

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

DAILY LOTTERY

SUPER LOTTO

14 15 39 42 45
Meganumber: 11
Jackpot: \$44 Million

FANTASY 5

8 13 17 18 25

DAILY 3

Daytime: 3 0 6
Evening: 9 0 6

DAILY DERBY

1st: 02 Lucky Star
2nd: 07 Eureka!
3rd: 03 Hot Shot

RACE TIME: 1:44.10

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Sally Hampton, 64, testified in February against the man who hit her with a beer bottle in a brawl last year in Immokalee, Fla., sending him to a 12-year sentence, but in the interim, Hampton has been recovering from brain surgery. As doctors examined her after the attack, they discovered and treated an unrelated tumor that they would not have found in time had she not received the beer-bottle concussion.

■ In December, Bill DiPasquale unexpectedly came out of a two-week coma at Massachusetts General Hospital, five minutes after a friend whispered him a message from their boss, who had said, "You tell him to wake up, get out of bed, and get his ass back to work."

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 159th day of 2005.
There are 206 days left in the year.

On June 8, A.D. 632, the prophet Mohammed died.

In 1905, 100 years ago, President Theodore Roosevelt offered to act as a mediator in the Russo-Japanese War.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I do believe one ought to face facts. If you don't they get behind you and may become terrors, nightmares, giants, horrors. As long as one faces them one is top dog."

KATHERINE MANSFIELD
NEW ZEALANDER AUTHOR (1888-1923)

INDEX

Horoscopes

Relax in your own way, Leo 2

Surf Report

Water temperature: 62° 3

Opinion

Bush's fiscal problems 4

State

New plan, new outrage 6

Real Estate

Remodel by the numbers 12

National

U.S. leads in religious zeal 15

Comics

Laugh it up 17

Classifieds

Have some class 18-19

Governor to speak at SMC



Nicky Five Aces/Five Aces Photo

SMC interim president Tom Donner and vice-chair trustee Nancy Greenstein fielded public comments at a Monday meeting, where Gov. Schwarzenegger's commencement address at graduation was discussed.

Community, students and unions promise to protest

BY RYAN HYATT

Daily Press Staff Writer

SMC — Not all Santa Monica College students will be cheering if the governor gives this year's commencement address.

More than 20 community members, faculty, students and union representatives came out in protest Monday night of SMC officials' intention to have Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger speak at graduation. The majority of individuals who spoke at SMC's board of trustees meeting said they were "disgusted" and "ashamed" that the state's foremost leader — who they argued has failed to adequately fund education in California — would be keynote speaker at their ceremony on June 14.

"The governor has declared class warfare," former Santa Monica Mayor Paul Rosenstein told SMC officials. "This is a mess you have gotten yourselves into. You must find a way to dis-

See **GOVERNOR**, page 5

SMC salutes student accomplishments

BY RYAN HYATT

Daily Press Staff Writer

SMC — As another school year comes to a close, Santa Monica College officials are celebrating the achievements of their students.

SMC elected officials and administrators recognized several undergraduate students for their recent distinctions in photography and architectural design at Monday night's board of trustees meeting.

Seven individuals were congratulated for their award-winning photography, recognized at the 26th Annual Student Photography Show. Also honored were two SMC students who placed first in a statewide interior architectural design contest.

More than 1,000 prints and

See **SALUTE**, page 5

U.S. to allow fish farming up to 200 miles off coasts

BY RANDOLPH E. SCHMID

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration, seeking to tap into one of the world's fastest-growing food industries, wants to allow fish farming up to 200 miles off the nation's coasts.

Citing pilot projects off New Hampshire, Hawaii and Puerto Rico, the administration said Tuesday it was sending a bill to Congress to establish regulations for fish farming, known as aquaculture.

Currently, fish farming in the United States focuses largely on freshwater fish such as catfish, though there also are some ocean farms raising shellfish like mussels, clams and oysters as well as shrimp and salmon.

In countries from Canada to

China to Scotland to Thailand, farming of saltwater species such as salmon and shrimp has become increasingly common, with much of the catch sold in the United States.

Fish farming has drawn criticism from environmentalists, however.

Gerald Leape, vice president of marine conservation at the National Environmental Trust, issued a statement saying the proposal was "riddled with problems." He said they include the discharge of solid waste, the use of pesticides, antibiotics and other potentially harmful chemicals and the escape of farmed fish into the marine environment.

Seafood demand is expected to increase rapidly and officials of

See **FISH FARMING**, page 9

Wall crawlers



Crill Hansen/Special to the Daily Press

Climbers test their skill and endurance on the rock-climbing wall in Pacific Park on the Santa Monica Pier.

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Relax in your own way, Leo

Santa Monica Daily Press



JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS The stars show the kind of day you'll have:
★★★★-Dynamic ★★★★★-Positive ★★★-Average ★★-So-so ★-Difficult



ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ The less effort you make, the more outstanding your day is likely to turn out. Others will happily pitch in where you don't take action. Review a recent development with a little more insight. Stop projecting your stuff onto a situation. Tonight: Easy does it.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Good will counts, but not like expressing your feelings through actions. Many people like pretty words, but even more prefer caring acts. A friend emerges with innovative thinking. He or she just might have a great idea. Tonight: Find your favorite people.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Expenses go overboard, whether you intend for them to or not. You feel like risk-ing, and risk you shall. Sometimes considering the long-term ramifications could be helpful. Creativity directed elsewhere could be more positive. Tonight: Pay bills first.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ A positive attitude mixed with energy makes you close to unstoppable. Realize when you need to put a halt to overdoing it or perhaps expanding beyond your physical, financial and/or emotional limits. Tonight: As you like it.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★ Know when to allow the overflow to just happen. Others will pick up behind you, despite what you think. Unexpected developments with partners cast a new perspective on life. Take in information for now. Gather facts. Keep more of your thoughts to yourself. Tonight: Relax in your own way.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Don't try to impress others by spending and showing off. You have a lot to offer. Remember that, and start showing the real you. Others greet the authentic you with a smile. Friends surround you, as you will see. Their feedback could be important. Tonight: Where the crowds are.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You have a tendency to overdo it or expect too much. You are so willing to give, and you don't understand when others don't put in 100 percent. New methods and technology can lighten your workload, if you allow them to. Be open to new ideas. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Your instincts come through for you, especially when hearing someone else's story. Cut through the gristle and get down to basics. You might need to do your own research. A call lets feelings flourish. Tonight: Rent a movie.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ If you allow others to run the show, their efforts will pay off. In fact, you might be delighted by the end results. Sometimes you cannot be the head cheerleader, only a team member — like today. Tonight: Be spontaneous.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Others listen to your feedback, though they will do exactly what they want. Maintain a high community or professional image. Maintain your responsibilities. No one can replace your efficiency. Tonight: Say yes to another's invitation or idea.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Concentrate on efficiency and getting each project done one at a time. Avoid any money risks, no matter how good the deal or offer might seem. Detachment and independent research draw positive results. Focus on what is going on in your immediate circle. Tonight: Do what you like most.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ You could do something odd, but your creativity spurs you in a different direction from what even you might have anticipated. A key associate or friend adds a totally different slant to an emotional issue. Use this person's opinions and mix in some of yours, too! Tonight: A mid-week break.



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LOCAL



We are the champions



Photo courtesy of Lisa Winick

The White Sox won the city baseball championship at Memorial Field Park this week with a final score of 11 to 2 against the Mets. The team included: (from top to bottom) manager Steve Heineman, coaches Pat Armstrong, Duane Kumagai and Peter Miller, players Tommy Suzuki, Ben Roebuck, Tai Legagnoux, Andres Meza, Will Carson, Zane Dufour, Perry Kumagai, Zach Tinker, Max Fritsch, Scotty Heineman, Holden Miller, Marlon Solomita and, in the background, Julien Solomita.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Roller coaster lifts up fathers

By Daily Press staff

Give your dad a boost.
Pacific Park will soar to heights of more than 55 feet to honor fathers with a free ride on the West Coaster roller coaster on Father's Day.
To enjoy the free ride, a father needs to go to the West Coaster entrance and notify the attraction's operator, and Pacific Park will provide a complimentary ride for the guest.
"A father contributes so much to his family throughout the year that it's a pleasure to be able to recognize him with a free ride on the West Coaster," says Jeff Klocke, director of marketing of Pacific Park. "It's a small gesture of thanks to all fathers on this special day from the entire team of employees at Pacific Park."
This steel roller coaster climbs to a height of more than five stories and trails from one end of the two-acre amusement park to the other.
Pacific Park is located on the Santa Monica Pier and is LA's only admission-free amusement park offering rides and attractions for kids and adults.
This free event takes place on Sunday, June 19, from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. For additional information, daily hours of operation or driving directions, call (310) 260-8744 or visit www.pacpark.com.

