

FREE

FRIDAY, JUNE 13, 2003

Volume 2, Issue 182

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

LOTTO

FANTASY 5

10, 22, 19, 11, 36

DAILY 3

Afternoon picks: 6, 7, 0

Evening picks: 9, 5, 2

DAILY DERBY

1st Place: 12, Lucky Charms

2nd Place: 09, Winning Spirit

3rd Place: 02, Lucky Star

Race Time: 1:46.98



NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

Cat-hoarder Heidi Erickson, 42, had two Boston-area homes raided in April and May, at which authorities rescued a total of 112 sickly cats and found several cat carcasses. Erickson is one of the more aggressive hoarders on record, both for her proclivity for litigiousness (40 cases in seven years) and the circus-like atmosphere she created at a subsequent court hearing (during which she denied the accounts of numerous witnesses that the cats were ailing). She told one person her mission was to breed the "imperfections" out of Persians. Erickson said she was a victim of discrimination (epileptic disability, sexual lifestyle) and would challenge any eviction or any restrictions by authorities in Beacon Hill and Watertown, Mass.



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"A fat paunch never breeds fine thoughts."

— St. Jerome



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Flyin' high



Del Pastrana/Daily Press

Dirt bike extremists on Thursday do jump runs on dirt ramps set up for this weekend's BMX Tour at Venice Beach.

Two additional suspects arrested in Pico shootings

Arrests are now at eight in SMPD investigation

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON
Daily Press Staff Writer

Two men were arrested Tuesday for attempted murder in connection with last week's drive-by shooting in an eastside Santa Monica neighborhood.

Andre Stephaun Alexander, 25, of Los Angeles and Rodney Lenny Crayton, 26, of Santa Monica, were arrested after Santa Monica Police officers stopped them for a traffic violation in the 1900 block of Pico Boulevard. Officers realized they fit the description of the suspects involved in a shooting that occurred last week in the neighborhood.

Witnesses and victims told police last week that a black sports utility vehicle fled the scene of the shooting, which occurred in the 2200 block of Delaware Avenue at 12:30 p.m. on June 5.

After the traffic stop, police searched the black, Chevy Tahoe and found a loaded handgun, along with other evidence that may link Alexander and Crayton to the shooting, police said.

Witnesses and the two victims,

who are Latino and are affiliated with a Santa Monica gang, said two black men in their 20's shot at them while they were sitting in a parked car, according to police.

After the traffic stop, police searched the black, Chevy Tahoe and found a loaded handgun ...

Alexander and Crayton are both black.

Witnesses told police that the suspects opened fire from a black SUV before fleeing the scene, heading east on Delaware Avenue and south on Cloverfield Boulevard, police said.

Alexander and Crayton were transported to the Santa Monica Jail. Alexander's bail is set at \$1 million and Crayton has no bail because of a felony parole violation.

Charges have yet to be filed by the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office.

The SMPD has now arrested

See SUSPECTS, page 4

Businessman claims self-defense in shooting

Michael Bell says he shot homeless man after he jumped him

BY JOHN WOOD
Daily Press Staff Writer

A Santa Monica businessman acted in self defense when he shot and killed a transient last July outside of his auto repair shop, his lawyer said Thursday.

Opening arguments were made in the murder trial of Michael Ward Bell, a Pico Boulevard merchant who is facing one count of first degree murder for killing Andre Watson, a homeless man.

Bell, 54, of Los Angeles, sat still in the courtroom, dressed in a black suit and prison-issued black slippers as attorneys presented snapshots of their cases to the jury of nine women and five men.

The trial, which is expected to last 14 days and will include testimony from dozens of witnesses, is being heard by Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Steven Van Sicklen at the Airport Courthouse by LAX.

Watson apparently spent most of the day on July 1 hanging out on the street near BT Automotive in

the 2600 block of Pico Boulevard before he began harassing and eventually attacking Bell, said John Raphling, Bell's public defender.

"Had Mr. Watson not died, then perhaps Mr. Bell would not have lived through this."

— JOHN RAPHLING
Public defender

"This case is not about who did it," he said. "Mr. Bell did shoot the gun. He pulled the trigger."

Raphling said Watson suffered from paranoia, psychosis and schizophrenia. Just eight days earlier, Watson had been ordered off of Santa Monica Beach by police officers for allegedly threatening two teenage girls with a box cutter, Raphling said.

On the day of the shooting, Watson and Bell allegedly got into a heated argument after Watson made a gesture indicating he wanted to

See TRIAL, page 4

Residents losing faith in state government

By The Associated Press

SACRAMENTO

Californians have little faith their leaders will properly solve the state's multibillion-dollar budget crisis this year, and dislike nearly all their proposed solutions so far, a new statewide poll indicates.

Residents also widely believe that recalling Gov. Gray Davis will not make the budget crisis any worse, reports the Public Policy Institute of California.

The PPIC opinion survey of 2,003 adults reveals the lowest respect for California's state government in five years, with only 34 percent of adults saying they trust it to do right most or all of the time.

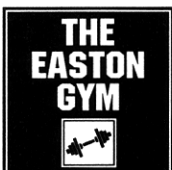
"I think people are wondering if the team they have is capable. That's what they're basically saying," says PPIC research director Mark Baldassare.

Many express similar dismay with the federal government, with a 2-1 majority saying they prefer that it spend more on domestic programs instead of offering a tax cut.

About 1,400 of those surveyed were registered voters.

The gloomy sentiment arrives as lawmakers and Davis struggle to meet their June 15 constitutional deadline to pass a state budget. California could have a shortfall of up to \$38.2 billion by

See POLL, page 5



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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Friday, June 13, 2003:

You're up for an extraordinary year, especially if you're willing to take risks and opportunities. Sometimes you won't believe what heads your way if you are ready to walk off the beaten path. Go back to school, travel or take a seminar. Although you're a youthful sign, you need to allow your mind to continuously grow. You find that with greater understanding, the status of your relationships could change. If you are single, do not judge someone by how he or she appears; get to know this person, as he or she could be a lot different than you initially thought. If attached, you can transform your relationship, for better or for worse. SAGITTARIUS challenges you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★★ Keep seeking out other sources, especially if you don't like the answers you're getting. Your creativity mixes with your intellect. Anything becomes possible. Start discussing an upcoming vacation. Meanwhile, think "week-end." Tonight: Take off ASAP, or try a new spot.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★★ Others accommodate you as they never have before. You might be taken aback by someone and how much he or she offers in a situation. Emphasize security, your relationship and long-term desires. A partner might want to update or revise your relationship. Tonight: Togetherness works.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ Others come to you — and smiling, at that. You appreciate someone's efforts as you haven't before. Your fun approach plus dynamic ideas are a turn-on. Associates, friends and loved ones all want to hang with you. Tonight: Say "yes" to an offer.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ You must get into the trenches if you have any hope of clearing out your work before the day's end. A special partner could be most distracting, as he or she might already be in the mood for the weekend. Take time to balance your budget. Tonight: Whatever you do, don't stress out about it.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ Though you're certainly not a clown, your happy ways can make all the difference. Keep smiling. A loved one loosens up. Use your resourcefulness and playfulness. You will go far. Tonight: Kick in the weekend in true Lionlike style.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Your persistence in the workplace can and will make all the difference in what happens. A co-worker inspires you with his or her ideas. Follow your sixth sense, as it takes you in a new direction. Update or create a home office. Tonight: Happy at home.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ Stay focused, knowing what your goal is. Whether it is getting out of the office early or getting a consensus on an issue, you will succeed if you don't lose your concentration. A child or new friend could be most distracting! Tonight: At a favorite spot. Expect an interesting twist in a conversation.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Consider different ways of investing your funds or saving money. Brainstorm with family, and you'll come up with plenty of creative ideas. You are ready to take the bull by the horns and devise greater security for yourself. Tonight: Go out of your way for someone you care about.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ The Moon in your sign helps you lasso in whatever you like. You will transform yourself. Reach out for a loved one at a distance. You know what to do to get the results you want. Your imagination helps you fill in the gaps. Tonight: Go out and romp the night away.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★ Listen to your instincts. You might need to revise your thinking. Extremes mark feelings and events around work. A partner or friend comes through in a big way. This person sometimes goes over the top. Tonight: Vanish while you can.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ Your personality attracts friends as well as co-workers. Your imagination takes you in a new direction if you're willing to take a risk. Why not take someone's offer? You will gain in any case. Your popularity soars. Grab the moment. Tonight: Where your friends are.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ Others respect your values and what you think. You have the clout you need at work. Your ability to get a lot done quickly impresses those who count. Take time out to take a walk or indulge in another stress-busting activity. Tonight: Take the lead.

