

FREE

TUESDAY, JUNE 25, 2002

Volume 1, Issue 193

Santa Monica Daily Press

100% organic news. Picked fresh daily.

Security a balancing act at SM Airport



Santa Monica police patrol the airport's grounds on a recent afternoon. Security patrols have been increased since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

BY ANDREW H. FIXMER
Daily Press Staff Writer

For years Santa Monica has tried to work its general aviation airport into the fabric of the city.

Restaurants, affordable housing for artists, community buildings, and even a museum have been built on or adjacent to the airport's tarmac and hangers. The area is made even more accessible by a dedicated Big Blue Bus route.

But in the months since the Sept. 11th terrorist attacks, Santa Monica Airport has rolled out new security measures that try to maintain a delicate balance between public access and protecting the grounds from possible threats.

"Before, the airport was more neighborhood friendly and open," said Lt. George Centeno, the Santa Monica Police officer in charge of overall airport security. "By and large, the airport still has that approach but we now have to take terrorism prevention into account."

General aviation airports, like the one in Santa Monica, are essentially freeway pit stops along the airways

pilots navigate. Often times pilots will land to stretch their legs, refuel or catch a quick bite to eat.

"There are inherent security risks just as there are on any public access transportation system. Even walking has its inherent risks."

— BOB TRIMBORN
Santa Monica Airport Manager

Because the airport is open to any plane that can safely land on its runway and therefore is part of a publicly-accessible transit system, officials cannot stop anyone from flying into and out of the airport, said Airport Manager Bob Trimborn.

"There are inherent security risks just as there are on any public access transportation system," he said.

See AIRPORT, page 6

County delays Promenade center court dining plan

BY ANDREW H. FIXMER
Daily Press Staff Writer

There's a hiccup in a plan that would rotate featuring local downtown restaurants on the Third Street Promenade.

The Los Angeles County Department of Health won't allow the proposal to move forward because state law forbids having a temporary tent serving food in existence for more than 25 days in a 90-day period.

"We have run into some snags," said Kathleen Rawson, Bayside District Corp. executive director. "What we thought would be an easy process has become a little more complicated."

Rawson had hoped to have the dining tent operational by now, but in a best case scenario it won't be up and running until September, city officials said.

"We're still working very hard on this," Rawson said. "I didn't want it to take a long time, but it's difficult because the circumstances are beyond our control."

The health department is requiring any dining tent on the Promenade must have a hot water sink for the cooks to wash their hands and be enclosed on at least three

"The good news and the bad news is the health department is really interested in this project."

— KATHLEEN RAWSON
Bayside executive director

sides, similar to the food tents at the Promenade's farmers market.

To help showcase restaurants through-

out the downtown area, Bayside — which manages the Promenade along with the city council — proposed setting up a new

staging area on the Third Street Promenade's center court so local chefs can cook up their specialties.

The plan would give downtown restaurants access to the busy shopping corridor, where some city officials believe too many restaurants have been pushed off because of high rents.

"The good news and the bad news is the

See PLAN, page 3

Surgeries begin for babies joined at skull

BY LAURA WIDES
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES— Doctors at University of California at Los Angeles Medical Center began the first part of a rare, complicated and risky procedure Monday to separate 11-month-old Guatemalan twins who are joined at the skull.

Twins Maria de Jesus and Maria Teresa Quiej-Alvarez struggle unsuccessfully to help one another stand up. Only one of the girls can see her mother at a time since their heads are fused so they face opposite directions.

The girls have spent their entire lives in hospitals. They flew to Los Angeles with their mother Leticia Alba Quiej-Alvarez in

early June, sponsored by the international nonprofit Healing the Children, which helps find medical care for children in under-developed countries.

UCLA doctors have agreed to donate their services for the surgery, which will cost around \$1.5 million.

Quiej-Alvarez spent eight days in labor at home in the southern town of Santo Domingo, Suchitepequez, before she went to a hospital and delivered her twins by C-section. And after nearly a year of four-hour bus rides to visit her daughters in the hospital, she is happy to finally share a room with them. At a press conference Monday she thanked the hospital and doctors for

See TWINS, page 6

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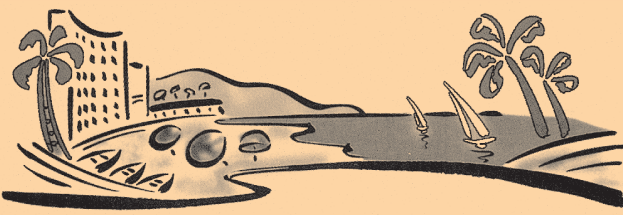
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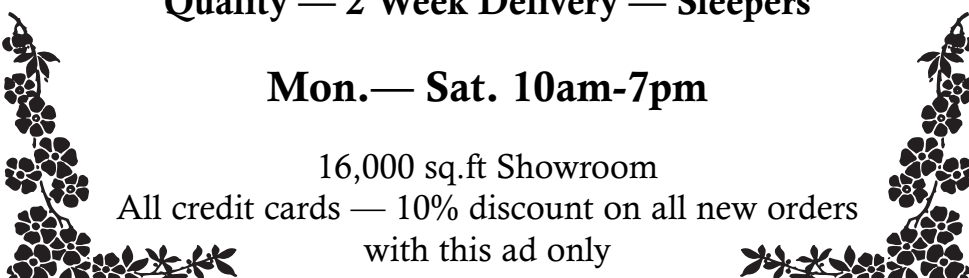
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JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

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

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



ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Your fiery side emerges when dealing with a boss or key associate. Whether you have been swallowing too much anger or reacting to the immediate moment, you could easily act like Mt. Vesuvius! Do you really want this? Find more appropriate ways of expressing your anger. Tonight: Work late.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ You easily could be overwhelmed by all the communication and by what you hear. Clear up each detail one at a time. You might want to discuss a change in menu or plans that comes up. Others could be touchy. You might feel as if you're walking on eggshells. Tonight: Relax to a favorite pastime.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★ An associate could become difficult when you least expect it. Imagine what might be happening with this person. His or her temper could erupt unexpectedly. Flow with an opportunity. Carefully consider your options. Tonight: Togetherness works.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ You might find others challenging. Part of the reason might be that yesterday's eclipse drained you more than you realize. Be as easygoing as you can be. Consider your options before you lose your temper. Tonight: Anything goes.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Stay even, if you can. However, if you feel anger boiling up inside, try to express this strong feeling in a way that others can hear. Don't make yourself sick over an issue. Think through a decision, taking as much time as you might need. Tonight: Wind down.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ You might need all your energy and creativity to deal with the hurdles that others toss into your path. Carefully consider your alternatives before you follow another's suggestion. Your imagination helps you enlist others' help. Tonight: Where the action is.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ Understand what motivates another. Take charge with your family. Others will choose to follow your lead, even at work. Tension and stress mount. You will find solutions because of your strong insistence and need. Allow a boss to have a little more say-so. Tonight: Happy at home.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Speak your mind with others, but don't be surprised at how someone else might respond. Curb your temper and detach. If possible, avoid being one-sided in your perspective. Work with others and allow change to happen. Tonight: At a favorite spot.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★ How you share a financial question could have much to do with how someone responds. You might not be as sure of yourself as you would like to be. Another might pick up on this, whether you realize it or not. Tonight: Your treat.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ You help someone leap over a problem. Don't allow a crabby friend to get to you. Rather, listen to his or her complaint and evaluate whether there might be something legitimate in what is being said. Your openness separates you from many. Tonight: Whatever makes you happy.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★ Sometimes actions speak louder than words. That extra effort could make all the difference in how others see you. Drop all pretence, and just do it. Later, you might opt to vanish or go elsewhere. Play it low-key. Tonight: Get some extra rest.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ A friend knows what it will take to make what you need happen. Don't back off; rather, recognize what is needed here. Your creativity helps find solutions when another might be stumped. Know that anything is possible. Tonight: Follow your pals.



