman Trina McGuire-Collier said. Normally, they are at between 85 percent and 90 percent.

Denver Water serves 1.2 million customers in the metro area.

Other cities along the Colorado Front Range have relaxed their restrictions because of the increased snowpack.

In Aurora, officials backed off a ban on new taps, which was considered as the city's reservoirs dipped to 25 percent capacity. Residents there will be allowed to water twice a week, one hour a day.

In Colorado Springs, residents will be allowed to water twice a week, up to three hours a day. Pueblo adopted voluntary

restrictions, thanks to a near-normal snowpack.

Businesses had warned that water restrictions could cost the state thousands of jobs. Tom Tolkacz, president of Swingle Tree & Lawn Care, said the eased restrictions could help businesses but that he remains cautious.

Police become forceful with protestors in Zimbabwe

BY ANGUS SHAW
Associated Press Writer

HARARE, Zimbabwe

Government troops fired live ammunition and tear gas and beat demonstrators with clubs and rifle butts Monday as the opposition launched a week of strikes and protests aimed at forcing President Robert Mugabe to step down.

Police raids rounded up dozens of leaders and supporters of the opposition Movement for Democratic Change, which is seeking to make its most significant challenge yet to Mugabe's autocratic rule.

Opposition leader Morgan Tsvangirai was arrested at his Harare home early Monday but was later released.

The opposition blames Mugabe for Zimbabwe's worst economic crisis since independence, with record inflation of 269 percent and acute shortages of currency, gasoline, medicines and other essential imports and food. Only international food aid has averted mass starvation.

The government, through the state media, has vowed to use the army, police and its governing party militias to crush protests. Armored vehicles with rotating machine gun turrets patrolled the streets as demonstrations began in the capital, Harare, and the country's second-largest city, Bulawayo, both considered opposition strongholds.

In downtown Harare, soldiers forced about 20 protesters to lie on the sidewalk where they beat them with rubber batons, witnesses said. Some cried out in pain, shouting, "What have we done?"

On the campus of Zimbabwe University, witnesses also saw a group of about eight students beaten by soldiers. Riot police fired tear gas, driving back hundreds of students trying to march downtown.

More beatings were reported in the Harare township of Mabvuku where shoppers at a sidewalk fruit and vegetable stand were mistaken for protesters by soldiers and hit with rifle butts.

This week's protests are also seen as a blow to the efforts of African leaders, headed by South African President Thabo Mbeki, to win backing from Western powers for an economic revival plan for Africa. That plan relies on an African promise to insure good-governance in Africa.

British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw condemned the Zimbabwean government's actions and called for Mugabe's return to negotiations with the opposition "to address the country's rapidly-worsening political, economic and humanitarian crisis."

The crackdown is "further evidence that the government of Zimbabwe is not willing to extend to its people their basic right of peaceful protest," he said.

Police spokesman Wayne Bvudzijena said in a statement that at least 154 people, most of them opposition activists or officials, were arrested across the country Monday.

A march in Bulawayo was broken up by riot police who beat three opposition supporters, injuring them before dragging them into a police truck, said democratic rights activist Jenni Williams.

"We are trying to find out where they are so we can get urgent medical attention to them," she said.

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SPORTS



Point guard Parker will be speedy foe for Kidd, Nets

BY CHRIS SHERIDAN
AP Basketball Writer

SAN ANTONIO — Nearly two years ago, shortly after hearing the Spurs drafted a French point guard, San Antonio forward Malik Rose learned that Tony Parker had his own Web site.

A few clicks later, Rose took his first look.

"It was weird. It showed him dribbling around. It showed his weak French dunk. He barely got his fingers over the rim. Probably a 9-foot rim," Rose joked Monday.

The Spurs also rag on Parker for eating his french fries with a mixture of ketchup and mayonnaise, and for his bout of vomiting after eating a bad batch of creme brulee the night before Game 6 in Dallas.

But for all the teasing, the Spurs also give the 21-year-old Parker plenty of respect.

He will become the fourth-youngest player in NBA history to compete in the finals when San Antonio's best-of-seven series against the New Jersey Nets begins Wednesday night.

"It's a dream to play in the NBA Finals. Three years ago I was waking up at 3 a.m. to watch the finals, and now I'm playing in them," Parker said.

His matchup against Nets point guard Jason Kidd will be one of the keys to the upcoming series, and it comes with an intriguing subplot. The Spurs will have more than \$14 million worth of salary cap space over the summer when Kidd becomes a free agent, and it's possible they will offer it to Kidd.

Will it have an affect on Parker?

"I've been asked that question 500 times, and it's not going to bother me — the comparison and the matchup with Jason Kidd," Parker said Monday.

