

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

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FANTASY 5

19, 09, 29, 18, 13

DAILY 3

Afternoon picks: **5, 8, 0**

Evening picks: **1, 6, 7**

DAILY DERBY

1st Place: 01, Gold Rush

2nd Place: 04, Big Ben

3rd Place: 06, Whirl Win

Draw Time: 1:45:39



NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

An industry has sprung up in the last year or two in New York City: advisers who counsel parents on how to get their 3-year-olds accepted at prestigious nursery schools (which gives them a leg up in being accepted at prestigious kindergartens and then prestigious private schools). According to a May New York Times report, advisers charge as much as \$300 an hour or a flat \$3,000 to give tips, which parents justify because a full, 14-year ride in private schools can cost \$300,000. Top-of-the-line Columbia Grammar, for example (one of the "Baby Ives"), recently had more than 500 kindergarten applicants for 34 open slots.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"If we see a light at the end of a tunnel it's the light of an oncoming train."
— Robert Lowell

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City gives record amount to school district

BY JOHN WOOD

Daily Press Staff Writer

City Hall has squeezed an extra \$2.25 million out of its budget to give to the cash-strapped local school district.

Tuesday's decision bumps the total cash contribution up to \$5.25 million, \$725,000 more than the city has ever given to public schools.

Council members handed out last-minute donations to a handful of groups Tuesday before adopting the final budget.

Though school officials had hoped for more, they expressed gratitude for the extra cash.

"We're very encouraged by the continued support by our council to education," said John Deasy, superintendent of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District. "It is one of their stated priorities and they have a long his-

tory of support that is greatly appreciated."

With the \$2.25 million in hand, Deasy said the school will rehire many of the secretaries, custodians, nurses, librarians and other workers that were laid off in March when the district was facing a \$13.7 million shortfall.

Dozens of residents and community leaders, including former mayors Denny Zane and Nat Trives, pleaded with the council to increase its historical \$3 million annual contribution by as much as \$4 million.

About 1,000 people marched in front of City Hall before the meeting to demand the city give more to public schools.

The council settled on \$2.25 million after a motion to give the schools \$2.5 million failed.

"We should really go out on a limb for

See DISTRICT, page 5

Adopted city budget means bigger parking fines, saved programs

BY JOHN WOOD

Daily Press Staff Writer

The mounted police will still patrol Santa Monica streets on horseback and the local symphony looks likely to be saved under the city's new \$356 million budget for next year, which was adopted Tuesday.

But the saved programs come at a price.

To help meet its \$16.1 million budget shortfall, city officials agreed to raise parking fines throughout the city.

The decision comes on the heels of an earlier call to raise parking meter rates throughout the city and increase various fees in the planning, police and fire departments.

The additional \$2.2 million in parking fines will come by raising the cost of most tickets.

There are more than 50 types of parking violations in Santa Monica and the fee levels for 30 of them are controlled by the city.

Under the new system, preferential parking tickets will be bumped to \$47 per infraction from \$38. The same increase will apply to tickets for disobeying signs, parking in red zones or in front of driveways, and for parking during street cleaning hours.

The fee for an expired meter, now \$28, will be pushed up to \$35.

Supporters of the increases point to the fact that fines in Santa Monica have remained steady since 1993, while neighboring cities have raised their tickets.

Councilman Bob Holbrook cast the sole dissenting vote.

"The rates that are proposed are excessive,"

See BUDGET, page 5

Back to Baghdad: A local's perspective on war in Iraq

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON

Daily Press Staff Writer

A Santa Monica woman is traveling to Baghdad today to get the full story on how devastating the recent war has been on the natives there.

Kelly Hayes-Raitt will spend the next month in Baghdad gathering information on a human level so that when she returns she can tell Southern Californians what's really going on in the war-torn country.

Hayes-Raitt, who went to Baghdad in February, has spent the past three months giving presenta-

tions to local community groups and religious congregations about the people of Iraq and the pain they have suffered since the 1991 Gulf War. Her hope is to not only tell her stories, but to open a dialogue within the community about the politics of the current war.

When she returns on July 17, Hayes-Raitt plans to give more presentations about the people and experiences she encountered.

"I want to get a better, fuller sense of what's happening," she said. "My goal is to present to people a perspective that they are not

getting and bring it down to a human level, which is what this is about."

Hayes-Raitt, who owns a Santa Monica-based public relations firm, criticized the national press

See WAR, page 6



Photos courtesy of Kelly Hayes-Raitt

Clockwise from top: When Santa Monica resident Kelly Hayes-Raitt travels to Iraq, she hopes to find Sura, a 12-year-old girl who lives in Baghdad. Hayes-Raitt, a local peace activist, met the girl when she traveled there in February before the war began. Hayes-Raitt met Dhia, a 24-year-old Iraqi man at this coffee house she frequently visited in Baghdad.

Samohi graduates 750 seniors today

By Daily Press staff

About 750 students will walk across the Greek Theater at Santa Monica High School today, grab their diplomas and launch into the world.

The graduation ceremony begins at 5:30 p.m. and includes remarks from principal Ilene Straus, associate principal Mark Kelly and superintendent of schools John Deasy.

Students Rochelle Amber Boyd, Moises Castillo, Andrea Chang, Max Goldstein, Coriana Nealy, Marcello Padilla, Cynthia Santiago and Christine Yi will make presentations.

Because seating is limited at the Greek, tickets for the event can only be attained from students.