QUOTE of the DAY

“I hate quotations.”
— Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

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LOCAL

SMC entrance closed temporarily

Santa Monica College

Temporary parking changes will start in July '02, and be in place for approximately 6 months

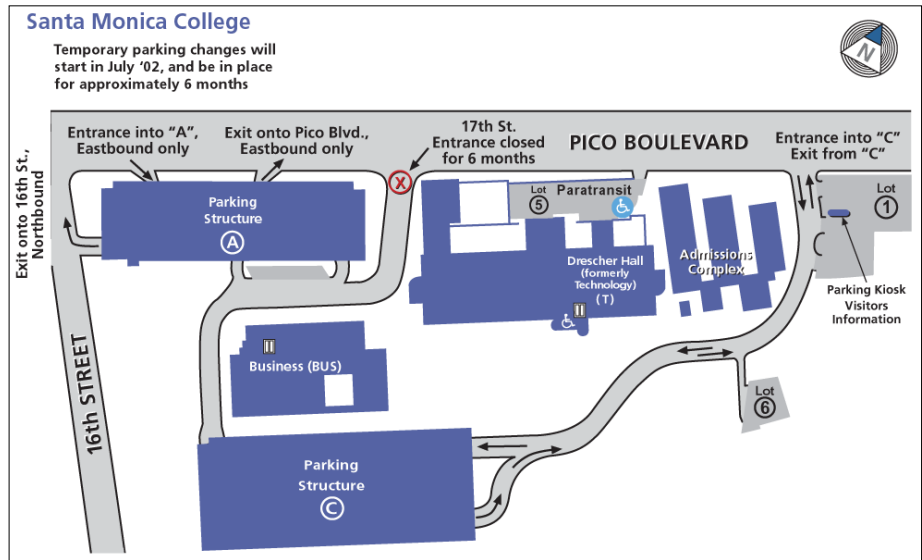


illustration courtesy SMC

By Daily Press staff

Santa Monica College will begin construction Monday, July 1 on a six-month project to build an underground entrance to one of its parking structures that will require the closure of the 17th Street entrance to the campus and temporarily reroute traffic into the parking structures.

During construction, the entrance and exit routes for Structure C will be at the campus' main entrance at 19th Street. Structure A -- at the corner of 16th Street and Pico Boulevard -- will remain accessible for vehicles eastbound on Pico.

Pedestrian traffic around the parking structures and Business Building will also be rerouted.

Promenade tent delayed until end of summer

PLAN, from page 1

health department is really interested in this project," Rawson said. "Of course we have to follow state law but they have offered some helpful tips to work around all this."

According to Rawson, the health department also is opposed to having food prepared on the Promenade. However, she said nearby restaurants could be allowed to sell meals made in advance instead.

County and city officials are recommending Bayside not only rotate which restaurants are featured, but they believe by moving the food tent every 25 days, it could pass muster under the health department codes.

Mark Richter, director of the city's Risk Management department, will recommend to the Bayside's board of directors at its July 25th meeting to rotate the dining tent weekly between the three Promenade courts. There are three courts on the Promenade, one for each block.

Richter said moving the dining tent frequently shouldn't be difficult for Bayside employees because it already had to be moved on a nightly basis.

"The tent has to be something that could be put up each morning and taken down each evening," Richter said. "That way these court areas can still be used by street performers during the evening, when the Promenade gets busy."



Small, inconsistent waves will putter up to shore breaks from the northwest.

Expect knee high waves in the north bay, and inconsistent waist-high sets from Manhattan beach south with poor shape. Onshore winds show by afternoon. Expect a decent afternoon

glass off.

Wednesday doesn't look much better, minimal swell activity reaching LA's beaches.

(Information compiled by Jesse Haley.)

Patriotism on sale



Seth Kotok/Special to the Daily Press

A bin of American flags and patriotic banners go unsold at a Wilshire Boulevard pharmacy as the wave of patriotism that swept the nation after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks recedes.

Location	Tuesday	Wednesday	Water Quality
County Line	1-2'/Poor	1-2'/Poor	A
Zuma	1-2'/Poor	1-2'/Poor	A
Surfrider	0-1'/Poor	0-1'/Poor	A
Topanga	1-2'/Poor	1-2'/Poor	A
Breakwater	1-2'/Poor	1-2'/Poor	A
El Porto	2-3'/Poor	2-3'/Poor	A
Tides:	4:09 a.m.	10:41am	3:09pm
	Low / 1.26'	High / 3.85'	Low / 2.18'
			High / 6.65'

The Q Line

Last week Santa Monica's Recreation and Parks Committee recommended the city council ban smoking in all 15 of its public parks. Beverly Hills declared its parks smoke-free zones two years ago and Los Angeles is currently moving forward with plans to do the same. Meanwhile, recent scientific studies suggest second-hand smoke contains far more carcinogens than previously believed.

This week's Q-Line question is, "Can you think of any reason Santa Monica should not completely ban smoking in its parks?"

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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You can find more copies in these areas:

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- Lincoln Commercial District.

Additional circulation points include:

- Major Hotels on Ocean Avenue
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- Commercial zones on Pico and Ocean Park Boulevard.

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OPINION

Description of the Minimum Wage Ordinance – Part 1

(Editor's note: This is the third installment of a weekly column editorializing on the hotly contested living wage ordinance. The city council passed an ordinance last July requiring businesses that generate more than \$5 million in annual revenue to pay their employees \$12.25 an hour. Those businesses and their supporters have asked for the ordinance to be rescinded, which is before voters this November.)

For the next two weeks, I thought it would be appropriate to simply explain the provisions of the City's Minimum Wage Ordinance so that everyone will understand its content as a basis for further discussions about its merits and likely consequences.

Minimum Wage: Covered employers are required to pay a minimum wage of \$12.25 per hour, increasing to at least \$13.50 on July 1, 2003, subject to annual inflation adjustments. (As explained in the previous two weeks, the employer is denied any credit against this minimum for tips received by the employee. It is this factor which creates the major problem for restaurants and many hotels.)

Health Benefits: Employers receive a credit of \$1.75 (increasing to \$2.50 on July 1, 2003) for health benefits if they pay at least that much for those benefits; they receive no credit at all unless they pay that amount, no more credit than that irrespective of how much they pay, and no credit for any other benefits they might provide.

Covered Employers: There are five major classes of employers covered by the Ordinance (although some employers can be excluded through certain exemptions to be discussed next week):

1. The City.
2. Employers performing services for the City (as opposed to employers who enter into contracts to sell goods to the City) irrespective of the size of the contract. I will designate this class by the term "Service Contractors."
3. Employers located in a complicated zone (to be discussed next week) having annual gross receipts of at least \$5,000,000 for each of the previous two

years at that location, irrespective of whether the employer is a for-profit or non-profit organization. A large corporation, for example, Starbucks, which has small operations in the designated zone will not be covered because none of those locations will individually reach the gross receipts threshold at that location. I will designate this class by the term "Zone Employers."

4. Employers which perform a portion of the business activities conducted by a Zone Employer under a contract or lease. This class is designed to avoid excluding employees where a portion of the business is "out-sourced." I will designate this class by the term "Contract Employers."

5. Employers located in the designated zone having annual gross receipts below \$5,000,000 but which utilize Contract Employers to conduct a portion of their business if the combined gross receipts exceed \$5,000,000. (I will include these employers in the term "Zone Employers.") This class is an effort to avoid having an employer turn over a portion of its operations to another company through a contract or lease and, thus, fall below the \$5,000,000 threshold.

Covered Employees: The employees who are covered for each of the classes are:

1. All employees of the City.
2. Those employees of Service Contractors performing work on the City contract.
3. Those employees of Zone Employers who work at the employer's location in the designated zone. Therefore, for example, employees of The Gap located at the Promenade store will be covered (assuming the store reaches the \$5,000,000 sales threshold) but not those at the 20th and Wilshire store.
4. Employees of Contract Employers who work at least one-half of their time at the related Zone Employer's location.

Please retain this week's column for future reference and look for next week's issue which will complete a description of the Ordinance.

(Tom Larmore is a property rights attorney and a Santa Monica resident.)

Guest Commentary By Tom Larmore

Opinions expressed are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff. Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters will be published on a space-available basis. It is our intention to publish all letters we receive, except those that are libelous or are unsigned. Preference will be given to those that are e-mailed to sack@smdp.com. All letters must include the author's name and telephone number for purposes of verification. Letters also may be mailed to our offices located at 530 Wilshire Boulevard, Suite 200, Santa Monica, 90401, or faxed to (310) 576-9913. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content.

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OPINION



LETTERS

Setting the flier straight

Editor:

Homeowners for Voluntary Preservation, the irresponsible Santa Monica myth-meisters who have been scaring homeowners with Orwellian mis-information about neighborhood and historic preservation, are on the move again.

A current flyer for a neighborhood meeting on Tuesday June 25, 2002 includes the following false and inflammatory statements:

MYTH: The Santa Monica Landmarks Commission can take control of your home without your consent. . . .

FACT: The Landmarks Commission controls nothing. Its job is to protect the very historic and cultural resources which Santa Monicans have traditionally valued.

