

FREE

SATURDAY, JUNE 14, 2003

Volume 2, Issue 183

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

LOTTO

FANTASY 5

09, 07, 36, 20, 22

DAILY 3

Afternoon picks: 4, 9, 3
Evening picks: 9, 3, 0

DAILY DERBY

1st Place: 10, Solid Gold
2nd Place: 02, Lucky Star
3rd Place: 03, Hot Shot
Race Time: 1:47.02



NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

■ In May, a county human services procurement officer in Portland, Ore., mindful of the sometimes-quirky needs of the agency's mental-health clients, included in a list of potential resource requirements a person fluent in the "Star Trek" language Klingon (but later said no actual job openings are envisioned).

■ In May, Microsoft's British division announced it was developing an Internet-ready portable outhouse with computer and plasma screen, to be unveiled this summer at various British festivals; Microsoft headquarters then told reporters the project was a hoax, but after consulting with the British division, headquarters conceded that it was a real project but said it was being discontinued.



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Smoking is, as far as I'm concerned, the entire point of being an adult."

— Fran Lebowitz



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Council asked to buck up for mounted patrol

15-year-old police unit
proposed to be cut from budget

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON
Daily Press Staff Writer

The Santa Monica Police Department's mounted patrol unit may have to hang up its spurs indefinitely because of budget cuts.

SMPD's mounted patrol, a four-horse unit that's used mostly for crowd control, is on the chopping block as part of a growing list of deep cuts the City Council must make before it passes next year's budget.

The City Council is set to pass the budget next Tuesday and it's likely the mounted patrol, which costs SMPD about \$25,000 annually, will be eliminated.

"I'm sad about it," said Mayor Richard Bloom. "But the reality is that given the depth of our deficit, I don't see how we can keep it."

The mounted patrol was established in 1988 primarily for crowd control during major events at the pier, the beach and downtown, according to SMPD Lt. Marianne Fullove.

"We were having a lot of problems in Palisades Park with drug activity and they



File photo

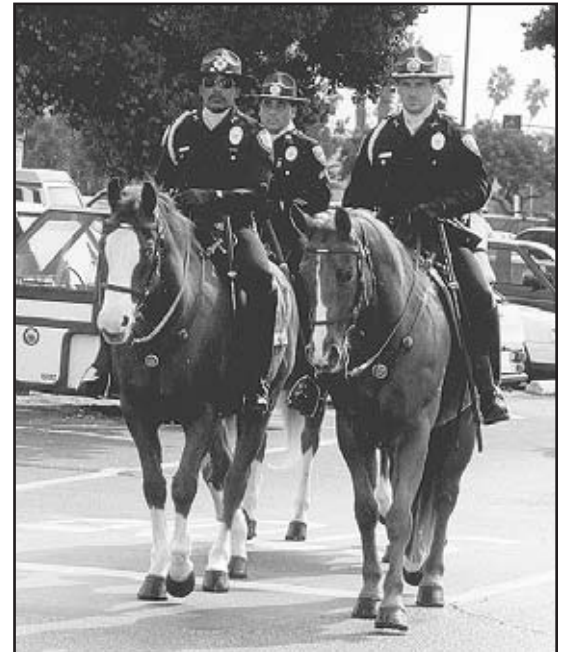
'Mr. Cool' is led by a police officer at a recent community event at City Hall.

Photo courtesy of SMPD

SMPD officers routinely patrol Santa Monica streets on horseback.

wanted a high visibility," she said, adding that one horse is equivalent to 10 officers on foot because of their size and mobility.

If the mounted patrol is cut, the four horses — Mr. Cool, Barney, Spiderman and Konan — will either be sold off to the public, or to the



officers who ride them.

The mounted patrol is deployed when there's a potential for mayhem to ensue. The horses were brought out for the Democratic

See PATROL, page 4



John Wood/Daily Press

Coroners and Santa Monica police lift the body of an unidentified woman onto a gurney Friday after she jumped from a public parking structure behind the Third Street Promenade. Two people committed suicide on Friday the 13th in Santa Monica.

Friday the 13th off to bad start with suicides

By Daily Press staff

Two people committed suicide within two hours of each other on the morning of Friday the 13th.

At about 8:50 a.m., a woman in her 30's apparently jumped from the top floor of parking structure No. 2 and landed in the alley between Second and Third streets. She was pronounced dead at the scene.

At 10:25 a.m., a 91-year-old man with severe health problems shot himself at his residence on 25th Street, police said. His caregiver found him and called 911, police said.

In the first suicide, a person was walking down the alley between Santa Monica Boulevard and Arizona Avenue and heard a loud noise, police said. The person turned around, saw the woman lying face down and then called police.

Santa Monica Police roped off the area as people walked in and out of the parking structure. The woman's body remained in the alley for three hours before the Los Angeles Coroner removed her.

Neither person has been identified, pending notification of their families.

City spends \$3.25M to get \$11.4M in parking revenues

(Editor's note: This is part of an ongoing series that tracks the city's expenditures which appear on the Santa Monica City Council consent agenda. Consent agenda items are routinely passed by the City Council with little or no discussion from elected officials or the public. However, many of the items have been part of public discussion in the past.)

By Daily Press staff

In addition to the millions of dollars made in parking tickets and meters, the city brings in plenty of cash from parking lots as well.

The pay-to-park structures along Second and Fourth streets

and the lots along the beach and elsewhere are expected to generate \$11.4 million for the cash-strapped city next year.

That figure easily offsets the \$2.5 million the City Council agreed this week to give Standard Parking Corp. to renew their contract to run the city's parking

operations for another year. The city also spends \$775,000 a year in maintenance, utilities and rent for the lots.

The city has seen a 29 percent increase in annual parking revenue since awarding Standard

See PARKING, page 4

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Did you know?

Measure S restores only **half** of the \$13 million cut by the State from our local schools. Critical programs, services and personnel are still at risk, including nurses, librarians, PE assistants, computer lab techs & custodians.

Santa Monica City Council has listed education as its top priority, however its current contribution to schools is less than 1% of its annual \$354 Million budget.

Rally at Santa Monica City Hall

for the Council's Final Budget Vote

Tuesday, June 17 at 6 PM

Meet in front of Santa Monica City Hall, 1685 Main Street. (Free Parking at SM Civic Center on Main Street just north of Pico)

We need **everyone** who cares about education to attend! Parents, Children, Teachers, Community Members.

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★★-So-so ★-Difficult

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, June 14, 2003:

You will have your hands full this year, as you have a tendency to juggle others' needs. What you want could change substantially this year as you see those around you changing. You often might wonder about boundaries — when you are giving too much and when not to give. Finances prove to be a major focal point — learning to say "no" to yourself, or to someone else. If a professional option appears, jump on it. This path might lead to a more dynamic career or work situation. If you are single, you will easily meet people, especially during the summer. You often wonder about your role as you juggle demands. If you are attached, your partner could be more demanding than in the past. Again, you juggle your needs with your loved one. Be innovative. CAPRICORN helps you get down to the basics.

♈ ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ High energy drives you to look at life from a more experimental perspective. You also might have a sudden insight, encouraging you to head in a new direction. Fatigue could mark the later day, when change appears in the air. Tonight: A must show.

♉ TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ A special friend seeks you out. You work well as a team and can handle a lot together. Join forces and take off on a day trip or do something totally different. Tonight: Try something new.

♊ GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ What you say will be heard, but the unexpected occurs with others, especially those you trust and respect. You might need to pull back and do some hard thinking. Financial matters need scrutinizing. Tonight: Spend time with a special person.

♋ CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Pace yourself, and you'll get a lot done quite quickly. A partner might be a bit more fiery than you would like. You could be overly stern in your reaction. Understand that your energy might be coming from today's Full Moon. Tonight: Go along with someone else's wishes.

♌ LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ Use the daylight hours, when you have more spunk. Enjoy making fun plans. Listen to a loved one who might be confused at best or slightly off the wall. Know what you want. Stay focused on the big picture. Tonight: You don't have to go out!

♍ VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Pressure builds as you juggle different demands. It might feel as if everyone wants a piece of you. Before you know it, your nerves are frayed. Don't worry about others' opinions. A loved one or a friend could delight you. Tonight: Go for an old-fashioned date.

♎ LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You might want to deal with someone directly. You are more anchored than many others. You can handle all the demands and pressure. Return calls. A parent or older relative might be very difficult. Pace yourself. Tonight: You only have so much energy.