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LOCAL

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Nothing but a carnevale in Venice this weekend

By Daily Press staff

While it appears to be a carnival every day in Venice, this weekend a day-long Italian-inspired carnevale will take place that is described as a colorful, costumed celebration by the sea.

More than 60 local performers will be presented throughout the day including dance, cabaret, bands and performance art.

Carnevale! Venice Beach is a project of the nonprofit Venice Artists Forum in association with the Venice Chamber of Commerce and the Israel Levin Senior Center, with support from The Waterfront Café. It is funded in part by a grant from the City of Los Angeles Cultural Affairs Department.

For the first time in 40 years, a Carnevale costume party and music festival was held on the Venice Beach Boardwalk in March of 2002. Inspired by the famed Carnevale in Venice, Italy, and continuing the tradition that was inaugurated by Venice, Calif. founder Abbott Kinney, more than 1,000 revelers and more than 60 performers joined in the community celebration.

Carnevale! Venice Beach is dedicated to continuing the tradition started in 1906 when Venice was created by Abbott Kinney as a reflection of Venice, Italy. In an effort to relate to the community's history and heritage, the Carnevale celebration has been revived. It had been a huge annual event until it was shelved in the 1960s.

The Carnevale is focused on giving Venice area artists and performers a chance to have a more public forum for their work and give Venice area residents a chance to celebrate the history and tradition of their unique neighborhood. There is no other event in the Venice area that relates so directly back to the historical relationship with the wondrous city of Venice, Italy and its famed yearly costumed celebration, organizers say. The festival attempts to incorporate elements that can involve all ages, ethnic backgrounds, and socioeconomic levels.

The costume contest is being organized by festival co-producer Bonnie Cheeseman.

"We already have some amazing prizes in hand for the winners, including VIP ringside seats at a Kings game worth over \$500," she said. "We will be giving away thousands in goods and services to the winners this year."

Participants in the costume contest must register by 6 p.m. DJ Jason Saville will be spinning after the costume parade.

Booths for vendors focusing on arts and crafts will be located at the west end of Ozone Avenue.

Beginning at 2 p.m. on Saturday at the western end of Ozone Avenue where it meets the Venice Boardwalk, local performers will entertain the crowd. Vendor booths will be set up near the performance area for local artists and craftspeople to sell their works.

"The Venice Drum circle will be parading down the boardwalk at sunset to join the celebration which will be highlighted with a finale performance by The Mutaytor repeating its spectacle of drumming and fire spinning which was a highlight of last year's celebration," said co-producer Miriam More, who organized the talent at the festival.

The evening will end with an elaborate costume party and contest with local merchants supplying the prizes for the costume contest.

The event will be held from 2 p.m. until 10 p.m. at the western end of Ozone Avenue where it meets the Venice Boardwalk just north of Rose Avenue. Admission is free to all.



Thursday had decent, fun waves and more are expected this weekend.

BAD NEWS: Our plentiful combo of SW swells will continue to back off. And the NW wind swell we were expecting is looking a little weaker than anticipated. Still ...

GOOD NEWS: There will still be solid rideable waves through today and tomorrow.

OUTLOOK: Next week's S swell is lining up 3-5' surf. Stay tuned. It's between New Zealand and South America now.

Today the water is:

65°

**Sunrise: 5:48 a.m.
Sunset: 8:11 p.m.**

	LOW TIDE				HIGH TIDE			
	Morning	Height	Evening	Height	Morning	Height	Evening	Height
SATURDAY	9:59	0.3	10:52	2.4	2:33	4.2	5:12	4.3
SUNDAY	10:49	0.5	N/A	N/A	4:06	3.9	5:45	4.8
MONDAY	12:02	1.6	(11:36)	0.7	5:33	3.8	6:19	5.4
TUESDAY	12:59	0.7	12:22	1.0	6:49	3.8	6:55	5.9
WEDNESDAY	1:50	-0.2	1:06	1.3	7:56	3.9	7:33	6.4
THURSDAY	2:38	-0.9	1:50	1.6	8:56	3.9	8:13	6.8
FRIDAY	3:27	-1.4	2:34	1.8	9:53	3.9	8:55	7.0

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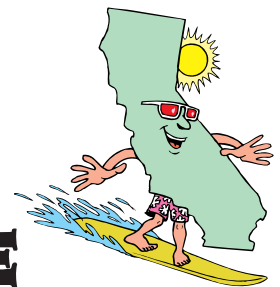
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LOCAL

Lawyer: Homeless man suffered from paranoia

TRIAL, from page 1

slice Bell's throat, Raphling said. After several minutes of yelling at one another, Raphling said Bell returned to his shop to finish business for the day.

About an hour later, Bell again encountered Watson on his way to a nearby convenience store. Crazy and violent, Watson then threatened to kill Bell, his family and his dog, Raphling said.

Rattled but convinced Watson was harmless, Bell poured himself a drink back at the repair shop and got ready to head home, Raphling said. Moments later, Raphling said Bell heard someone pull at the door of his office.

When he called out and no one replied, Bell looked out from a window and saw Watson standing by the door holding a small blade, Raphling told jurors.

Bell then grabbed the .357 Magnum he keeps in his file cabinet drawer and went to call police, Raphling said. But when he realized his shop's bay door was still open, Raphling said Bell heard a noise and immediately assumed Watson was inside.

Bell panicked and ran outside, Raphling said.

Raphling said Watson approached Bell from behind and jumped on him, prompting Bell to unleash a series of rounds that eventually led to Watson's death about 90 minutes later.

"As (Watson) looks around, he hears

"F--k, a f--king gun," said Raphling, who added that Watson then jumped on Bell. "He's aiming low, he's not really seeing through all the smoke and panic. He just wants the guy off of him."

"He's aiming low, he's not really seeing through all the smoke and panic."

— JOHN RAPHLING
Bell's public defender

"Had Mr. Watson not died, then perhaps Mr. Bell would not have lived through this," Raphling said as he concluded his opening statements to jurors.

Prosecutors tell a different story.

Los Angeles Deputy District Attorney Mark Burnley said Bell methodically fired six rounds at Watson, four of which connected with his hip, thigh, knee and calf.

He said witnesses, who at first thought the gunshots were summertime fireworks, saw the entire shooting. Burnley said the witnesses will testify that Watson lay curled up in a fetal position as Bell shot at him.

More than 40 expert and eye witnesses are expected to testify.

Bell is being held on \$2 million bail at the Men's Central Jail in downtown Los Angeles.

Suspect held on \$1 million bail, other man has no bail

SUSPECTS, from page 1

eight suspects who were allegedly involved in one or more of the five shootings that occurred in the area since May 9. The charges range from attempted murder to parole violations. Three searches were conducted in apartments occupied by some of the suspects, where police found evidence allegedly linking them to the shootings.

The arrests are part of the SMPD's ongoing investigation in the Pico neighborhood, a troubled area of Santa Monica that has been riddled with gang violence and drug dealing for decades. Most of the tension is territorial — between the Graveyard Crips and the Santa Monica 17th Street gang — as well as racial. One gang is black, the other Latino.

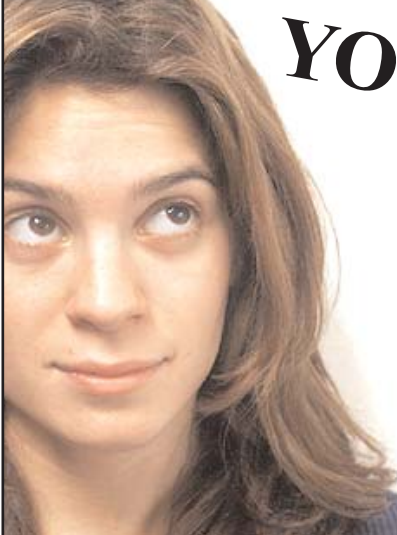
The suspects arrested are black, Latino and white. Three of the six arrested live in the Pico neighborhood.

None of the shootings have resulted in injuries.

Other suspects are being sought by the SMPD in connection with the shootings, some of which are Pico neighborhood residents and are on active parole, according to SMPD Chief James T. Butts Jr.

