FREE

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Santa Monica Daily Press

100% organic news. Picked fresh daily.

Boathouse may be leveled for Bubba Gump restaurant

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON
Daily Press Staff Writer

Bubba Gump Shrimp is making plans to raze the 50-year-old Boathouse restaurant on the Santa Monica Pier.

The movie-themed corporate chain restaurant filed its preliminary architectural plans for its new restaurant and a demolition permit on April 26, nearly two weeks after the Boathouse was evicted from the premises.

Local architect Howard Laks, who is representing Bubba Gump, said the city has to conduct an environmental analysis on the property to determine if the building's demolition alters the pier, since it's designated as a historical landmark.

Bubba Gump hopes to begin construction next year and open by December of 2003. The restaurant would be 9,000 square feet, which includes outdoor dining on the pier level as well as on the beach level. Current plans call for 314 seats within the restaurant.

Bubba Gump officials, Laks and city representatives all agree that because of the deplorable condition of the current building, the entire thing should be demolished.

Mark Richter, the manager of Santa Monica's economic development department, said when the city took possession of the Boathouse, officials found it nearly falling down. Besides interior problems, the wood within the exterior walls are rotting to point that they are no longer salvageable.

"The existing building is in dreadful condition," he said. "There were no surprises; we knew it was in bad shape."

Naia Sheffield, former owner of the Boathouse, which has been operated by her family for the past five decades, purposely didn't make improvements to the building because of her ongoing battle with the city.

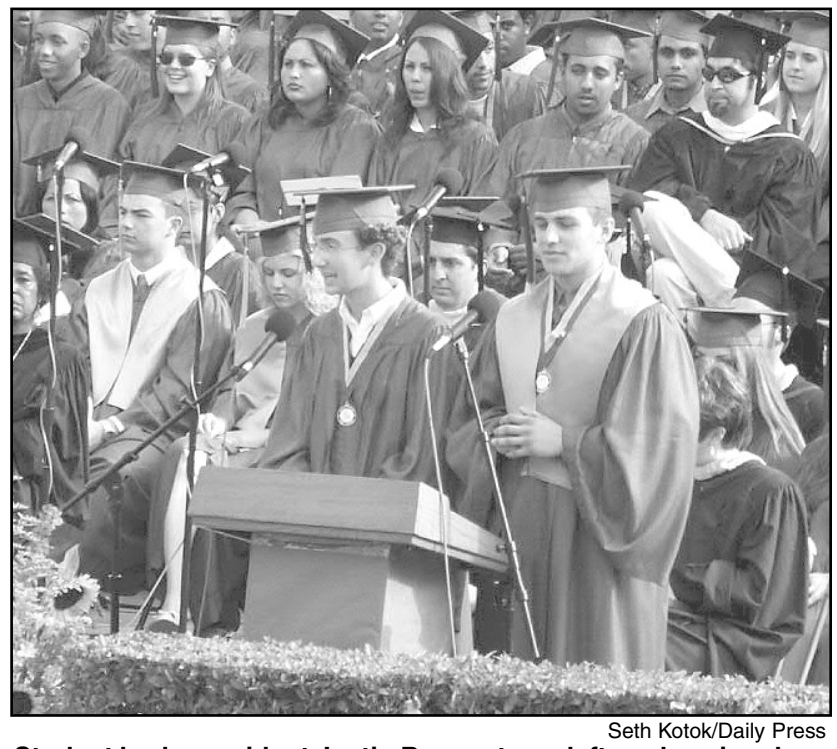
"The existing building is in dreadful condition. There were no surprises; we knew it was in bad shape."

— MARK RICHTER
Economic Development Director

Because the fate of the restaurant was being controlled by the city and Sheffield was operating on a month-to-month lease, it didn't make sense to renovate and maintain the building until she was assured she could keep her family business afloat, she has said in the past.

Sheffield in May filed a $50 million lawsuit against the city and the Pier Restoration Corp., claiming her restaurant was kicked off the pier unfairly.

See BOATHOUSE, page 4



Seth Kotok/Daily Press

Student body president Justin Brownstone, left, and senior class president Everett Collis address audience members at Samohi's graduation ceremony Thursday evening.

Cheers and tears fill Samohi graduation

BY TRAVIS PURSER
Special to the Daily Press

Santa Monica High School commenced its 148th graduating class Thursday night before a packed audience of more than 4,000 friends and relatives.

Security was tight at the ticketed event, where a guard walked rooftops while faculty and student leaders extolled age-old advice: "Life is a journey." "The world is a village." "Follow your dreams."

There was not a beach ball in sight, at first.

A galaxy of digital cameras whirred and clicked throughout the jam-packed crowd when the school's 685 graduating seniors solemnly entered the open-air Memorial Greek Theatre. Most smiled nervously. A few frowned. Four hundred and sixty of them were college-bound, the school's newspaper stated.

What college counselor Emma Hipolito admired most about the class of 2002, was their "idealism," she said during the invocation. "Because it leads you to believe that change is possible."

Co-principal Kirsten Hibert compared life to a staircase. She read a long passage from a Dr. Seuss book, and that's when the traditional beach ball began to bob around above the sea of blue mortar boards.

"It's a great school, but after four years, you're definitely ready to move on."

— ERIN KROZEK
Samohi honor student

A teacher quickly captured it.

An appreciation for diversity was one thing that student body President Justin Brownstone said he was glad to learn at Samohi. "Like on Jewish (appreciation) day, and my mom came to make sure everybody was wearing a sweater."

From his math teachers, he learned "there are three kinds of people in this world — those who can count and those who can't."

See GRADUATION, page 4

City launches projects to alleviate traffic congestion

The newest of them will be 'unveiled' on Saturday

BY FABIANO SANTOS
Special to the Daily Press

As summer begins, the well-known traffic problem in Santa Monica seems to get worse.

But now that the new multi-million transit mall downtown is complete, City Hall promises that the new amenity will ease traffic flow.

"The city is constantly looking for ways to control the traffic and making it flow, and also help on parking opportunities," said city spokeswoman Judy Rambeau.

She said the Santa Monica Police Department has hired civilians to help control the traffic since Memorial Day, as well as officers working at the entrances of the freeway and busy intersections on weekends. There also is a traffic light synchronization project already working to coordinate the flow during rush hours, Rambeau added.

In a recent poll conducted by City Hall, Santa Monica residents believe traffic is the second largest problem in the city, behind the number of homeless people on the streets.

The City's biggest bet to ease traffic is the transit mall project, which took one year to complete and cost $15 million, much to the chagrin of downtown businesses who dealt with construction for 13 months.

Looking more like a revitalization of the area than an effective traffic solution, the project proposes new right and left turns as well as new traffic signals and designated parking zones, among other features.

A multitude of new art and architectural ele-

See TRAFFIC, page 5

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JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

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

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★★ A close associate makes an offer that you cannot, or will not, say no to. Knowing that, you might as well cave in quickly. "Yes" will be a word that delights this person and, in the end, adds to the positive feelings between you. Tonight: Continue with the yeses.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Reach out for an associate at a distance. Choose to do things differently. Be open to suggestions and discussion. If you are, you'll discover that the remainder of your day will become a piece of cake. Now, that's more like it. Tonight: Accept an invitation.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Pace yourself. Understand more of what you want and expect from your day-to-day life. Look at the quality of your life in general, and don't sell yourself short. Know what it is you want. Indulge another, without great expenditure. Tonight: Put your feet up.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Greet the summer solstice with enthusiasm and energy. You might be thrilled to leave the office early or, perhaps, decide to hold a summer-christening party at work. Whatever happens, happiness intermingles with your must-do projects. Tonight: The party has just begun.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Listen to another carefully. In fact, attentiveness can make or break you in the next few weeks. Use your listening skills. Others respond to your enthusiasm and high level of understanding. If you can, do as much as possible from home. Put your feet up. Tonight: Ask for something relaxing.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ No matter which way you turn, you walk into a celebration. Be wise. Clear out work first and focus on returning calls. A second reason to smile comes your way. Think carefully about a loved one before finalizing your plans. Tonight: Where your friends are.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Carefully review a personal matter revolving around an older relative and your finances. Sometimes you don't have the clout you want or desire. Right now, be a good listener. Empower yourself through sensitivity and kindness. Tonight: Dance away all night long.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Carefully review a situation that involves another. Consider your alternatives cautiously, especially those involving travel, a legal matter and seeking out experts. Detach, and you'll understand those around you in the next few months. Tonight: You melt another's defenses.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ In the next few weeks, as well as right now, your strength manifests itself when dealing with each person independently rather than in groups. A personal touch can make or break a situation. Close your door and vanish while you can. Tonight: Take your time.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Review a matter that is close to your heart. Others will challenge you in the next few weeks. Think in terms of success and long-term goals. Accept others' opinions. There just might be a grain of truth in what others think. Tonight: Where your friends are.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Be direct when dealing with close associates. Sometimes when you hedge, others think you're hiding important information. A coworker makes an offer that might be irresistible. Why not go along with this person's request? Tonight: In the limelight.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ Take off as soon as you can, especially as you might have difficulty focusing on anything at the office. Loosen up and enjoy yourself with others. Answer e-mail before you leave for the weekend. You might want to catch up with a friend as well. Tonight: Now let go.

QUOTE of the DAY

"Tell the truth and run."

