



SOME RARE AIR FOR POSEY
PEOPLE IN THE NEWS 15

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

DAILY LOTTERY

2 14 20 29 44
Meganumber: 32
Jackpot: \$12M

4 10 15 17 29
Meganumber: 22
Jackpot: \$90M

6 14 26 29 36

MIDDAY: 4 8 2
EVENING: 2 3 0

1st: 04 Big Ben
2nd: 09 Winning Spirit
3rd: 11 Money Bags
RACE TIME: 1.44.43

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Robert E. Mays, 64, an associate dean at the University of Southern Illinois, agreed to plead guilty in June to biting a man on the leg when he had stopped to help Mays after a March traffic accident.

■ Louisville, Ky., middle school teacher Caroline Kolb was fired in March after a January incident in which she bit a 14-year-old student on the back as punishment.

■ Janet W. Strong, 53, was charged by police in April with biting a toddler at her Loving Touch Child Care center in Milton, Fla.

■ An assistant to boxer Mike Tyson revealed in March that he had settled his lawsuit stemming from a May 2003 incident in which he had accused Tyson, who was angry about a road-rage incident, of punching him and then biting him on the leg.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 180th day of 2006.
There are 185 days left in the year.

On June 29, 1776, the Virginia state constitution was adopted, and Patrick Henry made governor.

In 1949, the government of South Africa enacted a ban against racially mixed marriages.

INDEX

Horoscopes	
Relax your mind, Sagittarius	2
Snow & Surf Report	
Water temperature: 62°	3
Opinion	
'Enough' all ready	4
Commentary	
Think independently	5
State	
Vote with venom	6
Business	
Barefoot in the park	12
International	
Bear gets the best of them	13
MOVIETIMES	
Hungry for 'Nacho'	15
Comics	
Strips tease	16
Classifieds	
Ad space odyssey	17-19

Kicking the habit



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

More than 1,000 people waited in line on Fourth Street to buy the new T-Mobile Sidekick 3 during a pre-sale on Wednesday. Some camped out all night in front of the retailer's Wilshire Boulevard store to make sure they got the new wireless communication device. Still, some were turned away when the store sold out of the products within a few hours.

TWILIGHT DANCE SERIES

Bigger bang at Pier show

BY EMILIE PHELPS
Special to the Daily Press

SM PIER — Summertime in Santa Monica means free live music every Thursday, beginning tonight with Latin rock and jazz.

The 22nd annual Twilight Dance Series on the Santa Monica Pier starts today at 7:30 p.m. with Latin rock and jazz master Poncho Sanchez. Backed by his band, Sanchez will rock the crowd on his congas.

See TWILIGHT, page 9



Photo courtesy

ROLL OUT THE BARREL: Poncho Sanchez and his band kick off the 22nd annual Twilight Dance Series of concerts tonight on the Santa Monica Pier.

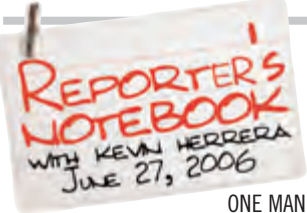
Farmers seek a little space

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

MAIN STREET — Visitors to the Farmers' Market this Sunday are being asked to park at nearby lots to help ease traffic and parking congestion under a new, summer pilot program crafted by City Hall and merchants along Main Street.

Shoppers will be asked to park in a beach lot at 2600 Barnard Way, and lots at Santa Monica Alternative and John Muir Middle schools, located at

See PILOT PARKING, page 9



ONE MAN'S TAKE ON CITY COUNCIL AND THE MEETING OF THE MINDS

CITY HALL — Big helpings of raw food, marijuana and beach parking lots were served up at Tuesday night's City Council meeting, which dragged on late into the evening,

forcing elected officials to postpone action on three items, including the approval of several board members and commissioners.

The atmosphere in the Council

Chambers was more lively than usual, as elected officials heard appeals from an attorney representing the operators of Juliano's Raw restaurant and residents opposed to its request to serve alcohol and be allowed to operate without the two parking spaces required under cur-

Jackson jurists not too thrilled

BY MICHAEL J. TITTINGER
Daily Press Staff Writer

SM COURTHOUSE — Finding a dozen people devoid of opinion about Michael Jackson proved a challenge on Wednesday, as jury selection got underway here for a \$3.8 million lawsuit brought against the pop singer by a former business associate.

But then, seldom are things business-as-usual when they involve the embattled entertainer.

"What we will be showing you is a world unfamiliar to most," warned Superior Court Judge Jacqueline Connor, addressing the pool of 60 potential jurors crammed into the Santa Monica courtroom.

What the selected jurors will not see is the performer in person, as Jackson is scheduled to appear solely through videotaped depositions he completed in England. According to his attorney, Thomas C. Mundell, "(Jackson) lives in Bahrain, which is 10 time zones away."

Jackson's presence still promises to loom large throughout the trial.

F. Marc Schaffel is suing Jackson for breach of contract, claiming he is owed money for helping produce television shows that were aimed at rebutting the star's negative portrayal in the infamous documentary

See JACKSON SUIT, page 11

Pot and pans: Council makes some noise

rent zoning laws.

Also, the authors of a ballot initiative that would make adult marijuana use at private residences the lowest priority for law enforcement squared off against police officers

See REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK, page 8

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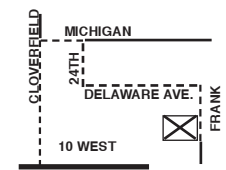
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Relax your mind, Sagittarius

Santa Monica Daily Press



JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS The stars show the kind of day you'll have:
★★★★DYNAMIC ★★★★★ POSITIVE ★★★ AVERAGE ★★SO-SO ★DIFFICULT



ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★★ Confusion surrounds friends and loved ones. Your goals could be a bit clouded and difficult. Pressure builds to a new level, but you can detach. Understand where others are coming from. Others gain a perspective. Tonight: New vistas.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Sometimes you gain a different perspective if you stretch. Right now you need to close down and see events differently. You might want to think before you leap. In fact, keep to yourself as much as possible. Tonight: Homeward bound.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Talk and listen. What you hear might be quite different from what is going on. Slow down and think. Others might be touchy but also capable of adjusting. You help others update their thinking. Remain positive. Tonight: Chat up a storm.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ You easily indulge yourself, but you also might want to put a halt to a self-indulgent streak. Consider others and their needs, but also use some discipline in how much you give and/or do. A partner might not get your message as clearly as you desire. Tonight: Finally happy.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ You are a personality that has weight and power. Sometimes others are confused by how you present an issue. Use your creativity and imagination. You get grounded answers and responses. Isn't that better? Tonight: Ever playful.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You might need to revamp your schedule in order to get on top of a personal matter. You have a lot of energy. Knowing where to place it could make all the difference. Review your plans with an eye to efficiency. Tonight: Easy does it.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Your imagination takes you in a new direction. Laugh and relax with others. What becomes obvious is that you have solutions, though you will want to rearrange your schedule. Use your imagination. Tonight: Touch base with someone important.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ You come from an anchored place. Others need your centering more than usual. But you could want to retreat and head in a new direction. The question is, Why not? Indulge yourself first. Tonight: Happy at home.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ You might want to handle a matter completely differently once you gain a new perspective. Not everything is as you perceive. Move forward and in an upbeat manner. Realize more of what you want. Tonight: Relax your mind.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ You might want to revise your thinking in order to make good choices and head in new directions. A partner could be very important to your decision-making process. Work closely with those who make a difference. Tonight: Go for a togetherness theme.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ You might not be seeing someone realistically, and you might not care. As a result, reality might force you to adjust your thinking. Would it not be better to transform on your own? Tonight: Happy with someone special.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ With new facts, you might want to revise your thinking and handle a work-related project. Daydreaming and imaginative twists will be your downfall, at least in someone else's eyes. A boss or relative can be difficult. Tonight: In the limelight.

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A newspaper with issues

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Red Cross offers a breath of life

By Daily Press staff

Could you save someone’s life in an emergency situation? The Santa Monica American Red Cross is hosting a free CPR class this weekend. Participants will learn how to recognize signs of cardio and respiratory emergencies, and acquire the skills to act in life-threatening situations. Anyone in good health may attend, regardless of age. Class sizes are limited to 40 participants per session; space is guaranteed only to those who register in advance. On Saturday, July 1, three-hour adult and child CPR classes will be held starting at 9 a.m., 10 a.m., 11 a.m., 1 p.m. and 2 p.m. Classes are located at the Ken Edwards Center on 1527 Fourth St., across from Santa Monica Place. Limited free parking is available. There is an optional \$10 fee for those who need a “Certificate of Completion” as proof of training required by employers. For more information or to register, call (310) 394-3773 and mention “CPR Saturday.”

Don’t try this at home

By Daily Press staff

Fourth of July festivities are coming early in Santa Monica. “Celebrate America” is a night of free fireworks and live bands at Santa Monica College this weekend. Not only are amateur fireworks illegal in Santa Monica, but fireworks displays by trained professionals are the safest, as they are conducted under controlled settings and regulations, according to the nonprofit National Fire Protection Association. Pyro Spectaculars is offering their annual Independence Day Celebration at SMC as a safe alternative to using fireworks at home. The firework festivities on Saturday, July 1 include performers such as rock group The Tom Nolan Band, and jazz artist Anthony Long. Attendees may bring picnic dinners; food vendors also will be on site. Alcoholic beverages, glass containers and barbecues are prohibited. Participants are not allowed to bring their own fireworks to the celebration. The celebration will take place at SMC’s Corsair Field located at 16th Street and Pico Boulevard. The gates will open at 5 p.m. and the performers will begin at 6 p.m. The fireworks will go off at dusk. The outdoor festival is free, but donations are welcome. Parking on the campus is \$5. For more information, call (310) 434-3000.

‘You Can Never Tell’ what’s happening in Topanga

By Daily Press staff

You might not be able to tell, but there’s another world of theater in the Santa Monica Mountains. George Bernard Shaw’s social romantic comedy “You Can Never Tell” (1898) will open at the Will Geer Theatricum Botanicum on Saturday, July 1 at 8 p.m. followed by a reception with the actors. Shaw distinguished his plays by two categories: pleasant or unpleasant. “You Can Never Tell” will be a pleasant theatrical excursion — full of laughter, romance and dentistry — to a seaside town in England, event organizers said. The Theatricum Botanicum amphitheater is terraced into the hillside of the canyon, so dress casually, bring a sweater or jacket, and bring cushions for bench seating. The venue is located at 1419 N. Topanga Canyon Blvd., which is midway between Malibu and the San Fernando Valley. The play will continue through Oct. 1. Visit www.theatricum.com for a detailed performance schedule. RSVP to Lucy Pollak (818) 887-1499 or lucy@lucypr.com.