The speedy Parker does not even expect this matchup to be his toughest of the postseason. In his opinion, no point guard is more difficult to defend than Phoenix's Stephon Marbury, whose team defeated San Antonio twice in the opening round.

Kidd is not the same type of natural scorer Marbury is, but he's a better passer, rebounder and all-around player.

Kidd is averaging 20.3, 8.4 rebounds and 8.3 assists in the postseason to Parker's 14.9 points, 2.6 rebounds and 3.3 assists.

"They were the best team in the NBA, so everybody talks about Tim (Duncan), and they should," Kidd said. "But Tony Parker is the key. When he plays well, they play well."

Indeed, the Spurs were 20-1 during the regular season and 4-0 in the first three rounds of the playoffs when getting 20 or more points from Parker, whose flashy speed and accurate mid-range jumper are his strongest skills.

Parker, born in Belgium and raised in France, is the son of an American father and a Dutch mother. His father, Tony Sr., played for Loyola, Ill., before moving overseas to play professionally in Europe.

Parker first saw his father's old Chester Highlands neighborhood on Chicago's

south side when he was 6.

"It was the ghetto, it was really poor. It helped me appreciate the good things in life," Parker said.

He made his first big splash in American basketball circles at the Nike Hoop Summit in Indianapolis in February 2000, scoring 20 points with seven assists and two steals against an American team that included Darius Miles, Zach Randolph and Omar Cook.

Parker said Georgia Tech, UCLA and Connecticut approached him to offer scholarships, but he instead turned professional and played in the French League.

"It's a dream to play in the NBA Finals. Three years ago I was waking up at 3 a.m. to watch the finals, and now I'm playing in them."

— TONY PARKER

San Antonio Spurs point guard

That league includes plenty of veteran players, allowing Parker to become accustomed at an early age to older opponents. Much older.

The experience has given Parker an air of confidence and maturity.

He was selected 28th by San Antonio in the 2001 draft, a low number for such an impact player.

"It's because I was a European point guard, that's why. Nobody made it before. They thought the point guard position was for Americans," Parker said. "I'm 50-50; they forgot about my American part."

Parker became a starter just 10 games into his rookie season and has held the job since, showing dramatic improvement along the way.

"Over the past five to 10 years — and especially the last five years — there are so many players from overseas that play the game as well or better than the American kids that it should be obvious to everybody, especially with our loss last summer in World Championships, that there are not only good players but good teams, good coaches everywhere," Popovich said.

The Nets were due to arrive in San Antonio on Monday night, bringing along a 10-game postseason winning streak, two shy of the record in a single postseason set by San Antonio in 1999.

They will have had a 10-day layoff when the series tips off Wednesday night.

"Everyone is ready to go," forward Rodney Rogers said. "We had all that down time, which is good and bad. You get tired of beating up on each other. Everyone's mood is real good."

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CITY OF SANTA MONICA NOTICE

INVITING APPLICATIONS FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE CITY OF SANTA MONICA PERSONNEL BOARD

The Santa Monica City Council is now accepting applications for two (2) appointments to the City of Santa Monica Personnel Board. Applicants must be a current resident of the City of Santa Monica.

The State Political Reform Act requires certain officeholders to disclose their interest and income that may be materially affected by their official action. The applicant appointed to serve in this position will be required to file a Statement of Economic Interest (Form 700) with the City Clerk's office upon assuming office, and annually thereafter.

Applications and information on Board duties & disclosure requirements are available from the City Clerk's Office, City Hall, 1685 Main St., Rm. 102 (submit applications at this same location), by phone at (310) 458-8211, or on-line at <http://santa-monica.org>.

All current applications on file will be considered.

Applications due by noon, Tuesday, June 17, 2003.
Appointment to be made by City Council, June 24, 2003.

Disability related assistance and alternate formats of this document are available upon request by calling (310) 458-8246.