Shootings occurred on May, 9, May 18, May 19 and May 20 and June 5 all within a few blocks of each other.

The May 9 shooting, which occurred in the 1800 block of 17th Street, resulted in a stray bullet traveling through two walls before it hit a dresser in a bedroom of a woman's home while her four children were there. No one was injured.



YOUR OPINION MATTERS!

Please send letters to:

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STATE



Boat tenants get the boot in Channel Island Marina

By The Associated Press

OXNARD — Facing expiration of a 40-year lease with Ventura County in August, Channel Islands Marina Inc. officials said they are forced to begin evicting people who live aboard their boats.

The first eviction notices go out Friday to about 50 live-aboards, and another 450 boat slip renters will get notices on July 2.

Marina president John Farrell said the Ventura County Harbor Department left them no choice but to issue the 60-day notices in order to meet the Aug. 31 lease deadline.

The evictions come after negotiations stalled and soured last fall, when Harbor Director Lyn Krieger said the Farrell family stopped negotiating in good faith and used boat owners to manipulate the Board of Supervisors into getting a better lease

agreement.

But Farrell said the county didn't want to pay them a fair price for the docks prior to vacating the harbor and left them little choice but to tear out the slips and all the improvements the family had made since the beginning of the lease in 1963.

The Farrells must tear out the docks because the original lease agreement demands that the marina operators restore the property to the way they found it. In 1963, there were no docks, no yacht club building and no offices.

Krieger said the county offered the Farrell family \$50,000 for the improvements, but Farrell said the docks have been appraised at \$3.2 million and they want to be compensated.

Farrell attorney Michael Case said the tenants have to be removed before the docks can be ripped up.

Parents buck up for schools

By The Associated Press

IRVINE — Parents wrote checks to keep teachers from facing the budget ax.

The Irvine Public Schools Foundation met an extended deadline this week to raise the \$420,000 needed to hire enough teachers to keep a 20-to-1 student-to-teacher ratio. Facing a budget shortfall, the Irvine school board had planned to cut classes.

"This campaign represents an amazing commitment on the part of parents in Irvine to maintain the benefits of smaller elementary class sizes," foundation chief Tim Shaw said. "Now, it is imperative

that every pledge is honored."

The foundation worked most of May to secure the funds and almost fell short. It needed \$29,000 more at the June 3 deadline, but the board granted it a three-day reprieve and the foundation managed to secure enough pledges to meet the goal.

About 120 foundation volunteers worked on the fund-raising drive, mostly approaching parents of the 1,720 second-graders now in Irvine's 23 elementary schools. The foundation also campaigned to maintain class-size reduction in kindergarten and second grade.

Davis' plan losing support

POLL, from page 1

next July unless leaders drastically cut spending or raise taxes.

But Californians say they want little of either. Most oppose new taxes proposed by Democrats and spending cuts proposed by Republicans.

Residents are "frustrated with the choices that they've been confronted with, and not very optimistic that their leadership has the right answers," Baldassare says.

The survey shows that Californians like only one tax plan so far — hitting up smokers for more money. More than 70 percent of those surveyed support a Davis plan to boost cigarette taxes by 63 cents a pack across the next two years.

Another Davis idea, to hike income taxes on the state's wealthiest residents, is losing support, according to the poll. While 52 percent of those surveyed in February said they liked the idea, only 45 percent now approve, the poll indicates. Similarly, 46 percent like a proposed temporary half-cent sales tax, while only 38 percent want car taxes raised back to 1998 levels to raise an estimated \$4 billion.

Meanwhile, a majority could agree on only one place to cut spending: the Department of Corrections. Fifty-five percent of those surveyed suggest cuts for the state prison system, which now boasts one of the state's largest work forces.

Eighty-two percent of those surveyed say they oppose cutting elementary and high school spending, which accounts for 43 percent of the state's \$100 billion budget proposal. About 70 percent oppose cuts in health care and colleges and uni-

versities. Finally, only about half the respondents favor a plan to pass \$10.7 billion in bonds to reduce the deficit and pay them off across five years.

**"It's an expression
of frustration with the
budget situation."**

— **ROGER SALAZAR**
Davis spokesman

Perhaps most alarmingly to Capitol insiders, only 16 percent of Californians believe that recalling Davis will worsen the budget crisis. Says Baldassare: "That speaks volumes to the difficulty the governor faces right now."

The survey didn't ask how Californians might feel about the issue based on specific Davis replacements if the governor was recalled.

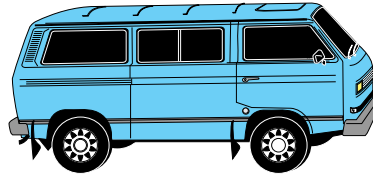
Asked if an election were held today, 48 percent of adults say they'd vote to recall Davis, while 41 percent said they'd vote against a recall.

Davis spokesman Roger Salazar says the governor's poll numbers will rise as his supporters increasingly make the case against a recall.

"It's an expression of frustration with the budget situation," he says.

The survey has a 2 percent margin of error. It was conducted in English and Spanish between May 22 and June 1.

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OPINION

LETTERS

Santa Monica is a money pit

Editor:

Santa Monica complains about being short of money. Well, maybe they would have more money for important things if they didn't waste it on unneeded things. Fixing the hole on Ocean Park Boulevard was certainly needed, but all those redesigned curbs, traffic islands, roundabouts are not. Unless something is actually broken, it does not need to be fixed. Like the library. It is only 35 or so years old and the idiots want to replace it. There was nothing wrong with it. Might as well tear down all the older historic buildings in the city, they must be in bad shape if the main library needed to be replaced.

Mike Kirwan
Venice

SMC president defends budget actions

Editor:

(This letter was originally addressed the Santa Monica College community).

For an institution that has only known success for each of the last eight years, 2003-04 arrives as a cold and cruel wind from the north, bringing worry and uncertainty.

Santa Monica College has enjoyed a glorious recent history:

- We have added over 160 new full-time faculty, the largest such hiring ever.
- We have supported our faculty with unprecedented new program support, including significant new resources in student guidance, new and upgraded specialized labs and studios, and new facilities.
- We have increased average faculty salary levels to the second highest in the state among all community colleges.
- We have improved our standing in the community through public programs and new partnerships.
- We have acquired unprecedented levels of funds for programs and facilities, with new resources from local, state, federal and private sources.
- Our students are succeeding at record levels, in transfer, certificate and degree completion and acceptance as interns.

2003-04 offers much less:

- The national unemployment rate is at a nine-year high, according to last week's U.S. Labor Department report. There has been no job growth since February 2001, the longest sustained period without job growth since before World War II.
- California's budget revenue shortfall is considered to be the worst since World War II.
- The governor's budget of February 2003 reduced revenue to California's community colleges by a shocking 10.5 percent — the single largest revenue reduction in our history. The governor's May revised budget proposed to reduce our revenue by a still shocking 5.6 percent — the largest reduction ever in dollar terms and the second largest ever in percentage terms. The legislative proposal for our budget — the "best case" budget outcome — proposes an immediate budget loss of about 2.2 percent and borrowing another 4 percent of our budget from our future.

Santa Monica College is uniquely successful among California community colleges in terms of our transfer numbers. No other community college is remotely close to us in numbers of transfers to the University of California.