CLARIFICATION In response to the June 27 edition, city officials have made an official statement regarding the lawsuit brought by neighbors of the public beach project at 415 PCH. “The 415 PCH project is moving forward on schedule with an estimated construction start date of fall 2007. The city has developed a highly responsive proposal for the traffic signal that addresses Caltrans’ request for specific design features. We are very optimistic that Caltrans will review the proposal favorably.”



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SNOW AND SURF REPORTS

SNOW CONDITIONS

DATA PROVIDED BY ONTHESNOW.COM

BEAR MOUNTAIN
CLOSED

JUNE MOUNTAIN
CLOSED

MAMMOTH MOUNTAIN

NEW SNOW (24 Hrs)	BASE DEPTH	LIFT HOURS	RUNS OPEN	LIFTS OPEN
0"	36"-60"	7:00 AM - 2:00 PM	35	3/28

CONDITIONS: MACHINE GROOMED, SPRING, CORN

MOUNTAIN HIGH
CLOSED

MT. BALDY
CLOSED

SNOW SUMMIT
CLOSED

SNOW VALLEY
CLOSED

SURF CONDITIONS

WATER TEMP: 62°

SWELL FORECAST (2-3 FT)
TODAY LOOKS SMALL...KNEE TO WAIST AT SOUTH FACING BREAKS AND POSSIBLY SMALLER AT WEST FACING BREAKS

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS
POSSIBLE WIND ISSUES THIS WEEKEND...

TIDE FORECAST FOR JUNE IN SANTA MONICA

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

The Q-Line

Leaving the light on. Last week, the Bayside District Corp., which manages downtown along with City Hall, hired an outside consultant to design a plan for remaking the Santa Monica district into a thriving West Coast destination. While still in the early stages, two things have become quite apparent — it's going to require community support and it's going to take a whole lot of money. So this week, Q-Line wants to know: **What must downtown Santa Monica do in order to compete with other cities as a major Southern California hotspot?** Call (310) 285-8106 or leave your post at smdp.com/forum and we'll print your responses in the weekend edition.

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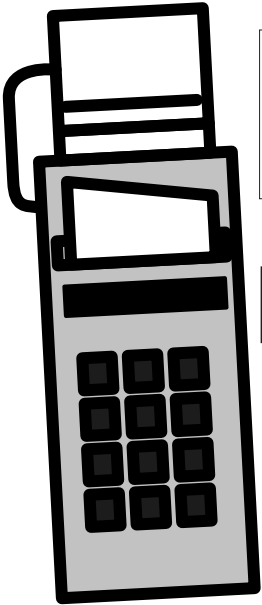
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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

School district not as transparent as it should be

Editor:

Last Friday afternoon, the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District quietly posted its final proposed 2006-07 budget on its Web site. But when you clicked on it, the following message popped up: “The resource is not found.” That’s been the story of their budget process all year — an illusion of transparency. After my call to the district, the electronic transfer was corrected by Monday afternoon. Earlier that day, the district had sent out another last-minute “press release” e-mail announcing the next board meeting agenda was online for June 29 without the courtesy of highlighting the importance of the public hearing item on the budget. Now you see it, now you don’t.

Consider the following timeline of the district’s latest procedural shell game: When the board agenda for May 18 was posted on the Web site, it included a discussion item titled “Preliminary 2006-07 General Fund Budget, pages 55-61z” but without the cautionary message that budget summary pages a-z were not available for electronic transfer, or how to access them. Subsequently, that meeting had to be adjourned early without any budget discussion. Now you see it, now you don’t.

Then, at the rescheduled June 1 meeting, the same budget agenda item was brought back, but failed to mention that the summary budget pages were only accessible in a separate PDF file on the Web site. Adding insult to injury, you had to stick around until almost midnight to hear the board’s first public discussion on the proposed \$3 million deficit budget. Now you see it, now you don’t.

Things didn’t get any better for the June 15 board meeting. The revised summary budget documents did not make it online until I reminded the district offices of their latest glitch. But mysteriously, two of these informative documents did not get electronically transferred with their “fix.” Unfortunately, the only consistent part of the process was another budget discussion starting around 11:30 p.m., seven hours after the board began its closed session. Yawn. Now you see it, now you don’t.

During the first, time-sensitive portion of the June 15 meeting when the board had a joint discussion with the financial oversight committee (FOC), the chair of reported something that says it all about the process: “We (the FOC) have not had an opportunity to review the version of the budget before you.” Later, another FOC member complained — for the third year in a row — that the committee doesn’t receive the budget materials in a timely manner making oversight almost impossible. Is anyone surprised that there are two more vacancies on the FOC? Now you see them, now you don’t.

Finally, since the district did not give the public hearing on the proposed 2006-07 budget a time-sensitive slot for the June 29 meeting, I wouldn’t rush down to the district offices on Thursday expecting to hear a timely final budget discussion. But with no live local broadcast of the meeting, you would have to wait to see the video replay of the district’s closing magic act. Now you see it, now you don’t!

Jim Jaffe
Santa Monica

City playing with investors’ livelihoods

Editor:

I grew up in Santa Monica and watched it transform from a sleepy little beach town to a thriving social hot spot. I find it amazing that certain policies are still in place in the same form as when they were drafted over 25 years ago. When rent control first appeared, my father actually jokingly brought up a point at the city meeting. He said it was a great idea to limit the return on real estate investments to only a few percent. In fact the city should limit returns on all investments to 3 percent and give the rest to the underprivileged so as to serve the needy better. The outburst of “you can’t do that, it’s my money/stock/investment” and the like from the same city officials regulating other people’s money drove home the point. Rent control is basically robbing an investor of their return. Stocks, bonds, gold, oil, real estate, all are forms of investment but only landlord-ing in a rent-controlled environment guarantees a ceiling to your returns, a limit enforced by the city.

Not much of an incentive to provide housing.

I have been a landlord for many years, and despite losing thousands of dollars a month due to rent control, I do see the value of a policy which protects the underprivileged. It’s almost a forced Karma thing. However, when you have someone making \$90,000 a year benefiting from a program designed for the elderly and poor, well something is wrong with the system. I know one landlord who has two lawyers as tenants in a two-bedroom apartment. They earn over \$400,000 collectively yet pay only \$900 in rent. That is basically forcing the property owner to subsidize the rent of an otherwise capable and well-off individual. Why would anyone want to become a landlord in these conditions? You can be sure if the city owned all the housing in the area they wouldn’t limit its return to only 3 percent.

What I think might make sense would be to simply adjust the policy to better reflect the economic climate of the city. Far more reasonable would be instituting an economic review of units in question. If an individual earns more than \$75,000 a year, they can certainly afford to pay market rents. Same for a family earning \$130,000 or more a year. Protection is one thing, a harmful fiscal policy is another. I think the \$4.5 million budget for the Rent Control Board could easily cover the cost of an accountant for a review, especially since they are funded by the property taxes from the owners in the first place.

Protect the poor, protect the infirm, protect the elderly, but do not fleece owners who are providing a needed service (housing) to the point where they would rather Ellis a property than lose more money on it. There must be a logical and reasonable middle ground.

Scott Baron
Venice

Compassion doesn’t equate to rolling over



ENOUGH
IS ENOUGH
BY JENNA LINNEKENS

I was born and raised in Los Angeles and I went to school in Santa Monica. My school was very near Third Street, before the Promenade was even a thought in the city’s mind. As a newlywed who is thinking about starting a family, I am fearful that I and many others will no longer be able to live safely in this community, if our city government does not take immediate action to remedy the chronic homeless problem. We must seriously begin to blaze a path to the reclamation of our community.

When I walk my dog in the evening, I stumble upon homeless people lying on sleeping bags on my neighbor’s lawns. This is called camping and it is illegal. We must call the police when we see it. When I pull out of my garage, people are defecating against the wall in the alley. I see my neighbors chasing vagrants out of their carports early in the morning. I see mothers pulling their children closer into them as they are accosted by beggars and transients who are yelling profanities at the top of their lungs. The police stand by doing nothing. I walk in the park and I see makeshift houses under tarps and belongings affixed to parking meters and bicycle stands. This is a matter of public safety and public health.

Our parks have become virtual refugee camps that only the homeless are allowed to enjoy. Last week when I was in Reed Park I talked with a ranger who said to me, “Please stand back. That woman is a spitter.” He was referring to a homeless person who was walking by. He also said, “I am just the eyes and ears around here. I cannot tell them (the homeless) to move on.” Thus we continue to simply manage the status quo, and that in no longer acceptable.

We must reclaim our community. At this time we are not making the best use of the money specifically allotted to fight the homeless issue. We — the residents and

business owners — want to be partners with the city in this monstrous mission. In order to be partners you must have similar objectives and at the moment that does not seem to be the case.

Let us send a very clear message. Santa Monica is not the place to come where the living is easy. Santa Monica has compassion — however, our safety has been compromised, and a result we are living in a community where people are scared, uncomfortable and becoming more apathetic daily. We must not forsake our residents, business owners and our very important tourist industry. We must save the future of our special community.

Is it going to take a rape, a murder or a serious assault on a person or their property to help our local government realize the enormity of this issue? If the laws that are supposed to protect us — the law abiding residents, the people that visit Santa Monica and the mainstream population — they are not working. The beauty of living in a democratic society is what we have the power to change.

As a point of reference, our state government implemented a small solution that helped a large number of people: “Give a hand up not a hand out!”

Sacramento installed a series of parking meter type devices along some popular pedestrian thoroughfares. Those meters collect donations that go directly to various homeless feeding programs and housing programs. The devices have signs that clearly read “Give a hand up ... not a handout.” So, instead of residents and visitors putting money into the hands of myriad homeless people, they would put a hand up and deposit their hard-earned money into the meter. It has proven very successful in our state capitol. Why couldn’t it work here?

The time is now — action is the only option.

I leave you with this quote, think about it. “You must be the change you wish to see in the world.” — Mahatma, M.K. Gandhi.

(Jenna Linnekens is a seven-year resident of Santa Monica. She believes that all residents’ voices matter. To reach her, e-mail her at jlinnekens@yahoo.com.)