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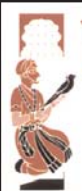


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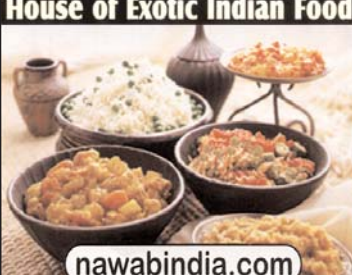
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HOROSCOPE

Follow another's lead, Virgo



JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

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

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, June 19, 2003:

Your specialty will become sorting out mixed messages this year, though you might give your share of them as well. The unexpected occurs with real estate and family members, though it might not necessarily be bad. Finances will need strict handling, because you will have several moneymaking opportunities. Don't think it will happen overnight, but expect slow growth with your funds. If you are single, you will meet someone important in the next six months. This person could be Mr. or Ms. Right. If you're attached, a change of residence might be just what the doctor ordered. You're likely to remodel your home otherwise, or make some major change. PISCES anchors you.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★★ A sudden insight allows you to gain a new perspective. As a result, you might want and need to step back. The greater your perspective, the stronger you can be in your life. Confusion surrounds communication. Tonight: Understand more of what might be going on with another.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★★ You find a meeting and/or an associate a bundle of surprises. Initially you might get thrown into a tizzy. A warning: Get ready for more of this type of behavior. Choose to look at life as exciting as opposed to shocking. Finances could take an interesting twist. Tonight: Follow the crowd.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ The unexpected develops when you least expect it. A boss or someone in charge does a reversal. You might not feel comfortable with others right now. No matter what you say or do, someone seems to misunderstand your intentions. Tonight: Work as late as need be.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★★ What you hear might not coincide with someone else's reaction. You could be a bit uncomfortable with another's ideas. Yet you will gain if you open up your thinking and incorporate some new and different ideas. Not everything is black or white. Tonight: Relax to a favorite TV show or hop on the computer.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ Unexpected developments come through others. You might wonder what is going on. Confusion surrounds finances and long-term desires. Sort through information. Get to the bottom of a problem by listening to an associate. Tonight: Time for a loved one.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★★ You're out of sorts, but the good news is that others seem more than ready to deal. Why not let them, especially a boss or superior with whom you cannot seem to connect? Don't even try if others are more than willing. Tonight: Follow another's lead.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ An easy pace could be what you want, but not what you get. A child or loved one has a knack for creating uproar in your life. You will tend to overthink a matter involving work. Let go some and relax with the moment. Take a walk to release stress. Tonight: Soak away stress in a hot bath.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ Your imagination completes what others don't think is possible. You fill in the gaps in a partner's or associate's thinking. Though some might be confused, you totally understand what is going on here. Allow more playfulness in. Tonight: Start the weekend early.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ Pressure builds. You don't understand what makes an associate act in such an unpredictable manner. A real estate investment might not be all that it appears to be. In the present mood, make no commitments. Tonight: Take a night to yourself. Head on home.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ You might want to defer to a loved one or a friend. This person will present an excellent explanation. Someone might decide that this rationale is gibberish. Keep pitching in and explaining how you feel. Clear out your calls and messages. Tonight: Start thinking "Friday."

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ Money matters present their share of doubts and questions. The more questions you ask, the less sure you are of which way to go. Retire an idea or suggestion for a day or so. Play it conservatively, if possible. Tonight: Refuse to be coaxed into anything flamboyant.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ You jump through hoops seeking answers. You might not be sure of others, as they act up in an unexpected manner. You might decide to head in another direction for the moment. Allow yourself to be a free spirit. Tonight: Your smile is a winner.

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1427 Third Street Promenade, Suite #202 • Santa Monica, CA 90401

PUBLISHER	Ross Furukawa ross@smdp.com	CLASSIFIED REPRESENTATIVE	Paula Christensen paula@smdp.com
EDITOR	Carolyn Sackariason sack@smdp.com	ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE	William Pattosh william@smdp.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR	Jason Auslander jason@smdp.com	ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE	Rob Plubeni rob@smdp.com
STAFF WRITER	John Wood wood@smdp.com	ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE	Keri Aroesty keri@smdp.com
PRODUCTION MANAGER	Del Pastrana del@smdp.com	CIRCULATION MANAGER	Robert Deamicis Rob@smdp.com
PRODUCTION ASSISTANT	Alex Cantarero alex@smdp.com	CIRCULATION	Keith Wyatt keith@smdp.com
CLASSIFIED REPRESENTATIVE	Mitch Troy mitch@smdp.com	SPECIAL PROJECTS	Dave Danforth dave@smdp.com
CLASSIFIED REPRESENTATIVE	Angela Downen angela@smdp.com	STAFF MASCOT	Maya Furukawa ross@smdp.com

LOCAL



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Chamber focuses on water efficiency

By Daily Press staff

The Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce, in cooperation with the City of Santa Monica and the Metropolitan Water District, is offering a free luncheon workshop on water efficiency to local businesses.

The luncheon will take place at the Ken Edwards Center, located at 1527 Fourth Street, Room 104, on July 17 from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Business owners and operators are invited to learn how water issues impact their business, including urban runoff mitigation, city ordinances and rebates currently being offered.

With recent Colorado River water allocation challenges, water contamination issues and pollution prevention regulations, now is an important time for businesses to get "water-wise," city officials say. Santa Monica's businesses use approximately 400,000 gallons of water each day. The workshop offers insight to the current issues and provides practical information on how businesses can save money while saving resources. Attendees will learn about programs and rebates currently offered by the City of Santa Monica and the Metropolitan Water District.

"Following on the success of the Sustainable Quality Awards, our committee felt offering educational workshops to the business community was the logical next step," said Marianne Simon from the Chamber's Environmental Affairs Committee. "Growing populations and our arid climate made it easy to see why addressing water usage is so important, especially as we head into our annual dry season."

All attendees will enjoy a complimentary lunch catered by Amelia's Café while learning about ways to make a difference in their business and in their community.

If you are interested in attending the luncheon workshop, please RSVP to the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce, at (310) 393.9825, ext. 10, or register on line at www.smchamber.com. Space is limited.

Palisades run registration now open

By Daily Press staff

Billed nationally by Runner's World magazine as a race not to be missed, the 26th Annual Palisades Will Rogers 5K and 10K Run and Kids' Run is now pre-registering runners ready to race to the finish line on Friday, July 4 at the Palisades Recreation Center.

Sponsored for the third consecutive year by Coldwell Banker Greater Los Angeles Company, all race proceeds will be donated to The Optimist Club in Pacific Palisades and the Palisades Booster Club to benefit local youth activities.