See BRIEFS, page 7

SPECIAL TAX (PROPOSITION Y)
FOR 2005-2006

Notice is hereby given that the Board of Education of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District will conduct a public hearing and adopt a resolution on the matter of a Special Tax (Proposition Y) for 2005-06.

The public hearing will be held on June 16, 2005 at 8:00 p.m., in the Santa Monica City Council Chambers at 1685 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401.

Subsequent to the public hearing on June 16, 2005 at the regularly scheduled meeting, it is the intention of the Board of Education to adopt a resolution to levy the tax at the rate of \$111.63 per parcel, which includes a 4.8% CPI adjustment.

The CPI-U for Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, base year 1982-84=100, from April, 2004 through April, 2005, was used to calculate the adjustment.



SURF REPORT

Today the SW will be replaced by some moderate SSE swell from activity that was swirling south of Easter Island last week.
This will be a more direct southerly angle of about 170-180 with 14- to 16-second periods, which should produce size around most south-facing breaks in the waist-high range, chest high at times at standouts.
NW wind swell will however be dominant, increasing size around west-facing breaks toward chest high or better, but very peaky, and the surface will likely be lumped/chewed-up as well from the outer water gales.

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

Today the
water is:

62°

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

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The Q Line

Next week the City Council will consider a proposal that would provide a limited number of parking permits to employees of businesses adjacent to certain residential preferential parking zones.
So this week, Q-Line wants to know, "Do you think preferential parking permits, traditionally only granted to resi-

dents of a neighborhood, should be extended to employees who work nearby? Why or why not?"
Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your responses in the weekend edition. Please try to limit your comments to a minute or less. It might help to think first about the wording of your response.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Step up for the homeless, Santa Monica

Editor:

I have been reading your paper for over two years now. I am especially interested in your articles about homelessness. You see, out of the two years walking the streets of Santa Monica, I have been homeless for half of that time. Because of my being homeless, I became a member of Step-Up-on-Second, and have been a member for almost the two years that I have been in and around Santa Monica.

While at Step-Up, I have been on case management and money management, and have just recently been given a Section 8 housing voucher. Now I am finding it impossible, after two months of looking, to find a single apartment that will take a Section 8 voucher — a voucher that is for \$886, two-thirds of which is guaranteed paid by the government!

All this talk about helping the homeless is, I think, a lot of hot air. I think the truth is that Santa Monica doesn't want to help the homeless; they don't even want to look at the homeless. And this I can understand because, honestly, I feel the same way! I hate walking these streets having to avoid the constant sight of beggars that always give me that sad-eyed look so that they can drain me of what little resources that I have.

But, the point is, and I plead my case with the city of Santa Monica: Is there anyone out there that will take my Section 8 housing voucher or do you just want me to hit the road and leave town? Either way, that is fine with me! You just keep me nipping at the carrot that you keep dangling in front of me. I guess that my misery is another's joy?!

But, in all honesty, I would like to get to the bottom of all this and find out one way or the other: Will you help me or not? Will you help me find shelter or shut the door in my face? Will you help me find shelter or will you make me sleep in the stable?

Michael Joseph Gutowski
Santa Monica

Bush's hypocrisy

Editor:

Now that Bush has caused the deaths of more than 1,800 soldiers and God knows how many have been handicapped for life because of his rush to invade Iraq and cause a war, let's consider the thousands of Iraqis whose losses are even greater and who are now living — many without the basic needs to survive.

I have seen Bush on TV lately talking with the leader of Russia and, believe it or not, he was giving him some advice. He said that Mr. Putin should do his best to get his neighbors to "go democratic because they would be less likely to invade." Unbelievable!

About his taking a stand against stem-cell research, he is against spending federal funds on destroying life, but he doesn't mind spending billions on his self-imposed war.

I think you can sell the public anything if you have enough gall. I hope they wake up before it is too late.

Margaret Kanai
Santa Monica

Stop poisoning the squirrels

Editor:

It saddened me to read Geoff Shackelford's letter (SMDP, June 3, page 4), "Poison in our parks prompts questions," in which he described poisoned baby squirrels being attacked by crows in Palisades Park. County health officials insist on killing the squirrels because their fleas have the potential to carry disease.

There is no current outbreak of flea-borne disease in our parks. Last year I attempted to intervene in the County's "flea abatement" program, and the council joined me in asking Los Angeles County health officials to find a method other than killing the squirrels. After all, if your dog has fleas, you don't kill your dog.

The poisoning of the squirrels is not only inhumane, it's ineffective — they have to lay out new poison almost every year. Santa Monica has tried to stop this practice, but it's time to write to your County supervisors.

Kevin McKeown
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 editor@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 Daily Press



Bush irresponsibility could bring down U.S.



INCITES

BY ED SILVERSTEIN

It's 1999, the height of the presidential campaign, and I'm having a familiar argument with a personal trainer at the gym.

He is certain that George Bush is being honest when he asserts that he can make massive tax cuts while still running a budget surplus. I, on the other hand, have a basic understanding of sixth grade math, so I knew such claims are a crock of horse manure.

Finally, frustrated by his constant parroting of dubious rationales offered by the (F)alse, (O)noxious, (X)enophobic news channel, I bet him a meal that, if Bush is elected, he will be running at least a \$200 billion deficit within 4 years.

I admit, I was wrong. In less than five years, Bush has taken Bill Clinton's legacy of a \$1.5 trillion surplus and transformed it into a record \$5 trillion deficit.

\$5,000,000,000,000.00!!!

Of course, what can you expect from a president who likens his managerial style to a corporate CEO. The one that comes to mind is Kenneth Lay.

Just as Lay and other Enron executives made hundreds of millions on the backs of his unsuspecting employees and stockholders, Bush has enriched his corporate and wealthy donors at the expense of the average taxpayer and the poor.

Oh, I know, George blames the deficit on the recession, 9/11 and the war. But the truth is that the president has traded away our fiscal health to an assortment of industries that have filled Republican coffers. The energy and chemical industries, big agriculture and others had their loyalty rewarded with hundreds of billions in tax cuts. And then there's the Medicare Prescription Drug scheme.

Bush claimed the plan would cost \$370 billion, the maximum amount conservative Republican lawmakers were willing to support. The true estimate was \$530 billion, but Bush officials had threatened to fire anyone who spilled the beans to Congress. To be fair, both figures were wrong. The actual cost is more than a trillion bucks. And the only seniors who will really benefit from the plan are executives of drug and health insurance companies.

Bush again showed his true fiscal colors when he made his case for war. The administration's initial price tag for Iraq was \$2 billion, with the reconstruction paying for itself. But that lie was too big for even gullible Bush supporters to swallow. The Bushies finally conceded that the war could cost as much as \$80 billion, but castigated the Democrats for being unpatriotic with their estimates of \$300 billion or more.

As usual, the Democrats were right. So far, we have spent some \$280 billion and there is no end in sight. Some think the ultimate price tag will top \$600 billion.

And where is this money going? A huge chunk is finding its way into the pockets of private defense contractors such as Haliburton. But despite billions in inflated single-bid contracts, these pork-fed greed factories were still not content. They added further to their bottom by

over-billing taxpayers hundreds of millions, even as our troops were being killed and wounded as a result of inadequate armor.

So, should we be worried about these exploding deficits? Dick Cheney says no; "deficits don't matter." Of course, he's still insisting that Iraq was involved in 9/11, supported bin Laden and has WMDs.

Economists (you know, those guys that go to school for this stuff and are constantly fired by the Bush Administration when they tell the truth) tell a very different story. One economist asserts that it took more than 20 years to get over the effects of Ronald Reagan's deficits. And Bush's are far worse.

Compounding this is that we have been exporting most of our well paying manufacturing jobs overseas. Now we are doing the same with lucrative service jobs. Add to this Bush's union-busting policies, maxed out productivity increases, falling incomes and reduced taxation, and we are left with deficits that are going to be nearly impossible to pay off.

