

DAILY LOTTERY

SUPER LOTTO
13 23 25 30 44
Meganumber: 10
Jackpot: \$14 Million

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11 24 28 36 37

DAILY 3
Daytime: 0 7 1
Evening: 2 4 2

DAILY DERBY
1st: 10 Solid Gold
2nd: 08 Gorgeous George
3rd: 04 Big Ben

RACE TIME: 1:41.12

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

Christopher Garcia, 46, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, was turned down for unemployment benefits in March because an administrative judge found that he was properly fired by a convenience store for misconduct in that he would not stop "air drumming" on duty (using real drumsticks), causing some customers to complain of feeling threatened. And in March in Rajahmundry, India (about 300 miles south of Hyderabad), officials termed "resounding(ly) success(ful)" their tax-collection tactic of sending several teams of two drummers to stand outside the defaulters' homes and pound their instruments until the debtors paid up.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 182nd day of 2005.
There are 183 days left in the year.
This is Canada Day.

On July 1, 1867, Canada became a self-governing dominion of Great Britain as the British North America Act took effect.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The more we learn the more we realize how little we know."
R. BUCKMINSTER FULLER
(1895-1983)

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BILL ROSENDAHL

Rosendahl set to take office

BY RYAN HYATT
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN LA — A newly-elected Los Angeles official set on tackling issues that involve Santa Monica has assumed the responsibilities of his position.

Long-time cable television personality and businessman Bill Rosendahl, who won his 11th District City Council seat in May, began his term today, saying he is committed to helping solve problems shared between Santa Monica and West Los Angeles related to homelessness, traffic flow, and the regulation of the local airport and college.

Rosendahl's swearing-in ceremony, to be held at Venice Beach in support of the Venice Centennial celebration, is planned for Saturday from 10 a.m. until noon. It will be held at the

See **ROSENDAHL**, page 8

Robbery suspects ID'd

BY RYAN HYATT
Daily Press Staff Writer

POLICE HEADQUARTERS — Two suspected bank robbers who were shot by police on Wednesday have been identified.

Pedro Rivera, 27, of Temple City, and Dexter Glasgow, 35, of Los Angeles, are listed in stable condition at UCLA Medical Center. They were arrested on Wednesday after both being shot in the torso by Santa Monica police responding to emergency calls regarding a bank robbery which occurred at 10:28 a.m. at the First Federal Bank at 2827 Main St.

Both Rivera and Glasgow are being investigated for a series of

armed bank robberies in Santa Monica, Beverly Hills, Pasadena and Los Angeles, according to police.

Santa Monica police units received information en route to the scene that indicated one suspect, armed with a handgun, exited the bank and was being driven away by a second suspect in a black sport utility vehicle.

Lt. Alex Padilla said several police units intercepted the fleeing SUV on Lincoln Boulevard and proceeded to chase it south through Venice into Marina del Rey. The SUV entered a parking garage at the Villa Marina Marketplace on the 13400 block of Maxella Avenue and stopped near a stairwell. Arriving squad

cars stopped behind it.

According to Lt. Padilla, responding officers noticed one of the men reaching for his waistband as they exited the SUV, at which point the officers began to shoot at the suspects.

"They feared the suspect was in the process of arming himself with the intent to injure or kill them," Lt. Padilla said of the officers, since the emergency calls indicated at least one suspect was carrying a gun. "Officers opened fire and both suspects were shot."

"One collapsed and the other continued to flee."

According to Lt. Padilla, the

See **SUSPECTS**, page 8



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

Members of the Santa Monica Police Department hang a 'No Fireworks on this Fourth of July' banner up on Thursday at the pier. A Fourth of July celebration with fireworks will be staged at Santa Monica College on Saturday.

Sparks did fly when city nixed fireworks show

BY SARA MILSTEIN
Special to the Daily Press

CITYWIDE — Celebrating Independence Day in Santa Monica will not be in the form of traditional celebrations of fireworks or parades.

For more than a decade, Santa Monica has lived without its traditional Fourth of July celebration. The acclaim Santa Monica once knew for its Independence Day bash ended when city officials decided that it was in the interest of city residents to curtail the celebrations.

See **FOURTH OF JULY**, page 10

SM reporter took the road less traveled while covering city

(Editor's note: This is an essay in a two-part series written by former Daily Press reporter John Wood, who left Santa Monica several weeks ago and is on a slow boat to China. This weekend's edition will feature a glimpse into a six-week American tour taken by Wood before his departure.)

BY JOHN WOOD
Special to the Daily Press

It wasn't easy leaving Santa Monica.

I spent nearly three years as a news reporter for the Santa Monica Daily Press, churning out more than 1,000 front-page

articles, depending more than anything else on my old single-speed beach cruiser.

My bike took me daily from a shoebox apartment near the beach in Ocean Park to the cramped Daily Press newsroom at the Third Street Promenade and, quickly, to countless crime scenes, jury trials and interviews.

Leaving Santa Monica meant

selling the old yellow-and-red cruiser, along with the rest of my things. It also meant saying goodbye to my native city, to the paper, and to family and friends for the next two-plus years. My wife Louisa and I start new jobs July 2 as college teachers in Sichuan, China.

We decided long ago to live up the transition. Before launching on a six-week, cross-country road trip

to visit family and friends, camp and see the country, we staged a blow-out party at our apartment complex at 125 Pacific St., a purportedly historic building just west of the dog park on north Main Street in Ocean Park.

The low-slung, plain-looking Spanish-style building at 125

See **WRITE STUFF**, page 9

Jacquie Banks

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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)
 ★★★ You might want to slow down and respond to others. A friend might confuse you or mix up plans. He or she could have a better idea. Don't try to organize; rather, flow with the moment. Others have many requests. Tonight: Indulge a little.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
 ★★★★★ Everyone might be confused or in a state that's not grounded. Attempt to make an idea practical. Be as diplomatic as possible. You will gain as a result. You have the energy and charisma to zero in on what you want. A talk could be beneficial. Tonight: Just wish upon a star.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
 ★★ Much goes on, but you might not be ready to share anything right now. You need to sort fact from fiction. What you hear might not be the whole story. A flirtation could build into more. Use good sense. Tonight: Relax; do yoga; meditate.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)
 ★★★★★ Friends and associates tug on you. Let them, or follow their lead. With their help, you are on the winning path. A partner has many ideas, but how grounded they are is another issue. Tonight: You perk up any situation.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
 ★★★★★ You are in a leadership position, clearing out a lot more than you thought possible. With Venus and Mercury in your sign, you are very persuasive. Others naturally agree with you. Take on new responsibility. Tonight: All eyes turn to you.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
 ★★★★★ Read between the lines when dealing with information that heads your way. Do your own information-gathering. Find an expert or two if you need to be sure of yourself. Be careful with any new people you might meet in the next few weeks. Check them out. Tonight: Go where there is music.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
 ★★★★★ You cannot believe everything you hear. Someone who has been reticent suddenly comes forward and expresses his or her feelings. Friends are full of ideas and show their caring. Let others do for you. Tonight: Plan on special time with a key person.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
 ★★★★★ Others come through for you. Be aware of what might be going on with them. Your sixth sense is accurate when it counts. Be sensitive to someone in charge. This person really cares about your professional life. Tonight: As another person wishes.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
 ★★★ You finish off what others leave undone. Listen to someone at a distance who has only good news and important information. Enjoy the positives of where you are. Your intuitive senses come through. Tonight: Take it easy.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
 ★★★★★ Your creativity comes through for you in many different ways. You add a touch of humor to a situation. A partner might be much closer than he or she has been in a long time. Laughter punctuates your interactions. Tonight: Spread the good mood.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
 ★★★★★ You'll accomplish a lot if you stick to the basics. Someone might have some very wild ideas, which naturally appeal to the Water Bearer. You can dream, but don't act right now. Just stick with the basics, please. Tonight: Movies at home.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
 ★★★ Your words have a lot of meaning. Some of what you say might not be logical, but it comes from a gut or intuitive level. Take action rather than deal with another's vagueness. You might be surprised at how positive others are. Tonight: Do what you want. Just don't be alone.



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LOCAL



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Stars and cars ‘Pair’ up for cancer benefit

By Daily Press staff

Two cancer-fighting groups have become one. Bentley of Beverly Hills will host a celebration, featuring Tony-nominated actress Valarie Petiford and Latin Jazz group Sistema 6, to celebrate the new partnership between “What A Pair!” and the John Wayne Cancer Institute. The kick-off event will raise funds to support the “What A Pair! concert scheduled for June 2006. Proceeds from the concert will benefit breast cancer research efforts at the John Wayne Cancer Institute in Santa Monica.

Jo Levi DiSante created “What A Pair!” in 2002 in honor of her mother and sister, both of whom suffered from breast cancer and loved the theater.

Since 1981, the John Wayne name has been committed by the Wayne family to groundbreaking cancer research and education in memory of their father who died of cancer, officials say. The John Wayne Cancer Institute has received worldwide acclaim for advances in melanoma skin cancer, breast, and colon cancer. Other areas of research include prostate and liver cancer, as well as lymphoma and leukemia. With its ability to rapidly turn scientific breakthroughs into innovative approaches to treatment and early detection, JWCI provides immediate hope to cancer patients from around the globe.

The benefit will take place July 14.

Foundation for the Junior Blind hosts Summer Games

By Daily Press staff

You don’t have to see to be a winner. Just off the famed stretch of Pacific Coast Highway running through Malibu, the Foundation for the Junior Blind hosted their annual Summer Games for blind and visually impaired children this past weekend. The Foundation’s Camp Bloomfield, a 40-acre residential camp located on Mulholland Highway near Leo Carrillo Beach in the Santa Monica Mountains, hosted nearly 200 blind, visually impaired and multiple-disabled children from throughout southern California.

Kids who are blind or visually impaired ages 5 to 12 teamed with sighted “buddies” of their age and competed in Olympic-style events: Track and field, archery (with sounds) and aquatics. Medals were presented to all participants.

The Foundation for the Junior Blind provides programs and services for children, adults, and their families. Programs are designed to enable infants, children, teens and adults who are blind or visually impaired to achieve independence and self-esteem. For more than 50 years, the foundation’s services have helped individuals to achieve their highest level of independence, according to officials. The Foundation for the Junior Blind provides services to more than 6,500 individuals each year from California and throughout the United States with programs that provide education, recreation, training and rehabilitation.

