



BLACK HOLDS A GRUDGE
ENTERTAINMENT 10

A newspaper with issues

DAILY LOTTERY

1 20 23 24 33
Meganumber: 29
Jackpot: \$34M

9 12 36 38 41
Meganumber: 5
Jackpot: \$70M

1 18 24 27 34

MIDDAY: 6 8 9
EVENING: 3 8 4

1st: 02 Lucky Star
2nd: 09 Winning Spirit
3rd: 03 Hot Shot
RACE TIME: 1.44.51

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ The student lockers at Kealing Middle School in Austin, Texas, haven't been used in 10 years (for disciplinary reasons) and probably won't be again, but they will still be "refurbished" (and some new ones added) at a \$60,000 expense to taxpayers, according to school renovation plans in a recently passed local budget.

■ Included in a local task force's proposal this year for building a \$381 million riverfront arena in Louisville, Ky., was \$63 million to move a Louisville Gas and Electric substation about 30 yards, across the street from its present location.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 167th day of 2006.
There are 198 days left in the year.

On June 16, 1858, in a speech in Springfield, Ill., Senate candidate Abraham Lincoln said the slavery issue had to be resolved, declaring, "A house divided against itself cannot stand."

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Men, it has been well said, think in herds; it will be seen that they go mad in herds, while they only recover their senses slowly, and one by one."
CHARLES MACKAY

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Kevin Ueda/Special to the Daily Press

PRIUS PRIDE: Rick Sikes (facing), fleet superintendent for Santa Monica city vehicles, reveals the guts of a hydrogen-fueled Toyota Prius at the city's new hydrogen-fuel facility, which opened Thursday.

Sears sale has Council thinking big

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

COLORADO AVENUE — One of the few remaining, under-developed parcels in downtown will soon be added to City Hall's real estate portfolio at a cost of more than \$35 million.

The City Council voted unanimously on Tuesday to purchase more than 104,000 square feet of land currently owned by Sears Roebuck and Co., giving elected officials and residents more power in which to shape the future of downtown.

The area is undergoing a major reconstruction as part of the Civic Center Redevelopment Plan, a \$120 million overhaul of downtown that would serve as a connection between the Third Street Promenade, a renovated Santa Monica Place mall, the pier and Main Street.

Council members said the property, which is currently home to a Sears auto shop, will serve as an

See SEARS, page 7

In their element

City unveils hydrogen fueling station

BY KEVIN UEDA
Special to the Daily Press

CITY YARDS — While the term "hydrogen-powered" may still conjure up images of disastrous dirigible voyages for some, residents today have something a tad more positive with which to associate the alternative fuel.

On Thursday afternoon, Santa Monica Mayor Bob Holbrook cut

the ribbon to the city's new hydrogen-vehicle fueling station, which will serve as home base to five hydrogen-fueled cars to be used for city services.

Santa Monica is one of five Southern California testing facilities, according to Naven Berry, program supervisor of science and technolo-

See HYDROGEN, page 8

Timber-r-r about town

By Daily Press staff

SEVENTH STREET — The orange hazard sign in the roadway here on Wednesday said it all: Crew working in trees.

A project launched to improve safety throughout the city by either pruning or removing aged Eucalyptus trees altogether is underway, a curious sight for many passing through this

See CUTTING TREES, page 7



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

THEY CAME, THEY SAWED: Crews on Wednesday cut down aged Eucalyptus trees along Seventh Street. The trees were deemed a safety hazard.

SMPD at their service

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL — Instead of just locking up the city's homeless, the Santa Monica Police Department has made a commitment to helping the down-and-out access the services they need to get off the streets and stay out of jail.

In a report prepared at the request of the City Council, Capt. Mike Smiley, head of the SMPD's office of operations, which includes all uniformed patrol officers and park rangers, said officers are collaborating with homeless service providers like never before, resulting in fewer repeat offenders being recycled through the city's jail.

The budding working relationship between the SMPD and city staff and homeless services providers has also helped officers in identifying homeless people who have witnessed a crime or have been victims of a crime, which allows officers to put the most dangerous offenders behind bars, Smiley said.

Officers have also assisted the family members of homeless people here find their loved ones, boosting morale, all because of the connection officers now have with service

See HELPING HOMELESS, page 9

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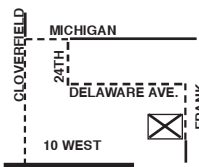
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Horoscopes

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FRIDAY, JUNE 16, 2006

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues



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Easy does it, Sag

Santa Monica Daily Press



JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS The stars show the kind of day you'll Have:

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



ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★ Know when to cash in your chips. You will be much happier if you don't get involved. A friend could be difficult. Manifesting what you want could be close to impossible. Know when to give up, and you will be better off for the experience. Tonight: Quit while you are ahead.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ The best intentions can get you tripped up and headed in another direction. You discover what makes you tick and what is important to you. A partnership might appear to be on the rocks. Wait before you decide it is over. Tonight: Find your friends.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★ Others look to you for direction. You could be flabbergasted at what goes down. You might want to cocoon, but you cannot. You might think that many people around you are acting up. You aren't far from wrong. Tonight: Do only what you must.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ You might have a strong sense of what you want to accomplish. But the facts don't follow your intellect. You find a schism in your physical reality and your mind's desire. Detach, and you will be OK. Tonight: Early to bed, with some good reading.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★ A risk could cause a bigger problem within a relationship than you are willing to deal with. Be willing to walk a different path and say no to what might seem like a sure bet or a fun adventure. Tonight: Play it smart.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★ Trouble will start before you know it if you insist on having your way. If you allow someone else to have it his way, he can see the end results. The good news is, you don't need to squabble over an issue if you let go. Tonight: The only answer is yes.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★ Don't allow a squabble or bad mood to interfere with what you must do. After you accomplish what you must, if you want to get into a tizzy, do just that. Understand your limits and, at the same time, work with a situation. Tonight: Easy does it.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★ A money matter could become a problem if you aren't careful. Think positively about what needs to happen with a child or a loved one. Risking would be ill-advised. Stay on the conservative path if you can. Tonight: Use your imagination.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★ Do you think you are in a pressure cooker? You might be the one who forced the situation to this point. You might be more controlling and/or difficult than you realize. If you chill out, so will others. Promise. Tonight: Easy does it.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★ Know when to hit the delete button, especially regarding plans, events or your recall of what might be going down right now. Ultimately, being a little forgetful might be the best solution to what is happening. Tonight: Relax.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★ The push and pull that occurs between you and someone else could overwhelm you. You are a livewire, though clearly you have little control over others. Pressure builds, as you feel everyone tells it like it is. Tonight: Focus on one new person at a time.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★ You might want to dance to another's tune in order to keep the peace. Unfortunately, this tactic won't work, as others might be too controlling or impossible to please. You could learn the hard way. Tonight: In the limelight.



Santa Monica Daily Press

Published Monday through Saturday

Phone: (310) 458-PRESS (7737) • Fax: (310) 576-9913

1427 Third Street Promenade, Ste. #202 • Santa Monica, CA 90401 • www.smdp.com

PUBLISHER

Ross Furukawa ross@smdp.com

EDITOR

Carolyn Sackariason editor@smdp.com

STAFF WRITER

Kevin Herrera kevinh@smdp.com

SANTA MONICA PARENTING

Nina Furukawa nina@smdp.com

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Fabian Lewkowicz FabianLewkowicz@aol.com

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Robbie P. Piubeni rob@smdp.com

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Rob Schwenker schwenker@smdp.com

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Ryan Martin ryanm@smdp.com

TRAFFIC MANAGER

Connie Sommerville connies@smdp.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Alejandro Cesar Cantarero II alex@smdp.com

PRODUCTION ARTIST

Io Still production@smdp.com

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Madame Sandy Toes lori@smdp.com

ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Michael Tittinger miket@smdp.com

CLASSIFIEDS SALES MANAGER

Annie Kotok anniek@smdp.com

CIRCULATION

Keith Wyatt

CIRCULATION

Glenn Bolan

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Dave Danforth dave@smdp.com

MASCOT

Maya Furukawa maya@smdp.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Teachers give new report card a bad grade

By Daily Press staff

Teachers in Santa Monica and Malibu are dissatisfied with the new mandatory standards-based report card, according to Harry M. Keiley, president of the Santa Monica-Malibu Classroom Teacher's Association (SMMCTA), which is affiliated with the more than 300,000 members of the California Teachers Association. Keiley expressed that the standards-based system was implemented too hastily and neglected to consult teachers on the decision. The teachers have filed a formal letter to the district indicating that they are exercising their right to negotiate the decision regarding the transition to a new type of report card.

Earlier this year, the school district shifted to a new standards-based report card for all elementary schools, prompting complaints from teachers. Traditionally, student report cards have consisted of categories which are represented by numerical grades ranging from one to five. The new standards based report cards have more than 50 standards each, each standard representing an expected area of learning. Keiley notes that the standards need to be simplified and considerably reduced in number in order for the system to be efficient. The current design of the standards makes it cumbersome for teachers to grade students, and also poses a challenge to parents and students trying to decipher the report card.

Will Rogers Elementary School teacher Sarah Braff says the new system is needlessly complicated and difficult to implement. "I'm not sure how useful it is to have an elementary report card with more than 50 categories or standards. It's far too complicated and it's not easily understandable for teachers, students or parents."

In addition to the detail in the standards, the computer program chosen to create the standards-based report cards is time-consuming for teachers. The program does not always function properly and is not compatible with all school computers — problems which might have been avoided had the administration not rushed into implementing the new system. Keiley explains, "The district made these new report cards mandatory and told every teacher they had to fill out the forms on a computer. What they didn't do was choose a teacher friendly electronic program."

Keiley says that most of the problems with the new report cards could have been averted had district administrators worked with the leadership of SMMCTA before rolling out the new system. "Right now we have a needlessly complicated form, time consuming process and an ineffective electronic program. As a result, the Union recently exerted its legal right to negotiate this matter. I wish we could have been allowed to help fix this earlier. We're definitely looking forward to bringing this issue to the bargaining table where we are hopeful we can find some remedies to this problem."

Schoolhouse rock

By Daily Press staff

Rock & Roll Hall of Fame singer and songwriter Jackson Browne will perform a benefit concert at historic Barnum Hall on the Santa Monica High School campus. Joining the bill are Artists For The Arts Foundation co-founders, international recording artists and local favorites, Venice. Special guests Fred Martin & The Levite Camp will also perform.

The benefit was organized by Artists For The Arts Foundation, a non-profit foundation dedicated to producing fundraising concerts to benefit arts programs in public schools and, in this instance, to help fund the For The Arts endowment.

For The Arts is a community-wide effort to raise awareness and a \$15 million endowment to ensure that every student in the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District receives a broad introduction to the arts as part of their complete education.

The concert will shake down on the Samohi campus on Friday, June 30. Doors open at 7 p.m., and the show runs from 8 p.m. until 11 p.m. Tickets go on sale beginning Monday, June 12, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Call (310) 450-9862.