— Yugoslavian proverb

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LOCAL

Local resident found insane in pedestrian killings

By staff and wire reports

SANTA BARBARA — A former college student was insane when he drove through a crowded street and killed four pedestrians in a student housing area serving the University of California Santa Barbara, a jury found Thursday.

David Attias, 20, hugged his attorney and smiled when the verdict was read. Attias was raised in Santa Monica and graduated from Santa Monica High School in 2000.

The verdict drew tears from Attias' family and relatives and friends of victims who crowded the courtroom. Attius's mother and father are well-known Santa Monica philanthropists, especially for their work with the Ocean Park Community Center.

"This was a horrible, horrible tragedy," said the defendant's father, Emmy-nominated director Daniel Attias. "There are no victors today. The losses that were incurred Feb. 23 are permanent, and we are very, very shaken. We continue to be very shaken. But we're grateful that, in our view, that tragedy was not compounded today by an unjust ruling."

Tony Bourdakis, who lost a son that night, said the verdict let Attias "get away with murder."

"In our opinion David Attias will not serve the appropriate time for killing four young people and for horribly injuring a fifth," Bourdakis said.

Attias was found guilty last week of second-degree murder. A jury then began hearing testimony June 13 to determine if he was insane at the time.

Killed were Nicholas Bourdakis, 20; Christopher Divis, 20; Ruth Levy, 20; and Elie Israel, 27. Levy's 27-year-old brother, Albert Levy, was injured.

"This was a horrible, horrible tragedy. There are no victors today. The losses that were incurred Feb. 23 are permanent, and we are very, very shaken."

— DANIEL ATTIAS
Defendant's father

Attias had pleaded innocent by reason of insanity.

The insanity ruling could send him to a mental hospital for an indefinite period of time.

Witnesses testified that after Attias struck the pedestrians with his speeding car on a crowded street on Feb. 23, 2001, he shouted, "I am the angel of death."

Attias has a history of mental illness. Drug tests showed he had the dental painkiller, lidocaine, in his bloodstream after the crash. A video shown to jurors showed him fighting with onlookers shortly after his car struck the pedestrians.

In Tuesday's closing arguments in the sanity phase of the trial, Attias' attorney urged the jury to find that his client was insane on that night in February.

"We have a place in our system for justice for everyone," defense attorney Jack Earley told the jurors. "The proper, the just, the decent thing to do is to find Mr. Attias was insane at the time."

Earley repeatedly pointed to the conclusion of two court-appointed psychiatrists who said Attias was insane at the time of the crime.

Assistant District Attorney Patrick McKinley countered with a laundry list of the defendant's actions before and after the accident that he said proved Attias was sane.

"There is nothing that the defense can point to that points to insanity," the prosecutor said during his 50-minute closing argument. "He put the key in the ignition, not in a toaster. He wasn't out of it."

Surf Report

Small, steep wind swell waves show at northwest exposures today. Average waves measure waist high, some inconsistent chest highs on good sets. Expect glassy conditions during the morning. Afternoon will be blown out.

Southwest facing breaks will be the flattest; ankle to waist high at Malibu and Topanga.

Water is warm, low 60s, and beach advisories look good.

(Information compiled by Jesse Haley.)

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

Tides:

12:54am	6:45am	12:10pm	6:46pm
Low / 0.6'	High / 3.7'	High / 3.7'	High / 6.0'

The Q Line

All the slogans that are fit to print

Last week marked the seven-month anniversary of the Santa Monica Daily Press. And while we have put our fingers on the pulse of this town, we don't have a slogan to call our own. You may have seen us use various lines on the front page, but nothing has stuck.

This week's Q-Line question asked: "What should our slogan be?"

(If your suggestion is selected, the winner will receive gift certificates to various restaurants throughout town.)

■ "If the news is about Santa Monica, you'll read it here."

■ "All the news in Santa Monica."

■ "The price of liberty is eternal vigilance." The Daily Press is free. 0f course that has a couple of double meanings. You can attribute that to John Philpot Courin who died in 1878."

■ "Pulse of Santa Monica and more" or "A great little newspaper."

■ "Wake up Santa Monica to the news."

■ "News you can use" or "Santa Monica's local news daily" or "Santa Monica's daily local news"

■ "The pulse of the Santa Monica Bay."

■ "Everything you want to know about Santa Monica is here." or "This is your complete newspaper." or "Wake up Santa Monica to the news."

■ "If it's worth printing it's worth reading."

■ "There is nothing so powerful as the truth." — Daniel Webster

■ "Meeting the communities need to know." or "Keeping the community informed." or " News you can use." or "Community news, community views."

■ "Everything you want to know about Santa Monica."

■ "Best little paper west of the ???"

■ "Your source by sea." or "Your source by the shore."

■ "Today's news and community views." or "Instant news, easy to use."

■ "If this topic is about Santa Monica, you can read about here."

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LOCAL



Seth Kotok/Special to the Daily Press

Seniors walk across a symbolic bridge Thursday to receive their diplomas from school board members Pam Brady, Julia Brownley, Brenda Gottfried, and Tom Pratt.

Samohi seniors graduate

GRADUATION, from page 1

But most important, "knowing what matters to you as an individual" means more than a diploma, he said.

Erin Krozek, an honor student who plans to attend U.C. Berkeley, sang the Sting classic "Fields of Gold," while clouds moved in, and an ocean breeze cooled the 33-acre campus, which sits a few blocks from the beach at Pico Boulevard. and Sixth Street.

"It's a great school, but after four years, you're definitely ready to move on," she said before the ceremony.

Students, faculty and staff spent Thursday afternoon stringing banners, unfolding an army of chairs, setting out sunflower blossoms and tying down squadrons of balloons around a symbolic pond and bridge at the foot of the podium. Later, during the presentation of diplomas, seniors crossed the bridge into whatever lies ahead.

An all-night party was planned after commencement. As a gift to their students, and as a way to prevent them from drinking and driving, parents organized an elaborate casino over the school's tennis courts for the party.

Senior-class president, Rocky Collis, was earnest during a quiet moment before the ceremonies.

"It's exciting to be moving onto a new stage in our lives, but it's sad to be leaving our friends," he said.

Pier's landmark status could save Boathouse's building

BOATHOUSE, from page 1

The suit filed in Santa Monica Courthouse alleges that the city and the PRC, which handles leases on the pier, reneged on a 25-year lease Sheffield negotiated in 1993.

Sheffield is demanding a jury trial, claiming breach of contract.

The restaurant closed its doors permanently on April 15, after Los Angeles County Sheriff's deputies changed the locks on Sheffield's family restaurant as part of a court-ordered eviction levied by the city.

The city, which owns the pier, ended its month-to-month lease with the Boathouse last July to make way for Bubba Gump.

Sheffield claims she was forced to enter into the month-to-month lease in 1998 to keep possession of the restaurant. But five years before, Sheffield claims she was offered a 20-year lease with an option to renew for another 10 years.

Bubba Gump's 25-year lease with the city was supposed to begin on Oct. 1, 2001, which has financially harmed the city because Bubba Gump's plans to open in the spring of 2003 have been delayed, city officials claim.

Bubba Gump is expected to pay $10,417 in base rent a month, plus $1,889 annually for common maintenance and 2.5 percent of the restaurant's food, beverage and retail gross sales.

The Boathouse paid $5,429 in monthly rent; $168 for annual promotional fees and 8 percent of its gross revenues in excess of $688,088 in annualized sales.

Deputy city attorney Tony Serritella said the city feels the Boathouse doesn't have a case. That's based on a ruling handed down by Santa Monica Superior Court Judge Diana Wheatley, who evicted the Boathouse.

Meanwhile, the city has filed a motion to recoup $24,479 in attorney fees relating to the eviction case, which was first filed by the city last July when Sheffield refused to leave.

Bubba Gump's plans must be approved by the city's landmarks commission, the planning commission and the state's coastal commission before work can begin.

Laks said the building's design will reflect the historical charm of the pier and will be unique to Santa Monica. It also will have a wheelchair-accessible elevator from the beach level that will be open to the public.

"It's going to be a fun building," he said, adding that it won't look like any of the other Bubba Gump restaurants in the country. "It's going to be a huge asset to the pier."

LOCAL ❑ STATE

Taxi cab drivers want to use bus-only lanes too

TRAFFIC, from page 1

ments — bronzed origami figures, art tiles and granite map tiles in the new sidewalks, and new bus shelters and arbors outfitted with art glass — are supposed to blend form and function in a way that improves any visitor's experience in Santa Monica, according to city officials.

The use of public transportation is strongly emphasized in the project, as old bus stops are moved and new bus routes are being developed.

The transit mall is a six-square-block area bounded by Ocean Avenue, Broadway Avenue, Seventh Street and Santa Monica Boulevard. The project created dedicated lanes for the Big Blue Bus in hopes that it will be convenient for workers, visitors and shoppers who take the bus around Santa Monica.

"You can reach all of Santa Monica area riding the Big Blue Bus and the Metro," Rambeau said.

A celebration for the end of the project, called the "Santa Monica Street Party," will be held on Saturday. The opening ceremony starts noon at Broadway Avenue and the Third Street Promenade.

Despite the benefits the project may bring to downtown Santa Monica, some taxi drivers are concerned about the traffic, especially during the city's summer tourism season.

They say exclusive bus lanes on Santa Monica Boulevard and Broadway Avenue are going to clog the traffic flow that comes from Ocean Avenue.