For more information, visit the foundation online at FJB.org.



Photo courtesy
“Buddies” eagerly awaiting the beginning of the Summer Games

CORRECTION — In the June 24 edition, a photo caption on page 10 erroneously reported the wrong school in which Richard Dobeck attended. Dobeck attended John Muir Elementary. Dobeck won a first-place scholarship in the middle school instrumental division in the 56th annual Kiwanis Music Scholarship Award competition.

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SURF REPORT

Today is looking smaller and less consistent than previous days with waist-high SW. Low clouds and fog will be clearing to the beaches by late morning. Fog locally dense with visibilities one quarter mile or less at Times in the morning. Friday night will have morning low clouds and fog clearing to the beaches into the afternoon.

Today the water is:
62°

Write us at alex@smdp.com and tell us what the surf is doing today at your local break.

	LOW TIDES				HIGH TIDES			
	Morning	Height	Evening	Height	Morning	Height	Evening	Height
TUESDAY	9:28	0.5	10:52	1.7	2:48	4.3	4:25	5.0
WEDNESDAY	10:18	1.1	N/A	N/A	4:20	3.6	5:13	5.3
THURSDAY	12:15	1.1	11:09	1.6	6:00	3.2	5:58	5.6
FRIDAY	12:42	0.9	11:47	1.3	7:14	3.8	6:37	5.2

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The Q-Line

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Pier officials are working on a plan to bring sport fishing and boating back to Santa Monica. Currently they are considering two options: an estimated \$13 million plan that would restore the breakwater just north of the Santa Monica Pier to accommodate commercial boating and a harbor, or a substantially less expensive gangway that might achieve the same goal. A recommendation could be presented to the City Council as early as August.

So this week, Q-Line wants to know, “Which plan do you favor — the breakwater rebuild or the gangway? Why? Is there another option that should be considered?”

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we’ll print your responses in the weekend edition. Please try to limit your comments to a minute or less. It might help to think first about the wording of your response.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Frustrated in Santa Monica

Editor:

Regarding “Handouts to be managed on Promenade?” (SMDP, June 28, page 1). Kathleen Rawson, executive director of the Bayside District Corp. says, “I’ve hit my frustration level,” referring to the corporate handouts like free chewing gum or cans of soda on the Third Street Promenade.

How awful for Kathleen. I’ve hit my frustration level on some other minor problems that have made the Third Street Promenade the blight of Santa Monica.

I’ve hit my frustration level over the fact that I can’t walk two steps without being approached by homeless and vagrants for money.

I’ve hit my frustration level over the fact that you can’t sit on a bench on the Promenade because the homeless occupy them along with their multitude of overflowing bags and carts.

I’ve hit my frustration level over the fact that portions of the Promenade oftentimes smell like a urinal.

I’ve hit my frustration level over the fact that menacing homeless/runaway teens congregate by the fountains and make it nearly impossible to show a little child the sculptures there.

So, yes, Ms. Rawson, I feel your pain. Let’s concentrate on the big bad corporate wolves demeaning our lovely Promenade by having the audacity to hand out a free cold soda on a hot day. And those nasty gum stains that you’re concerned that our city workers will have to clean? Well of course those gum stains could only be the result of a corporate hand out.

Where else could people possibly get gum? A convenience store maybe? No. Only free gum makes for dirty sidewalks, people would never throw gum on the ground that they bought. True frustration. Have you looked at the sidewalks along Wilshire Boulevard near the Promenade lately? They are filthy. Wilshire is a pit. Gum may not be the biggest problem at hand.

But please, Ms. Rawson, by all means, let’s bog down City hall with an ordinance to make a law. When asked what problems are facing Santa Monica, I’ve no doubt that free soda heads the top of every concerned citizens list.

Rich Cooper
Santa Monica

Keep the opinion out of the news

Editor:

Was this Monday’s cover story “School district juggling financial crunch,” (SMDP, June 27, page 1) intended as news or opinion? It appears in the news section, but it is full of unsubstantiated opinions.

Let me get this straight: the district next year will have fewer students, yet spending is going up by over 5 percent — and the writer claims the problem is too few revenues? After a reference to Gov. Schwarzenegger’s supposed short-changing education (by only increasing spending by \$3 billion in just one year), the writer writes — without attribution — that thankfully the city has agreed to provide \$6 million a year to the schools each year “since the governor’s budget cuts began a few years ago.”

Anyone have a calendar? The governor took office at the end of 2003, and he has only proposed and signed one budget since he took office. Whether one agrees or dis-

agrees that a \$3 billion increase in one year is enough, it’s a simple, indisputable fact that “the governor’s budget cuts” could not have begun “a few years ago.” If the paper wants to claim Gov. Davis or even Gov. Wilson started the cuts, then the paper should have put the apostrophe after the “s.”

It sounds like a reporter or editor has been drinking from the California Teachers’ Association propaganda hose a bit too often. Education is a vital issue for our state, and voters need accurate, straightforward information to evaluate options and make decisions. Let’s keep opinions in the opinion section, and news in the news.

Frank Jones
Santa Monica

It’s our job to watch over our kids

Editor:

In reading today’s Santa Monica Daily Press, I read the front page article with sadness along with great concern, regarding the teacher from Santa Monica High School, Carl Hammer (SMDP, June 22, page 1). It breaks hearts these days where some type of sexual misconduct by an adult to a child is reported in the news.

I was horrified when I read that the Santa Monica Malibu School District would even consider rehiring this man. Superintendent John Deasy was quoted as to having to check with attorneys at the district and the union levels about rehiring him. But what about our kids? I don’t think we should have to debate whether to take a felon on as a teacher even if at one time a teacher brought many accolades to the school.

Some things in life are obvious, so I have a great concern here and especially when there is a crime such as this. The article indicates that he may have done something sexual with a minor. Isn’t the high school filled with minors in the band where he would be teaching? The article indicates that a teacher’s aide could be hired. This aide would have to stick by him like glue to make sure nothing ever happens, and if he did do something, would another victim pay the price? This is not to say what the cost would be to the district. The students at the high school are underage and it is our job to watch over them and protect them. There has been news story after news story lately about this kind of stuff and we need to be vigilant and proactive about the safety of each of the students at Samohi.

Peggy Nava
Santa Monica

No boats on the pier

Editor:

If the plan to bring boats to the Santa Monica Pier succeeds, it will also bring something else: Water pollution. Gasoline-powered boats dump more oil and sludge into ocean waters each year than the Exxon Valdez. This will make swimming and surfing in the water around the pier even less safe than it is now.

Santa Monica’s beaches are the jewels of the community. It’s not worth fouling them up for the few dollars that a boating gangway will provide.

John Rosenthal
Santa Monica

Say what? President ducked hard questions during speech



HERE’S THE THING

BY LARA M. BROWN, Ph.D

President George W. Bush on Tuesday addressed the nation. He spoke for just over 30 minutes, but I’m not all that sure what he said. I mean, what was his point, exactly? That we, Americans, are just supposed to have resolve and be patient until we meet with success in Iraq? Is that right?

OK. I have no problem with being patient and sticking it out. In fact, I believe that we need to stay in Iraq until the country has stabilized and the insurgent threat has greatly diminished. If we leave, I think we’ll have greater problems in the Middle East than we can even fathom. My position should not be a surprise to anyone who knows me — I have never been against this war, I have only always been against the way we have been conducting it (see Here’s The Thing in the SMDP, April 22, 2004).

But I am not the president, and it is not my job to define success, which is why, my

question for President Bush is this: What do you consider to be a success? Because as far as I can tell ever since this war began we’ve been pursuing a moving target.

First, we were told that success meant bringing down Saddam’s regime. We did that — shock and awe, statute fell, took over Baghdad, even caught Saddam.

Next, we were told that success meant eliminating the threat of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq. We did that — none were found.

Then we were told that success rode on the transfer of sovereignty to the Iraqis. We met that goal two days early in June of 2004. Anyone remember L. Paul Bremer?

Then we were told success would come with the Iraqi election. Done — lots of women with purple ink on their fingers.

Now what? Are we supposed to believe that success will come once the Iraqis finish writing their constitution in August? Will the insurgents stop their attacks once there is a permanent government?

Or does Bush mean that until we the train enough Iraqis to protect Iraq, there will be no success, no matter what? If this is the case, then how many trained Iraqis are enough to keep the peace?

Or does he mean that success won’t be

achieved until we have wiped out the insurgent threat and the Iraqi people are up and running with their own government? Or does he mean that success won’t occur until we have dismantled the terrorist cells that are now operating in Iraq and have been flocking there since the fall of Saddam’s regime?

Here’s The Thing:

When moderate Democrats like Indiana Sen. Evan Bayh and conservative Republicans like South Carolina Sen. Lindsey Graham both start asking for measures of success, they’re not asking for timelines. President Bush ducked the hard question and chose instead to answer the easy one. No one needs a date certain. All everyone wants is to understand what the goal is in this war.

At the moment, President Bush’s definition for success appears to be bringing democracy to the region and spreading freedom around the world. While this is a laudable and worthy goal, I almost hate to tell him that we — here in America — are still working on getting both freedom and democracy right. And we’ve been doing it ever since Thomas Jefferson famously wrote in the Declaration of Independence: “We hold these truths to be self-evident,

that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.”

As our own Independence Day — July 4th — approaches, I urge you to each take a few moments away from the barbecue and the beer. Read a couple of our government’s sacred documents — the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, the Emancipation Proclamation, the Supreme Court’s decision from Brown vs. the Board of Education of Topeka. Honor our troops by honoring all those who, like them, have fought for liberty and democracy — from Patrick Henry to George Washington to Frederick Douglass to Elizabeth Cady Stanton to General George S. Patton to Martin Luther King, Jr.

Then ask Bush what his real goal is for this war, and when he will be willing to declare it a success? Because it’s not about democracy and freedom, it’s about how much democracy and freedom do we believe has to exist in Iraq for us to be safe in America.

(Lara M. Brown, Ph.D., can be reached at larambrown@aol.com)

COMMENTARY



Meeting Mr. Strawberry a bruise to psyche

PISTACHIO PERSPECTIVE

BY SUSAN ANN CONNOR



"Mister Strawberry, hi!" "Oh hello, Mr. Strawberry." "Lookin' sweet, Mr. Strawberry." "Do you mind if I call you Mr. Strawberry?" "Or would you prefer Sir Strawberry?"