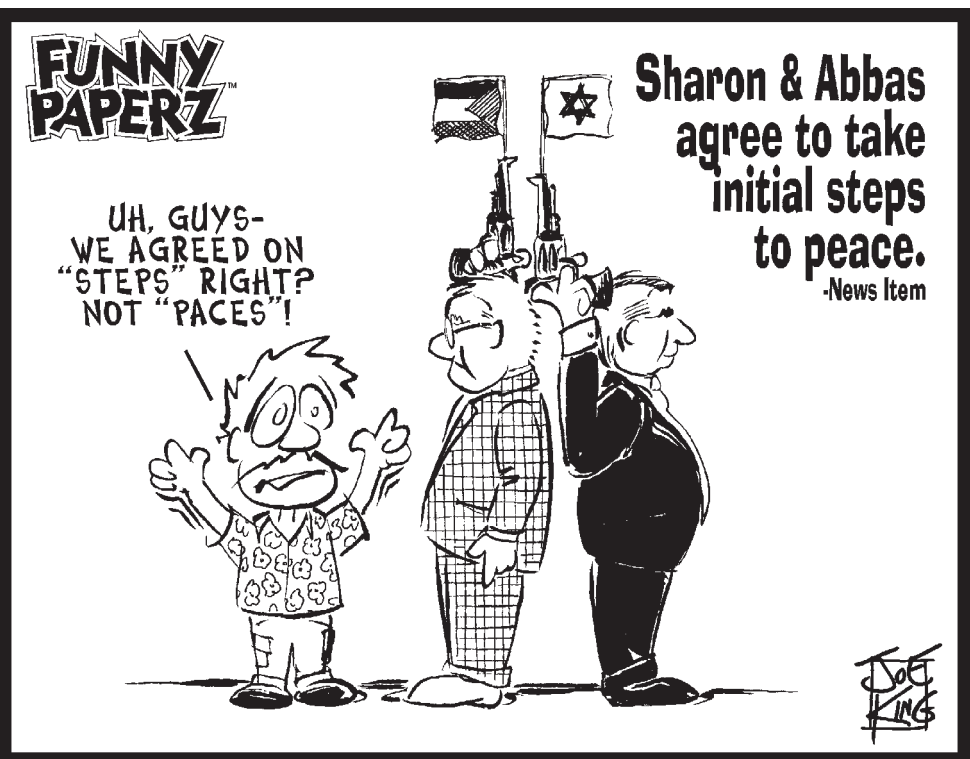
We are also unique in terms of our financial structure. We receive the second lowest

support from the state for each student we serve because of historical reasons dating back to 1978 and the passage of Proposition 13. We earn the largest amount of revenue among community colleges from our non-resident program. We have one of the lowest reserves in the state due to our commitment to attract and retain highly qualified faculty and staff.

Our unique situation will lead to four consequences in 2003-04, independent of whether the state ultimately passes the governor's budget or the "best case" legislative budget:

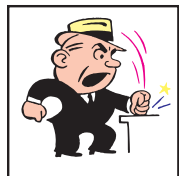
- In 2003-04, we will receive less revenue for each student we serve.
 - In 2003-04, we will receive no new revenue for growth or basic skills. (We received revenue for these in each of the last eight years.)
 - In 2003-04, we will earn less revenue from non-resident tuition, due to the reduced availability of classes and international restrictions.
 - In 2003-04, we will pay significantly more for employee benefits.
- We have prepared for 2003-04 in several ways:
- We have increased fees in areas that are within our authority, including parking and non-resident tuition.
 - We have reduced institutional expenses by over \$4 million.
 - We reduced our course offerings by 7.5 percent and reduced counseling and student services in 2002-03 to begin 2003-04 with a slightly improved reserve of \$2.4 million.

See LETTERS, page 7



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Self-interest not victim of Pico neighborhood gunplay



**MY
WRITE**
By Bill Bauer

In the last five weeks, five shootings have occurred in the Pico neighborhood.

Fast work by Santa Monica Police has led to the arrest of eight suspected shooters, most of which are known gang members.

Neighborhood residents chalk up the gunplay to turf wars involving control of the illicit drug trade and a long standing racial gang war exacerbated by hard core convicts recently released from prison.

The two-decade-old official city neighborhood group, the Pico Neighborhood Association, has been active in dealing with the gang and drug problems from the start. But, for the most part, Pico's problems have been brushed under the carpet by city officials.

More recently, community activists such as Oscar de la Torre have stepped up to the plate with their own solutions.

de la Torre is founder and president of the Pico Youth and Family Center, a non-profit organization funded by the city. de la Torre was recently elected to the Santa

Monica-Malibu Unified School District Board of Education.

de la Torre is doing his thing and doesn't seem to be interested in working with other neighborhood organizations. According to an anonymous source at the PNA, "Oscar is a prolific self-promoter and wants the limelight to himself. He doesn't inform us of his activities."

de la Torre's coalition includes the Mothers for Justice, a group he is closely associated with, who filed complaints of discrimination against the school district last year, members of the local NAACP and religious leaders from some of the neighborhood churches.

They drafted a list of solutions (printed in the June 9 edition, SMDP) such as "Establish trust with youth" and "Bring, schools, churches and community together to help prevent violence."

Philosophizing and peace marches are a start and a step in the right direction, but in the end, it's action not platitudes that's needed.

Tough decision making, bridging the gap with all Pico neighbors, specific programs and goals and a dogged determination to see it through to the end need to be undertaken if the violence is ever going to stop.

On the other hand, the PNA advocates an effective policing policy including true

community policing and adequate resources to deal with the neighborhood issues. That means coming down hard on troublemakers although some oppose this because they feel that youth of color will be unfairly targeted.

The PNA also suggests a working plan for the neighborhood involving a social service focus targeting residents, not homeless transients, which is the preference of city officials currently.

The PNA advocates an amendment to the City Charter to allow the eviction of a tenant from city-funded housing who commits a violent crime or illegally discharges a weapon.

Another suggestion is to fix broken windows. PNA board member Peter Tigler claims that the city itself is very slow to clean up the area. "Planting, maintenance, large object trash collection, traffic control and code enforcement and resources for improvement must be on par with other parts of the city," Tigler says.

Many feel that the Pico area has become a dumping ground for the city's affordable housing projects.

The city doesn't want to develop mixed income units or ownership programs. Community Corp. of Santa Monica, the city's major provider of affordable housing, fails to do criminal checks of

prospective tenants.

Part of the reason why the neighborhood problems are ignored is due to the apathy of most Pico residents. Some don't care. Others don't want to get involved and some have family members or know individuals in gangs.

The rest of Santa Monica takes the attitude that "it's there in the Pico neighborhood, let's ignore it."

"While real estate interests brag about increased property values resulting from good schools, they ignore the affect gang wars and shootings have on property values," Tigler says.

Some of the blame can fall on the politicians. For example, they're discussing limiting the operating hours of the Police Activities League used by hundreds of Pico youth. Yet, they spend millions for programs that don't benefit residents of the city, let alone the Pico neighborhood.

The Pico neighborhood needs to speak with a loud, unified voice if it wants to solve problems, once and for all.

And, the City Council and aspiring politicians need to get serious about what's going on, or bullets will continue to fill the air and, inevitably, more innocent people will die.

(Bill Bauer is a longtime Santa Monica resident and a freelance writer.)

OPINION



The Q-Line

Q-Liners: City should give more to schools

There was overwhelming response to this week's Q-Line question:

"Should the city of Santa Monica give more to the local school district? Why or why not?"

Here are your responses:

■ "Sure I think they should give more money to the schools, why not. They can give \$1 million to fight an ATM fee that was simply asinine, they can give money to support the homeless, they can give \$10,000 to buy fireworks that go up in smoke, the list goes on and on. The students are the backbone of tomorrow's society and if the schools go downhill, people will move away to districts where they have a better school, better grades and everything else. Hindsight is foresight and they should do more to support the schools and a little less to support the homeless."

■ "The City Council should definitely come up with an additional \$6 or \$7 million in addition to the \$3.5 million they now give to the public schools to close the deficit. They waste an enormous amount of money, including \$72 million for a library, a lot of money to expand Broadway and Santa Monica boulevards which is not necessary, and a lot of other unnecessary expenditures. The public schools are probably the most important investment they could make in Santa Monica. It improves our quality of life and the value of all our homes."

■ "I believe the city should give more money to the schools. The city right now only gives 1 percent of the total budget to the schools and the schools give so much back to the city. I think that the financial crisis that the city is facing pales in comparison to the crisis that the schools are facing and priority should be given to who is the weakest, who is the smallest and who needs the money the most. That has to be our children, they have to come first and Measure S passing is a huge victory to our schools and for our children but it only cuts 50 percent of the deficit for the state. I think it is obscene for the city not to make up the deficit and give on-going support to the schools to at least 5 percent of their budget."

■ "I 100 percent agree with the idea. It's the one thing we can do to make sure the city of Santa Monica has an educated workforce. It will keep the property values high and it will make it a better, more Democratic place to live. If we are going to invest anywhere, invest in education."

■ "I think the city should give as much as possible to the school district. They have given \$3.5 million. They should at least double it. They say education is their No. 1 priority and it's time they put their money where their mouth is. If they can spend \$72 million on a library that we were told would cost \$25 million then they can certainly find another \$3.5 million for the schools."