"We could use the bus lanes too, otherwise there will be only one lane in each way," one driver said.

Saturday's "Santa Monica Street Party," which runs from noon to 5 p.m. will feature live music, including the nationally known group, "Six Pence None The Richer Music" ("Kiss Me," "There She Goes"). Their free concert at the Santa Monica Pier starts at 5 p.m. More than 50,000 people are expected to attend the festivities.

Representatives from the City of Santa Monica will officially open the new transit mall in a ceremony at noon at the main stage on Third Street at Broadway. A kid's stage (at Second Street and Santa Monica Boulevard) will feature music, games and entertainment in a 15,000-square-foot play space, including laser tag, moon bounce, a giant slide, and puppet and magic shows.

Everyone is invited to take advantage of free Big Blue Bus service for the day, discounts at dozens of Santa Monica's shops and restaurants, as well as free prizes and giveaways. The block party area also will feature more than 40 local vendors and artisans, and some of Santa Monica's most renowned chefs will be demonstrating cooking and food preparation techniques.

"You can reach all of Santa Monica area riding the Big Blue Bus and the Metro."

— JUDY RAMBEAU
Santa Monica spokeswoman

Among the many giveaways will be free passes to the Wild Rivers Theme Park, one per family, for 10,000 lucky riders of the Big Blue Bus. If you drive, you can park for free in specially designated lots, from which free shuttle service will be offered to and from the festivities. In addition, the free parking lots will be staffed by guides who can answer questions and provide information. The free parking areas are located at:

- Ocean Park Boulevard and 28th Street, near the Museum of Flying
- Pico Boulevard and 17th Street at Santa Monica College
- Santa Monica Boulevard and 11th Street
- Pico Boulevard and Lincoln Boulevard at Santa Monica High School

For more information about the June 22 Santa Monica Street Party, call (310) 451-5444 or go to http://www.bigbluebus.com/streetparty.

INS Supervisor, four others caught in smuggling scheme

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — An INS supervisor was indicted Thursday for allegedly smuggling Philippine immigrants into the United States through Los Angeles International Airport.

Maximiano R. Ramos, 53, of North Hills, is a supervisory inspector for the Immigration and Naturalization Service and was stationed at the airport.

Travelers from certain countries are allowed to stop briefly at U.S. airports if they are connecting to another international flight. The federal grand jury indictment alleges that Ramos and four other people met the arriving immigrants at LAX and escorted them through security and out of the terminal.

Ramos allegedly received up to $12,500 to smuggle the immigrants.

He and the others are charged with two counts each of smuggling and conspiracy to smuggle undocumented immigrants. They face up to 15 years in prison if convicted.

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STATE

L.A., Bay area have the worst rush-hour delays

BY JONATHAN D. SALANT
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — A rush-hour driver in Los Angeles averages 136 hours a year sitting in traffic and those in San Francisco and Washington fare little better, says a private study that puts the national cost at $68 billion a year in wasted gas and time.

The Texas Transportation Institute annual study of 75 urban areas found that rush hours last longer and are more widespread. The average urban motorist in 2000 spent 62 hours sitting in traffic— 2 1/2 days — compared with 16 hours in 1982. And more than half the major roads in those 75 areas are crowded during rush hours, compared with just a third in 1982.

"The congested time is now lengthening and now incorporates more roads and more travel than in the past," said the report released Thursday. "Even the smaller areas are not able to keep pace with rising demand."

The institute, part of Texas A&M University, analyzed data from the Federal Highway Administration and 10 state highway departments. It ranked the areas according to the additional time it took motorists to drive during congested periods compared with the rest of the day.

The Census Bureau has also found longer commuting times. The bureau reported the average trip to work took 25.5 minutes in 2000, compared with 22.4 minutes in 1990.

"People are trading off the time in their cars for a number of other benefits — schools, low housing costs, shopping, parks, medical facilities," research engineer Tim Lomax said. "It seems like what people are trying to do is maximize their quality of life rather than try to minimize the time they spend in their cars."

"The congested time is now lengthening and now incorporates more roads and more travel than in the past."

— TEXAS TRANSPORTATION INSTITUTE
Annual report

The study found rush-hour drivers in Los Angeles spending the equivalent of more than three 40-hour work weeks sitting in traffic, while those in San Francisco and Washington spent more than two work weeks' worth of time in congestion.

The state of Washington dropped its support for the study, saying it does not reflect congestion-reducing improvements such as high-occupancy-vehicle lanes and ramp metering, where traffic lights control the flow of cars onto crowded expressways.

Lomax said the criticism was valid and that data will allow future studies to reflect the impact of those improvements on congestion.

Corporate whistleblower bill approved by Senate

BY JENNIFER COLEMAN
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO — An Enron-inspired whistleblower bill that would hold corporate officers accountable if they knew about illegal behavior and didn't report it to regulators was approved Thursday by the state Senate.

The bill, by Sen. Martha Escutia, D-Commerce, would also set up a whistleblower hot line for employees at any level of a corporation to report suspicions of illegal activities at their companies.

Escutia said her bill would guard against situations where top managers know of fraud, but do not report it to regulators — something that Enron executives are accused of doing before the collapse of the one-time energy giant.

An executive who has actual knowledge of fraud and doesn't correct it or report it within 15 days could be fined up to $100,000. A manager could face up to $50,000 in fines and the corporation could be fined $10,000.

Sen. Ray Haynes, R-Riverside, warned that the requirement would drive businesses from California.

The same executives who make decisions on where to locate businesses would be the people subject to that requirement, he said.

"This legislation says if they don't report it, and somewhere down the road someone says they should have, they risk fines and lawsuits," he said.

Sen. Maurice Johannessen, R-Redding, agreed, saying the bill would "reward people to fink on someone else."

That's not the case, said Sen. Kevin Murray, D-Culver City.

"This is different than spying on your neighbors," he said. "These are public companies and these people have a public duty to shepherd those assets as best they can for the stockholders."

"The confidential whistleblower hot line gives employees a direct line to law enforcement."

— DOUG HELLER
Consumer advocate

Consumer advocate Doug Heller with the Foundation for Taxpayer and Consumer Rights praised the bill's passage, saying it would help law enforcement crack down on financial fraud, as well as other violations such as the dumping of illegal waste.

"This bill provides a safe haven for those employees who are compelled to blow the whistle on fraud and illegal activities," he said. "The confidential whistleblower hot line gives employees a direct line to law enforcement."

The bill was approved on a 21-14 vote and now goes to the Assembly for approval.

STATE

Simon lashes out at Davis in new television ad campaign

BY ERICA WERNER
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES — GOP gubernatorial candidate Bill Simon fought back against Gov. Gray Davis in two new television ads Thursday attacking the Democratic governor for going negative in an ad of his own.

The ads are the first Simon has aired on English-language television in the campaign for the November general election. He launched a Spanish-language spot Tuesday.

The two spots launched Thursday feature Simon lamenting that instead of working to solve the state's problems, Davis "is attacking me with false statements and half-truths," in the words of one of the ads. Both are 30 seconds long and airing statewide.

Davis on June 10 launched a scathing ad attacking Simon's business record. It remains on the air, and the governor broadened his attack Thursday with a new ad taking aim at different aspects of the conservative political newcomer's business background.

Simon planned to turn up the heat too. His campaign released a script of an ad that will begin airing next week skewering the governor over his fund-raising practices.

"Court testimony shows Gov. Gray Davis spends up to 12 hours a day fund-raising for his campaign," an announcer says in the ad, according to the script. "Twelve hours he should be spending on balancing our state's $24 billion budget deficit. Twelve hours he should spend addressing our energy crisis. ... Tell Gray Davis that his time is up."

The ad refers to testimony given by Davis adviser Garry South in a trial over the legitimacy of campaign finance measure Proposition 208. Davis officials say the testimony referred only to a short period in 1997, when Davis was lieutenant governor and rules created by the disputed measure made it necessary to devote large periods of time to raising money.

"It's a lie to say that Gov. Davis spends 12 hours a day fund-raising. He never has as governor. It's just not true," said Davis press secretary Roger Salazar. "The fact is, most of the fund-raising is done by our professional finance staff."

Davis' new ad attacks Simon for problems at companies he invested in, ending with an announcer asking, "If he can't run a business, how can he run the fifth largest economy in the world?"

"It's a lie to say that Gov. Davis spends 12 hours a day fund-raising. He never has as governor. It's just not true"

— ROGER SALAZAR
Davis press secretary

Simon strategist Sal Russo said Davis' ad is misleading because it implies Simon had a role in running the companies mentioned, when he was only a board member or investor.

"They don't run companies. They don't run anything," Russo said.

Davis' $30 million campaign treasury dwarfs Simon's, giving the governor a decided advantage in the costly business of purchasing ad time, a key campaign tool for reaching voters. Davis' ads are appearing more frequently than Simon's.

Simon aides contend their new ads will be effective.

"Gray Davis is a discredited messenger and it doesn't take a dollar-for-dollar match to essentially snuff out any impact that's going to have," said Simon spokesman Jamie Fisfis.

'Rockford Files' actor James Luisi dies at age 73 of cancer

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — James Luisi, a former professional basketball player who turned to acting and became a regular on soap operas and on series including "The Rockford Files," has died. He was 73.

He died June 7 of cancer.