As one of the more popular and well-recognized races in California and the country, The Palisades Will Rogers 5K and 10K Run has consistently attracted from 2,800 to 3,000 participants of all ages, from young children to seniors over 80 years old. Runners aren't only from Pacific Palisades, but in many cases are representing other states and countries.

Pacific Palisades resident and honorary mayor, actor Steve Guttenberg, will be making an appearance at the race. A few of the celebrities who have participated in or assisted with the race over the years include actor Walter Matthau, hockey star Rogie Vachon, Los Angeles Dodger Davey Lopes, basketball star Steve Kerr, singer Toni Tennille, singer John Raitt, Olympic Gold Medallist swimmer Mark Spitz and Congressman Mel Levine.

To obtain pre-registration forms for the 5K, 10K and Kids' Run, visit either two locations of Coldwell Banker in Pacific Palisades.

The entry fee for the 5K and 10K Run is \$25 and \$10 for the Kids' Run if registering before Friday, June 27. Day of the race registration also is available at the Palisades Recreation Center from 6:30 a.m. until 8 a.m. for an additional \$5. The 5K and 10K race will begin at 8:15 a.m. and the Kids' Run will begin at 9:15 a.m.

Medals will be awarded to the first, second and third place finishers in 28 divisions (14 male divisions and 14 female divisions) in the 5K and 10K races. The Kid's Run, for ages 12 and under, is non-competitive and each participant will receive a ribbon and a flag. For more information, please contact Brian Shea at (310) 578-8877 or visit the official race Web site at www.pwr10k.com.

surf report

Watch out for the super low tide this morning! Though the S will wind down through the day, the waist- to chest-high waves at the good breaks should stay fairly consistent.

BAD NEWS: S swell is slowly dying.

GOOD NEWS: The NW, which has been fading, will pick back up on Thursday and Friday.

OUTLOOK: Storms off of New Zealand and South America should be sending us some fun summer surf from the SW and S, respectively, over the weekend and into early next week. It looks like tropical storm Bianca, now off of Baja, is coming up bunk.

Today the
water is:

65°

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

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

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The Q Line

President Bush recently laid out a plan to end homelessness in the United States within 10 years. That plan was discussed last week at a meeting of U.S. mayors held in Denver.

Santa Monica Mayor Richard Bloom, along with Los Angeles Mayor James Hahn and other area leaders, have convened a committee to deal with homelessness as a regional issue.

Many argue that other cities won't deal with homeless people and rely on

Santa Monica to bear the brunt of the problem.

So this week, Q-Line wants to know, "What can be done regionally to alleviate Santa Monica of its growing homeless population?"

Call (310) 285-8106 with your response before Thursday at 5 p.m. We'll print them in Friday's paper. Please limit your comments to a minute or less. It might help to think first about the wording of your response.

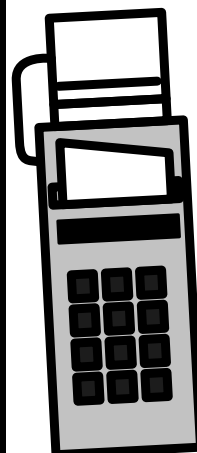
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LETTERS

America isn't about hand-outs

Editor:

We all agree that poverty leads to crime, but the Daily Press story (June 17, 2003) made me wonder if anyone wants to look at what leads to poverty as the first step toward reducing it.

City leaders seem to want to put a Band-Aid on the problem of poverty instead of looking at its roots. The main differences between the Pico neighborhood and other areas of Santa Monica, which the reporter described as "overwhelmingly populated by wealthy white professionals," are income level and education level.

Increased skills, experience and education lead to increased income, decreased poverty and decreased crime.

"Pushing for more government funding," and "(calling for) more government jobs to be given to Pico residents" (as Mr. de la Torre said) sends the message to Pico residents that someone owes them something. The government is not responsible for redistributing wealth or giving jobs to those without the skills and education to succeed.

Instead of focusing on how students feel about taking the bus to school versus their friends who drive themselves in their own cars, students should learn, in school, at home and at the Pico Youth and Family Center, that their success in life rests on their own drive to increase their skills, experience and education. Teaching them that they are victims of society and that someone owes them money or a job, is the worst disservice we can provide.

Instead of looking to put a Band-Aid on poverty, let's figure out how to stop the endless spiral of dependency. The American dream isn't about handouts, or government programs and services, it's about starting with nothing and building your way up to success through accomplishment.

Evelyn Jerome
Santa Monica

'A consensus of opposition' at SMC

Editor:

In her letter of June 13, 2003 to the Santa Monica Daily Press, SMC President Robertson fails to acknowledge that over eight in 10 employees at the college feel that the president/superintendent cannot guide SMC through the current budget crisis and beyond. The dispute over how to best handle the budget cuts at SMC is simply the culmination of a failed working relationship between the employees of the college and the college's administration. The president's dismissal of the no confidence referendum is symptomatic of her approach to the college's governance.

A well-managed organization is capable of weathering a budget crisis as severe as the one facing SMC. Clearly over 80 percent of the women and men employed at SMC

feel that the college is not well managed. Surviving a budget crisis is stressful under the best of circumstances, but may prove to be impossible when there is little or no potential for achieving consensus among all the constituencies involved.