OK. Maybe just "hi" would be good. Plain 'ole "hi." Perhaps with a little elevation in my voice to let him know I'm happy to see him. After all, I am. Aren't I?

I sighed deeply. The question perplexed me. I wasn't sure. I was standing in front of the mirror tweezing. With each pluck I practiced another version of how I might greet this man I'd met recently on a plane. He'd coveted the middle seat, and I the aisle. That in itself bonded us. But it was his fear of flying that had been our true nexus. And lucky me, having a lack of it, found a way to delve into my heart and comfort this poor, panicked, adorable strawberry-haired man.

But now the time of reckoning had come. Reality.

I had fantasized about this meeting for nearly a month. And in exactly 45 minutes I would be standing face to face with dear Mr. Strawberry. I was excited and totally freaked at the same time. Like a duck who wants to wade in the water but knows there's safety and a high-definition TV on the shore. Maybe I should cancel.

What will we talk about? Will we be as chatty as we'd been in that 737? And will he be as adorable in Starbucks as he was in that galaxy far-far away? Or will it be icky and awkward and have the scent of sloppy silence? Uh, oh. I'd better prepare an excuse for an early getaway. Geez, he's probably plotting the same dang thing.

I only knew a few things about him. Or maybe I only remembered a few. He was easy on the eyes. I already mentioned that. He's a psychotherapist. So there's a high listening IQ, a trait I admire. And he was taller than me, another trait I admire.

If receiving a large arrangement of stargazer lilies the day after soothing his sweet strawberry soul is any indication of thoughtfulness and a little romance, well, there's one more trait I admire.

But I wondered, was Mr. Strawberry only going to like red things? Beets, radishes and fire engines? Raspberries, watermelon and Pinot Noir?

Was he going to be scary and blood thirsty, as in Greek mythology, when red-heads became vampires after they died? What would be my fate if I began to date a redhead?

What if he loves liver and lives for golf? What if he solely likes action movies, and not only hates chick flicks, but actually calls them that? What if he wears tight bikini briefs and believes waterbeds give you the best night's sleep? And what if he collects adolescent worm specimens and stores them in the fridge next to the milk?

Oh, would you stop. Just stop! Just go meet the guy for coffee and talk about the weather.

I laughed out loud at the mahish-magosh of it all. Truth was, my gut told me I was going to like him. And it had been a while since my gut had spoken such sentiment. So, with a command to my brain to stop the pistachio processing, I hurriedly slipped on my jeans and my favorite crimson top.

One last check in the mirror, an extra deodorant roll for confidence, a double Altoid toss, and I was out the door to meet Mr. Strawberry. Yikes! Lalalala ...

(Susan Ann Connor can be reached at pistachiocolumn@aol.com.)



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STATE

High school students thrive amid isolation

BY RAY HAGAR
Associated Press Writer

BRIDGEPORT, Calif. — The school doesn't look like much from the outside.

It's a 1,600-foot, prefab trailer that could be blown away by one mighty gust.

Yet, Eastern Sierra Academy, nestled in the isolated town of Bridgeport, Calif., was ranked 19th out of America's 27,000

public high schools by Newsweek magazine. The school, 115 miles south of Reno on U.S. 395, also was the top-ranked California school in the Newsweek poll and the highest-ranked school west of Texas.

Inside is the secret. There's about \$400,000 in high-tech computers, smart boards and other teaching gizmos that are shared by the school's 23 extremely moti-

vated students. That's roughly \$17,391 per student. Much of it was purchased with a \$255,000 grant.

"Looking at it from the outside, you would never know what we've got going on in here," principal Roger Yost said.

"We have software that you'll only find in Hollywood and professional offices," Yost said. "The animation software we have is the same software they used to make the monsters in Star Wars."

The school does not offer sports or other extracurricular activities. Students instead are focused on academics. They do two to four hours of homework each night and study on weekends.

School gets out at 3 p.m. Some students stay until 9 p.m. Seniors must take at least three advanced placement classes. Juniors must take at least one. An A or a B is necessary to pass any class. Parents are given grade reports every two weeks to help their kids stay motivated.

Students see their dedication to academics as a way out of Bridgeport, population 800, on the way to realizing their dreams.

"I would consider this as the gateway to the world," said senior John Pelchowski, 17. "You are really exposed to a lot of things here."

Only one academy graduate has not gone on to college in the past five years. The rest are stretched across the nation in prestigious schools from Williams College in Williamstown, Mass., to the University of California in Berkeley.

"The bottom line is that we're 100 percent successful in college," Yost said. "Many of our former students have come back and said that this school was harder."

The school is small enough that the staff — two teachers, a teaching principal and a secretary — can give a lot of personalized attention to the students. Class sizes range from a math class with one student to a biology class with 15.

No class appears easy, including environmental and spacial technology, world literature, microeconomics, physics and statistics.

"Somehow, we have talked these kids into doing a lot of homework and submitting themselves to this rigor," teacher Jamie Godoy said.

The intense regimen benefits from location.

"The isolation helps," senior Tonya Algeo, 17, said. "We don't have the distractions of going to the movies instead of doing your homework. There are not a lot of boys so you are not obsessed with looking perfect, things that you have in big cities and big city schools."

The academy was started 10 years ago by the Eastern Sierra Unified School District since the nearest high schools, Coleville and Lee Vining, were more than 20 miles away. Under California law, communities that are more than 15 miles from the nearest school and are separated by risky driving conditions can apply for

state funding to open a small school, Yost said.

A decade later, teachers and students have attempted to create a teenage academic Utopia. With just 23 kids, a lot of the rules endured by other students don't apply.

Kids can chew gum and eat in class. They call the principal by his first name.

"I've found gum under the table maybe once in 10 years," Yost said. "If they want to grab something and come to class with it, I don't care. Teenagers love to eat. As long as they are involved and not taking away from class, it doesn't matter."

There is no dress code, drugs, hazing or bullying, students said. Older students help the younger ones with their studies. Conflicts among students are usually worked out quickly.

"With just 23 kids, there is no place to hide," Algeo said.

These are not children of the rich. Thirty percent of the students are minorities. Almost 20 percent qualify for subsidized lunches. Parents include a teacher, landscaper, maid, maintenance manager and a small restaurant owner.

"If someone is a different color, nobody cares," said freshman Leo Acero, 14. "We're all accepted by everyone."

Yet the Utopia sometimes ends outside the schoolhouse, some students said. Some of the students at nearby Coleville High call Eastern Sierra, "the smarty pants school," said junior Courtney Northington, 16.

"They see us as stereotypical smart kids, little preppies and stuff," said freshman Robert Robles, 15.

Others in the community have questioned the necessity of the school, said Robles' father, Raymond Robles, a restaurant owner in Bridgeport.

"Sometimes people don't understand it and when they don't understand it, they may have a tendency to talk negatively about it," Raymond Robles said. "But most of that has gone away because of the success of the kids there. People are seeing that they are getting a good education, choosing education instead of sports."

If students want to play sports or be involved in extracurricular activities, they should probably attend Coleville High, Yost said.

Coleville, like the academy, is considered a California Distinguished School. Yet Coleville, with a student population of 60, fields highly competitive athletic teams that play in Nevada's Class 1-A League, meaning 300- and 600-mile round trips to compete in such Nevada hamlets as McDermitt and Gerlach. A visit to the state tournament in Las Vegas is almost 800 miles round-trip.

"Coleville plays all over the place," Yost said. "The amount of school kids from rural communities miss is insane. They would have a lot tougher time being successful here if they were to go on these athletic trips."

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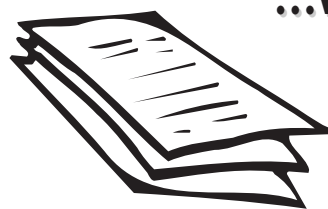
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Santa Monica Daily Press

STATE



Wrongly convicted man out to prove innocence

BY BRIAN SKOLOFF

Associated Press Writer

SAN JOSE, Calif. — How much is freedom worth?

According to the state of California, \$100 a day.

John Stoll walked out of prison last year a free man at 62 after 20 years behind bars. His 1985 convictions on 17 child molestation counts were thrown out by a judge who said investigators coerced the witnesses.

Now Stoll wants some payback, under a state law that allows for vindicated prisoners to collect \$100 for every day spent in prison. But first, he must prove to a state board he did not commit the crimes and did not contribute to his arrest.

"If he can do these two things, then he's entitled to the money" — about \$730,000, tax free, said Deputy State Attorney General Michael Farrell.

Problem is, Kern County Judge Lee P. Felice did not declare Stoll innocent. He found Stoll's rights were violated by authorities who used coercive interview techniques on the six alleged victims, ages 6 to 8 at the time.

Prosecutors still believe Stoll is guilty, but decided not to retry him, saying they no longer had enough evidence.

"The judge didn't make a finding of factual innocence," prosecutor Lisa Green said. "People tend to forget that his own son didn't recant. That says a lot."

The attorney general's office has been reviewing the compensation claim for about six months, poring over transcripts and police reports, and has yet to decide whether to contest his demand. No date has been set for the board hearing.

"In a criminal process, the prosecution has the burden to prove the case," Farrell said. "In this case, the claimant has the burden to prove to us that he didn't do it."

According to the New England Innocence Project, 18 states and the District of Columbia have statutes that provide compensation for vindicated prisoners.

Arkansas, for example, has no such law, while Alabama offers a minimum of \$50,000 for each year a wrongly convicted prisoner is incarcerated. Awards in Illinois are capped at \$35,000, and New Hampshire caps its compensation at \$20,000.

In the past four years, California has approved five prisoner claims, ranging from \$17,200 to \$481,200. In three of those cases, the prisoners were cleared by DNA.

So far, Stoll has received only the standard \$200 in pocket money that released prisoners get.

Separately, Stoll planned to file a federal civil rights lawsuit this week in Fresno, accusing the district attorney and others of bungling the case and sending an innocent man to prison. He is seeking more than \$50 million, said

his lawyer, Laurence Masson.

"This man has huge damages. He lost his life," Masson said.

Even so, Stoll, who has lived since his release in a cottage in the San Jose backyard of two of his Innocence Project attorneys, considers himself a lucky man, despite the lost years.