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GUEST COMMENTARY BY MICHAEL S. BERLINER

Think independently, it's the American way

America's cities and towns will soon fill with parades, fireworks and barbecues. They will be celebrating the Fourth of July, the 230th birthday of America. But one hopes that the speeches will contain fewer bromides and more attention to exactly what is being celebrated. The Fourth of July is Independence Day, but America's leaders and intellectuals have been trying to move us further and further away from the meaning of Independence Day, away from the philosophy that created this country.

What we hear from politicians, intellectuals and the media is that independence is passé, that we've reached a new age of "interdependence." We hear demands for mandatory "volunteering" to serve others, for sacrifice to the nation. We hear demands from trust-busters that successful companies be punished for being "greedy" and not serving society. But this is not the message of America. It is the direct opposite of why America became a beacon of hope for the truly oppressed throughout the world. They have come here to escape poverty and dictatorship; they have come here to live their own lives, where they aren't owned by the state, the community, or the tribe.

"Independence Day" is a critically important title. It signifies the fundamental meaning of this nation, not just of the holiday. The American Revolution remains unique in human history: a revolution — and a nation — founded on a moral principle, the principle of individual rights. Jefferson at Philadelphia, and Washington at Valley Forge, pledged their "lives, fortunes and sacred honor." For what? Not for mere separation from England, not — like most rebels — for the "freedom" to set up their own tyranny. In fact, Britain's tyranny over the colonists was mild compared to what most current governments do to their citizens.

Jefferson and Washington fought a war for the principle of independence, meaning the moral right of an individual to live his own life as he sees fit. Independence was proclaimed in the Declaration of Independence as the rights to "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness." What are those rights? The right to life means that every individual has a right to his own independent life, that one's life belongs to oneself, not to others to use as they see fit.

The right to liberty means the right to freedom of action, to act on one's own judgment, the right not to have a gun pointed at one's head and be forced to do what some-

one else commands. And the right to the pursuit of happiness means that an individual may properly pursue his own happiness — for example, his own career, friends, hobbies, and not exist as a mere tool to serve the goals of others. The Founding Fathers did not proclaim a right to the attainment of happiness, knowing full well that such a policy would carry with it the obligation of others to make one happy and result in the enslavement of all to all. The Declaration of Independence was a declaration against servitude, not just servitude to the Crown but servitude to anyone — that some signers still owned slaves does not negate the fact that they established the philosophy that doomed slavery.

Political independence is not a primary. It rests on a more fundamental type of independence: The independence of the human mind. It is the ability of a human being to think for himself and guide his own life that makes political independence possible and necessary. The government as envisaged by the Founding Fathers existed to protect the freedom to think and to act on one's thinking. If human beings were unable to reason, to think for themselves, there would be no autonomy or independence for a government to protect. It is this independence that defines the American Revolution and the American spirit.

To the Founding Fathers, there was no authority higher than the individual mind, not King George, not God, not society. Reason, wrote Ethan Allen, is "the only oracle of man," and Thomas Jefferson advised us to "fix reason firmly in her seat and call to her tribunal every fact, every opinion. Question with boldness even the existence of a God." That is the meaning of independence: trust in your own judgment, in reason; do not sacrifice your mind to the state, the church, the race, the nation, or your neighbors.

Independence is the foundation of America. Independence is what should be celebrated on Independence Day. That is the legacy our Founding Fathers left us. It is a legacy we should keep, not because it is a legacy, but because it is right and just. It has made America the freest and most prosperous country in history.

(Michael S. Berliner is co-chairman of the board of directors of the Ayn Rand Institute in Irvine. The Institute promotes Objectivism, the philosophy of Ayn Rand — author of "Atlas Shrugged" and "The Fountainhead.")

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Immigrant groups look to ballots

BY PETER PRENGAMAN
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES — Immigrant rights groups have a message for unsympathetic politicians around the country: Change your stand or risk getting voted out of office.

A coalition of unions, Hispanic activists and religious groups is trying to convert the massive street protests of recent months into long-term political power by launching nationwide citizenship and voter registration drives Saturday in at least 19 states.

The effort known as "Democracy Summer" aims to register a million new voters and convince many of the 8 million legal residents in this country to apply for citizenship.

Such applications are already up nearly 20 percent over past year — possibly boosted by more interest in political participation and fear that immigration laws will change.

"We want to make sure no politician will dare propose the criminalization of immi-

grants in the future," said Angela Sembrano, a top organizer in Los Angeles.

The coalition has identified more than a dozen swing states with anywhere from 50,000 to 900,000 legal residents eligible to apply for citizenship — enough to influence future state and congressional elections if they become U.S. citizens.

The groups have also commissioned studies estimating that as many as 3 million U.S.-born children of immigrants will be voting age by 2008.

The citizenship push might not have a major impact in the November elections because applications typically take at least eight months to process.

Still, organizers believe greater voter registration by immigrants who have become citizens could sway elections this fall in congressional districts where lawmakers identified as anti-immigrant — mostly Republican — are vulnerable.

One district is in San Diego, where Republican Rep. Brian Bilbray beat

Democrat Francine Busby by 5 percentage points earlier this month.

Bilbray made a crackdown on illegal immigration the centerpiece of his campaign, calling for construction of a fence along the entire U.S.-Mexican border. His slim victory in a district where Republicans far outnumber Democrats gave immigration activists hope for the November election.

"In the 50th district there is a tremendous Latino community that could make a difference," said Enrique Morones, president of Border Angels, an activist group that is helping organize the drives.

Immigration issues will dominate many congressional and state races in Arizona, where voters passed a far-reaching ballot measure in 2004 to restrict services for illegal immigrants. Pro-immigrant groups are responding with plans for 14 citizenship and voter registration drives in Phoenix and other areas throughout the summer.

In one key race, Republican Rep. J.D. Hayworth is trying to hold on to his seat against former Tempe Mayor Harry Mitchell, a Democrat.

Hayworth has called for a crackdown on illegal immigrants, while Mitchell seeks comprehensive immigration reform that includes a guest worker program.

"Arizona is at the forefront of the anti-immigrant movement," said Ruben Villarreal, an Arizona drive organizer from the Washington, D.C.-based Center for Community Change. "We want our communities to be able to respond at the political level."

Waiting for increased political power from new citizens doesn't worry Rep. Luis Gutierrez, an Illinois Democrat who along with the Congressional Hispanic Caucus has

CITIZEN STRAIN

States with an estimated 100,000 or more permanent residents eligible for citizenship, according to the Department Homeland Security.

Arizona: 200,000.
California: 3.3 million.
Colorado: 100,000.
Florida: 900,000.
Hawaii: 100,000.
Illinois: 500,000
Michigan: 200,000.
Nevada: 100,000.
New Jersey: 600,000
New Mexico: 100,000.
New York: 1.5 million.
Ohio: 100,000.
Oregon: 100,000.
Texas: 1.1 million.
Wisconsin: 100,000.

States where citizenship/voter registration drives will be kicked off July 1, according to the We Are America Alliance and other organizers.

Arizona
California
Colorado
Florida
Georgia
Idaho
Illinois
Indiana
Massachusetts
Nebraska
New York
Oregon
Minnesota
Pennsylvania
South Carolina
Tennessee
Texas
Washington State.
Wisconsin

endorsed the drives.

When he won his seat in 1992, Hispanics made up about 45 percent of registered voters in the district. With the help of citizenship drives, about 40,000 mostly Hispanic immigrants have become naturalized and now about 60 percent of registered voters are Hispanic, he said.

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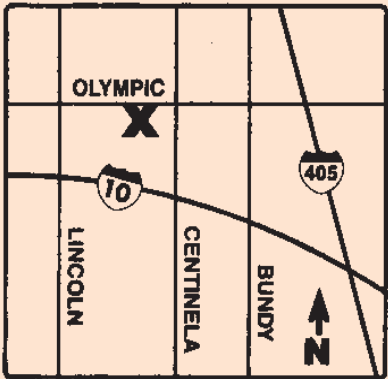
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STATE BRIEFS

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

MAMMOTH LAKES

Geysers gone wild

A popular section of a warm-water creek that bubbles with hot springs was closed to bathers after geysers began spouting from the riverbed.

A 200-yard area around the Hot Creek Geologic Site was fenced off June 6 after Inyo National Forest rangers noticed geysers and steam.

Geologists said the eruptions were probably due to heavy runoff from snow colliding with heat rising from magma miles below the valley floor.

There were no signs of increased seismic activity in the region, which lies within the crater of a long-dormant volcano, according to a U.S. Geological Survey report released Tuesday.

The area, about seven miles southeast of the Mammoth Lakes resort town, is a popular recreation spot.

SAN FRANCISCO

Sierra Club takes wind out of Pentagon's sails

The Sierra Club sued the Department of Defense in federal court Wednesday for allegedly halting construction of new wind farms across the United States by failing to complete a study on whether they interfere with military radar.

The suit filed in U.S. District Court claimed that Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld and the Pentagon missed a deadline for completing a study that is holding up permits for more than a dozen wind farm projects in the Midwest.

"The end result is the wind industry is being crippled," said attorney Kristin Henry of the Sierra Club.

The study was ordered earlier this year by Congress and must be completed before the Federal Aviation Administration can issue safety permits for the projects in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Illinois, North Dakota, and South Dakota.

A Pentagon spokeswoman said the department has updated Congress and that delays are needed to ensure that arrays of huge wind turbines do not interfere with long-range radar.

"Our goal is not to put up roadblocks to these wind farms but to preserve the safety of our airspace," said spokeswoman Eileen Lainez.

She said it would be premature to respond to allegations of foot-dragging.

Delayed construction on wind farms could make developers ineligible for federal tax credits available until the end of 2007, dealing a severe blow to efforts to develop clean, renewable energy sources in the United States, Henry said.

ANAHEIM

Agents move swiftly to close speed labs

Federal agents closed three meth labs and arrested five people after an eight-month investigation into a drug ring that investigators said distributed large quantities of methamphetamine throughout the United States.

Agents seized more than \$240,000 in cash Tuesday from the home of suspected ring-leader Jose Anguiano-Barragan, where he is accused of operating a lab, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement Special Agent Kumar Kibble said.

The suspect's wife, Rosalinda Cuevas, was arrested on state charges of child endangerment, and their three children were taken into protective custody, Kibble said.