One bright spot is that China — the main beneficiary of globalization — has been using their massive trade surpluses to buy our bonds. This has kept interest rates low, but has made us more vulnerable to China's will. This could be particularly troublesome in trade dispute negotiations or if China decides to formally annex Taiwan.

Should China get angry, they can pull out their capital and tank our economy with soaring double-digit interest rates. In addition, the increased cost of servicing the national debt at these higher interest rates could add an additional \$3 trillion or more to the deficit. And with the government sucking up all remaining capital, there would be little left for business investment, which would cause severe economic stagnation. The government would have no choice but to raise taxes and severely cut services.

And there is an even worse scenario to consider.

If we are to believe the administration — "it is not a question of if, but when there will be a nuclear attack in the U. S." — we have reason to be extremely concerned. Should such an attack occur in a major city, the damage could reach into the trillions, even tens of trillions. The stock market (with which the Bush administration would replace Social Security) could lose 50 percent or more of its value, instantly erasing trillions in wealth and plunging many into poverty. Saddled, as we already are, with massive debt, it is possible that this would be a blow from which we might never fully recover.

That is why Bush's fiscal policies make no sense. On the one hand, he is warning us of catastrophic attacks, on the other, he is leaving us fatally vulnerable to such an attack. At best, it is wildly irresponsible, at worst, gross negligence.

Needless to say, I won my bet with the trainer. However, I never collected. He left town without paying and he owed me money. But I can't say I was surprised. It's the exact same thing that Bush is going to do.

(Ed Silverstein can be reached at ed@incites.net.)



Higher education funding a sore spot for some

GOVERNOR, from page 1

invite him and not bring shame to this community."

The protesters said they formally requested that trustees reconsider the speaker on Monday night's agenda, but the trustees did not honor their request. As a result, these individuals — who said they represented a litany of organizations — spoke for more than an hour during the public comment portion of the meeting, and promised to protest the graduation ceremony, scheduled for 7 p.m. next Tuesday on SMC's football field.

SMC officials have previously stated that the governor's invitation to speak has been in the works since Schwarzenegger took office more than two years ago. The idea was first pursued by former college president Dr. Piedad F. Robertson, who retired on Jan. 31.

Schwarzenegger is known to have taken general education courses at SMC in the '70s and, according to a profile, is said to have had a good start in his business career, due in part to the real estate ties he has in Santa Monica.

SMC's officials said the commencement speech speaker is a choice traditionally made by the college's administration.

Tom Donner, SMC's interim president, looks forward to the governor addressing local graduates.

"The college is honored that Gov.

Schwarzenegger will be our commencement speaker," Donner said. "He is an alumnus of Santa Monica College, and he has been very supportive of community colleges.

"His budgets reflect that support."

Donner said the governor has pushed a budget that, if approved by the legislature, would increase "equalization" funding by \$40 million, which would directly benefit SMC and other community colleges.

Those protesting the invitation at Monday night's meeting disagreed with Donner's assessment. They said the governor's budget will continue to undermine public and higher education throughout California, and the \$141 million set to support community colleges this year is dramatically less than what would have gone to coffers if Gov. Schwarzenegger decided to not suspend Proposition 98 guaranteed funding.

Calls to the governor's office to clarify the issue of community college funding were not returned.

Although the majority of public comment speakers said they were against the governor speaking at the graduation ceremony, some felt the ceremony was not an appropriate occasion for a protest.

"If it wasn't for the fact this is our graduation, I could see why people would want to protest," said Jeronimo Saldana, president of SMC's student body. "I do not agree with the governor's politics, but

this event is a celebration, and it is prestigious that the governor is coming to our campus.

"I look forward to hearing what he has to say."

Saldana said he was surprised and a little dismayed by the controversy being stirred by the governor's invitation.

Bruce Smith, SMC spokesperson, said he could not recall there being a protest over a guest speaker in the 17 years he has been affiliated with the college.

Carl Gettleman, president of SMC's classified employee's union, said the divi-

siveness around the invitation was significant enough that officials ought to reconsider the choice of speaker.

He compared SMC's invitation to a car running with an indicator light flashing.

"If you assume that the indicator light is faulty, you just keep on driving and wait to see what happens," Gettleman said to SMC officials. "But there's a risk in assuming that the indicator light is faulty, because if it's not, then your car might cease to function altogether.

"And you could have prevented that."

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Outstanding photography, architecture recognized

SALUTE, from page 1

400 slides were submitted to this year's photography contest, with more than 500 winners selected, SMC faculty members said.

The winners honored at the meeting were Ken Thompson (best show), Samuel Frost (best color), David Choo (best black and white), Michaela Kindle (best commercial), Diana Brown (best experimental), Sita Marlier (best photo one slide), David Choo (honorable mention for commercial) and John Milos (honorable mention for black and white).

The award-winning photos included digital renderings of Van Gogh's self portrait, a life-size snap shot of green aspara-

gus on acrylic photo paper, commercial photographs of chocolate cake and martinis, a black and white fine-art shot of a child standing by himself in a park and other submissions representing various types of photography.

Also recognized at Monday night's board of trustees meeting were James Butterly and Carlos Munoz, who placed first statewide in an architectural design contest held in downtown Los Angeles.

In the contest, both men had six hours to work together to solve an interior design problem. They each won \$10,000.

"I feel privileged to attend SMC, and don't worry, this money will be well spent going back into school coffers for our education," Butterly said.

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STATE

New Schwarzenegger plan sparks outrage

BY TOM CHORNEAU

Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO — Democratic leaders and union officials on Monday condemned a plan by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's political team to create a "phenomenon of anger" against public employee unions leading up to an expected special election.

Some critics said the disclosure of the strategy is shocking but consistent with the increasingly bitter fight over Schwarzenegger's ballot proposals.

"The idea of creating anger is so offensive," said Barbara Kerr, president of the California Teachers Association. "It's the worst kind of politics. I believe the people of California are smarter than the governor is giving them credit for and they will see through this."

The Los Angeles Times reported Sunday that its reporters had listened to a conference call between the governor's political team and top contributors. The group discussed how to persuade voters that unions are the cause of many of California's problems.

"When you get to the point of 'These people are on your payroll and they are out to roll you every day,' that creates a kind of phenomenon of anger," Don Sipple, Schwarzenegger's media adviser, said during the call. "But it takes a long time to get there. As the campaign goes on, we have to articulate that."

Schwarzenegger is expected in the next week to call for a special fall election to pursue his agenda to impose a new state spending cap, redraw legislative and congressional districts and lengthen the time it takes school teachers to earn tenure.

Many of the governor's supporters are pressing a separate measure that would restrict the use of union dues for political purposes.

On Monday, the secretary of state said the union dues and teacher tenure items both qualified for the next statewide ballot, either a special election this fall or a regularly scheduled election next June.

Democrats and their supporters claim those measures are aimed at them. They are promoting a platform that includes a new energy deregulation proposal and prescription drug discounts while also mounting a campaign against the gover-

nor and the business interests backing the anti-union measure.

Nurse and teachers unions have loudly protested at the governor's public appearances. On Monday, labor leaders took issue with the newly revealed campaign strategy.

"Reports about Gov. Schwarzenegger's strategy of demonizing public employees should come as no surprise," said J.J. Jelincic, president of the 140,000-member California State Employees Association. "Ever since he dropped his 'moderate' facade earlier this year, he has been blaming government employees for the inability of his administration to meet the real needs of Californians."

Lance Corcoran, executive vice president of the California Correctional Peace Officers Association, said that the governor's agenda will backfire because it goes beyond unions and targets all working people.

Treasurer Phil Angelides, who declared he will run against Schwarzenegger next year, delivered 50,000 petition signatures to the governor's office Monday calling for Schwarzenegger to drop his plans for the election expected to cost \$80 million.

He said if the governor needs to manufacture animosity to achieve his goals then there's no need for an election because voters aren't truly discontent about the things he wants changed.

"The governor's so-called reforms will take California in the wrong direction while doing nothing to address the real issues facing our state," he said.

Schwarzenegger, appearing on a Sacramento radio talk show Monday, said the biggest reason for the election is to pass his spending cap. He said he expects the unions to continue fighting his agenda, pointing out that he believes that labor groups are happy with the status quo.

"They like it the way things are, but I believe very strongly that the way things are will bankrupt the state," Schwarzenegger told an afternoon audience of KFBK-AM.