"I'm going to have a good time. I got my life back," Stoll said. "I'm free, I'm out."

In prison, he was D15734, a moniker he wears around his neck, on a silver medallion he made behind bars.

Now, he's just John, a man with an iPod and a tiny flip cell phone, things that didn't even exist when he went away.

Linda Starr, legal director of the Northern California Innocence Project at Santa Clara University, said she felt obligated to take Stoll in.

"He didn't have anybody else," Starr said. "We felt a certain sense of responsibility to him once he got out to not just drop him on the street with no money."

Stoll went into prison a stout and stocky carpenter with strong hands and a full head of dark blonde curly hair.

The years took their toll, stealing his youth, his family and friends, and all but eight of his teeth. His mother, who paid for his defense, died while he was in prison.

He sometimes laments on what he lost.

"I could see myself with my wife and child now. I miss that. I see families at soccer games and just miss that," Stoll said. "It would be nice to have a friend, a companion. That would be cool."

Two Innocence Project groups in California won Stoll's freedom after tracking down his alleged victims and persuading them — now adults — to come forward. Four of those accusers testified that investigators pressured them until they lied. A fifth testified he has no memory of that part of his childhood. The sixth, Stoll's son, still insists his father molested him. Stoll blames that on a bitter custody dispute with his wife at the time.

Prosecutors presented no physical evidence at his trial. None of the children were examined by doctors. The case rested on testimony alone.

Stoll was convicted during a time of great concern about alleged molestations around the country. In Bakersfield alone, authorities arrested 46 people in eight alleged molestation rings in the mid-1980s. Thirty were convicted, eight had their charges dropped and eight struck plea deals that kept them out of prison.

Twenty-two of the convictions were later reversed for legal technicalities, prosecutorial misconduct or faulty jury instructions. The rest served out their sentences.

Two of Stoll's co-defendants had their convictions overturned and the county agreed to pay \$4.2 million

several years ago to others vindicated in similar cases around the same time.

Stoll moved to Oklahoma last week to start a real estate business with an old friend. It's a new chapter in his life, one far away from the memories of incarceration.

"The last thing I want is to come across as someone who is pissed off because I'm not. I'm just a little disappointed that I can't get a full-time job because of that 20-year gap. It's a little hard to explain," Stoll said as he packed up his things. "I can never replace 20 years."



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Ex-talk show host embraces Santa Monica

ROSENDAHL, from page 1

Windward Pavilion on Windward Avenue and Ocean Front Walk, and will include appearances by new L.A. Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, as well as hundreds of spectators.

The public is invited to attend. “This ceremony will set a tone for my administration,” Rosendahl said. “It will be open, diverse, and showcase the talents and the creativity of the constituents of the 11th District and the people of Los Angeles.”

Rosendahl garnered 26,613 votes or 56.56 percent of the vote against opponent Flora Gil Krisiloff. Cindy Miscikowski, the incumbent, was not up for re-election.

Rosendahl is best known as producer and moderator of public affairs television shows such as “Local Talk,” “Week in Review” and “Beyond the Beltway,” which have been popular among Santa Monica residents. He produced more than 3,000 programs over 16 years. Most recently, he has been working as a professor at Cal State Dominguez Hills.

Rosendahl said he plans on working closely with the city of Santa Monica during his term, noting the 11th

District, which borders Santa Monica to the south and east, is geographically contiguous to the city.

“We embrace Santa Monica, in the heart of our district, and feel working together is key,” Rosendahl said.

Rosendahl said he has been in contact with City Councilmen Richard Bloom, Bobby Shriver and Herb Katz in recent weeks to begin discussing mutual concerns.

Santa Monica elected officials said they are looking forward to working with Rosendahl.

“I think he’s a smart guy with a lot of energy, and we see eye-to-eye on a lot of issues,” Bloom said.

Rosendahl said much of his success in life is attributed to his ability to communicate effectively, a trait he plans on using to further his political interests.

He said his top priority coming into office will be to improve the quality of life for his constituents. One way he plans on doing that is to make sure public services, such as police and fire protection, are on task. He also will make sure his office responds well to resident concerns.

Rosendahl said he will be seeking to establish a “Congress of Empowerment,” a gathering of individuals with common concerns who will focus their energy to make change.

“I want to gather people who are interested in solutions and will leave their ideology at the door,” Rosendahl said. “Ninety percent of issues are not black or white, Republican or Democrat issues. They have to deal with people.

“We want to build a coalition to deal with these issues.”

HOMELESSNESS

Rosendahl said he is outraged by a recent tally released by the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority that indicates more than 90,000 homeless people live in the metropolitan area, many of whom are in Santa Monica and West Los Angeles.

“The fact 7,000 of these people are families without a home — something needs to be done about it,” Rosendahl said.

Rosendahl has been in contact with Shriver and said he believes moves made in Santa Monica to combat homelessness are a good step to address the problem.

The city of Santa Monica bolstered its homeless service programming by \$370,000 for the next fiscal year, almost half of which will likely go toward the hiring of a regional secretary who will help streamline the coordination of homeless services in Santa Monica and the westside.

“I think he’s going to be great working in a coopera-

tive way on the regional homeless issue,” Shriver said of Rosendahl. “He is influential with the new mayor and gets along with the county.

“He will be a big player in the regional solution.”

TRAFFIC FLOW

Rosendahl said he is a strong proponent of updating the Los Angeles area mass-transit system in ways which would likely affect Santa Monica.

“We need a 21st Century transportation plan,” Rosendahl said.

He proposes that the construction of the Expo rail line from downtown Los Angeles — which may reach Santa Monica in 20 years — be bumped ahead of schedule.

“I say we do the whole thing in 10 years,” Rosendahl said.

He also is concerned about improving the traffic flow on Lincoln Boulevard and Centinela Avenue, and will be working closely with Santa Monica on ways to reduce the gridlock.

SANTA MONICA AIRPORT, COLLEGE

Rosendahl said his constituents in Mar Vista want better regulation of the Santa Monica Airport, a goal shared by some Santa Monica residents and councilmen.

“My constituents have a legitimate real concern about jet fuel being blown into their faces,” Rosendahl said. “I will be getting all of the headaches, and Santa Monica will be getting all of the revenue (from the airport).”

Rosendahl said he would like to work with Santa Monica so that Mar Vista residents may be represented on the city’s airport commission, a group that helps regulate the airport.

Bloom said he has similar concerns about the airport. Because Mar Vista residents inhabit a space close to the airport, he said he would consider ways in which their concerns can be represented.

“It’s an interesting request and something we could talk about,” Bloom said. “The bottom line is the concerns of all residents near the airport need to be addressed.”

Rosendahl said he also is keeping his eyes on Santa Monica College and hopes the development process is improved soon.

SMC’s Bundy campus, a satellite facility at the airport set to go online in July, may be needing road and traffic signal improvements to ensure its safe functioning. Many of those requests will have to be conducted through the city of Los Angeles, an opportunity for Rosendahl to raise issues related to the college’s growth, some officials have said.

Witnesses considered snagging robbery suspect

SUSPECTS, from page 1

two suspects were apprehended approximately 40 yards apart. There were shots fired by more than one officer.

The officers involved in the shooting, as per standard procedure, will be assigned to desk duty for a couple of days.

The case is still under investigation.

Laura Eimiller, an FBI spokesperson, said there have been 12 bank robberies in Santa Monica this year. She deferred all other questions to the SMPD, the primary agency investigating the case.

A young man who prefers to go by “Sanchez” said he was across the street from the bank, working at a coffee shop, when the robbery occurred.

“A woman came into the shop and said the bank was being robbed,” Sanchez said.

Sanchez said he looked out the window and noticed one suspect exiting the bank, placing a black handgun in the waistband behind his back and carrying bags of money that spilled into the streets.

A few people on the street pointed at the suspect as he walked away from the scene.

Sanchez said he turned to a friend, who prefers to go by “Izquierdo,” and said, “Let’s go.”

He said they planned on detaining the robber. The two followed the suspects from Ashland to Second Street, where he made a right.

“There was no one around,” Sanchez said. “He had a clear getaway, and we were pissed, because, this has happened (so many times) in the past five or six months.”

Sanchez said he was four feet behind the suspect, but held back from tackling him, due to Izquierdo’s word of caution.

“He has a gun,” Izquierdo said, pulling him back.

“So I shouted, ‘stick em, robber,’” Sanchez said. “The robber screamed and ran all the way up the street.

“He hopped in the SUV, and they sped away.”

The two colleagues are credited with assisting police and their subsequent investigation by identifying the getaway vehicle and license plate.

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City gives former reporter Santa Monica-style sendoff

WRITE STUFF, from page 1

Pacific St. has been designated a historic landmark by officials at City Hall, primarily because it's situated around a communal courtyard. In the courtyard is one small lemon tree on a long, narrow strip of grass bounded by 24 tiny apartments.

It's hard to predict what will happen to the decrepit old building. Preservationists say it's among the last of its kind and it must be saved. Cedar Properties, the owner, has pointed to the bulky condominiums surrounding their property and appealed the historic designation to the Santa Monica City Council. They claim they're losing money by being denied their right to develop, and have hired architect and school booster Ralph Mechur, who drafted plans for upscale condominiums at the site.

Cedar even agreed to pay an undisclosed sum to one outspoken tenant who had long enjoyed rent control protection. In exchange, the tenant moved out and permanently abandoned her campaign to save the 1920s-era building. Deputy City Attorney Adam Radinsky has warned Cedar they are being watched for possible criminal infractions after serving half the tenants with eviction notices that later were retracted.

Sketchy and arguably illegal tactics aside, the idea of at least renovating the property made a whole lot of sense to us. The building is in disrepair. Our bathroom and kitchen walls had persistent black-and-green mold growths. Major sewer and electrical problems were common. Rats scurried underneath the floors and in the walls at night. One night, Louisa came home from work and found one rat, with a body measuring more than a foot long, making a nest out of the arm of our living room sofa.

Despite sometimes unsettling conditions, we loved our tiny apartment, and it was mostly because of the courtyard, which was rimmed by small personal gardens and adorned with old bikes and surfboards. It made the place. We would sit on the lawn, play cards and drink margaritas on summer evenings. We strummed guitars and banged on drums and laughed with our neighbors. We actually knew and liked our neighbors.