The couple are living illegally in the United States, and Anguiano-Barragan, 37, had been deported once before, Kibble said.

Anguiano-Barragan and two others were indicted by a federal grand jury last week in connection with the labs in Anaheim, Riverside and Santa Ana, officials said. Two other suspects were arrested Tuesday on federal drug charges.

The ring is suspected of smuggling meth from Mexico and manufacturing the drug, Kibble said.

YORBA LINDA

Couple stewing over home's slow burn

A report by the Orange County Fire Authority disproves a couple's claim that crews deliberately waited to stop their million-dollar home from burning because of a union grudge, fire officials said.

The investigation results announced Tuesday came in response to Jeff and Linda James' complaint to county supervisors that firefighters were slow to respond to their 911 call on Dec. 7 and waited almost an hour to hose down the blaze.

They said unionized Orange County firefighters took their time after they learned that Jeff James was an engineer at a nonunion fire department in Vernon in Los Angeles County.

The fire investigators agreed with the couple that their incident report was vague and that firefighters waited too long to provide the couple with a copy. But investigators said they found no evidence of intentional wrongdoing.

RIVERSIDE

Trees in a heap of trouble

The U.S. Forest Service is planning to remove trees from 2,770 acres of forest land to reduce fire risk to inland communities nestled in the San Bernardino Mountains, officials said.

The federal agency is slated to meet July 5 to get public comments on the project, which will include the thinning of small green trees and the removal of most dead or dying trees, said David Kelly, fuels battalion chief for the San Bernardino National Forest.

The \$10 million project could take several years, with the first stage beginning as early as September, Kelly said.

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Council has good chi with Cha, not cameras

REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK, from page 1

opposed to the measure, while residents of Sunset Park tried desperately to convince the Council to not allow Santa Monica College to continue using 400 parking spaces in Beach Lot 5 through December.

Many speakers expressed strong opinions, while council members Ken Genser and Kevin McKeown often fired back with very direct, and at times, challenging questions, along with the occasional long-winded speech, annoying some fatigued audience members, who often emitted sighs and some four letter words when things didn't go their way.

All the regulars were on hand, including Jerry Rubin, Joe Natoli and Joy Fulmer, who surprisingly kept her comments to a minimum. Mayor Pro Tem Bobby Shriver and Councilman Richard Bloom were absent.

Following the customary Pledge of Allegiance, the meeting quickly moved to the consent calendar — often approved quickly with one vote from the council — but on Tuesday stretched on for nearly two hours as the council discussed two items that were conspicuously absent.

The first item was a contract with L.A. Cha Maintenance for custodial services at the Public Safety Facility. McKeown said he pulled the item so that he could ask staff to research how other cities with a living wage ordinance monitor compliance with the law and to see if there are practices that can be adopted.

The living wage ordinance requires companies doing

business in the city's beachfront and downtown districts to pay an hourly wage far above minimum wage, and make contributions to an employee's health benefits.

The Council approved the contract with L.A. Cha, valued at \$210,110 for one year, with two, one-year renewals.

HIPPODROME DRONE

Focus then turned to the installation of security cameras on the pier, and in particular, the Carousel building.

The SMPD made a request for the Council to issue an emergency order allowing for the placement of the cameras without first going to the Landmarks Commission for review.

There was concern expressed by the SMPD that a public hearing by the commission could force officers to divulge sensitive information about the installation, such as the exact locations of the cameras and where they would be filming, according to City Manager Lamont Ewell and City Attorney Marsha Moutrie.

Some questioned whether the request was made because of concerns about confidentiality or because SMPD officials failed to realize until the last minute that they would have to go before the Landmarks Commission to complete the installation.

Councilmember Pam O'Connor and Mayor Bob Holbrook were in favor of granting the emergency installation, along with Councilman Herb Katz, saying they did not want to be cavalier about public safety.

Holbrook said if a terrorist did strike and he had done nothing to install the cameras, he would not be able to live with himself.

Genser and McKeown said they too supported extra security, but did not feel there was any imminent danger and, therefore, were not comfortable with bypassing the normal, public review process.

The two also questioned why SMPD waited more than five months to come before the council with the request

Deputy Chief Phil Sanchez said the SMPD was not trying to take a "peak-a-boo" approach to pier security, but felt immediate installation of the cameras was necessary given the upcoming Twilight Dance Series, which attracts thousands of people.

O'Connor, who felt she was being labeled an alarmist, said that in a post 9/11 world, there is no telling when or where a terrorist will strike, and that City Hall needs to be prepared for anything and never be complacent.

"I think what is alarmist is the impact (the installation of the cameras) would have on the pier," she said.

Failing to receive four votes, the matter was referred to the Landmarks Commission, which will discuss the camera installation on July 10, with the matter to be placed on the Council's July 11 agenda for reconsideration, just in case it's opposed.

"I think we've beaten this one to death," Katz said.

CHEF'S ABSENCE LEAVES SOUR TASTE

The sun was set to dip down over the Pacific when Council moved into closed session to discuss lawsuits involving City Hall and to receive updates on real property negotiations involving multiple parcels in the 1300 block of Fourth Street and the 1400 block of Fifth Street.

There was no action to report following the roughly hour-long session.

Moving on, the Council convened a public hearing on Juliano's, owned by world famous chef Juliano Brotman, who prepares raw food for the likes of Robin Williams and Apple co-founder Steve Jobs, according to the chef's Web site.

Brotman's attorney, Howard Robinson of Venice, argued on his behalf for a permit to serve beer and wine and to receive a variance modifying off-street parking requirements that would allow Juliano's to continue operating as a restaurant with just four parking spaces.

The Planning Commission approved of the liquor licenses and reduced parking last December.

Robinson said the restaurant serves the community and is an anchor that enlivens the corner of Sixth Street and Broadway, as it encourages outdoor dining. Brotman claims only 38 percent of customers surveyed drive to the restaurant; the rest walk, bike or roller skate.

Some councilmembers seemed annoyed that Juliano was not present for the hearing and drilled Robinson at every turn.

Those opposed to Juliano's request — residents Ellen Brennan and Art Harris — seemed to fair much better with the Council. They said parking is in such short supply down-

town that no variance should be issued, particularly since Juliano's has been operating without the proper number of parking spaces because of an error made by city staff in granting a business license.

Apparently, Juliano's has been operating as a restaurant, however, the facility was designed to accommodate a deli, which requires fewer parking spaces than a restaurant. Someone in City Hall failed to notice the difference, which was brought to the attention of city planners after Juliano's applied for a liquor license.

During public comment, gadfly Fulmer provided some laughter when she complained City Hall issues too many liquor licenses, resulting in people becoming intoxicated, which leads to the spread of AIDS.

"And I don't like how you're telling cops to do their job," Fulmer said, referring to the cameras on the pier.

The link between liquor and the spread of AIDS seemed to annoy the typically polite Holbrook, while causing others to chuckle, including the City Attorney, who tried as best as she could to hide her amusement.

In the end, the Council approved the sale of alcohol at the restaurant and ordered Juliano's to find two parking spaces or pay for valet service.

CITY'S MARY JANE POLICY IS 'DAMN COOL'

Up next were supporters and opponents of a ballot initiative that would make adult marijuana use the lowest law enforcement priority.

The initiative would "remove the handcuffs on our esteemed police department and allow them to focus on the most serious crimes," said Luciano Hernandez, a supporter of the ballot measure.

Genser grilled Hernandez and other supporters, asking them if they had ever been arrested or profiled by the police because of personal adult marijuana use, or if they knew anyone that had.

Supporters said they hadn't.

Sanchez blasted the proposed law, saying it would handcuff law enforcement. He cited instances when the law would have prevented officers from recovering more than 300 pounds of marijuana in two separate arrests, including one in which the suspect, armed with a revolver, was trafficking marijuana while his young niece rode in the vehicle.

"If you have any information about misconduct, profiling or targeting, please bring it to the attention of the Santa Monica Police Department," Sanchez said, responding to claims by the initiative's supporters. "We are happy and willing to investigate these allegations."

Those on the dais, for the most part, said they felt the war on drugs had failed, but the initiative was poorly written and they could not support it.

McKeown said the initiative's supporters should have worked with the Council to come up with a resolution that would have stated the city's opposition to the criminalization of adult marijuana users and the war on drugs. However, the supporters pulled out of negotiations, forcing McKeown to campaign against an initiative that, in spirit, he supports.

"I'm disappointed how this came about," McKeown said. "This initiative doesn't fit the city of Santa Monica. The way our police department handles situations with adult marijuana use is pretty damn cool."

The initiative has already qualified for the November ballot. All the Council can do is adopt it as law now or approve it for the ballot and let the voters decide. In the end, councilmembers put off making a decision, directing staff to further study the issue.

TSANG STICKS

With the clock striking 11 p.m., many left the City Council chambers. Those who stuck around included Dr. Chui Tsang, president of SMC, who successfully argued on behalf of students for the extension of a contract to use 400 parking spaces at a beach lot in Ocean Park, much to the disappointment of several residents who spoke adamantly about their quality of life being diminished because of noisy shuttle buses continuously traveling through their neighborhoods.

Tsang expressed his commitment to working with neighbors to address their concerns and promised to attend community meetings with the City Manager. The college must also lease environmentally-friendly shuttles, remind bus drivers of routes that must be followed and work on finding another location to park.

The Council adjourned in memory of Miriam Goldsmith, a community activist who died last week.

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Sanchez brings big Latin to Twilight gig

TWILIGHT, from page 1

Poncho Sanchez is one of the top Latin bandleaders on the scene, with a versatile band that is always busy recording and playing live dates. His rhythms have made him one of the most influential conga players and percussionists in Afro-Cuban jazz.

More than anything else, Poncho Sanchez is a storyteller. And, as leader of the most popular Latin jazz group in the world today, it's his congas and seasoned ensemble that do the talking. Live in concert or on recordings, they spin vivacious tales that pay homage to the glories of a half-century tradition that was born when Afro-Cuban rhythms merged with bebop. Behind the choice of every song, album title and guest artist, there's a story Sanchez delights in telling.

A native of Laredo, Tex., Sanchez moved to Los Angeles at 4 years old, where he was deeply influenced by the music he heard in the Chicano neighborhood in which he lived. The youngest of 11 children, Sanchez taught himself to play guitar, flute, drums and timbales before settling on the congas.

After a period playing with local bands, he joined Cal Tjader's band in 1975 and was an important part of Tjader's pacesetter group until his idol's death in 1982.