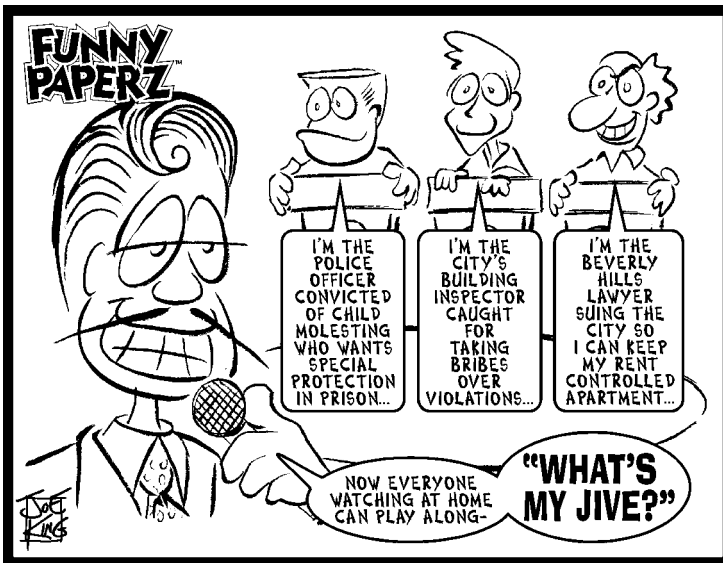
Whatever qualities the president may possess, there is little question that consensus building is not among them. Votes of no confidence are exceedingly rare in higher education. The college president has received no less than three of them in her career.

A community such as Santa Monica has the right to expect the highest quality of progressive leadership in its public institutions. Its community college should be no exception.

What does it mean when the only consensus a leader can attain is a consensus of opposition?

Phil Hendricks

President CSEA Chapter 36, Santa Monica College



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City at forefront of great new American enterprise



TITTINGER'S TAKE

By Michael J. Tittinger

"So what is the meaning of life ... to you?" a friend asked recently.

Exhausted and talked out and just plain brain fatigued after a long, deep conversation, I went with the first word that popped into my mind.

"Sharing."

It was a knee-jerk response, a quick retort run up the flag pole in an effort to avoid another long, drawn-out discussion as much as anything else. I was tired. My fluffed bed pillows were calling. Conan O'Brien was morphing pictures of celebrities together and proposing "What if they had a baby?"

Yet it's the one point made during that lengthy, philosophical conversation with a friend back East that I keep revisiting time and again.

Sharing.

It is no longer something I'm simply taking stock of in my own life but watching for it in others as well. It can be world altering. It can be something as grandiose as a nation's \$1 billion pledge to fight AIDS in Africa, or something as simple as holding a Sourdough Jack sandwich up to

the mouth of someone driving you home.

Sharing is selfless. It is taking an interest. It is love.

Disciples of Ayn Rand might argue that sharing is actually the most selfish of acts because the feeling one gets through sharing with another is unmatched. It fills the void inside. It lifts the spirit. It's securing happiness without anything material in exchange, and, therefore, key to attaining the ultimate moral value.

Santa Monica is a city uniquely given to sharing, even to a fault as its critics might attest, because it can only bring about more problems for the average resident, such as the proliferation of the homeless population.

The recent approval of Measure S saw voters and homeowners voluntarily give of themselves (and their paychecks) to the tune of more than \$6 million to give local schools a much-needed shot in the arm. Yes, more funding is needed to maintain present program and staffing levels, but what a start! City residents have collectively declared loud and clear that they are willing to help, and not solely rely on government to take care of all of their needs.

Then, of course, there's Santa Monica's renowned homelessness situation — a direct result of its willingness to take problems head-on and not settle for simply offering transients a one-way ticket to the city's limits.

Santa Monica currently spends roughly

\$2 million a year on services for the homeless. But even as it does so, it remains at the forefront of the push for a solution, not pawning them off on the next coastal town like other cities were suspected of doing to Santa Monica in the past. That's only shifting the problem, not solving it. We should be proud to live in a city that doesn't settle for such short-term solutions to society's ills, a city that thinks globally and isn't blinded by its borders.

Make no mistake, however, as the city distributes Band-Aids while it searches for the cure, a cure does indeed need to be found. It must be a priority and now appears to be an opportune time to make it so.

President George W. Bush has issued a challenge to the country and its leaders to end homelessness within 10 years, which may or may not sound preposterous and naive. Still, it shows a willingness of the government to seriously address a problem that has continually fallen through the cracks over the years, taking a back seat to a continual string of more pressing problems.

Santa Monica Mayor Richard Bloom will join Los Angeles Mayor James Hahn, assorted politicians and community leaders in forming a committee — "Bring L.A. Home" — to begin organizing efforts to tackle homelessness over the next 12 months. The group will first meet in the summer, then smaller meetings will be staged throughout Los Angeles to gather community input.

Everyone and anyone with an opinion, a plan, a vision will be welcomed.

On May 25, 1961, President John F. Kennedy stood before Congress and issued a similar challenge to the country — to put a man on the moon and return him to earth by the end of the decade.

"Now is the time for a great new American enterprise," he said.

Well, in the wake of 9-11, an unpopular war played out on network television and a growing PR nightmare regarding "the ugly American" throughout the world, the time seems ripe for another "great new American enterprise."

This just might be a chance to show the world by example, and not brute force, what our nation is capable of.

President Kennedy's challenge more than 40 years ago was no more plausible than President Bush's, but it inspired a nation to dream and work towards realizing those dreams. And while eradicating the streets of the growing homeless population may not appear as glorious or awe-inspiring as landing on the moon, it is no less worthy a cause.

Kennedy said the quest for a lunar landing would prove to be "impressive to mankind."

Taking our brothers off the streets and sharing the wealth ... that will be impressive for mankind.

(Mike Tittinger is a freelance writer living in Santa Monica.)

LOCAL



Santa Monica City Council hopes worst is behind them

BUDGET, from page 1

he said. "And I just can't support it."

All told, \$5.4 million will be cut from City Hall departments, \$1.6 million worth of capital improvement projects will be put on hold, \$5.2 in new revenues will be found and another \$3.9 million will be saved through various policy changes.

If everything goes as planned, the city will have a \$2.35 million cushion at the end of the year.

"It's just shy of a enough to fully offset our new worst-case scenario," said City Finance Director Mike Dennis. "We're trying to project the worst case and make sure we have funds to absorb it."

The City Council voted to give the cash-strapped school district an additional \$2.25 million next year on top of its \$3 million regular contribution. All of that money comes from savings from this year's budget, Dennis said.

But in order to approve another \$78,500 in last-minute funds not included in the proposed budget, the Council agreed to take a hit to its own contingency budget for this year and next.

