

FREE

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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Check Mate!



Del Pastrana/Daily Press
'Spanky,' (right) and Mike Loera play an intense game of chess at the beach Monday afternoon while an observer studies their strategies.

Project gets bogged down in bureaucracy

Developer frustrated; legal case builds

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON
Daily Press Staff Writer

A Main Street developer's battle with City Hall seems to be dragging on indefinitely.

Just when Howard Jacobs thought he made progress after his 133-unit housing and retail project was approved by the city council in February, he's almost back to square one.

After nearly three years of public process, a pending lawsuit and countless hours of review, Jacobs was informed last week that his development won't be reviewed by the planning commission until the end of August, despite that the commission shot down the proposal last December.

Jacobs appealed the decision to the city council, which unanimously approved the project. But Jacobs hit a road block at the architectural review board, which denied the project 4-0 about two weeks ago.

That denial automatically brings the project back to the planning commission, which now has final say on the project.

Meanwhile, Jacobs is suing the city, arguing it has dragged its feet in completing the environmental impact review on the

project, which is supposed to be done within 12 months of when he filed the application in the fall of 1999. The environmental report was completed late last year.

Jacobs claims that the delay has cost him millions of dollars because he is sitting on land that he has to pay for and the city is delaying him his right to get a return on his investment. Jacobs said he pays \$115,000 a month for the property.

"We find it amazing that they are being sued over the delays and with all of this, they are delaying it until the end of August," Jacobs said.

Chris Harding, Jacobs' attorney, fired off a letter to the city's planning department on Monday, urging that the matter be dealt with in June.

"If a special meeting is required to accommodate this request, then we suggest such a meeting is clearly warranted given the city's past unlawful delays of these projects ...," the letter states. "If for no other reason, the city should schedule a prompt hearing on these appeals to mitigate (at least partially) the damages the city has caused Mr. Jacobs."

The development includes three- and four-story buildings on the west and east side of Main Street just south of Pico Boulevard. The larger building will occupy

See PROJECT, page 5

Residents map out requests for council

Residents hope their wishes are not ignored

BY ANDREW H. FIXMER
Daily Press Staff Writer

Covering up graffiti and increasing the number of cops on the streets tops the list of priorities released by the Pico Neighborhood Association.

The group released its annual list of recommendations to the city council and senior city staff this weekend, concentrating on issues of policing, graffiti control and incentives for home ownership.

Like many other neighborhood associations across the city, the Pico group is hoping its concerns will be addressed when the city council adopts its budget for the next fiscal year at its June 18 meeting.

"Not many of these priorities have been changed in the past five years," said Don Gray, PNA vice-chair. "We just change them around a little bit and send them back."

"They usually get ignored," he added. But this year could prove different for Pico. Even though the city is grappling with an \$8.9 million budget deficit this year, the city is looking at ways of mediating Pico's problems.

"I think many of these we began to address during the budget study sessions," said Councilman Ken Genser. "And I think based on the staff's response, many of these will be addressed in the final budget."

The eight-square block Pico neighborhood — which runs north of the Santa Monica Freeway to Santa Monica Boulevard, south to Pico Boulevard and east from Lincoln Boulevard to Centinela Boulevard — has historically been the center of Santa Monica's violent crime,

drug dealing and gang activity.

Though city manager Susan McCarthy placed street improvements for 20th Street and Cloverfield Boulevard near the bottom of the city's priority list for next year, city council members asked that those efforts possibly be moved up.

"Clearly owning your own home creates pride of ownership and helps in building the community."

— DON GRAY
PNA vice-chair

A tentative plan is in the works to have trash collectors report graffiti when they are picking up garbage and recyclables. Because those workers regularly travel throughout all of the city's roads and alleyways, they can spot graffiti and report it soon after it happens to the city's graffiti team.

And despite its proposed budget reductions, the police department will be fully staffed in about four months. Last year the department hired 35 new officers, increasing the roster from 188 officers to about 223. The department has been authorized by the city council to have 229 officers on the force.

"We always ask for more basic services, like more police, and most times it

See PICO, page 5

Ventura public officials get rules for on-camera etiquette

By The Associated Press

VENTURA — With board meetings now seen live on the Internet, Supervisor John Flynn urged colleagues to follow his five-point list of on-camera etiquette guidelines to help them prepare for the digital debut.

The tart-tongued Flynn, known as a bit of a ham, read the list in descending order of importance as Tuesday's Internet

debut neared. The list:

5. There will be no swearing.
 4. Board members will not be disagreeable.
 3. Board members will always smile and be cool.
 2. Board members will wear makeup.
 1. Be careful where you scratch.
- "I keep a card in front of me that says, 'Stay cool.' I'll just have to let loose with it when I go in the back room," Flynn said.

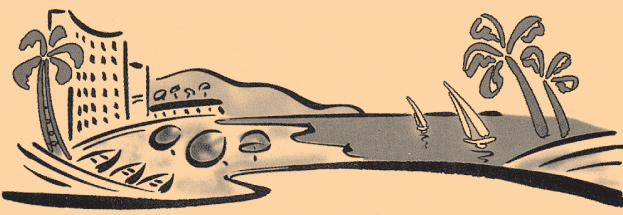
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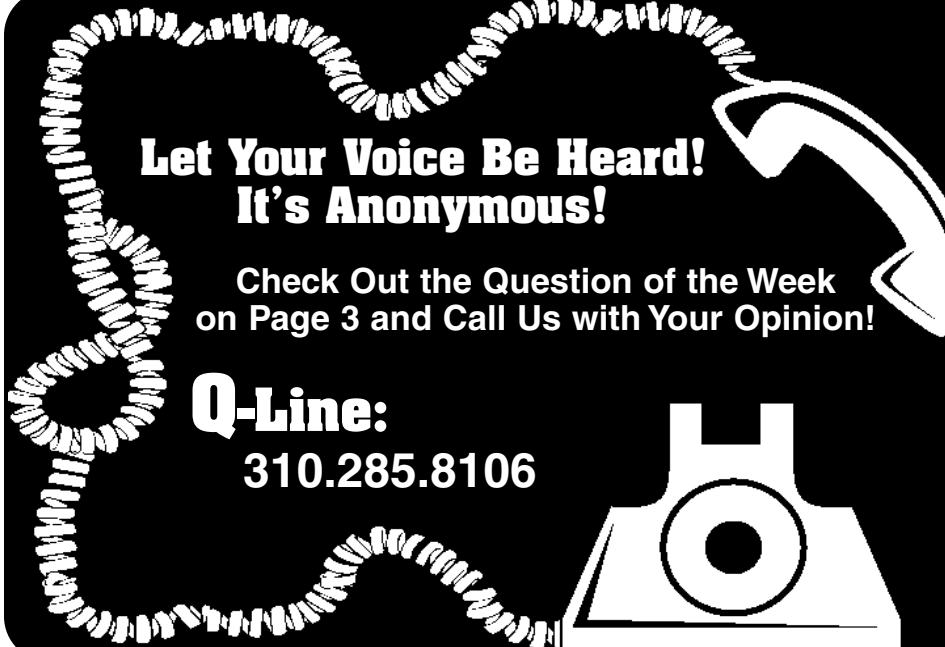
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**Check Out the Question of the Week
on Page 3 and Call Us with Your Opinion!**