Historically the Commission has always acted with homeowner and neighborhood support and within precise limits when considering and proposing designation of Landmarks and Historic Districts. In over 25 years only 16 buildings have been designated landmarks and only 2 historic districts have been formed.

Designated landmarks and buildings in historic districts can be and have been remodeled with significant exterior changes and additions according to guidelines which respect the architectural integrity of the building and its neighborhood. Homeowners have total control over the interiors of their residences.

MYTH: All single family homes are under siege.

FACT: Only 40-year-old or older properties with clear significant architectural, historical, or cultural merit are ever candidates for protection from demolition or beyond-recognition remodel. (And what does "under siege" mean, anyway?)

MYTH: The Homeowners Freedom of Choice Initiative is vital to the survival of homeowners' rights and property values in our city.

FACT: Property values around the country and in Santa Monica specifically have been enhanced, not jeopardized by the neighborhood protections afforded by historic districts and landmarks.

Homeowners' rights are not in danger. Preservation ordinances are just one among many examples of the way homeowners' rights are defined by city and other public welfare regulations all over the country as well as in Santa Monica (others examples include zoning, traffic, and Coastal Commission provisions).

MYTH: A few homeowners have been financially devastated by the current landmarks ordinance in Santa Monica.

FACT: No supporting facts were in the flier. My understanding is that these "few" were small developers in for a quick-turn profit, not long-term neighborhood residents seeking to remodel their homes for their own use and comfort.

MYTH: We are all entitled as of right to make a big profit on our homes all the time.

FACT: It would be nice. In today's overheated real estate market that is an article of faith. In reality, like the stock market and everything else in life, there are no guarantees. The fellow who wanted to develop condos in what became the Third Street Historic District thanked us later because, he said, if he had gone ahead he would have "lost his shirt" when the market fell out. As it turns out, property values in the District have escalated since designation.

For the vast majority of homeowners, long-term neighborhood protections are better guarantees of steady value than short-term profit-driven real estate speculation.

Beatrice H. Nemlaha
Santa Monica

(Nemlaha is a homeowner in Santa Monica's Third Street Historic District and active in landmarks preservation issues within the city)

Unhappy over headline

Editor:

Your headline "Israel arrests hundreds of thousands of Palestinians" on page 12 of the June 24th edition of your paper is a complete distortion of the truth. Moreover, it is not even an accurate headline for the article below.

Israel has not arrested hundred of thousands of Palestinians. In the present operation "Determined Path" which unfurled only after two horrible homicide bombings in Jerusalem that killed 26 and injured over 75 innocent people, Israel has made incursions into Palestinian towns to sweep for terrorists and their infrastructure; such as bomb manufacturing facilities.

The curfews that have been imposed are to prevent unnecessary bloodshed of innocent civilians.

It is incumbent on your paper to be more accurate as such headline give the totally wrong impression of the events unfolding and are can only mislead your readers. Please print a retraction.

Gary P. Ratner
Santa Monica

(Ratner is the executive director of The American Jewish Congress)

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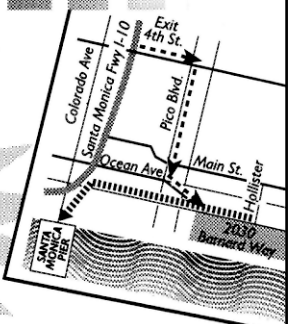
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Saturdays & Sundays Noon - 9 p.m.

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LOCAL □ STATE



Airport administrators plan a \$200K security upgrade

AIRPORT, from page 1

"Even walking has its inherent risks."

Security has always been a priority at the airport, and for at least the past six years, the Santa Monica Police has manned a special airport security unit.

"We are one of the few general aviation airports in Southern California that has had a 24-hour, 7-day a week security presence," he said.

Santa Monica's airport is also unique in that it's closely surrounded on three sides by residential homes. The southern edge borders a golf course.

However, neither Centeno nor Trimborn say they feel threatened by the close proximity of the city's homes, businesses and public parks to the boundaries of the airport. In fact, they welcome the construction of the new Airport Park just northeast of the airport's runway, which the city approved this year.

"It's going to present some challenges," Trimborn said, "but I believe there will be enough appropriate measures taken to make the area completely secure."

Since Sept. 11th, there have been more frequent patrols of the airport's grounds by two security officers and their supervisor, SMPD Sgt. John Hudson.

In addition to the police, undercover agents with the Federal Aviation Administration and "other federal agencies" routinely patrol the grounds looking for any unusual activity. On a recent tour of the airport's facilities, FAA agents even stopped Trimborn who was driving an official City of Santa Monica vehicle.

Civilians are never allowed to bring firearms onto the airport's grounds, unless the weapon is broken down and in a locked carrying case, Centeno said. But he added that rarely occurs.

There are plans to construct an 8-foot tall fence with a tight chain mesh around the airport, install a key-card access system at the airport's gate and build a permanent trailer for the airport's security officers.

More than just a place to store equip-

ment and monitor radio communications, the new security base will also be a visible public reminder of the level of security at the airport, Centeno said. He added the trailer could also provide more room for additional security officers in the future. "It will provide a much greater security presence," he said.

**"What we don't want to
do is prohibit kids from
coming and witnessing
the magic of flight and to
them it is still very much
a magical experience."**

— BOB TRIMBORN

Santa Monica Airport manager

In addition, officers and security personnel at the airport are undergoing training in terrorism prevention, which Hudson recently completed.

All the security enhancements are expected to cost the airport roughly \$200,000, which would come out of the airport's capital improvement budget.

Centeno said officers at the airport receive almost daily briefings on information gathered by national and state security forces that is released to the city. "That's an open sharing of intel from the FAA on possible threats," he said.

Overall, Trimborn hopes the changes to security won't prevent families from taking their children to the airport to watch the planes take-off and land. He believes the family-friendly atmosphere can go hand in hand with the tightened security.

"What we don't want to do is prohibit kids from coming and witnessing the magic of flight," he said, "and to them it is still very much a magical experience."

UCLA doctors have agreed to donate services to twins

TWINS, from page 1

their help.

Despite their physical limitations, Quiej-Alvarez said her babies are happy and curious. "They like to lift their feet so they can be kissed," she said.

They also have distinct personalities. Maria Teresa is larger and more social, sometimes jostling her sister as she turns over. Maria Jesus is quieter and likes to study people, her mother said. The girls often hold each other's hands.

Doctors have performed cranial separations only five times in the past 10 years, and not all twins have survived. Doctors at the UCLA Medical Center have never performed the operation, but neurosurgeon Jorge Lazareff, who lobbied the hospital to accept the case, said he is confident the girls will pull through.

"They are really tough girls. I am absolutely thrilled and convinced that they will do great," Lazareff said during the conference. The surgery is scheduled for July.

The trickiest part of the surgery will be separating two major veins that connect the front of each girl's head to the back of the other.

On Monday, doctors prepared the girls for their separation by inserting deflated balloons in the back of each of their heads, which they will inflate over the next few weeks. The goal is to stretch the skin enough to cover the back of the girls' heads after they are separated. Doctors compared the process to the way skin stretches across a woman's stomach during pregnancy.

If the balloon breaks or the vein cannot be separated, the girls could suffer brain damage.

Lazareff said the girls aren't aware of the risks they face and are simply "happy about all the attention they are getting."

Doctors in Texas are currently evaluating one-year-old Egyptian boys who are also joined at the head, to determine if an operation would might be successful.

STATE



CALIFORNIA BRIEFS

Parents chain daughter spread-eagle

By The Associated Press

FULLERTON — The parents of a 21-year-old woman allegedly chained their daughter spread-eagle on her bed so she wouldn't go out with her married boyfriend.

David Mata, 53, and his wife Guadalupe, 51, were arrested at their apartment Sunday night and booked for investigation of false imprisonment, assault and battery, and making criminal threats. Bail was set at \$25,000.

The couple told police they used 30-pound chains and two large gate locks to pin their daughter down and prevent her from going out, Lt. Danny Becerra said. An officer found Giovana Mata on the bed with each arm and leg chained to a different bedpost.

"I guess these parents didn't approve of her dating this guy," Becerra said.

The couple allegedly threatened their daughter and the woman called 911 for help. It was after the phone call that her parents pushed her onto the bed and began wrapping the thick chain around her in a four-point restraint, Becerra said.

Giovana Mata, who wasn't hurt, couldn't be reached for comment Sunday night.

"I don't know where she is. I think she went off with that married man," her 19-year-old sister Lupe Mata said.