♏ SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Deal with a practical matter first, and you'll feel a lot better. You could feel pressured by a friend or loved one's mood or needs. Remain confident. A relationship could take an unexpected turn. You can choose to look at this positively or negatively. Tonight: Why not have fun? Find your most playful friend.

♐ SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ You have your hands full this morning. Others seem unpredictable. You might just toss your hands in the air and head in your own direction. Life proves to be most lively if you can maintain a sense of humor and detach. Tonight: Treat yourself.

♑ CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ You might not like what someone says right now. You also might not be getting the gist of what is on his or her mind. With today's Full Moon, you could feel a bit fragile. Make plans this afternoon that would delight you. Tonight: Now, finally, you're the cat's meow.

♒ AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You might be thrilled by a friend but upset by the end result of a risk. Understand what you can and cannot change. You need to take care of yourself, especially if you feel tired. Others will have to understand why you're not around. Tonight: Don't go far.

♓ PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ Others want you. You might need to go into work and deal with a family member. You could be exhausted by everyone's requests. Take a nap, knowing full well that the remainder of the weekend is yours. Tonight: First find your friends, then decide.

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LOCAL



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Father's Day Fishing Derby on the pier

By Daily Press Staff

There will be some friendly competition on the pier this father's day. Santa Monica Bait & Tackle is sponsoring the Father's Day Fishing Derby on Sunday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the Santa Monica Pier. "We are pleased to be able to continue to provide the community a family event with a bit of friendly competing, said co-owner Mannie Mendelson, an accomplished fisherman who the grand prize in the Marina Del Rey Halibut Derby in 2002. Mendelson and co-owner John Volaski Jr. started the derby in 1991. The cost to compete in the derby is \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. The derby is paid for by participating competitors and all profits are contributed back to the winners of the competition.

Kids hold garage sale for cerebral palsy

By Daily Press staff

There are two very young philanthropists in the Olshanky family of Santa Monica. Max Olshanky, 10, and his sister Chasen Olshanky, 12, have helped to raise more than \$30,000 in support of United Cerebral Palsy, a non-profit that helps people cope with cerebral palsy, a condition that affects muscle movement. This year, Olshanky's will hold their second annual June garage sale today with all proceeds benefiting UCP. Many family members and friends have donated goods and services to the sale, and the Olshanky family has promised to match all funds raised. The sale will begin at 7:30 a.m. at 230 16th Street in Santa Monica. The fundraising began two years ago as Max Olshanky's eighth birthday approached. Max asked his family and friends to donate to UCP in his name rather than buy him gifts. Chasen, whose friend suffers from cerebral palsy, has also contributed to the fundraising effort.

Time to party on Main Street

By Daily Press staff

It's party time on Main Street, just in time for father's day. The Third Annual Main Street Santa Monica Summer SOULstice will be held on Sunday. It will feature live music, an art show, fashion shows, a scavenger hunt with big prizes, and children's activities. A Beatles tribute band, a petting farm, and the chance to win a couch from Ashland & Hill or a meal for two at Wolfgang Puck's Chinois, in a scavenger hunt are just part of the fun. The Main Street Merchants Association will sponsor the celebration and sidewalk sale from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., on Main Street between Pico Boulevard and Marine Street. Activities will be in parking lots, courtyards and in the SOULstice "playground" lot across from Schatzi. From noon to 6 p.m. there will be a variety of live music including jazz, folk-rock, Latin, rock 'n roll, Indian-Brazilian fusion, soul and more. Three tribute bands, Forever Fab (The Beatles), Highway 61 Revisited (Dylan), and Peace Frog (The Doors) will play on Kinney, across from Joe's Main Street Diner at 2917 Main St. Critical Brass, a New Orleans-style jazz band, and Joe Gaeta's jazz trio will play after the Farmers' Market in front of the Victorian, located at 2640 Main St. and the Nancy Luca Band, Sara Bareilles, and Andre Comeau & Band will play on Pier Avenue. Arohi, a jazz-Indian classical-Brazilian fusion band, and Prince Diabate (West African music) will play in the Edgemar Courtyard, located at 2431 Main St.; Baba Alade (folksinger), Capital Pusher (funk), Judith Owen (contemporary singer/songwriter) and Los Pinguos (Latin) will be at the First Federal lot, located at



While the SW ground swell winds down and the NW wind swell continues to build, this weekend ought to bring Los Angeles some fun surf. BAD NEWS: The SW we've been enjoying will continue to fade through the weekend. GOOD NEWS: The NW will build through the weekend, peaking on Monday. OUTLOOK: New S swell hits us Monday and another SW looks like it'll be coming in the second half of the week. There is also some activity down in the tropics that may bear fruit. Keep your paper peeled for details.

Today the water is:
64°
Sunrise: 5:48 a.m.
Sunset: 8:11 p.m.

	LOW TIDE				HIGH TIDE			
	Morning	Height	Evening	Height	Morning	Height	Evening	Height
SATURDAY	4:15	-1.7	3:20	2.0	10:49	3.9	9:39	7.0
SUNDAY	5:04	-1.7	4:07	2.3	11:44	3.9	10:25	6.8
MONDAY	5:53	-1.5	4:59	2.5	(12:41)	3.8	11:13	6.3
TUESDAY	6:44	-1.2	5:57	2.7	N/A	N/A	1:40	3.8
WEDNESDAY	7:36	-0.7	7:08	2.8	12:03	5.8	2:41	3.9
THURSDAY	8:27	-0.2	8:36	2.8	12:58	5.1	3:40	4.1
FRIDAY	9:19	0.3	10:11	2.6	2:02	4.5	4:32	4.3

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For the kids, there will be pony rides, a petting zoo, face-painting, a dunk tank, games and a hands-on sea life exhibit called "Windows On Our Waters." Most of this will be at the SOULstice playground lot on the corner of Main and Marine. "Windows On Our Waters will be on Ashland."

A fashion show will be held at 1 p.m. and 3:30 p.m., featuring items from Monkie, Black + Blue, Fito, Eyes On Main, Fedora Primo, Moonlight Rugs, Uroborus and more, in the New Orleans Building Courtyard, located at 2665 Main St. There will be an art show just south of Mani's, located at 2507 Main St.

New this year is the Scavenger Hunt. Scavenger Hunt information tables will be at the Art Lot, located 2515 Main St., the First Federal lot and at the SOULstice "playground." Entry is free.

Many Main Street merchants will be offering items on sale. Several merchants, including Baci, Splash, Gioia, LaVecchia, O'Brien's, Trendy Sunglasses, Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf, Bhutan, Amelia's and Wildflour Pizza also will be having customer appreciation open house specials and activities.

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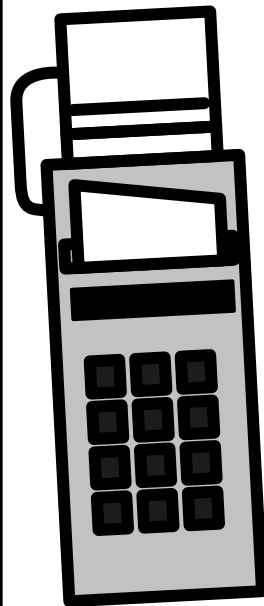


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LOCAL

Officers: One horse equals up to 10 officers

PATROL, from page 1

National Convention held a few years ago, as well as for the O.J. Simpson trial and community events like the Fourth of July and summer concerts on the pier.

They're often seen patrolling the beaches at the ocean's edge during busy summer weekends and monitoring the countless protests held downtown.

"The advantage of being in that situation is that you can see above the crowd and are mobile," Fullove said. "It's just another tool for officers to use."

But possibly just as important, the mounted patrol has become a signature trademark of the SMPD with both residents and tourists.

"I think that when you compare the perception of police today from 30 years ago, it's entirely different because people know and respect the police department and that's because of the community officers like the mounted patrol," Bloom said. "They make a connection with people in a positive way."

Many agree that the mounted patrol serve as ambassadors to the city. The six officers trained to ride are routinely stopped by tourists and residents who want to pet the horses.

"I'm sure we're all over Japan with all of the Japanese tourists taking their photos with us," Fullove joked.

When the City Council deliberates over what gets the ax in the budget on Tuesday, dozens, if not hundreds, of people are expected to plead publicly with their elected officials to save their pet programs.

June Lockhardt, an actress and Santa Monica resident, is one of them. A fan of the mounted patrol, Lockhardt went before the City Council last year pleading with the board to save the unit. At the time, City Hall was facing a relatively small budget deficit and the Council was able to save the program.

But this year's budget deficit, as well as the next two to three years, is much

more serious, city officials say.