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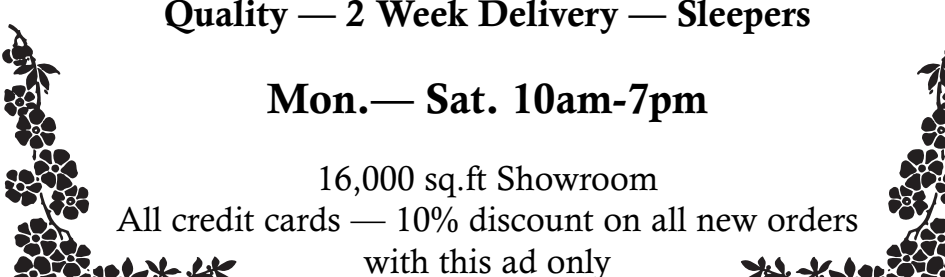
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ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ You're full of energy, and you're in charge of how you direct it. You might be unusually volatile, whether you get your way or not. Ask yourself what gives. You're a live wire, discharging news left and right. Your delivery makes a difference! Tonight: Do what you want — you will, anyway.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ Lie back some, using your instincts with money matters. You might choose not to share a lot of what you think about. Someone could be unusually sharp verbally, causing you to step back. You might opt to wait awhile before discussing it. Tonight: Hang out.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ Aim for more of what you want. You could be set back by an expenditure, which might be needed to get you where you want to be. Carefully consider your options here. You might be able to find a less-expensive path to the same results. Tonight: Treat a friend to dinner.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ You might be stormier than you realize. Sometimes you feel pressured by someone who means well, but you could be confused by what is going on. Carefully consider your options that revolve around your career. Tonight: Choose your words carefully.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Look past the obvious with information. Consider your options carefully. Evaluate what another might want from you. Could there be something he or she isn't saying? Though you know what you want and might be clear about it, don't assume that everyone else is. Tonight: Relax.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Someone easily could become frustrated if you don't follow his or her lead. You need to slow down and explain where you're coming from. Consider alternatives that surround an emotional matter. Try not to lose your temper — please. Tonight: Listen to another's perspective.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Others seek you out. Though you're always interested in getting more information, you could be shocked by another's attitude. Think through a reaction before saying strong words. Be mum as you decide to make a decision. Tonight: Go along with another's idea, if you can.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★ Pace yourself, and realize your limits. You might not be able to accomplish all that you want to. Remain upbeat in your dealings with associates, even if someone you deal with could be belligerent. Be careful with your anger — don't let it distract you. Tonight: Get needed exercise.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Though you love to schmooze, you might be overwhelmed by another's irritation, if not anger, at your flirtatious ways. Rethink what you're doing. Turn up the sensitivity, and listen more to others and what they ask for. Tonight: Help another chill out.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Discuss a new opportunity involving your business. A family member's opinions could be noteworthy. Also, those around you at work have strong opinions. You might not realize it, but you're walking on eggshells with someone. Careful. Tonight: At home.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ A child or loved one tantalizes you with his or her words and ideas. You might want to get into this discussion now and not relegate it to the future. Slow down, as you could be accident-prone, especially if you swallow your anger. Tonight: If possible, walk rather than drive.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ Think about finances and a major expenditure before you make it. In fact, seek out feedback from experts or advisers. You might overspend if you don't practice a little "Ralph Nader." Your mind could be overloaded. Think about possibilities. Tonight: Pay bills first.

QUOTE of the DAY

**“It's a rare person who wants to
hear what he doesn't want to hear.”**
— Dick Cavett

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LOCAL



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Status of women looking for a volunteer

By Daily Press staff

The Santa Monica Commission on the Status of Women is looking for a new member to fill a void on its nine-member board. Candidates must be residents of the City of Santa Monica and must be committed to improving the status of women through advocacy, education, and related efforts.

Since 1981, the commission has worked to eliminate inequality between the sexes in all areas of life including employment, health, education, political life and law enforcement.

The commission holds monthly public meetings and makes regular recommendations to the Santa Monica City Council on programs and policies affecting women and girls.

Application forms and information are available at Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica at the information booth, or in the city clerk's office in room 102. People may request an application by mail by calling (310) 458-8211, or people may apply on the Internet at www.santa-monica.org. Applications must be received in the city clerk's office by noon on Tuesday, June 18. Appointments will be made at an open city council meeting on June 25. Only those candidates appointed will be notified.

New summer guide available

By Daily Press staff

Look for the city of Santa Monica Guide to Summer Camps and Classes to help your family gear up for the summer season. The guide provides valuable information on the many specialty classes, summer recreation programs, city-wide trips, summer lunch programs, and summer camps available for your children. The guide is a comprehensive guide to child care, after-school activities, parks, museums and other resources for families.

Created by the city's community and cultural services department, these publications provide key contact information to help link families to the programs, services and resources they need.

Look for both publications at City Hall, city libraries, the Ken Edwards Center, and other city facilities, or call 458-8701 to request one by mail. Both publications are also available on the city's web site: www.santa-monica.org



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

Los Angeles County Sheriff Lee Baca stands with Mel Gibson, Teresa Lee March and her daughter, Kayla, at Shutters on the Beach Monday.

Daughter of slain deputy gets a \$10,000 college bond

By Daily Press staff

Actor Mel Gibson on Monday gave Kayla French something to bank on for the future. At Shutters on the Beach in Santa Monica, French was given a \$10,000 college savings bond.

On April 29, French, 13, lost her father, Los Angeles Deputy David March who worked in Santa Clarita. The 33-year-old and seven-year veteran was shot and killed during a traffic stop. His killer remains at large.

The Los Angeles Sheriff's Star Organization, a non-profit organization, was founded by Baca late last year to honor any current or retired employees of the sheriff's department and their dependents by providing academic and financial relief in times of true hardship.