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SNOW AND SURF REPORTS

SNOW CONDITIONS

DATA PROVIDED BY ONTHESNOW.COM

BEAR MOUNTAIN
CLOSED

JUNE MOUNTAIN
CLOSED

MAMMOTH MOUNTAIN

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs)	BASE DEPTH	LIFT HOURS	RUNS OPEN	LIFTS OPEN
0"	72"-96"	7:00 AM - 2:00 PM	35	4/28

CONDITIONS: MACHINE GROOMED, SPRING, CORN

MOUNTAIN HIGH
CLOSED

MT. BALDY
CLOSED

SNOW SUMMIT
CLOSED

SNOW VALLEY
CLOSED

SURF CONDITIONS

WATER TEMP: 65°

SWELL FORECAST (3-4 FT)
FRIDAY THE 16TH THE WIND SWELL WILL LIKELY BACK OFF AND THE SW REMAINS MINIMAL.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS
STRONG NW THIS WEEKEND FOR NCAL...SoCal SEES SOME NW AS WELL...

TIDE FORECAST FOR JUNE IN SANTA MONICA

DAY	LOW 1	LOW 2	HIGH 1	HIGH 2
1	8:19 AM	7:48 PM	12:25 AM	3:59 PM
2	9:10 AM	9:39 PM	1:23 AM	4:47 PM
3	10:04 AM	11:05 PM	2:40 AM	5:21 PM
4	10:42 AM	N/A	4:03 AM	5:45 PM
5	12:09 AM	11:19 AM	5:25 AM	6:14 PM
6	1:01 AM	11:54 AM	6:39 AM	6:35 PM
7	1:36 AM	12:32 PM	7:39 AM	7:05 PM
8	2:13 AM	1:05 PM	8:28 AM	7:29 PM
9	2:49 AM	1:39 PM	9:18 AM	8:05 PM
10	3:31 AM	2:10 PM	10:04 AM	8:35 PM
11	4:05 AM	2:51 PM	10:49 AM	9:16 PM
12	4:46 AM	3:32 PM	11:36 AM	9:57 PM
13	5:30 AM	4:19 PM	12:22 PM	10:42 PM
14	6:21 AM	5:16 PM	1:14 PM	11:27 PM
15	7:04 AM	6:26 PM	2:07 PM	N/A
16	7:58 AM	7:49 PM	12:25 AM	2:57 PM
17	8:43 AM	9:25 PM	1:31 AM	3:45 PM
18	9:38 AM	10:59 PM	2:52 AM	4:35 PM
19	10:24 AM	N/A	4:25 AM	5:15 PM
20	12:10 AM	11:16 AM	6:01 AM	5:57 PM
21	1:10 AM	12:05 PM	7:20 AM	6:39 PM
22	2:02 AM	12:49 PM	8:27 AM	7:21 PM
23	2:49 AM	1:39 PM	9:27 AM	8:02 PM
24	3:32 AM	2:19 PM	10:13 AM	8:42 PM
25	4:13 AM	3:06 PM	11:00 AM	9:26 PM
26	4:58 AM	3:43 PM	11:39 AM	10:00 PM
27	5:36 AM	4:25 PM	12:20 PM	10:42 PM
28	6:08 AM	5:10 PM	1:04 PM	11:16 PM
29	6:45 AM	6:05 PM	1:45 PM	N/A
30	7:21 AM	7:03 PM	12:00 AM	2:21 PM

The Q Line

PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY

They shoot, they score.
With last week's news that the United States had taken out the most wanted terrorist in Iraq — Abu Musab al-Zarqawi — coalition forces scored a much-needed uptick in positive publicity. The fallout of al-Zarqawi's demise has been varied, with some saying it is a harbinger of better days ahead, while others point to it as a signal to start turning over authority to the Iraqis. So this week, Q-Line wants to know:
Does the news of al-Zarqawi's death alter your perception of the war in Iraq? How?
Call (310) 285-8106 or leave your post at smdp.com/forum and we'll print your responses in the weekend edition.



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P03835 12/04

EDITORIAL

Summer is time to shine



Summer is upon us, and with that, tourism season is in full swing. Our little beach town of roughly 84,000 permanent residents will swell to as much as 300,000 people on any given hot, sunny weekend day. With all of those extra people in town, the level of frustration among the locals can rise with the temperatures. Expect some to drive and walk aimlessly around town, trying to find their way, trying to find a place to park or just rubber-necking at the sights and sounds of a bustling Santa Monica.

But just as sunscreen is a necessity of summer, so is our patience. We must remember to practice such virtues when dealing with out-of-towners because they are vital to us. We need them to have a good experience here so they will come back and tell their friends to come for visit.

Tourism pumps hundreds of millions of dollars into our local economy annually. Last year alone, the hotel bed tax brought us \$30 million. That kind of money keeps hundreds of companies in business and thousands of people employed. It also helps fund hundreds of city-sponsored programs, new public facilities and keeps our services at high levels — levels that many municipalities struggle to match.

We should feel fortunate that visitors value and appreciate our environment and surroundings. We should likewise be welcoming them, for without them, we wouldn't be able to enjoy all the benefits a city of our affluence can offer. Our success dictates high property values — a sure sign of a vibrant economy and a strong school district.

We agree with Misti Kerns, the president and CEO of the Santa Monica Convention and Visitors Bureau, when she said during a branding conference earlier this year that residents are the true ambassadors for Santa Monica.

Any elected or appointed official hopes residents wake up in the morning with a sense of pride for their city, which may translate into a stronger, more amicable relationship with the millions of tourists who visit each year.

"Perceptions are everything," Kerns said. "People's perceptions can really affect us in both a positive and negative way ... What we are trying to do with the destination branding promise is to define exactly what our lifestyle is and what it is that we offer that sets us apart from other destinations."

"And the important thing is everyone can own it. This is about the community coming together to say, 'What is the experience we want people to leave with when they come to Santa Monica?'"

We want them to walk away feeling like they were welcomed and the locals were hospitable. So lay off the horn, take time to say hello or give people directions. In short, point them to your favorite places and give them some local love.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Rent hikes are reflection of the times

Editor

Your article on the last Rent Control Board meeting (SMDP, June 6, page 1) did a great job stating the different opinions expressed, including mine. However, I just want to clarify a point that was mistakenly attributed to me during the article. To my recollection, none of the tenants that spoke mentioned 2 percent or any other specific number as an acceptable figure for increasing the general adjustment. But your article accurately captured the position of most of the tenants that addressed us, which was, that they were uniformly opposed to any increase in the general adjustment.

The property owners' and managers' opinions were less unified about how much to increase the general adjustment. Some agreed that 4 percent was an acceptable increase, while others said that they believe this figure to be insufficient. The only time that anyone mentioned a specific number other than the 4 percent that was ultimately adopted, was when I asked a local property manager what figure he would like to see the board adopt and he responded that he would like to see an increase of at least 5 percent.

The bottom line is, the property owners made a very convincing case that their costs are increasing significantly. Unfortunately, the law required us to increase the general adjustment to help them defray these costs. Under the circumstances, the board did its very best to try and limit any increases to those required by the law, while simultaneously trying to protect our renters who are struggling paying their own bills.

As anyone who has recently paid for a gallon of gasoline knows, since the spend-and-charge Republicans have been in charge in Washington and Sacramento, everything is going up except for wages.

Joel C. Koury
Santa Monica

LA City Attorney doesn't have tenants' backs

Editor

All those involved with the situation at Lincoln Place would love to "find an amiable solution" to this protracted problem. However, it is clear that any attempts at mediation have only been taken as an opportunity by the AIMCO company to attempt further concessions from the city and the tenants. As long as the City Attorney continues to ignore his responsibilities in upholding current laws and court rulings, there will be no happy solution for the Venice community. The City Attorney's office, through its actions and inactions, has not been a neutral force, but a defacto tool of big developers' interests.

Douglas Eisenstark
Evicted Lincoln Place tenant

From Gitmo to the gutter, our soul bleeds

THE SOAP BOX

BY BENNET KELLEY



Human rights have long been a core element of our foreign policy because, in the words of President Carter, "human rights (are) the very soul of our sense of nationhood."

As part of this commitment, the State Department releases an annual report on the status of human rights in countries worldwide. For example, the reports have condemned countries such as Burma and North Korea for the disappearance and indefinite detention of political prisoners without trial; while also condemning Libya, Syria and other countries for engaging in acts of torture that include hooding, stripping detainees naked, sleep deprivation, subjecting detainees to extremes of heat, cold, noise and light, threatening them with dogs, submerging them in water to simulate drowning — which is known as water-boarding — and other acts of physical abuse.

The abuses detailed in the reports warrant global outrage because they violate what President Bush has called "the non-negotiable demands of human dignity." What is especially outrageous, however, is that each of the abuses detailed above have also occurred at the U.S. detention camp at Guantanamo Bay ("Gitmo") and has now led to the suicide of three detainees.

The most recent State Department human rights report was overshadowed by the United Nations Human Rights Commission's report on its investigation into conditions at Gitmo calling for both the immediate release or prosecution of the detainees and closure of the camp in light of evidence of torture. This was followed by the European Parliament's report which concluded that the conditions at Gitmo demonstrate "unlawfulness on grounds including the torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment of detainees." The International Red Cross and Amnesty International have reached similar conclusions, with Amnesty referring to Gitmo as a "gulag."

Vice President Cheney asserts that Gitmo detainees "are people we picked up on the battlefield, primarily in Afghanistan ... They're members of Al Qaeda and the Taliban (and) are serious, deadly threats to the United States." The administration also would have you believe that any instances of abuse at Gitmo are isolated incidents or a matter of a "few bad apples."

Independent reports, however, paint a different picture of the detainees who have now been held nearly five years without trial. Nearly nine in 10 detainees were captured by reward-seeking Pakistanis and Afghan warlords and not U.S. forces, while over half the detainees were found not to have committed any hostile acts against the U.S. or its allies. Only 8 percent are considered Al Qaeda fighters, while 60 percent are held merely for being "associated with" alleged terrorist groups including many that are not even on the Department of Homeland Security's

The abuses detailed in the reports warrant global outrage because they violate what President Bush has called "the nonnegotiable demands of human dignity."

watch list.

Documents also demonstrate approval of controversial interrogation techniques by top administration officials. For example, water-boarding was endorsed in the infamous "torture memos" and authorized by then White House Counsel Alberto Gonzales, ignoring rulings of the post-World War II Japanese war crimes tribunals which found that both the Japanese soldiers engaging in water-boarding and the officers who approved it were guilty of war crimes.

In addition, there is a direct link between Gitmo and the notorious Abu Ghraib prison as Gitmo's initial commander, Major General Geoffrey Miller, was sent to Iraq to "Gitmo-ize" Abu Ghraib and other detention facilities. Pentagon reports have since blamed Miller for "abusive" interrogation techniques at Gitmo and for contributing to the abuses at Abu Ghraib.

The suicide deaths of the three detainees should refocus attention on Gitmo as well as the administration's use of rendition to hold more than 100 detainees incommunicado in secret detention facilities overseas. It is important that Congress exercise some courage and investigate this matter closely, just as they did in defying the administration by passing the torture ban, which the administration now contends does not apply

to Guantanamo detainees.

This is not simply a question of the merits of holding each individual detainee; it is about what type of country we are and what we stand for. Are we a nation governed by laws or fear and expediency? Are human rights "the very soul of our sense of nationhood" or are we now a nation that condones "gulags" and is satisfied with being "not as bad" as the Saddams of the world?