It was fitting then for our final farewell party to be staged there, with the nexus between our Apartment No. 17 and Apartment No. 8, where a South African friend named Kurt lived. Santa Monica band Driver set up under the lemon tree and played covers of The Police and Bob Marley, along with several of their own songs. Banquet tables full of food lined our bare apartment and outside stood a keg of Heineken, and a table with several bottles of wine and liquor, sodas, water and ice.

About 150 people filtered through the courtyard that Saturday from 3 p.m. until 9:04 p.m., when a trio of Santa Monica Police officers shut us down. They said they had several complaints, some from several blocks away on Fourth and Fifth streets, up over the Ocean Park hill and back by Los Amigos Park and Santa Monica High School. We were told there would be no further warning. One more noise complaint, from any resident, and we would be fined \$500 for disturbing

the peace.

The band put down their instruments and we continued drinking and laughing and saying good-bye until well past midnight. Among those present for the little party were Santa Monica teachers, shop owners, lawyers, office workers, musicians, artists, businessmen and businesswomen, even an eight-year local homeless man named Rico, a raspy-voiced veteran who twice earned the Purple Heart.

In many ways the mixed crowd at the garden party reminded me of my farewell at the paper. Editorial staffers at small newspapers typically don't get a lot of positive recognition and during my time in the newsroom, editor Carolyn Sackariason fielded dozens of calls from readers upset or angry over my reporting, but a fraction as many calls that were complimentary. This held true regardless of the topic.

Sackariason taught me that as long as both sides were complaining, things were on track. Under that theory, we at the Daily Press were doing a bang-up job. We had business interests accusing us of being blatantly liberal and renter groups convinced we were in bed with the chamber of commerce, heavily slanted against the so-called progressives.

Then, at the end, something unexpected happened. I sent out a mass e-mail saying thank-you and good-bye, and introducing my replacement. In response I received generous appraisals of my work from people in all corners of the city, many of them ideological opposites. E-mails came from people I deeply respected and depended upon for information, like Superintendent of Schools John Deasy, City Councilman Herb Katz and Santa Monicans for Renters Rights co-founder Nancy Greenstein. They came from Mayor Pam O'Connor, columnists Bill Bauer and Frank Gruber, City Attorney Marsha Moutrie and landlord attorney Rosario Perry, among others.

One e-mail writer said how fortunate my move would be for the people of China, but how unfortunate for the people of Santa Monica and for the field of journalism. Some others wondered if I would someday rejoin the reporting world. Having started in journalism as a 12-year-old guest editorial writer and continued with school papers, a London travel outfit and a Santa Barbara business magazine, I knew that to veer away from reporting at age 27 and work for the Peace Corps, our employer in China, was not an orthodox move. To leave the newsroom is to lose precious momentum.

Still, many of the editors I consulted with told me the qualities that made me want to join the Peace Corps, most notably curiosity and a sense of adventure, were the same traits that made me a good reporter. An editor at the Ventura Star said he knew they were uncommon but that he looked for resumes like mine. A senior Associated Press staffer said any editor who counseled me against going to China was the kind who wanted their reporters "chained to their typewriters, heads down, rewriting press releases. Dreadfully dull."

That advice helped, but really the decision already had been made. My bride Louisa, 24, a Santa Monica teacher and cellist for the Santa Monica College



Adam Jensen/Special to the Daily Press

(TOP) HISTORIC LANDMARK? Some 150 people gather for an Ocean Park garden party at 125 Pacific St., a historic building whose status has been contested to the Santa Monica City Council. The party was thrown for former building tenant and local news reporter John Wood, and his wife Louisa, (BOTTOM) who move to China on Saturday.

orchestra, and I had decided long before that we wanted to travel the world and make the most of our early married years. Life is short, after all, and we had good role models in parents, siblings, and aunts and uncles who had served with the Peace Corps.

Still, it hurt to say good-bye. I was born in Santa Monica and my father and stepmother live there still, as do two of my three brothers. Plus, I had to sell my red-and-yellow beach cruiser, made in the U.S. by a company called Manhattan. A young woman driver for the Big Blue Bus bought it for \$100, also pedaling off with a long skateboard I rode often on the concrete banks at Paul Revere Middle School.

Watching the woman ride off with the skateboard under her arm reminded me of all the times I'd slung a camera over my shoulder, shoved a handful of pens and a reporter's notebook in my pocket and set off to get a story. Often I'd return to the newsroom even more heavily loaded down, with press release folders and photo prints under arm. Sometimes, usually on a Friday, I'd also be carrying a 12-pack of beer for the office.

That old cruiser was chained to a bench on the Promenade in July of 2003 when Russell Weller drove through a crowded

Farmers' Market and killed 10; it was on the sidewalk of Adelaide Drive in May of 2004 as I interviewed Kennedy family scion Bobby Shriver about the illegal height of his hedges; and it was locked to a chain-link fence at Edison Elementary when parents in fall of 2004 lashed out against city leaders in the wake of yet another drive-by shooting. It also was the vehicle for many "rolling" photo shoots, where I battled against more experienced and better equipped news photographers for shots of the Olympic torch, and of President George W. Bush and Sen. John Kerry, among others.

Even now, weeks after having left my native Santa Monica, it's the memory of that bike that most makes me miss Santa Monica. The old cruiser never needed gas or a parking space. I never had to change a dollar, or five, into quarters to feed the meter for it, and it never caused me to get a parking ticket. I suppose it's fitting that I'm reminded of Santa Monica most vividly by something lacking many of Santa Monica's most infamous traits.

(John Wood can be reached at johnandlouisa@gmail.com.)



City's Fourth flameout a matter of control

FOURTH OF JULY, from page 1

"A large number of people were drawn to the community, mostly non-community members," said Judy Rambeau, a spokeswoman at Santa Monica City Hall. "It became more than the city could handle."

The crowds became unruly after hundreds of thousands of people would camp out at the beach, saving their prime fireworks viewing spots during the day. Crowd control became an issue for police.

"By the time the fireworks came around at 9 p.m., everybody was already intoxicated," said Santa Monica Police Lt. Alex Padilla. "It just got to be a little much."

Before the City Council's "no firework" ordinance was passed, people from all over Southern California overwhelmed Santa Monica's beaches, parks, sidewalks and pier to see the fireworks show. All manner of travel, including highways and walkways, became virtually impassable. People were forced to sit on car roofs and set up lawn chairs on Pacific Coast Highway to watch the sky light up. What was a spectator's delight was the city's nightmare.

"It just got to be too many people," commented Fred E. Basten, author of "Santa Monica Bay: Paradise by the Sea." "PCH and Ocean Avenue became parking lots, and people got rowdy."

City Hall's solution was the "Dawn's Early Light" event held at the Santa Monica Pier, which featured live music of the patriotic stripe, as well as an early-morning fireworks show to bring in the new day.

Other Fourth events:

Malibu usually has firework displays, all of which can be seen from the Santa Monica Bay.

The fireworks, entirely funded by private individuals, are typically held at Broad Beach near Zuma, Malibu's Surfrider Beach and the beach near Duke's restaurant. All of the shows kick off at about 9 p.m.

■ Pasadena has celebrated the Fourth of July at the Rose Bowl since 1927, and is often considered the largest fireworks show in Southern California. The stadium will open at 4 p.m. on July 4. Tickets can be purchased for \$20 on ticketmaster.com or at the box office. Parking is \$15 for cars, \$30 for buses.

■ Celebrations at the Hollywood Bowl include a patriotic music performance from the famed LA Philharmonic,

However, one essential Fourth of July ingredient was missing — Dawn's Early Light proved anti-climactic due to its timing and Santa Monica's characteristic weather conditions.

"You couldn't even see the fireworks because of the morning fog," Basten added.

For more than 20 years, the city of Santa Monica has helped support the fireworks show held at Santa Monica College. This year, fireworks can be seen from SMC's Corsair Field on Saturday, July 2. While the show was bound to be more subdued than the celebrations that preceded

it, "it's a really great show, and people are really happy with it," Rambeau said. The celebration is one of a kind in Santa Monica, featuring a fireworks show and entertainment by Dixieland band Main Street and the rhythm-and-blues group JD Hall & the JD Hall Band. The festivities will be held at 16th Street and Pico Boulevard. Gates open at 5 p.m. and entertainment will start at 6 p.m. Fireworks, provided by Pyro Spectaculars, will light up the sky at dusk.

Families are encouraged to attend and enjoy a night of the sights and sounds of patriotism Santa Monica-style. You can bring your own picnic dinner to accompany the show, or buy a meal from vendors on-site. Alcoholic beverages, glass containers, barbecues and fireworks of your own are prohibited.

The event is free, though donations are welcome. Parking is \$5. For information, call (310) 434-3000.

Padilla said SMPD will step up its enforcement this weekend, beginning

as well as a fireworks show. This year, the Hollywood Bowl celebrates Disney's 50th anniversary by featuring some music from the films and rides associated with Disney's theme park in Anaheim. See ticketmaster.com for details, or call (323) 850-2000. Take advantage of the "\$5 Park and Ride" options offered at 15 different locations, which allow you to park near your home and take a shuttle to the Hollywood Bowl. Also, the MTA offers free shuttles up the hill from the Hollywood and Highland Red Line station for Metro ticket holders. Patrons also can park at the Hollywood and Highland garage for a fee.

Fireworks at Fisherman's Village in Marina del Rey is launched from a boat over the bay by Zambelli Pyrotechnics and will be accompanied by music from KXLU that can be heard

on 88.9FM radio. Parking is available at local parking lots or parks. Admission is free, as the fireworks can be seen from all over the Marina.

■ Culver City High School's celebrates its 40th year of hosting a fireworks show. Donations are welcome, as the proceeds benefit the high school's Exchange Club. Gates open at 5 p.m., and fireworks begin at 9 p.m. Expect to see student group, as well as professional performers. Parking is \$5. Pets and alcoholic beverages are prohibited.

For more information about fireworks held at the Rose Bowl, contact ticketmaster.com. For information about fireworks in Long Beach, call (562) 435-3511. For the celebration at the Hollywood Bowl, call (323) 850-2000. For Marina del Rey's celebration, call (310) 305-9545.

Thursday night. There will be extra officers patrolling the city on motorcycles, police cars, bicycles, mounted horses and on foot — mostly near the beach and the downtown area.

