

Santa Monica Daily Press

July 1-2, 2006

A newspaper with issues

Volume 5, Issue 198

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS
20 40 46 48 54
Meganumber: 27
Jackpot: \$12M

Super LOTTO
4 10 15 17 29
Meganumber: 22
Jackpot: \$98M

Fantasy 5 22 26 32 33 39

DAILY 3 MIDDAY: 0 5 6
EVENING: 9 5 1

DAILY DERBY
1st: 12 Lucky Charms
2nd: 07 Eureka
3rd: 11 Money Bags
RACE TIME: 1:48.57

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site: <http://www.calottery.com>

NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

The San Diego firm Allerca Inc. announced in June that it is accepting advance orders (at \$5,000 each) for hypoallergenic cats it intends to create by cross-breeding species that lack the noxious bacteria that most cats produce that are so dangerous to asthmatics and others. A competitor, New York's Transgenic Pets, is after the same result by modifying the actual gene that produces the cat saliva bacteria. (Transgenic is expecting to beat Allerca to market, at a price of around \$1,000.)

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 182nd day of 2006.
There are 183 days left in the year.

On July 1, 1946, the United States exploded a 20-kiloton atomic bomb near Bikini Atoll in the Pacific.
In 1863, the Civil War Battle of Gettysburg began.

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City dons Poncho



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

Grammy-winning artist Poncho Sanchez and his band entertained the crowd on the Santa Monica Pier during the 22nd annual Twilight Dance Series on Thursday. Sanchez's blend of afro-Cuban jazz kicked off the annual summer concerts.

Trying new stall tactics

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON

Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN — Starting today, visitors to the Promenade can go to the bathroom in peace.

As part of a pilot program, City Hall plans to spend between \$50,000 and \$75,000 this summer to staff two bathrooms off of the Third Street Promenade with attendants. The idea is to make sure the bathrooms aren't abused, as they have been in the past. Without constant supervision, many people have used the bathrooms to do drugs, have sex

See BATHROOM, page 10



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

IN LOO OF SANTA MONICA Ray Nevarez, 42, of Thomas Partitions, installs a divider in the women's restroom in parking structure No. 4, between Second Street and the Third Street Promenade. As part of a pilot program, public restrooms will be staffed by attendants through the summer.

New court Cares

BY KEVIN HERRERA

Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL — Adding another weapon in its fight to end homelessness, City Hall will create a community court in which the down-and-out will be able to resolve their legal problems while accessing services to help them climb out of a life of poverty and addiction.

Elected officials are expected to unveil the pilot program Monday morning on the steps of City Hall, according to Kate Vernez, assistant to the City Manager for government relations.

"This is a ground-breaking milestone for the community because it will provide another tool in the Continuum of Care to assist the

See HOMELESS COURT, page 12

Deejay pleads not guilty to cocaine charge

BY KEVIN HERRERA

Daily Press Staff Writer

LAX COURTHOUSE — Local radio show host and Grammy Award-nominated film consultant Chris Douridas pleaded not guilty Friday to felony cocaine possession, a charge that could land the popular deejay in state prison for up to three years.

Douridas, host of KCRW-FM's "New Ground," made his plea before Los Angeles Superior Court Judge