Two years ago The Economist noted that "American ideals have been a beacon of hope to others around the world. In compromising those ideals (however), Mr. Bush is ... blunting one of America's most powerful weapons against terrorism." Following the Gitmo suicides, England's conservative Daily Mail stated that the United States has fallen "from the high moral ground to the gutter."

We must speak out and let our leaders know that we do not condone the abandonment and debasement of this "powerful weapon" and the "very soul of our sense of nationhood" for the fleeting security afforded by torture.

(Bennet Kelley (bennet@bennetkelley.com) is the former national co-chair of the Democratic National Committee's young professional arm and a lawyer who has been involved in prior Guantanamo detention matters.)

GUEST COMMENTARY BY JACK NEWORTH

Life in Santa Monica: Good, bad and ugly

This being my first column, I thought I'd introduce myself and look back on all the changes I've seen in Santa Monica over the past years. My first official visit was when I was 2. My aunt took me to the Ocean Park Pier where, to my horror, I laid eyes on "The Laughing Lady," a life-size, mechanical puppet. Picture Sandra Bernhard in a fright wig, popping out of a haunted house and cackling hysterically. Actually, don't picture it, I try not to.

In the summers, my mother would drive my sister and me to the beach in our two-toned Pontiac Chieftain filled with inner tubes, rafts, Nose-Kote, plastic pails and shovels — my poor mother. The ride west on Pico Boulevard passed the Woodlawn Cemetery on 14th Street where my sister and I competed to see who could hold their breath the longest. The point was the loser would wind up at Woodlawn. Frankly, it's remarkable Woodlawn Cemetery hasn't been turned into Woodlawn Condo Village by now.

The highlight of the drive occurred on the hill above 11th, with our first glimpse of the ocean. Minutes later we'd be in the water which was so clean you could see your feet, and even fish swimming around. The upside of today's pollution? Fewer fish in your way and you can get your daily requirement of mercury if you inadvertently swallow a gulp of sea water.

My father worked long hours but once in a while he'd take us fishing at the pier. Barracuda, perch, mackerel, tomcods, halibut and various crabs were delicious, and, as opposed to today, edible. Santa Monica felt like a real beach town. These days, with all the development, sometimes it feels like Westwood by the sea.

As teen-agers, my buddies and I would take the bus to the beach — mom quit chauffeuring for a paying gig. All day at Muscle Beach: Riding waves, eating at Honest John's hot dog stand and watching body builders toss bikini-clad girls around like cupie dolls. Honest John had been a professional wrestler and had a handle-bar

mustache with points so sharp they could poke your eye out. That was a mother's big fear in those days, an eye getting poked out. No skin cancer, gang-bangers or terrorists. This was before JFK died or the war in Viet Nam. It was the beach version of Mayberry.

As a senior in high school I developed a passion for body surfing — as opposed to a passion for homework. Surfboards were twice the size and four times the weight of today. The shout on the beach was, "surf's up." Today, with cell phones, the shout is, "can you hear me now?"

The movie craze in Santa Monica was big-wave surf documentaries at the Santa Monica Civic Auditorium, with the blazing guitar and heavy bass of a Dick Dale and the Deltones' soundtrack. These days at the civic there are antique and cat shows — nothing against antiques, or cats, or even antique cats.

Santa Monica used to be laid back. Now it's so congested that a drive through downtown is best when you're on the bus. But some things are better. The beach was becoming an ashtray, so they banned smoking. I'm hoping the Promenade is next. Female lifeguards was another improvement. However, the police ATVs that race up and down the beach are noisy, emit fumes and are annoying, especially when the cops idle checking out a girl in a thong. Am I complaining or envious?

As a city we are culturally more diverse and that's good. And there are more art galleries and movie theaters. I also think local government is improved from the "good ol' boys" era, though to get elected they probably spend 50 times more.

Maybe I'm just not a big fan of progress? In fact as I reflect back, probably the biggest benefit of all these changes in Santa Monica, for me personally ... no more Laughing Lady on the pier.

(Jack Neworth is a freelance writer. He can be reached at Jackneworth@yahoo.com)

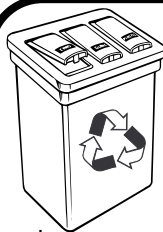
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CRIME WATCH

By Daily Press staff

Cops and robbers: Police on the lookout for thieves

On Monday, May 29, at 7:03 p.m., Santa Monica Police officers responded to the 200 block of Bay Street to investigate a reported home-invasion robbery. When officers arrived, they spoke with an alleged victim who said he was inside his home when two men appeared and robbed him, taking his cell phone and wallet. The estimated loss was \$250, police said. The suspects were described as Hispanic males, ages 25 to 30, both 5 feet 10 inches tall and clean shaven with short hair. One suspect was described as having a heavy build and was wearing a light-blue T-shirt and jeans. The other suspect was said to be wearing a yellow T-shirt.

On Saturday, June 3, at 2:37 p.m., officers responded to the 1400 block of Second Street — 24 Hour Fitness — regarding a burglary investigation. When officers arrived, they spoke with employees who said that when they opened the gym that morning, they found no money in the cash register. There were no signs of forced entry, police said. An estimated \$149 was missing, employees said. After reviewing footage from security cameras, officers saw a suspect enter through the front door of the gym using a key. He removed money from the cash register and left. The suspect is believed to be a white male, age unknown, standing 5 feet 8 inches tall, 165 pounds. He was wearing a white T-shirt and blue jeans.

On Monday, June 5, at 11:32 p.m., police responded to the 1200 block of Second Street regarding a strong-arm robbery attempt. When officers arrived, they spoke with the alleged victim who said that while working as a valet parking attendant, he was approached by man a who asked him for money. The alleged victim told police he didn't have any money and that's when the panhandler slapped him in the face and ran away. The aggressive panhandler is described as a white male, 35 to 36 years old, 5 foot, six inches tall, 180 pounds. He is said to be bald with blue eyes with a tattoo of a skull on his left shoulder, police said. He was wearing blue-jean shorts, white T-shirt and white tennis shoes.

On Monday, June 12, at 12:08 p.m., police in the 1400 block of Third Street Promenade responded to a report of an assault. When officers arrived, they spoke with a woman who said she was standing on the promenade smoking a cigarette when a strange man approached her and asked if she would give him a smoke. The woman said she ignored the man's request. He proceeded to walk away, but when he was approximately 10 feet away, the woman said he threw a cup of coffee at her. She was able to move out of the way and was not hit, police said. The woman called the police and the man fled. He was picked up a short time later at the corner of Third Street and Broadway, and identified by the woman as the attacker. He was arrested and booked for assault. He was identified as Raymond Webb, 53, a transient. His bail was set at \$500.

On Sunday, June 11, at 1:48 a.m., officers responded to the 1300 block of 26th Street regarding a report of domestic violence. When officers arrived, they spoke with an alleged victim who said he was punched in the face by his ex-girlfriend during an argument that evening. The woman caused the alleged victim to bleed at the bridge of his nose, police said. The woman was taken into custody and booked for domestic violence. She was identified as Patricia Mori, 39, of Rolling Hills. Her bail was set at \$100,000.

On Saturday, June 10, at 2:45 a.m., officers responded to the 300 block of Colorado Avenue regarding an assault investigation. When officers arrived, they spoke to a man who said that while riding his bike through a parking lot, another man appeared and punched him twice in the face. The man said he jumped off his bike, removed the bike's metal chain and began swinging it at the alleged attacker, striking him once. Officers placed both suspects under arrest. The man riding the bike was identified as Carlos Moreno, 29, of Los Angeles. He was charged with assault with a deadly weapon. His bail was set at \$30,000. The man who allegedly punched Moreno was charged with assault and battery. He was identified as Eric Macias, 29, a transient. His bail was set at \$20,000.

On Wednesday, June 7, at 9:34 p.m., officers responded to the 1300 block of Second Street after receiving calls about a man who looked like as if he was carrying a gun. When officers arrived in their patrol car, they spotted the man, who was somewhat concealed. When officers drove closer, the man came out from the shadows and pointed what looked like a gun at the officers. The suspect quickly dropped the gun once officers stepped out of their cars. He said it was a toy gun. Officers took the suspect into custody and determined that the handgun in his possession was a replica of a semi-automatic weapon, possibly a paint ball gun. The suspect was arrested and booked for assault with a deadly weapon and was held on outstanding warrants. He was identified as Patrick Lee Karrigan, 19, a transient. His bail was set at \$53,000.

On Monday, June 5, at 9:35 a.m., officers responded to the corner of 6th Street and Pico Boulevard regarding a report of sexual battery. When they arrived, they spoke with a woman who said a man grabbed her butt as she exited a Big Blue Bus. The bus driver saw the move and called police. The alleged attacker walked away from the scene, but was apprehended a short time later and identified by the woman who was allegedly groped. The man was identified as David Anthony Podryfki, 63, a transient. His bail was set at \$25,625. He was held for outstanding warrants.

Those who have information regarding any unsolved crime are asked to call the SMPD's We-Tip toll-free, anonymous hotline at 1-(800)-78-CRIME (27463), which is staffed by bilingual tip operators 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.



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Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

SAFETY DOESN'T GROW ON TREES: City crews work this week to remove Eucalyptus trees on Seventh Street, between California Avenue and San Vicente Boulevard, as part of a citywide project aimed at replacing and pruning the species of aging trees due to their tendency to shed dead limbs and cause injuries.

City to chop 77 trees

CUTTING TREES, from page 1

green city where nature is embraced with a common fervor. The city, however, has concluded the removals are in the best interests of those who live and stay here.

In late 2005, City Hall contracted with HortScience Inc., an arboricultural firm, to provide an assessment of the city's 517 Eucalyptus trees. The subsequent report identified trees in danger of failing and made recommendations to lower the risk posed by trees that were still viable, but in need of attention, according to a city staff report.

While a rarity, falling Eucalyptus limbs have struck pedestrians in the past. In one extreme instance, a driver and his wife successfully sued the city for \$1.5 million after a mature red-flowering Eucalyptus tree fell on their car in 2001, reportedly injuring the man's neck and back.

In total, City Hall plans to remove 77 of

the aging and damaged Eucalyptus trees and trim another 440 over the next six months in efforts to avoid potential limb failures. According to Walter Warriner, City Hall's community forest and public landscape superintendent, the project will cost somewhere in the area of \$175,000.

The areas where trees will be removed are: Broadway, between Centinela Avenue and 11 Street (14 trees); Seventh Street, between California Avenue and San Vicente Boulevard (11 trees); Reed Park (seven trees); and Palisades Park (six trees).

Trees removed will be replaced with smaller species of Eucalyptus, or in some cases, the species of tree that dominates the surroundings area, Warriner said.

Warriner acknowledges that people tend to react strongly to seeing a fully-grown tree chopped down, but previously assured the public that he is an arborist first and will do anything to protect a tree that is worth saving.

Tracking the future

SEARS, from page 1

anchor downtown, with development at the site tailored to support a more walkable, pedestrian-friendly environment.

City officials are discussing the possibility of locating a light-rail terminus at the site, as well as affordable housing, parking and supportive retail, said Miriam Mack, the city's economic development manager.

There is hope that downtown will be served by the Exposition Light Rail line, and that the Sears property will serve as a major transit hub.

"That underutilized corner is a keystone of a future mass transit-oriented downtown," said Councilman Kevin McKeown. "Our opportunity to bank the land while allowing Sears to continue serving the community for several years means that when light rail arrives, our downtown will be ready for it."