While city officials have heard no talk of resuming a grand fireworks show in Santa Monica, there are a number of fireworks shows in the Los Angeles area to attend on the Fourth of July. Fireworks can be seen at venues such as the Pasadena Rose Bowl, the Hollywood Bowl, Marina del Rey, and at Culver City High School (see box for details).

Though Santa Monica has a history of constant change and progress, city residents appear to be accepting.

"It was great fun at the time, but all good things come to an end," Basten said.

Rambeau suggested that perhaps more relevant than the food, fireworks and giant crowds is the commemorative spirit that the Fourth of July represents.

"Go celebrate America — that's really the biggest thing here," she said.

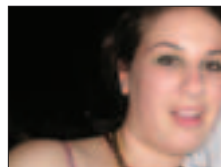
To what extent do you think SMC's fireworks show satisfies the public's desire for the Fourth of July festivities that Santa Monica used to have?

Joy Peterman:



"I think that that kind thing goes along the lines of age groups. Teenagers like the pier. Families really like SMC because they can sit on the lawn and they can play. It took me a long time to get used to SMC, but it is more family oriented that way, which cuts down on vandalism and that stuff."

What do you think about the fireworks held at SMC?



Emily Newmark:

"I would say that it really symbolizes the whole community coming together. It's fun, and I can see them from my own neighborhood. But it would make it a lot better if it were on the beach."

Is it worth it for a city to take drastic safety measures, even if it comes at a sacrifice?



Manouch Galdjie:

"It's becoming ridiculous. It seems like there is no Fourth of July anymore. Before there were fireworks, and now it seems like we aren't celebrating at all."

What is the best part of the Fourth of July?



Sam Blechman:

"I think it's different for everybody, but for me, I would say that there's no better way to commemorate American independence than with pyrotechnics. Imitation is the highest form of praise."

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Entertainment

‘War of the Worlds’ sure to be a blockbuster

BY DAN DUNN
Special to the Daily Press

Recent evidence suggests Tom Cruise has flipped his lid, but I'll tell you what — the crazy SOB can still act. In “War of the Worlds,” Katie Holmes’s main squeeze reminds us why he is

Review the biggest movie star in the galaxy with a self-assured performance that holds up under the enormous pressure of the public’s expectations and everything his director — a guy you may have heard of, goes by the name of Spielberg — piles on. Make no mistake, after all these years Spielberg is still the best in the business at making summer blockbusters, and he and his collaborators pull out all the stops. From the amazing production design to the powerful (but not overwhelming) special effects to the riveting screenplay (credited to Josh Friedman and David Koepp), everything about “WOW” screams wow. And scream you most certainly will. This alien invasion epic exploits our post-9-11 uneasiness with chilling effectiveness, boasting numerous scenes that rank among the director’s most spine-tingling. But what’s equally impressive is that here, unlike his two most recent sci-fi efforts, “Minority Report” and “A.I.,” Spielberg doesn’t allow bloated set pieces or other technical elements to mitigate the effectiveness of

the human drama. Sure, the numerous sequences of aliens obliterating everything in their path are spectacular, but the most enduring moments in “WOW” involve Cruise and his co-stars trying to hold it together emotionally in a basement hideaway or inside a minivan as unthinkable mayhem unfolds around them.

Spielberg wastes little time setting things up before the carnage begins. Ray Ferrier (Cruise) is a divorced North Jersey dockworker and deadbeat dad who reluctantly hosts his kids, Robbie (Justin Chatwin) and Rachel (Dakota Fanning), while mom (Miranda Otto) and her new hubby head to Boston for a weekend getaway. An intense lightning storm draws Ray to the streets to investigate, where it quickly becomes clear that inclement weather is the least of his or anyone else’s worries. For the next 90 minutes or so, Ray guides his children on a frantic survival trip that tests the limits of his parental devotion. In addition to the stellar work turned in by his lead actors, Spielberg gets great stuff from Tim Robbins in a small but pivotal role as a deranged farmer. As psychotic performances go, Robbins is as convincing as anything Cruise has done lately on the talk show circuit.

(Rated PG-13 for frightening sequences of sci-fi violence and disturbing images. Running time: 116 minutes.)

Jury should be out: ‘Malady’ is just that

BY DAN DUNN
Special to the Daily Press

Obviously, the folks who served on the Special Jury at last year’s Cannes Film Festival saw something in “Tropical

Review Malady” that this critic missed, because I found the film they honored with their top prize to be altogether unwatchable. Written and directed by Apichatpong Weerasethakul — a vanguard of Thailand’s avant-garde cinema — “Malady” is divided into two equally wearisome segments: The first hour concerns a budding romance between a Thai soldier (Banlop Lomnoi) and an illiterate country boy (Sakda Kaewbuadee); the

second half of the picture is rooted in obscure regional folklore and finds that same soldier searching an eldritch jungle for a mysterious shape-changing beast that has been devouring livestock. At best, Weerasethakul’s directing style puts the “odd” in plodding, and all but the most recherché art house film enthusiasts will likely be put off by his visual and narrative obfuscation. It’s unclear whether Weerasethakul intended “Tropical Malady” as a meditation on the nature of desire, or the nature of nature — but what is readily apparent is the director’s almost complete disregard for coherence and, above all, our patience. This is as trying a cinematic experience as they come.

(Not rated. Running time: 118 minutes)

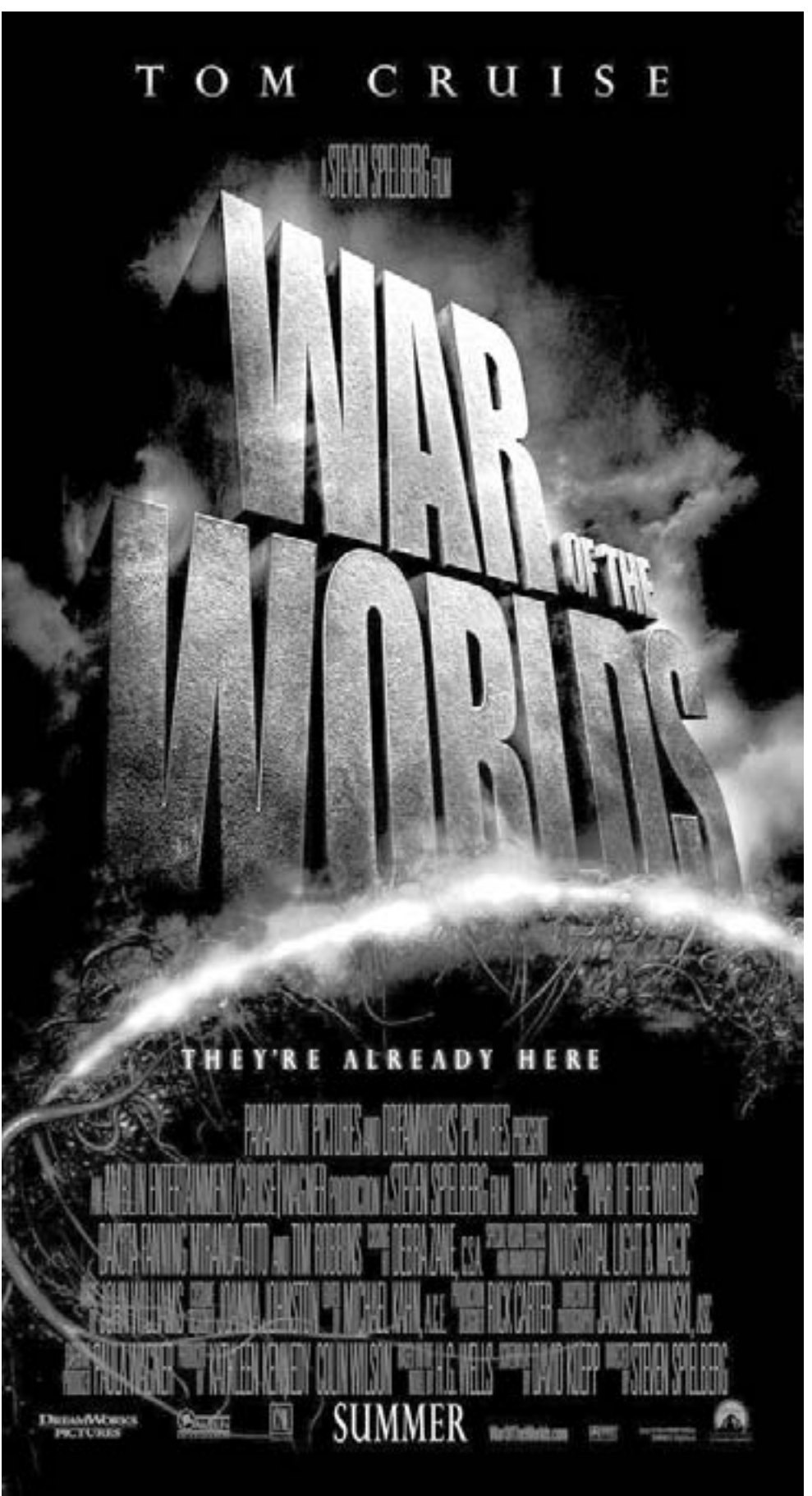
Only threat posed by ‘Undead’ is its empty one to entertain us

BY DAN DUNN
Special to the Daily Press

There’s been a glut of formulaic zombie movies in recent years and most of them, frankly, have been dead on arrival in theaters. Even George A. Romero — the guy who invented the formula — failed to explore any uncharted territory in his latest, “Land of the Dead,” which opened last Friday. Zombies hunger for human flesh, and will lumber to the ends of the earth in search of a warm meal. The only way to stop them is a bullet to the

head. That’s always how it goes in the genre, and “Undead” is no exception. But really, did it have to go so badly? Written and directed by Aussie brothers Peter and Michael Spierig, “Undead” is a shamefully derivative, very low budget gore-fest that never threatens to entertain. The production value is crummy, the characters one-dimensional and poorly acted, with a third act “twist” so absurd it feels as though a couple of fanboys made it up after a few too many bong hits.