Regardless, Lockhardt said she'll go before the City Council next week, hoping to convince the board that the mounted patrol is a community asset that can't be lost.

"The advantage of being in that situation is that you can see above the crowd and are mobile. It's just another tool for officers to use."

— LT. MARIANNE FULLOVE
Santa Monica Police Department

"The romance of them is what makes me such an activist in this area," she said.

Santa Monica faces a projected deficit of \$16.1 million for next year and \$20.2 million for the year after that.

Bloom said those figures are expected to grow because of how the state government plans to address the growing \$35 billion deficit — by floating millions of dollars in bonds and then paying it back by increasing sales taxes. Local cities are surely going to suffer from the plan, Bloom added.

"We're getting information from staff that indicates the budget is getting worse," he said. "It's really scary."

During the summer, the horses are kept at the Santa Monica Animal Shelter. Their permanent home is at a ranch in the valley where officers go to train with them.

The officers, who are assigned regular beats and usually ride the horses on special assignment, often care for the horses on their own time because they've become so attached to them, Fullove said.

"We all feel that we should save them," she said.

Housing authority expands offices on Cloverfield Blvd.

PARKING, from page 1

Parking the contract in 2000. The increase amounts to an extra \$2.5 million.

Before 2000, parking facilities in Santa Monica were operated independently.

Even though the bid made by Standard Parking was not the lowest, Mayor Richard Bloom said the city decided to consolidate the job under them because they included several additional services.

Standard Parking provides a manager that has increased revenue and maximized the amount of available parking spaces by making sure that signs are promptly put up and taken down when decks fluctuate near their capacity, among other things, Bloom said.

According to a city document prepared

by planning director Suzanne Frick, the "The current operating contract includes measures that have improved management of traffic flow in and out of facilities during peak periods, as well as revenue collection and auditing capability, and customer care."

Also on Tuesday, the City Council approved a \$113,000 per year, five-year extension of the lease for 2121 Cloverfield Boulevard, where the city's housing authority offices are, and \$30,000 in tenant improvements to that property.

The housing authority has grown over the years. Because there is no additional space in City Hall, the city had to acquire an additional 1,170 square feet at the Cloverfield Boulevard offices, according to documents.



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Opening Ceremonies begin on Saturday, July 26, 2003 at 9:00 a.m. and the Survivor's Lap begins at 9:30 a.m. in celebration of their victory, because cancer never sleeps. This lap demonstrates the importance and reason for Relay For Life celebrations. If you are a survivor, mark your calendar to participate in this heart warming first lap. Special T-shirts and a reception hosted by Shutters On The Beach and Casa Del Mar will be provided to all cancer survivors at this event.

For further information regarding the survivor's reception and lap, contact survivor chairperson Judy La Patka at (310) 579-7100 or judylapatka@aol.com Tracey Mayer at the American Cancer Society (310) 348-0356 option 3/ext. 246 or tracey.mayer@cancer.org.

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STATE

CALIFORNIA BRIEFS

Medicinal pot growers face prison

By The Associated Press

TEMECULA — Two medical marijuana advocates charged with cultivating 21 pounds of pot face more than two years in prison if convicted, but they aren't interested in any deal with prosecutors except for dismissal of the charges.

"We have done nothing, nothing, nothing wrong," said Martin Victor, 50, who said he suffers from cluster headaches because of damaged optic nerves.

Victor and wife La Vonne claim they are only adhering to the wishes of a majority of voters who approved Proposition 215, which allows for the "compassionate use" of marijuana for medicinal purposes. They face a maximum 32 months in prison if convicted.

Proposition 215, passed in 1996, grants Californians the right to "obtain and use marijuana for medical purposes" but it didn't set limits or guidelines about how much can be grown.

Prosecutors contend that the quantity seized during the October 2001 arrests of the Victors far exceeded the amount needed for medical treatment. The Victors say their crop yielded 6 pounds of marijuana buds, not 21 pounds, the total weight of the plants.

The Victors, who say they suffer from a myriad of health woes, say they acted in accordance with Proposition 215 because they received a doctor's recommendation to use marijuana.

Mrs. Victor, 47, was diagnosed in 1997 with multiple sclerosis and she suffers from emphysema, a compressed vertebrae in her back and panic attacks.

Attorney J. David Nick said Martin Victor "is never going to admit guilt" and will accept only a complete dismissal of charges. Mrs. Victor's lawyer, Zenia Gilg, said her client believes that "to take a plea would essentially be a lie and would be compromise her liberty."

District Attorney Grover Trask said his office reviews medical marijuana claims on a case-by-case basis but has taken a conservative view of Proposition 215. If a particular case appears questionable, Trask said, "we'll let a jury decide."

Car theft task force proven effective

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Vehicle thieves are running into a new obstacle in the San Fernando Valley: a 100-officer task force that has boosted arrests 225 percent in a week.

The task force was formed after the Police Department's new Compstat crime-tracking system highlighted an increase in stolen cars. From June 1 to June 7, officers arrested 13 suspected car thieves, compared with just four the previous week, authorities said Thursday.

"Thieves look at auto theft in the valley just as children look at Disneyland — there's so many to choose from," said Valley Bureau Sgt. John Artes.

More cars are stolen in the valley than in any other region in the city, with 5,238 vehicle thefts reported from Jan. 1 through June 7. That compares with 4,909 in the same period last year.

The Central Bureau has recorded 3,511 car thefts so far this year; the South Bureau has recorded 3,047; and the West Bureau has recorded 2,939.

Through June 7, police arrested 593 auto-theft suspects, up 30 percent from the 456 arrested during the same period last year.

City contract with golf course may be illegal

By The Associated Press

VENTURA — The county grand jury has urged the city of Oxnard to conduct an independent audit of the River Ridge Golf Club for what the panel called "undisciplined bookkeeping."

The grand jury report Thursday also said Oxnard's contract with the golf course operator is poorly written and possibly illegal. City officials were also criticized.

"Responsible officials with the city have not properly carried out their fiduciary duties with respect to their financial management and the accountability of the River Ridge Golf Course," the grand jury wrote. "The agreement to manage River Ridge is severely contractually deficient in many respects."

City Manager Ed Sotelo said officials will be vindicated in the city's detailed response.

"I am very proud of the River Ridge Golf Course and consider it a jewel to the city of Oxnard," he said. "We are running a very fine operation, and opinions expressed by the grand jury are just that — opinions."

The city has 90 days to respond to 91 findings, 27 conclusions and 16 recommendations in the report, Sotelo said.

The grand jury examination of Oxnard's public golf course began last year after resident Martin Jones produced documents and questioned the award, administration and financing of the contract to golf course operator High Tide & Green Grass Inc.

Residents alleged that the contract is a "sweetheart deal" between the city and High Tide.

Golf club general manager Otto Kanny said he had no comments because he hadn't read the report. Kanny contracts with the city to operate the 80-employee golf course.

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CORPORATE ACCOUNTS WELCOMED





OPINION

LETTERS

Public needs to get the facts straight

Editor:

I'm thrilled to announce the \$1 million which, apparently, some Daily Press readers continue to think we lost, has been found!

The \$1 million was located where it had been hidden under a pile of misstatements and can now be used for helping our school kids, or for any other purpose our city decides Tuesday night. The \$1 million was never really lost.

There was no \$1 million in our effort to pass a consumer protection ordinance preventing banks from charging you twice for a single ATM transaction, much like having a toll booth at both ends of a bridge.

All the legal work was done, and done exceedingly well, in-house by existing city attorney staff.

We went all the way to the Supreme Court in losing the case, but we did not lose \$1 million. The only \$1 million involved was the refunds banks would have had to offer to Santa Monica customers had we prevailed.

Thank you for the opportunity to correct the record.

Kevin McKeown
Mayor pro tem

Funny Paperz makes no sense

Editor:

The Funny Paperz has often confused us with cryptic opinions on local and national issues. However, Joe King's recent effort to honor UC Berkeley graduate Duane De Witt, who had gone from being a homeless veteran to Phi Beta Kappa, reach a new level of baseless opinion. King blamed the fact that De Witt was rejected from Berkeley four times on the proposition that the school was saving places for SARS infected foreign students. Since De Witt was accepted to Berkeley long before the SARS epidemic and UC Berkeley has recently come under storms of criticism for NOT allowing students from SARS infected countries to take summer courses we were left wondering exactly what Joe King was commenting about. He just doesn't make any sense.