See DOURIDAS, page 12

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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)
 ★★★ Your plans will be subject to a quick change. Don't fight the inevitable. Recognize that sometimes others will get confused, but right now the unexpected and surprise are themes. If you flex, it will be no big deal. Tonight: Lounge and relax to your heart's content.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
 ★★★★★ You might be delighted by what happens. Surprises head your way, especially when your creativity and imagination are involved. If creative by nature, your imagination will soar to a new level. Friends could do the unpredictable. Tonight: Playful.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
 ★★★★★ Basic values come into play in a situation that involves your personal life. What might occur could surprise you, though you are capable of handling what comes down your path. See the glass as half-full, not half-empty. Tonight: Close to home works.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
 ★★★★★ Speak your mind or get past a problem; if you don't, or hold on to anger, you might be on quite a roller-coaster ride. Think positively about change and don't hold on to something that doesn't work. Tonight: Adapt; adjust; flex.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
 ★★★ You might want to strangle your checkbook before expenses get even more touchy and difficult. You have the discipline and creativity to keep yourself out of a bind. Start acting like it as well. A partner or friend might not be a positive association when it comes to money. Tonight: Easy does it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
 ★★★★★ You are a powerhouse. Though you are sure of yourself and radiate confidence, others easily act up. You might want to distance yourself from someone who is unpredictable, for your own peace of mind. You need more stability. Tonight: Beam in what you want.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
 ★★★ Take your time and find out what is ailing someone who is important to you. Actually, this person could be you. Might you need some time off? Sometimes everyone becomes saturated and overwhelmed with what they must do. Tonight: Easy does it.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
 ★★★★★ Carefully think through a decision. You will have to stand on your own in order to achieve your goals. Think positively, and you will gain only positive results. Socialize and get together with your pals; you need more fun in your life. Tonight: Where your friends are.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
 ★★★★★ Stand up for what you believe and know. At times, you could be overwhelmed by what happens. Upheaval surrounds your immediate circle and domestic life. Know what you are doing; remain secure. Don't play into others' stuff. Tonight: Out and about.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
 ★★★★★ Plans shake up the status quo. You could feel like everything you plan on, every action you take, every conversation has a wild, unpredictable theme. You might have difficulty staying centered and honoring others' needs. Tonight: A movie or concert, where you don't need to talk.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
 ★★★★★ Work with others and scan plans for costs. You shouldn't go overboard, for your own sake. At the same time, a partnership is very important to cater to. You know better than to put monetary value on an emotional bond. Tonight: With your favorite person.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
 ★★★ Your unpredictability draws reactions, some of which you might not appreciate. Accept responsibility for creating some of what is happening. If you can trigger these responses, you can also not trigger them. Tonight: Say yes.

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS



Photo courtesy

SPEAKING SPIGOT: Timothy Plumridge, seen with his artwork, is Pasadena-bound.

Teen artist builds a new path

By Daily Press staff

Timothy Plumridge's education began in Santa Monica, but it won't end there. Plumridge is one of 17 students selected for the summer Institute for Educational Advancement's Apprenticeship Program at Art Center College of Design in Pasadena. His art pursuits provide him an opportunity to work with experts in the field, study industrial design and gain first-hand work experience. Plumridge will spend three weeks creating an individual design project at the college to learn design methodologies, including research, concept development, refinement, final design and presentation. He will experience presentations by professional designers and field trips to design offices while learning about product, transportation, and environmental design. Plumridge was born in South Africa and began his education at Franklin Elementary School. Now a senior at Santa Monica High School, he received encouragement from art teacher Amy Bouse, who sends e-mails to her students about extracurricular opportunities.

See BRIEFS, page 10

CORRECTION In the article "Jackson jurists not too thrilled" (June 29, 2006), it should have been reported that singer Michael Jackson suffered a burned scalp while making a commercial for Pepsi in January of 1984, and was treated, first at Cedars Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles, before being transferred to the Brotman Memorial Hospital Burn Center in Culver City.



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SNOW AND SURF REPORTS

SNOW CONDITIONS DATA PROVIDED BY ONTHESNOW.COM

BEAR MOUNTAIN

CLOSED

JUNE MOUNTAIN

CLOSED

MAMMOTH MOUNTAIN

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

CONDITIONS: MACHINE GROOMED, SPRING, CORN

MOUNTAIN HIGH

CLOSED

MT. BALDY

CLOSED

SNOW SUMMIT

CLOSED

SNOW VALLEY

CLOSED

SURF CONDITIONS WATER TEMP: 60°

SWELL FORECAST (4-5 FT)
TODAY WE ARE EXPECTING A MODERATE SWELL TO FILL INTO SOUTH FACING BREAKS FROM ABOUT 180-190.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS
WIND ISSUES FOR SOME AREAS THIS WEEKEND...