The action plays out in the quaint fishing town of Berkeley, home to reluctant



beauty queen Rene (Felicity Mason), who is on her way out of town having lost her home in a bank foreclosure. She doesn’t get very far before a bizarre meteor shower turns much of the citizenry into bloodthirsty zombies. Hellbent on survival, Rene holes up in a fortified farmhouse with a group of clichés — a pregnant whiner and her doting husband, two bungling cops, and a heavily-armed cowboy who grunts and smokes cheeroots. From there it’s blast, blast, blast away, and the body count rises while blood flows as heavily as insipid dia-

logue. The Spierigs go overboard with CGI and stylized slow-mo action shots of the sort we’ve seen ad nauseam since the first “Matrix” film. Sitting through 10 minutes, let alone 100, is unbearable really, and by the time the preposterous ending rolls around audiences may find themselves in envy of the zombies ... the ones who’ve already been taken out, that is.

(Rated R for strong violence and gore, and for language. Running time: 100 minutes)



BY DAN DUNN

Review

(E-mail questions, comments or suggestions for the
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Finding final GOP votes for budget daunting

BY TOM CHORNEAU

Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO — The delicate task of rounding up the final votes needed to pass California's annual budget has become even more complicated this year, with minority Republicans holding greater leverage than they did a year ago.

The death of one Democratic Assembly member over

the weekend and the incapacitation of another means Democrats will have to find eight Republican votes to pass the budget out of the lower house. It requires a two-thirds majority vote.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger and Democratic leaders have spent much of the last week negotiating over the roughly \$116 billion spending plan. Both sides would like to have an agreement before the new fiscal year, which begins Friday.

Even if they do forge a compromise, they'll need to persuade two Republicans in the 40-member Senate and eight in the 80-seat Assembly — two more than a year ago. Getting Assembly Republicans on board is widely considered to be the toughest job.

"Eight votes is a large number to get," said Tim Hodson, executive director of the Center for California Studies at California State University, Sacramento. "There's an old legislative joke that getting the 55th vote is easy — what's hard is getting the 52nd, the 53rd and 54th that's difficult."

The death of Assemblyman Mike Gordon, D-El Segundo, from a brain tumor last weekend and the expected absence of Rebecca Cohn, D-Saratoga, due to back surgery has complicated this year's political calculations.

A further obstacle is the number of conservative lawmakers who consistently vote against the state budget. Some oppose it on principle, saying spending should be reined in.

"Democrats have not addressed the structural spending problem," said Assemblyman Russ Bogh, R-Beaumont, who supported the budget last year but noted that many of his colleagues did not. "Until they do and until the numbers look right to us, we're not going to vote for it."

Others oppose it on moral grounds, objecting to state tax dollars being used to support abortion services. Planned Parenthood scored 20 members of the state Assembly as "anti-choice" based on their voting records.

"It's always an issue for me," said Assemblyman Dennis Mountjoy, R-Monrovia, noting that he's never voted for a budget since coming to the Legislature four years ago, in part because of abortion funding. "I know that legalized abortions is the law of the land, but not with my tax dollars."

That leads to a shrinking reservoir of Republicans who might vote for a budget compromise between the governor and majority Democrats.

It's a twist of Capitol politics that a Republican governor might have a harder time getting support for a budget from members of his own party than rival Democrats.

Republican governors George Deukmejian and Pete Wilson at times each reached budget agreements with Democratic majority leaders and then had to persuade Republicans to support the plan, said Fred Silva, a senior analyst at the Public Policy Institute of California.

"It is curious, but typically the governor goes to the majority party and says, 'I want your help in doing this,'" Silva said. "And the majority party rounds up its votes, and the governor's party quibbles."

On Wednesday, Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez, D-Los Angeles, proposed a revised budget that comes close to the governor's proposal released last month. Nunez and Senate President Pro Tem Don Perata, D-Oakland, spent several hours with Schwarzenegger on Tuesday trying to sell their latest compromise.

Nunez said he does not think either the governor or Republican lawmakers support the plan. Even so, he and Perata said they will put their plan up for a vote before Thursday's midnight deadline, whether Republicans support it or not.

In the Assembly, Democrats hold 48 seats to 32 held by Republicans, with 54 votes needed to pass a budget. Gordon's death and Cohn's illness have left Democrats with potentially two fewer votes.

Cohn underwent major spinal surgery June 20 and was released from the hospital last weekend, spokesman Cris Forsyth said. He said whether she would be able to travel to Sacramento to vote would be a medical decision made on a day-by-day basis.

The political equation places the Assembly's minority leader, Bakersfield Republican Kevin McCarthy, in a position of elevated influence. Republican lawmakers found themselves at odds with the governor during last year's negotiations, but McCarthy has said he supports the governor's \$115.7 billion budget and isn't looking for anything more. The Democratic plan would spent about \$1 billion more.

McCarthy said Republicans are concerned about ongoing deficits and automatic spending increases. Needing more GOP votes to pass the budget can only improve the final plan, he said.

"When they (Democrats) could just pick off one or two votes and close a budget — those were not good plans," he said. "This is better. People have to work together."

Firefighters struggling to keep Arizona wildfires from towns

BY BETH DEFALCO

Associated Press Writer

PHOENIX — A central Arizona wildfire continued to grow Thursday, creating concern in at least three communities that could be in its path, but better weather helped firefighters battle the mammoth blaze.

The Cave Creek Complex fire has charred 187,000 acres, or 292 square miles, and is the second-largest wildfire in the state's history. It was burning about 20 miles southwest of the mountain communities of Pine and Strawberry and eight miles from Black Canyon City.

"As of right now there are no evacuations and there aren't any that we know of planned," said Rebeca Franco, a spokeswoman for fire crews. "Things could change."

Almost 1,600 people were fighting the fire, which was divided into north and south zones. The fire was 40 percent contained on the south zone, the side closest to Phoenix, but zero percent contained on the north zone.

Firefighters in some areas got a boost Thursday from lighter winds and higher humidity. Relative humidity was at 10 percent and winds from the southwest were only expected to get up 20 mph, according to the National Weather Service in Phoenix.

"Things are kind of smoothing out, and that'll help firefighters," said meteorologist Ryan Kittell. "But it's still pretty hot and dry."

On the eastern flank, firefighters worked to stop

flames from jumping over the Verde River. Authorities were concerned that if it crossed the river, it could push into a canyon and race into Pine and Strawberry, which are just three miles apart and have fewer than 5,000 year-round residents combined.

The fire hadn't crossed the river by Wednesday night but concern remained since the ponderosa pine forest surrounding the towns has been hard hit by tree-killing beetles in recent years, said Vinnie Picard, another fire spokesman.

Picard said the threat of wildfires is something residents of Pine and Strawberry, located about 100 miles northeast of Phoenix, are getting used to having around.

"This is an issue they seem to be dealing with a lot up there," Picard said. "But it's hard to stay calm, cool and collected when the sky is filled with smoke and they have ash covering their property."

In her weekly briefing with reporters, Gov. Janet Napolitano said the blaze "remains the most worrisome fire that we've got in the state right now."

More than 200 residents packed a Black Canyon City park Wednesday night to hear from fire officials about efforts to stop the blaze from reaching their community. Similar town hall meetings were held in Pine and Strawberry to discuss the fire and necessary precautions.

"We do have to be prepared, but there's no reason for panic," said Strawberry inn owner Cheryl Holland.

The blaze began June 21 as two lightning-started fires and destroyed 11 homes near Cave Creek.

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INTERNATIONAL



U.S. military: 16 killed in helicopter crash

BY DANIEL COONEY
Associated Press Writer

KABUL, Afghanistan — The U.S. military confirmed Thursday that all 16 servicemembers aboard a special forces helicopter died when it crashed into a mountain ravine in eastern Afghanistan earlier this week, apparently after being shot down by a rocket-propelled grenade.

The crash was the deadliest blow yet to American forces in Afghanistan grappling with an escalating insurgency.

The remains of those killed were being recovered at the site in Kunar province where the MH-47 chopper went down Tuesday, the military said in a statement. The helicopter crashed while ferrying reinforcements to a battle against insurgents near the Pakistan border.

The military reported earlier that 17 people were on board but revised that figure to 16 later Thursday.

"At this point, we have recovered all 16 bodies of those service men who were onboard the MH-47 helicopter that crashed on Tuesday," Lt. Gen. James Conway, director of operations for the Joint Chiefs of Staff, told reporters at the Pentagon on Thursday.

Conway said the military did not yet have a full account of all ground troops involved in the operation, although "we do not have any people classified as missing at this point."

Conway would provide no details when asked what was known about the troops on the ground that the helicopter was sent to aid.

"I can only say that it is an ongoing operation in that context, and we don't have full accountability nor will we until such time as the operation is complete," he said.

The Taliban has claimed responsibility for downing the helicopter.

Conway said it appears an unguided rocket-propelled grenade hit the chopper. He called it "a pretty lucky shot against a helicopter."

He said it appears the troops on board died during the crash and not during a fight with enemy forces on the ground afterward.

Military officials said there were eight Navy SEALs and eight Army air crew on board. A 17th person who was listed on the helicopter's manifest apparently did not board the flight, the officials said on condition of anonymity before the military made its formal announcement.

A storm that hampered rescuers from reaching the wreckage Wednesday had passed by Thursday. Recovery operations also were hindered by the rugged terrain of the remote crash site, reachable only by foot, and by continued fighting with militants.

Earlier Thursday, Lt. Col. Jerry O'Hara said "there are still bad guys in the area" around the crash site and that troops were having to "do a recovery and a tactical operation at the same time."

Officials in the United States said they knew of no communications from the crash site near Asadabad.

Even before word of the crash was announced, a Taliban spokesman claimed responsibility and said he had footage of the attack. By Thursday, no video had surfaced.

U.S. military spokesman Col. James Yonts said the helicopter was fired on as it approached a landing zone in the mountains. It flew on but crashed about a mile away at dusk.

American officials cited reports from the region that the helicopter either crashed or made a perilous landing on the mountainside, then went down in the ravine.

Only eight months ago, Afghan and

U.S. officials were hailing a relatively peaceful presidential election here as a sign that the Taliban rebellion was finished. That bravado has been yet another casualty in a war some feel could escalate into a conflict on the scale of Iraq's.

The loss of the helicopter follows three months of unprecedented fighting that has killed about 465 suspected insurgents, 43 Afghan police and soldiers, 125 civilians, and 45 U.S. troops, including the 16 killed in the copter crash. Afghan and American officials have predicted the situation will deteriorate before legislative elections are held in September.