The governor was not asked about the comments of his political adviser. His spokeswoman referred calls to Marty Wilson, a senior campaign consultant, who didn't immediately return phone calls from The Associated Press.



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Effect of medical marijuana court ruling could be limited

BY KIM CURTIS

Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — Oregon stopped issuing medical marijuana cards to sick citizens on Monday, but people could still get pot with a doctor's approval there and in nine other states despite the Supreme Court ruling, and nobody in law enforcement appeared eager to make headlines by arresting ailing citizens.

It remains to be seen whether the Drug Enforcement Administration is planning a crackdown on medical marijuana users. The Justice Department didn't comment Monday, and Oregon was the only medical marijuana state where officials said they would make an immediate changes because of the ruling.

In many places, local police rarely enforce marijuana laws, especially when it involves arresting sick people.

"People shouldn't panic. There aren't going to be many changes," California Attorney General Bill Lockyer said Monday. "Nothing is different today than it was two days ago, in terms of real world impact."

In Colorado, where 668 people hold a certificate allowing them to use and grow marijuana for pain relief under a constitutional amendment voters approved in 2000, federal prosecutors plan to keep their focus on large-scale drug rings. But if investigators come across marijuana in possession of certified state users, they will seize it — just as they have always done, said Jeff Dorschner, a U.S. attorney's spokesman. Officials say it's too early to say whether they will discontinue issuing medical marijuana certificates.

In Oregon, where 10,000 residents have received medical marijuana cards, officials said they would temporarily stop issuing medical marijuana cards. "We want to proceed cautiously until we understand the ramifications of this ruling," said Grant Higginson, a public health officer who oversees Oregon's medical marijuana program.

California Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, who has previously supported medical marijuana use, said "it is now up to Congress to provide clarity for not only California, but the other states that already have laws recognizing the use of marijuana for medical purposes."

Medical marijuana dispensaries have proliferated, despite a 2001 Supreme Court ruling that rejected the "medical necessity" defense in marijuana crimes.

Nationally, federal arrests of ailing patients who smoke pot have been exceedingly rare, said Paul Armentano, a senior policy analyst with the National

Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws. About 750,000 people get arrested annually for marijuana crimes, almost all by local police for marijuana possession. Federal authorities have arrested more than 60 people in medical marijuana raids since September 2001, almost all of them in California, according to NORML.

Still, the ruling makes Valerie Corral nervous. Corral operates a 150-plant pot farm in Santa Cruz County, providing marijuana for free to about 165 seriously ill members, and was raided by the DEA in 2002. The high court's decision "leaves us protecting ourselves from a government that should be protecting us," said Corral, who had been granted an injunction against raids as part of the appellate ruling overturned Monday by the Supreme Court. That protection could be overturned if federal officials seek to have the injunction lifted.

It was "business as usual" at the San Francisco health department, spokeswoman Eileen Shields said. Currently, 8,200 residents have medical marijuana cards, valid for two years with a doctor's prescription.

The city has at least 43 medical cannabis dispensaries, far more than any other city in California, and makes no effort to collect data that federal authorities could use against them. "No one wants to create a nice, neat database" of pot users, Shields said.

In San Francisco, Mayor Gavin Newsom remains a strong supporter of medical marijuana, and District Attorney Kamala Harris said Monday's decision doesn't change city policy. The city has imposed a moratorium on new pot clubs, and is requiring existing clubs to apply for permits.

"We want to make sure there are not abuses and we want to protect the patients," Harris said.

The states with laws allowing medical marijuana use are Alaska, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Maine, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Vermont and Washington state. Arizona has a law allowing medical marijuana, but no active program.

No changes are planned in Vermont, where 13 medical marijuana users are registered by the department of public safety, the governor's spokesman said. And it would take a legislative change to undo the law in Maine, which doesn't keep a registry, and allows marijuana users with doctor's notes to avoid prosecution.

No changes are expected either in Alaska, where 198 medical marijuana users are registered with the state. Privacy provisions in Alaska's constitution protect the possession and use of four ounces of marijuana by adults for personal consumption.

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

BRIEFS, from page 3

Scholarship winners named

By Daily Press staff

The Santa Monica Kiwanis Club is honored to name the recipients of their annual high school achievement scholarships. These scholarships are given to outstanding students who show both leadership and a commitment to community service. In addition to four scholarships given in the name of current and past members of the Santa Monica Kiwanis Club, two additional scholarships are for students who have overcome adversity to graduate and go on to college.

- Robert Ziebarth Memorial Scholarship — Marlene Gobrial, Santa Monica High School
- Alice Carriere Scholarship — Rudee Bagsby, St. Monica's High School
- Leo Collins Memorial Scholarship — Matthew Redfern, Santa Monica High School
- Kiwanis Achievement Scholarship — Imelda Ruelas, Olympic High School
- Ray Carriere Scholarship — Sahoua Gboizo, Santa Monica High School
- Kiwanis Achievement Scholarship — Ruth Legesse, New Roads High School

Experimental short films highlight festival

By Daily Press staff

Move over Fred Astaire.

Dance Camera West continues to entertain the public with their Los Angeles International Film Festival. A highlight of the DCW festival, according to officials, is the three different experimental short film programs, featuring 17 new works from artists such as Great Britain's Lloyd Newson from DV8 Physical Theater, Belgium's Thierry DeMey and Canada's Marie Chouinard. Los Angeles will be represented by David Rousseve, Monica Gillette and Hassan Christopher, among others. The full list of films, as well as locations, is available at www.dancecamerawest.org/schedule3.htm.

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NATIONAL

International cosmic ray observatory set for Colorado

BY DAN ELLIOTT
Associated Press Writer

DENVER — An international science group chose Colorado Tuesday as the site of a \$50 million observatory to study mysterious cosmic rays that continually bombard the Earth.

The Pierre Auger Collaboration said the observatory — a sprawling, 40-by-40-mile array of remotely monitored sensors — will be built in the southeast corner of Colorado about 180 miles from Denver.

Scientists hope the observatory, coupled with a similar array under construction in Argentina, will help reveal the origin and nature of cosmic rays, charged particles showering the atmosphere from unknown parts of the universe.

Jim Sites, associate dean for research at Colorado State University in Fort Collins, a member of the collaboration, said the observatory is designed to capture the extremely rare, highest-energy cosmic rays, which pack so much power that scientists cannot figure out what produces them.

"It's possible there's a very mundane answer, but my guess is there's going to be some light shed on something we have just been speculating on, or haven't even guessed at yet," he said.

Sites said only about five high-energy cosmic rays have ever been measured.

The collaboration, a collection of universities and laboratories around the world, hasn't begun lining up funding, he said.

The northern observatory, like the one in Argentina, will consist of 1,600 tanks 4 to 5 feet tall and 12 feet across filled with purified water. The water will catch a faint light emitted by secondary energy particles created when the rays hit the Earth's atmosphere, Sites said.

Electronic equipment powered by solar panels or batteries will measure the light and transmit the data by radio to a headquarters building at Lamar Community College in Lamar.

Scientists there will make "the first cut" of the information, but detailed analysis will be done at the collaboration's member institutions, Sites said.

He said scientists need two observatories to ensure they cover the entire sky.

"You can't see the entire universe from only one hemisphere," he said.

The collaboration chose the Colorado site because of its elevation, about 3,600 feet above sea level, and because it has easy access and room to expand, Sites said.

A higher site might miss many of the particles; they might dissipate before they can be measured at a lower elevation, he said.

Most of the tanks will be on private ranch land and will be near county roads.

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NATIONAL



Arizona governor calls summit on immigration

BY PAUL DAVENPORT
Associated Press Writer

PHOENIX — Arizona Gov. Janet Napolitano is pointing a finger of blame at the federal government but says state and local officials must do more to combat illegal immigration.

Napolitano announced Tuesday she is calling a summit to devise plans for enforcement of federal immigration laws in Arizona, the busiest illicit entry point on the nation's porous southern border.

Her executive order calling the summit follows her May 20 veto of a bill to allow state and local law enforcement agencies to enforce federal immigration laws.

The summit will be organized by the state Department of Public Safety and be held July 12 in Flagstaff. Numerous law enforcement agencies and groups will be invited to send representatives, Napolitano's office said.

Those invited include Arizona state and local law enforcement agencies, plus the Border Patrol, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the U.S. attorney's office and officials of Luke Air Force Base, which has a gunnery and bombing range along the border.