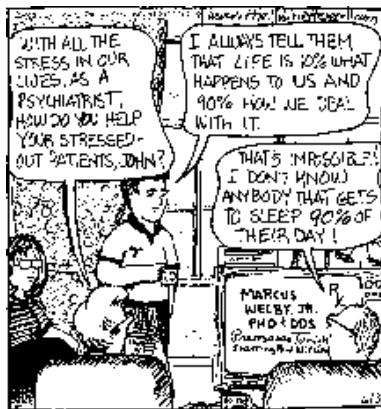


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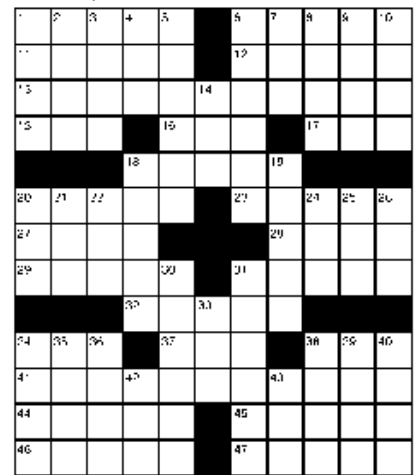
- ACROSS**
- 1 Like the Capitol
 - 6 LaToya's sister
 - 11 Mexican pal
 - 12 Wear away
 - 13 "Adaptation" star
 - 15 Had lunch
 - 16 Ignited
 - 17 Chick tender
 - 18 Film composer
 - 20 Morley of "60 Minutes"
 - 23 Crew member
 - 27 Join the game
 - 28 Sea sight
 - 29 Singer's work
 - 31 Mended
 - 32 Contribute, as dues
 - 34 Targets of crunches
 - 37 Yonder lass
 - 38 Bikini hall
 - 41 "Walk-about" director
 - 44 Scoundrel
 - 45 Old pronoun
 - 46 "— is Born"
 - 47 Recital highlights
- DOWN**
- 1 Comic Carvey
 - 2 Leave out
 - 3 Maze runners
 - 4 Swelled head
 - 5 Buck
 - 6 Court outup
 - 7 Circle part
 - 8 Bible boatsman
 - 9 Border
 - 10 High schooler
 - 14 Target
 - 18 Excite
 - 19 Like some situations
 - 20 Masseur's place
 - 21 Greedy desire
 - 22 Beatles descriptor
 - 24 Candle makeup
 - 25 Night before
 - 26 Blushing
 - 30 Com-poser
 - 31 Historic events
 - 33 Sup-porter's vote
 - 34 Singer Paul
 - 35 Storage sites
 - 36 "Get lost!"
 - 38 Simmer
 - 39 Nevada city
 - 40 Historic times
 - 42 Fertility clinic
 - 43 Greek letter



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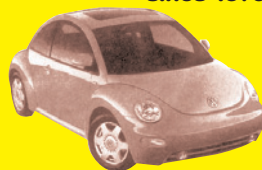


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DAILY PRESS seeks full-time general office assistant. Must be an organized, reliable self-starter, possessing the ability to work under deadlines with attention to detail. Solid computer skills a must! Duties include but not limited to: answering phones, data entry, light accounting. Fun work environment! Send resume via e-mail: ross@smdp.com.

FIGURE MODEL wanted. Fit female model wanted for figure drawing by artist. No experience necessary. Call (818)501-0266

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7 PIECE Bedroom Set. All brand new! Wood sleigh bed, mattress set, nightstand, and more. Moving and must sell! List \$2500. Giveaway \$795. (310)350-3814.

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SANTA MONICA \$1250 2bdrms/1ba, appliances, no pets. 1935 Cloverfield Blvd. #11 Santa Monica, CA 90404. Manager in #19.

SANTA MONICA \$1550.00 N. of Wilshire. Contemporary, spacious, 2bdrm/2ba, stove, dishwasher, parking, pet OK, W/D in unit, mini-blinds, fridge.

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SANTA MONICA \$850 1bdm/1ba, pet ok, walk to SMC, great loc, gated building. Westside Rentals (310)395-7368.

SANTA MONICA \$950 1bdm/1ba, R/S, laundry, quiet, bright, flex lease, parking, utilities included. Westside Rentals (310)395-7368

SANTA MONICA Studio \$850 Large main room, utilities included. Westside Rentals (310)395-7368

SANTA MONICA Studio, pet ok, r/s, laundry quiet, bright, \$775. Westside Rentals (310)395-7368.

SANTA MONICA: N. of Wilshire. Refurbished building for rent. 2&3 bdrms from \$1950 & up. 1214 Idaho, (310)869-0468.

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STUDIO CITY \$850.00 Contemporary lower 1bdm/1ba cat ok, D/W, gorgeous building, gated parking, patio, A/C, tiled kitchen, new linoleum bath.

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WeHo \$750.00 Character, gas stove, fridge, carport, laundry, secure entry, new carpet new linoleum floors. Close to the Grove.

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WeHo \$795.00 Spanish 1bdm/1ba, high ceilings, stove, fridge, crown moldings, w/c, cat, carport.

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For Rent

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MARINA DEL Rey: Regatta lease or sale. 9th floor, Marina views, 2 master suites, 2.5 baths, balcony, fireplace, full amenities building. \$3,950/mo. or \$689K (310)880-0699/pg.