As part of the deal, Sears' auto shop will remain in operation at the site for three years upon completion of the sale, with two automatic renewals of one year each, according to a city staff report. The lease would be subject to termination by either party with 90 days notice.

Plans for the rail line are still preliminary, though more than \$505 million has been set

aside for the first phase, which goes as far as Culver City and is scheduled to be completed in 2012. No money has yet been earmarked for the Santa Monica extension.

City Hall's inclusive offer includes the acquisition of the property, relocation, loss of good will and severance damage. That means, because Sears operates a business on the property, the deal would waive any claims Sears could seek for additional compensation, Mack said.

Chris Brathwaite, a spokesman for Sears, confirmed the deal was on its way to escrow, but could not comment further on the future of Sears in Santa Monica.

The company still operates a retail store adjacent to the auto-shop, and there are no plans at this time to relocate, Brathwaite said.

The deal for the 402 Colorado Ave. site has been in the works since 2003.

"There is no doubt that this is a very important and much needed purchase," said Councilman Herb Katz, an architect who envisions a light-rail terminus at the site along with mixed-use development that will serve as an unofficial demarcation of downtown's southeastern boundary.

"It is in the city's best interest to scoop up important pieces of land like this whenever we can, because land isn't going to get any less expensive in the future, and it allows us more flexibility in what we want to see developed," Katz said.



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City takes hydrogen fuel for test drive

HYDROGEN, from page 1

gy advancement for the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). Engineers at each of the five facilities will test the emission levels, durability, cost-efficiency and overall performance of the hydrogen-fueled cars over the next five years.

The fueling facility at 2500 Michigan Ave. cost about \$1 million, 90 percent of which was funded by the SCAQMD, said Berry. The city and Department of Energy picked up the remaining 10 percent.

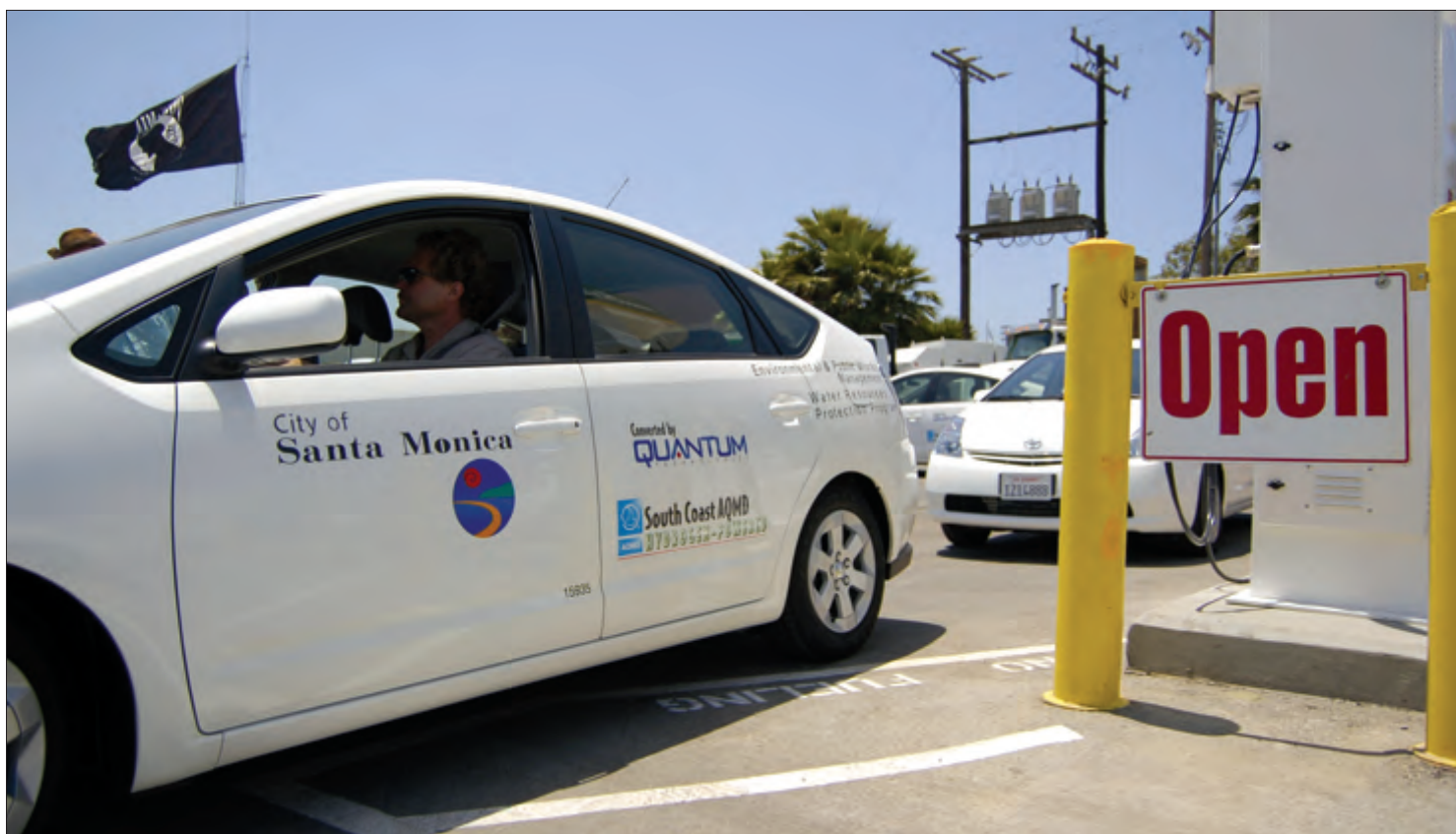
In addition to Santa Monica, the SCAQMD has similar hydrogen-testing facilities in Santa Ana, Riverside, Ontario and Burbank — with a total of about 30 hydrogen-powered Prius cars in total, said James Provenzano, president of Clean Air Now, a nonprofit organization that advocates renewable energy projects.

Elsewhere, there are fueling facilities at Los Angeles International Airport, the SCAQMD headquarters in Diamond Bar, and the Sunline Transit Agency in Thousand Palms, said Berry.

Santa Monica was chosen as home to the hydrogen-testing facility on the strength that more than 70 percent of the city's vehicles are alternatively fueled, said Provenzano, alluding to vehicles such as street sweepers, garbage trucks, city vehicles and transfer trucks — which are CNG and diesel powered.

"Moving to hydrogen fuel was the next logical step in the alternative fuel program," Provenzano said.

Each car costs \$105,000, according to Berry. About \$25,000 covers the costs of the



Kevin Ueda/Special to the Daily Press

OPEN TO NEW IDEAS: Rick Sikes, fleet superintendent for Santa Monica's city vehicles, drives one of Santa Monica's new hydrogen-fueled Toyota Prius cars at the city's new fuel station on Michigan Avenue. The facility, which opened Thursday, is one of five testing facilities in Southern California.

Toyota Prius, and \$80,000 goes towards the conversion technology.

On the exterior, each of the hydrogen cars looks like a regular Toyota Prius, but the cars contain hydrogen conversion technology

from Quantum Technologies, Inc., which result in lower emissions.

As for the fueling stations, they too look like regular gas station pumps, but instead of liquid gas flowing through the hose to the car, hydrogen is being transferred via pressure differential, said Dan Rabun, of hydrogen-energy technology partner Air Products, Inc. One benefit being there are no spills or smells, things associated with regular gasoline.

"We like to call hydrogen 'the forever fuel' — the fuel of the future," Rabun said.

While some might think of history's retelling of the Hindenburg disaster when they think hydrogen, it is a safe fuel source, Provenzano said.

"All fuels require special handling, special preparation," Provenzano said. "Hydrogen has its own safety precautions, just as gas, just as diesel has."

Gasoline that leaks following vehicle collisions and sets cars ablaze accounts for 4,500 car-related deaths a year, beyond the initial impact, Provenzano said. Hydrogen does not share those risks.

"In many ways, hydrogen is safer than gas, because when it's released into the atmosphere it dissipates quickly," Provenzano said.

The hydrogen gas tanks in the cars are made of carbon fiber, a space-age material which is "extremely durable," lightweight and is used in race cars and space shuttles, said John Williams, senior business development manager for Quantum Technology Inc., a partner in the hydrogen energy development. The engines in the hydrogen cars undergo 20 tests for tank certification.

Another benefit of hydrogen vehicles, proponents say, is that they are carbon-free, which means that their emissions contain no

greenhouse gases. As for drawbacks, the current hydrogen cars can carry only a maximum 1.6 kilograms of hydrogen — which gives the cars about 80 miles per fill-up.

According to Berry, the hydrogen capacity is small on the Prius-model cars because a larger storage would require altering the entire look of the vehicle.

"We didn't want it to look any different, feel any different," Berry said.

One kilogram of hydrogen costs \$9 at the Santa Monica facility, which is cheaper than at other locations because of an electrolyzer, which extracts the hydrogen from water. It takes roughly three minutes to fill a tank.

Some of the other drawbacks with hydrogen cars include both the high costs and low number of refueling centers throughout Southern California, Berry acknowledged.

In Southern California, there are 16 operational stations in Southern California, with nine more planned for production, according to the California Fuel Cell Partnership Web site. In Northern California, there are seven operational facilities, with four more planned.

While critics of alternatively fueled vehicles contend they are underpowered on the road, Berry countered that a hydrogen-powered Prius drives just like its gas-powered counterpart, with the same acceleration and fuel economy.

As to when, or if, hydrogen cars will be made available to the public in mass quantities remains a mystery.

Terry Tamminen, special adviser to Gov. Schwarzenegger, said that some vehicles will always be dependent on petroleum-based energy, but that the future lies in alternative fuels.

"We won't break this addiction overnight ... but we will take the first step," Tamminen said.

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Cops lend homeless a helping hand

HELPING HOMELESS, from page 1

providers, Smiley said.

"We have never worked more closely with our service providers and that is extremely important (because) we feel we are a big partner in this," Smiley said. "We have developed an effective working relationship, which openly focuses on providing public safety first and then connecting our homeless population with our service providers."

Council members commended the SMPD for the work it has done in the last year and a half, helping more than 230 people arrested for being under the influence of drugs or alcohol access treatment and counseling provided by the CLARE Foundation as part of the city's Serial Inebriate Outreach Program, or SIOP, which helps those suffering from addiction.

"Thank you for the sensitivity you (the SMPD) are exhibiting," Councilman Kevin McKeown told Smiley on Tuesday, following the captain's report to the council. "That is exactly what I think this community has wanted. Focusing on anti-social behavior is appropriate, but at the same time, I think we recognize that being homeless is not a crime and alcohol and drug abuse are diseases that need treatment. You are helping people find what they need."

"CLARE has always been a great resource for us, but we are making much more effective use of it now (with SIOP)," McKeown said.

Since SIOP was created in July of 2005, SMPD officers have arrested 842 people, Smiley said. An estimated 60 percent of those were homeless, and several were repeat offenders.

Of that total, 234 have been contacted by CLARE, 27 have been released from SMPD custody to CLARE, and 75 have sought help on their own following their release from jail, Smiley said. Everyone arrested for public intoxication is given a CLARE referral card.