The Council's contingency budget is about \$100,000 per year and is used mostly for miscellaneous expenses, Dennis said.

Under the adopted budget, the local symphony will get an additional \$11,505 in one-time funds from the city, bringing its total contribution up to \$24,000.

Symphony organizers descended upon City Hall Tuesday because they were worried that the city's proposed 56 percent reduction to their budget would threaten the popular events.

The Santa Monica Police Department's mounted patrol will be given an additional \$12,500 to operate through the end of the year. Supporters of the four-horse unit, which was on the chopping block for the second year in a row, will then have to

come up with the \$25,000 needed to sustain it for next year.

"Their work is sure," said actress June Lockhart, who called the council's compromise "neat." "They are the higher authority."

The Council also gave the 18th Street Arts Complex another \$20,000 in one-time funds on top of its \$24,995 regular contribution.

The remaining last-minute expenditures approved by the City Council will be taken out of the contingency budget on an ongoing basis.

"We're going to all be in real, real bad straits (if things worsen). We're going to be cutting jobs, laying people off and shortening library hours."

— HERB KATZ
City councilman

Another \$4,500 will be spent on new tree plantings, \$20,000 will go to park maintenance, \$2,000 will be spent on portable toilets for day laborers near 11th Street and Colorado Boulevard and \$8,000 will be spent on a retirement system for council members.

Council members also voted to increase the city's funding of "Celebrate America," a fireworks event scheduled for Santa Monica College on June 28th, from \$10,000 to \$15,000.

New dollars mean more jobs brought back to local schools

DISTRICT, from page 1

education," said Councilman Herb Katz, who had originally suggested the council give \$3 million or more, after the final decision was made. "In the long run, we really help and save ourselves."

Councilwoman Pam O'Connor was the lone dissenting vote in giving the extra \$2.25 million.

During the public comment period, O'Connor asked school supporters why they had not sought the money under Measure S, a flat \$225 parcel tax that is estimated to generate about \$6.5 million annually for the district.

The parcel tax, which will be in place for six years, was passed by voters June 3.

O'Connor said that last year's extra \$1.5 million donation was meant as a one-time only contribution. If the council continues to bail out schools, the district may become dependent on the funds, which are likely to disappear, she added.

Other council members agreed.

"The budget situation that we're in is not going to turn around," said Councilman Mike Feinstein, who originally proposed a \$2 million donation. "The gravy train is over."

The last-minute donations handed out by the council came from savings the city gained during a hiring freeze in City Hall.

But officials worry that money may be needed if the recession deepens or if the

state decides to take more funding away from Santa Monica.

"There simply isn't enough cash to go around any longer," said Mayor Richard Bloom, adding that the city's favorable bond rating hangs in the balance. "We need to try and put ourselves in a place where we can sustain funding."

"The gravy train is over."

— MIKE FEINSTEIN
City councilman

The additional \$2.25 million and the historical \$3 million given by the city falls under its facilities use agreement with the district, which allows the city to use school grounds for municipal purposes.

Barbara Stinchfield, director of the city's community and cultural services department, said City Hall actually gives an additional \$5.23 million to local schools through various grants and services, as well as after-school, police and arts programs.

Though \$225,000 of the additional funds will go towards a summer school intervention program, the remaining \$2 million is earmarked for rehiring a handful of jobs that were cut in March. Officials will meet Thursday, June 26 to discuss which positions will be restored.

"As of yesterday, I am the only council member to contribute (to the event)," said Councilman Herb Katz, who helped secure more than \$3,500 to revive the event after SMC officials cancelled it.

Before adopting the final budget, council members affirmed the city's goals for next year.

Officials want to put more resources into the troubled Pico neighborhood, while increasing the city's sustainability and

improving customer service in City Hall.

With next year's budget finalized, council members said they hope that the worst of the economic turmoil has passed.

"We're going to all be in real, real bad straits (if things worsen)," Katz said. "We're going to be cutting jobs, laying people off and shortening library hours."

"Whether it's all going to happen we don't know," he added. "But I've always been an optimist."

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LOCAL

Santa Monican nervous about her travels in Iraq

WAR, from page 1

for playing into the White House's fear-mongering tactics and its one-sided reporting of the war. She points out that more than 3,000 Iraqis have died in "Operation Freedom," which is rarely discussed in the national press.

"I think one of the things President Bush has done well is create fear," she said. "We can't be afraid to speak out and question our government."

And while many attendees at Hayes-Raitt's speaking engagements have welcomed her perspective, others have not. She's been called unpatriotic and naive by some who've heard her talk.

"It's been a real privilege to be able to open the conversation," she said. "Not everyone agrees but it makes people think and it's making me think."

Hayes-Raitt has had enough support, however, to raise \$10,000 in the past month for her trip. She's gotten donations as little as \$1 and as much as \$500 from complete strangers who have either learned of her endeavor through others or heard her speak.

"I think what I'm tapping is a true sense of compassion," she said. "People are responding to a sense of helping the Iraqis and a sense of horror about what we've done to the Iraqis ..."

"My message is still the same — we dropped cluster bombs on children," she added.

On Tuesday, Students Against Violence and War at Santa Monica High School, donated \$150 toward the trip.



Photo courtesy of Kelly Hayes-Raitt

Local peace activist Kelly Hayes-Raitt will return to Iraq today. Because the nation's banking system is in tatters, she will carry \$5,000 in cash.

When Hayes-Raitt was buying Power Bars at the Budget Market on Fourth Street and Hollister Avenue earlier this week, complete strangers shopping in the convenience store pitched in \$5 and \$10 to help her stock up for the trip. The store owners even donated few boxes toward the cause and sold the rest at a discounted rate.

"The support has been unbelievable," Hayes-Raitt said.

Hayes-Raitt said she plans to try to find some of the natives she met when in Baghdad a few months ago.

Hayes-Raitt carries a picture of Sura, a 12-year-old girl she met at a bomb shelter, to remind her of why she continues to spread the messages from Iraq.