Napolitano ordered the DPS to propose plans, including recommendations for changes in federal and state law, within 60 days of the summit.

While immigration enforcement is a federal responsibility, the federal government has failed to fully reimburse the state for costs of incarcerating illegal immigrants who commit crimes in Arizona, Napolitano's order said.

Also, local law enforcement agencies have to release back into the community detained illegal immigrants when the understaffed federal Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement is unwilling or unable to pick them up, Napolitano said.

The bill vetoed by Napolitano would have authorized but not required local and state agencies to enforce federal immigration laws. Napolitano's veto letter called it an unfunded mandate because agencies would incur large costs to train officers.

Napolitano's new order also directed the DPS to, separately from the summit, study what the 1,100-officer agency can do within its current budget to enforce federal immigration laws.

Federal law permits state and local law enforcement agencies to enforce immigration laws if they have entered into agreements with the federal government.

The bill vetoed May 20 was among several immigration-related measures passed by the Republican-led Legislature but vetoed by Napolitano, and political observers have said Republicans will try to make immigration a politically troublesome issue for the first-term Democrat in her expected re-election bid next year.

Leaders of several statewide associations representing law enforcement officials were not immediately available for comment Tuesday, while the sponsor of the vetoed bill was critical of the summit.

"This is such political pandering," said Rep. Russell Pearce, R-Mesa. "She's simply doing everything she can to prevent real enforcement of our immigration laws."

Pearce acknowledged that ICE often fails to send officers to take custody of illegal immigrants encountered by local law enforcement officers.

"Pressure has to be put on the federal government, but the federal government's failure is not an excuse to let police officers sit on the sideline," he said.

Proposal could create jobs, revenue in coastal areas

FISH FARMING, from page 1

the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration say the United States has fallen behind other countries in farming fish. Currently the United States imports 70 percent of the seafood eaten here and 40 percent is from overseas fish farms.

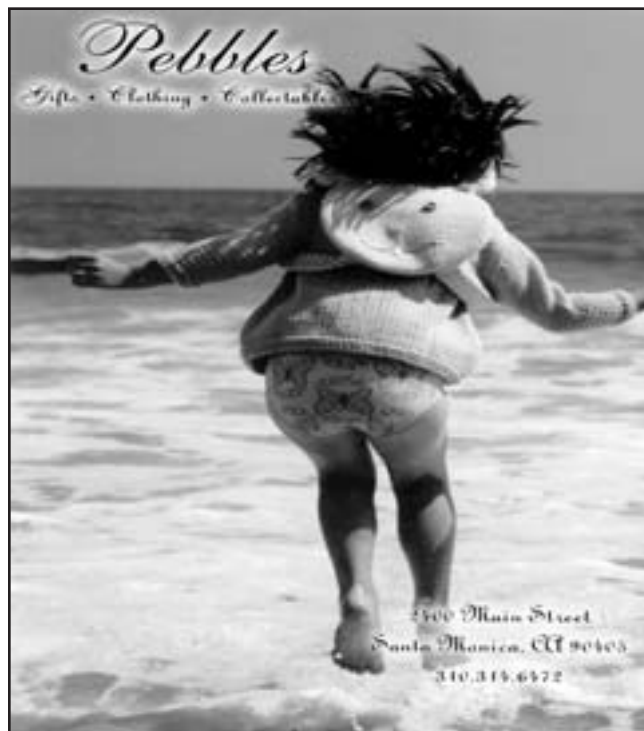
"Today's action will create jobs and revenues for coastal communities and U.S. businesses by allowing for the expansion of an underutilized industry," Commerce Secretary Carlos M. Gutierrez said in a statement.

Currently, the United States does not have a regulatory structure in place to allow aquaculture operations in federal marine waters.

The bill being sent to Congress would permit fish farming up to 200 miles off the coast, to be regulated by NOAA, a part of the Commerce Department.

"Our goal is to develop a sustainable aquaculture program that balances the needs of fishermen, coastal residents and visitors, seafood consumers, the environment, and the aquaculture industry," said NOAA Administrator Conrad C. Lautenbacher, Jr.

NOAA said there are advantages to locating fish farms farther off shore including water depth, currents and water quality. Pilot projects have used submerged cages for fish and long lines for mussels.



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**BUYING
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BY THOMAS KHAMMAR
& BRENT PARSONS

New housing units, as measured by building permits, were down 1.9 percent from April 2004 to April 2005 and dropped 10.2 percent from March to April, the California Building Industry Association reported. There were 17,917 new housing units in April, with 14,299 permits for single-family homes and 3,618 for multifamily units.

Though there were heavy rains in much of the state earlier this year, housing starts for the first four months of 2005 totaled 66,075, which is 2.4 percent less than the same period last year, according to figures compiled by the Construction Industry Research Board.

Alan Nevin, chief economist for the CBIA, said he is optimistic that builders will be able to match last year's strong numbers.

"With April's residential permit activity in hand, it is evident that the California building community is on target to once again produce about 210,000 homes, condominiums and apartments in 2005," Nevin said. "The figures through the first four months of 2005 basically match those of 2004, despite the heavy rains and inclement cli-

CBIA is sponsoring legislation that seeks to increase home-ownership opportunities by removing barriers to housing production, ensuring a supply of buildable land, streamlining the construction approval process and requiring public agencies to be more accountable for development-related fees.

mate in the beginning of the year. "Also, builders in some of the urban areas are expressing concern that local governments are having a hard time processing a sufficient number of lots to keep pace with demand," he added.

Nevin said that starts in the Sacramento region were down 17.3 percent from 2004 for the first four months of the year — the region has experienced bad weather and there is a short supply of buildable lots.

Robert Rivinius, CEO for the association, said, "The state's population continues to grow by 500,000 to 600,000 people each year, so we need to be building at least 30,000 more homes a year just to keep up with demand. Overregulation, excessive fees and — especially — a lack of available land for building are all helping to keep Californians from realizing the dream of home ownership."

CBIA is sponsoring legislation

that seeks to increase home-ownership opportunities by removing barriers to housing production, ensuring a supply of buildable land, streamlining the construction approval process and requiring public agencies to be more accountable for development-related fees.

The association represents about 6,200 businesses, including home-builders, remodelers, subcontractors, architects, engineers, designers and other industry professionals. The Construction Industry Research Board is a nonprofit research center established in 1974 to provide statistical information on the California building and construction industry.

(If you want any of the new construction reports or availability of new homes being built, contact The PowerHouse Team at 310-927-5233 or e-mail Thomas@pwrhteam.com.)

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Sold Santa Monica 05/27/2005	2021 CALIFORNIA AVE #16 SqFt: 0 HOD: \$350	SANTA MONICA 90403 List Price: \$699,000 Sold Price: \$660,000	Bed: 2 Bath: 2.00

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Consider the actual value of your remodel



DAYS ON THE MARKET

BY JODI SUMMERS

Have you ever thought about remodeling, but wonder whether you'll recoup your investment when you go to sell? If so, then you should know about the Cost vs. Value Report. The report, published in conjunction with Remodeling magazine, estimates the price and the percent of cost recouped on sale.

Obviously, statistics vary from city to city and house to house. The return on investment you receive for remodeling needs to factor in the value of the home, the value of similar homes in the neighborhood, the availability of new homes and the rate at which property values are changing around the neighborhood.

FYI: Prices are up approximately 17.5 percent from a year ago. For the first five months of this year in Santa Monica, according to the Multiple Listing Service, 58.9 percent of the available single-family homes sold at a median sales price of \$1,582,500 and 76.53 percent of all condos sold with an average year-to-date sales price of \$650,000. There are many people around town who could raise the value of their property by remodeling.

According to the 2004 Cost vs. Value Report, here's an overview of the specific remodeling job and the national average of the expenses involved.

MAJOR KITCHEN REMODEL

Update an outmoded 200-square-foot kitchen with new cabinets, laminate countertops and standard double-tub stainless-steel sink with standard single-lever faucet. Include energy-efficient wall oven, cooktop, ventilation system, built-in microwave, dishwasher and garbage disposer. Add custom lighting and new resilient floor.

Job cost: \$42,660
Value at sale: \$33,890
Cost Recouped: 79.4 percent

BATHROOM REMODEL

Update bathroom that's at least 25 years old. Replace all fixtures to include standard-sized tub with ceramic tile surround, toilet, solid-surface vanity counter with integral double sink, recessed medicine cabinet, ceramic tile floor and vinyl wallpaper.