■ "Absolutely the city should give more funds to the schools. The city's contribution to the schools should be commensurate with the wealth of the city and the value of the residents who clearly support good public schools."

■ "Yes, I believe the city should give more support to our local school district.

Strong schools are important for a strong community."

■ "Yes, I think that the City of Santa Monica should give more money to the schools. Our children are our most important resource and we already do not spend enough money on our kids. I think teachers should make more money than they do, compared to how much people in business get paid for, which is unfortunate. It is a difference in our culture which, I think in the future will change, as we realize that the most important value we should have is our children."

■ "I think the City of Santa Monica should definitely give more money to the public schools. The children of Santa Monica deserve the best in education. We are an affluent community who, in my opinion, after being a taxpayer here for 18 years, does more for the homeless than we do for our own kids. I am enraged at the cost of the new library that is going up that essentially will act as a shelter. I really feel that is money that would be better spent and should go toward our own children."

■ "Yes, and how we can expect our children to grow up to be well-educated responsible adults running the country if they are not well educated. We are ranked in the bottom in terms of how much we spend per student in this state and that is a pathetic statistic. The schools are great and they need to stay great and they need the money to do that."

■ "Absolutely, yes. After having \$13 million in budget cuts, with only half of it restored by the recent Measure S that just passed, how can the City Council refuse to support the school district that is ranked well in the state that will be devastated by an additional \$6 or \$7 million in cuts. How can the city of Santa Monica go back on its support to the community? The entire community has voted and said yes, we do support the schools, we're even ready to pay for it. How can the city not match what the community is going to give?"

■ "I believe very strongly that it should. The city has a primary directive and that is ensuring the well-being of the citizens and the qualities of our schools is directly related to the well-being of our citizens, in that it contributes to the value of our homes and the safety of our neighborhoods. Not just the education of our children. I think it is time the City Council stood behind the school district. I think it is time for people to stop wondering whose responsibility it is and for everyone to own this situation that came about not through any responsibility or negligence on the district's part but because of the failure of a state to meet its public mandate."

■ "Yes, because the value of the property in Santa Monica and the quality of life are directly related to the quality of the schools. Everyone knows that the local schools in Santa Monica are much better than the schools in Los Angeles and it's only as a result of the financial ability for the schools

to provide what they need for students. We are threatened with this because of the state's deficit and the city of Santa Monica should step up to show a little responsibility and allocate money to the schools."

■ "As a mother, I do think that education is very important for the children. It is important to gain understanding between cultures and a better world as well."

■ "With the city of Santa Monica's per capital general fund budget more than double any of the other cities in the top 25 in L.A. county, I think our revenue shows that we can give more to the school district to make sure our schools stay excellent."

■ "Yes, we do want the city of Santa Monica to give more money to our public schools. Just because the state has abandoned public schools in California doesn't mean our city should too. Our voters have already resoundingly approved a \$225 a year tax on their property for the schools. That's a message that we want the city to kick in more money to help the schools. Our city rises and falls with the quality of our public schools and I don't want to sit around and watch it fall."

■ "Yes I think the city should give more money to the school district so that our private public schools can keep wonderful, high standards and we can be proud of them."

■ "Studies overwhelmingly show that education is the key to better living and that, reading, in particular, affects a child's behavior and self-image for his entire life. We want a lower crime rate and a civilized lifestyle for the inhabitants of Santa Monica. The more we spend on education, the better and safer our city will be. A mind is a terrible thing to waste."

■ "The city of Santa Monica should definitely allocate more funds to our public schools because they say education is their No. 1 priority and it seems to me they don't fund it as their No. 1 priority. They fund social services and other projects at a much higher level than they do their city's children."

■ "I definitely support the City Council

and the mayor if they give proper funding to the schools. It would make an enormous impact on our community. We need to show that we support education for everyone in the community. That will speak immeasurably about a life-long learning community. Education for all people of all ages is key to having us live harmoniously."

■ "I think the city should give more to the local school district. It will bring stability, community involvement and a solid tax base."

■ "The city of Santa Monica should give more to the local school district. Good, strong public schools are what make Santa Monica the city that is for everybody."

■ "I believe the city should help out with the school district budget. The school district is still about \$7 million in the hole. The schools attract people to the community. It is important for the public to keep supporting public schools. This is clearly a good expense and it will help the poor kids in the community."

■ "I have four daughters in the Santa Monica school district and I definitely think the city should give more money. We owe the future citizens of Santa Monica. Education is not a privilege, it is something that they deserve. We have got to speak up for our kids."

■ "I believe the City Council should give more money to our local school district because there is nothing more important than education. With the class size reduced, it will ensure that each child gets the attention that he or she needs. It will save our instrumental and after-school programs, it will keep kids in school and active and off the streets and reducing crime. There is nothing more important than education."

■ "Of course the city should give more to the local school district. Within the city budgets, there are significant amounts of money that are allocated for both the homeless and the transients of Santa Monica. So why not provide significant hope for all of our children who don't want to wind up on homeless row because of a lack of education?"

LETTERS

LETTERS, from page 6

■ We have prepared a reduction of course offerings of about 17 percent of student services to further control costs in 2003-04.

■ We have eliminated 11 administrative positions and assigned administrators to the classroom where possible.

■ We have eliminated five programs.

Even with these reductions, the gap between revenues and expenditures for 2003-04 is \$9.5 million.

■ We will need to make choices over the next few weeks regarding how to address this gap. During this time, the administration will continue to meet with college bargaining units, college governance bodies and the ongoing college Budget Committee.

■ We will also support the SMC Board of Trustees as it convenes a college summit for the same purpose.

■ We will also continue to provide communications regarding the budget to the college community and to the public.

For those of you who have been affected or may yet be affected by these tragic events, I am deeply sorry. 2003-04 will bring disruptions and loss that a better world would not allow. Our actions are intended to safeguard the college. It is the sad experience of other colleges and other school districts in California that failure to take action, however painful, leads to a dismal and unpredictable future.

The actions the college has taken to date and others that will be required will qualify Santa Monica College for a type of state assistance termed "stabilization." This will hold harmless the district for declines in FTES in 2003-04. Our priorities for restoration with improvements in revenue will be to increase course offerings and to restore jobs.

Thank you all for your many contributions to this college and your work in helping our students achieve their goals. I am committed to a continuing and improved relationship and welcome your support in this regard as well.

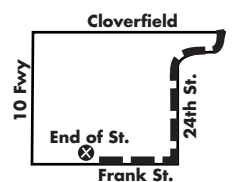
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Real estate investment better risk than market



DAYS ON THE MARKET

By Jodi Summers

“Look at the stock market versus what’s going on in the real economy — Main Street versus Wall Street,” commands William C. Dunkelberg, professor of economics at Temple University. “We’ve lost some \$7 trillion in market cap since the peak, but we made up a little more than \$5 trillion in home appreciation for consumer portfolios. This makes consumers more confident about wealth accumulation through their homes than they are through Enron stock.”

Recent history has shown that portfolio diversification has been crucial to most successful retirement accounts. Since the turn of the millennium, stocks have taken a nasty hit. According to Standard & Poor’s 500 index, stocks are down about 38 percent from its high of just below 1,528 in March of 2000.

In the meantime, the California real estate market in April 2003 set another new record for the median price that Southern California buyers paid for a home — \$307,000, up 19 percent from \$258,000 for April 2002.

“What has happened is the stock market has declined in the past two years and that has pulled the wealth factor out of the market. Now, the only thing that’s working is the real estate market,” observes investor Fran Flanagan. “You’ve got an interesting change. It used to be that the stock market and the real estate market went together, but this time it didn’t happen. The real estate market is strong right now, people’s wealth is in their homes, not in their portfolios.”

Real estate security goes beyond current record low mortgage rates. You need to factor in the rental market. Residential space is relatively scarce and rents are rising fast in the Los Angeles area. According to RealFacts, the average Los Angeles County monthly rent for all apartments rose from \$1,254 in June to \$1,295 at the end of October 2002. In Santa Monica the average rent grew to \$2,487, while you could find rents from \$500 to \$700 in El Monte and Compton.

DataQuick reveals the average mortgage payment in Los Angeles County is \$1,179 a month. If you can swing the down payment, in the long run it’s cheaper to put equity into something you own than to rent.

“Sooner or later, stocks will come back, but interest rates won’t remain this

low,” observed financial planner Delia Fernandez.