Gibson recently became a celebrity spokesman for the organization.



Today look for the wind swell to remain steady. Water temperatures cool off a little, but stay in the low 60s, so sport the spring suit. Northwest wind swell hangs in as a southwest swell builds. Expect waist to chest high surf. Many spots should see surf in the two- to

three-foot range. The best breaks will be in the north half of South Bay, bringing shoulder-high sets.

(Information compiled by Jesse Haley.)

Location	Tuesday	Wednesday	Water Quality
County Line	2-3'/Fair	2-3'/Fair	A
Zuma	2-3'/Fair	2-3'/Fair	A
Surfrider	1-2'/Fair	1-2'/Fair	B
Topanga	1-3'/Fair	1-3'/Fair	A
Breakwater	2-3'/Fair	2-3'/Fair	A
El Porto	2-3'/Fair	2-3'/Fair	A



There has been talk amongst some elected officials that Santa Monica may have too many establishments that serve alcohol. Some have even suggested that the government regulate how many bars and restaurants should be located in different areas of the city.

But the city's planning department has placed the issue at the bottom of its list of priorities for next year.

This week Q-Line wants to know, "Does Santa Monica have a drinking problem? If so, should the city government intervene?"

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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OPINION LETTERS

Make a clean sweep this election

Editor:

Congress established a commission on the study of affordable housing to study the lack of affordable housing in the nation. They found this to be one of the biggest problems facing the nation today, especially for the elderly and poor. This problem facing Santa Monica residents is certainly beyond deplorable; it is a complete outrage. A trip to the Promenade will certainly prove my point. It is something less than a third country; a once proud shopping complex has turned to nothing less than a ghetto. If you were an out of town or foreign visitor, would you pay the rates of the fine hotels in Santa Monica, look at a scene like that? Yet the city blames their financial woes on hotels not being to capacity, the tourists being blamed for not filling our hotels. It's time the city woke up and smelled the coffee, and certainly take the blame for allowing these conditions to deteriorate to this point. The city's loss of tax revenue falls directly in their corner. The city's answer to these problems facing the huge budget deficit is to immediately cut affordable housing to the bone, but build a huge public library, costing the city taxpayers dearly. Also expand a park, make it really big, so we can hide, our poor and elderly. The only solution to this gigantic problem is to get the broom out at the election, and get some real, civic minded, action politicians for all the people by the people. Sound familiar? You guys had your chance, and you blew it big time. No sympathy or sorrow, for those who don't perform for its citizens. Next week's saga is the city's answer to affordable housing — a real price list of affordable housing. I promise that you will be astonished as a senior trying to survive in the city by the sea.

Tom Casley
Santa Monica

Pico effort inspiring

Editor:

Andrew Fixmer's lead story "Pico residents walk to end area's violence" (Santa Monica Daily Press, June 3, 2002), was strong and right on, and inspiring to read. And here I thought they wanted to end the violence in Pico by using a helicopter from Hawthorne. No, people power can work wonders. Kevin McKeown's quote, "Peace becomes possible when fellowship is forged face-to-face..." and Lucille Power's "I have faith this will work," gave me hope way beyond the disturbing sound a Blade Runner helicopter droning low and loud in the night ever could.

Thanks for the story.

Hank Rosenfeld
Santa Monica

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 530 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 200, Santa Monica, 90401, or faxed to (310) 576-9913. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content.

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LOCAL



Councilman says developer's tactics are 'disingenuous'

PROJECT, from page 1

the former Pioneer Boulangerie Bakery site.

The project got a thumbs down from the planning commission and city staff, saying the development, which would be about 170,000 square feet, would overwhelm the neighborhood and would aesthetically ruin Main Street. They said the size of the building would be out of character with the residential neighborhood.

Jacobs said he modified the project's design according to what city staff suggested, including changing the buildings' facade so it would blend in with Main Street's eclectic mix of architecture.

City council members have said publicly that Jacobs' changes made it a decent project and was well designed.

But some members of the architectural review board didn't like the design, which incorporates different styles, such as Craftsman and International, that make the block-long building appear smaller and look like several different storefronts.

ARB board member Rick Abelson didn't like the facades and thought it should be redesigned. The other three members present voted to deny the project for dif-

ferent reasons.

The ARB, which has seven board members, voted to

"I find it disingenuous that they are claiming Catch 22. They created it."

— KEN GENSER
Santa Monica city councilman

deny the project with only four members present. ARB chairman Howard Laks and board member Chris Joseph recused themselves because they have been hired by Jacobs to work on the project.

Jacobs said he didn't hire Laks, an architect, and Joseph, an environmental consultant, for political reasons. He feels they are the best people for the job.

Councilman Ken Genser said Jacobs created a "no vote" on the ARB when he hired Laks and Joseph.

"They keep trying to create this impression that the

design was approved by the council, but it wasn't," he said. "I find it disingenuous that they are claiming Catch 22. They created it."

Jacobs declined the ARB's offer to continue the review so all five voting members could be present. Instead, he allowed the project to be denied and appealed the decision back to the planning commission.

"We felt we did not and could not get a fair hearing," he said. "Why would you waste your time?"

Genser said Jacobs should have worked with the ARB through at least another review.

"It's not unusual for an applicant of a project to be requested to come back to the ARB," Genser said. "I certainly think that the ARB members wanted to work him."

Councilman Herb Katz doesn't agree. He added that it wasn't fair that city staff requested the project be designed one way and the ARB told him to do it another way.

He also said it was coincidental that two ARB members happened to be hired for the same project.

"It wasn't to Howard's advantage to (hire them)," Katz said. "I think the ARB was way out of line. It's not right to deny the project just because you don't like it."

City looking for ways to respond to Pico's concerns

PICO, from page 1

goes unheard," said Joe Weichman, a PNA board member. "Maybe that will change now, since we are back to full strength on the police department."

Police officials say they already assign more officers to the eight blocks of the Pico neighborhood than in any other area of the city. Since the early 1990s, the department has run community policing programs, like its bike patrol program, and community outreach from its Virginia Avenue substation.

"Clearly there's a connection between crimes of violence, young people getting shot, and crimes of property, and gangs painting graffiti," said Councilman Kevin McKeown. "Whether it's lead bullets or lead paint, we need to get the lead out. Progress has been slower than I would like."

The PNA added a new suggestion this year that the city council look into adopting an ordinance that would allow landlords to evict tenants that are convicted of committing violent crimes or illegally discharging a fire arm.

"It's something other cities are doing across the country," Gray said. "It's something we should take a look at doing here too."

But city officials say those programs in other cities have been abused in the past. And most of those ordinances apply only to housing built with federal funds.