Born in New York, Luisi attended St. Francis College on a basketball scholarship. He served in the Army during the Korean War.

Luisi played two seasons with the Baltimore Bullets in the Basketball Association of America. After his short-lived basketball career, he enrolled at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts and studied acting.

He began his acting career on the stage, appearing in Broadway's "The Soldiers," "Sweet Charity," and "Zorba."

After making the switch to television, where he appeared in the daytime serials "Another World" and "Days of Our Lives," he made cameo roles in numerous shows such as "Magnum P.I.," "Kojak" and "Hart to Hart." He was best known for his long-running role as Lt. Doug Chapman on "The Rockford Files," which starred James Garner.

Luisi played George Washington in the NBC special "First Ladies' Diaries: Martha Washington."

Luisi also was given his own television show in 1983 called "Renegades," which lasted one season.

During the 1990s, he returned to theater, earning the Valley Theater League Award in 1994 for best director of a new play.

Luisi is survived by his wife of 41 years, the former Georgia Phillips, and their daughter, Jamie Swartz of Los Angeles; a brother, Jerry Luisi, of Dallas, and two grandchildren.

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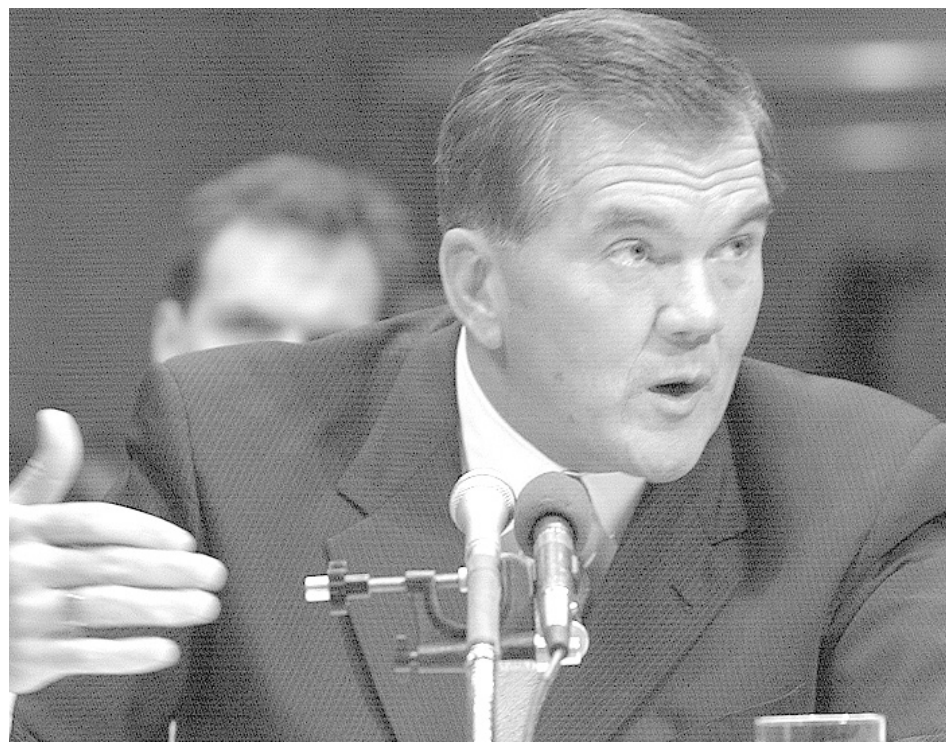
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NATIONAL

Pushing for defense



Dennis Cook/Associated Press

Homeland Security Director Tom Ridge testifies before the Senate Government Operations Committee on Capitol Hill Thursday, June 20, 2002, on President Bush's plan to create a Department of Homeland Defense.

Government closes probe into Clinton's clemency orders for swindlers

BY LARRY NEUMEISTER
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK — Federal prosecutors closed their investigation Thursday into whether former President Clinton's grant of clemency to four swindlers was political payback arranged by his wife, now-Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton.

U.S. Attorney James B. Comey said that his office had ended its investigation with no charges filed. He gave no reason.

"We thoroughly investigated it and it wasn't appropriate to bring charges against anybody in the case," said Comey, who took office earlier this year after the departure of Clinton appointee Mary Jo White.

The case involved four men convicted of bilking the government out of tens of millions of dollars. All four lived in New Square, a Hasidic Jewish village outside New York City that voted overwhelmingly for Hillary Clinton during her Senate bid two years ago. President Clinton later shortened their sentences just before he left office.

Hillary Clinton has said she played no part in her husband's decision.

"There was never any reason to believe anybody had done anything wrong, even in the first place," the former president said Thursday. "So I'm not surprised. I think the facts speak for themselves."

On Capitol Hill, Hillary Clinton declined to comment.

Comey said investigations continue into other pardons Clinton issued just before leaving office, including that of commodities broker Marc Rich, and into allegations that Clinton's brother, Roger, received up to $200,000 for promising to help a Texas man win a pardon.

Hillary Clinton remains of interest to prosecutors looking into the Rich pardon.

Rich was indicted in 1983 on charges he evaded more than $48 million in taxes and illegally bought oil from Iran during the 1979 hostage crisis. He left the United States before he was indicted and settled in Switzerland.

Rich's ex-wife, Denise, is a major contributor to the Democratic Party and donated to Hillary Clinton's Senate campaign. Ms. Rich has denied the pardon was tied to her contributions.

The pardon was among 176 pardons and clemencies Clinton issued on his last day in office.

In the New Square case, federal prosecutors said the four men had used government aid intended for housing, education and business to enrich themselves and their community. They were convicted in 1999.

During her Senate campaign, Hillary Clinton traveled to New Square and met the Hasidic community's grand rabbi. Many Hasidic communities tend to vote in blocs, and because of that, politicians aggressively court their leaders. On Election Day, she received 1,400 of New Square's 1,412 votes.

Hillary Clinton has said she did not discuss the men's fate with Hasidic leaders before the election. But she said she sat in on a White House meeting a month later with supporters of clemency for the defendants, Kalmen Stern, David Goldstein, Benjamin Berger and Jacob Elbaum.

A month later, the original sentences of between 2 1/2 years and 6 1/2 years were reduced by the president to two to 2 1/2 years.

Another defendant, Chaim Berger, 76, was sentenced last month to six years in prison and ordered to repay $11.6 million. He had pleaded guilty to conspiracy and fraud.

NATIONAL

Retired priest indicted on multiple counts of rape

BY GREG SUKIENNIK
Associated Press Writer

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — A central figure in the sex abuse scandal in the Boston Archdiocese was indicted Thursday on multiple counts of child rape and indecent assault for allegedly abusing four boys.

The allegations against the Rev. Paul Shanley span from 1979 to 1989, when he was at St. Jean's parish in Newton, a suburb of Boston. The indictment, the first against the retired priest, includes 10 counts of child rape and six counts of indecent assault and battery.

"In an ideal world we would not have sexual abuse of children. In a better world, adults would protect children," prosecutor Martha Coakley said.

Shanley's attorney, Frank Mondano, said the indictments came as no surprise. He had not seen them as of Thursday evening, but said his client would fight the charges.

Prosecutors said Shanley would take one of the boys, who is now 24, out of religious classes and abuse him in the rectory, the bathroom of the church and a confessional.

Attorney Roderick MacLeish, who represents the alleged victims, said three of them were in the same catechism class at St. Jean's. The fourth doesn't know the others, he said.

"Were it not for the statute of limitations in Massachusetts for child rape, there would be many, many more prosecutions," MacLeish said.

Shanley, 71, has been jailed since May when he was arrested and returned from California to face three counts of child rape, which were included in Thursday's indictment. He has pleaded innocent to those charges and was being held on $300,000 bail.

"These latest revelations will undoubtedly open up the deep and painful wounds of those who have been abused in the past," Cardinal Bernard Law said in a statement.

He added: "My sorrow is compounded whenever such acts involve the betrayal of trust by a priest. For this I apologize from the bottom of my heart."

Shanley became a key figure in the scandal earlier this year when the archdiocese released personnel files indicating that church officials had received complaints about Shanley dating to 1967, and that he had made comments expressing advocacy for sexual relationships between men and boys.

"My sorrow is compounded whenever such acts involve the betrayal of trust by a priest. For this I apologize from the bottom of my heart."

— BERNARD LAW
Cardinal

Law said in a letter distributed to parishes in May that he did not become aware until 1993 of any abuse allegations against Shanley. State Attorney General Thomas Reilly has convened a grand jury to investigate whether Law and other church leaders put priests in situations where they could sexually abuse minors.

Prosecutors have refused to identify any of Shanley's alleged victims. But a source close to the case has told The Associated Press that the initial charges stem from allegations made by Paul Busa, a former Air Force security officer in Colorado.

Shanley already faces accusations from the family of Gregory Ford, 24, who claims the priest raped him repeatedly when he was a boy. Ford's family has also sued Law, accusing him of negligence in failing to protect Ford from Shanley.

Ford's father said the indictment is a double-edged sword.

"You hate to say that you're happy because it's never a happy day when you talk about your own child being abused and raped and molested," Rodney Ford said. "But I'm glad that at some point there can be some resolution to this case."

Man accused of molestation commits murders-suicide

BY ELIZABETH MURTAUGH
Associated Press Writer

FREELAND, Wash. — A man shot his fiancee and her mother to death, wounded two other people and then killed himself over the body of his wife-to-be Thursday, a day after she told authorities she suspected him of molesting her 7-year-old daughter.