Job cost: \$9,861
Value at sale: \$8,887
Cost Recouped: 90.1 percent

BATHROOM ADDITION

Add a full 6-by-8-foot bath to a house with one or one-and-a-half baths. Locate near bedrooms over a crawl space. Include cultured-marble vanity top, molded sink, standard tub/shower with ceramic tile surround, low-profile toilet, general and spot lighting, mirrored medicine cabinet, linen storage, vinyl wallpaper and ceramic tile floor.

Job cost: \$21,087
Value at sale: \$18,226
Cost Recouped: 86.4 percent

MASTER SUITE ADDITION

On a house with two or three bedrooms, add a 24-by-16-foot master bedroom suite over a crawl space. Include walk-in closet/dressing area, whirlpool

tub in ceramic tile platform, separate 3-by-4-foot ceramic tile shower and double-bowl vanity with solid surface countertop. Bedroom floor is carpet; bath floor is ceramic tile. Paint the walls, ceiling and trim. Add general and spot lighting and exhaust fan.

Job cost: \$70,245
Value at sale: \$56,257
Cost Recouped: 80.1 percent

FAMILY ROOM ADDITION

Add a 16-by-25-foot room on a crawl space foundation with vinyl siding and fiberglass shingle roof. Include drywall interior with batt insulation, prefinished hardwood floor, and 180 square feet of glazing, including windows, atrium-style exterior doors and two operable skylights. Tie into existing heating and cooling.

Job cost: \$52,562
Value at sale: \$42,347
Cost Recouped: 80.6 percent

WINDOW REPLACEMENT

Replace 10 existing 3-by-5-foot double-hung windows with vinyl- or aluminum-clad, double-glazed, wood replacement windows. Wrap existing exterior trim as required to match. Don't disturb existing interior trim.

Job cost: \$9,273
Value at sale: \$7,839
Cost Recouped: 84.5 percent

ROOFING REPLACEMENT

Remove existing roofing to bare wood and dispose of properly. Install 30 squares of fiberglass asphalt shingles with new felt underlayment, galvanized drip edge and mill-finish aluminum flashing.

Job cost: \$11,376
Value at sale: \$9,197
Cost Recouped: 80.8 percent

SUNROOM ADDITION

Add a 200-square-foot sunroom to a two-story house. Form and pour footings for slab-on-grade foundation. Use exposed post-and-beam framing on interior side and extruded aluminum window frame-and-flashing system with insulated, low-E, laminated or tempered glazing. Provide for natural ventilation using screens and fan.

Job cost: \$31,063
Value at sale: \$22,002
Cost Recouped: 70.8 percent

DECK ADDITION

Add 16-by-20-foot deck using pressure-treated SYP joists supported by 4-by-4 posts set into concrete footings. Install composite deck material in a simple linear pattern. Include a built-in bench, a planter of the same decking material and stairs. Provide a railing system made of the same composite material as the decking or a compatible vinyl system.

Job cost: \$6,917
Value at sale: \$6,000
Cost Recouped: 86.7 percent

The cost data for the report comes from a remodeling estimating software company called HomeTech, and offer some city to city pricing variations. The resale values based upon National Association of Realtor feedback.

(Jodi Summers is director of the investment division at Boardwalk Realty Santa Monica. Contact her at jodis@boardwalkrealty.com or call 310-309-4219.)

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Power companies seeking summer sacrifices

BY BRUCE MEYERSON

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — James and Jeanne Wallace are just two of the 13 million people served by Southern California Edison, and compared with any nearby factory or department store, their air conditioner really isn't much of a strain on California's capacity-challenged power grid.

The Wallaces also belong to a more elite group: 145,000 customers who figure prominently in the electric utility's preparations for the hot summer months.

These people have given the company permission to shut down their air conditioners for short intervals whenever energy usage peaks toward capacity. Collectively, these homes can "generate" nearly 300 megawatts of electricity, equivalent to about a third of the output of many power plants.

An office building or a shopping mall typically consumes thousands of times more electricity than any single home, which is why many utilities offer big incentives to businesses to cut back during peak hours.

But power companies also see power in numbers. Many states and utilities see these residential drops in the bucket as a critical cushion, even if they can't prevent a major outage like the Northeast blackout in 2003.

"You'll find that (home systems) can respond pretty quick, as opposed to a manufacturing plant, which needs hours to crank something down," said Ross Malme, chief executive of Retx Inc., a provider of energy communications technology. "The faster a consumer can respond to an event, the more valuable they become."

Conservation programs like SoCal Edison's are hardly new. At least 5 million U.S. homes are enrolled in such

programs, some of which have been around since the 1970's. Interest waned, however, until soaring demand, rising prices and the major outages of recent years exposed the system's vulnerability.

"There's hardly a state out there that's not looking into doing something," said Lynn England, chief executive of Good Cents Inc., which helps utilities design and run demand-reduction programs.

People who sign up let their utility install a small device with which the company can remotely control their central air conditioning units and swimming pool pumps, another major power drain.

The compensation for this sacrifice is rather modest, often no more than \$50 to \$100 worth of energy savings, bill credits and rate reductions during a typical summer.

"I don't think you should use the word sacrifice because there's not much sacrifice involved. Maybe a little inconvenience," said James Wallace, 74, a retired attorney and customer of SoCal Edison, a unit of Edison International Co.

"If it gets too hot I'll go sit in my car," Wallace joked. He hardly notices the brief interruptions. And it's a better option, Wallace said, than the rolling blackouts during California's energy crisis in 2001.

Residential conservation also lets utilities avoid buying extra power to cover shortages. Excess capacity can cost several times the normal price in the wholesale market, and that expense can trickle down to consumers.

In New York, energy officials and utilities are expected to outline a plan this summer to add 300 megawatts to the state's capacity through nontraditional means, including demand reduction.

Though New York offers sizable financial incentives

for large businesses to conserve, residential programs remain limited, and could serve as a major untapped resource toward the 300-megawatt goal.

About 2,000 major businesses are already on call to cut a combined 1,500 megawatts of power use under New York's existing programs, according to the New York Independent System Operator, which oversees the state's transmission systems and the conservation efforts.

By contrast, in the New York City metropolitan area, about 38,400 homes, small businesses and religious institutions served by the Long Island Power Authority and Consolidated Edison Inc. are enrolled in pilot programs, representing 47 megawatts of power that can be turned off in a pinch.

That's tiny compared with older programs run by SoCal Edison, Florida Power & Light Co. and Minneapolis-based Xcel Energy Inc. Florida Power, a unit of FPL Group Inc., has 718,000 of its 4.2 million customers enrolled in its On Call program, offering potential demand reduction of 780 megawatts. About 295,000 of Xcel's 1.5 million customers in five mid-western states are signed up for the Saver's Switch program, providing a cushion of 419 megawatts.

Since most consumers pay a set rate for electricity, there's little immediate gratification from conservation beyond civic pride.

The LIPA and ConEd programs don't offer any discounts or credits beyond an initial \$25 payment, but they come with a technological feature that's proven popular: users can go online and remotely adjust the settings on their thermostat if they forget to turn off the air conditioner or want to cool the house before arriving home.



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NATIONAL



U.S. religious zeal higher than in allied nations

BY RACHEL ZOLL

AP Religion Writer

Religious devotion sets the United States apart from some of its closest allies. Americans profess unquestioning belief in God and are far more willing to mix faith and politics than people in other countries, AP-Ipsos polling found.

In Western Europe, where Pope Benedict XVI complains that growing secularism has left churches unfilled on Sundays, people are the least devout among the 10 countries surveyed for The Associated Press by Ipsos.

Only Mexicans come close to Americans in embracing faith, the poll found. But unlike Americans, Mexicans strongly object to clergy lobbying lawmakers, in line with the nation's historical opposition to church influence.

"In the United States, you have an abundance of religions trying to motivate Americans to greater involvement," said Roger Finke, a sociologist at Penn State University. "It's one thing that makes a tremendous difference here."

The polling was conducted in May in the United States, Australia, Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Mexico, South Korea and Spain.

Nearly all U.S. respondents said faith is important to them and only 2 percent said they do not believe in God. Almost 40 percent said religious leaders should try to sway policymakers, notably higher than in other countries.