SANTA MONICA townhouse for sale. 4bdm/3ba. Excellent location, 2 car garage. \$499K (310)453-1027

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"I SOLD it one day! When I put my futor for sale in the Daily Press, it took me one day to sell it...thanks!" Nina Stewart, Santa Monica.

"THE FIRST day I put my laptop for sale in your paper, I got several offers and sold it that day! Thank you Daily Press!" Jamie Schuler, Santa Monica.

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Personals

ANYONE KNOW the whereabouts of Roberta "Bobby" Roberts. Have her call Jamie Murda. (949)632-1646

Obituaries

DONNA E. WHITE, long time Santa Monica resident, passed away April 29, 2003. She was 79. Memorial Services will be held Saturday, May 31st, 3pm at The First United Methodist Church of Santa Monica. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the church.



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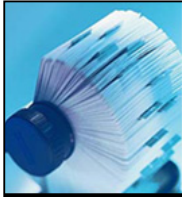
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BACK PAGE

Judge orders beauty queen's name off of raunchy Web site

BY JILL BARTON
Associated Press Writer

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. — A judge has ordered the operator of a raunchy Web site to stop posting details of an alleged sexual relationship he had with a former beauty queen who promotes abstinence and sobriety.

The temporary order forbids Tucker Max, 27, from "disclosing any stories, facts or information, notwithstanding its truth, about any intimate or sexual act" involving Katy Johnson, a two-time Miss Vermont who founded a "Sobriety Society" and has a Web site of her own filled with tips on living a virtuous life.

Johnson, 24, acknowledges knowing Max but denies having a sexual relationship with him.

She sued Max last month, arguing that he was using her name and photograph on his Web site to promote his "career as an authority on 'picking up' women."

Max's attorney, John C. Carey, called the order "inconsistent with the freedom of speech guaranteed by the Constitution."

"Tucker Max has the right to tell his autobiographical account of their relationship," Carey said in an e-mail to The Associated Press. He said they would ask for the order to be lifted.

Circuit Judge Diana Lewis imposed the order May 6.

John Seigenthaler, the founder of the First Amendment Center at Vanderbilt University, questioned whether the order will stand. Federal courts have found that the same First Amendment protections that protect newspapers and television should be extended to the

Internet, he said.

"What's the difference of saying it in a hall or saying it in a chat room?" he asked.

Johnson's attorney, Michael Santucci, would not comment Monday. He has asked for the lawsuit to be sealed to protect his client's privacy. But in a news release he issued last month, Santucci said the "victory should send a clear message to all parasitic smut peddlers who live off

of the good names of others."

Johnson, who lives in Delray Beach, was crowned Miss Vermont in 1999 and Miss Vermont USA in 2001. She entered the pageants when she was attending college in Vermont.

Max's Web site includes an application for women who want to date him and promotes his book, "The Definitive Book of Pick-Up Lines."

Chicago paper cartoon called too offensive

BY DON BABWIN
Associated Press Writer

CHICAGO — An editorial cartoon in the Chicago Tribune triggered calls and e-mails from offended readers and a column by one of the paper's editors who complained that the drawing was anti-Semitic.

In the drawing Friday by syndicated cartoonist Dick Locher, President Bush is depicted on a bridge labeled "Mideast Gulch" laying down dollar bills in front of a heavysset man with a large nose and a Star of David on his jacket.

The heavysset man, whom Locher said was meant to be Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, is saying, "On second thought, the pathway to peace is looking a bit brighter."

Locher said he was simply commenting on how the United States spends millions on peace in the Middle East. "My message was in no way meant to be a slur," he said.

Locher, a former Tribune cartoonist whose work is syndicated through Tribune Media Services, said cartoons are, by nature, exaggerations that include things like big noses — including the one he gave Yasser Arafat, who also appears in the cartoon.

"Nobody said that was a slur," he said.

In a column that ran Sunday, Don Wycliff, the Tribune's public editor, said the paper received several calls and e-mails from offended readers.

"The cartoon is blatantly anti-Semitic, reinforcing the long-held racist image of Jews as avaricious

and greedy," Wycliff quoted a message from one reader.

Wycliff wrote that his reaction was "very much the same."

Wycliff said he was confident there was no effort to "smuggle an anti-Semitic cartoon into the newspaper." But he wrote: "That this cartoon did indeed give grievous offense to many good people is beyond question."

Walter Mahoney, vice president for syndication at Tribune Media Services, said he did not know how many of the 200 other newspapers around the world that receive Locher's cartoons ran the one that angered readers in Chicago.

But he said he had not heard any other complaints, cancellations or comments about the cartoon.

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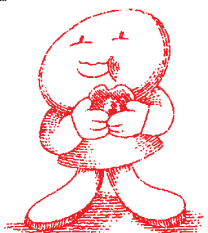
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