"When I get tired, it makes me do one more thing when I think of her," Hayes-Raitt said, adding that although she doesn't have Sura's address, she hopes she'll be able to find her alive and doing well.

Hayes-Raitt also plans to track down a 24-year-old man named Dhia, who worked at a local coffee shop near her hotel in Baghdad. However, she's not sure how to find him since he told her in February that he would probably flee to the countryside when the bombing started.

And she'll try to find the family of an Iraqi native who lives in Oklahoma. A retired minister, the man donated \$500 for Hayes-Raitt's trip because he hasn't been able to contact his family since the war started.

Hayes-Raitt said she expects Baghdad to be much different than it was in February. She has heard from others who are there now that electricity in the city runs about three hours a day, running water and food is scarce, gunfire erupts at night and the city has become lawless.

While she was welcomed by the Iraqis a few months ago, Hayes-Raitt is now a bit nervous about how she'll be received this time around.

"Iraqis don't want us coming in there and asking how they are doing," she said.

The highway she must travel between Amman, Jordan and Baghdad has become notorious for thievery and shooting. Because the banking system is all but shut down in Baghdad, Hayes-Raitt plans to carry \$5,000 in cash. She hopes the translator and driver she hires will be enough protection.

She will meet up with a small group of Americans in Amman that was organized by Amira Matsuda, a native of Babylon who served as a guide that helped with Hayes-Raitt's first trip with CODE PINK, a women's peace organization.

Hayes-Raitt also is afraid about her own reactions to what she encounters. When she got back from the February trip, her emotions ran high. She said she broke down and cried in the middle of a museum in Amsterdam on her way back to the states thinking about what could happen to the people she met.

"I don't know what it's going to be like to go over there and see the devastation," she said.

Hayes-Raitt will be reporting from Baghdad through various media, including periodic columns published in the Santa Monica Daily Press.

She can be heard on KNX News Radio on AM channel 1070 during the mornings of June 26, June 30, July 2 and July 4.

She'll also be featured on the KNBC Channel 4 11 p.m. news on June 30. She'll be heard at the Pacifica Peace Watch on Friday, June 27. On Saturday, July 12, Hayes-Raitt will call in live as part of the Valley United Democrat Forum held at 10 a.m. at Taft High School.

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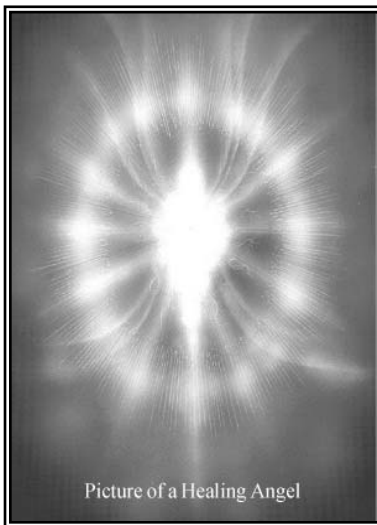
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WORLD BRIEFLY

Cocaine, marijuana busts lead to arrests in San Luis Obispo County

By The Associated Press

TEMPLETON — Authorities have arrested nine people and seized cocaine and marijuana in a drug bust centered in San Luis Obispo County, police said.

Investigators said they found 10 ounces of cocaine, four pounds of marijuana and 94 live marijuana plants in searches last week at 16 locations. Police said they also found 15 firearms — including two AK-47-type assault rifles — after the seven-month investigation.

More arrests are expected in the drug ring bust, said San Luis Obispo County Sheriff's Capt. Gary Hoving.

One woman and seven San Luis Obispo County men were arrested on drug charges along with a Santa Cruz County man. All but one of the suspects have been released on bail since the June 10 arrests.

Media company sues for defamation of character of radio shock jock

By The Associated Press

SANTA CRUZ — The company that employs shock jock Michael Savage is suing a Santa Cruz couple over a Web site they run that has been lampooning the conservative radio host for the past year.

Illinois-based Talk Radio Network, which syndicates Savage, filed a \$500,000 lawsuit naming Thomas and Gunilla Leavitt and the owners of two other Web sites. The suit alleges the sites made false and defamatory statements about Savage.

The suit claims that sponsor Culligan International Co. of Northbrook, Ill., canceled a \$100,000 contract after getting e-mail from Web site owners and readers of the sites.

Savage hasn't commented on the suit. In a radio broadcast, however, he described the Web site operators as "stinking rats who hide in the sewers."

Savage has built up a large following, while antagonizing liberals with such messages as "make tax cuts permanent, close the borders now, deport all illegal immigrants now, eliminate bilingual education in all states, require health tests for all recent foreign-born immigrants" and "eliminate as many entitlement programs as possible."

Thomas Leavitt, a one-time City Council candidate, said he is not worried about the suit "because I'm just exercising First Amendment rights."

Chaos breaks out in Baghdad, United States troops open fire

By The Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — U.S. troops opened fire at former Iraqi soldiers demonstrating to demand back wages outside the American headquarters in Baghdad Wednesday, killing two protesters during a chaotic, rock-throwing melee.

Military officers initially reported two people were wounded, while Iraqis at the scene said two were killed and one wounded. U.S. troops took two fallen Iraqis to an army aid station inside the compound, and U.S. Marine Corps Maj. Sean Gibson confirmed the two Iraqis had died.

The shooting came one day after a human rights group accused U.S. troops of using excessive force during a protest in the town of Fallujah in April.

Another military spokesman said the incident began when the demonstrators threw stones at a convoy of military police vehicles moving toward the arched gateway of the Republican Palace, Saddam Hussein's former presidential compound and now the headquarters of the U.S.-led administration.

"A soldier did fire his weapon," in response to the stoning, said Capt. John Morgan, the spokesman.

Iraqis who took part in the protest said the violence began when the crowd pressed against a vehicle moving slowly outside the gate and banged on it. A soldier fired into the air, apparently setting off a panic in the crowd.

AP photographer Victor Caivano said the demonstrators threw stones at the soldiers and at reporters, who were forced to retreat.