City of Orange decides on motto

By The Associated Press

ORANGE — The city has come up with a motto — "A Slice of Old Town Charm."

The top vote-getter in a call-in contest is expected to be approved Tuesday by the City Council. Still, the council will consider the top five vote-getters.

"A Slice of Old Town Charm" got 85 of the 304 votes, the most out of 19 motto-contest finalists. Other entries in the top five included "Where History Comes Full Circle," "The City 'Round the Plaza," "Orange — Come Taste the Essence" and "Honoring the Past — Embracing the Future."

Councilwoman Joanne Coontz doesn't care for the "Slice of Old Town" slogan, noting the city's Old Towne section is just one part of the diverse city.

"Our city is more than that. We need a motto that encompasses Orange. We are much more than the plaza," said Coontz, who likes the all-inclusive "Honoring the Past - Embracing the Future."

LAX behind on security hirings

By The Associated Press

TORRANCE — Despite an end of the year congressional deadline, federal officials still haven't picked a security director or advertised for up to 3,500 new passenger and baggage screening jobs at Los Angeles International Airport, it was reported.

It's been seven months since President Bush signed legislation drafted after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks and some experts expressed concern over whether the federal Transportation Security Administration will be able to meet the hiring deadline.

"We think it can happen. The question is whether it will happen on time," an aviation official speaking on condition of anonymity told the Daily Breeze in a story published Monday.

Greg Warren, spokesman for the Transportation Security Administration, said the agency has contracted with private firms to hire and train the workers who will replace private companies that worked directly for airlines.

"We're on pace to meet our congressional mandates," Warren said. "We're confident it can be done."

Transportation Secretary Norman Mineta said last week that hiring may have slowed in some cases because of a desire to ensure a diverse pool of applicants in terms of gender, race, ethnicity and job experience.

There are signs a new LAX security director will be announced soon. Korn/Ferry International, the executive search firm hired to help recruit the security directors, no longer has the Los Angeles job posted on its Web site.

Several aviation experts told the Daily Breeze that LAX will need 3,000 to 3,500 security personnel. Labor union leaders estimate that fewer than 40 percent of the 1,000 current LAX screeners have U.S. citizenship, which is required for the federal jobs.

The Transportation Security Administration contracted with Minneapolis-based NCS Pearson to hire the security workers, who will earn \$23,600 to \$35,400 a year, plus cost of living adjustments. Lockheed Martin will train the passenger screeners and develop overall airport security plans, while Boeing Co. will train the baggage screeners.

Palm Springs is watching you

By The Associated Press

PALM SPRINGS — The city's "P.S. I Love You" slogan could be changed to "Smile! Big Brother's Watching You."

The surveillance cameras have been installed and, starting next month, they'll keep an eye on the millions of people who stroll the palm-lined resort avenues.

Critics bemoan the arrival of "Big Brother" in a town where Frank Sinatra, Elvis Presley and others found refuge from Hollywood's glare. But supporters say the cameras will help merchants and tourists feel safe on Palm Canyon Drive, the resort's popular main thoroughfare, and elsewhere.

The cameras, which can pan and zoom but will not record sound, start recording July 1, said police Chief Lee Weigel, who began pushing for the system along Palm Canyon Drive about five years ago.

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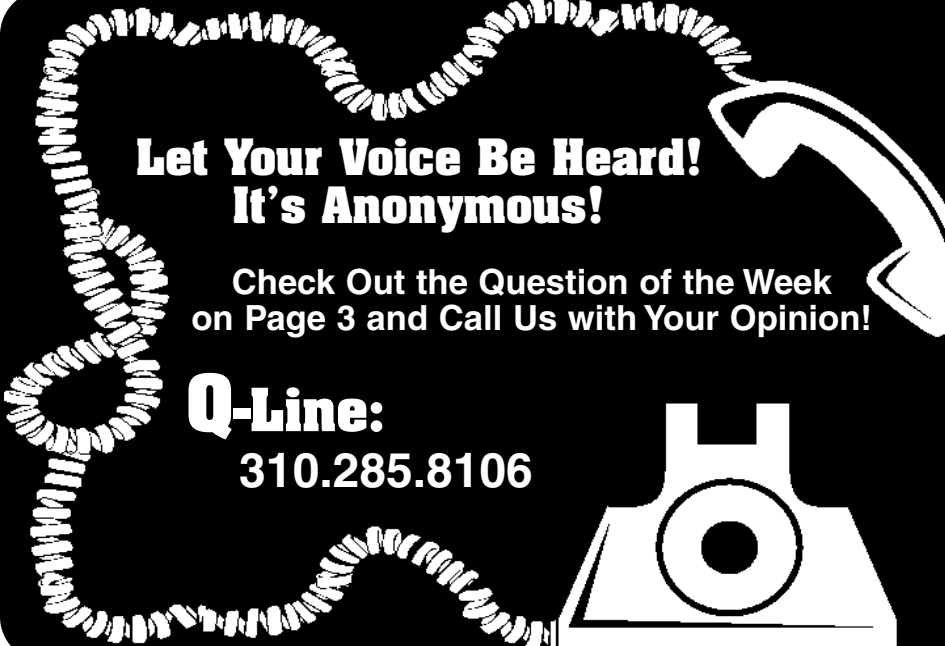
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STATE

Mahony reads letter of apology at childhood parish

BY GARY GENTILE
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES — Cardinal Roger Mahony chose his boyhood parish to read a pastoral letter apologizing for not acting sooner in the face of evidence of clergy sexual abuse.

"I ask for your forgiveness for not understanding earlier the extent of the problem and for not taking swifter action to remove from ministry anyone who had abused a minor in the past," Mahony said, reading from a two-page letter that was shared with congregations at every parish in the archdiocese.

"I can assure you today that as far as is humanly possible to know, there is no priest serving in ministry in the archdiocese of Los Angeles who has abused a minor even one time," he continued.

About 400 parishioners applauded after Mahony's remarks and greeted the cardinal warmly as they left the church, St. Charles Borromeo in North Hollywood on Sunday.

"It's encouraging. I'm very pleased," said Nida Ball of Sun Valley. "It strengthens the faith in us. We're going to keep going."

"I'm glad he came and I was impressed by what he said," said Jeff Roger of North Hollywood.

During his homily, Mahony said scandals and controversy have rocked the Catholic Church in the past and have provided the opportunity for renewal and purification.

"As difficult as this has been for me and everyone else, it is also a time for renewal," Mahony said, referring to the current sex abuse scandal. "It is a time for us to remember the sinfulness, not only of us as individuals, as priests and bishops, but also as church."

Mahony, who leads the nation's largest archdiocese with 287 parishes and approximately 5 million Catholics, returned from a summit of U.S. bishops in Dallas last week to announce reforms to the Los Angeles archdiocese misconduct review board.

The cardinal reviewed the steps the Los Angeles archdiocese has taken,

including strengthening the role of the laity in supervising the conduct of priests.

"It is my role to be able to assure you that our church is safe for everyone, but most especially, the most vulnerable of all, our young people, our children."

**"It's encouraging.
I'm very pleased.
It strengthens the faith
in us. We're going
to keep going."**

— NIDA BALL
Sun Valley resident

Mahony transferred Father Michael Stephen Baker to several parishes after the priest told him in 1986 that he had molested young boys. The cardinal later approved a secret \$1.3 million settlement to two men allegedly abused by Baker in the 1990s.

Two brothers also have claimed Father Michael Wempe molested them between 1976 and 1985. Mahony transferred Wempe to Cedars-Sinai Hospital in 1988, where he worked until last March, when Mahony forced him to retire.

Los Angeles police and sheriff's officials are reviewing sexual abuse allegations against about 60 priests. Many of the cases involve allegations from years or decades ago and some of the priests named may have died, according to authorities.

In San Bernardino, Bishop Gerald Barnes said the diocese will expand its clergy misconduct review board and hire a coordinator to aid sexual abuse victims to meet nationwide reforms drafted by church leaders in Dallas.

"This is a beginning in the Catholic Church to address the idea of a safe environment in all Catholic churches in America, and that includes dealing with the offenders," Barnes said.

Judge rejects jury request in Aniston photo lawsuit

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A federal judge rejected "Friends" actress Jennifer Aniston's request for a jury trial Monday in her lawsuit against the publishers of two magazines that featured a photo of her sunbathing topless in her backyard.

U.S. District Judge Ronald S. Lew said her lawyers had not properly made a jury demand under California law.