Of the 75 who sought CLARE's help on their own, only two have been arrested again for public intoxication or other related offenses, said Mona Miyasato, acting Human Services director for City Hall.

Councilman Richard Bloom asked Smiley to come back to the council with more information on how many of those who were referred to CLARE were homeless, so that the council could more effectively determine how SIOP was impacting the homeless population.

According to Smiley, officers feel SIOP is a valuable resource.

"We support it," he said. "We love the fact there is a counselor there ready to assist our officers. I'd say the program's been a success."

Another success has been the work of the Homeless Liaison Project (HeLP), a group of officers specially trained to work with the homeless. The SMPD has six, full time HeLP officers who work in conjunction with 16 park rangers and uniformed officers.

In the last three months, Smiley said the HeLP team, along with other officers, conducted 36 outreach efforts focusing on public safety and quality of life crimes, sometimes called nuisance crimes.

During that time, more than 700 homeless were contacted and 200 arrests were made for crimes including probation violation, failure to register as a sex offender, drug possession, open container violation, urinating in public, camping, sleeping in doorways and public intoxication, Smiley said.

The outreach also assisted juveniles who had run away from home be reconnected with their families or access other services.

The HeLP team has conducted outreach efforts to local businesses as well and to social service providers. The SMPD has also increased enforcement along the Palisades bluffs, Third Street Promenade and additional business districts.

SMPD is looking to add four more park rangers shortly, bringing the total to 20, Smiley said. Park rangers are often the ones who have the most contact with the homeless because they patrol the parks where many of the down-and-out sleep or congregate during the day.

Smiley said the SMPD will also continue working with former Los Angeles County Supervisor Ed Edelman, City Hall's homeless czar, on establishing a community court to

handle some of the minor, quality-of-life crimes.

"It has been challenging for us, having to work extensively with city staff and the service providers, getting to know all of our partners," Smiley said. "But I think the benefits are clear."

Lisa Fisher, director of the Westside Shelter & Hunger Coalition, which represents the city's service providers and participates in monthly meetings with the SMPD, said she agrees with Smiley in recognizing the new relationship between officers and service providers. However, Fisher said more work needs to be done on all sides to continue progressing.

"The relationship we now have has made it a much smoother process," Fisher said. "The police know who we are and who to reach out to at various agencies and we have a better understanding of what officers must go through and how we can better assist them. I think this is a great first step."



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MOVIE REVIEW



Blood brothers



BY DAN DUNN
Special to the Daily Press

THE MOVIE: Lower City
THE DIRECTOR: Sergio Machado
THE STARS: Alice Braga, Lazaro Ramos, Wagner Moura

Deco (Lazaro Ramos) and Naldhino (Wagner Moura) are lifelong friends eking out a meager living running cargo along the waterfront area of Salvador in the Brazilian state of Bahia. After agreeing to give a sultry hooker named Karinna (Alice Braga) a lift on their small boat in exchange for sexual favors, the two “brothers” soon become embroiled in battle for her affections. Unlike the classic love triangles of literature and cinema, in which two betray one, “Lower City” is driven by passion distributed equally. Making an impressive directorial debut, Sergio Machado coaxes fantastic performances out of his young cast and instills the entire production with a stark realism.

“Lower City” is an orgy of blood, sweat and tears fueled by sexual tension and the constant threat of violence, yet Machado also uses his characters and his camera to illuminate a delicate side to the dark, gritty environment they inhabit. Alice Braga, the 23-year-old niece of actress Sonia Braga (“Kiss of the Spider Woman”), deftly portrays Karinna as a real human being rather than the stereotypical prostitute we see so often in cinema. She wields her sensuality alternately as a weapon and a gift, and in the end it becomes a character in and of itself. Her male leads are equally up to task, their convincing camaraderie perhaps the result of being best buds in real life. The soundtrack, by Brazilian composer Carlinhos Brown, is a sonic smorgasbord of tribal rhythms, afro-jazz and trip-hop that perfectly complements director of photography Toca Seabra’s color-saturated visuals.

In Portuguese with English subtitles.

(RATED R. RUNNING TIME: 97 MINUTES)

MOVIE REVIEW



Fun and ‘Furious’

SPARKING DEBATE: Diss the dialogue, but enjoy the ride.



BY DAN DUNN
Special to the Daily Press

THE MOVIE: The Fast and the Furious
THE DIRECTOR: Justin Lin
THE STARS: Lucas Black, Bow Wow, Brian Tee, Sung Kang

Those of you thinking “not again” should think again, because this third installment of the high-octane “Fast and Furious” franchise isn’t half bad. Check that — it IS half bad (the stuff involving storyline, characters and dialogue), but the other half (the eye-popping race sequences) makes it worth the price of admission. Lucas Black is a juvie hall candidate with a speed addiction who gets shipped off to live with his military dad in Tokyo, where fast cars and fast women abound. So he races the cars and chases the women ... fastly and furiously.

(RATED PG-13. RUNNING TIME: 104 MINUTES)

Words to wise

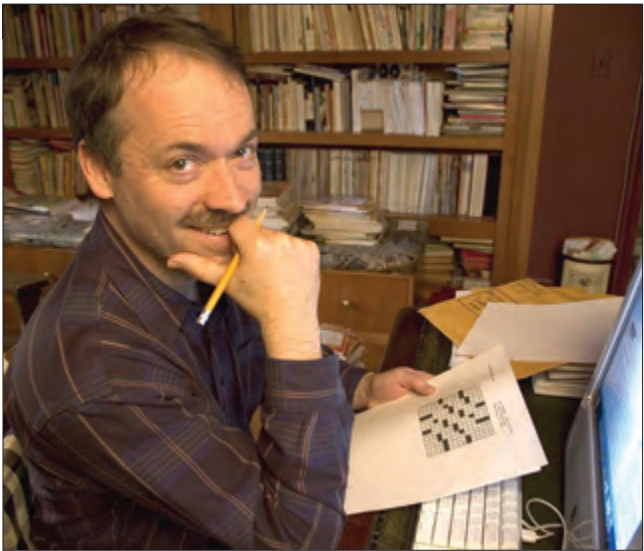


BY DAN DUNN
Special to the Daily Press

THE MOVIE: Wordplay
THE DIRECTOR: Patrick Creadon
THE STARS: Will Shortz, Bill Clinton, Jon Stewart, Bob Dole, Mike Mussina, The Indigo Girls

In an effort to “sex up” his excellent documentary about eggheads whose shared passion is solving crossword puzzles, director Patrick Creadon utilized an eleven-letter word for famous people. The “celebrities” extolling the virtues of this popular pastime include Bill Clinton, Jon Stewart, Bob Dole, Yankees pitcher Mike Mussina and The Indigo Girls. The star of the film is Will Shortz, the crossword editor at The New York Times since 1993. Highlights include every hilarious thing Stewart says, and Clinton explaining how the same principals used to solve crosswords can be applied to governance.

(RATED PG. RUNNING TIME: 84 MINUTES)



WORD UP: NY Times editor Shortz has a way with them.

MOVIE REVIEW



Begrudging ‘Nacho’

MASKING DEFEAT: Jack Black (masked) and Héctor Jiménez play unlikely wrestlers in the uneven comedy ‘Nacho Libre’



BY DAN DUNN
Special to the Daily Press

THE MOVIE: Nacho Libre
THE DIRECTOR: Jared Hess
THE STARS: Jack Black, Ana de la Reguera, Héctor Jiménez, Richard Montoya

While mulling over the many things I disliked about “Nacho Libre,” which stars Jack Black as a doughy Mexican doofus determined to realize a lifelong dream of becoming a Lucha Libre wrestler, all cognitive streams flowed to director Jared Hess, writer-director of the overrated 2004 comedy “Napoleon Dynamite.” So I went back and had a look at my review of Hess’ much-ballyhooed debut and realized that the primary problems with that film also hamper Hess’ latest.

To wit: “Napoleon Dynamite/Nacho Libre” like its eponymous protagonist is idiosyncratic, sometimes to the point of distraction. A lack of clear-cut narrative progressions induces stasis from time to time, and because the laughs come almost entirely at the expense of several inveterate dweebs, it all feels strangely masochistic. So there you have it,

only “Nacho” is even LESS funny than “Napoleon.”

Playing a monastery cook leading a double life as a wrestler, Black tries hard (too hard?) to save the movie, baring his man boobs at every opportunity and utilizing a ridiculous (borderline offensive?) Latino accent whenever called upon to deliver a lame one-liner. His efforts fall short, however, and watching him ham it up to ill effect reminds that even the finest comedic actors (Jim Carrey, Will Ferrell, Ben Stiller) can get caught in a caricature trap from time to time. Some — Leslie Nielsen comes to mind — never escape, and here’s hoping Black rebounds in the upcoming “Tenacious D in ‘The Pick of Destiny.’” The key supporting players in “Nacho Libre” are Héctor Jiménez as Nacho’s goofy, effeminate tag team partner, and Mexican soap star Ana de la Reguera, whose sole purpose in this film seems to be to stand around looking like Penelope Cruz’s twin sister. The ending is predictable pap that raises questions for which, frustratingly, there are no answers. But one thing is perfectly clear — “Nacho Libre” gets knocked down early and never gets up off the mat.

(RATED PG.)



INSIDE JOB: Celebrities come out en force to discuss the career of filmmaker James Toback in the new documentary 'The Outsider', following the director's exploits amid a 12-day shoot.

A filmmaker goes own way

BY DAN DUNN
Special to the Daily Press



THE MOVIE: The Outsider
THE DIRECTOR: Nicholas Jarecki
THE STARS: James Toback, Woody Allen, Robert Downey Jr., Neve Campbell, Mike Tyson, Brett Ratner, Brooke Shields

Following in the footsteps of older brothers Eugene (“Why We Fight”) and Andrew (“Capturing the Friedmans”), 26-year-old Nicholas Jarecki has constructed a compelling but flawed documentary about nonconformist filmmaker James Toback. “The Outsider” follows Toback in 2004 as he shoots the film “When Will I Be Loved” in just 12 days. Adulatory commentary concerning the writer-director’s legendary appetite for drugs and women, along with his unorthodox moviemaking methods is provided by author Norman Mailer, Hall of Fame running back Jim Brown, and frequent Toback collaborator Robert Downey Jr. As the hurrahs roll on with nary a disparagement to be found, it becomes apparent that Jarecki got a little too cozy with his subject.

While there’s no denying that he has danced to the beat of his own drum throughout a career spanning three decades, other than Toback’s brief discourse on his bohemian parents, little insight is offered into what makes the man tick. Jarecki effectively incorporates greatest hits footage from Toback’s filmography — “Bugsy” (which he wrote and Barry Levinson directed), “Fingers,” “Two Guys and a Girl,” and “The Pick-Up Artist” — and manages to score what might be Woody Allen’s first-ever on-set, on-camera interview. Production value is low, but not distractingly so. Overall, “The Outsider” plays like a lengthy DVD extra, and should appeal to fans of Toback and his school of maverick filmmaking.