"Our nation was founded on Judeo-Christian policies and religious leaders have an obligation to speak out on public policy, otherwise they're wimps," said David Black, a retiree from Osborne, Pa., who agreed to be interviewed after he was polled.

In contrast, 85 percent of French object to clergy activism — the strongest opposition of any nation surveyed. France has strict curbs on public religious expression and, according to the poll, 19 percent are atheists. South Korea is the only other nation with that high a percentage of nonbelievers.

Australians are generally split over the importance of faith, while two-thirds of South Koreans and Canadians

said religion is central to their lives. People in all three countries strongly oppose mixing religion and politics.

Researchers disagree over why people in the United States have such a different religious outlook, said Brent Nelsen, an expert in politics and religion at Furman University in South Carolina.

Some say rejecting religion is a natural response to modernization and consider the United States a strange exception to the trend. Others say Europe is the anomaly; people in modernized countries inevitably return to religion because they yearn for tradition, according to the theory.

Some analysts, like Finke, use a business model. According to his theory, a long history of religious freedom in the United States created a greater supply of worship options than in other countries, and that proliferation inspired wider observance. Some European countries still subsidize churches, in effect regulating or limiting religious options, Finke said.

History also could be a factor.

Many countries other than the United States have been through bloody religious conflict that contributes to their suspicion of giving clergy any say in policy.

A variety of factors contribute to the sentiment about separating religion and politics.

"In Germany, they have a Christian Democratic Party, and they talk about Christian values, but they don't talk about them in quite the same way that we do," Nelsen said. "For them, the Christian part of the Christian values are held privately and it's not that acceptable to bring those out into the open."

In Spain, where the government subsidizes the Catholic Church, and in Germany, which is split between Catholics and Protestants, people are about evenly divided over whether they consider faith important. The results are almost identical in Britain, whose state church, the Church of England, is struggling to fill pews.

Italians are the only European exception in the poll. Eighty percent said religion is significant to them and just over half said they unquestioningly believe in God.

But even in Italy, home to the Catholic Church, resistance to religious engagement in politics is evident. Only three in 10 think the clergy should try to influence gov-

ernment decisions; a lower percentage in Spain, Germany and England said the same.

Within the United States, some of the most pressing policy issues involve complex moral questions — such as gay marriage, abortion and stem cell research — that understandably draw religious leaders into public debate, said John Green, an expert on religion and politics at the University of Akron.

The poll found Republicans are much more likely than Democrats to think clergy should try to influence government decisions — a sign of the challenges ahead for Democrats as they attempt to reach out to more religious voters.

"Rightly or wrongly, Republicans tend to perceive religion as, quote-unquote, 'on their side,'" Green said.

The Associated Press-Ipsos polls of about 1,000 adults in each of the 10 countries were taken May 12-26. Each has a margin of sampling error of plus or minus 3 percentage points.

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N.M. to seek injunction to stop drilling

By The Associated Press

SANTA FE, N.M. — The state and environmentalists are waging a fight against the Bureau of Land Management's decision to include a parcel of Otero Mesa land in an upcoming gas and oil drilling lease sale.

Attorney General Patricia Madrid announced Tuesday that she intends to seek a preliminary injunction in U.S. District Court to halt plans to drill at Otero Mesa while a lawsuit the state filed against such drilling is pending.

The state filed the lawsuit in April seeking to keep the BLM from issuing gas and oil drilling leases for the mesa in southeastern New Mexico.

"We cannot permit oil and gas leasing to go forward and allow the federal government to set in motion steps that will irretrievably lead to the permanent damage of Otero Mesa," Madrid said. "We will do all we can to stop the feds from harming Otero Mesa while our lawsuit battle goes on."

In releasing its plans to offer 68 parcels during its gas and oil lease sale in July, the BLM announced Monday that the 1,600-acre parcel on Otero Mesa would be included.

BLM state Director Linda Rundell said this will be the first step in a closely monitored plan that took six years to produce.

While the plan covers 2 million acres of public lands, surface disturbance associated with oil and gas development will be limited to 1,589 acres, BLM officials said. They said stipulations include the protection of desert grassland habitat, historic trails, special species habitat and cultural properties.

A BLM spokesman didn't immediately return calls from the Associated Press on Tuesday seeking comment on the state's plan to file for an injunction.

Gov. Bill Richardson has called Otero Mesa one of the greatest water resources remaining in New Mexico.

"These are places that should be protected for other values such as groundwater, hunting and fishing, and ranching," Richardson said. "We will fight this proposal. We are preparing an injunction right now."

The state isn't alone in its legal action.

A coalition of conservation and environmental groups filed a similar lawsuit to stop the drilling on Otero Mesa. Coalition members said they also may seek an injunction.

Otero Mesa, in Sierra and Otero counties, has the nation's largest contiguous patch of black gramma grass, which takes decades to re-establish and is not available as commercial seed. The mesa also is home to hundreds of species of plants, mammals, reptiles, birds and insects.

The BLM plans to offer 68 parcels totaling 68,158 acres during the lease sale July 20.

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Los Alamos lab whistleblower beaten outside N.M. bar

BY DEBORAH BAKER
Associated Press Writer

SANTA FE, N.M. — A Los Alamos lab whistleblower scheduled to testify before Congress was lured to a bar and then badly beaten in an attack his wife and lawyer believe was designed to keep him quiet.

Tommy Hook suffered a fractured jaw and other injuries in the attack early Sunday, his wife, Susan Hook, said Monday. He was in satisfactory condition Tuesday at St. Vincent Regional Medical Center in Santa Fe, said hospital spokesman Don Butterfield.

She said the assailants told her husband, “if you know what’s good for you, you’ll keep your mouth shut.”

Tommy Hook has a pending lawsuit against the University of California alleging whistleblower retaliation. He had been scheduled to testify before the House Energy and Commerce Committee later this month about alleged financial irregularities at the nuclear weapons lab.

Police and the FBI said they were investigating.

According to Hook’s wife, the 52-year-old lab employee got a telephone call from someone late

Saturday night — after he was already in bed — wanting to meet with him at a Santa Fe bar about 45 minutes from their home.

She said her husband told her the man never showed up, but as he was leaving the topless bar’s parking lot, a group of men pulled him from his car and beat him.

“They left him in the parking lot for dead,” Hook’s lawyer, Robert Rothstein, said Monday at a news conference where pictures of Hook’s bruised, bloodied and swollen face were passed around.

His wife, who sobbed when the pictures were distributed, said the attackers “beat him up with their feet first, ‘cause he has shoe marks on his face, and then used their fists.”

Rothstein said the assailants didn’t take Hook’s wallet, other personal belongings or his car. In the absence of any other motive, it appears the beating was related to his whistleblowing, Rothstein contended.

“It is clear to us that this was a message,” Susan Hook said.

She said her husband had been told last week by a friend about someone who had information about the lab. A planned meeting with that informant on Friday never

materialized, and Hook believed that’s who he was going to meet on Saturday, she said.

Susan Hook, who was in Albuquerque visiting their grown sons when the incident happened, said her husband did not frequent bars and she believed his account of the attack. The assailants did not specifically mention the lab, she also said.

Lab spokesman Kevin Roark said the beating of Hook — who works in the Prime Contract Office, an internal oversight group — was “a senseless and brutal act and should not be tolerated.”

The university and the lab are “outraged” about the assault, according to a statement released by the lab.

Hook and another whistleblower, Chuck Montano, sued the university in March, alleging that after they uncovered management failures, university and lab managers tried to make their jobs miserable so they would quit.

Hook had been voicing complains about lab management for years. He testified in a 1997 deposition that the chief of the lab’s audit division “didn’t want to see certain things put in reports,” including “unallowable costs” and “embarrassment to the university.”

String of coordinated bombings kills 18 and wounds dozens in Iraq

BY PAUL GARWOOD
Associated Press Writer

BAGHDAD, Iraq — A string of four apparently coordinated bombings in seven minutes Tuesday killed 18 people in northern Iraq, ending a relative lull in violence, and a television station aired a video showing gunmen threatening to kill a Turkish hostage.

Hundreds of U.S. and Iraqi soldiers descended on the remote northern city of Tal Afar near the Syrian border, launching a major operation against insurgents, military officials said.

A Sunni politician, meanwhile, claimed two insurgent groups were ready to open talks with the government and eventually join the political process.