Sheriff's deputies found the bodies of Marjorie Monnett, 55, and her daughter, Holly Swartz, 30, in the street in front of Monnett's home. Swartz's fiance, Preston Dean "Hugh" Douglas, 27, was dead on top of her.

Monnett's 22-year-old son was hospitalized in satisfactory condition after undergoing surgery and his girlfriend was in serious condition.

About 18 shotgun shells littered the road in the neighborhood on the southern end of Whidbey Island, about 28 miles north of Seattle.

Sheriff Michael A. Hawley said Douglas, an unemployed landscaper, pulled up outside the home at about 1:30 a.m., walked in the back door and opened fire, then continued firing outdoors. Swartz, who was at a house two doors down, was shot when she came outside.

Swartz's 7-year-old daughter ran from her grandmother's home during the rampage and was not hurt.

The day before, Swartz had called the sheriff's office to say she thought Douglas had molested her daughter two weeks ago, Hawley said. An investigator suggested she move out of the home she shared with him, and she did, moving in with her mother Wednesday night.

The sheriff said deputies followed standard procedure in checking out the abuse allegation. There was no previous history of abuse in the home, and no one involved had a criminal record, he said.

"We're going to be Monday-morning-quarterbacking this thing probably for the rest of our lives," he said.

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NATIONAL

White House evacuated due to unidentified plane

BY MICHAEL BUETTNER
Associated Press Writer

RICHMOND, Va. — A Cessna pilot who apparently got lost over the nation's capital prompted the evacuation of the White House after flying through restricted airspace and getting within a few miles of the executive mansion.

The pilot, who officials said changed course to avoid bad weather during a twilight trip from Massachusetts to Raleigh, N.C., was escorted by roaring F-16s all the way to the ground at Richmond International Airport.

The pilot and his one passenger were not immediately identified.

The White House was evacuated for 15 minutes after the small plane entered restricted airspace, but President Bush stayed, protected by unspecified security procedures, officials said.

The plane got as close as four miles from the executive mansion, said Secret Service agent Brian Marr. The evacuation was called off when the Cessna 182 changed direction and the pilot contacted the tower at Reagan National Airport, Marr said.

Federal authorities questioned the pilot and passenger at the Richmond airport. Police said they found nothing of concern in the plane's cabin.

Troy Bell, spokesman for the Richmond airport authority, said it was his understanding the pilot's story checked out and that federal authorities had decided to let the plane take off and resume its journey.

Bell said his understanding was that the pilot got near the White House after he changed course to avoid weather problems. He said the pilot might be charged with an aviation infraction.

Bush had returned from a Republican fund-raiser just 20 minutes earlier when staff and reporters were ordered to leave the executive mansion shortly after 8 p.m.

A man hurried through the White House press area saying, "Get out, get out, everybody out. Secret Service says everyone has to leave the building."

Some White House staffers stayed with the president.

The pilot started his flight at a small airport in Gardner, Mass., and did not make required contact as he approached Washington, officials said.

The plane approached from the northeast above the nation's capital at 10,500 feet, well below the minimum 18,000 feet required for the restricted space, federal aviation officials said. The restriction applies to a 15-mile radius around Reagan National Airport.

"This just looks like a pilot that had no clue he was entering restrictive airspace."

— BRAIN MARR
U.S. secret service agent

"This just looks like a pilot that had no clue he was entering restrictive airspace," Marr said.

While the pilot was not in contact with controllers, he was in contact with a flight service station in Leesburg, Va., that supplies weather information.

The incident came just hours after staff at the Federal Reserve, including Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan, were evacuated when a suspicious package was found in a garbage bin. Police cordoned off several blocks, but the package proved harmless.

The evacuation of the White House was the first since Sept. 11, when the building was thought to be a target of one of the hijacked jetliners used in the terrorist attacks.

Four commercial airliners and a medical helicopter have crossed into prohibited airspace protecting the White House since Sept. 11, Federal Aviation Administration officials say. Pilots have flown through the restricted space at least 94 times over the past decade.

Fake ambulance request sparks fear of terrorism

BY WAYNE PARRY
Associated Press Writer

NEWARK, N.J. — An attempt by two Middle Eastern men to buy a fake ambulance two weeks ago prompted warnings that terrorists may try to use bogus emergency vehicles as weapons, authorities said Thursday.

The FBI said it had interviewed one of the men, a maintenance worker, and found that he wanted the vehicle to store tools in its compartments.

The other man was to be interviewed Friday, but FBI spokeswoman Sandra Carroll said the agency didn't believe there any connection to terrorism. The men were not identified.

The men walked into Movie Time Cars Inc., a Lyndhurst company that rents replicas of ambulances and police cars to TV and film producers. They offered to pay cash to buy a replica ambulance, said Joe Sargo, the company's owner.

"They said they had cash and wanted to buy an ambulance," he said. "I was suspicious because most of my clients don't walk in and offer cash to buy ambulances. I told them we couldn't do that, and they left."

An employee jotted down the license plate number of the delivery truck they were driving and called police, Sargo said.

Carroll said the information "was combined with some intelligence that ambulances or police cars may be a target." She declined to elaborate.

Alerts were sent to Bergen County, N.J., and New York City police and rescue agencies to be on the lookout for anyone trying to obtain an emergency vehicle or look-alike. The FBI described the men as Middle Eastern, but declined to say if they were U.S. citizens.

Movie Time does not have actual ambulances or police cars, but the replicas are authentic enough that they can pass for the real thing, Sargo said.

"For all intents and purposes, what they wanted looked like an ambulance," he said.

SPORTS

Stewart was there when American soccer was low

BY RONALD BLUM
AP Sports Writer

ULSAN, South Korea — Earnie Stewart remembers the old days, when the United States was a soccer outsider that other countries ridiculed.

He's spent 12 years with the American national team, helping it become a contender with global soccer powers and reach the World Cup quarterfinals Friday against Germany.

"We've come a long way with the whole program, with the players, with everything for U.S. soccer," he said.

Stewart led the United States with three goals in the semifinal round of qualifying for the World Cup and scored five of the Americans' 11 goals in the 10 games of the final round.

Yet, on a team where 20-year-olds Landon Donovan and DaMarcus Beasley stand out with their fearlessness and Clint Mathis sticks out with his Mohawk hairdo, Stewart stays in the background.

"He's a great leader on the field," U.S. coach Bruce Arena said, citing Stewart's "experience, quickness, ball possession" and calling him "the foundation of our team during qualifying."

Stewart is so low-key that he never told anyone around the team until two years ago that his name is spelled "Earnie." Go back to July 4, 1994, when he appeared on the cover of Sports Illustrated, and he's referred to as "Ernie Stewart."

"He just kind of pointed it out," said Jim Moorhouse, who heads the U.S. Soccer Federation's media office. "And we said, 'Really?"'

But on Tuesday night he uncharacteristically stood out at the U.S. team hotel, dressed in scarlet, as the Italy-South Korea game was being shown on TV.

"I had on my Korean shirt and everything last night to support them," Stewart said. "I felt like that was the least I could do."

As the United States fell behind Poland by three goals last Friday, he was convinced his World Cup career had just minutes left. And then South Korea scored to beat the Portuguese, allowing the Americans to advance to the second round.

After the game, he looked drained and spoke like someone who had been pardoned.

"I think everybody, including myself, had the feeling that we were done," he said.

The son of a U.S. Air Force veteran and a Dutch mother, Stewart lived in the United States only from 1971 to 1976. When the USSF discovered he was a citizen, he was called in to join the national team after the 1990 World Cup.

He scored the winning goal in the 2-1 upset of Colombia at the 1994 World Cup — the first victory in the tournament for the United States in 44 years — and posed to his girlfriend Yvonne in the afterglow of the victory.

He has played in 10 World Cup games, including all three losses when the United States finished last in the 32-nation field at the 1998 tournament in France, and has 15 goals in 80 international appearances. The 10 World Cup games are an American record, shared by Cobi Jones.

In this year's opener against Portugal, Stewart's corner kick led to the first U.S. goal. But he limped off at halftime with a strained left groin, an injury that forced him to miss the game against South Korea and limited his effectiveness against Poland and Mexico.

He had been healthy all season, scoring 10 goals in 30 Dutch League games for NAC Breda.

"What timing," he said.

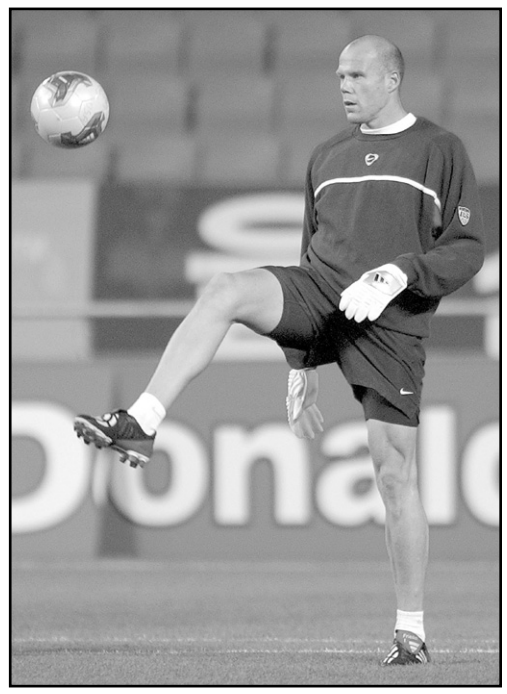
Now 33, he's sure this will be his last appearance in soccer's showcase event. He'll head back to Uden in the Netherlands — where he has a farmhouse and runs a kennel — and reflect on one of the most influential careers in U.S. soccer history.