In addition to recording as a soloist, Sanchez has been featured on albums by the Jazz Crusaders, Eddie Harris, Freddie Hubbard, Tito Puente, Mongo Santamaria, Dianne Reeves, Joey DeFrancesco and Terrance Blanchard.

After more than two decades in music, Sanchez's efforts paid off when his album, "Latin Soul," received a Grammy award as Best Latin Album of 1999. His longevity mirrors that of his mentor, Tjader, and together they represent a melding of Latin music, jazz, soul, rhythm and blues, and pop that presaged the fusion music of Carlos Santana.

"Our main goal is always to keep Latin jazz alive, growing and moving, while being authentic to the music that we love," Sanchez said. "As I always say in clinics, this music is not just for Latino people. It was born in the United States and it is American music. It is for everybody."

The free concerts, 10 in total, will run through Aug. 31.

The concert series began in 1983 as a way to bring visitors back to the pier after a series of storms nearly destroyed it. Today, the concerts are like a symbolic block party for Santa Monica. Over the last two decades, the Twilight Dance Series has grown to attract more than 10,000 people per concert.

Bike Attack on Main Street is raffling off a beach cruiser every week to benefit Heal the Bay, and Amoeba records will give away a \$100 gift certificate each Thursday night to one fan who signs up for the mailing list at their booth.

The Santa Monica Pier is located at the intersection of Colorado Avenue and Ocean Avenue in Santa Monica. Pier officials strongly recommend walking, biking and using mass transit to get to the concerts as parking is limited. Parking is available in beach parking lots located at 2030 Barnard Way and 1550 PCH, both accessible off Ocean Avenue.

For more information about the concerts, visit www.twilightdance.org or call the Santa Monica Pier information line at (310) 458-8900. For bus information, visit www.bigbluebus.com and www.mta.net or call (310) 441-5444.

The space within

PILOT PARKING, from page 1

Fourth Street and Ocean Park Boulevard.

Parking is free at the latter locations, while those who pay \$6 to park at Barnard will be reimbursed if they are validated at the Farmers' Market and vacate the lot before 1:30 p.m., a half hour after the market closes, said Miriam Mack, City Hall's manager of economic development.

"The whole goal is to see if folks will find it more convenient to park in the lots nearby instead of circling the block looking for parking," Mack said. "We want to free up some Main Street parking for other customers in the area."

The Farmers' Market operates year round, from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., at Main Street and Ocean Park Boulevard.

For years, merchants and shoppers along the trendy strip of healthy restaurants, boutiques, art studios and cafés have complained about the gridlock. The problem has become so debilitating at times, that the area has earned a reputation for being inaccessible by car.

Gary Gordon, executive director of the Main Street Business Improvement Association for the last eight years, said there are often more than 25 cars lined up, waiting for a place to park at city-operated lots just off Main Street. Oftentimes, impatient drivers will swerve around cars, setting the stage for deadly accidents.

"We think this is great," Gordon said of the pilot program, which could be extended beyond September if all goes well. "Over the years, the parking and traffic worsened, and something needed to be done."

Jodi Low, manager of the Farmers' Market, could not be reached for comment.

Gordon said the biggest challenge the program faces is the perception that the lots suggested are farther away than those currently used by shoppers. Gordon said the distance is about the same.

"Besides, it's a nice walk," he said.

The cost of the project is not known at this time, Mack said, as there is no telling how many people will use the beach lot on Barnard. City officials will be monitoring receipts to see how the project affects parking revenues for the City Hall's beach fund.

"There will certainly be minor costs for added bike racks and to have an extra person at the (parking lot) kiosk," Mack said. "We are going to be watching very carefully how this impacts the beach fund ... Maybe, at the end of it, we can see about a fee that would still generate money but not discourage people. Or we may learn that even if it's free, people won't use it."

"We just have to wait and see."

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Reluctant jury pool weighs in on Jackson

JACKSON SUIT, from page 1

"Living With Michael Jackson," in which Jackson claimed it was all right to have children sleep in his bed.

Schaffel, who appeared in court wearing a black suit, yellow tie and circular glasses, was named by prosecutors as an "unindicted co-conspirator" in Jackson's criminal trial on child molestation charges last year. Prosecutors in Santa Barbara alleged he played a role in surveillance of the alleged victim's family and aided in keeping them under Jackson's control.

Jackson was exonerated by a jury in June, 2005.

Schaffel's past work as a producer of gay pornography was cited by Mundell as the reason Jackson severed ties with him, claiming Jackson was unaware of his work in the adult film industry before hiring him to produce the television specials, as well as a record with proceeds its going to charity.

"This case is not about Michael Jackson, it is about Marc Schaffel," Mundell told the pool of potential jurors, before they were whittled down to 12. "He is a gay pornographer. He has no experience in the record industry to allow him to claim he is a producer."

Judge Connor allowed each of the attorneys the opportunity to make "mini opening statements" on Wednesday prior to jury selection, so as to provide the prospective jurors with an overview of the case.

Mundell argued that after meeting Jackson at a dermatologist's office, Schaffel "insinuated himself" into the life of the singer. When Schaffel's past ultimately came to light, that was when Jackson moved to distance himself, according to Mundell.

Not so, countered Howard King, the attorney representing Schaffel. King contends that Schaffel was performing the job he was brought on to do — crisis control — until Jackson ran out of money in 2003, leaving his client "holding the bag."

King alluded to the Martin Brashear documentary "Living With Michael Jackson," which prompted the hiring of his client in the first place. The controversial film painted the singer as "a compulsive shopper," a testament to his considerable money woes.

Also a point of contention is whether Schaffel profited from the sales of the charity CD in Japan. Mundell claims the evidence will bring out that Schaffel actually owes Jackson money.

A jury comprised of seven men and five women will be left to decide, after a group was finally selected late Wednesday afternoon. Manning the jury box in the case, despite its star power and notoriety, was not an opportunity relished by many of the potential jurors, fidgeting in the overcrowded courtroom.

"This is dirty business for both sides, because it's about money," said one woman, who added the case should have been settled out of court. "I would really hate to judge in this case."

Another woman echoed the sentiments, saying she detested the case.

Judge Connor assured the pool that the court had put forth its best efforts to avoid a trial, to no avail. The ensuing trial, with opening statements expected to be heard this morning, is expected to last roughly 10 days.

Given the parties involved in the case, Judge Connor was reluctant to excuse potential jurors, explaining that it was difficult to find enough qualified people without prejudice in a case involving such a high-profile entertainer. A woman asking to be excused because her son was having imminent open-heart surgery was ordered to stay on Wednesday.

The potential jurors, who filed into the courtroom shortly after 10 a.m. on Wednesday, were a diverse bunch, in terms of ages and occupations, if not race in predominantly white Santa Monica. There was the wife of a record producer, a librarian, an ultrasound technician, a video producer, the son of a federal judge and a retired nurse who actually met Jackson back in January of 2004, after the singer had sustained serious burns to his head while filming a television commercial for Pepsi.

The injured Jackson was subsequently taken to Santa Monica UCLA Medical Center, where the woman worked as a RN. The courtroom filled with uneasy laughter when she remarked that Jackson "was wonderful with the kids."

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This Is No "Bull"

"If you're gonna play the game you're gonna need the energy"

Consolidating your accounts can simplify your finances

MARKET MATTERS

BY BRIAN HEPP



Juggling all the important responsibilities in your life, it's easy for things to get complicated in a hurry. Even with all the advances in technology that were supposed to make things simpler, some days it seems like there are too many demands on your time. With so many things competing for your attention, you probably welcome any opportunity to simplify things wherever you can. While there are many areas you could choose to work on, one good place to start may be your family finances.

Like many people, you may have your money spread out at a number of different financial institutions. Typically, you won't gain much by spreading your assets that way, and in fact it may be making your life more difficult than it needs to be. To help restore a little order, think about minimizing the number of accounts you have at various institutions.

Consolidating your accounts can provide numerous benefits. For starters, there's the obvious benefit of only having one account to keep track of. And at the end of the year, filing your 1040 could be a lot easier because you'll have fewer tax forms to contend with. But those advantages are just the beginning. Consolidating into an asset management account — an option offered by most large financial services firms — gives you access to several features that are convenient and timesaving.

Depending on the institution, account features and fees may vary. But the basic goal of asset management accounts is the same — to help simplify the management of your investments. With the majority of your assets all in one place, it will be much easier for you and your financial consultant to see the big picture of your finances. That view will help considerably as you work to find the most appropriate asset allocation strategy to suit your financial situation.

If you've had your assets spread out among several different financial firms, you may be under the impression that this arrangement helps diversify your holdings. Unfortunately, however, it's not the number of accounts you have that determines your level of diversification. For example, let's say you hold 1,000 shares of a certain stock, and this represents a large portion of your portfolio. It wouldn't matter if you held that position at one institution or with 10 different investment firms. It still constitutes the same proportion of your overall investment mix. Consolidating to one account could actually help identify potential challenges or opportunities, and you could quickly see if your investments are well diversified.

By consolidating your assets, you may be worried that you'll be missing out on the different perspectives and opinions you receive from the multiple firms you currently associate with. The truth is, however, working with a large financial services firm will still give you access to the opinions and investment advice of a diverse group of its economists and strategists, who work together to decide how to inform and educate clients.

You also might be concerned that consolidating your assets will require you to give up some control over your portfolio. In reality, you can actually decide just how involved you want to be with the decisions made on your account. Working together with your financial consultant, you can choose to participate in the investment decisions, you can delegate that responsibility to the consultant, or you can even explore the options of working with outside money managers.

Given how complicated life has become, it's never a bad idea to take advantage of opportunities to eliminate unnecessary complications. Consolidating your investments is a great place to start.

*(This article provided by **Brian Hepp** of A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc. Member SIPC. Hepp is a financial consultant and can be reached at (310) 453-0077 or at brian.hepp@agedwards.com. A.G. Edwards is a full-service retail brokerage that offers a complete spectrum of financial products and services, including stocks, bonds, and mutual funds, retirement planning and tax-advantage investments.)*

GUEST COMMENTARY BY DR. DARIUS G. GAGNE, CFA, CFP

Patronize the market for a fresh outlook

Markets go up, and markets go down, but over the long run, markets go up.