Raad Mohammed, a low-ranking former army officer who joined the protest to demand back wages, said his friend was shot in the right shoulder. Mohammed's checkered shirt was stained with what he said was his friend's blood.

Mohammed said he and others were about to put the wounded man in a car when American troops approached and said, "We'll take care of him." He said they took the man inside the compound.

Don't want the flu? Take vaccine with just a squirt up the nose

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Most people who avoid flu shots because they fear needles will not have that excuse this season. The Food and Drug administration has approved a flu vaccine that is delivered by a squirt up the nose instead of a shot in the arm.

The vaccine, called FluMist, was approved Tuesday by the FDA for healthy people age 5 to 49, but not for people who often are in most need of protection from the flu: Toddlers, the elderly and people with asthma or some other chronic diseases.

For children from 5 to 8, the first exposure to FluMist requires two doses six weeks apart. Patients from 9 to 49 need only one dose, the agency said.

The safety and effectiveness of FluMist has not been proven for people 50 and over. The FDA encouraged those patients to get the injected flu vaccine.

FluMist was not approved for patients under 5 because in clinical trials researchers found that young children treated with the nasal mist vaccine had a higher rate of asthma attacks and wheezing within 42 days of the vaccination, compared to children who received a placebo.

U.S. government wins another round in battle of terrorism

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A new appeals court ruling that permits the Bush administration to withhold names and other details about hundreds of foreigners detained in the months after the Sept. 11 attacks is the latest in a

string of courtroom victories for the government in its war on terrorism.

In a 2-1 ruling that represented an important win for President Bush and Attorney General John Ashcroft, a panel of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit said Tuesday that disclosing such information could give terrorists invaluable insight into the government's Sept. 11 investigation.

Federal judges who are asked to compel such disclosures should defer to White House concerns that they might help the nation's enemies, the appeals panel said.

"America faces an enemy just as real as its former Cold War foes, with capabilities beyond the capacity of the judiciary to explore," wrote U.S. Circuit Judge David B. Sentelle. He said judges are "in an extremely poor position to second-guess the executive's judgment in this area of national security."

In a harsh dissenting opinion, Circuit Judge David S. Tatel accused his colleagues of "uncritical deference to the government's vague, poorly explained arguments for withholding broad categories of information about the detainees."



briefs

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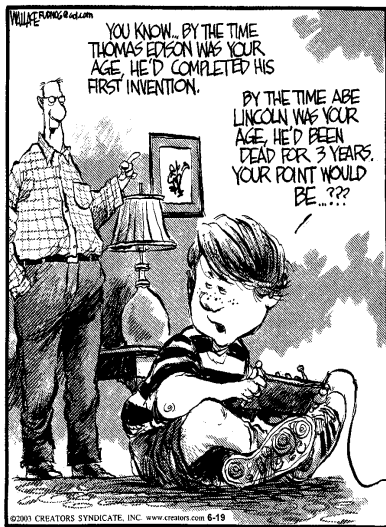
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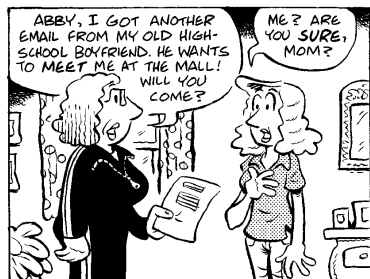


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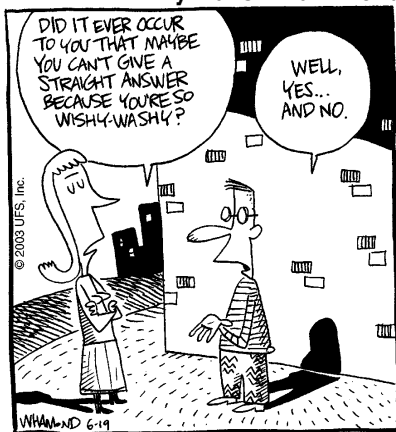
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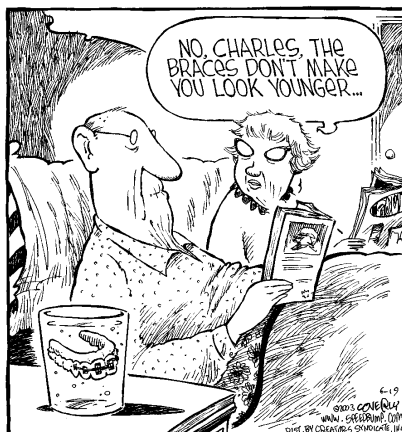
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ACROSS

- 1 Big apartment
- 5 In pieces
- 11 Hugh Grant film "About —"
- 12 Tell
- 13 First course, perhaps
- 14 Charge criminally
- 15 Words before doing something
- 17 Life story
- 18 Some stingers
- 22 Thou
- 24 Fly like a hawk
- 25 Suffer
- 26 Thurman of "Gattaca"
- 27 Bowler's bane
- 30 Criminals, in police slang
- 32 "— la vista!"
- 33 Massage
- 34 Campaign losers
- 38 Funnel-shaped flower
- 41 Bread spread
- 42 Programmer's work

DOWN

- 1 Cilium
- 2 One of the woodwinds
- 3 Reason for a walk
- 4 Enter
- 5 Verve
- 6 Makes fresh
- 7 Adage
- 8 Chiang — shek
- 9 List-shortening abbr.
- 10 Court divider
- 16 Role for George Burns
- 19 Hard candies
- 20 Pageantry
- 21 Workout sites
- 22 Deep cut
- 23 Philbin's cohort
- 28 Napoli nation

LAST	TASTES
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ALAN	BRANDY
PER	FEED
EDITS	SPA
LITER	TAPER
EDIE	TART
NYMPH	PORKY
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FIAT	TEL
RETURN	FIDO
OVERDO	ARGO
BENSON	TEEN

Yesterday's answer

- 16 Role for George Burns
- 19 Hard candies
- 20 Pageantry
- 21 Workout sites
- 22 Deep cut
- 23 Philbin's cohort
- 28 Napoli nation
- 29 Skill
- 30 Supporter's side
- 31 Moon of Jupiter
- 35 Wise one
- 36 Tide type
- 37 Some babies
- 38 Do something
- 39 Menagerie
- 40 Append

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Vehicles for sale

90 CHEVY Lumina, 2-door, 66,000 miles. Excellent condition. \$3,000 firm. (310)394-6601.

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SANTA MONICA: \$950, 1+1, r/s, laundry, gated building, parking, utilities included. Westside Rentals (310)395-7368.