Some council members also disagree with the PNA's suggestion that the city put in place some type of home ownership incentive program to help home buyers.

"Clearly owning your own home creates pride of ownership and helps in

building the community," Gray said. "We need to promote that here."

However, Genser and Councilman Herb Katz believe cash-strapped Santa Monica does not have the resources to those types of programs. The city council recently approved placing a ballot question before residents asking for the right to use money earmarked for low-interest

loans to home buyers for building more affordable apartments.

Genser said he feels the city is better off spending its money on building affordable rental housing units.

"I don't think we should be putting public money toward private ownership," Genser said. "There are other more effective ways of addressing our housing shortage."

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CrimeWatch

Man arrested after trying to stab bouncer

■ An underage man was arrested for assault with a deadly weapon after he allegedly tried to stab a bouncer at a Main Street bar.

At about 1:15 a.m. on Tuesday, May 21, Santa Monica Police arrived at Circle Bar at the 2900 block of Main Street and arrested Los Angeles resident William Joseph Foley, 20, who was being detained by the bar's bouncers.

Foley appeared very drunk while he was in the bar so the bouncers told him to leave. On the way out, Foley allegedly started a verbal fight with a bouncer, pulled out a seven-inch folding knife and tried to stab the bouncer. The bar's bouncers overpowered him and held him in custody until police arrived.

Foley was arrested and booked for assault with a deadly weapon.

SMPD spokesman Lt. Frank Fabrega said the case will be turned over to the department's vice squad because Foley is under the legal drinking age.

"We know the suspect was drunk in the bar, but we can't assume he was served alcohol in the bar," Fabrega said. "He may have just walked in to use the restroom, and then appeared drunk and asked to leave."

■ A man walking down Lincoln Boulevard was knocked to the ground by another man for no apparent reason.

At 9:15 p. m. on Tuesday, May 21, a man walking south on Lincoln Boulevard was approached from behind by another man who muttered some words to him. The victim was not able to understand what was said, so he did not respond. The muttering man pushed the victim to the ground where he scraped and cut his hand on the cement.

The suspect took off running out of sight. He is described as a white man in his 30s, 6 feet tall and 180 pounds. He was wearing a blue shirt, blue jeans, a tan baseball cap and a blue back-pack.

With any additional information regarding these crimes contact the office of criminal investigations at (310) 458-8451.

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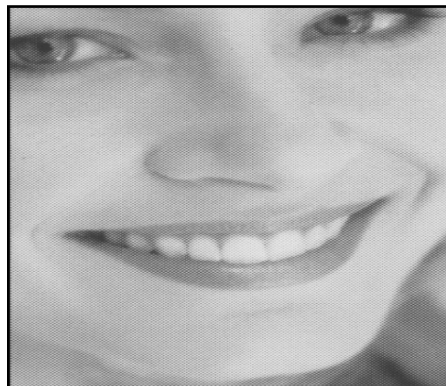
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STATE BRIEFS

Lavish spending alleged at visitors bureau

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — City Controller Laura Chick hired a former state auditor to examine spending at the Los Angeles Convention and Visitors Bureau.

Alarmed by big bills for limousines, four-star hotel suites and gourmet dinners, Chick retained Kurt Sjoberg to go through the bureau's books to determine whether up to \$18 million in city money is being spent properly.

"The reports have been troubling — renting a hall at Kensington Palace, \$500,000 for limousines," Chick said. "The taxpayers need to know if their dollars are being spent wisely and effectively and what they are getting in return."

Sjoberg was California auditor from 1989 to 2000. Now in private practice, his firm will be paid \$67,300 for the audit.

Naked man hits cop during marathon

By The Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Police arrested a Washington state man who was naked when he allegedly drove past a barricade and struck a motorcycle officer along the route of Sunday's Rock 'n' Roll Marathon.

Ray Moreau, 45, was fired on by another officer and suffered a bullet fragment wound. He then surrendered.

The officer who was hit by Moreau's Jeep Cherokee, suffered minor neck and back injuries, cuts and bruises.

Moreau was jailed for investigation of assault with a deadly weapon on a police officer and battery on a peace officer.

It was the city's 12th officer-involved shooting.

Japanese woman to get diploma after 60 years

By The Associated Press

OXNARD — Weeks before her Oxnard High School graduation, Yoshie Fujita Hagiya was forced from her home and sent to an internment camp to spend graduation day surrounded by armed soldiers and barbed wire fences.

Next week, after 60 years, the Japanese-American woman gets her diploma. The 77-year-old grandmother who missed graduation day in 1942 will don a cap and gown for ceremonies at the high school June 14.

"I think it will go a long way toward healing an old wound," the Culver City woman said.

In the last 15 years, at high schools from inner-city Los Angeles to rural Gilroy, dozens of former internees have been recognized and, decades later, handed diplomas. But as these survivors reach their 80s, the effort to fix an old injustice has taken on added urgency.

"For many of them, it's frankly way too late," said Chris Komai, spokesman for the Japanese American National Museum in Los Angeles. "You are in a race against time if there is a desire to rectify what happened a long time ago."

At Oxnard High, 11 seniors were sent to relocation camps in 1942. School officials say they have tried to reach all of them for this month's recognition ceremony, which is a first for the school. At least one has died and another can't be found. Others, including one from Wisconsin, plan to attend.

Wearing black gowns and mortarboards, they will sit among the 2002 Oxnard High graduates. When their names are called, they will walk across the stage, shake the principal's hand and soak up the crowd's applause, just as they would have six decades ago.

"It's a sense of completion for what many consider to be an important rite of passage into adulthood," said Assistant Principal Gary Mayeda, whose 79-year-old father, Seiichi, will be among those honored.

Brad Pitt and Brad Grey to team up on movie projects

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Actor Brad Pitt and talent manager and producer Brad Grey are teaming to pitch motion picture projects to Warner Bros. studio

The two have formed a yet unnamed production company, which will develop big-screen feature films with financial assistance from Warner Bros., which gets a first look as part of the deal.

Pitt's wife, Jennifer Aniston, is also an equity partner. Pitt and Aniston had a previous producing deal with Warner Bros. that has yet to result in any films.

The new company will be staffed by executives at Brad Grey Pictures, which has generated, among other features, "Scary Movie" and "The Wedding Singer."

Brad Grey Television is behind such shows as "The Sopranos" and "Just Shoot Me."

Pitt is a client of Grey's talent management company, Brillstein-Grey. The company represents more than 150 clients, including Nicholas Cage, Adam Sandler and former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani.