(NOT RATED. RUNNING TIME: 85 MINUTES)



SANTA MONICA ART PALETTE

MAKING ARTS AND CULTURE COME ALIVE IN SANTA MONICA

Welcome to the Santa Monica Art Palette for the weekend of June 16. The goal of the Art Palette, created by City Hall's cultural affairs division, is to showcase the many eclectic arts and cultural opportunities available in Santa Monica every week, highlighting one or more of the many happenings within our borders. It's Father's Day on Sunday and what better way to show your dad how great you turned out than to bring him to one of Santa Monica's cultural events? Do you think he really wants another tie? This also is the weekend of Juneteenth, marking the day the Emancipation Proclamation finally came to Texas and gave freedom to the remaining 250,000 people still living in slavery. It was two years after the end of the Civil War when General Gordon Granger finally declared the end of slavery in Galveston, Tex. on June 16, 1865. So take this weekend to rejoice in your own freedoms, thank your fathers for helping to bring you into this world and have a great time.

This Saturday, June 17 at 1 p.m., the cultural affairs department, The Miles Memorial Playhouse, City TV, the Santa Monica Public Library Teen Programs and Virginia Avenue Park Teen Center are proud to present our first-annual Santa Monica Teen Film Festival. Twelve films from across the U.S. have been selected for screening for the festival's premiere edition. Spend a Saturday afternoon viewing these short live-action and animated films in the new Santa Monica Library.

www.smtteenfilm.org/www.milesplayhouse.org
Martin Luther King, Jr. Auditorium
Santa Monica Main Library.
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Admission is free.



Juneteenth
Saturday, June 17
2 to 6 p.m.
Virginia Avenue Park
2200 Virginia Ave.



If you want to spend your Saturday afternoon outside, head on over to Virginia Avenue Park for the annual Juneteenth celebration from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. There will be gospel, jazz, blues, storytelling, and poetry all in honor of the day one hundred and 40 years ago when the slaves of Galveston, Tex. finally gained their freedom, two years after the adoption of the Emancipation Proclamation. For the past 14 years, the Juneteenth Celebration Committee and the city of Santa Monica have honored this historic date. This year, the event returns to Virginia Avenue Park and everyone is invited to learn about the history of Africans in this country.

The Santa Monica Playhouse will soon be jetting off to perform in the English cities of London and Warwick, and in Almere in the Netherlands. Starting tonight, we can get a preview of the plays they will be performing at Covent Garden and other European theatres. Grandma's Place takes a poignant look at the world of the runaway performing Sunday, June 18, at 7:30 p.m. (\$10) and Next! The Hollywood Story is a musical day in the life of the Hollywood child star, based on the experiences of director Chris DeCarlo and former child star Evelyn Rudie has two showings on June 17 and June 18 at 7:30 p.m. (\$15).

<http://SantaMonicaPlayhouse.com>
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You can take Dad to lunch and then off to Highways for an afternoon of contemporary dance and save yourself a bit of money since all fathers get in free on Sunday afternoon and you'll get \$5 off your ticket just by bringing along a photo of Dad even if you can't get him to join you.

4 Headed Dance
Highways has assembled four super hot contemporary choreographers, Robin Conrad, Keith Glassman, Patrick Damon Rago and Eryn Schon, and set them free to each develop a new work for premiere performances this weekend.
Thursday through Saturday at 8:30 p.m.
Sunday at 2:30 p.m.

Or hit Highways on Saturday night when local artist Nadia Reed will display her work in the Highways Gallery beginning this weekend. Reed's Pacific Northwest Native American heritage is clearly evident in her work with its brilliant colors and imagery. Join her for an artist's reception on Saturday, June 17 from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Water Dance
Finally, for those of you who'd like an early start in planning your weekends, here's one to jot down in your calendar. Artists for the Arts Foundation will be presenting an evening with Jackson Browne with Fred Martin & the Levite Camp, and local favorites Venice. This benefit concert will supports arts programs in Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District and the For The Arts endowment. Tickets range from \$50 to \$250 and are on sale now.



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Santa Monica High School
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ENTERTAINMENT BRIEFS

Dad is the theme, speed the key

By Daily Press staff

“Dads” will fittingly be the theme of the next monthly installment of the Ruskin Group Theatre’s popular “L.A. Café Plays” to be held on Father’s Day Sunday, June 18.

The Café Plays have been dubbed the “fastest theater in town,” because five short plays go from conception to execution in just 10.5 hours. Although several theaters throughout the country have staged 24-hour plays, Ruskin producers Mike Myers, Erin Kelly and Michael Laurie have upped the stakes and cut that time by more than half.

Past participants in the Café Plays, as director or actor, have included such luminaries as Dylan McDermott of “The Practice,” Olivia D’Abo from “The Wonder Years” and “The Odd Couple” on Broadway, and Dan Lauria from “The Wonder Years” and “Jag.”

At 9 a.m. the day of the performance, five writers gather at Back on Broadway, a café-restaurant in Santa Monica. Each writer picks at random two manila envelopes containing actors’ headshots. They are then given four hours to write a seven- to 10-page one-act play that takes place in a café. The directors then take over, meet their actors, and begin rehearsals.

“The 65-seat Ruskin Group Theatre is typically sold out for the two evening performances, as audiences revel in the 10.5 hour creation cycle of five one-act plays, bound by a common theme and locale — all must take place in a café — but otherwise as diverse as the minds from which they spring,” the Los Angeles Times said.

The Ruskin Group Theatre, founded in 2002, has not only produced several critically acclaimed shows, it has done extensive outreach, teaching and performing in correctional facilities, boys’ homes, nursing homes and more throughout Southern California. Ruskin is currently producing the critically acclaimed play That May Well Be True, whose run has been extended through June 24.

The Café Plays will be staged at 7:30 p.m. and 9 p.m. at Ruskin Group Theatre, located at 3000 Airport Dr. at Santa Monica Airport. Tickets are \$10. Call (310) 397-3244 or go to <http://www.ruskingrouptheatre.com>.

Guitar auction to benefit New Orleans

By Daily Press staff

Santa Monica’s music-inspired gallery Wild About Music will host a silent auction of a signed Greg Bennett guitar to benefit the New Orleans Musicians Hurricane Relief Fund.

Samick Guitars donated a Worthington acoustic guitar designed by Greg Bennett to support the personal fundraising efforts for the New Orleans Musicians Hurricane Relief Fund. This acoustic electric cutaway guitar has a solid spruce top, mahogany sides, Grover tuners, EQT active EQ with built in tuner and a hard shell case. Several notable LA musicians signed the guitar during the LA Music Awards. The guitar is valued in excess of \$800, but bidding will start at \$500.

Wild About Music is located at 1450 Second St., just off the Third Street Promenade. Gallery hours are 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. Sunday through Thursday, and 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday. The auction will run June 29 through July 16. For more information call (310) 899-3114 or visit <http://samickguitar.com/om5ce.html>.



STATE BRIEFS

Fire captain kills wife, himself

By The Associated Press

DUARTE — A Monrovia fire captain who was having marital problems shot and killed his wife and then himself in the parking lot of the City of Hope National Medical Center, authorities said.

The identities of Fernando Rodriguez of Rancho Cucamonga and his wife, Katherine, were announced on Wednesday, a day after the bodies were discovered.

Rodriguez, 41, had arranged to meet his 33-year-old spouse Tuesday afternoon after his work in an effort to resolve their difficulties but shot her after she climbed into his truck, sheriff's Capt. Ray Peavy said.

"This is a real tragedy," Peavy said. "They leave behind three young children. She volunteered with the disabled and she was a perfect soccer mom, we're told."

Rodriguez joined the Monrovia Fire Department in 1990.

A makeover for kidney program

By The Associated Press

SANTA ANA — Reforms were made in the 18-year-old kidney transplant program at Western Medical Center-Santa Ana after state regulators said it failed to ensure patient safety.

A report from a March review concluded that the transplant program failed to keep adequate records or perform regular checkups on patients over several years and, in one case, failed to ensure that a suicidal patient got psychiatric help, according to the Los Angeles Times, which obtained the report.

However, no patients died.

The transplant program is one of the smallest of the two dozen or so operating in the state. It performed just 13 operations last year, or two short of the number required to remain proficient, according to the state Department of Health Services.

Former truck driver had sadistic appetite

BY GREG RISLING

Associated Press Writer

SAN BERNARDINO — A former truck driver committed "monstrous acts" to satiate sadistic desires when he preyed upon and killed four women over a two-year period before turning himself in, a prosecutor told jurors in closing arguments of a three-month trial Wednesday.

Wayne Adam Ford, 44, had a pattern of picking up prostitutes, having sex with them in his truck and then killing them by strangulation, said Deputy District Attorney David Mazurek.

"He devoured vulnerable, young women to satisfy his sexually sadistic appetite, leaving their dismembered and decomposing bodies scattered like trash across the state of California," Mazurek said.

The defense countered in its closing argument that Ford showed remorse after the killings and asserted that jurors needed to understand his state of mind.

"He turned himself in and said, 'I did this and I should never be let go,'" said Deputy Public Defender Steve Mapes. "We know he had that (remorse)."

The defense, which was to continue arguing Thursday, has previously cited Ford's difficult childhood, a head injury in a 1984 traffic crash, failed marriage and lack of time spent with his son. An insanity defense wasn't sought because Ford knew between right and wrong, according to the defense.

Ford is charged with four counts of murder and a special-circumstance allegation of multiple murder. If convicted, he could face the death penalty.

Ford is accused of killing Patricia Tamez, 29, of Hesperia;

Lanett Deyon White, 25, of Fontana; Tina Renee Gibbs, 26, of Las Vegas; and an unidentified woman who was dismembered. They were killed in 1997 and 1998.

"They had their lives ended far too soon," Mazurek said.

During the trial, Mazurek showed the seven-woman, five-man jury photographs of a severed breast that belong to Tamez, whose body was found in the California Aqueduct.

Accompanied by his brother, Ford walked into a Humboldt County sheriff's station on Nov. 3, 1998, with Tamez's breast and told authorities it represented "just the tip of the iceberg."

Mazurek on Wednesday called Ford a "sexual sadist" whose hatred of women and his displaced anger at an ex-wife led him to kill.

"It's the infliction of pain that arouses him," Mazurek said. "Isn't death the ultimate act of sadism?"

A prostitute who testified during the trial said Ford choked her with a neck tie several times during sex and then showed her a photograph of his ex-wife and their son. She said Ford cried and claimed his behavior was revenge against his ex-wife.

Gibbs' body was found floating in an aqueduct in Buttonwillow in Kern County; White's body was found in an irrigation canal near Lodi in San Joaquin County; and the torso of the unidentified victim — missing the head, arms, legs and breasts — was found in a slough near Eureka in Humboldt County.

Blood and sperm evidence linked Ford to the killings and the unidentified woman's thighs and boiled breasts were found at a campsite where Ford lived for a time, prosecutors said.

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Feather dusters

Scientists revel in fossils that may be missing evolutionary link

BY RANDOLPH E. SCHMID
AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON — Dozens of fossils of an ancient loon-like creature that some say is the missing link in bird evolution have been discovered in northwest China.

The remains of 40 of the nearly modern amphibious birds, so well-preserved that some even have their feathers, were found in Gansu province, researchers report in Friday's issue of the journal *Science*. Previously only a single leg of the creature, known as *Gansus yumenensis*, had been found.

"*Gansus* is a missing link in bird evolution," said Matt Lamanna of the Carnegie Museum of Natural History in Pittsburgh.