The trial is set to begin July 2 on Aniston's claims of misappropriation of the right of publicity, constructive trust and punitive damages. Aniston, 33, is expected to testify in the case, according to her attorney, Jay Lavelly.

Aniston, 33, sued Man's World Publications Inc. and Crescent Publishing Group in August 2000 claiming that a "stalkerazzi" with a telephoto lens scaled a neighbor's wall to take shots of her "reclining topless in her backyard, wearing only her panties."

The actress has received judgments and settled claims with other U.S. and European magazines that published the photo.

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NATIONAL



Investigation widens in arrest of Carson City doctor

BY SANDRA CHEREB
Associated Press Writer

MINDEN, Nev. — A judge set \$1 million bail for a Carson City doctor accused of drugging his ex-wife and kidnapping her from Utah as an investigation widened Monday into whether the case is linked to a double homicide in Arkansas.

Justice of the Peace Earl Enearl ordered Dr. Richard Conte held on \$1 million "cash only" bail. That means the Carson-Tahoe Hospital emergency room physician can't secure his release through a bail bond agency, which typically requires a 10 percent payment of the bail amount.

Investigators said Conte ambushed his ex-wife, Lark Gathright Elliott, at her Salt Lake City home. He admitted drugging her with a sedative, handcuffing and chaining her in the back of his pickup truck and driving her to Nevada, court documents show.

Dressed in dark blue jail garb similar to hospital scrubs, Conte said little during Monday's brief hearing as he sat shackled next to his attorney.

The judge rejected higher bail sought by prosecutors and the \$100,000 requested by Conte's attorney, Patrick Walsh.

"We're dealing with someone who has the ability to generate substantial sums of money," Deputy District Attorney Tom Perkins said in arguing for at least \$4 million bail or holding Conte without bail.

Perkins argued that Conte was a flight risk because he would likely lose his medical license if convicted.

He also said Conte was "suicidal and emotionally unstable" at the time of his arrest, and therefore posed a threat to himself and others — a claim denied by Walsh.

"He seems as calm and rational as any client I've ever had," the defense lawyer said.

Walsh said the amount was excessive for someone who has no criminal history.

"Mr. Conte's never been arrested before in his life," he argued. "We're not dealing with a serial killer. ... someone with a history of criminal behavior."

If Conte makes bail, he will be required to surrender his passports, driver's license and firearms, and abide by several other conditions imposed by the judge, including electronic monitoring. His next court appearance was set for July 3.

Conte, 54, was arrested Friday night for Elliott's kidnapping at his home in Clear Creek Canyon near the Douglas County-Carson City line.

"Mr. Conte's never been arrested before in his life. We're not dealing with a serial killer... someone with a history of criminal behavior."

— PATRICK WALSH
Defense attorney

Members of the victim's family called authorities Friday, saying Conte had threatened to kill Elliott and himself, according to court records.

Investigators said a woman Conte had called to care for his dogs arrived at Conte's home, saw Elliott and led her out of the house as sheriff's deputies were arriving. Conte surrendered without incident a short time later, authorities said.

Elliott's previous husband, Carter Elliott, 49, and Timothy Robertson, 26, were found shot to death May 19 at Carter Elliott's upscale home in Conway, Ark., a city of about 40,000 located 30 miles north of Little Rock.

Both men were shot in the head, authorities said. Conway Police Lt. Chip Stokes said it appeared the men were targeted and not killed randomly.

Carter Elliott was founder and president of Detco Industries, a Conway-based chemical manufacturing plant. Robertson was a Detco foreman.

Conway and Arkansas State Police arrived in Nevada on Sunday night to try to determine if the two cases are related.

The FBI in Nevada also was assisting, said Special Agent Daron Borst, spokesman for the Las Vegas FBI office.

Conway Police Maj. Mark Elsinger said Conte is not a suspect in the Arkansas killing.

"On the other hand, he has not been ruled out, either," Elsinger said Monday.

Conte has worked at Carson-Tahoe Hospital in Carson City for 10 years, hospital spokesman Richard Linkul said.

Gordon Hutting, the hospital's director of risk management and quality, said Conte was a partner in Carson-Tahoe Emergency Physicians, a private medical group.

The group's managing partner, Dr. Richard Newbold, could not immediately be reached for comment.

Conte's medical license in Nevada is active and in good standing, according to the Nevada Board of Medical Examiners.

Records show he received his medical degree in 1984 at Saint George's University in Canterbury, England, and completed two residency programs — one in family practice at Saint Luke's Hospital in Milwaukee, the other in emergency medicine at Charity Hospital in New Orleans.

Conte was licensed in Nevada in 1989 and has had two malpractice claims against him, board records show.

The most recent involved a \$1 million settlement reached May 9 in a case alleging he failed in 1998 to properly assess a newborn whose condition resulted in a brain injury.

A 1996 settlement for \$20,000 came after Conte allegedly misdiagnosed a 42-year-old patient who complained he couldn't move his limbs in 1992. Board records showed that Conte had the patient transferred to a neurological facility. The patient later underwent surgery to repair a herniated disk.

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NATIONAL

Towns worry that arsenic laws will triple water cost

BY HEATHER CLARK

Associated Press Writer

ANTHONY, N.M. — Sam Warthen's first water well, drilled in 1967, lasted six years before the shifting sand around his desert home plugged it.

His second well needed chemical treatment that turned the water purple. Neighbors' clothes turned orange from sediment in the water. People began hauling their drinking water from nearby stores and gas stations.

After well after well went awry, Warthen and his neighbors around Anthony, near El Paso, Texas, formed a water association more than two decades ago that finally provided clear water — "like a dream," he said. Today, the wells serve 450 families.

Now the problem is arsenic in the water.

The people who run the Desert Sands Mutual Domestic Water Consumers Association or rely on it are afraid they will not be able to afford the extra equipment, treatments and employees needed to cut arsenic levels and meet new federal clean-water standards.

In October, the Environmental Protection Agency cut arsenic limits for drinking water from 50 parts per billion to 10. Communities must comply by 2006.

"When low-income people have to pay for the new arsenic standards, it cuts into the basic needs of life — maybe you're not going to fill a prescription or go to the doctor or buy food," said Karen Nichols, secretary-treasurer of the Desert Sands water association.

She said she supports the Safe Drinking Water Act, "but when you carry it to this degree, it goes beyond health and safety."

Nichols said preliminary estimates show customers' monthly water bills would at least triple under the new standard. She said the average bill last July was \$32.18 per household.

The EPA policy change came after the National Academy of Sciences reported that even at 3 ppb of arsenic in drinking water, there is a risk of four to 10 deaths from

bladder or lung cancer per 10,000 people.

The EPA estimates 4,100 water systems nationwide must treat their water to meet the new standard. About 97 percent of those are small systems serving fewer than 10,000 people.

The change particularly affects water systems in the West, where arsenic occurs naturally. In New Mexico, officials said 114 water systems, including Albuquerque's, the largest, need upgrades.

"When low-income people have to pay for the new arsenic standards, it cuts into the basic needs of life — maybe you're not going to fill a prescription or go to the doctor or buy food,"

— KAREN NICHOLS
Desert Sands water association

Warthen, a retired Greyhound employee, rejects government claims that arsenic in drinking water could cause bladder, lung and skin cancer. "I'm 81. I think I've lived off of a nonmunicipal drinking system the majority of my life," he said.

Pete Gomez, who operates the water association, said he, his wife and four children, ages 10 to 19, drink the water daily without health problems. "We worry more about the cost of the water," he said. "Arsenic is natural."

Paul Ritzma, deputy secretary of the state Environment Department, said department officials know of no New Mexico illnesses directly linked to arsenic in drinking water, and he expressed doubt that the new rules will lead to a drop in cancer.

Desert Sands' two wells, which serve Warthen and his neighbors, contain arsenic at 19.3 ppb and 10.4 ppb. The wells were drilled in the Chihuahuan Desert.

Many Desert Sands customers are factory or farm workers who live in wind-beaten mobile homes or modest frame houses on small, sandy, treeless lots separated by rickety metal fences. The sand that blows across the flat desert is deep enough in some of the area's unpaved roads for cars to get stuck.

Fearing the cost of arsenic remedies, Desert Sands has joined with other small water associations in Oberlin, Kan.; Lusby, Md.; and Stanwood, Wash., to oppose the new standards.

Sen. Pete Domenici, R-N.M., and other lawmakers have introduced legislation to provide \$1.9 billion in grants to help small community water systems comply.