One day, perhaps next year, he'll leave the Dutch League and move to Major League Soccer. But that's for another day.

For now, there's a chance to take this World Cup ride, the best for the United States since 1930, to a new level, to beat Germany.

Can the United States equal the 1930 team, which advanced to the semifinals?

"That would be tremendous," he said. "We would be happy with that."



Tony Gutierrez/Associated Press

Brad Friedel, goalkeeper of the U.S. national soccer team kicks a ball around at the start of practice Thursday at the Munsu Football Stadium in Ulsan , South Korea. The U.S. will play Germany in the quarterfinals of the 2002 World Cup tournament Friday.

American referee is among 16 picked for World Cup finals

BY KEVIN GRAY
Associated Press Writer

CHIBA, Japan — The U.S. soccer players aren't the only ones reaching new heights at the World Cup. Referee Brian Hall has also found himself among the game's elite.

Hall, the only American referee at the World Cup, was one of 16 picked to staff the tournament's final games, a first for a U.S. ref.

"We have chosen the referees who have stood out during the first three weeks of games," Edgardo Codefal Mendez of FIFA's referee committee said Thursday. "We consider these referees to be the best in the tournament."

Hall, a 41-year-old native of Gilroy, Calif., now enters a rarefied echelon of officiating, his name sitting alongside that of Pierluigi Collina of Italy — the game's highest-ranked official.

Being added to final list doesn't guarantee he will be assigned to a game. But being chosen from an original group of 36 is an honor just the same, he said.

Hall, a ref in Major League Soccer, has seen his profile grow among his peers and back home.

"I open up my e-mail and my mailbox is full every day," he said, laughing.

In three weeks of World Cup games, Hall officiated two first-round matches, including the Italy-Ecuador and England-Nigeria games.

Refereeing in the world's greatest soccer event has brought other rewards: After more than 25 years of officiating soccer games, he has finally made his mother a fan.

"She's been watching the games at an English pub back home," he said.

Hall hopes his selection will raise the profile other American referees. The United States has been represented by an official at the last five World Cups, most recently by Esse Baharmast in France in 1998.

"Consistency is always proof of the pudding," he said. "Now it's a matter of whoever follows in my footsteps to keep the consistent performance going."

But he admitted it has not been easy dispelling the stereotypes that linger about Americans and soccer, and he said he's aware of them every time he takes the field before a match.

"In the long run it's not Brian Hall made a bad call, it's, 'It was the American referee who made that call,"' he said.

"I'm representing the entire U.S. soccer family and the United States in every decision I make. So this an honor I truly appreciate."

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INTERNATIONAL

Four Jewish settlers killed, Israeli troops dig in

BY MARK LAVIE
Associated Press Writer

JERUSALEM — Two Palestinians took hostages in a house at a Jewish settlement after nightfall Thursday, killing a mother, three of her children and a security officer, the army said. It came as Israeli troops kept a tight grip on Palestinian towns following a new policy of retaliating for attacks by taking territory.

Eight others were wounded in the attack on the home in the West Bank settlement of Itamar, near Nablus. Soldiers stormed the house, killing one of the infiltrators, while another jumped out a window after the house caught fire, witnesses said. The fate of the second gunman was not known.

The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine claimed responsibility. Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's office called it a "horrendous attack" and promised an Israeli response.

A neighbor, Rinat Cabra, said there were seven children in the family living in the house, and that the father was not home.

The army did not comment on the gunmen, but said the mother, three of her children and a security officer from the settlement died.

Itamar, home of some of the most militant Israeli settlers in the West Bank, is not fenced in. Settlers insist the whole West Bank belongs to the Jews. On May 29, a Palestinian gunman attacked a high school at the settlement, killing three Israeli teen-agers.

In the claim of responsibility, the caller told The Associated Press that Thursday's attack was in response to the arrest of a PFLP leader and Israel's attempt to separate the West Bank from Israel.

Earlier Thursday, Israeli forces rounded up Palestinians for questioning in Jenin, Qalqiliya, Bethlehem and Beitunia, a suburb of Ramallah, Palestinians and the military said. Israeli forces tightly encircled Tulkarem, as Israel Radio broadcast alerts about suicide bombers about to attack Israel.

Israeli forces set up tents in some Palestinian areas, indicating a plan to stay for at least a few days, but were not building permanent infrastructure like water pipes or electricity lines.

The violence delayed plans by President Bush to deliver a speech outlining U.S. recommendations for Mideast peacemaking. White House press secretary Ari Fleischer said Bush first wants to see Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat carry out his pledges to fight terror. "The progress the president is looking for is action," Fleischer said.

Bush called Sharon on Thursday. Fleischer said most of the conversation "was about condolence and sympathy for what Israel is going through." Sharon's office would not comment. Also, U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell talked to the foreign ministers of Egypt, Jordan and Saudi Arabia.

Israeli Defense Minister Binyamin Ben-Eliezer came out strongly against his government's new policy, stated Wednesday, of retaking West Bank areas, slice by slice, until terror attacks stop.

"I am completely against all permanent seizure of territories. I didn't agree in any forum to punitive occupation," he told Israel Radio.

Ben-Eliezer's Labor Party colleague, Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, agreed.

"We are against reoccupying territory," he told Israel TV's Channel 10. "We are against the dissolution of the Palestinian Authority. We are in favor of preventive actions, where they are possible."

In contrast, some of Sharon's party faithful have been pressing for harsher measures, including reoccupation of all of the West Bank and the expulsion of Arafat.

Ben-Eliezer said that "one reserves division" has been called up to bolster Israel's defenses. A division is about 1,200 soldiers. Military sources said their scheduled reserve duty had been brought forward with special orders, and they would be deployed along the line between the West Bank and Israel.

Arafat released a statement Thursday condemning the suicide bomb attacks but did not appeal to his people in person on television, as aides had said he would. The statement was mild in comparison to earlier ones, in which he labeled the suicide bombings terrorism.

Speaking to reporters in English, however, Arafat denounced "terrorist activity against innocent people, Israeli or Palestinian civilians."



Nasser Nasser/Associated Press

An Israeli soldier searches a Palestinian car in the village of Beitunia on the outskirts of the West Bank town of Ramallah Thursday, June 20, 2002. Israeli troops moved into the village early Thursday, declaring a curfew and taking over controlling positions in response to the latest suicide bombings.

Guards on Afghan-Tajik border seize heroin from post-Taliban harvest

By The Associated Press

DUSHANBE, Tajikistan — Border guards have seized one of their biggest-ever hauls of heroin on the Afghan-Tajik border — 211 pounds of the drug made from the first post-Taliban poppy harvest.

Russian border guards helping to patrol the border fired warning shots when they noticed five infiltrators making their way across the Pyandzh River into southern Tajikistan late Wednesday, spokesman Alexander Kondratyev said Thursday.

They then opened fire, killing two, but the other three traffickers managed to flee back into Afghanistan, Kondratyev said.

The infiltrators left behind 90 packages of heroin. Investigators have determined the drug was produced from this year's harvest, he said.

Heroin production in Afghanistan plummeted after the Taliban militia cracked down on poppy production during its last year in power. The drug trade has blossomed again since the U.S.-backed northern alliance defeated the Taliban.

Russia has about 25,000 troops stationed in Tajikistan to help prevent smuggling. The poor former Soviet republic is still struggling to recover from a five-year civil war that ended in 1997.

The largest seizure of heroin on the border was in February 2001, when guards seized 422 pounds. In a single day in July 2001, they confiscated 2.4 tons of opium.

Blast in Chinese coal mine kills 58

By The Associated Press

BEIJING — A massive gas explosion Thursday in a northeastern China coal mine killed 58 miners with scores more injured or missing, the official Xinhua News Agency reported.

Twenty-five miners had been rescued from the Chengzihe mine in Heilongjiang province and eight of them were receiving emergency treatment in a hospital, Xinhua said. The agency said about 140 miners were working underground when the explosion occurred.

The mine's general manager, Zhao Wenlin, was among the missing. He was inspecting work in the shaft when the blast occurred at about 9:45 a.m., Xinhua said. Work has been suspended at nine other coal mines under the jurisdiction of the Jixi municipality mining administration, which manages the Chengzihe mine.

Rescue teams are making an "all-out bid to save the lives of miners," Xinhua said.