Fernandez offered the L.A. Times a fine comparison of stock market investment versus real estate investment:

In one scenario, a person takes a cheap apartment or gets a roommate and is able to put \$700 into a CD at the beginning of each month. After 10 years, at 5.3 percent interest, the renter would have \$110,948. But because taxes will eat away at his savings, he needs to save \$1.27 for every dollar he ends up with.

**“What has happened is
the stock market has
declined in the past two
years and that has pulled
the wealth factor out of
the market. Now, the only
thing that’s working is the
real estate market.”**

— **FRAN FLANAGAN**
Investor

In the another scenario, a person buys a \$250,000 house. Assuming a conservative 3 percent inflation rate, the home would be worth \$335,979 in 10 years. Because the homeowner was spending down the mortgage, he would likely gain an additional \$30,000 in equity. The house, with all its tax deductions, would make him as much money as the CD, without the roommate. Because of government incentives, he only needs to put away 72 cents to make a dollar.

“Tax deductions on housing are the No. 1 gift Uncle Sam gives us,” concluded Fernandez.

Currently, around town, home supplies are tight, mortgage rates are low and the population keeps growing — leading one to conclude that prices should continue to rise.

“I’m surprised that people think there is so much risk in the market,” noted DataQuick Information Services housing analyst John Karevoll.

“The day after the earthquake, if we could have sold fast, real estate prices would have gone through the floor,” Flanagan concluded. “But we can’t sell fast, so real estate is a stable market. It can’t bomb overnight.”

(If you have local real estate questions, please e-mail them to Jodi Summers at jodis@boardwalkrealty.com, or call at (310) 309-4219.)

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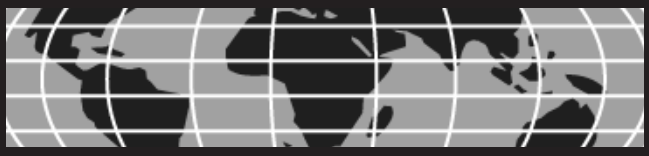
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WORLD BRIEFLY



Priests guilty of molestation will be ID'd in archdiocesan paper

By The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Priests removed from active ministry after the Archdiocese of New York's internal investigation of sexual molestation charges will be identified in the archdiocesan newspaper, a spokesman for Cardinal Edward Egan said.

But priests cleared by the investigation for a return to work will not be identified unless they choose to make the matter public themselves, spokesman Joseph Zwilling said Wednesday.

"It is the cardinal's intention not to make a public statement concerning a priest who is returning to active ministry," Zwilling said.

Any priest taken out of service will be identified in Catholic New York, just as Egan promised in the August 2002 edition of the newspaper, Zwilling said.

A lay review board appointed by Egan has been investigating 13 priests suspended since April 2002 because of accusations of sexual abuse. Egan has said he will decide whether to reinstate the priests or bar them from the ministry after hearing the board's recommendations.

War against AIDS just as important as Iraqi war, Colin Powell says

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Secretary of State Colin Powell

says the global campaign against AIDS is just as important to the United States as the war with Iraq or any other aspect of U.S. foreign policy.

"I can envision a day in this century when every man is free of tyranny and poverty," Powell told business leaders Wednesday. "This is a century of great potential promise, yet these promising trends that the United States and other democratic nations have supported can be reversed if AIDS is left to rage across the globe.

"President Bush has made the global effort to eradicate AIDS one of his highest foreign policy priorities," Powell told the Global Business Coalitions on HIV/AIDS at a Kennedy Center banquet.

Last month, Bush signed into law a \$15 billion program to combat AIDS in poor countries in Africa and the Caribbean and said he would challenge other industrial democracies to boost their commitments.

Powell said "the HIV virus, like terrorism, kills indiscriminately. It is more destructive than any army, any conflict, any weapon of mass destruction."

Democrats poised to block low-income family tax bill backed by Republicans

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A tax package backed by House Republican leaders that expands child tax credits for low-income families and wealthier married couples came under criticism from moderate and conservative Republicans, giving Democrats hope that they can block the legislation.

The bill responds to a political uproar over the child tax credits by expanding the benefit to more low-income families, allowing them to share in the rebate checks going to middle-income families this summer. The Senate voted last week to include more low-income families.

A handful of moderate Republicans say the House bill goes too far by pairing the small benefit for low

income families with billions in tax cuts for wealthier couples that the country cannot afford. Rep. Michael Castle, R-Del., asked that the House get the chance to vote on the Senate's much smaller bill.

Many Democrats who have pressed the Republican leadership to help low-income workers said they will vote against the bill, declaring it a cynical move to use working families to leverage bigger tax cuts for wealthier Americans.

Forces swarm Iraqi town rounding up Saddam Hussein loyalists

By The Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Thousands of American troops backed by jets, helicopters and unmanned drone aircraft swarmed a town north of Baghdad this week to round up Saddam Hussein loyalists who have launched near-daily attacks on U.S. forces.

Some 400 suspects were detained in the raid, which followed reports that Saddam has been traveling in the area and has offered a bounty for each American killed.

The sweep, dubbed "Operation Peninsula Strike," continued for a third day Thursday, sending troops through an area of several square miles centered on the Tigris River town of Duluiyah, 45 miles north of Baghdad, U.S. Central Command spokesman Lt. Ryan Fitzgerald said.

Fitzgerald said he had no information on the capture of wanted Baathists from the list of top 55 fugitives, which includes Saddam Hussein and his two sons. He said interrogators armed with intelligence on particular suspects were still questioning those captured. Prisoners deemed not hostile will be released, he said.

No Americans have been killed in the operation, Fitzgerald said. He could not confirm reports of deaths among the Iraqis.

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INTERNATIONAL

Violence spirals: 28 killed in attacks in Gaza City

IBRAHIM BARZAK

Associated Press Writer

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip — Israeli helicopters fired rockets at two cars carrying Hamas activists Thursday in Gaza, the latest strikes after Prime Minister Ariel Sharon swore to hunt Palestinians militants in response to a suicide attack on a bus that killed 16 people and wounded 100.

In the third airstrike against Hamas in 24 hours, Israeli helicopters fired missiles at a car carrying activists of the Islamic militant group, killing seven people, including a young child, and wounding 29, doctors said.

Hamas said the car belonged to one of its activists. A leader of the Islamic militant group, Mahmoud Zahar, said those killed in the airstrike were Yasser Taha, a member of the Hamas military wing, Taha's wife, and the couple's two small children. A baby bottle was among the items pulled from the burning car.

The first strike early Thursday killed two low-level Hamas activists, ages 22 and 24, from a unit that guards city streets. The Israeli military said the target was a cell of

Palestinians who were about to fire a mortar shell at the nearby Netzarim settlement.

The strikes came after Sharon swore to hunt Palestinian militants "to the bitter end" amid a cycle of vengeance that killed 28 people in a less than a day and wounded more than 100.

Also Thursday, the Islamic militant group Hamas issued a new threat, saying it has ordered "all military cells" to take immediate action and carry out more attacks on Israelis.

The group also urged foreigners to leave Israel and the Palestinian areas for their own safety.

In a Cabinet meeting Thursday, Sharon dismissed Palestinian leaders as "crybabies" for saying they can't use force against the militias, according to a Cabinet official briefing reporters.

Israel said it will not stand by until Palestinian Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas — described by Sharon as a "chick that hasn't grown its feathers yet" — persuades the armed groups to halt attacks.

The spike in violence — the Hamas bus bombing in Jerusalem and two Israeli airstrikes — came just a week after

President Bush launched a Middle East peace plan at a festive summit. Difficulties in implementing the so-called "road map" plan had been expected, but many were surprised by such a rapid return to bloodshed.

There have been deadlier days in 32 months of fighting, but despair was perhaps more keenly felt than after previous setbacks because there had been hope of a new beginning and personal involvement by Bush after last week's summit.

"Bush, too, cannot compel Hamas to stop terror," Israeli commentator Sever Plotzker wrote in the Yediot Ahronot daily. "And the all-powerful Bush cannot compel Sharon to stop the assassinations (of Palestinian militants). The cause and effect, the effect and cause, it's all jumbled. Who remembers who started?"

Bush angrily condemned the bus bombing and urged all nations to cut off financial assistance to terrorists and "isolate those who hate so much that they are willing to kill." Earlier, Bush had rebuked Sharon for the attempted killing of a Hamas founder, Abdel Aziz Rantisi, which led to threats of revenge by the group.