SANTA MONICA: \$995, 1+1, north of Wilshire, r/s, laundry, quiet, six month lease. Westside Rentals (310)395-7368.

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Houses For Rent

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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

People Magazine searches for the hottest bachelor

By The Associated Press

■ **NEW YORK** — So who's Bachelor No. 1 — Prince William or Ashton Kutcher?

That's what People magazine wants its readers to decide.

The magazine released its list of the 25 hottest bachelors Wednesday, but is leaving the top spot open to an online vote. It's also issuing two different covers — one with the prince, who's second in line to the British throne, and one with the actor, who stars in Fox's "That '70s Show" and "Punk'd" on MTV.

A side-by-side comparison in the June 30 issue shows both men are 6-foot-3. William, who turns 21 on Saturday, wears baseball caps; Kutcher, 25, prefers trucker hats. William dates "blue-blooded babes," while Kutcher hangs out with "Hollywood hotties." (He's been photographed everywhere lately with Demi Moore, with whom he's reportedly involved.)

Also on the bachelor list are choreographer Cris Judd, Jennifer Lopez's ex-husband; "American Idol" judge Simon Cowell; actor Colin Hanks, Tom Hanks' son; and North Carolina police officer Jeffrey Postell, who arrested fugitive Eric Rudolph.

■ **LOS ANGELES** — Actress and model Rachel Hunter has filed for

divorce from singer Rod Stewart because of irreconcilable differences.

Hunter, 33, and the veteran British rocker were married in 1990, but split four years ago. They have an 11-year-old daughter and 8-year-old son.

A message left Tuesday with Hunter's attorney wasn't returned.

Court documents filed Monday in Superior Court show that both Hunter and Stewart will have joint custody of the children. Division of the couple's assets has not been determined.

It was Stewart's second marriage. He had two children with his first wife, Alana, and a daughter by model Kelly Emberg.

Stewart, 58, released an album earlier this year entitled "It Had to Be You: The Great American Songbook," which was nominated for a Grammy for best traditional pop vocals.

Hunter recently was seen as a judge on the ABC competition "Are You Hot?"

■ **LOS ANGELES** — The wife of late-night talk show host Jimmy Kimmel has filed for divorce after more than 13 years of marriage.

Gina Kimmel cited irreconcilable differences in court documents filed Monday in Superior Court. The couple will share joint custody of their two children, an 11-year-old daughter and a 9-

year-old son.

The pair separated in April.

An after-hours message left Tuesday for Gina Kimmel's attorney wasn't returned.

Kimmel, 35, is the host of ABC's "Jimmy Kimmel Live" and was co-host of "The Man Show" on Comedy Central. He was recently named to host the American Music Awards on Nov. 16.

■ **LONDON** — Harry Potter author J.K. Rowling cried after she wrote the scene in which one of the series' main characters dies, she said in a television interview.

"Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix," the fifth installment in Rowling's wildly popular children's series about a boy wizard, comes out Saturday.

Its plot is a closely guarded secret, but Rowling has said one of the central characters dies in the book. She hasn't even told her husband, Neil Murray, which one it is, she said in a British Broadcasting Corp. interview airing Thursday. The BBC released excerpts in advance.

After writing the death scene, Rowling recalled, "I walked into the kitchen crying and Neil said to me, 'What on earth is wrong?' And I said, 'I've just killed the person.'"

"And he said, 'Well, don't do it then,'"

she continued. "And I said, 'Well, it just doesn't work like that.' You are writing children's books, you need to be a ruthless killer."

She said there's a crucial Potter secret yet to be revealed, but gave no hints for eager readers.

"There is one thing that, if anyone guessed, I would be really annoyed, as it is kind of the heart of it all," the author said. "And it kind of explodes everything. And no one's quite got there, but a couple of people have skirted it."

Rowling vehemently rebutted rumors that she suffered from writer's block while creating the hefty volume.

"Just once and for all, for the record, I didn't miss the deadline. Because there was no deadline," she said. "I just produced a quarter of a million words!"

Rowling plans to write seven books total about the adventures of Harry and his friends at the Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry. She told the BBC she has mixed feelings about eventually finishing.

"I do look forward to a post-Harry era in my life, because some of the things that go along with this are not as much fun," she said. "But at the same time, I dread leaving Harry. ... I worked on it so hard for so long ... then it will be over and I think it's going to leave a massive gap."

DID YOU KNOW?: Duran Duran took their name from a mad scientist in the movie Barbarella.

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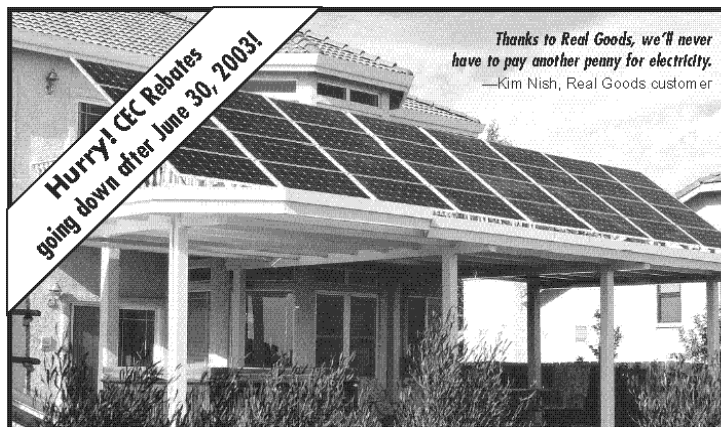
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