"Most of the ancestors of birds from the age of dinosaurs are members of groups that died out and left no modern descendants. But *Gansus* led to modern birds, so it's a link between primitive birds and those we see today," Lamanna, a co-leader of the research team, said in a telephone interview.

It was about the size of a modern pigeon, but similar to loons or diving ducks, he explained, and one of the fossils even has skin preserved between the toes, showing that it had webbed feet.

"We were lucky far beyond our expectations" in finding these fossils, Hai-lu You of the Chinese Academy of Geological Sciences said at a briefing Thursday.

"A world lost for more than 100 million years was being revealed to us," he said.

Previously there was a gap between ancient and modern species of birds, and "*Gansus* fits perfectly into this gap," added Jerald D. Harris of Dixie State College in Utah.

"*Gansus* is the oldest example of the nearly modern birds that branched off of the trunk of the family tree that began with the famous proto-bird *Archaeopteryx*," said Peter Dodson of the University of Pennsylvania, a co-author of the paper along with Lamanna, You and others.

The remains were dated to about 110 million years ago, making them the oldest for the group *Ornithurae*, which includes all modern birds and their closest extinct relatives. Previously, the oldest known fossils from this group were from about 99 million years ago.

The fact that *Gansus* was aquatic indicates that modern birds

may have evolved from animals that originated in aquatic environments, the researchers said.

"Our new specimens are extremely well preserved, with some even including feathers," Lamanna said. "Because these fossils are in such good condition, they've enabled us to reconstruct the appearance and relationships of *Gansus* with a high degree of precision. They provide new and important insight into the evolutionary transformation of carnivorous dinosaurs into the birds we know today."

The remains were found in an ancient lake bed near the town of Changma. Researchers split open slabs of mudstone to find them. It was like turning the pages of a book, Lamanna said.

"We went to Changma hoping that we'd discover one, maybe two, fragments of fossil birds," he said. "Instead, we found dozens, including some almost complete skeletons with soft tissues. We were successful beyond our wildest dreams."

The new fossil material "is remarkable for its excellent preservation and establishes that *Gansus* is an early member of the *Ornithurae*. ... The new fossils demonstrate that *Gansus* clearly is a bird that spent much of its life looking for food in water," commented Hans-Dieter Sues, associate director for research and collections at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History.

Gansus is an additional "link in a long chain of intermediate forms between *Archaeopteryx*, the oldest known bird from the late Jurassic, and modern birds," said Sues, who was not part of Lamanna's research team.

Funding for the research was provided by the Discovery Quest program for The Science Channel, Carnegie Museum of Natural History, Dixie State College of Utah, the Chinese Geological Survey and the Ministry of Science and Technology of China.

At one point during the field work, Lamanna told his colleagues he would eat a duck foot if they found the fossil they were seeking while the television camera crew was still there.

So, did they?

"It tasted sort of like chicken, but real rubbery," he recalled.

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Whale of a find: Carcass found inland

BY DAN JOLING
Associated Press Writer

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — The carcass of a young beluga whale was found Saturday by canoeists on the Tanana River about 40 miles southwest of Fairbanks — or nearly 1,000 river miles from the Bering Sea, the closest beluga habitat.

Sylvia Brunner, a marine mammals researcher at the University of Alaska Museum of the North in Fairbanks, identified the decomposing carcass and oversaw its recovery Wednesday.

What the 8-foot-long whale was doing that far inland on a freshwater river, part of a system that drains much of the vast interior of Alaska, remains a mystery. But Link Olson, curator of marine mammals at the museum, said he was confident the animal swam from the ocean.

"What are the alternatives?" he said. Perpetrating a hoax along a remote section of river with a whale carcass was highly unlikely, he said: "If you were ever close to a dead

marine mammal, even for a few hours, you would know why no one in their right mind would do that."

The "bloated, black thing on the beach" was about 12 feet from the river's edge, Brunner said.

It could have died in the river last fall and frozen, she said, or it could have entered the river this spring seeking fish.

A Nenana fisherman, Ed Lord, told Brunner Thursday he spotted the carcass in early May, four days after ice left the river. He speculated that the whale followed salmon upstream last fall, and when the river froze, could not surface for air and died. The carcass was near a section of the river that jammed with ice this spring.

Belugas are toothed whales and belong to the same group as sperm whales, killer whales, dolphins, and porpoises, according to the Alaska Department of Fish and Game. They often feed on fish in estuaries and the mouths of rivers.

The most distinctive attribute is their color — white, although they are born dark blue-gray and gradually lighten until turning white at 5 or 6 years old.

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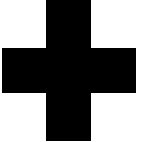
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Congressional talks center on war in Iraq

BY LIZ SIDOTI

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Politics are permeating election-year debates on Iraq in the House and Senate, where Republicans and Democrats alike are carefully staking out their positions on the increasingly unpopular war.

Seeking an advantage, House Republicans aim to force Democrats to go on record supporting President Bush's wartime policies by staging a vote as early as Thursday on a GOP resolution that praises U.S. troops and rejects setting "an arbitrary date" for withdrawing them from Iraq.

"The fundamental question in this debate is: Are we going to confront the threat of terrorism and defeat it, or will we relent and retreat and hope the problem goes away?" House Majority Leader John Boehner, R-Ohio, said, providing a preview of the possible GOP line of attack should Democrats oppose the resolution.

Across Capitol Hill, similar partisan discourse on the Iraq war is certain when Sen. John Kerry, a potential 2008 Democratic presidential candidate, introduces an amendment to an annual military measure that calls for the administration to redeploy combat forces from that war zone by year's end.

It's a position that most Senate members don't share.

"If it's a date certain — absolutely everyone must be gone by then — I think that's less of what we're interested in," said Sen. Jack Reed, D-R.I., part of a Senate Democratic group trying to come up with a different amendment that better reflects a consensus among Senate Democrats on the way forward in Iraq.

The double-barreled debates planned for

Thursday come five months before congressional elections. Opinion polls show voters are frustrated with the Iraq war and favor Democrats to control Congress instead of the Republicans who now run the show.

Approval of Bush's handling of Iraq has dipped to 33 percent, a new low, in the most recent AP-Ipsos Poll. The poll, taken last week before the announcement of the death of Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, the leader of al-Qaida in Iraq, found that 59 percent of adults said the United States made a mistake in going to war in Iraq — the highest level yet in AP-Ipsos polling.

Democrats dismiss the House GOP resolution as nothing more than political theatrics and are expected to use the debate to rail against Bush's wartime policies. Yet Democrats are mindful that voting against such a resolution could leave them vulnerable to attacks by Republicans, who could claim that Democrats who opposed the resolution don't support U.S. troops and advocate a "cut-and-run" strategy.

Senate Republicans, for their part, welcome an Iraq discussion that GOP aides say could showcase Democratic Party divisions on the war.

Struggling to find common ground, Democrats appear to be divided into three camps. Some want troops to leave Iraq this year. Others object to setting any kind of timetable. A number of them want the United States to start redeploying forces by year's end but don't want to set a date when all troops should be out.

Democratic leaders in both the House and Senate are trying to get their members to coalesce around draft proposals that call for the administration to start redeploying U.S. troops by year's end.

North Dakota to sue NCAA over UND's Fighting Sioux nickname

BY DALE WETZEL

Associated Press Writer

WILLISTON, N.D. — State officials voted Thursday to sue the NCAA for penalizing the University of North Dakota over its "Fighting Sioux" nickname and Indian head logo.

Following a meeting with Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem, the Board of Higher Education voted 8-0 to authorize the lawsuit, which would be handled by Stenehjem.

The NCAA last year announced it was banning the use of ethnically or racially hostile or abusive nicknames, mascots and imagery at championship events. It found 18 schools, including UND, in violation of the policy.

Several of those schools have since changed team names and mascots or won appeals after local tribes came to their defense. In UND's case, though, the NCAA rejected the appeal and told the school it may not use the Fighting Sioux nickname and Indian head logo during NCAA postseason tournaments, and it may not host a tournament if it continues to use them.

Stenehjem said the NCAA's decision was an edict delivered by a committee that used constantly changing standards and didn't put the plan to a vote of the NCAA's membership.

The NCAA's executive committee, "more or less by fiat, decided that some institutions were going to be subject to this rule, and some institutions, for reasons that are not understand-

able, were exempted," Stenehjem said.

Teams that have continued using Indian nicknames with the NCAA's blessing include the Florida State Seminoles, Central Michigan Chippewas and the University of Utah Utes.

Stenehjem wouldn't say when the lawsuit, to be financed by private funds, would be filed.

NCAA President Myles Brand has said the NCAA will defend its policy "to the utmost."

North Dakota's Board of Higher Education reviewed the UND nickname and logo in 2000 and ordered the university to keep them shortly after a benefactor building a hockey arena on campus threatened to leave it unfinished if the name and logo changed.

A number of Indian tribes and students support dropping the nickname and logo. One official with the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe wrote a letter supporting the university, but another opposed the nickname.

David Gipp, president of Bismarck's United Tribes Technical College, asked the board to forgo legal action.

"We would hope that rather than spend funds on a lawsuit, the funds were instead used to create more opportunities for American Indians, and all North Dakotans, to improve their lives and to promote diversity," he wrote.

ON THE NET

<http://www.und.edu>
<http://www.ncaa.org>

Lynch to untie the knot

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — After a month of marriage, director David Lynch has filed for divorce from the mother of his 14-year-old son.

Lynch cited irreconcilable differences for the split with film editor and producer Mary Sweeney, according to court papers filed Monday in Los Angeles County Superior Court.

The pair has worked together for years on films Lynch directed, including "Blue Velvet," "Wild At Heart," "Twin Peaks: Fire Walk with Me," and "Mulholland Drive."

Court documents indicated Lynch and Sweeney have a marital settlement agreement.

An after-hours call to Lynch's attorney was not immediately returned Wednesday.

Lynch, 60, also has a grown son and daughter from two previous marriages.

LOS ANGELES — Missy Elliott will star in the big-screen version of her life story, Universal Pictures has announced.

The untitled project is in the development phase, studio spokeswoman Jennifer Chamberlain said Wednesday.

The Elliott biopic will be produced by Robert De Niro and Jane Rosenthal through their company, Tribeca Films.

Elliott, 34, began her music career with the all-girl group, Sista. She has won four Grammys, including best rap solo performance for "Get Ur Freak On" in 2002.

She has released six solo albums, including last year's "The Cookbook." Her production credits include tracks for Janet Jackson, Justin Timberlake and Destiny's Child.

NEW YORK — One of Andy Warhol's signature silver wigs and a bracelet that was a gift from Carole Lombard to Clark Gable will be sold at Christie's in a June 22 auction of film and entertainment memorabilia.

The wig, worn by Warhol in the 1980s, has a pre-sale estimate of \$4,000 to \$6,000, the auction house said on its Web site.

The Warhol memorabilia is being sold by the artist's nephew, Jeffrey Warhola, and also includes a 1977 Polaroid photo of Muhammad Ali signed by Warhol, estimated at \$7,000 to \$9,000.

Besides the gold-linked bracelet, inscribed "I Love You CL," Gable's estate is auctioning a copy of the book "Gone With the Wind" inscribed to Gable by producer David O. Selznick.

Other highlights include a rare poster from the film "The Cabinet of Dr. Caligari" and Marilyn Monroe's personal address book from the early 1960s.