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COMICS

The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



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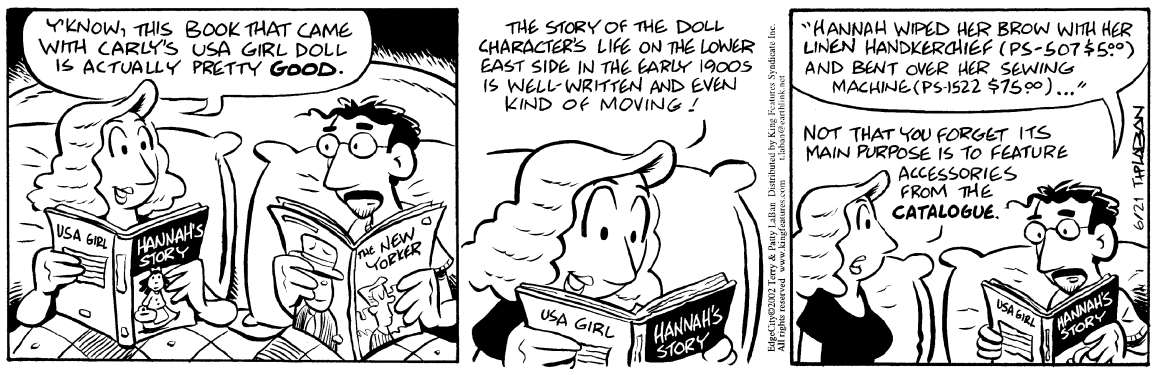
By Russ Wallace



"Uh ... no, they're ... uh ... out of town. I'd give them a call in ... uh ... a couple, three days."

edge city

by TERRY & PATTY LABAN



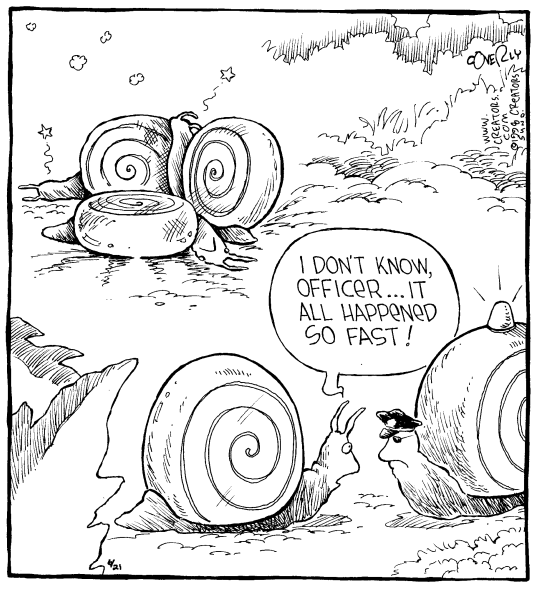
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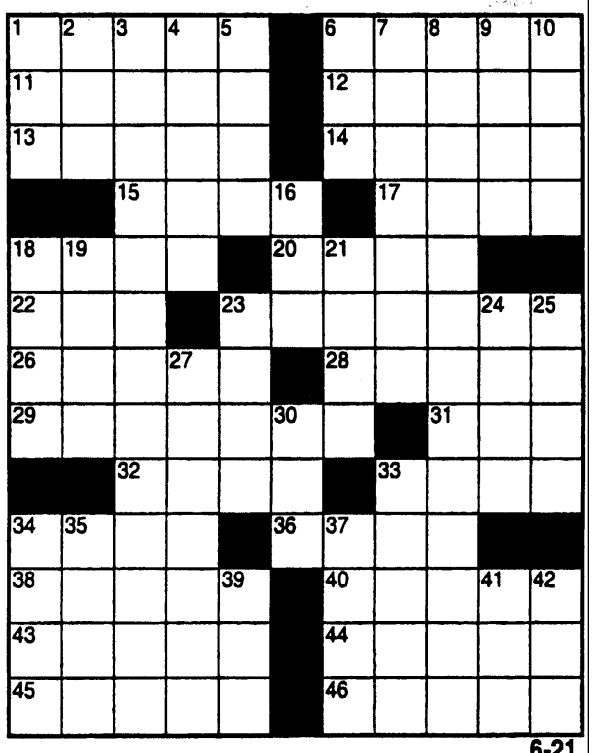
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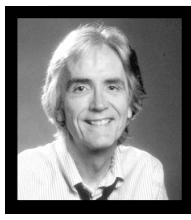
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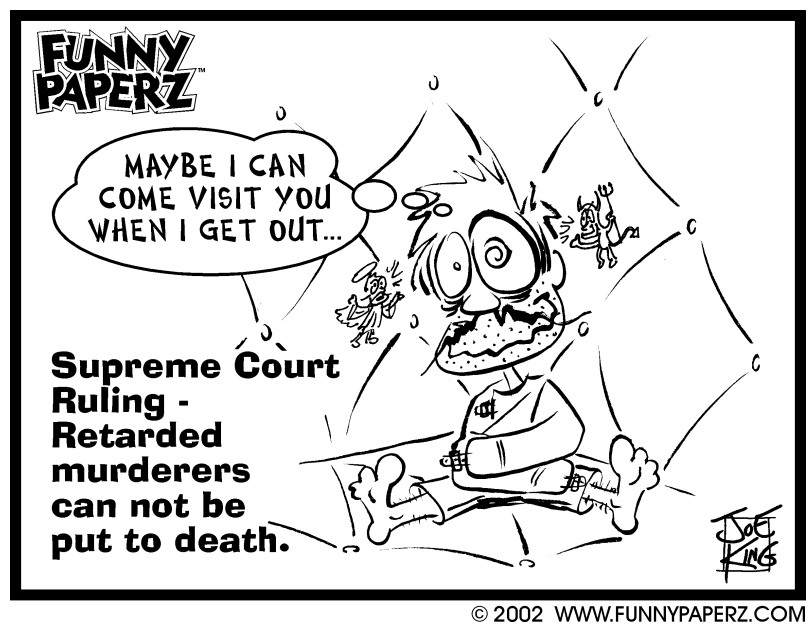


NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

29-year-old son wins rights to financial support from parents

Italy's highest appeals court ruled in April that a 29-year-old out-of-work lawyer still has the right to be housed and financially supported by his parents. The son, Marco Andreoli, owns property and has access to a $200,000 trust fund, but he objected when his father cut off his $675 monthly allowance that had been ordered when his parents divorced, saying he needed it because he had not found a job fulfilling enough. (More than a third of all men in Italy between ages 30 and 34 still live with their parents.)



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MASSAGE ENJOY a really great, amazing and wonderful full body massage. Swedish, deep-tissue and Tantra. (Platonic only!) No time limit. Will come to you. 24/7 Cute, slim, fit, petite mature chocolate. 14 years experience. Dolly's pager (310)236-9627.

THE BEST solution to low cost advertising. Fill your appointment book by running your ad in the Daily Press. Only a buck a day, call (310)458-7737 to place your ad today.

THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE, Swedish, Accupressure, Deep-tissue, Sports Massage, Reflexology. For apt call Tracy at (310)435-0657.

TRADE MASSAGE? Looking for a female with or w/o formal training to trade massage with. Non-sexual. Paul: 310.741.1901.

VIBRATIONAL MASSAGE. I've been told this is better than sex. Outcall, non-sexual. $20 for 30 minutes. Robert, (310)394-1533.

Announcements

GET YOUR message out! For only a buck a day, call (310)458-7737 to run your announcement to over 15,000 interested readers daily.

HAVING A hair moment? Models needed, any service, upscale salon (Santa Monica). Call Q, (323)691-3563.

JERRY RUBIN You ARE a win-win kind of guy. If I was you I'd punch me in the nose. Remember, I'm only "jo-king." WWW.FUNNYPAPERZ.COM

PRO SE of Neighborhood Project needs volunteers for events that honor our heroes. (310) 899-3888 pro.se@adelphia.net.

SANTA MONICA Children's Theatre Company. Professional training in singing, acting and dancing. Musical productions. (310)995-9636.

VOTE FOR Pro Se Santa Monica City Council! Our Residents, Businesses, Schools must come first!

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT Group. Heal emotional wounds, relationships, abuse, self-image issues. Call (310)450-8256. Lee; life coach.

Services

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CLASSIFIEDS

Services

AT YOUR SERVICE! Professional Personal Assistance. Let me take care of your personal and business needs so you can go play! (310) 452-4310 STRONG REFERENCES! Reasonable rates!

GUITAR LESSONS IN YOUR HOME. Learn guitar & have fun! Pete (818)563-2021.

HOUSE CLEANING - Available a.m. to 2 p.m. Windows, laundry, general house cleaning. References available. Responsible. Reasonable prices. Call Lalo (310) 313-0848.

MEDICAL/DENTAL BENEFITS $49.99/month for the entire family. (310)281-1920.

Services

TALENTED, DECORATIVE Painter. Walls, cabinets, furniture, moldings...glazing, antiquing, refinishing and much more! Call for estimate. (310)612-6042.

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT Group. Heal emotional wounds, relationships, abuse, self-image issues. Call (310)450-8256. Lee; life coach.

INTRODUCTORY OFFER $99.95! A weeks worth of food (10 meals) professionally prepared, dropped off at your home or office. Save time, eat healthier. Call Eat The Bread at (310)458-1617.

PROFESSIONAL ASSISTANT! Responsible/organized/energetic/punctual. Here to help keep your business organized and stress free. Brenda (310)450-3829.

Services

REMEDIES BY ROTH Carpentry, Handyman Services. Reasonable rates. Contact Michael: (310)829-1316 MSG. (323)610-1217 Cell.

QUICK AND Dirty (if the newsprint rubs off on your hands). Market your small business in our services section for a buck a day. Call (310)458-7737.

Computer Services

COMPUTER & Networking Services Home or Office. PC & MAC. Honest & reliable w/ best rates. Includes 30 days Telephone Support & Warranty. 12 years exp. w/ References. Call Skye, Your Local Computer Guru @ 310-395-3939 anytime.