Gian Gonzaga
Frances Northcutt
Santa Monica

Schools need help from City Council

Editor:

For the past three years, a unique group called Community for Excellent Public Schools has been exploring and studying options and strategies for increasing funding for our public schools in Santa Monica and Malibu.

We would like to point out just what CEPS stands for, literally and symbolically, because each part is important. The acronym CEPS is for: Community for Excellent Public Schools.

All along, we have believed that multiple sources of funding are needed and that we would not succeed without everyone working together. The outcome of Measure S, and more importantly, the effort that went into achieving the victorious 67.61 per-

cent vote, proved how powerful our community is — and how much our community cares about education.

But, as you know, the news is not all good.

Our schools still face a serious shortfall in funding. Measure S will make up about half of the \$13 million deficit caused by the state's \$35 billion deficit.

In order to expect our public schools to be excellent, we must keep searching for funding solutions.

In January, 1,000 citizens rallied at Santa Monica City Hall, imploring our City Council to "double its love" for education and schools and find a way to contribute another \$3.5 million.

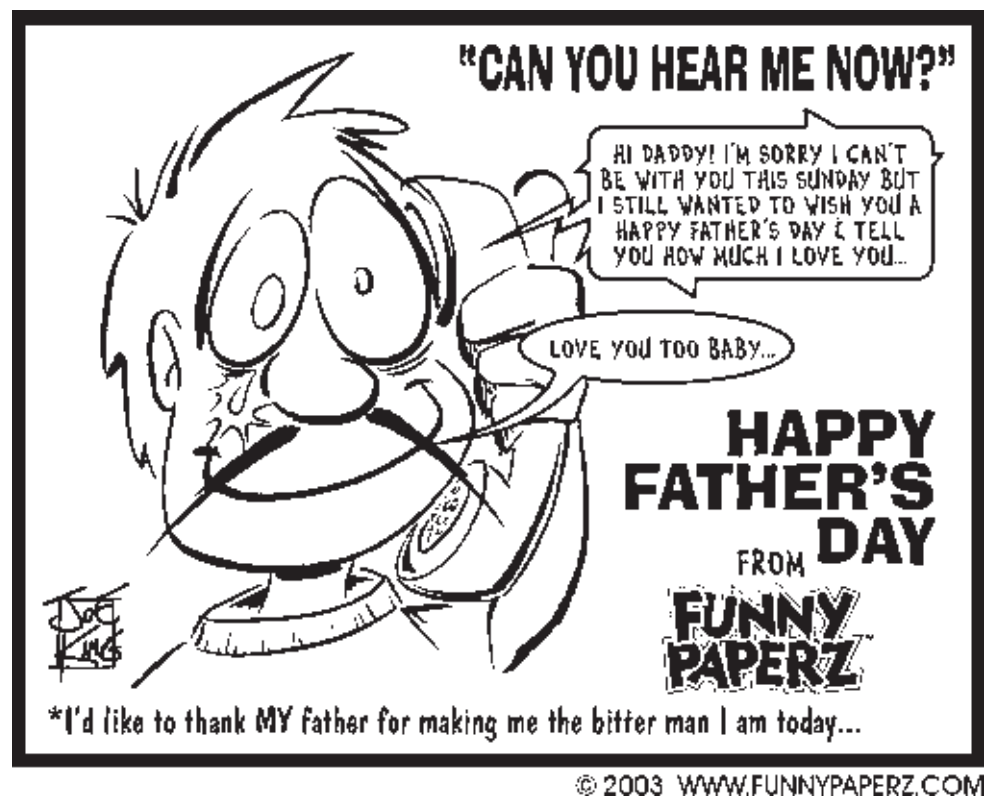
In April, 1,000 supporters turned out for the "Pink Slip Parade," marching through the city to show their concern for the 200 school district employees losing their jobs.

And, last week, 12,146 people voted yes on Measure S.

We ask that on Tuesday, the City Council of Santa Monica join the effort in a most meaningful financial way by voting to add another \$3.5 million for education in the 2003-2004 budget. What a way to be a pivotal and critical part of our Community for Excellent Public Schools!

Shari Davis and Louise Jaffe
Community for Excellent Public Schools

See LETTERS, page 7



It's a fact, you don't have to be old to be grumpy



MODERN TIMES
By Lloyd Garver

According to the American Psychological Association, the image of "grumpy old men and women" is really a myth. A recent University of California at Irvine study is only the latest to indicate that older people forget unpleasant images more quickly than pleasant ones, while people under 30 remember more negative ones. I was surprised by these results, because I have many negative images in my memory and I'm definitely over 30. Maybe I'm just young at heart.

Psychologists have concluded that older people are so aware of the fragility and shortness of life that they don't waste their time concentrating on negative things. They suggest that as we get older, we do what the old song says, and "accentuate the positive, eliminate the negative."

If this is true, why are people still not

talking to that relative who slighted them years ago? Why are they complaining about that rude waitress they had that one summer? Why are they describing their labor pains that were worse than anything women experience today?

It seems to me that there are positive and negative people of all ages. Those of us over 30 should be insulted by the conclusions of the study. Don't ever sell us short. We are just as capable of being negative as young people.

In the study, psychologists showed the subjects three categories of photographs — positive, negative and neutral. A "positive" image showed a man and a young boy at the beach, watching seagulls overhead. A "negative" image showed a couple in a cemetery looking at a tombstone. And a "neutral" image showed scuba divers checking their gear by the side of a dock.

Maybe the researchers were all young people because I don't evaluate these images the same way. If I saw a picture of a man and a boy at the beach watching seagulls overhead, I'd say that was negative. I'd assume that, any minute, they will be doused by those pesky seagulls. And why is an image of two people in a

cemetery necessarily negative? It could be a very loving, moving experience. And I wouldn't consider scuba divers checking their gear before they go in the water as "neutral." We don't know how recently those divers ate lunch.

The psychologists seem to assume that being negative is bad or, well, negative. Not necessarily. Just think of the columns I'd have to write if I were completely positive:

"HILLARY CLINTON HAS NO AGENDA" — It is completely logical and not hypocritical at all for Sen. Clinton to simultaneously put out her autobiography while telling the world she's a "very private person."

"GEORGE W. BUSH REALLY NEEDED TO FLY IN THAT JET" — Obviously, there was no thought whatsoever to publicity when the President landed dramatically on that aircraft carrier.

"MOST THINGS ON TV ARE GREAT" — "Reality" romance shows about superficial men and women deceiving each other are not only entertaining, but enlightening.

I admit that as we get older, we mature and mellow in some ways. But if it is really our tendency to lose our powers of neg-

ativity, as the psychologists believe, then it is our moral obligation to fight it. It's not necessarily a bad thing to be grumpy — to criticize, to call for change, to remember negative things so they might not happen again.

And who is in a better position to be constructively negative — a young person or somebody with experience being negative? I don't have a Ph.D. in psychology, but the fact that I'm being so negative about the study casts doubt on the study's conclusions.

They are saying that older people are more likely to see the glass as half full, rather than half empty. I'm saying that everybody is different and when I see the glass, I don't see it as half full or half empty. I see it as something that I'm probably going to spill all over myself.

(Lloyd Garver has written for many television shows, ranging from "Sesame Street" to "Family Ties" to "Frasier." He has also read many books, some of them in hardcover. He writes the "Modern Times" column for CBSnews.com's opinion page and can be reached at smdp@lloydgarvermoderntimes.com).

OPINION



LETTERS

LETTERS, from page 6

City's bluff called on Wilshire improvements

Editor:

Your article "Wilshire traffic: Calming or pedestrian friendly?" (SDMP, June 12) said the following: "Traffic islands inherently slow down traffic because it appears the street is narrower. However, it's not."

The writer of this article must have visited a different Wilshire Boulevard than the one I saw this afternoon, because the new traffic islands I saw protrude by about two feet into the driving lanes on each side, clearly visible where the old yellow painted lines meet the new curbs.

Since street parking will remain in place, the remaining car lanes will be squeezed down by a couple of feet and anybody driving along the boulevard will be forced to guard against crashing into other cars instead of looking out for pedestrians. Rather than being an amenity for pedestrians, those traffic islands will become a life-saving necessity because nobody will be watching out for foot traffic.

For many years Wilshire's four driving lanes have been separated by a no-drive lane in the center. Confining these new islands to the width of the center lane would

have provided shelter for pedestrians and adequate traffic flow for drivers.