DENVER — Architect Daniel Libeskind, who created a master plan to redevelop the World Trade Center site after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, is recovering from complications from oral surgery and had to postpone a presentation in Denver, his wife said.

Libeskind had an abscess but was resting comfortably at his home in Manhattan, Nina Libeskind said Wednesday. She said his affliction was painful but not serious.

Libeskind designed a plan to build five office towers, a memorial, a transit hub and a perform-

ing arts center at the 16-acre trade center site.

Libeskind, who designed the jagged, titanium-clad expansion of the Denver Art Museum, was to outline conceptual ideas Thursday for Denver's Civic Center Park.

Libeskind's presentation will be rescheduled, Denver Parks and Recreation spokeswoman Tiffany Moehring said.

PARIS — Jean-Pierre Jeunet, director of the whimsical movies "Amelie" and "A Very Long Engagement," has been named a knight in France's Legion of Honor.

Culture Minister Renaud Donnedieu de Vabres praised Jeunet on Wednesday as "an atypical, unusual filmmaker, who created more than just a style — an entire universe."

The French filmmaker plans to adapt Yann Martel's "Life of Pi." His movies also include "Alien: Resurrection" and "The City of Lost Children."

NEW YORK — "American Idol" Taylor Hicks is ranked as the No. 1 "hottest bachelor" by People magazine — and he's looking for love.

The 29-year-old silver-haired crooner tops People's list in the magazine's new issue, on newsstands Friday. But the "Idol" winner says he'd happily give up his bachelor days.

"There's been no time," Hicks says of his dating life. "Now, I wouldn't mind spending the rest of my life with the right woman."

Hicks also wants to find a woman he exchanged glances with on a recent airline flight. Of the mystery blonde, he says, "We waved and did a double-take look. It seemed like something out of a movie."

The magazine has set up e-mail and mailing addresses for the mystery woman to contact Hicks.

Other "hot" bachelors — who aren't ranked by the magazine — include Matthew McConaughey, Nick Lachey, Jake Gyllenhaal and Kenny Chesney.

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MOVIEGUIDE

SHOWTIMES: FRIDAY, JUNE 16, 2006

Aero Theatre
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Friday: Hard Times (NR)

7:30

Saturday: The Long Riders (R)

7:30

Sunday: The 10th District

Court: Moments of Trial (NR)

7:30

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1310 3rd Street
(310)289-4262

The Break-Up (PG-13) 11:00,
11:40, 1:45, 2:15, 4:15, 5:10, 7:00,
8:00, 9:30, 10:40, 11:50

Cars (G)

10:40, 11:50, 1:40, 2:40, 4:40, 5:30,
7:40, 8:10, 10:30, 11:05

The Da Vinci Code (PG-13) 12:30, 3:50,
7:10, 10:25

Nacho Libre (PG)

10:45, 12:00, 1:00, 2:30, 3:20, 5:00,
5:50, 7:30, 8:30, 9:45, 10:50, 11:55

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1441 3rd Street
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The Fast and the Furious:

Tokyo Drift (PG-13)

12:30, 1:45, 3:00, 4:15, 5:30, 7:00,
8:00, 9:30, 10:30

Prairie Home Companion, A (PG-13)

12:50, 4:40, 7:20, 9:50

X-Men: The Last Stand (PG-13)

1:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:10

Landmark Nuwllshire
1314 Wilshire Blvd
(310)281-8228

Art School Confidential (R)

11:30, 4:30, 9:45

District B-13 (Banlieue 13) (R)

2:00, 7:30

The Rocky Horror Picture

Show (R)

Saturday 11:55 pm

Thank You for Smoking (R)

11:40, 2:10, 4:45, 7:10, 9:50

Laemmle's Monica Fourplex
1332 2nd Street
(310)394-9741

An Inconvenient Truth (PG)

12:15, 1:30, 2:45, 4:00, 5:15, 7:00,
7:45, 9:30, 10:15

Peaceful Warrior (PG-13)

12:45, 3:45, 7:00, 9:55

Water (PG-13)

1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 9:55

Mann's Criterion Theatre
1313 3rd Street
(310) 395-1599

Garfield: A Tail of Two Kitties (PG)

11:00, 1:00, 3:10, 5:20, 7:30, 9:40

The Lake House (PG)

11:30, 2:00, 3:00, 4:30, 5:30, 7:00,
8:00, 9:30, 10:30, 12:00am

The Omen (R)

11:40, 1:20, 2:20, 4:00, 5:00, 6:40,
7:40, 9:20, 10:20

Over the Hedge (PG)

11:50, 2:10, 4:20, 6:50, 9:10

Poseidon (PG-13)

12:30

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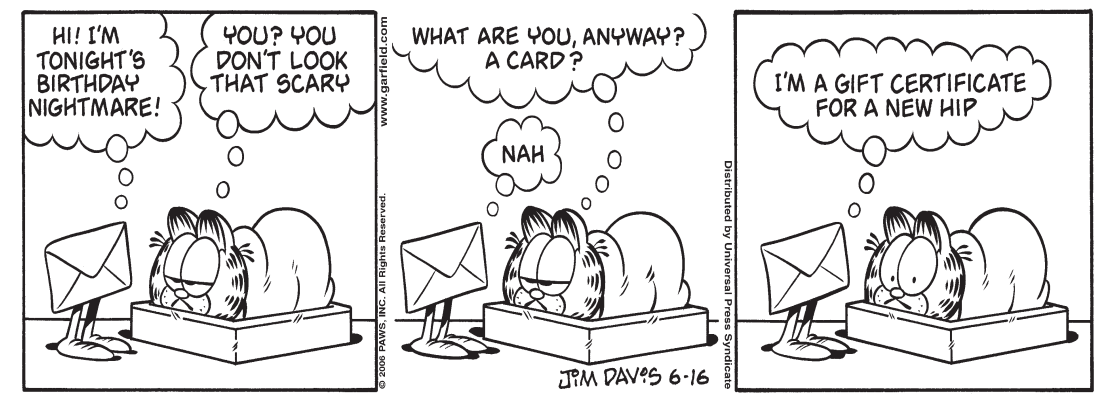
The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



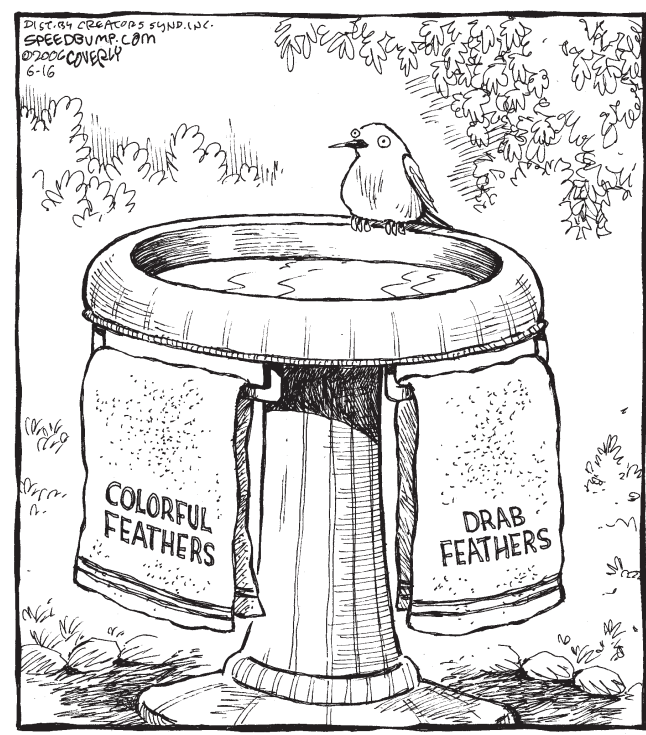
edge city by TERRY & PATTY LABAN



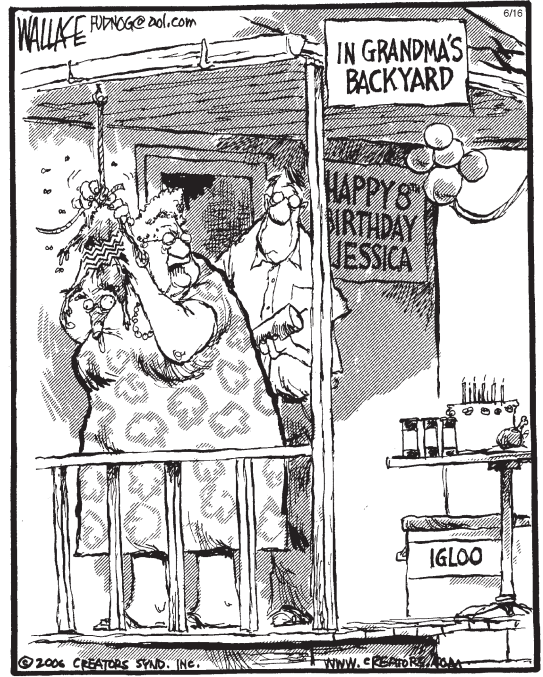
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- 11 Kind of committee
- 12 Tickle
- 13 TV's Gibbons
- 14 Uncle Miltie
- 15 Composer Sibelius
- 17 Looting spree
- 18 Tater
- 20 River from Pittsburgh
- 22 Paint buy
- 23 Blood count?
- 26 Seeing red
- 28 Nebula makeup
- 29 Lets up
- 31 Opening
- 32 At any time
- 33 Hotel features
- 34 Fabulous ox
- 36 It has its ups and downs
- 38 Atlanta school
- 40 In itself
- 43 Baggy
- 44 Raring to go
- 45 Crooked
- 46 Dismal, to poets

DOWN

- 1 Lass
- 2 Shelley work
- 3 Story involving monkeys
- 4 Seeped
- 5 March Madness org.
- 6 Poke
- 7 "West Side Story" song
- 8 Story involving a monkey
- 9 Ibsen's home
- 10 Sugar source
- 16 Also not

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R	O	D	E	N	T		C	A	R	S

Yesterday's answer

- 18 Battle souvenir
- 19 Window section
- 21 Cronos
- 23 Unit of force
- 24 Heavy metal
- 25 Nile serpents
- 27 Overturn
- 30 Take a stab at
- 33 One way to play
- 34 Composer Bartók
- 35 Novelist Oz
- 37 Newspaper page
- 39 Bow wood
- 41 Poseidon's place
- 42 Lapse

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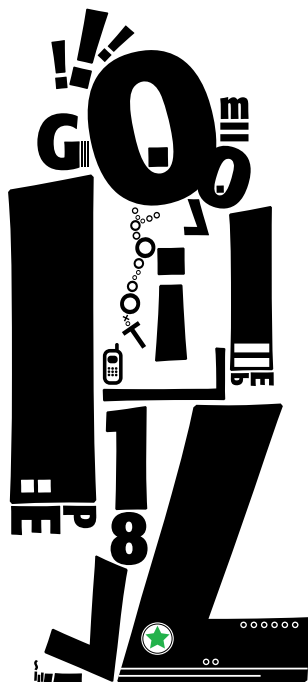
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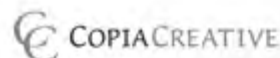
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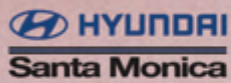
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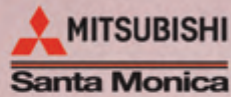
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