Hamas said in its statement Thursday that more attacks would follow.

The bus bombing "is the beginning of a new series of attacks and part of a bill the Zionists must pay," the Hamas statement said. "We call on all military cells to act immediately and act like an earthquake to blow up the Zionist entity and tear it to pieces."

The first retaliation for the botched attack on Rantisi came Wednesday afternoon, during evening rush hour on Jaffa Street, Jerusalem's main thoroughfare. An 18-year-old high school student from Hebron, Abdel Madi Shabneh, disguised as an ultra-Orthodox Jew, boarded city bus No. 14 just after it left the nearby central bus station.

Shabneh detonated the explosives strapped to his body just as the bus reached Mahane Yehuda, the city's large outdoor market. The blast lifted the bus off the pavement and tore up the roof and sides. Several passengers were hurled outside.

The bomber killed 16 people, including Alan Beer, 47, who immigrated to Israel from Cleveland several years ago.

Less than an hour later, Israeli helicopters targeted two members of the Hamas military wing as they drove in the crowded market area of a Gaza City neighborhood. The two were killed in a ball of fire, and witnesses said more missiles were fired as hundreds of bystanders ringed the burning vehicle. Seven more people were killed and 35 wounded by the second volley. Early Thursday, an Israeli rocket attack killed two low-level Hamas activists in Gaza City.

Sharon declared that though he remains committed to negotiating a peace deal, he will go after violent Palestinian groups without letup. "The state of Israel will continue to pursue the Palestinian terror organizations and their leaders to the bitter end," he said late Wednesday.

In responding to U.S. criticism to the attempt on Rantisi's life, Sharon has said that despite his commitment to the peace plan, he never promised Washington to halt his campaign against militants.

However, the Israeli strikes make it increasingly difficult for Abbas to negotiate a cease-fire with Hamas and other militant groups.

Abbas' position has been shaky from the start and has been further undermined by Israel's renewed campaign against militants. At the same time, Hamas rebuffed Abbas' initial truce proposal even before the attack on Rantisi.

Palestinian officials have said Bush had backed the Palestinians' proposal to try to persuade Hamas to lay down arms, instead of using force against the group.

The road map asks Israel to refrain from all actions that could undermine trust, but does not specifically veto targeted killings of suspected militants and Israeli incursions into Palestinian areas.

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, shunted aside in recent weeks in a U.S. peace effort, moved back to center stage, summoning reporters and reading a tough statement calling on all Palestinian factions to cease fire.

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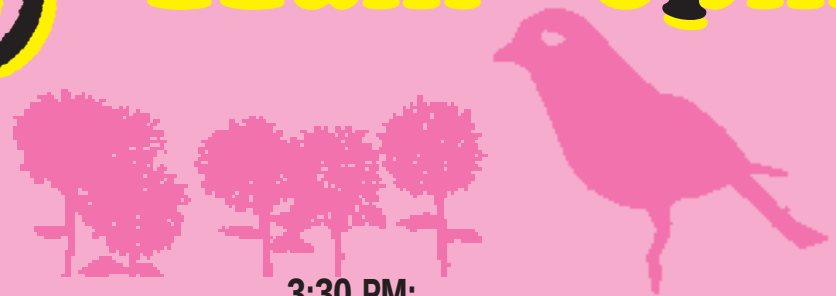
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JUNE 15th
11am - 6pm**



SCHEDULE:

ALL DAY, STARTING AT 11AM:

- * ART SHOW, AND SCAVENGER HUNT ENTRY TABLE
2515 Main, "Lost Planet" lot, just south of Mani's)
- * SCAVENGER HUNT ENTRY TABLE
First Federal lot, 2811 Main
- * WINDOWS ON OUR WATERS INTERACTIVE SEA LIFE EXHIBIT
Ashland entrance to parking lot, 2860 Main, west side
- * SOULstice "PLAYGROUND" LOT: Petting zoo, jumpers,
dunk tank, facepainting, balloon animals, games,
Scavenger Hunt entry table, southeast corner of
Marine & Main

NOON:

- * HIGHWAY 61 REVISITED (DYLAN TRIBUTE BAND)
Kinney Ave., west side
- * ANDRE COMEAU & BAND, Pier Ave., west side

12:30 PM:

- * PRINCE DIABATE (WEST AFRICAN MUSIC)
Edgemar Courtyard, 2430 Main, east side

1:00 PM:

- * FASHION SHOW
New Orleans Building Courtyard 2665 Main, east side
- * BABA ALADE (FOLKSINGER)
First Federal lot, 2811 Main

1:45 PM

- * CRITICAL BRASS (NEW ORLEANS JAZZ BAND)
Victorian entrance area, 2640 Main, west side

2:00 PM:

- * FREE PONY RIDES
Victorian entrance area, 2640 Main, west side
- * JUDITH OWEN (SINGER/SONGWRITER)
First Federal lot, 2811 Main

- * FOREVER FAB (THE BEATLES TRIBUTE BAND)
Kinney Ave., west side

- * SARA BAREILLES (CONTEMPORARY SOUL)
Pier Ave., west side

2:30 PM:

- * AROHI ENSEMBLE (JAZZ-INDIAN CLASSICAL-BRAZILIAN
FUSION), Edgemar Courtyard, 2430 Main, east side

3:30 PM:

- * JOE GAETA JAZZ COMBO
Victorian entrance area, 2640 Main, west side

- * FASHION SHOW
New Orleans Building Courtyard, 2665 Main, east side

- * Capital Pusher (funk), (3:45pm) First Federal lot, 2811
Main, east side

4:00 PM:

- * PEACE FROG (THE DOORS TRIBUTE BAND)
Kinney Ave., west side

- * THE NANCY LUCA BAND (ROCK N ROLL)
Pier Ave., west side

5:00 PM:

- * LOS PINGUOS (LATIN)
First Federal lot, 2811 Main, east side

5:45 PM:

- * SCAVENGER HUNT PRIZE DRAWINGS
First Federal lot, 2811 Main

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& sandals)
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Bravo Pizzeria (gift cert.)
Bryn Walker (gift cert.)
Casa Allegra (gift cert.)

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Coffee Bean (1 iced blended kit)
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Enterprise Fish Co. (lunch for 2)
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Feldman Glass (wooden
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Finn McCool's (gift cert.)
Fleurs du Jour (gift cert.)
Gioia (gift cert.)
Green Sector (gift cert.)
Herb King (gift cert.)
Infinity Wireless (3 headsets)
Jam's World (retro shirt)

Joe's Diner (dinner for 2)
LaVecchia (dinner for 2)
Library Alehouse (dinner for 4)
Loews (dinner for 2)
Lula's (gift cert.)
Lucky Chicken Games (video game)
Main Attraction (package)
Monkie (gift cert.)
Moonlight Rugs (Afghan mini-rug)
Next Salon (1 haircut + makeup)
O'Brien's (gift cert.)
Ocean Beauty Center
(Murad products)
Oyako (dinner for 2)
Panini Garden (gift cert.)
Patagonia (Synchilla Marsupial,
Synchilla Vest, T-shirt)

Pebbles (basket)
Piero (soap & scrub basket)
Relish (Men's Gift Crate)
Rick's Tavern (Rick's bucks)
Ritual Adornments (2 classes)
Salon Blu (haircut +)
Schatzi (dinner for 2),
Seashore Motel (1 night stay)
Shane (dinner for 2)
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Yoga Works (5 Class Series)
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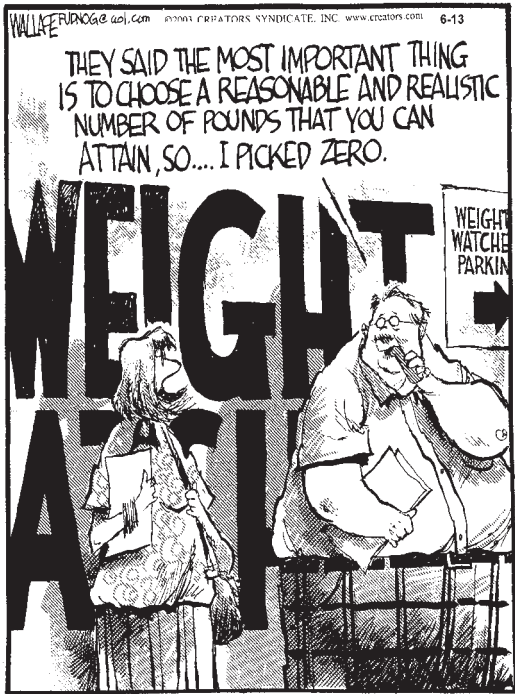