NATIONAL



New Jersey fire nearly contained; cause not determined

BY SHEILA HOTCHKIN

Associated Press Writer

BERKELEY TOWNSHIP, N.J. — A forest fire that burned 1,300 acres and forced hundreds of people to evacuate was 80 percent contained Monday, authorities said.

Sixty-five homes remained evacuated, said Bert Plante, a spokesman for the state Forest Fire Service.

The state is under a drought emergency after the driest fall and winter on record in New Jersey.

The cause remained under investigation. "It looks like a place where people have been and in New Jersey most of our fires are caused by people. We're certainly not ruling it out," he said.

Earlier Monday, officials reopened a 24-mile stretch of the Garden State Parkway in Ocean County after being closed for several hours. The heavy smoke from the still burning fire continued to cause visibility problems on some sections of the parkway during the morn-

ing commute.

"There will be a lot of smoke in the area until we get serious rain," Plante said.

The roadway had been closed in both directions after the fire broke out Sunday, snarling traffic as people returned from weekend trips to the popular Jersey Shore. Some local roads remained closed Monday.

The blaze started near a cranberry bog in the northeast corner of New Jersey's Pinelands, a 1.1 million-acre forest, authorities said.

The fire damaged 12 homes and burned at least one home to the foundation in Berkeley Township, about 50 miles north of Atlantic City. Homes in Berkeley Township and nearby Beachwood were evacuated as heavy smoke drifted from the fire.

A fire in the area seven years ago burned 20,000 acres.

Classes were canceled Monday in one district, the Central Regional School District.

The Red Cross set up a shelter at the

Central Regional High School in Bayville, where about 30 people spent the night on cots in the school's gymnasium.

Leo LoPiccolo, 54, was preparing Monday morning to return to his home to see if there was any damage. On Sunday, he and his wife packed up a change of clothes, his dog and important documents like birth certificates, then left for the shelter at the high school.

"Right off the corner when I pulled out, the flames were shooting out real high," he said.

About 100 state firefighters and 250 volunteers battled the blaze, using at least three helicopters. No residents were hurt, but a state forest fire crewman and three Berkeley firefighters were treated for minor injuries.

Joan Martin said she didn't have time to grab any belongings before emergency workers told her to leave her home.

"They came in with the sirens and said, 'You've got one minute to get out,'" she said. "I couldn't stall them."



Mike Derer/Associated Press

Cars travel the Garden State Parkway past smoldering trees in Berkeley Township, N.J., about 50 miles north of Atlantic City on Monday. A forest fire that burned 1,300 acres and caused hundreds of homes to be evacuated at its peak was mostly contained Monday morning, state officials said.

Climate change will likely have significant impact

BY JOHN HEILPRIN

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration outlined significant environmental impacts from climate change, possibly within decades, in a new report to the United Nations.

The administration stands firm on limiting its plans to deal with heat-trapping "greenhouse" pollution to voluntary measures and avoiding the Kyoto climate treaty.

For the first time, the administration puts most of the blame for recent warming on human actions, pointing to fossil fuel-burning that releases carbon dioxide and other heat-trapping gases into the atmosphere, according to the report released by the Environmental Protection Agency.

"The changes observed over the last several decades are likely mostly

due to human activities, but we cannot rule out that some significant part of these changes is also a reflection of natural variability," the report says.

"Human-induced warming and associated sea level rises are expected to continue through the 21st century," it says. "Secondary effects ... include increases in rainfall rates and increased susceptibility of semi-arid regions to drought."

The paper, submitted to the United Nations, was first reported Monday by The New York Times.

The report also says that despite some lingering scientific uncertainties "there is general agreement that the observed warming is real and has been particularly strong within the past 20 years."

Last year, the White House described climate change as a serious issue after seeking the opinions

of the National Academy of Sciences, but was undecided about how much of the problem should be blamed on human activities. President Bush favors a climate plan with voluntary measures intended to slow the rate of growth in gas emissions, but allow them to continue to rise.

He opposes regulating carbon dioxide emissions from power plants as a pollutant, unlike legislation sought by Senate Environment Chairman James Jeffords, an independent from Vermont, and some Democrats.

European Union countries on Friday formally signed the Kyoto Protocol, a pact to stem pollution and global warming that President Bush has rejected. The ratification at U.N. headquarters in New York by the 15 EU countries represented a key step toward putting the 1997 treaty into force.

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SPORTS

L.A. Lakers take a break before preparing for Nets

BY JOHN NADEL

AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES — The two-time defending champion Los Angeles Lakers took Monday off rather than begin preparations for the New Jersey Nets, and who can blame them?

Most everyone believes the real NBA Finals ended Sunday in Sacramento.

So much time, so much energy went into putting away the Sacramento Kings that it might be difficult for the Lakers to gear up again so quickly. The Finals begin Wednesday night at Staples Center.

The Lakers are no dummies, they know what's going on.

If they're not aware they have been established as 9-1 favorites in their quest for the second three-peat in franchise history, they'll soon hear about it.

But the battle-tested Lakers say they'll be ready.

And who's to doubt them? They've been here before.

"What day is today?" Robert Horry asked after the Lakers beat the Kings 112-

106 in overtime in Game 7 of the Western Conference finals. "Sunday?"

"What day to the Finals start? Wednesday?"

"Oh, we got enough gas."

The Lakers, in the Finals for the 21st time, are seeking their 14th championship — they won five titles in Minneapolis including three straight from 1952-54 — and eight since moving to Los Angeles in 1960.

The Nets, a lottery team just last year, are in the Finals for the first time.

A mismatch?

On paper, maybe.

The Lakers have appeared vulnerable at times during the playoffs, but they survived a remarkable series with Sacramento and said afterward there was never a doubt.

"They felt it was their time," Shaquille O'Neal said. "It was not their time."

Said Horry: "We got a lot of people saying we couldn't do it, we couldn't do it in Sacramento's house. We stayed calm and did it."

One of the main reasons the Lakers won

was O'Neal, who came up with dominating efforts when the Lakers had to have them in Games 6 and 7 of the conference finals.

Ignoring his painful arthritic right big toe and fatigue, O'Neal had 41 points and 17 rebounds in 44 minutes Friday night in a 106-102 victory and 35 points and 13 rebounds less than 48 hours later in 51 minutes in Game 7.

And he made free throws the way Rick Barry used to: 13-of-17 and 11-of-15 in the last two games. That's 24-of-32 and 75 percent — far above his typical output.

"Over the last couple of years now, when I've needed to hit them, I've hit them," O'Neal said.

The Nets don't figure to be nearly as equipped to deal with O'Neal as the Kings were.