Bruce Thomson, a University of New Mexico civil engineering professor, said several treatment options would not work in the 95 percent of New Mexico communities that rely on groundwater and lack treatment plants.

Treatment costs vary from a few dollars per household annually to more than \$100, depending on the number of households, levels of arsenic, existing facilities and whether the treatment's waste is considered hazardous, Thomson said.

He said water associations with 200 or fewer customers could install a faucet filter in each household at a cost of about \$15 a month per family. However, one New Mexico town that tried this failed to maintain the filters in 30 percent of the households.

Another option is ion exchange filtering: Water is filtered through a resin, which attracts the arsenic. However, the process produces wastewater that can be considered hazardous and can be costly to dispose of.

Nichols is researching possible treatments, too. "It's a huge headache," she said.

But regardless, Nichols said, the Desert Sands water association will survive. "We have to," she said. "We can't just turn off people's water."



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SPORTS



Americans easily advance from Wimbledon first round

BY STEPHEN WILSON
AP Sports Writer

WIMBLEDON, England — Andre Agassi, Serena Williams and Pete Sampras turned Centre Court into an American showcase Monday as they swept to straight-set victories on the opening day of Wimbledon.

Chanda Rubin also joined the act, giving the United States a remarkable 4-0 sweep on the most famous stage in tennis.

With 2001 champion Goran Ivanisevic absent following shoulder surgery, Agassi was given the honor of playing the first match on Centre Court — and he didn't waste any time in underlining his title credentials.

On a day of blue, sunny skies, with a high temperature of 72 and not a rain cloud in sight, the third-seeded Agassi — who won Wimbledon in 1992 — took 1 hour, 29 minutes to overwhelm Israel's Harel Levy 6-0, 6-4, 6-4.

Next up came Williams, who needed only 42 minutes to dispose of 103rd-ranked Evie Dominikovic of Australia 6-1, 6-1. The second-seeded Williams had 20 winners and only one unforced error.

Then Sampras, the seven-time champion who had been questionable with a rib strain, made it 3-0 by serving 27 aces and beating Britain's Martin Lee 6-3, 7-6 (1), 6-3.

"It's nice to play on Centre Court," said Sampras, who hasn't won a tournament since Wimbledon in 2000. "Stepping out there felt like coming home again. ... When you step out on Centre Court, it's like Mecca out there."

With the three matches over with plenty of daylight to spare, organizers moved Rubin's match against Asa Svensson from Court 13 to Centre Court. Rubin obliged with another straight-set win — 6-3, 6-2.

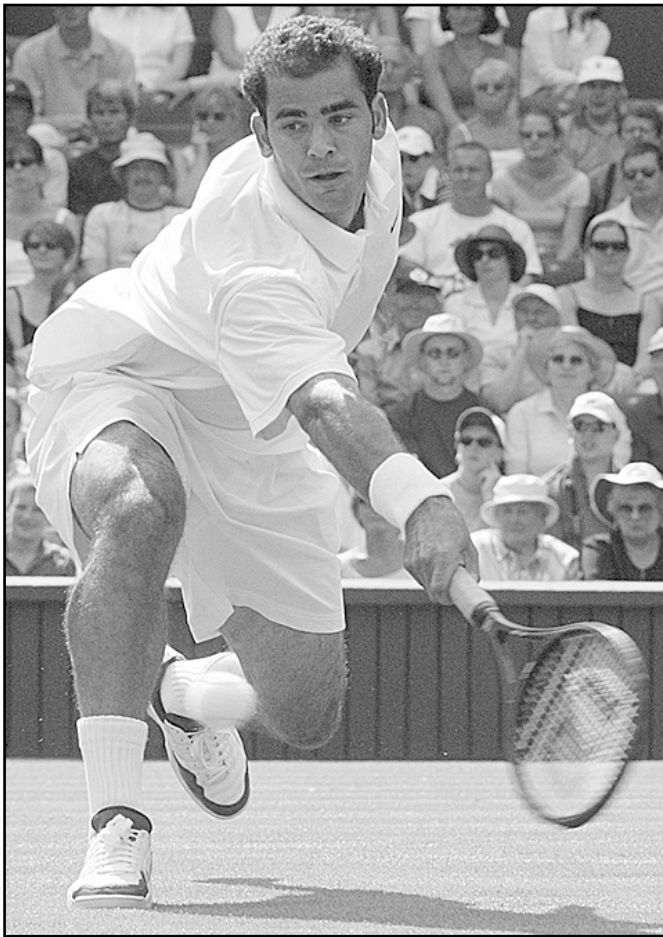
Marat Safin, Yevgeny Kafelnikov and Jennifer Capriati also advanced to the second round without dropping a set on a day without any significant upsets.

"It was pretty special being out there today," Agassi said of the Centre Court debut. "It was a big honor. It just felt great playing out there. Every time I'm on the court it brings back a lot of memories."

Playing his first grass-court match of the year, Agassi ripped through the opening set in just 18 minutes. Levy, who is ranked No. 326 and has won only one grass-court match in his career, raised his arms in mock triumph when he held serve to open the second set.

Agassi needed one service break to take the second set. He faltered briefly near the end of the third set when he was broken at love while serving for the match at 5-2. After Levy held at love for 5-4, Agassi didn't waver this time and served out the match.

Agassi, who is always a crowd favorite here, waved, blew kisses and bowed as the Centre Court spectators gave him a warm ovation.



Dave Caulkin/Associated Press

Pete Sampras stretches to reach a shot from Britain's Martin Lee, during their Men's Singles, first round match on the Centre Court at Wimbledon on Monday. Sampras defeated Lee 6-3, 7-6 (1), 6-3.

Agassi, who is known more for his returns than his serves, had a surprising 16 aces and 10 service winners. Playing mostly from the baseline, he had 46 winners and 17 unforced errors.

"It felt great," Agassi said. "You can only expect so much in your first match. I felt like I took care of business from the start. I felt very comfortable."

Williams, the second-seeded woman, beamed and blew kisses after crushing a forehand service return winner on her second match point.

"It's great definitely to get out there so early," she said. "Every time I step on Centre Court, I just feel honored. I've never played on Centre Court my first round match, so I'm really excited about it."

Serena's sister, top-seeded and two-time defending champion Venus, plays her first-round match Tuesday

against British wild card Jane O'Donoghue. The Williams sisters, who have shared six of the last 11 Grand Slams, are seeded to meet in the final.

Sampras had been expected to be scheduled for the Centre Court opener. But he sustained a rib strain over the weekend and asked for his match to be put back to Tuesday.

Tournament organizers rejected the request, but put him up third to give him a few extra hours for rest and treatment.

Sampras showed no sign of injury Monday as he rode his big serve to victory over Lee, extending his Wimbledon record to 8-0 against British players.

"The injury's fine," Sampras said. "It didn't affect my game. I didn't feel it much today. It's not a big issue."

But it was far from a vintage display from Sampras, who is seeded only No. 6 this year.

Sampras saved two set points while serving at 5-6 in the second set, then cruised through the tiebreaker. He was broken in the third game of the third set and fought off four more break points in the seventh game. He held serve at love to close out the match after 2 hours, 15 minutes.

"I felt like I played in spurts," Sampras said. "It's always a bit tricky when you play a lefty on grass. I played a little bit up and down. The first match, you just want to get through. I'm happy I won in straight sets."

Safin, the men's No. 2 seed, defeated France's Cedric Pioline — Wimbledon runnerup in 1997 — 7-6 (7), 6-2, 6-3.

Pioline, a grass-court specialist making his 12th successive appearance at Wimbledon, had a set point in the tiebreaker but wasted the chance with a double fault. From then on, Safin was in control.

No. 5 Yevgeny Kafelnikov downed Dominik Hrbaty 6-1, 7-6 (4), 7-6 (7). Hrbaty had held a 7-3 career edge against the two-time major champion.

Capriati, meanwhile, opened her bid for a first Wimbledon title with a comfortable 6-1, 6-4 win over Janette Husarova.

The third-seeded American, who has won the Australian Open twice and French Open once, played unspectacular tennis but did just enough to get past the 41st-ranked Slovakian in the opening match on Court 1.

Capriati broke three times in the first set. She fell behind 3-1 in the second, but then ran off four straight games to take command.

It was an unsteady performance from Capriati, who served six double faults and had 24 unforced errors to go with her 16 winners.

"It was really close in the second set," Capriati said. "She really started playing better. I'm glad to have gotten a match like that where it wasn't too easy."