On a daily basis, we are inundated with financial information from shows such as CNBC, NPR or even the "market update" during a basketball game. This deluge of information makes the investment world appear challenging and overly complex, insinuating that investors need to discover the latest and greatest tip in order to reap the rewards that the market has to offer. The fact of the matter is that no one has a crystal ball. Fortunately, however, no one needs one because good long-run returns are simply there for the taking.

Consider the plot above. It is not by chance that \$1 invested into the S&P in 1926 would be worth much more today, namely \$2,662. This is a manifestation of our capitalistic market economy, which is nearly 200 years strong and which implies that fair returns must be earned in the long run or else the system would not exist, that is, there would be no capital invested. In other words, markets work. Some years, markets sky rocket, while in other years they disappoint, but over the long run, an investor earns a fair return on his capital at risk.

But not everyone is convinced. For instance, this growth of \$1 over the 80-year period represents over a 10 percent average annual return. Not a bad return. Not a staggering return. Just the average U.S. equity market long-run return. But you would be surprised how few financial advisers achieve this return over the long run. Why? Because they think they need — and worse, they think they have — a crys-

tal ball. They try to outsmart the financial markets with speculation and market timing, or the thought that they somehow know more than the rest of the world combined. Well, the financial markets embody the collective wisdom of millions of investors around the globe communicating at the speed of light. And the financial markets are extremely efficient, meaning that any hot idea one might have is almost certain to already be reflected in the markets. So, it does not matter how smart a money manager is, he will not out-smart the markets in the long run.

Investing is the responsible and discipline act of joining the markets to take advantage of long-run returns. In fact, earning solid returns over the long run is the easy part of investing. The biggest challenge in investing is discipline — sticking firm to your investment plan in the face the deluge of short-term focused financial news and its resulting short-term volatility.

So, if markets work, does that mean everyone should just buy the entire market and earn an average 10 percent long-run return? Absolutely not. Stay tuned for a future article which will describe in detail how to divide up or segment the markets along key dimensions of risk and return in order capture any one of a wide range of long-run market returns.

(Darius G. Gagne, PhD, MBA, CFA, CFP, is a principal at Quantum Wealth Management. You can reach him at (310) 656-5250, or e-mail him at darius@quantumwm.com.)

BUSINESS BRIEFS



Photo courtesy

GROUNDING: New shoes unearth a different feel.

Walk it off

By Daily Press staff

Free your feet this Fourth of July weekend with barely-there shoes.

Masai Barefoot Technology (MBT) debuts their new "anti-cellulite and core-strengthening shoe" at a free clinic. MBT shoes have a multi-layered sole to transform hard, flat ground into a soft and uneven surface. The technology emulates walking barefoot and forces muscles to work harder, unlike other athletic shoes that do most of the work for the wearer. The shoe improves posture, reduces joint strain, firms up abdominal, leg and buttock muscles, and aids in weight loss, MBT experts said.

The clinic will be hosted by FrontRunners in West Los Angeles on Saturday, July 1 from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. FrontRunners is a footwear and apparel store, located on 11620 San Vicente Blvd. For more information, visit www.frontrunners77.com or call (310) 207-0216.

A short good-bye, a sweet hello

By Daily Press staff

For the vacationer who doesn't want to leave, Shutters on the Beach offers new services to ease the separation. With its new range of options provided at checkout — such as a selection of "to go" meals available to order before a flight, or customized driving directions printed from the Internet — Shutters on the Beach aims to keep guests relaxed until the moment their plane takes off.

Services include prearranged transportation to LAX, Burbank, Van Nuys or Long Beach airports; menu for ordering meals to take on your flight; printed airline boarding passes; Map quest directions prepared in advance; vehicles fueled up in advance (fuel charges apply); a complimentary copy of Robb Report. To schedule departure arrangements, guests press the "dreams" button on the room phone to speak to an attendant.

Shutters on the Beach also conducted an intensive search for someone to fill the position of its guest relations manager. The hotel has announced that it has found the perfect candidate in Dolly Shukla, who began serving as guest relations manager this month.

"Dolly possesses expert experience in customer service, motivational speaking, professional training and more importantly, one-on-one guest service, which will all be key in anticipating, fulfilling and even inspiring our guests' needs," said vice president and managing director Klaus Mennekes.

As a service leader with more than 17 years of expertise in hospitality and professional training, Shukla's most intense and extensive experience was gained through her 13 years working in the airline industry.

Shukla also serves as a training consultant for specialty seminars and workshops at Santa Monica College, lecturing on customer service and how to deliver superior service. While leading seminars and workshops, she also worked from 2003 to 2004 as a job developer and career counselor, specializing in the hospitality industry, at the Career Planning Center in Marina del Rey.

At Shutters, Shukla will handle any special services and travel needs the hotel guests may require. She will work closely with management to keep staff updated on guest preferences, and help resolve any issues or problems.



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Governor wants do-over

BY STEVEN K. PAULSON

Associated Press Writer

DENVER — With groups on both sides of the illegal immigration debate reaching a compromise plan and the state Supreme Court refusing to budge on a ballot proposal, Gov. Bill Owens will take the dramatic step of calling a special session on the issue.

The term-limited Republican governor wants lawmakers to consider a range of proposals on an issue that has become one of the hottest in the nation this election year.

A date for the session has not been determined, but it would be soon, Owens spokesman Dan Hopkins told The Associated Press late Tuesday. Hopkins said the agenda would include the compromise proposal and "other significant immigration related issues."

Other details were expected to be disclosed Wednesday.

The session was announced a day after the Colorado Supreme Court refused to reconsider its decision blocking an immigration proposal from November's ballot and hours after ballot proposal backers and opponents said they had reached a compromise.

That solution, modeled on a Georgia law, would crack down on both employers who hire illegal workers and illegal immigrants trying to get public assistance.

The plan tossed off the ballot would have barred illegal immigrants from getting non-emergency state services; the state would still have to provide schooling and emergency medical care under federal law.

The session's agenda will take up the compromise plan "as well as other significant immigration related issues," Hopkins said.

The compromise was brokered by groups led by two prominent Democratic politicians: Former Denver Mayor Federico Pena, leader of ballot plan opponents, and former Gov. Dick Lamm, a member of the pro-ballot plan coalition Defend Colorado Now.

House Speaker Andrew Romanoff, D-Denver, said the governor's decision suggests confidence that lawmakers can come up with a solution.

"If Federico Pena and Dick Lamm can agree, then the governor and the Legislature can agree on this issue," Romanoff said. "I think we're better off finding common ground than throwing rocks at each other."

Romanoff said both groups would prefer a solution the governor can sign now rather than putting a measure on the November ballot.

House Minority Leader Mike May, R-Parker, said he was not informed of the governor's decision. Senate President Joan Fitz-Gerald, D-Golden, praised Romanoff for helping negotiate an agreement with the governor and said the compromise should be passed as fast as possible.

"I hope the governor's call (his agenda for the session), if

he chooses to call one, would be done with efficiency at the least cost to the tax payers," Fitz-Gerald said.

She said she was waiting to see the details of Owens' agenda.

Lamm said Democrats, who control the Legislature, may have felt pressure to do get tough on immigration after Republicans went on the offensive on the issue but he suggested it's still a good opportunity to pass some reforms.

"Let the cards fall where they may. I'm certainly not going to back away from progress if the Democrats have a battle-field conversion. We can really make some progress in this special session if the parties will work together," Lamm said.

In April, Georgia's governor signed a sweeping immigration bill into law that supporters and critics say gives the state some of the toughest measures against illegal immigrants in the nation. Among other things, the law requires verification that adults seeking many state-administered benefits are in the country legally. It sanctions employers who knowingly hire illegal immigrants and mandates that companies with state contracts check the immigration status of employees.

The law also requires police to check the immigration status of people they arrest. Many provisions don't take effect until July 1, 2007.

A critic of the compromise reached Tuesday, former Republican Senate President John Andrews, said 40,000 people signed the petition to get the original proposal on November's ballot and they should be given a chance to vote.

He also said the compromise doesn't include all the details of the Georgia law.

"I'm afraid what they put up in a special session could have all trick phrases and trap doors in it or they could come back and weaken it next year," Andrews said of Democratic lawmakers.

Opponents of the ballot proposal said it could have led to lawsuits against agencies suspected of violating it and caused more problems, such as if illegal immigrant children were denied state-supported vaccinations. They also said it could cost too much to determine someone's citizenship for something as mundane as getting a library card.

The compromise, however, only addresses public assistance programs like welfare and food stamps, organizers say. Also, employers would be required to verify that an employee is in the country legally or lose the right to deduct their salary on their taxes.

Fred Elbel, director of Defend Colorado Now, said both sides recognize that legislators can come up with comprehensive solutions that will discourage illegal immigration and make sure taxpayer dollars are supporting legal residents.

Keep Colorado Safe spokeswoman Edie Sonn said the ballot proposal was vague on which services would be denied to illegal immigrants. She said working off the Georgia proposal would allow lawmakers to discuss exactly which services should be addressed.

Grizzly bear sought after double escape from Canadian resort

By The Associated Press

GOLDEN, British Columbia — A freedom-loving grizzly bear named Boo smashed a heavy steel door and barreled through two electric fences to escape a second time from a resort near this south-central British Columbia town.

Boo was recaptured Friday, two weeks after breaking out of an artificial den at the Kicking Horse Mountain Resort, but escaped from tighter confinement within a day, resort spokesman Michael Dalzell said Tuesday.

"It's unbelievable," Dalzell said. "We thought there was no way, it was absolutely impossible, but he found a way. It was basically like breaking out of Fort Knox."

He said the bear bashed a nearly 400-pound steel door off its four bolts, destroyed an electrical box while tearing through two electric fences and scrambled over a 12-foot fence anchored with 2 feet of steel below ground.

"I think he just kept charging it (the door) and charging it until it broke off its bolts," Dalzell said. "Everything was completely trashed. We are dealing with a pretty smart and determined bear."

The search team that caught Boo on Friday went back to work Sunday morning but saw no sign of the grizzly after logging more than 50 hours in a helicopter.

Resort staff had planned to neuter Boo, but he got away first. Once he's located, authorities will decide whether to try to recapture him again, Dalzell said.

"Right now we are in the process of looking for him . . . we are not out to try to trap or tranquilize him," he said. "We are looking at all options. Obviously, we need to just really look at our program and figure this one out."

The bear has lived inside a 22-acre enclosure since his mother was illegally shot by a hunter in 2002. It's unclear if he could fend for himself and, being used to humans, would likely be a problem in the wild, experts said.