Instead, these new islands now protrude into the driving lanes and they will strangle traffic along one of Santa Monica's busiest and most important thoroughfares, forcing drivers to go through adjacent neighborhoods in an effort to bypass the choke-points. As we've seen elsewhere in Santa Monica, these expanded islands will not calm traffic — they will simply spread it out into residential neighborhoods along the boulevard.

There is another, proven way to control traffic speed, and provide adequate and safe passage for pedestrians. It involves carefully timing the traffic lights, posting signs indicating the speed at which the traffic lights are coordinated, providing longer breaks for pedestrian crossings and adequate enforcement of the traffic laws by the police department. Anybody seen a traffic officer on duty lately?

When properly maintained, this method is a higher-maintenance, low-glamour approach that works effectively. Traffic islands that protrude into driving lanes and strangle traffic make the problem far worse, not better, for drivers and pedestrians alike.

Dan Jansenson
Santa Monicas

Is it time for an outside audit of Santa Monica College?

Have you heard those ads for the summer session at Santa Monica College yet? They praise Santa Monica College for "holding the line" on student fees, highlight an intensive ESL program and encourage listeners to register.

Those ads, played on several radio stations across Los Angeles, always surprise me. The administration has nothing to do with setting student fees. For worse or for better, the state government sets the fees. The intensive ESL program, designed for foreign students with F-1 visas, has been expanded. Alas, the non-credit ESL program for immigrants and refugees has been cut back by 90 percent this summer. The administration will completely suspend the non-credit ESL program in the fall while spending \$7.5 million to build a new arts center in the same Madison site. Finally, SMC is offering fewer summer classes than last year and there isn't enough room to accommodate current students. What is the point of Santa Monica College's massive ad campaign?

Perhaps the administration hopes it can distract and deceive the general public about the condition of Santa Monica College and maintain a reputation built on past excellence. Yet the last six months have provided many hard lessons for the students and staff that actually attend and work at the celebrated community college. The administration's top priority, as many observers have reluctantly concluded, is not keeping as many classes open as possible. Some things — like keeping overpaid administrators and maintaining a vigorous building schedule — are more important than providing an education to community college students.

President Piedad Robertson wants to cut 20-30 percent of classes, abolish several vocational programs, suspend the non-credit ESL program and kick out

thousands of students on the pretense of a 5-10 percent state cut in funds.

Of course, there are many ways of cutting even that 10 percent that would save jobs, maintain classes, and keep the word "community" in Santa Monica College.

All suggestions and more humane alternatives were rejected without much, if any, real consideration. Why?

The governor's May revise of the state budget put the actual cuts at no more than 4 percent.

President Robertson continued to push for huge cuts in the core business of SMC — educating students.

Meanwhile, the funds continue to roll in for parking lots and buildings at SMC.

What did other community college administrations do? The vast majority of community colleges, which never considered abolishing entire programs, made clear that they would make cuts to reflect no more than 4 percent. A few community colleges in Ventura County announced a cut in salaries across the board to meet any budget shortfall so students could continue taking the same number of classes.

Weeks later, the news from Sacramento looks even better. Due to student activists, faculty pressure and media outrage, the state legislature will be sending a state budget containing far smaller cuts to community colleges — closer to 2 percent.

Alas, President Robertson — pursuing some agenda other than protecting students' access to classes — continues to push for huge cuts in classes offered and in vast disproportion to the actual cuts in state funding. Why? Wouldn't reason and decency dictate that cuts, if needed, be kept as far from the classroom as possi-

ble? Wouldn't you cut the number of surplus administrators since SMC has twice as many administrators to full-time faculty as LACC? How is it that other community college districts have avoided making these draconian cuts?

There is something fishy about the zeal of administrators to make these extremely destructive cuts. There are lots of theories floating across the community college campus — personal power, indifference, incompetence, elitism, empire building, fantasies of becoming a four-year university.

Yet the bottom line remains that there is no objective reason to abolish entire programs, disregard negotiated contracts, ignore community college procedures, and kick out thousands of minority and disadvantaged students. (Again, why is SMC running all those ads recruiting new students if they will be turning away so many thousands of old students in the fall?) These proposed budget cuts reflect distorted choices and reveal rather perverse priorities for an educational institution.

It's also worth noting that Santa Monica voters generously taxed themselves \$160 million under Proposition U so the college could, in the words of the ballot measure, "increase educational opportunities and raise student achievement" at Santa Monica College.

President Robertson proudly lobbied for the state legislation that authorized capital improvements. The administration wrote and campaigned, with other campus organizations, very hard for the passage of Proposition U to "increase education opportunities and raise student achievement," which targeted all the funds toward capital improvements. If

you are going to write a law, people are going to hold you responsible for the law's provisions and omissions. Prop. U could have, for instance, included some provision to allow a small percentage to be used, in an emergency, to cover ongoing non-capital costs.

President Robertson, however, defines "educational opportunities" and "student achievement" solely in terms of buildings, and not preserving classes. Meanwhile, the Santa Monica College Foundation continues to raise even more money for buildings, but has failed to host a single fundraiser or send out a single appeal for funds to keep the doors open for community college students. Nor has Santa Monica College attempted to tap its graduates — or even created an alumni list. So, following Robertson's management, SMC will have far fewer students, but more beautiful buildings next fall. Some consider this enlightened management, others consider it gross mismanagement.

If the administration finds itself needing to cut \$9.5 million to make up for a much smaller cut in state funds, then it's time for an outside audit of the college's finances.

The strong vote of no confidence, by all campus organizations, shows the great desire for better, more humane and more enlightened educational leadership at Santa Monica College. Perhaps the Board of Trustees can find the courage to review their decisions, reverse course and revitalize the campus.

(Eric H. Roth is a former ESL instructor laid off to make room for a \$7.5 million new arts center at Madison. Roth now teaches ESL at Cal State University Long Beach.)

Guest
Commentary

By Eric H. Roth

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

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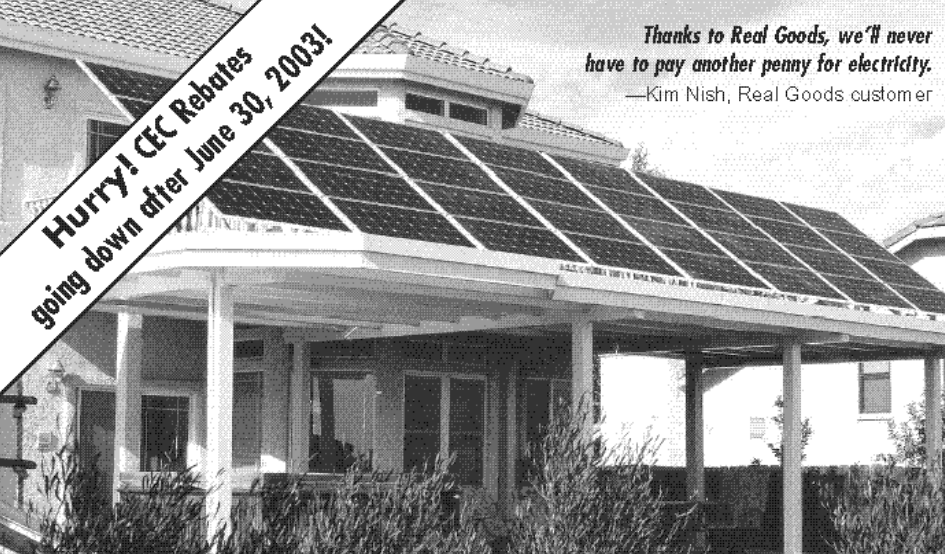
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STATE

Medical device maker pleads guilty to cover up

DAVID KRAVETS
AP Legal Affairs Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — A manufacturer of medical devices pleaded guilty Thursday to covering up malfunctions that may have led to 12 deaths and many other complications.

Endovascular Technologies of Menlo Park, a subsidiary of Indianapolis-based Guidant Corp., agreed to pay \$92.4 million in civil and criminal penalties, the largest fine of its kind, to settle the federal charges. The company also pleaded guilty to 10 felonies, including shipping misbranded products and making false statements to government regulators.

Criminal charges against company executives are also being considered, the government said.

"Because of the company's conduct, thousands of patients underwent surgeries without knowing the risks they faced," U.S. Attorney Kevin Ryan of San Francisco said in a news conference. "These actions were criminal."

The problems involving the Ancure "stent-graft" device, which is used to implant a patch to repair abdominal aortic aneurysms, were resolved after the device was voluntarily recalled in March 2001 and before it was reintroduced five months later, the company said in a statement.