TIDE FORECAST FOR JUNE IN SANTA MONICA

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

The Q-Line

THE Q-LINE RESPONSES ARE IN!

CHECK OUT THIS WEEK'S Q-LINE RESPONSES ON PAGES 4-5.

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The QLine

READERS GET ‘HOT’ AND BOTHERED

This past week, Q-line asked:
What must downtown Santa Monica do to compete as a Southern California hotspot?
Here are your responses:

- Ⓢ “The residents and the tourist industry better come to grips with the fact that our City Council has approved the building of a vast number of low-income housing units opposite prime hotel property on Ocean Avenue, on the Sears property adjoining the pier, and the soon-to-be-rebuilt version of Santa Monica Place. City Council has predetermined and designated a good chunk of the downtown district as an extension of the Pico neighborhood, not a tourist destination. Low-income housing projects and tourist designations do not readily, or easily, coexist. The experiences of Chicago with the Capri housing project, Coney Island devastated by New York City’s inclusion of low-income housing there, Atlantic City with poverty and crime down the street from casinos that were built near the Boardwalk — clearly foretells Santa Monica’s fate. After all, who’s going to stay at the Loews or Viceroy or Le Merigot with housing for gangs and illegals a few feet away?”
- Ⓢ “The first thing we need to do is get a little class. At present, we are attracting and encouraging the wrong kind of element. Visitors don’t want to mingle and be challenged by gang members, bums, panhandlers, etc., and tacky, loud street performers. That’s the first step. The second is to establish a clean, safe environment. Well lit at night and visibly patrolled with security. The third is a homogenous selection of stores and restaurants. There are other things, but these three are major.”
- Ⓢ “First, I would ask the Santa Monica Daily Press to publish the names of those individuals and their businesses who wish for Santa Monica to become a ‘hotspot.’ That information would enable me to render an intelligent opinion. I would want to be certain it is not the same dairy men slithering out from beneath their rocks of greed to do another milk job on the city of Santa Monica, as they have done over the years. Still, with all the human and automotive traffic congestion that Santa Monica suffers with, it would seem to indicate that Santa Monica is already in a spot. Why make it hot?”
- Ⓢ “Yes, I think that in order for Santa Monica to compete with other cities in California, we should have some water lily pools, some beautiful chaparral, like maybe gardenia bushes, night-blooming jasmines and such. And maybe some jacaranda trees, and some trellises with beautiful herbs and lemons and citrus. And then, perhaps, some varied restaurants, because not everybody is wealthy who comes to visit. Have some restaurants like McDonald’s that are now featuring organic fare along with the other. I think that’s what Santa Monica should do to outshine everybody else in this lovely state of California.”
- Ⓢ “There are three things that Santa Monica would have to do to improve its image and market itself. One, get rid of the bums. Two, get rid of the bums. And three, get rid of the bums.”
- Ⓢ “I think the best thing that Santa Monica could do would be to somehow increase the
- acreage of downtown. It’s kind of confined. You could probably get a hold of those developers back in the 70s, I believe. They put a ballot measure on to build an island off the coast.”
- Ⓢ “It would go a long way if Santa Monica would clean the downtown area and keep it clean. The smells and the mess are intolerable.
- Ⓢ I haven’t been to the promenade ... Today was the first day I’ve been there in four months and I’m sorry I went again. Just keep it clean, Santa Monica. You got the money. Do it.”
- Ⓢ “Very simple. Get the homeless off the Promenade and out of Palisades Park, or simply, get the homeless somewhere else.”
- Ⓢ “There’s no way that Santa Monica can compete with other Southern California hotspots at this present time, with the homeless population tearing down the Promenade, urinating all over the doorways, defecating in the alleyways, aggressively panhandling to tourists. Even people coming to the hotels don’t want to come because they’re scared. So if they don’t find a place to take them, find a place to put them. It’s just going to be a rebound effect. People are going to come and never come back.”
- “I think we should stop competing with anybody. We are fine just the way we are. It’s too crowded already. With all the buildings that are going to be built and that are being built, it’s too much. Stop. That’s all I can say. Stop. We don’t have to compete with anybody. This is the best city in the whole United States, if only for the beach and the weather. That’s what I’m feeling. I’m very distressed with all the building that is going on.”
- Ⓢ “Santa Monica, to be a hotspot in Southern California, should have more nightclubs, like the Viceroy. Number two, we need more Wal-marts and more Targets, which were wrongly let go by the City Council a while back. Even the current mayor’s wife disagreed with him, and I agree with her. We need a Target and more low-income type things. The priority should be for reasonable prices and services, not corrupt unions which don’t do things according to their membership and just take their money ... just like my maid told me.”
- Ⓢ “Considering the amount of money the casinos in Las Vegas and Indian reservations make, why don’t we bring back the off-shore gambling ships. I mean, people would flock to Santa Monica with all our other attractions. Add the gambling, you’d have a huge increase in revenue just from hotels and licenses. Good idea, eh?”
- Ⓢ “The Bayside District Corp. and City Hall should not be working to make Santa Monica a West Coast destination hotspot. That’s what Universal City Walk and the downtown convention center are for. They should be working to improve the quality of life for