Boo is now in a "lose-lose situation," said Tracey Henderson of the Grizzly Bear Alliance in Canmore, Alberta.

"The poor guy has now tasted freedom and he is going to be more motivated to keep getting out," she said. "There is a side of me that's saying, 'Way to go Boo,' but there is another side of me that's really worried about this bear being in the wild near humans."

Boo's first escape was blamed on hormones, June being the prime mating season for grizzlies, but Henderson said the second escape might indicate the bear no longer would tolerate confinement.

"It's just a sad situation," she said. "He is clearly a bear that wants to be free, yet we've created a situation where it's not really safe for him to be free."

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Insurgents will talk, if troops take a walk

BY BASSEM MROUE

Associated Press Writer

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Insurgents are demanding the withdrawal of all U.S. and British forces from Iraq within two years as a condition for joining reconciliation talks, a senior Iraqi government official said Wednesday.

In Moscow, President Vladimir Putin ordered the special services to hunt down and “destroy” the killers of four Russian Embassy workers in Iraq, the Kremlin said.

A top security official also said Iraqi forces captured a key al-Qaida suspect wanted in the bombing of a Shiite shrine, but the mastermind of the attack that brought the country to the brink of civil war was still at large.

Iraqi government officials involved with the contacts with insurgents told The Associated Press that several militant groups sent delegates from their regions and tribes to speak on their behalf.

One of the officials, who spoke on condition of anonymity because of demands for secrecy in the talks, said the insurgents have so far rejected face-to-face talks, saying they fear being targeted by Shiite militias, Iraqi security forces and the Americans.

The official said the insurgents have demanded a two-year “timetable for withdrawal” in return for joining Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki’s bid for national reconciliation.

The insurgents also said a condition for any future direct talks would be the presence of observers from the Arab League, Saudi Arabia and Iraq’s influential Sunni Association of Muslim Scholars.

Al-Maliki said any amnesty offered under

his 24-point reconciliation plan that was unveiled Sunday would not include militants who killed American forces or Iraqis.

“Any amnesty for insurgents will exclude fighters who killed Iraqis or soldiers of the multinational forces because these troops came to Iraq according to international agreements and they are contributing in making the political process successful,” he said.

“Those who commit such crimes will stand trial because the aim of killing Iraqis or foreign soldiers is to frustrate democracy and the political process,” al-Maliki said.

Al-Maliki has not provided more specifics about the amnesty plan because it’s such a sensitive issue in the United States. While he said insurgents who had killed U.S. forces or Iraqis would be excluded, he did not clarify how such a determination would be made because virtually all insurgents who would be affected are still at large.

He also has sought a pardon for detained Iraqis who have not been convicted of killings or terrorist acts.

Al-Maliki also said no timetable for the withdrawal of foreign troops would be imposed until Iraqi forces are ready to take over security. “The timing depends on the capabilities of these (Iraqi) forces,” he said.

His speech came as the government struggled to contain rampant ethnic and sectarian violence.

U.S. Ambassador Zalmay Khalilzad discussed Iraq with Saudi King Abdullah and other top officials Tuesday in Jeddah, the U.S. Embassy said. Saudi Arabia, home to Islam’s holiest shrines, has good relations and some influence among Iraq’s Sunni Arabs, which

IN OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

Among the sporadic violence Wednesday in Iraq, according to police:

■ A suicide car bomber blew up himself near a Sunni mosque in a market south of the northeastern city of Baqouba, killing one person and wounding 12.

■ A roadside bomb targeting a U.S. convoy exploded in western Baghdad, killing an Iraqi civilian and wounding another.

■ Gunmen killed Riyadh Abdul-Majid Zuaini, the customs director for central Baghdad, and his driver in the predominantly Sunni neighborhood of Amariyah.

■ Clashes between gunmen and police also broke out in the northern city of Mosul, leaving a policeman wounded. One militant was arrested.

make up the core of the insurgency.

Key Iraqi lawmakers have said that seven insurgent groups — not including al-Qaida or Islamic terror groups but mostly made up of former members or backers of Saddam Hussein’s ousted regime — had offered the government a conditional truce.

One of those purported groups, the Mohammed Army, denied such contacts had been made.

“We heard from the media that Mohammed Army brigades in Abu Ghraib, Fallujah and Ramadi were among those negotiated with the Iraqi government ... and that did not happen,” according to a statement dated Monday and e-mailed to journalists in Fallujah.

The Mohammed Army is made up of former members of Saddam’s Baath Party, members of his elite Republican Guards and

former military commanders. It, too, has focused attacks on the U.S. military and played a role in the November 2004 battle for Fallujah.

National Security Adviser Mouwafak al-Rubaie said a Tunisian identified as Yousri Fakher Mohammed Ali — and also known as Abu Qudama — was captured after being seriously wounded in a clash with security forces north of Baghdad a few days ago in which 15 other foreign fighters were killed.

Al-Rubaie said Abu Qudama was part of a gang that carried out the Feb. 22 attack on the Shiite Golden Dome shrine in Samarra, 60 miles north of Baghdad. The suspect entered Iraq in November 2003 and joined al-Qaida in June 2004, al-Rubaie said.

He also identified the fugitive ringleader in the operation as an Iraqi named Haitham Sabah Shaker Mohammed al-Badri, an al-Qaida operative. He said the gang, which included two other Iraqis, four Saudis and Abu Qudama, planted bombs in the 1,200-year-old Askariya mosque that exploded and obliterated its glistening golden dome.

A spasm of sectarian killing and revenge attacks on Sunni and Shiite mosques after the bombing took Iraq to the brink of civil war. Since then, at least 3,382 civilians were killed, more than 20,000 families were displaced, and dozens of Sunni and Shiite mosques were damaged or destroyed.

While acknowledging al-Badri was still at large, al-Rubaie did not say if other members of the gang had been captured.

Al-Rubaie said Abu Qudama was involved in the shooting death of an Al-Arabiya TV correspondent and two of her colleagues after the shrine bombing.

Which of These Costly Mistakes Will You Make When You Sell Your Santa Monica Home This Summer

BY JAMES COSTELLO AND
JOHN MCCORMACK

SANTA MONICA — A new report has just been released which reveals 7 costly mistakes that most homeowners make when selling their home, and a 9 Step System that can help you sell your home fast and for the most amount of money.

This industry report shows clearly how the traditional ways of selling homes have become

increasingly less and less effective in today’s market. The fact of the matter is that fully three quarters of home sellers don’t get what they want for their home and become disillusioned and — worse — financially disadvantaged when they put their home on the market.

As this report uncovers, most home sellers make 7 deadly mistakes that cost them literally thousands of dollars. The good news is that each and every one of these mistakes is entirely preventable.

In answer to this issue, industry insiders have prepared a free special report entitled “*The 9 step System to Get Your Home Sold Fast and For Top Dollar.*”

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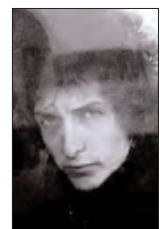
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Tangled up in baseball

By The Associated Press

COOPERSTOWN, N.Y.



DYLAN

Bob Dylan has played at historic Doubleday Field — music, that is. Now, he's back, and for good, just a block down Main Street in the Baseball Hall of Fame.

The museum has added the baseball episode from the famed singer-songwriter's weekly music show, "Theme Time Radio Hour," on XM Satellite Radio to its archive, it was announced Wednesday.

The one-hour episode contains Dylan singing an a cappella rendition of "Take Me out to the Ball Game," along with classic baseball-announcing calls, such as Curt Gowdy's description of Ted Williams' home run in his final at-bat with the Boston Red Sox.

It also contains several original baseball compositions, including Buddy Johnson's "Did You See Jackie Robinson Hit That Ball?" and "The Ball Game" by Sister Wynona Carr.

The CD will be added to the National Baseball Hall of Fame Library archive, which features more than 10,000 hours of recorded audio and video, and will be available for researchers.

NEW YORK

Bennett proud as peacock



BENNETT

NBC will salute Tony Bennett's 80th birthday with a music special, "Tony Bennett: An American Classic," to air this fall.

The special will include performances by Elton John, Stevie Wonder, k.d. lang and John Legend, who perform on Bennett's upcoming album, "Tony Bennett: Duets/An American Classic."

Bennett, who will be 80 on Aug. 3, will take the stage alone to sing his signature tune, "I Left My Heart in San Francisco," the network said Tuesday.

Filmed at the Los Angeles Theater, the special will be directed by Rob Marshall ("Chicago," "Memoirs of a Geisha"). NBC did not announce an air date for the hourlong show.

Bennett's upcoming CD will be released Sept. 26.

PORTLAND, Ore.

Sleater says later



SLEATER-KINNEY

Sleater-Kinney, the critically acclaimed rock trio, say they will go on "indefinite hiatus" after completing their upcoming summer concerts.

"After 11 years as a band, Sleater-Kinney have decided to go on indefinite hiatus," according to the statement released Tuesday by Sub Pop, the band's Seattle-based record label, and posted on Sleater-Kinney's Web site.

"The upcoming summer shows will be our last. As of now, there are no plans for future tours or recordings."

The statement did not give a reason for the decision, and band members could not be reached for comment.

Sleater-Kinney is scheduled to play their last date in Chicago on Aug. 4.

The group took their name from a road near Olympia, Wash., the city where Corin Tucker and Carrie Brownstein formed the band.

Drummer Janet Weiss joined before the release of the 1997's "Dig Me Out," the record that gave the group a much wider audience.

The band, which relocated to Portland, released their seventh album, "The Woods," in 2005.

HONG KONG

Sony doesn't fear 'Curse'

Sony Pictures Classics has bought the North American and Latin American distribution rights for Zhang Yimou's upcoming film, "Curse of the Golden Flower," starring Chow Yun-fat and Gong Li, the company has announced.

"We believe 'Curse of the Golden Flower' will be

a culmination of Zhang Yimou's great career," Michael Barker and Tom Bernard, the company's co-presidents, said in a statement Wednesday.

"Curse of the Golden Flower" revolves around the power struggle among an ancient Chinese king (Chow), his queen (Gong) and his three sons.

Zhang is known for films such as "Hero," "House of Flying Daggers" and "Raise the Red Lantern."

Sony Pictures Classics said it will soon announce release dates for the movie, now being filmed in China.

The statement didn't disclose the amount Sony Pictures Classics paid for the distribution rights.