The company said none of the more than 18,000 patients who have Ancure Endograft implants is at risk because the problems highlighted by the case occurred during the procedure. A Food and Drug Administration official confirmed that complications from the device resulted when doctors were inserting it or removing it.

The device, inserted through the groin, was designed to let doctors patch an aneurysm without risky abdominal surgery. The FDA first approved it in 1999.

An aneurysm is a weak spot in the wall of the aorta — the body's largest blood vessel — that bulges like a balloon until the pressure of pounding blood bursts it.

According to court documents unsealed Thursday, federal prosecutors said the device often malfunctioned and the company asked doctors to use it in ways not approved by the government. In many instances, sales representatives in the operating room asked surgeons, in an effort to remove the lodged device, to break it and remove it a piece at a time. When that failed, the abdomen would have to be opened.

The device, which looks like a fishing pole, is used to position the patch.

The nine misbranding criminal counts stem from the company never reporting to the FDA that it was recommending such unauthorized practices.

"The delivery system would become stuck or lodged in the patient's body," prosecutor Matt Jacobs told U.S. District Judge Susan Illston. He said that procedure was not approved by the FDA and required at least 57 more invasive surgeries to get the equipment from the patient's body.

"The delivery system would become stuck or lodged in the patient's body."

— MATT JACOBS
Prosecutor

Outside of court, Ryan and Jacobs said the government learned of the coverup after seven company employees notified executives of Endovascular and its parent, Guidant. Jacobs said neither Guidant nor Endovascular alerted the government to the whistleblower's complaints.

The company was charged with failing to report as many as 2,600 malfunctions of the \$10,000 device during surgery, thus preventing the public and physicians from learning about "recurring malfunctions and other risks." The company also was accused of failing to report that other, more invasive surgeries were required after the device failed.

One criminal charged said the company misled the FDA and reported only 172 malfunctions since the product's introduction. The complaint alleged that the company had records of 2,628 malfunctioning incidents, including reports that the malfunctions may have led to 12 deaths and 57 surgeries.

In court Thursday, U.S. District Judge Susan Illston asked vice president Jim Neupert, "how did it happen?"

"We did not do the right thing," he responded.

Prosecutor Jacobs told the judge "this was not the result of mistake or error."

The company said it already has set aside money to pay the fine levied under Thursday's settlement.

Guidant's share price fell \$3.76, or 9 percent, to \$39.47 in afternoon trading on the New York Stock Exchange.



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SPORTS



Klitschko can learn about Lennox Lewis at movies

JOHN NADEL
AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES — Vitali Klitschko can learn a lot about heavyweight champion Lennox Lewis just by watching a movie. As an added attraction, he gets to see his younger brother.

Wladimir Klitschko and Lewis fought in a scene from "Ocean's Eleven," with Vitali watching from ringside during filming of the 2001 Las Vegas casino heist movie.

The roles will be switched June 21 at Staples Center when Vitali gets his shot at Lewis with the WBC and IBO titles at stake.

"He helps in preparation for me because he fought Lennox Lewis before," the elder Klitschko said Thursday during a conference call. "They were repeating the same scene — it was like 20 times they fought each other."

"He's helping, he remembers how Lennox was working. He helps me a lot. For sure, we can use it, little bits. A lot of things, we can figure out."

Until a few days ago, Klitschko believed he was going to fight Cedric Boswell on the undercard of the bout between Lewis and Kirk Johnson, but Johnson tore a chest muscle in training and had to withdraw.

Klitschko and Lewis were going to fight later in the year assuming both were victorious next week, but that was quickly changed.

It will be the first heavyweight championship fight in Los Angeles since Floyd Patterson retained his crown with a 13th-round technical knockout over Roy Harris on Aug. 18, 1958 at Wrigley Field.

Klitschko, the No. 1 contender for Lewis' WBC heavyweight title, said two weeks is not enough preparation time.

But he's pleased to get a shot at the championship.

"Everyone's been talking about this fight for a year," he said. "I have this possibility, I have this chance. It was already finished, we have to change the date from

December to June. That's it. My fight with Lennox was in the plan for December."

While Lewis forecast a decisive victory earlier this week, Klitschko would make no predictions.

But he sounded confident — pointing to his 32-1 record with 31 knockouts.

Lewis is 14-2-1 in title bouts and 40-2-1 overall.

"He's the best one in the heavyweight division, everyone knows it," Klitschko said. "Like he says about himself — Lennox Lewis is the greatest, Lennox Lewis is the best one. I just want to say it's a great opportunity for me."

Klitschko's only loss was to Chris Byrd in 2000, when he retired with a shoulder injury after the ninth round. Klitschko was leading decisively on all three judges' scorecards when the end came.

"If you're not healthy, it's very difficult to explain to someone who is healthy," Klitschko said. "If you're hungry, try to explain to someone who has stomach flu. If you are healthy, you can bring really good performance."

"Today, I am 110-percent healthy and ready to fight."

Byrd later dropped a 12-round decision to Wladimir.

"We lose together and we win together," Klitschko said. "He will be in the corner, we're working together. We're very close, we're brothers. It's almost to fight not against one of us, but two of us."

Wladimir (40-2, 36 knockouts) lost in a major upset three months ago, being stopped by unheralded challenger Corrie Sanders with 33 seconds left in the first round in their WBO heavyweight championship fight in Germany.

His next fight will be Aug. 30.

"He's young, we have a dream to be the same time world champions, different versions," Vitali said of his brother.

That's something that's never happened. If it does, don't count on a Klitschko-Klitschko unification title bout.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Football

By The Associated Press

■ **ALAMEDA** — Barret Robbins participated in his first formal workout with the Raiders Thursday since being suspended by the Raiders a few hours before the Super Bowl.

The All-Pro center's fall from grace couldn't have been more public. Robbins, a recovering alcoholic who's since been diagnosed with bipolar disorder, had a roller coaster weekend in January that included a drinking binge, a trip to Tijuana and thoughts of suicide.

After a 31-day stint at the Betty Ford Center and several quiet months of recovery, he feels ready to repair his image — and to return to the Raiders alongside a few teammates who initially didn't want him back.

Robbins said he's been fighting alcohol problems since his early teenage years, but that he hasn't had a drink since the Saturday before the Super Bowl.

"I had a bipolar episode," Robbins said of the night he disappeared. "It could have been stress. It was a highly stressful situation, added by alcohol abuse."

Robbins disappeared the night before the Raiders' 48-21 Super Bowl loss to Tampa Bay in San Diego on Jan. 26. He missed two meetings and a walkthrough the day before the game. Coach Bill Callahan said Robbins was incoherent and didn't know where he was when he showed up late that night. Callahan dismissed him, and Treu started the Super Bowl in his place.

Basketball

By The Associated Press

■ **EL SEGUNDO** — Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant underwent shoulder surgery Thursday in New York, and is expected to make a full recovery.

Bryant had an inflamed bursa removed and a frayed labrum trimmed in his right shoulder during the surgery that took under an hour.

He was released from Presbyterian Hospital-Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center in the afternoon. Dr. Louis Bigliani said he expects Bryant to make a complete recovery.

"Everything went fine," Lakers spokesman John Black said from the team's offices.

No timetable has been set for Bryant's rehabilitation or return date, but the Lakers expect he'll be ready by the start of training camp in October.

Bryant injured his shoulder during a first-round playoff game against Minnesota on April 22. He played the next 10 games with the injury.

■ **LOS ANGELES** — Lisa Leslie had 21 points and 13 rebounds as the Los Angeles Sparks remained the WNBA's only undefeated team with a 74-66 win over the Indiana Fever on Thursday night.

The Sparks' Mwadi Mabika scored 12 points, while teammate DeLisha Milton added 11. The two-time defending WNBA champions (8-0) moved to within one victory of matching the best start in their seven-year history, set in 2001.

Natalie Williams scored 18 points on 8-of-12 shooting for Indiana (2-3).

Los Angeles' Nikki Teasley matched a career high with 11 assists.