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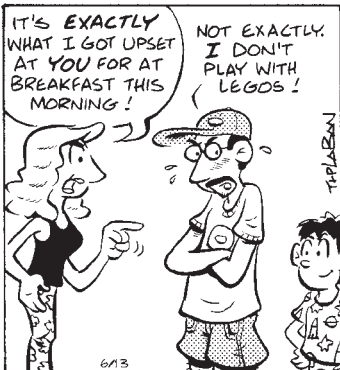
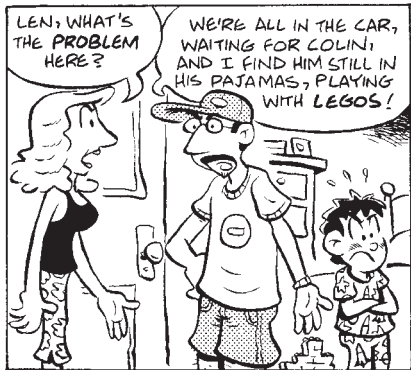
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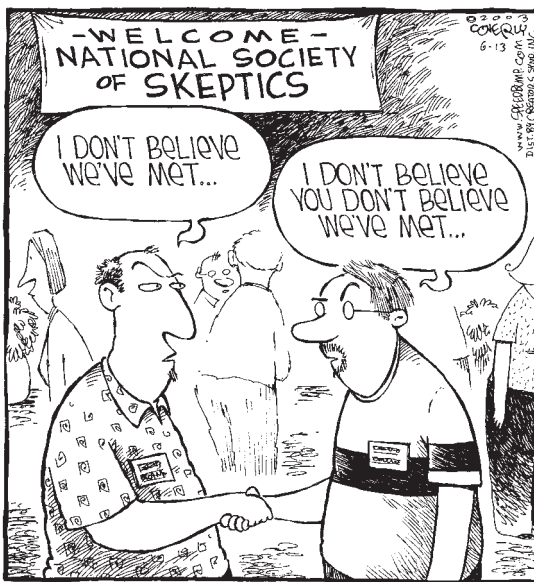
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6 Rum cakes
11 About-face
12 Rejoice
13 Was too fond
14 Davis of film
15 Obtained
16 Altar promise
18 Upper limit
19 Yale player
20 Tear
21 Not square
22 "Imagine" singer
24 Simple
25 Battle for turf
27 Red color
29 Superstar Streisand
32 First numero
33 Argon, for one
34 Research spot
35 Musical princess
36 Utmost
37 Stop — dime
38 Bellini opera

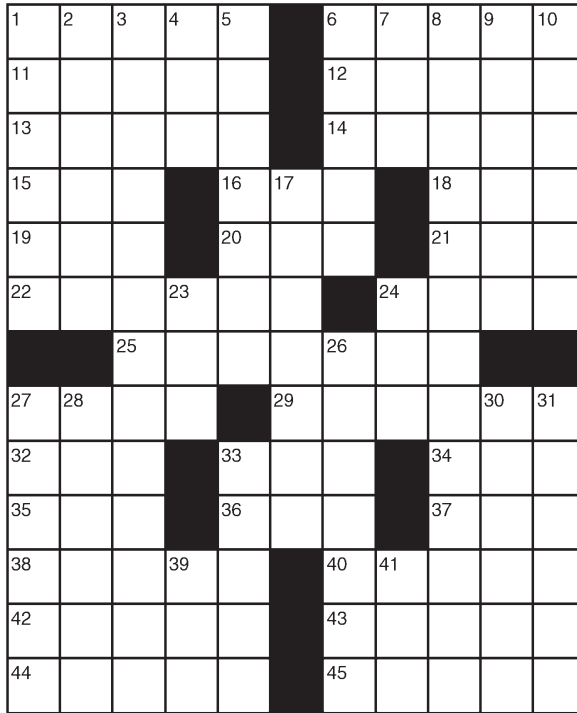
40 Berth

- places
42 Fund
43 Foot connector
44 Takes ten
45 Toadies' answers

DOWN

- 1 Club
2 Lawrence
3 Chefs' needs
4 Bauxite, e.g.
5 Fireplace tool
6 Jazz style
7 Cut drastically
8 Chefs' needs
9 Star in Aquila
10 Treeless plain
17 Typo-graphical symbol
23 Opposition vote
24 Damage
26 Busy time at the laundry
27 Destructive one
28 Destroyed
30 Irritate
31 Lowers
33 Acts the rodent
39 Witty remark
41 Small bill

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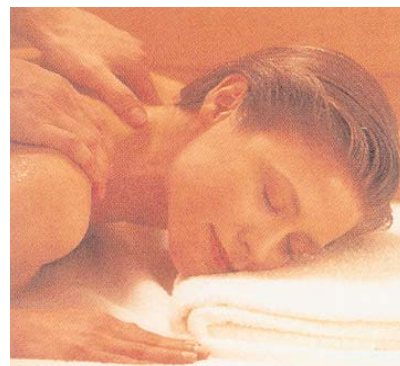
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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Adam Ant throws stones, strips at London cafe

By The Associated Press

■ **LONDON** — Former pop star Adam Ant was arrested after allegedly throwing stones near his home in north London, then removing some of his clothes at a nearby cafe, police said Thursday.

The arrest on suspicion of criminal damage occurred Wednesday, and one national newspaper, The Sun, carried a photograph showing two policemen leading Ant away with a blanket wrapped around his waist.

The 49-year-old singer, whose hits include "Strip" and "Desperate But Not Serious," was released on bail until mid-July after police questioned him about allegedly throwing stones that broke several windows near his home, then heading to the Curly Dog cafe and taking off his pants.

Police soon arrived at the scene and took him away.

In October, a judge said Ant — whose real name is Stuart Goddard — had suffered a "temporary episode" of mental illness when he threatened pub

customers with a fake pistol, and sentenced him to a year's community service and rehabilitation treatment.

■ **DALLAS** — Rob Campos, the bachelor on the NBC reality dating show "For Love or Money," said he plans to continue practicing law, even though the firm he worked for has severed ties with him.

Mathur Law Offices ended its association with Campos following the revelation on The Smoking Gun Web site that the 33-year-old drunkenly groped the breasts of a female officer while stationed at the Naval Justice School in Newport, R.I., in 1999.

Campos was expelled from his training program and ordered to undergo substance abuse treatment. The incident effectively ended his military career, the Web site said.

In a statement released Wednesday through NBC, Campos said: "I was never an employee of the Mathur law firm; I worked with them as an inde-

pendent contractor. I rented space at their office in Dallas and did not receive a salary. I also maintained my own set of clients. Although I will no longer be associated with that firm, I do plan to continue in the private practice of law."

On "For Love or Money," Campos must choose a potential mate from 15 women. At the show's end, the woman will be asked to choose between him and a \$1 million prize.

■ **LOS ANGELES** — Audrey Hepburn is the latest Hollywood legend to grace a first-class postage stamp — although she might have been embarrassed by the honor.

The U.S. Postal Service introduced a stamp bearing the image of the late Oscar-winning actress and humanitarian at a Hollywood ceremony Wednesday. The stamps went on sale across the country Thursday.

Hepburn's son, Sean Ferrer, wearing a lapel pin with the image of the new stamp, said he was "touched at all the

attention to my mother" and added she would have been "terribly embarrassed" by the honor.

The star of "Roman Holiday" and "Breakfast at Tiffany's," who died 10 years ago at 63, follows Marilyn Monroe and Lucille Ball as the third woman to appear on a "Legends of Hollywood" commemorative stamp.

"The stunning image of Audrey Hepburn will travel on letters and packages to every household in America and around the world," said S. David Fineman, chairman of the U.S. Postal Service Board of Governors.

Speakers at the ceremony at Childrens Hospital Los Angeles also remembered the actress for her efforts on behalf of children. She became a goodwill ambassador with UNICEF in 1988, visiting developing nations and focusing on the plight of children.

A fund established in her name at Childrens Hospital provides medical and mental health services to suspected victims of child abuse.



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