However, New Jersey's Todd MacCulloch, the backup to Dikembe Mutombo in Philadelphia last season, at least has some experience guarding O'Neal in the Finals.

"You have to try to make him take shots a little further out than usual and make him work for everything he gets,"

MacCulloch said Monday before the Nets flew to Los Angeles. "You have to make everything a little more difficult for him."

"We have several guys that will take turns and move it around a little on him. But he's a dominating force. We just have to try to limit how much he can dominate. I'm just going to try to do the things I did well against him last year."

In O'Neal and Kobe Bryant, the Lakers have perhaps the NBA's two best players. And the supporting cast, led by Horry, Rick Fox and Derek Fisher, has played its part.

"We've been playing together for five years," Horry said. "If we don't understand what to do by now, something's wrong."

Lakers coach Phil Jackson has won a record 23 straight playoff series. Should he make it 24, it will make nine championships as a head coach to tie Red Auerbach's record and 156 postseason victories — one more than all-time leader Pat Riley.

"We still have the heart of a champion," Fox said.

The Nets are better than people think, Sheridan says

BY CHRIS SHERIDAN

AP Basketball Writer

LOS ANGELES — The New Jersey Lambs were due to arrive for the slaughter on Monday night. Under the cover of darkness, they slipped in with a secret plan.

It's simple, really. Before anyone realizes what's up, they can do what Allen Iverson did a year ago and show everyone right away they're for real.

By the weekend, they could head back to New Jersey tied 1-1 or with a 2-0 lead in the NBA Finals.

OK. Stop laughing.

The Nets might win. Not just one game, either. They might win the NBA championship.

Call your bookie and take 'em at 9-1. This might be your best chance to make up for failure to buy Yahoo in 1997 and sell in the spring of '01. Easy money is at your fingertips; you only have to believe two things:

The Nets are undervalued. The Lakers are vulnerable.

Think about it.

The Sacramento Kings showed everyone that it is not

impossible to defeat the mighty Lakers three times in a seven-game series. With a little more luck and a little less knee-knocking, the Kings could have won a fourth game and sent the Lakers back to Los Angeles for the summer.

What's to stop the Nets from doing the same? Or from taking it a step further?

For all those who believe a three-peat is a fait accompli, a few items to ponder:

— At point guard, the Nets have a player, Jason Kidd, who averaged a triple-double in the Eastern Conference finals and passes the ball better than anyone in the league. After watching Mike Bibby dissect the Lakers with ease, consider that Kidd is an even better player — and he makes everyone around him better. Derek Fisher and Lindsey Hunter have been exposed over the past two weeks, and they'll have more problems with Kidd.

— At power forward, the Nets have a beast of a player in Kenyon Martin, who does not have the type of career-defining issues with butterflies that Chris Webber had. With all due respect to the 1997 slam-dunk champion (Kobe Bryant), no one in this series will jam the ball

as emphatically as Martin.

— On defense, the Nets are unafraid to play zone. Centers Todd MacCulloch and Jason Collins will have their hands full if they try to guard Shaquille O'Neal one-on-one, but the rules changes that permit zone defenses give the Nets an additional option that the 76ers and Indiana Pacers did not have in the past two NBA Finals.

— Off the bench, the Nets can trot out a pair of native Californians — Lucious Harris and Richard Jefferson — who are better offensive players than three of the Lakers' starters: Fisher, Robert Horry and Rick Fox.

— The Nets love to run. The Lakers hate to run. The Kings showed that if you run enough, you can win.

Celtics coach Jim O'Brien believes the Nets have a legitimate chance to win the title, and Sacramento assistant Pete Carril seconded that thought after the Kings were eliminated Sunday.

A year ago, Iverson and the 76ers were even bigger underdogs than the Nets. And remember, the lightly regarded Sixers came into the Staples Center last June with a weaker team than this year's Nets and won Game 1.

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INTERNATIONAL



Leaders of India, Pakistan refuse to budge in standoff

BY LAURINDA KEYS

Associated Press Writer

ALMATY, Kazakhstan — As the presidents of Russia and China prepared to plunge into the international effort to head off war, India and Pakistan refused to budge on Kashmir, both insisting Monday that they were fighting terrorism.

Refusing to meet face to face, Indian Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee and Pakistani President Pervez Musharraf met separately with Kazakh President Nursultan Nazarbayev on the eve of an Asian security conference dominated by efforts to bring the two nuclear-armed nations into face-to-face talks.

Russian President Vladimir Putin and Chinese President Jiang Zemin were scheduled to meet separately, but nearly simultaneously, with Musharraf and Vajpayee on Tuesday, ensuring that even if India and Pakistan refuse one-on-one talks, their messages will be delivered through intermediaries. Putin arrived in Kazakhstan early Tuesday.

The mediation attempts appeared to be coordinated among the United States, Russia and China. When Putin extended his invitation to the two leaders to talk in Almaty, President Bush was at his side.

NATO leaders also took the unusual step of appointing Putin as the envoy to convey the alliance's concerns about war to Musharraf and Vajpayee.

Meanwhile, violence continued in Kashmir on Monday. At least eight civilians were killed and 23 injured as Indian and Pakistani troops exchanged heavy artillery and machine-gun fire along their frontier.

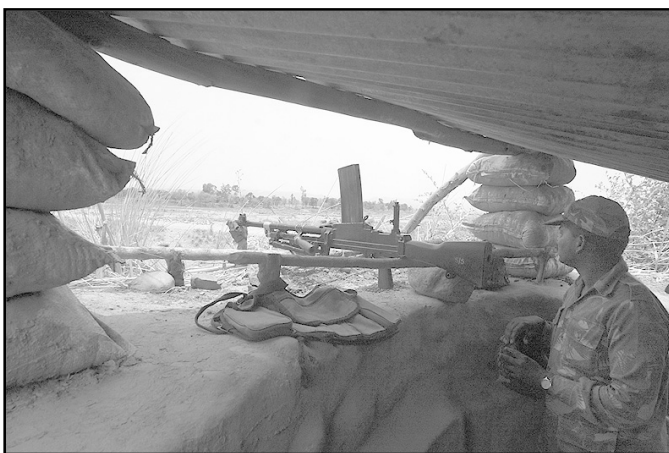
Also, Norway on Monday advised its citizens against traveling to India and Pakistan because of the tensions. Similar warnings have been issued by the United States, at least 12 other countries and the United Nations.

After arriving in the Kazakh capital for the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia, Musharraf reiterated his readiness to meet with Vajpayee.