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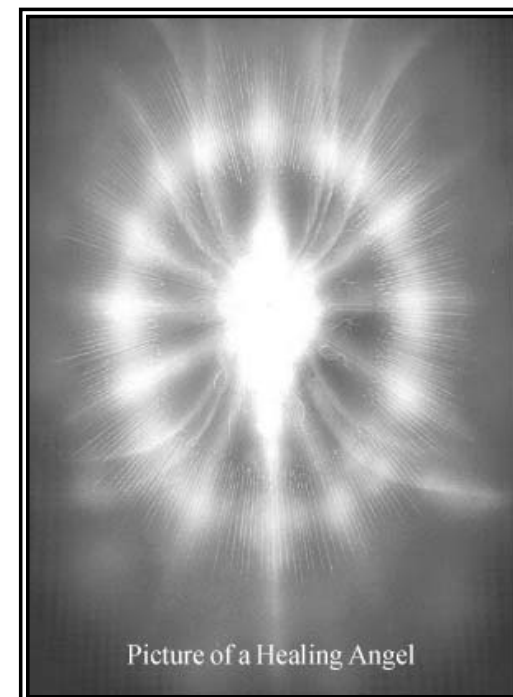
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Amid Senate of millionaires, few are of modest means

ALAN FRAM

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — From its multimillionaire majority leader, Sen. Bill Frist, to its members of more modest means, the Senate is dominated by people far more affluent than nearly all those they represent, lawmakers' financial disclosure forms show.

Frist, R-Tenn., who lists blind trusts worth up to \$31 million, is surrounded by colleagues who enjoy substantial wealth from successful private careers, family riches or wealthy spouses.

Many should benefit from the recently enacted cut in taxes on capital gains and dividends paid by corporations. Among those listing substantial property holdings or income from stock dividends in 2002 are Sens. Lamar Alexander, R-Tenn.; Richard Shelby, R-Ala.; Bob Graham, D-Fla.; and Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif.

Alexander, chairman of a children and families subcommittee since joining the Senate this year, reported owning from \$1.5 million to \$6 million worth of stock in Bright Horizons Family Solutions Inc., a child-care company.

Shelby listed ownership of an apartment complex and shares in a title company. Graham held several Florida properties worth from \$5 million to \$25 million, while Feinstein was part-owner of the Carlton Hotel in San Francisco.

Others with eye-popping numbers included Sens. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., who listed four family trusts worth up to \$45 million; John D. Rockefeller IV, D-W.Va., who reported three blind trusts worth from \$80 million to more than \$125 million; and banking heir Peter Fitzgerald, R-Ill., whose assets include up to \$50 million in Bank of Montreal stock.

Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton, D-N.Y.,

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got more than \$1.15 million as partial payment for her recently published memoirs, "Living History." Yet eclipsing that was her husband, former President Bill Clinton, who earned \$9.5 million for a global speaking tour on which he made up to \$400,000 a speech.

Senators at the lower end of the spectrum included Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., who reported a cash account worth \$15,000 and a growth portfolio worth at least \$15,000.

Joseph Biden, D-Del., listed an annuity account worth from \$6,000 to \$90,000 and life insurance policies worth from \$15,000 to \$50,000. His reported liabilities included loans and credit lines ranging from \$305,000 to \$715,000.

Senators' reports, covering 2002, were released on Friday, three days before the House makes its available.

Members of Congress must report annually on their outside sources of income, assets, liabilities, travel paid by private interests and speaking fees, which must be donated to charity.

Their congressional salaries were \$150,000 last year, though leaders earned more.

Some senators' creative instincts were profitable last year.

Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., reported

donating \$321,000 to charity from earnings on two of his books. Sen. James Jeffords, I-Vt., earned \$101,000 in royalties for two books, including "An Independent Man," which documents his 2001 departure from the Republican Party.

Sen. Joe Lieberman, D-Conn., reported \$16,460 in earnings on the book he and his wife, Hadassah, wrote on his 2000 vice presidential candidacy. And Daniel Inouye, D-Hawaii, received \$927 for an autobiography.

Orrin Hatch, R-Utah, earned \$18,000 in song writing royalties and \$2,123 for a voiceover for an animated religious film. Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., appeared in an episode of Warner Brothers Television's "Gilmore Girls" and donated the \$1,350 to the San Diego Police Athletic League.

Among the four Senate Democrats actively seeking their party's 2004 presidential nomination, former trial lawyer John Edwards, D-N.C., reported assets including a blind trust worth from \$5 million to \$25 million. He listed earnings of \$100,000 to \$1 million from that trust.

Lieberman listed a blind trust worth from \$100,000 to \$250,000, which he dissolved in April, while Graham reported his real estate.

Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts listed four trusts worth up to \$1.75 million, plus a Dutch painting valued at \$250,000 to \$500,000 owned with his wife, Teresa Heinz Kerry.

Her assets were reported to be at least \$210 million from her family's Heinz food fortune, and estimates have her worth at more than double that amount. Kerry's campaign has said it believes he cannot legally use her money for his race.

Frist, a surgeon whose family started the huge Hospital Corp. of America, now called HCA, said his wife and three sons each earned blind trusts worth at least \$1 million and producing at least that much in income last year.

The family's diversified investments also include stock in Krispy Kreme, the doughnut company, and part-ownership of Hot Hits Inc., a Nashville music recording firm.

Senate Minority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D., more modest holdings include a bank account worth from \$100,001 to \$250,000. His wife, Linda, a former top Federal Aviation Administration, is a lobbyist who has represented airlines and aerospace companies.

The reports also said:

■ Sen. Ted Stevens of Alaska, the Senate's longest-serving Republican, earned \$285 from an Anchorage restaurant;

■ His Democratic counterpart, Robert Byrd of West Virginia, reported owning no stocks or investment properties;

■ No. 2 Democratic leader Harry Reid of Nevada included land and mining claims worth up to \$2.7 million;

■ Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, the No. 2 Republican, listed mutual funds and a home owned by his wife, Labor Secretary Elaine Chao, worth more than his own.

N. Korean prisoner ate cement squares, sewage, fingernails

BY GEORGE GEDDA

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Ji Hae Nam seemed lost in thought. Perhaps it was the long flight from South Korea the day before. Perhaps it was this city's unfamiliar surroundings. Or possibly it was the deeply etched memories of a past too awful to forget.

As she described it, her first 40 years, by the standards of her native North Korea, were relatively normal. A college graduate, she was engaged in exhorting workers in several factories to toe the party line. "What the party decides, we follow!" she would tell them.

Then came The Mistake. Accompanied by four friends one evening in December 1992, she taught them a song titled "Don't Cry Hongdo," a 1970s-era tune, a forbidden import from archenemy South Korea.

Retaliation came slowly but with a vengeance. Four months later she was detained in her native Hamkyungnam-do and taken to the Security Protection agency.

In an interview and in congressional testimony last week, she described what happened next: "The beatings I received were so severe that my entire body was bruised and I was unable to get up for a month."

Later, she was tried, convicted and sentenced to three years in what authorities describe as a correctional center. Her crime: teaching a foreign song. Her companions from that December evening were sentenced to eight months of forced labor.

"I was subjected to torture and sexual harassment that cannot be imagined by another human being," Ji said in

her congressional testimony.

"The detention center guards were around 22, 24 years old. I was mortified and wanted to die rather than be locked up. I tried swallowing cement cut into four pieces of squares as well as sewage, rubbish and hair, but I didn't die."

At another point, she said, "I could fill up thousands of pages about my suffering in jails."

"I tried swallowing cement cut into four pieces of squares as well as sewage, rubbish and hair, but I didn't die."

— **JI HAE NAM**
Prisoner

Life is better nowadays for Ji, 54. She managed to escape to South Korea, arriving there in January 2002 after harrowing journeys through four Southeast Asian countries. She has her own apartment and receives a monthly stipend of \$400, compliments of the South Korean government.

Her visit here was sponsored by the Virginia-based Defense Forum Foundation, a conservative group that attempts to call attention to human rights abuses in North Korea.

A 40-minute interview, half of which is consumed by

translation, is time enough for only a small taste of what she endured, not only during the 2 1/2 years she spent in the correctional facility but also through the rejection she felt from her fellow North Koreans as a former convict. She also endured abuse as an escapee to China, where, she said, people routinely look down on North Koreans.

Asked whether she had known any human kindness from the time of her arrest in 1993 until her arrival in South Korea almost nine years later, Ji thought for a moment and said, "There was a North Korean who was friendly to me in China."

Only rarely during the interview was she animated. She cupped her hands to demonstrate the size of the corn-based concoction she received three times a day while in prison. One fellow inmate, who was pregnant, used to bite off her fingernails and eat them, so great was her hunger, Ji said.

She also replicated the way in which her body trembled when exposed to the subzero winter temperatures in her unheated cell. Her only protection, she said, was a blanket so thin that she could see through it.

Ji wept briefly at the mention of her teenage son who, like countless other North Koreans, starved to death.

Her purpose in visiting the United States was outlined in her statement to Congress: "I would like to ask the human rights activists and those working for human rights in North Korea to expose the human rights abuses inflicted by the feudal and corrupt North Korean government to the world so that the people in North Korea could escape from a life of humiliation and live freely as soon as possible."