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INTERNATIONAL

Israeli tanks surround Yasser Arafat's compound

BY HADEEL WAHDAN

Associated Press Writer

RAMALLAH, West Bank — Israeli forces clamped down harder on the West Bank, as Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon pledged to widen his military offensive against Palestinian extremists to the Gaza Strip, where a helicopter strike killed four Hamas members Monday.

The latest turbulence, including the third Israeli encirclement this month of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's Ramallah headquarters, came as President Bush delivered an eagerly awaited Mideast policy address.

Bush offered guidelines for a future Palestinian state in a speech Monday that was postponed last week because of escalating violence. Three major Palestinian attacks left more than 30 Israeli civilians dead, and prompted a new and broad invasion of the West Bank called "Operation Determined Path."

Speaking at the White House, Bush called for a new Palestinian leadership — one "not compromised by terror" and set stiff conditions for a Palestinians state. He also demanded Israel withdraw to positions it held on the West Bank two years ago and to stop building homes for Jews on the West Bank and in Gaza. Ultimately, he said, Israel should agree to pull all the way back to the lines it held before the 1967 Mideast war.

Elections should be held by the end of the year for a legislature with normal authority and there also must be a constitution, Bush said as he set stiff conditions for a Palestinian state.

Arafat issued a statement welcoming Bush's speech as a "serious effort to push the peace process forward." But the statement ignored Bush's calls for new Palestinian leadership.

Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon echoed those calls.

A statement from Sharon's office said that "when the Palestinian Authority undergoes genuine reforms and a new leadership takes it place at its head ... it will be possible to discuss ways of moving forward by diplomatic means."

Saeb Erekat, an aide to Arafat, said the president's call to replace the Palestinian leader — whom Bush did not identify by name in his speech — was not acceptable.

"President Arafat was elected by the Palestinian people in a direct election ... and President Bush must respect the choice of the Palestinian people."

— SAEB EREKAT
Yasser Arafat aid

"President Arafat was elected by the Palestinian people in a direct election ... and President Bush must respect the choice of the Palestinian people," he said.

The speech was broadcast live throughout the region on Arab satellite stations.

Even before the address, the presidential plan for a provisional Palestinian state had received a cool response in the Mideast.

Sharon has said it is not the time for any sort of Palestinian state because of the Palestinian violence, and Palestinian Information Minister Yasser Abed Rabbo said the United States must pressure Israel to pull back its forces before any peace initiatives.

Israeli forces now control six of the



Hatem Moussa/Associated Press

Palestinian police officers search the wreckage of a taxi that was hit by Israeli helicopter rockets, killing six Palestinians, in Rafah refugee camp southern Gaza Strip on Monday.

eight main Palestinian cities and towns in the West Bank: Jenin, Nablus, Qalqiliya, Ramallah, Tulkarem and Bethlehem.

At least 600,000 Palestinians in the West Bank are confined to their homes by army curfews, although restrictions were briefly lifted in Nablus and Qalqiliya so residents could shop and go to school.

Six Palestinians were killed in the missile strikes in Rafah and five Palestinians were injured. Four of the dead belonged to Hamas, the group said.

Israel said it targeted and killed Yasser Rizik, a "senior Hamas activist" who was allegedly behind a January attack that killed four Israeli soldiers.

After the missile strike, Hamas renewed its threats against Israel as Israeli and Palestinian authorities cracked down on the group, which has carried out scores

of suicide bombings against Israelis.

After brief scuffles between Hamas supporters and police, Palestinian police pulled back from near Yassin's home. Masked Hamas gunmen patrolled the sandy streets outside the house and about 60 people gathered nearby with a Hamas flag.

In Ramallah, the Palestinian political headquarters in the West Bank, Israeli soldiers took up positions around Arafat's offices, where a bulldozer quickly barricaded the front gate and nearby streets with stones and debris.

More than 20 tanks were parked on the streets that surround Arafat's compound as of Monday afternoon, and forces fanned out throughout Ramallah, imposing a curfew on residents of the city and adjoining al-Bireh.

Wild elephant goes berserk on India-Nepal border

By The Associated Press

CALCUTTA, India — A berserk wild elephant rampaged through villages on both sides of the India-Nepal border, trampling and killing 12 people, police said Monday.

Hunters were scouring the thick forests on Monday in search of the beast.

The elephant killed nine people in an Indian border village on Sunday, and three more after crossing over into Nepalese territory, said Jogesh Burman, the wildlife minister of India's West Bengal state.

The elephant entered the grounds of the Marapur tea plantation, near the border with Nepal, at lunchtime, and began trampling everything in its path, local police chief

K. Jayaraman said. He said the animal apparently came from a forest in Nepal, and swam across a river before reaching the plantation, about 380 miles north of Calcutta, the capital of West Bengal state.

The pachyderm's first victim was a female worker who was eating lunch in an outdoor courtyard. Next, it trampled an 11-year-old boy, who was playing in a nearby field, followed by three more workers, two guards and two villagers. The elephant also flattened 25 mud huts and three small police shacks, Jayaraman said.

After 30 minutes of havoc, villagers armed with swords and torches joined police and forest guards and chased the elephant away.

The elephant then apparently returned to Nepal, where it struck a few hours later in the border village of Bahun Dagi, 330 miles east of the Nepalese capital of Katmandu, Nepal's private Kantipur Radio reported.

The elephant attacked a 71-year-old villager, then trampled a man and his wife, ages 21 and 19, who were trying to save the old man.

Hong Kong leader announces new Cabinet that critics fear will politicize government

By The Associated Press

HONG KONG — In Hong Kong's biggest government shake-up since its return to Chinese rule, the territory's Beijing-backed leader named a new Cabinet of political appointees and brushed aside criticism he was chipping away at the civil service left behind by the British.

The 14 members of the Cabinet will be accountable to Chief Executive Tung Chee-hwa, replacing a system in which top bureaucrats were responsible for government departments.

The chief executive described the new arrangement as the "dawning of a new era for the governance of

Hong Kong." But his political opponents worry about the concentration of power in his hands.

Although Hong Kong is now part of China, it maintains a separate economic and political system, and Western-style civil liberties remain in place under an arrangement dubbed "one country, two systems."

At a news conference introducing the new Cabinet lineup, Tung sought to ease concerns that the change will distance Hong Kong's government from its roots as an evenhanded and honest civil service.

The former shipping magnate is highly unpopular among Hong Kong citizens who view him as beholden to Beijing and big busi-

ness. The deep economic troubles faced by the territory since it reverted to Chinese sovereignty in 1997 haven't helped.

Tung calls the new arrangement an "accountability system." Critics call it a disaster in the making, saying the new government chiefs will be accountable only to Tung, who is accountable only to Beijing.

The new Cabinet will be in place for the start of Tung's second five-year term on July 1, the fifth anniversary of the handover. The chief executive was re-elected in a restricted electoral process that gave votes to just 800 people, a committee full of pro-Beijing figures and special interest representatives.

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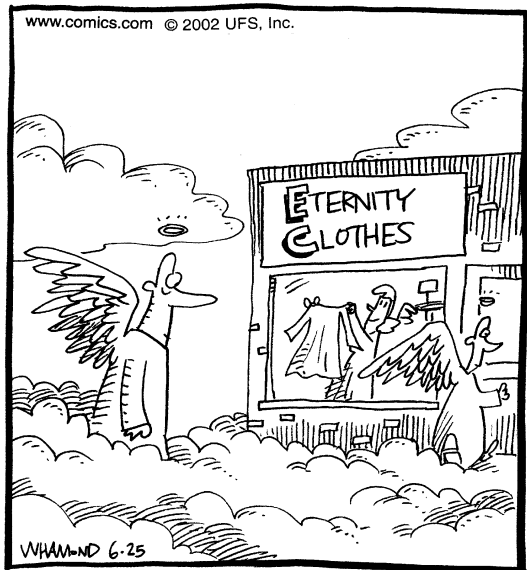
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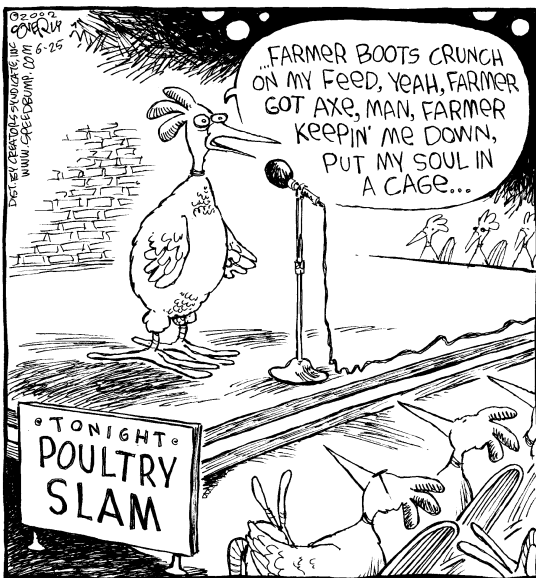
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 - 7 Syndicate boss
 - 11 "Earth in the Balance" author
 - 12 Actor Epps
 - 13 Clinic specimen
 - 15 — Dame
 - 16 Lewd look
 - 18 Soccer score
 - 21 Put on
 - 22 Easter topper
 - 24 Easter find
 - 25 Burger holder
 - 26 Compass pt.
 - 27 Farm machines
 - 29 Freshener scent
 - 30 Carson's successor
 - 31 Victim
 - 32 African capital
 - 34 Coen Brothers movie
 - 40 Crowd sound
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 - 42 Pot start
 - 43 Hunting dog
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 - 3 Conceit
 - 4 Okla-homan
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 - 7 Enticement
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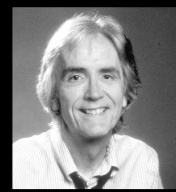
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- 21 Spider's home
- 22 Tour carrier
- 23 Golf peg
- 25 Expansive
- 28 Call from the audi-ence
- 29 On time
- 31 Original
- 33 Egyptian goddess
- 34 Bikini top
- 35 Chaney of fright films
- 36 Stable bit
- 37 Touch lightly
- 38 Recline
- 39 Stray