The Taliban have stepped up attacks, and there are disturbing signs that foreign fighters — including some linked to al-Qaida — might be making a new push to sow mayhem. Afghan officials say the fighters have used the porous border with Pakistan to enter the country, and officials have called on the Pakistani government to do more to stop them.

The crash was the second of a Chinook helicopter in Afghanistan this year. On April 6, 15 U.S. service members and three American civilians were killed when their chopper went down in a sandstorm while returning to the main U.S. base at Bagram.

Ay aye aye: Spanish Parliament legalizes gay marriage

BY MAR ROMAN
Associated Press Writer

MADRID, Spain — Parliament legalized gay marriage Thursday, defying conservatives and clergy who opposed making traditionally Roman Catholic Spain the third country to allow same-sex unions nationwide. Jubilant gay activists blew kisses to lawmakers after the vote.

The measure passed the 350-seat Congress of Deputies by a vote of 187-147. The bill, part of the ruling Socialists' aggressive agenda for social reform, also lets gay couples adopt children and inherit each others' property.

The bill is now law. The Senate, where conservatives hold the largest number of seats, rejected the bill last week. But it is an advisory body and final say on legislation rests with the Congress of Deputies.

Opposition conservatives said they will consider challenging the law before Spain's highest tribunal, the Constitutional Court.

The Spanish Bishops Conference criticized the new law and urged resistance to it. The group said the bill, along with another passed Wednesday making it easier for Spaniards to divorce, mean that "marriage, understood as the union of a man and a woman, is no longer provided for in our laws."

"It is necessary to oppose these unfair laws through all legitimate means," the

bishops said, apparently alluding to a previous call for town hall officials who oppose gay marriage to refuse to preside at such ceremonies.

After the final tally was announced, gay and lesbian activists watching from the spectator section of the ornate chamber cried, cheered, hugged, waved to lawmakers and blew them kisses.

Several members of the conservative opposition Popular Party, which was vehemently opposed to the bill, shouted: "This is a disgrace." Those in favor stood and clapped.

The Netherlands and Belgium are the only other two countries that allow gay marriage nationwide. Canada's House of Commons passed legislation Tuesday that would legalize gay marriage; its Senate is expected to pass the bill into law by the end of July.

Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero noted this in debate before the vote.

"We were not the first, but I am sure we will not be the last. After us will come many other countries, driven, ladies and gentlemen, by two unstoppable forces: freedom and equality," he told the chamber.

Zapatero said the reform of Spanish legal code simply adds one dry paragraph of legalese but means much more.

He called it "a small change in wording that means an immense change in the

lives of thousands of citizens. We are not legislating, ladies and gentlemen, for remote unknown people. We are expanding opportunities for the happiness of our neighbors, our work colleagues, our friends, our relatives."

Zapatero lacks a majority in the chamber but got help from small regional-based parties that tend to be his allies.

Spanish gay couples can get married as soon as the law is published in the official government registry. This could come as early as Friday, or within two weeks at the latest, parliament's press office said.

Popular Party leader Mariano Rajoy said after the vote that Zapatero has deeply divided Spain and should have sought a consensus in parliament that recognized same-sex unions but didn't call them marriage. Rajoy said that if the vast majority of countries in the world don't accept gay marriage, including some run by Socialists, there must be a reason.

"I think the prime minister has committed a grave act of irresponsibility," Rajoy told reporters.

Beatriz Gimeno, a longtime leader of the gay rights movement in Spain, held back tears as she hugged her partner Boti after the vote.

"It is a historic day for the world's homosexuals. We have been fighting for many years," Gimeno said. "Now comes the hardest part, which is changing society's mentality."

The gay marriage bill was the boldest and most divisive initiative of the liberal social agenda Zapatero has embarked on since taking office in April 2004. Parliament overhauled Spain's 25-year-old divorce law Wednesday by letting couples end their marriage without a mandatory separation or having to state a reason, as required under the old law.

He has also pushed through legislation allowing stem-cell research and wants to loosen Spain's restrictive abortion law.

The Roman Catholic Church, which held much sway over the government just a generation ago when Gen. Francisco Franco was in power, had adamantly opposed gay marriage. In its first display of anti-government activism in 20 years, it endorsed a June 18 rally in which hundreds of thousands marched through Madrid in opposition to the bill. Some 20 bishops took part in the June 18 rally.

On Wednesday, a Catholic lay group called the Spanish Family Forum presented lawmakers with a petition bearing 600,000 signatures as a last-minute protest.

Late last year, the spokesman for the Spanish Bishops Conference, Antonio Martinez Camino said that allowing gay marriage was like "imposing a virus on society — something false that will have negative consequences for social life."

Despite the street protests in Madrid and elsewhere and the petition drive, polls suggest Spaniards supported gay marriage.



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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 1129320 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Corporate Identity, Corporate Identity Solutions, Corporate I.D., Corporate Solutions, 5218 Pacific Avenue, Suite C, Marina Del Rey, CA 90292. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Deidre A. Leclercq, 5218 Pacific Avenue, Suite C, Marina Del Rey, CA 90292 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/: Deidre A. Leclercq
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 5/12/2005. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS 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 6/13/2005, 6/20/2005, 6/27/2005, 7/4/2005

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 1242362 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Conjunto Madera, 1239 Maple St., Inglewood, CA 90301. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Andres Garcia, 1239 Maple St., Inglewood, CA 90301, Manuel Vasquez, 3275 Feather Ave., Baldwin Park, CA 91706, Elias Garcia, 1239 1/2 Maple St., Inglewood, CA 90301, Oscar Garcia, 1239 1/2 Maple St., Inglewood, CA 90301, George Perez, 1239 Maple St., Inglewood, CA 90301, Pedro Fernandez, 1141 S. Fairfax Apt., #6, Los Angeles, CA 90019 This Business is being conducted by, co-partners. Signed: Registrant has not yet begun to transact business under the fictitious name or names listed herein.. /s/: Andres Garcia, Manuel Vasquez, Elias Garcia, Oscar Garcia, George Perez, Pedro Fernandez
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 5/26/05. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS 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 6/24/2005, 7/1/2005, 7/8/2005, 7/15/2005

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FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 05 1250541 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as Magic Tan Asia, 4331 Mammoth Ave., #9, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : Allan Moreau, 4331 Mammoth Ave., #9, Sherman Oaks, CA 91423 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/: Allan Moreau
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on . NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS 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 6/24/05, 7/1/05, 7/8/05, 7/15/05

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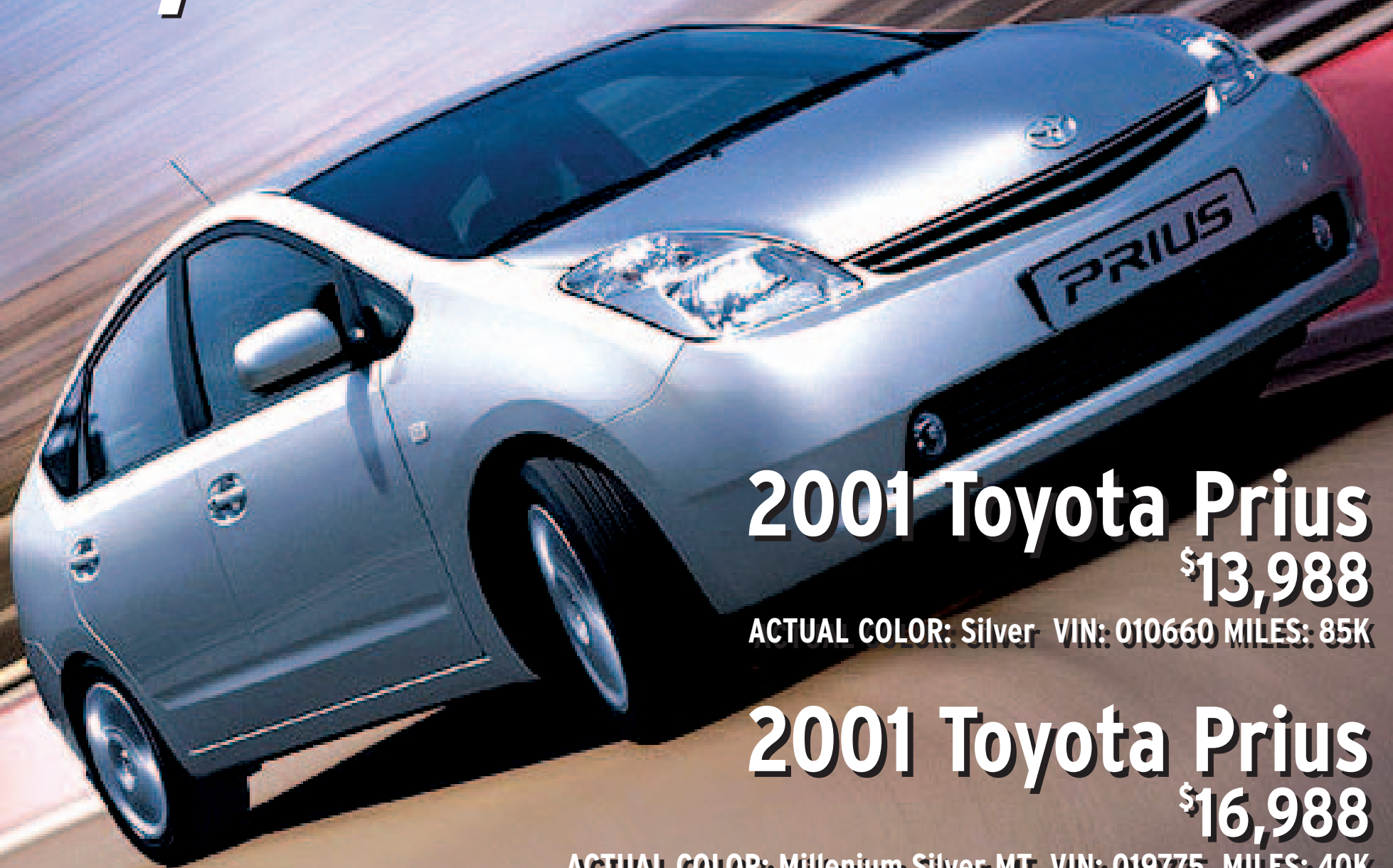
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