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**SUNDAY
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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Contestants can win a couch from Ashland & Hill (the Grand Prize), meals for two, designer and activewear, beauty supplies and more. Scavenger Hunt clue sheets are available at many stores on main street, and will be available at the farmer's market Sunday morning and at Main Street merchant tables at the art show (2515 Main), the First Federal lot (2811 Main) and at the "play-ground" lot (southeast corner of Main & Marine). You don't have to wait til Sunday, you can start today!

Prizes are on display at Ashland & Hill, 2803 Main.

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Betsy & Tracy (designer handbag
& sandals)
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Bhutan (bowl set)
Black + Blue (gift cert.)
Blonde (gift cert.)
Bravo Pizzeria (gift cert.)
Bryn Walker (gift cert.)
Casa Allegra (gift cert.)

Chinois (dinner for 2)
Coffee Bean (1 iced blended kit)
Colorful Nails (gift cert.)
Dhaba Cuisine of India (gift cert.)
Dharma Art (Tibetan Blanket),
Eames Office Gallery (package)
Enterprise Fish Co. (lunch for 2)
Fedora Primo (gift cert.)
Feldman Glass (wooden
framed mirror)
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)
Shoop's (gift cert.)
Splash (gift cert.)
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Ten Women (gift cert.)
Thai Teak (gift cert.)
Uroborus (corset)
Yoga Works (5 Class Series)
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The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



by TERRY & PATTY LABAN



Natural Selection® By Russ Wallace



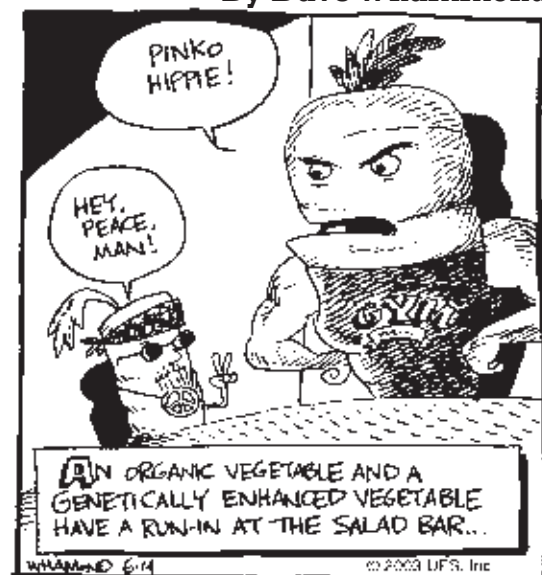
CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- Missouri motto
 - Mexican rivers
 - Fleets
 - Neighbor
 - Spies
 - "Chicago" actor
 - Blender speed
 - Highway sign
 - Filming locations
 - Tire type
 - "The Clan of the Cave Bear" writer
 - One or more
 - Goes at a fast speed
 - Allen of comedy
 - Perfect place
 - Shoe parts
 - Speed
 - Heaps
 - Fancy home
 - Fast food quaff
 - Prone
 - First name
 - "Hold on —"
 - Capone's foe
- DOWN**
- Most dreadful
 - Cinches
 - Dutch city, with "The"
 - Blatant
 - Apple variety
 - Dole out
 - Road curve
 - Was furious
 - From Lisbon, e.g.
 - Alfalfa's group
 - Hard
 - "Atlantic City" director
 - Peruses
 - Software buyers
 - Postal identification
 - Some ante-lopes
 - Theoretically
 - From
 - Florence, perhaps
 - Dutch cheeses
 - Biscotti flavor
 - Road markers
 - Put up
 - Actor Paul
 - Turf

C	O	C	O	A		B	A	B	A	S
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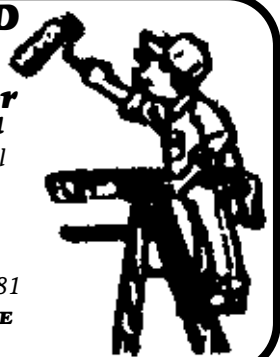
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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Halle Berry files suit against ex-owner of her house

By The Associated Press

■ **LOS ANGELES** — Halle Berry filed a \$2 million lawsuit against the former owner of her house, which she alleges needs more than \$1 million in repairs.

Her lawsuit, filed Thursday in Superior Court, follows one filed June 10 by homeowners Jonathan and Alison Roth, who claim the actress knew about the condition of the property and bought it "as-is" in 2001.

Berry claims she and husband Eric Benet paid more than \$2 million for the Beverly Hills house, but it "turned out to contain major undisclosed defects that would require over \$1 million in corrective measures."

The 34-year-old "Monster's Ball" star claims she learned of the problems, which include numerous geological defects, only after the purchase was completed.

Dale F. Kinsella, the Roths' attorney, said Berry was aware the home was being sold as-is and had 30 days to inspect the property.

"Ms. Berry, her experts and her lawyers knew full well what they were buying and what they were doing," Kinsella said in a statement. "This case simply will not entitle Ms. Berry to claim she 'doesn't remember' what happened."

According to the Roths' lawsuit, the agreement also gave Berry the chance to cancel the deal for any reason during the

30 days. The Roths say Berry received extensive disclosures on the condition of the property before she bought it.

■ **CINCINNATI** — The surrogate mother who carried twins for former "Good Morning America" host Joan Lunden and her husband kept the couple informed of every detail of the pregnancy, Lunden said.

Lunden and her husband, businessman Jeff Konigsberg, visited Cincinnati for doctors' appointments and kept in close contact with Deborah Bolig and her family throughout the pregnancy.

"I really don't know how we could ever thank her and her family enough," the 52-year-old said. "We truly hope that they will always remain a part of our lives."

Bolig delivered the boy and girl Tuesday at Good Samaritan Hospital. Kate Elizabeth Konigsberg weighed 5 pounds, 14 ounces, and Max Aaron Konigsberg weighed 6 pounds, 11 ounces.

Lunden, now host of "Behind Closed Doors" on the A&E network, and her husband met Bolig last fall through the Los Angeles-based Center for Surrogate Parenting. They'd failed to conceive through in-vitro fertilization.

■ **LOS ANGELES** — Singer-songwriter Warren Zevon, who announced last fall that he's dying of lung cancer, became a grandfather twice over when his daughter, Ariel, gave birth to twin boys.

Augustus Warren Zevon-Powell and Maximus Patrick Zevon-Powell were born Thursday at a Los Angeles hospital, said Zevon's publicist, Diana Baron. Their father is Ariel's husband, Ben Powell.

"The best news was that Warren was able to be at the hospital for the babies' birth," Baron said.

The next arrival Zevon is looking forward to is that of his new album, "The Wind," scheduled for release Aug. 26.

"He's doing all right," Baron said of the musician's condition. "Listen, when he first started talking about his illness, he was hoping he could make it to see the next James Bond movie. And that was last Christmas. So every day is a blessing."

Zevon, 56, is known for such darkly humorous songs as "Werewolves of London," "Lawyers, Guns and Money" and "Excitable Boy."

■ **NEW YORK** — Calista Flockhart has been quiet about her romance with Harrison Ford for the past year and a half, but not anymore.

The "Ally McBeal" star was positively mushy about the 60-year-old actor in an interview with People magazine.

"I like the way he looks first thing in the morning," Flockhart tells the magazine for its June 23 issue. "It's not handsome. It's more cute. He looks like a lit-

tle boy. You know how when you wake up in the morning and you're kind of puffy and rumpled and you look kind of vulnerable? That's what he looks like."

The 38-year-old actress says the age gap between her and the "Indiana Jones" star has never bothered her. The two met at the Golden Globe Awards in January 2002. Flockhart and her 2-year-old son, Liam, moved into Ford's Los Angeles home earlier this year.

"It doesn't faze me," she said. "Sometimes I even say, 'Wow, I keep forgetting that he's (22) years older than me.' It doesn't factor into our relationship at all."

Ford's latest film, "Hollywood Homicide," opened Friday.

■ **NEW YORK** — Jay Leno has higher ratings, but David Letterman works in New York.

So which late-night television host do you think New York Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton is visiting first on her book publicity tour?

Clinton — whose White House memoir, "Living History," is now in bookstores — will appear on Letterman's "Late Show" next Monday. It will be her fifth time on the show, and her first since Sept. 27, 2001.

Two years ago, Clinton also appeared with nine other senators to read a Top Ten list of "things never before said by a United States senator."

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