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

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

Calendar

movies

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

Mann Criterion
1313 Third St.
Windtalkers (NR) 12:40, 4:00, 7:20, 10:40
Minority Report (PG-13) 11:30, 12:30, 3:15, 4:15, 7:00, 8:00, 10:30
Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood (PG-13) 11:10, 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15
Bad Company (PG-13) 11:15, 2:10, 5:00, 7:45, 10:45
My Big Fat Greek Wedding (PG) 11:20, 1:45, 4:30, 7:10, 9:40.

AMC Theatre SM 7
1310 3rd Street
Spider-Man (PG-13) 12:00, 2:40, 5:20, 8:00, 10:35
Star Wars: Episode II - Attack of the Clones (PG) 12:10, 3:15, 6:30, 9:35
Scooby Doo (PG) 11:50, 12:45, 1:50, 3:00, 4:30, 5:10, 7:20, 9:50
Undercover Brother (PG-13) 4:30, 7:10, 9:30
Lilo & Stich (PG) 11:30, 1:45, 4:00, 7:00, 9:15
Insomnia (R) 11:40, 2:20, 5:00, 7:50, 10:30
Juwanne Mann 12:20, 2:35, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00.

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

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

Tuesday, June 25, 2002

Tuesday

Community

The Westside Walkers, a FREE program sponsored by UCLA Healthcare's 50-Plus Program! Walking programs for adults 50 or older looking for safe, low-impact exercise in a comfortable environment. The Westside Walkers meet Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m., at Westside Pavilion, Pico Blvd. Between Overland Ave. and Westwood Blvd. In West LA. For more information about the program, call (800)516-5323.

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

Classes

Los Angeles Arts Academy, Summer Art Camp in Santa Monica & Westchester. Ages 5 to 13 years old. Lots of fun: art, acting, singing, karaoke, drawing, sculpture, drum circles, field trips & more! June 24 through August 16, M-F, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. (except field trip days). Now enrolling! laarts@earthlink.net.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUPS AT SMC'S EMERITUS COLLEGE. Santa Monica College offers free bereavement support groups

in the summer session through it's Emeritus College, a widely praised program designed for older adults. Two support groups will meet Tuesdays on an ongoing basis. One group will meet from noon to 1:50 p.m. and the other from 7 p.m. to 8:50 p.m. For information and registration, call Emeritus College at (310) 434-4306.

Entertainment

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

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

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

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

DJ Sets By: Garth Trinidad & Mathieu. Kim Hill, 9:00 pm, Spacek, 10:15 pm. **Temple Bar**, 1026 Wilshire Blvd., (310)393-6611.

Wednesday

Community

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

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

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Cara Rosellini hosts The Gaslite's Comic Review, followed by open-mic comedy karaoke, at The Gaslite, 2030 Wilshire Blvd. 7:30 p.m. FREE! (310)829-2382.

Soul Station, Soul Jazz Soul, Dwight Trible & Friends, Damon Aaron, Babalade Olamina.

Temple Bar, 1026 Wilshire Blvd., (310)393-6611.

Poetry N Go Club, 8 pm. UnUrban Coffeehouse. 3301 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica, (310)315-0056.

KEEP YOUR DATE STRAIGHT

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

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



BACK PAGE

ODDS & ENDS

Small town recognized by census

By The Associated Press

BELLEAIR SHORE, Fla. — The federal government has discovered life in this tiny Pinellas County town.

Census officials had thought the place uninhabited, which was discouraging to the people who thought they lived here. But statistics released recently by the Census Bureau have corrected the earlier figures that showed a population of zero.

The original calculations were odd considering that county voter rolls showed more than 90 registered voters. And Mayor John Robertson is quite sure there are 52 houses and four more being built.

"I counted them," he said.

Now, the count is wrong in the other direction, Robertson said. Instead of the 52 houses Robertson counted, the amended census shows 63 houses — 15 of them vacant — and 75 people living in the waterfront town.

Officials accounted for the original mistake by saying they had confused Belleair Shore with its neighbor Belleair Beach, giving the Shore's residents to the Beach.

Kraut champion eats for two

By The Associated Press

FRANKSVILLE, Wis. — Reigning kraut-eating champion Brenda Lashley brought a secret weapon to this year's contest: She was eating for two.

Lashley, who is seven months pregnant, gobbled down more than a pound of sauerkraut Sunday at the

Kraut Festival in Franksville to claim her title as the women's World Champion kraut eater. She took home a trophy and \$100.

"I just hope he likes it," Lashley said of her unborn child, while admitting she's not too fond of the food herself.

Lashley has placed first, second or third in the women's competition every year for the past 15 years.

Her secret?

"Don't look up. Don't look at the crowd."

She kept her face firmly planted in the plate of cured cabbage Sunday on the third and final day of the 52nd annual event.

The festival originated in 1949 when Frank's Kraut Company was the main industry in Franksville. Now called The Fremont Co., the company still supports the annual festival.

Lashley competed with 14 other women who had two minutes to try to stuff 1.5 pounds of kraut down. Fourteen men raced the two-minute clock to try to consume 2 pounds, and 15 teen-agers had one minute to finish 1 pound.

Cop nabs stoner with marijuana plant

By The Associated Press

CANTON, Ohio — A man who allegedly boasted to a passer-by while carrying a marijuana plant down the street ended up getting arrested by the man — a plain-clothes police officer.

"Would you believe I'm walking down the street in the middle of the day with this pot plant," Daniel Fornash of Canton said as he walked down the street Thursday, according to police.

The passer-by responded, "Would you believe I'm a cop?"

Canton Detective Joe Mongold, who was returning from court, cited Fornash with misdemeanor charges of cultivation and possession of marijuana.

Authorities said Fornash told police the marijuana had been growing in the front yard of a vacant house, where he had been nurturing it, and that he decided to dig it up and take it home.

Gorilla could save entire species

By The Associated Press

MIAMI — The newest addition to Miami Metrozoo — a tiny gorilla born in captivity this weekend — could play an important role in saving the endangered species, zoo officials said.

The baby gorilla, which has not yet been named, is the third gorilla born at the zoo and the fifth in Florida, zoo spokesman Ron Magill said.

There is a shortage of female lowland gorillas in captivity, Magill said. The new baby could become part of a breeding program to preserve the species, he said.

A gorilla named Frederika gave birth Saturday afternoon to the tiny girl, which weighed between two and four pounds.

The proud father — J.J. Jr., who also lives at the zoo — was presented with banana cigars. And he wasn't the only one celebrating.

"I was calling my mother last night. 'Mom! It's a girl!'" said zookeeper Jodi Kissinger, who watches over the great apes. "I'll have to get some cards and send them to my family and friends."

The zoo now has five gorillas in its exhibit.

YOUR OPINION MATTERS! Send your letters to Santa Monica Daily Press: Attn. Editor
530 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 200 • Santa Monica • 90401 • sack@smdp.com

What do Shaq and Lenny Krayzelberg have in common?

as quoted in USA Today



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