See Q-LINE, page 5

As long as we’re amending things



MODERN TIMES
BY LLOYD GARVER

You can always tell when the president’s popularity is getting dangerously low or when an election is coming up. That’s when those in power — and those who would like to be in power — shamelessly start pandering to the American public. That’s when they try to imply that they’re more patriotic than the other guys. So, they trot out issues like sex and violence on TV, illegal immigration and English as America’s official language. In addition to demonstrating what good Americans they are, these issues also distract attention from the fact that they’re not dealing with other important things — like a war in which people are dying every day. This week, they dusted off an old favorite — a proposal for a Constitutional Amendment that would ban desecrating the American Flag. It failed to pass the Senate by one vote, but I promise you, it’ll be back.

It’s a perfect issue for those who want to avoid controversy. How do you criticize someone who’s against people burning or otherwise marring our flag? In the past, similar laws were found to be unconstitutional because the court ruled they violated the First Amendment. So, some people thought this Amendment would conflict with Amendment No. 1. Others just thought the flag Amendment was unnecessary. It’s not like there has been a recent rash of flag desecrations going on that only an Amendment could prevent — unless you count some of the people who wear little flags in their lapels while they act in complete defiance of what the flag stands for.

An Amendment to the Constitution is much more dramatic than simply passing a law. That’s what makes a possible Amendment so attractive to those who present themselves as professional patriots. If the “Don’t Mess With The Flag Amendment” had passed, it would have been one of only 28 Amendments passed in the history of this country. You might not think it ranks up there in importance with outlawing slavery and giving women the right to vote. But try arguing that point with those who apparently feel that since it wasn’t passed, the uncounted legions of flag desecrators will continue to roam America, free to continue to commit this offense.

As long as public officials want to avoid dealing with difficult issues, and as long as they want to be perceived as more patriotic than their opponents, there will be the potential for the Flag Amendment to be brought up again. And again. It’s quite possible that it won’t be the only proposed Amendment of questionable necessity and very little risk in terms of supporting it. In

the near future, I won’t be shocked to hear about:

THE NATIONAL ANTHEM AMENDMENT. It would guarantee that “The Star Spangled Banner” would be the official National Anthem. This will be a big blow to the lobbyists who have been pushing for “I’ve Been Working On The Railroad.” I know it’s already the National Anthem, but those who vote for this Amendment will be demonstrating just how patriotic they are.

THE AMERICAN WAY TO CROSS THE STREET AMENDMENT. It would clearly state that a red light means stop, and a green light means go. Whether it’s OK to turn right on a red light will not be a federal issue.

THE WHITE HOUSE AMENDMENT. It would prohibit any future president from having the White House painted any color but white. It may be painted off-white with two-thirds approval from both Houses of Congress.