Two U.S. Marines died Monday after separate roadside bombings near Fallujah, 40 miles west of Baghdad, the military said. A U.S. soldier also died of non-combat related injuries Sunday at Camp Dublin, near Baghdad International Airport. At least 1,673 U.S. military members have died since the Iraq war began in March 2003, according to an Associated Press count.

Tuesday’s attacks in northern Iraq, which also left at least 39 wounded, appeared aimed at checkpoints manned by Iraq’s fledgling army, a constant target of militants opposed to the new U.S.-backed government.

The first explosion, caused by a roadside bomb, rocked Hawija, about 40 miles southwest of Kirkuk, at around 9:30 a.m. Soon after, three suicide bombers waiting in cars at army checkpoints to the west and north of Hawija struck in quick succession.

In the deadliest attack, 10 civilians and one soldier were killed at a checkpoint in Dibis, two miles west of Hawija, army Lt. Faleh Ahmed said. Three soldiers and two civilians were killed at a checkpoint in Bagara, three miles west of Hawija. Two soldiers died in a suicide attack on the Aziziya checkpoint at the northern entrance to Hawija.

“I was standing some distance from the checkpoint when I heard a big explosion and I was thrown onto the ground,” Lt. Sadiq Mohammed, 26, whose right leg was wounded, said from his hospital bed. “This is a terrorist act because real resistance should only target American troops, not Iraqis trying to protect their country.”

The three car bombs “were coordinated because they happened almost at the same time and in the same way, where the drivers of the suicide cars waited in lines of

traffic before reaching the checkpoints before exploding their cars next the soldiers,” police Col. Ahmed Hammoud said.

The Tal Afar offensive was targeting “terror suspects” responsible for multiple attacks on civilians, U.S. Army spokesman Sgt. John Franzen said.

U.S. helicopters flew overhead as tanks and Bradley fighting vehicles patrolled the narrow streets, regularly coming under small arms fire, witnesses said. Tal Afar police Capt. Amjad Hashim said about 20 suspected insurgents had been captured.

Hashim also claimed insurgents fired an anti-aircraft rocket at a U.S. helicopter, striking it and forcing it to return to base. Franzen said an OH-58 two-seat reconnaissance helicopter had “mechanical difficulties,” but he was unaware if it had been attacked.

The Tal Afar operation came a day after U.S. and Iraqi commanders met with nearly 80 local tribal elders and agreed to “work together to end violence” and rebuild the ancient city’s police and government services, the military said.

Also Tuesday, insurgents attacked a convoy of civilian contractors delivering supplies for coalition forces, and U.S. troops cordoned off the area in Habaniyah, 50 miles west of Baghdad, the U.S. military said. No further details were provided.

More than 860 people have died since the Shiite-led government was announced April 28.

Iraqi and U.S. officials maintain that a counterinsurgency offensive in Baghdad, dubbed Operation Lightning, has helped curb attacks in the capital, where multiple suicide car bombings and drive-by shootings have become part of daily life.

The operation, which began May 22, is the biggest Iraqi-led offensive since Saddam Hussein’s ouster two years ago. Before it began, authorities controlled only eight of Baghdad’s 23 entrances. Now, all are under government control.

At least 887 arrests have been made in the operation, according to government figures, and 608 mobile and 194 permanent checkpoints have been established.

Sunni Arab Islamic extremists opposed to the new Shiite-led government and former Saddam loyalists, who lost power following the former dictator’s ouster, are believed to be major players in the rampant insurgency.

A Sunni Arab politician claimed that two insurgent

groups were ready to open talks with the government and eventually lay down their arms and join the political process.

The disclosure Tuesday by Ayham al-Samarie was the first time any Iraqi politician has publicly acknowledged contacting Iraq’s insurgency and opened a new front in efforts to counter it.

It was not possible to verify his claims and the government would not comment on them.

Al-Samarie, who has dual U.S.-Iraqi citizenship, said the two groups were the Islamic Army in Iraq and the Mujahedeen Army, the Arabic for holy warriors. He said he had not met any of their field commanders but began contacting their political leaders about five months ago. He did not name them.

He told AP the two factions represented more than half of the “resistance,” the term used by many in Iraq to exclude militant Muslim groups working with Jordanian-born Abu Musab al-Zarqawi of al-Qaida in Iraq and others who target civilians as well as Iraq’s security forces.

The Islamic Army in Iraq has claimed responsibility for several attacks and is believed to be responsible for kidnapping and killing several of the more than 200 foreigners taken hostage in Iraq in the past 18 months. Little is known about the Mujahedeen Army.

The video aired by the private Dubai television station showed gunmen pointing automatic rifles at the head of a kidnapped Turkish businessman, threatening to kill him unless Ankara stops supporting U.S. forces and prevents Turkish businesses from operating in Iraq.

A passport held up by the hostage in the video contained a birth date and place of birth that matched that of 48-year-old Turkish businessman Ali Musluoglu, who was abducted in Baghdad on May 19. In Ankara, Turkey’s Foreign Ministry did not comment.

In other developments:

■ Sunni cleric Salam al-Kardici, 50, who was kidnapped Sunday by armed men in police uniforms, was found shot to death beneath a bridge in the southern city of Basra.

■ A riot broke out late Sunday at the U.S.-run Abu Ghraib prison west of Baghdad during a failed escape attempt by an Iraqi inmate during a heavy sandstorm, the military said Tuesday. Detainees threw rocks at portable light generators and guards before the unrest was quelled, with four guards and six inmates slightly injured.



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- 18 Salt source
- 19 Drop in
- 22 Hen home
- 23 Lightning hurler
- 26 Bald-spot hider
- 29 Frodo's friend
- 32 Utter
- 33 Outback runner
- 34 Wall Street type
- 36 Riding whip
- 37 Join the debate team
- 38 Peter of "M"

39 In shape

- 40 Clear
- 41 Spank
- 42 "Hamlet" extras

DOWN

- 1 Inclined
- 2 Spoiled, perhaps
- 3 Remarkable
- 4 Miami team
- 5 Table scrap
- 6 Scope
- 7 Yoga position
- 8 Not available
- 9 Highly competitive

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- 15 Cleveland cager
- 17 Fall apart
- 20 Computer key letters
- 21 Greek letter
- 24 Invaded
- 25 Regret
- 27 Damage
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7 YEAR/1 ARM	5.5%
5 YEAR/1 ARM	4.875%**
3 YEAR/1 ARM	4.625%**
1 YEAR/1 ARM	4.25%
6 MO./6 MO. ARM	4.25%
1 MO./1 MO. ARM	1.0%**

*Rates subject to change
 * As of April 12, 2005
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* Not Including Tax & Insurance

\$650,000
 1ST \$520,000 @ 5.25% \$2,275 P/MO
 2ND \$130,000 @ 7.75% \$839 P/MO
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* Not Including Tax & Insurance

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Announcements

Yard Sales

GARAGE SALE Saturday June 11 (all day) 805 Georgina Ave. (corner of Lincoln and Georgina)

VENICE HIGH School flea market. 13000 Venice Blvd., Los Angeles, CA. Antiques, toys, crafts, collectibles, jewelry, clothes. June 11, 2005, second Saturday each month. 9am-4pm. Free admission & free parking. Vendor information call (310) 390-5851.

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Notices

ANNUAL MEETING Notice
 American Red Cross of Santa Monica

The American Red Cross of Santa Monica will hold it's Annual Meeting on Thursday, June 23, 2005, 6:30 to 8:00PM. at 1450 11th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401.

Business to be conducted includes approval of the annual operating budget for fiscal year 2005-2006 and election of officers to the chapter's Board of Directors. The public is invited. A donation of \$10 per person is requested. Phone 310-394-3773 during business hours to RSVP or for more information.

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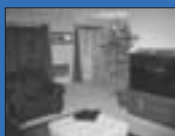
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\$500,000.00
1st - \$400,000.00 @ 5.25%
\$1,750.00 Per Month

2nd - \$100,000.00 @ 7.75%
\$645.00 Per Month

Total \$2,395.00 Per Month
*Not Including Tax & Insurance

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\$2,275.00 Per Month

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\$834.00 Per Month

Total \$3,114.00 Per Month
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1 year/1 arm 4.25%

6 mos./6 mo. arm 4.25%

1 mo./1 mo. arm 1.0%***

* Rates subject to change

* As of April 12, 2005

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