Asked by reporters about his conditions for such talks, Musharraf said, "You need to ask this question of Prime Minister Vajpayee. What are his conditions? I don't have any conditions."

But Vajpayee so far has refused to give ground, demanding that he first see proof that Pakistan has withdrawn support from Islamic militants and stopped their cross-border incursions into India's portion of Kashmir.

"We've decided at this point in time it would not be possible for anyone in the Indian government to have dialogue with anyone in the Pakistani delegation," Omar



Aijaz Rahi/Associated Press

An Indian army soldier mans a semi-underground bunker at the international border of India and Pakistan in Jammu, India on Monday. India and Pakistan have massed approximately one million troops along their frontier. Tensions escalated rapidly last month, when militants attacked an Indian army base near Jammu, killing 34 people, most of them the wives and children of soldiers.

Abdullah, the deputy Indian foreign minister, said Monday in Almaty.

Secretary of State Colin Powell, meanwhile, said he encouraged Musharraf this weekend to "restrain all activity across the Line of Control."

"You need to ask this question of Prime Minister Vajpayee. What are his conditions? I don't have any conditions."

— PERVEZ MUSHARRAF
Pakistani President

"When that takes place in a way that is obvious, ... then we would call upon India to take de-escalatory steps," Powell said Monday in Barbados. He added, "I'm pleased that both sides in the last several days have once again discussed the non-use of nuclear weapons."

In an American bid to defuse tensions, Secretary of Defense Donald H. Rumsfeld is expected in the region this weekend and Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage is due in Pakistan on Thursday and India on Friday.

Without mentioning Pakistan by name, Vajpayee said he agreed with Nazarbayev on how to combat terrorism in South Asia, which he blamed on "cross-border infiltrations." However, he did not elaborate other than to express "faith that there would be no encouragement to those elements who believe in terrorism or religious extremism."

India says Islamic militants crossing the frontier from Pakistan have carried out terror attacks, including deadly assaults on the Indian Parliament in December and an Indian army base in Kashmir last month. The latter left 34 dead, mostly wives and children of army officers.

But Pakistani Information Minister Nisar Memon insisted Monday that the militants had not come from his nation's part of Kashmir.

"We deny any such camps to be there and that there is any action against India, cross-border terrorism. We have increased our own vigilance on the Line of Control," he said, referring to a 1972 cease-fire line dividing the Himalayan region between India and Pakistan. Both nations claim all of Kashmir, and have fought two wars over the dispute.

"We will not tolerate any acts of violence against India. We will not allow our soil to be used for terrorist activities against any other country," Memon said, noting that Pakistan, too, had suffered from terrorism.

Foreign leaders pressed the Indian and Pakistani leaders to tone down their warring rhetoric and meet in Almaty.

Russia has been a close ally of India since the Soviet era but has had a troubled relationship with Pakistan — accusing it a few years ago of aiding Chechen rebels. That background came to the fore again Monday as Russian Defense Minister Sergei Ivanov assailed Islamabad's alleged aid to terrorists.

The Indian Defense Ministry tried to calm international concern about the danger that the conflict could erupt into nuclear war.

"The government makes it clear that India does not believe in the use of nuclear weapons. Neither does it visualize that it will be used by any other country," the ministry said in a statement released Monday in New Delhi. "India categorically rules out the use of nuclear weapons."

Speaking on Russia's state-run RTR television Monday night, Musharraf said his country's nuclear arsenal was in safe hands.

"Let me assure the whole world that our nuclear assets are in extremely safe hands and there is no vulnerability of these at all," he said.

CIA director begins Mideast mission, meets with Israeli leader

BY GREG MYRE

Associated Press Writer

JERUSALEM — CIA Director George Tenet met with Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon on Monday, beginning a tough Mideast mission in which he wants assurances Yasser Arafat will revamp the Palestinian security forces to prevent attacks on Israel.

Sharon has repeatedly said he does not believe the Palestinian reforms will be serious as long as Arafat leads the Palestinian Authority, and had been expected to deliver that message to Tenet.

Tenet, who arrived Monday, met with Israeli Defense Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer before going to see Sharon, Israel Radio reported. The CIA chief was to meet with Arafat on Tuesday.

Tenet arrived amid a new Israeli-Palestinian confrontation — this one linked to a crisis the United States helped resolve a month ago and involving one of the top Palestinians wanted by Israel.

First, the Palestinian Supreme Court on Monday ordered the release of Ahmed Saadat, a PLO faction leader whose group carried out last year's killing of Israel's tourism minister. Saadat has been under

U.S. and British supervision at a jail in the West Bank town of Jericho since May 1, part of a deal that ended a 34-day Israeli siege of Arafat's offices in Ramallah.

Later Monday, the Palestinian Cabinet overrode the court, refusing to release Saadat. The Cabinet said in a statement that it respected the court decision, but could not implement it because "the Israeli occupation forces" had closed the city of Jericho and "threatened to assassinate" Saadat.

There was no immediate Israeli reaction to the reversal. After the court ruled, however, Sharon said, "We will take all the necessary steps so that he will not be released."

In another reminder of the obstacles Tenet faces on his mission, Israeli troops raided the Ain Beit Ilma refugee camp near Nablus, rounding up about 400 men and taking them away for questioning — the fourth straight day troops have searched for militants in that part of the northern West Bank.

The Palestinian security services do little if anything now to rein in the militants, and Israel charges that some Palestinian security personnel have been involved in attacks themselves. The Palestinians say

Israeli strikes on their installations and travel restrictions have limited their ability to act — but there is also widespread acceptance that part of the problem is a lack of control.

In advance of Tenet's visit, Arafat has been holding discussions on streamlining his multiple, overlapping security forces, which include about a dozen different agencies. Early Tuesday, Palestinian officials said Arafat had decided to reduce the security structure to six branches: four security forces, plus military intelligence and his personal guard unit. He was to present the plan to Tenet later Tuesday.

The competing security forces have created fierce rivalries among the various security chiefs, and some will inevitably lose out if Arafat slashes the number of senior posts.

The United States and European nations have contributed millions of dollars to the Palestinian security forces, and are expected to give millions more. But they are also expected to monitor closely how the Palestinians go about overhauling the security forces.

Tenet, on a six-nation Mideast tour to gauge Arab support for changes in the

Palestinian Authority, will be seeking details when he holds talks with Arafat.

Palestinian sources said Arafat is likely to remain in overall charge of the restructured security forces.

Despite his pledge to make changes, Arafat faces a diverse group of critics. They include many Palestinians, who are highly critical of corruption in their government; the United States, which wants to see greater democracy, and the Israelis, whose top priority is a halt to the attacks.