LOS ANGELES

A bird, a plane ... it's Zen, man



POSEY

Parker Posey never was a comic-book geek. Yet she found herself a bit breathless on the set of "Superman Returns," preparing for the scene where the Man of Steel rescues her from a car crash.

Posey plays Kitty Kowalski, the covetous moll of supervillain Lex Luthor (Kevin Spacey), who dispatches his lady friend in an out-of-control sports car to lure in do-gooder Superman (Brandon Routh) to save her.

Kitty's so awe-struck over Superman's heroic actions that she hitches a ride with the flying man to a hospital because she doesn't want to part company with him.

"Being taken to the hospital, I really did have that feeling like, 'I can't believe I'm about to fly with Superman,'" Posey, 37, told The Associated Press.

Routh and Posey were in harnesses for their flying scene, zipping through the air at the tops of the trees.

Posey said that Routh's midair sequences reminded her of the freedom she once felt flying on her own.

"I went hang-gliding once in Australia. It just takes a little bit of movement on the wing to just soar. It's so powerful to see that," Posey said. "I was really moved by seeing him fly. There was such grace. It was so Zen and just kind of peaceful, how he centers himself in the sky."

Santa Monica Daily Press

MOVIEGUIDE

SHOWTIMES: THURSDAY, JUNE 29, 2006

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Avenue
(310)395-4990

Friday
Mad Max 2: The Road Warrior 7:30
Saturday
Cleopatra 6:00
Sunday
The Sound of Music 3:00

AMC7 Santa Monica
1310 3rd Street
(310)289-4262

The Break-Up (PG-13)
11:40, 2:20, 5:10, 7:00, 8:10, 9:30, 10:45, 11:50
Cars (G)
10:50, 11:50, 1:40, 2:40, 4:40, 5:30, 7:35, 8:15, 10:20, 11:05
The Da Vinci Code (PG-13)
12:30, 3:50, 7:10, 10:25
Nacho Libre (PG)
10:35, 12:00, 1:00, 2:30, 3:20, 5:00, 5:50, 7:30, 8:30, 9:45, 10:50, 11:55
Over the Hedge (PG)
10:30, 12:35, 2:40, 4:50

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 3rd Street
(310) 458-6232

The Fast and the Furious:
Tokyo Drift (PG-13)
12:30, 1:45, 3:00, 4:15, 5:30, 7:00, 8:00, 9:30, 10:30
A Prairie Home Companion (PG-13)
12:50, 4:40, 7:20, 9:50
X-Men: The Last Stand (PG-13)
1:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:10

Landmark Nuwiltshire
1314 Wilshire Blvd
(310)281-8228

Art School Confidential (R)
11:30, 4:30, 9:50
The Heart of the Game (PG-13)
11:40, 2:10, 4:45, 7:10, 9:45
Thank You for Smoking (R)
2:00, 7:30

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

An Inconvenient Truth (PG)
12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15
Peaceful Warrior (PG-13)
12:45, 3:45, 7:00, 9:55
Wordplay (PG)
12:00, 1:00, 2:20, 3:20, 4:40, 5:40, 7:00, 8:00, 9:20, 10:15

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

Click (PG-13)
11:30, 12:30, 2:00, 3:00, 4:30, 5:30, 7:00, 7:50, 9:00, 9:30, 10:30, 11:30
Garfield: A Tail of Two Kitties (PG)
12:10, 2:10, 4:20, 6:30
The Lake House (PG)
12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
The Omen (2006) (R)
11:50, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10
Waist Deep (R)
12:40, 3:10, 5:40, 8:00, 10:20

More Information calendar@smdp.com

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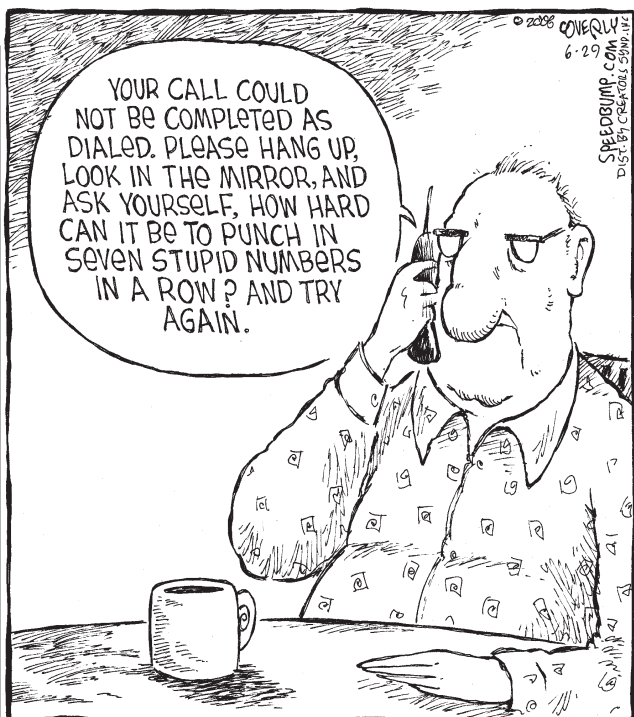
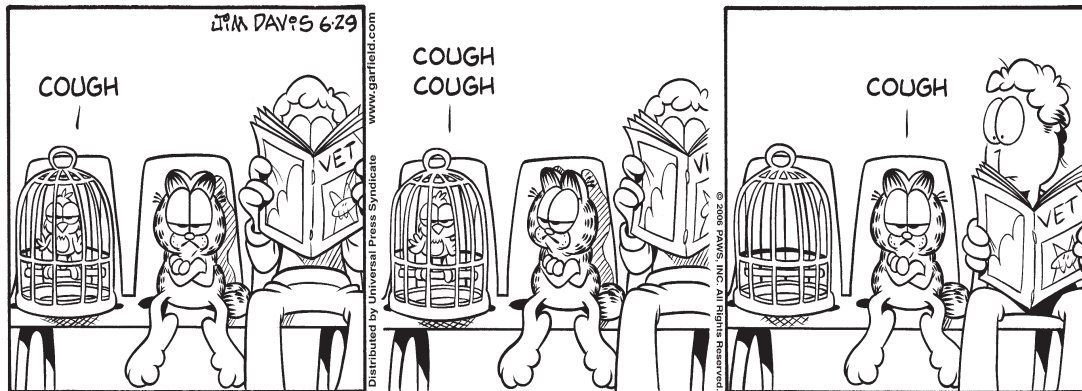
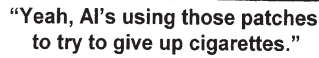
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Santa Monica Daily Press



*Terms and conditions. Ad will run for thirty (30) consecutive days. After 30 days, ad will expire and advertiser must call to sched- ule a free renewal. Ads are renewed for an additional 2 weeks. Advertiser must call within 5 days of ad expiration to renew. If renew- al is placed after 5 days of ad expiration, advertiser must pay full price. Photographs must be submitted digitally in JPG or TIFF format. Email photographs to arniek@smdp.com. Photographs only appear on print edition. 20 word description maximum; additional words 50 cents. Call for more details. Private parties only. Terms subject to change without notice.

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Notices

NOTICE OF PETITION TO AD-
MINISTER ESTATE OF:
JOHN N. MERZLOCK
CASE NO. BP098992

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors,
contingent creditors, and persons
who may otherwise be interested in
the WILL or estate, or both of JOHN
N. MERZLOCK.
A PETITION FOR PROBATE has
been filed by RAYMOND SPRAGUE
in the Superior Court of Cali-
fornia, County of LOS ANGELES.
THE PETITION FOR PROBATE re-
quests that RAYMOND SPRAGUE
be appointed as personal repre-
sentative to administer the estate of the
decedent.
THE PETITION requests the dece-
dent's WILL and codicils, if any, be
admitted to probate. The WILL and
any codicils are available for exami-
nation in the file kept by the court.
THE PETITION requests authority
to administer the estate under the
Independent Administration of Es-
tates Act . (This authority will allow
the personal representative to take
many actions without obtaining
court approval. Before taking certain
very important actions, however, the
personal representative will be re-
quired to give notice to interested
persons unless they have waived
notice or consented to the proposed
action.) The independent admini-
stration authority will be granted un-
less an interested person files an
objection to the petition and shows
good cause why the court should
not grant the authority.
A HEARING on the petition will be
held on 07/18/06 at 8:30AM in Dept.
9 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS
ANGELES, CA 90012
IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of
the petition, you should appear at
the hearing and state your objec-
tions or file written objections with
the court before the hearing. Your
appearance may be in person or by
your attorney.
IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a
contingent creditor of the deceased,
you must file your claim with the
court and mail a copy to the per-
sonal representative appointed by
the court within four months from
the date of first issuance of letters
as provided in Probate Code section
9100. The time for filing claims will
not expire before four months from
the hearing date noticed above.
YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by
the court. If you are a person inter-
ested in the estate, you may file with
the court a Request for Special No-
tice (form DE-154) of the filing of an
inventory and appraisal of estate as-
sets or of any petition or account as
provided in Probate Code Section
1250. A Request for Special Notice
form is available from the court
clerk.
Attorney for Petitioner
S. SYD RAHE, ESQ.
LAW OFF. OF S. SYD RAHE
315 S. BEVERLY DR., PENT-
HOUSE
BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90212
6/28, 6/29, 7/5/06
CNS-986364#
SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS

DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE
NO. 06 1132328 FIRST FILING. The following per-
son(s) is (are) doing business as R AND B JEANS,
RHYTHM AND BLUES JEANS, DOSSIS COUTURE,
1037 WILCOX, A1, HOLLYWOOD, CA 90038. The
full name of registrant(s) is/are : FABIAN CASTELLI,
1037 WILCOX, A1, HOLLYWOOD, CA 90038 This
Business is being conducted by, an individual.
Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact
business under the fictitious name or names listed
herein.. /s/: FABIAN CASTELLI
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of
LOS ANGELES County on 5/23/2006. NOTICE: THIS
FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES
FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE
OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTI-
TIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE
FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this
statement does not of itself authorize the use in
this state of a fictitious business name statement
in violation of the rights of another under federal,
state, or common law (see Section 14411et
seq., Business and Professions Code). SANTA
MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 6/22/2006,
6/29/2006, 7/6/2006, 7/13/2006

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SUNROOF PKG
CD CHANGER



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+88¢ TAX PER MONTH
FOR 27 MONTHS FULLY EQUIPPED

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