Computer Services

DURING THE day I work in High Technology Management. Everyone in the company relies on me for my computer expertise. I would rather work on my own. Digital Duchess 799-4929.

COMPUTER TUTOR for beginners. E-mail, basic word processing, personal assistant. Judy, (310)451-1319. Very patient, $20/hr.

Lost & Found

LOST: AT corner, 7th & Montana, Friday June 14. Roven Dino Chronograph watch, stainless. My 40th birthday present. Reward. Call David (310)699-3219.

Classified Advertising Conditions

DOLLAR-A-DAY NON COMMERCIAL: Ad must run a minimum of 12 consecutive days. Ads over 15 words add 20¢ per word per day. **REGULAR RATE**: $2.50 a day. Ads over 15 words add 20¢ per word per day. Ad must run a minimum of twelve consecutive days. **PREMIUMS**: First two words caps no charge. Bold words, italics, centered lines, etc. cost extra. Please call for rates. **TYPOS**: Check your ad the first day of publication. Sorry, we do not issue credit after an ad has run more than once. **DEADLINES**: 4:00 p.m. prior the day of publication except for Monday's paper when the deadline is Friday at 4:00 p.m. **PAYMENT**: All private party ads must be pre-paid. We accept checks, credit cards, and of course cash. **CORRESPONDENCE**: To place your ad call our offices 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, (310)458-7737; send a check or money order with ad copy to The Santa Monica Daily Press, P.O. Box 1380, Santa Monica, CA 90406 or stop in at our office located at 530 Wilshire Blvd, Ste. 200. **OTHER RATES:** For information about the professional services directory or classified display ads, please call our office at (310)458-7737.

WE ARE THE CLASSIEST GIG IN TOWN!

Call Angela at the Santa Monica Daily Press

310.458.7737 ext.101

The Calendar

movies

Loews Broadway Cinema
1441 Third St. at Broadway
About a Boy (PG-13) 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15 *The Sum of all Fears* (PG-13) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00. *The Bourne Identity* (PG-13) 12:30, 1:30, 3:30, 4:30, 6:30, 7:30, 9:30, 10:30.

Mann Criterion
1313 Third St.
Windtalkers (NR) 12:40, 4:00, 7:20, 10:40. *Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood* (PG-13) 11:10, 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15. *Bad Company* (PG-13) 11:15, 2:10, 5:00, 7:45, 10:45. *Insomnia* (R) 11:00, 1:50, 4:50, 7:40, 10:45. *My Big Fat Greek Wedding* (PG) 11:20, 1:45, 4:30, 7:10, 9:40.

AMC Theatre SM 7
1310 3rd Street
Spider-Man (PG-13) 11:15, 2:00, 4:50, 8:00, 10:45. *Star Wars:Episode II - Attack of the Clones* (PG) 10:30, 1:30, 4:40, 7:45, 10:50. *Scooby Doo* (PG) 10:35, 12:45, 3:00, 5:20, 7:35, 10:00. *Undercover Brother* (PG-13) 1:00, 3:15, 5:40, 8:05, 10:30. *Lilo & Stich* (PG) 10:30, 12:20, 2:40, 5:00, 7:10, 9:20. *Insomnia* (R) 11:00, 1:45, 4:30,7:20, 10:15. *Juwanna Mann* 11:30, 1:55, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30.

Landmark Nu-Wilshire
1314 Wilshire Blvd.
Thirteen Conversations About One Thing (R) 11:00, 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:30 The Fast Runner: Atanarjuat (NR) 11:30, 3:15, 7:30.

Laemmle Monica
1332 2nd St.
Y Tu Mama Tambien (NR) 12:00, 2:35, 5:10, 7:45, 10:15. *Dogtown and Z-Boys* (PG-13) 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:55. *The Importance of Being Earnest* (PG) 12:00, 2:25, 4:50, 7:15, 9:45. *Sunshine State* (PG-13) 12:30, 3:45, 7:00, 10:10.

Friday, June 21, 2002

Friday

community

Santa Monica Antiques Show and Sale will be held at the Santa Monica Civic Auditorium located at 1855 Main Street, Santa Monica. 12 p.m. To 8 p.m. Admission is $6.00. Senior Citizens $3.00. For more information please call (310)458-8551.

Santa Monica Strutters, a FREE program sponsored by UCLA Healthcare's 50-Plus Program! Walking programs for adults 50 or older looking for safe, low-impact exercise in a comfortable environment. The Santa Monica Strutters meet Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, from 8 a.m. To 10 a.m., at Santa Monica Place, Fourth St. and Broadway Ave. in Santa Monica.

Senior Suppers - Discounted meals for people AGE 55 or older are served daily, from 3:30 p.m. To 7 p.m., in the cafeteria at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center, 1250 16th Street in Santa Monica. $3.69 Info only: (310)319-4837.

arts/ theatre

SMARTS - Santa Monica Arts in the schools. Malia Oliver and kindergarten and first grade students from McKinley Elementary present a final dance performance developed through their science studies. 1 p.m., 18th St. Arts Complex, Santa Monica. (310)453-3711.

entertainment

Anastasia's Asylum, 1028 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica. Board games, cushiony sofas, a full veggie menu, juices, teas, and coffee that grows hair on your chest. No cover. (310)394-7113.

Rusty's Surf Ranch, 256 Santa Monica Pier. Walls and ceilings are lined with one of the area's largest collections of pre-1970's surfboards. Cover varies. Full bar. All ages. (310)393-7386.

LUSH 2020 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica. Three bars, plenty of booths, sofas, leopard-print carpet and a sunken dance floor. Mexican grill serves dinner after 5 p.m. Full bar. Over 21. Cover $5 - Free. (310)829-1933.

The Joint, 8771 W. Pico Blvd., W. LA. One of the most exotic rooms in the local rock-facility pantheon. Pizza. Cover $10 - $5. Full bar. Over 21. (310)275-2619.

14 Below, 1348 14th St., Santa Monica. If the band stinks, take advantage of commodious booths, pool tables, and fireplace. Full Bar. Over 21. (310)451-5040.

Santa Monica College Emeritus College Band will present "Sounds of Trumpets" - a concert featuring performers ranging from Louis Armstrong to Henry Fillmore at 7:30 p.m. SMC Concert Hall, 1900 Pico Blvd. Admission and parking are free. For further information. Call (310)474-5271 or (310)434-4306.

Stacey Earle & Mark Stuart. 8 pm. $15. McCabe's Guitar Shop. Pico at 31st. (310)828-4403.

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Sunset Promotions & Temple Bar Presents: Todd Washington, 9:00 pm, Delta Nove, 10:15 pm, Critical Brass Brass Band, 11:30 pm. Temple Bar, 1026 Wilshire Blvd., (310)393-6611.

Saturday

arts / theatre

Santa Monica Playhouse is proud to present Picon Pie! The World Premiere of a joyous and poignant musical play about the life and loves of legendary Molly Picon. Admission is $23.50. Show starts at 8:00 p.m. 1211 4th Street, Santa Monica. For more information please call (310)394-9779 or visit www.santamonicaplayhouse.com.

classes

Santa Monica Children's Theatre Co. presents a newly forming musical theatre company for children. Every Saturday from 10:15 a.m. - 2:15 p.m., Quest Studios, 19th & Broadway in Santa Monica. Tuition is $325 per month - covers cost of all classes and productions. Contact Janet Stegman at (310)995-9636.

Take One Film & Theatre Bookstore will host a FREE lecture! Topic - Writing The Killer Treatment: Selling your story without a script. 11516 Santa Monica Blvd., W. Los Angeles. For more information please call (310)445-4050.

entertainment

Anastasia's Asylum, 1028 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica. Board games, cushiony sofas, a full veggie menu, juices, teas, and coffee that grows hair on your chest. No cover. (310)394-7113.

Rusty's Surf Ranch, 256 Santa Monica Pier. Walls and ceilings are lined with one of the area's largest collections of pre-1970's surfboards. Cover varies. Full bar. All ages. (310)393-7386.

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14 Below, 1348 14th St., Santa Monica. If the band stinks, take advantage of commodious booths, pool tables, and fireplace. Full Bar. Over 21. (310)451-5040.

Music Showcase. UnUrban Coffeehouse. 3301 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica, (310)315-0056.

Tom Freund and special guest Scott Miller, 8 pm, $12.50. McCabe's Guitar Shop. Pico at 31st. (310)828-4403.

KEEP YOUR DATE STRAIGHT

Promote your event in the Santa Monica Daily Press Calendar section.
Fax all information to our Calendar Editor: Attention Angela @ 310.576.9913

Calendar items are printed free of charge as a service to our readers. Please submit your items to todayspaper@smdp.com for consideration. Calendar events are limited by space, and will be run at the discretion of the Calendar Editor. The Daily Press cannot be held responsible for errors.

The Dust Has Settled. Now For The Confetti!

santa monica street party

It's a party to celebrate the completion of the newly renovated Downtown Santa Monica. Come get a taste of the beautifully transformed area, and get your fill of fun, food and music.

Saturday, June 22
Noon to 7 p.m.

Downtown Santa Monica and Third Street Promenade

STAR 98.7 concert on the Pier featuring **SIXPENCE NONE THE RICHER.**
Downtown stages by **K-BIG 104.3, KOST 103.5,** and **HOT 92.3.**

FREE parking at several convenient Santa Monica locations,
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