The militant Islamic group Hamas, meanwhile, rejected Arafat's offer to join a new, more compact Palestinian Cabinet that's been under discussion and will be announced in the coming days.

Arafat has offered Cabinet posts to four militant groups that have been involved in attacks against Israel, including suicide bombings. All have now rejected the proposal.

Of the more than 60 suicide attacks by Palestinians in the current Mideast conflict, Hamas' military wing has carried out more than any other group, including the deadliest attacks. The group has rejected Arafat's call to halt them.



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19 Illuminated
20 Friend of Dopey
21 Historic time
22 Train unit
24 Parking place
25 Museum subject
26 Spot
30 Chides
31 Used the tub
33 Regret
34 Nile serpents
35 Strong wind

DATE	ALMA
BOGEY	SEALS
ANAXE	HAIRKU
NEVADA	TAR
DIES	LOCALE
ONS	HAWAII
	NOBEL
KANSAS	BAT
REDEEM	MASH
ARM	ALASKA
SNIDE	AIKEN
HERON	INERT
LEND	NETS

Yesterday's answer

- 24 Parking place
36 Perfect place
38 Baby's place
39 Opposed to
40 Attention-getting sound
42 June honoree
43 Keats creation

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46						47			

6-4

Reality Check®

By Dave Whammond



Speed Bump®

By Dave Coverly

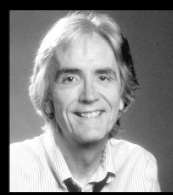


DOWN

- 1 Hang open

STUMPED?

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

Inmate arrested for selling cigarettes

Inmate Charles H. Hankerd, 39, was arrested on contraband charges in Valparaiso, Ind., in April after authorities discovered he was selling cigarettes (a prohibited item) at \$2 each to cellmates. To produce his inventory, Hankerd allegedly had swallowed several plastic bags of tobacco just before turning himself in at the jail and, once inside, patiently waited for nature to take its course.

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BACK PAGE

Winona Ryder court hearing interrupted by arm injury

BY ERICA WERNER

Associated Press Writer

BEVERLY HILLS — Winona Ryder's preliminary hearing on shoplifting and drug charges was interrupted Monday when she told the judge she was struck by a television camera and was given time to see a doctor for an arm injury.

Ryder arrived late, in time for only brief testimony by a store security official before a lunch break, and then further testimony was postponed when Ryder told the judge she had been hit on the elbow on the way in.

It was unclear which elbow was hurt: She cradled her left elbow after walking through a crush of reporters at the courthouse door, but when she emerged from the judge's chambers her coat was off and she had a large white bandage on her right elbow.

"At this point in time, I'm advised there is some swelling," Superior Court Judge Elden S. Fox said, adding that Ryder would be seen by a physician.

He asked Ryder if that was OK with her.

"Yes, your honor," said the actress, who will appear in the upcoming comedy "Mr. Deeds" and whose previous credits include "Little Women," "Girl, Interrupted," "Heathers," "Beetlejuice" and "Reality Bites."

Fox also referred to an unspecified previous injury

suffered by Ryder and he chided the media for aggressive attempts to photograph her. He instructed them to stay seated as she left and to remain at least 10 feet away from her as she went to her car.

Jane Robison, a spokeswoman for the Los Angeles County district attorney, said outside court that prosecutors discussed with the judge the issue of which arm was hurt.

"We notified the judge that there was some video that maybe showed a different arm," said Robison, who was not present for the discussion and had no further details.

The preliminary hearing, which began late because of Ryder's tardy arrival, will determine whether there is sufficient evidence to put her on trial.

Ryder allegedly shoplifted \$4,800 worth of items from a Saks Fifth Avenue on Dec. 12, and had in her possession the painkiller Oxycodone without a prescription. She was charged with one count each of grand theft, burglary, vandalism and possession of a controlled substance. She is free on \$20,000 bail.

Kenneth Evans, the store's asset protection manager, testified that Ryder walked past cash registers and exited the store with merchandise.

He detailed the actress' movements through the store's three floors, laden with bags and merchandise, as he observed via security cameras.

Evans said he began watching Ryder a few minutes after 4 p.m. because of what she was carrying — a hanging garment bag, a red Saks bag, an Oilily bag, her own tote bag. In addition, she wore a cashmere coat and carried individual merchandise, he said.

Under questioning by Deputy District Attorney Julie Jurek, Evans said Ryder quickly put on one of two Eric Javits hats she picked up, and wore it throughout the store.

Ryder, hair drawn back and wearing a cream-colored knee-length coat over a yellow dress and matching heels, took notes.

The prosecution entered into evidence a handbag, an Yves Saint Laurent shirt, a cashmere thermal shirt by Marc Jacobs, the Eric Javits hats and a red Saks bag.

The witness described Ryder walking through various boutiques — Donna Karan, Gucci, Jil Sander, Yves St. Laurent — as she moved from the first to third floors.

On the second floor she made "what I characterize as a quick selection" of a reddish-pink Donna Karan top, Evans said. She placed the top over other items she was carrying and entered a dressing room, he said. The security manager said he then dispatched a female agent to observe her.

Ryder spent about 30 minutes in a third-floor dressing room before coming downstairs and leaving the store, Evans said.

Inmate whose lawyer slept during trial deserves a new one

BY ANNE GEARAN

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — A Texas Death Row inmate whose lawyer slept for long portions of his murder trial will either win freedom or a new trial, after the Supreme Court refused to intervene Monday.

The high court rejected an appeal from Texas authorities, who argued that the lawyer's inattention did not necessarily equal an unfair trial.

The Supreme Court's action means that Texas must

choose whether to retry Calvin Jerold Burdine or set him free.

Burdine was convicted of stabbing to death his gay lover, W.T. Wise, at the Houston trailer they shared in 1983. Burdine confessed to police, but now denies killing Wise. He claims an accomplice actually killed Wise, while Burdine tried to talk him out of it.

Jurors and a court clerk later described how court-appointed lawyer Joe Cannon slept for up to 10 minutes at a time during the 1984 trial, and the separate sentencing phase that followed. Burdine was sentenced to death.

Burdine came within moments of execution in 1987 before receiving a court-ordered reprieve.

Cannon, who has since died, denied falling asleep.

Burdine lost several rounds of appeals before a federal court agreed that Cannon's performance violated Burdine's constitutional right to an effective lawyer. A federal appeals court panel first reversed that finding in a highly criticized ruling in 2000. The full appeals court then agreed to hear the case, and agreed with the first court that Burdine did not get a fair chance to defend himself.

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