After a while, they’ll have to look even harder for “good ol’ American issues” that need to be guaranteed by Constitutional Amendments:

THE AMERICAN DIET AMENDMENT. It would guarantee that nobody has a right to tell us to be wiser about what we eat. If we Americans want to kill themselves with fast food, that’s one of their inalienable rights. The second clause of this Amendment states that American cheese will be the official cheese of America. Foreign cheeses will continue to be viewed with suspicion.

THE AMERICAN SPORTS AMENDMENT. It would guarantee that soccer will always be called soccer in America, even though the rest of the world calls it football. Furthermore, even if it ever really catches on here, soccer is forever barred from becoming this country’s national pastime. The Constitution will recognize only those sports as “American” that don’t involve the bouncing of a ball off one’s head.

THE AMERICAN GOLF PANTS AMENDMENT. It would bar the wearing of brightly colored golf pants from anywhere in America except on a golf course. I’m no expert, but I believe this Amendment has the greatest chance of passing.

By the time you read this, some people in Washington will probably have thought of other “important and absolutely necessary” Constitutional Amendments that we can’t even imagine. But whatever they are, I guarantee they won’t be about expanding the powers of columnists.

(Lloyd Garver has written for many television shows, ranging from “Sesame Street” to “Family Ties” to “Frasier.” He also has read many books, some of them in hardcover. He writes the “Modern Times” column for CBSnews.com’s opinion page and a weekly column for SportsLine.com. He can be reached at smdp@lloydgarvermoderntimes.com.)

INTERESTED IN YOUR DAILY FORECAST?
CHECK OUT THE HOROSCOPES ON PAGE 2!

Santa Monica Daily Press

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The Q Line

Q-LINE, from page 4

Santa Monica residents by supporting local small-scale business, banning all chain-retail, reducing parking and supporting local public transit, and keeping sidewalks and public areas clean and safe for pedestrians and cyclists."

© "How big do we want Santa Monica to be? How much of a hotspot do we want it to be? It's already a huge magnet for people. About the only thing that would deter Santa Monica from being a hotspot or place that a lot of people would want to go to would be if the ocean took off and decided to leave the Pacific Coast. No ocean would certainly put a damper on things."

© "Our City Council, run by SMRR, has already successfully turned our sleepy, crime-free, clean little town into a major tourist hotspot. Tourism brings in millions of dollars, but has transformed our sweet quiet homes into a Disneyland full of noise, traffic, transients, filth and crime. Our city employees have become a gigantic, over-bloated and overpaid bureaucracy, instead of the small, friendly place it once was. The only hotspot we old residents should agree to are the torches and pitchforks we use to chase these damn Communist bureaucrats out of office."

© "I'd like it to cool down. It needs more variety in some places for residents to shop. Not just a lot of stores selling the same clothes

for teenagers. Or they could go the other way and add to present classy effect with some tattoo parlors. The Bayside District is supposed to bring in revenue, not attack the residents it doesn't even serve."

© "In answer to this week's question, ignore the Santa Monica Coalition for a Livable City. That's SMCLC."

© "Let me lend you my binoculars. I see another City Hall and Bayside train wreck greased with lots of taxpayers' money about to happen. You can't even begin to think of any kind of innovative ideas in the downtown area with the dullards who run this city. Look at the architectural boredom of the new library. Dump all the tax-gouging progressives and bring in some new people who have a common sense and a proven track record in downtown urban architecture and modernistic design. Small, interesting interactive stores, pavement lighting, observation towers, breezeways and bridges, free 24-hour parking, night-time laser store lighting and shows, and a big statue of Denny Zane astride the mall, waving a SMRR banner that says 'I never met a tax dollar I didn't like.'"

© "Stop building these big, ugly modern buildings. Get rid of all the chain stores. Bring back the charming boutiques and old-fashioned restaurants. Clean up the streets with all the trash, including the so-called homeless. Have programs to rehabilitate those who want to be part of the Santa Monica community — that will be a very pretty city by the ocean."

"Medical Breakthrough For Sciatica, Back Pain Caused By Herniated Disc"

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California hospitals could find reprieve

BY ALICIA CHANG

AP Science Writer

LOS ANGELES — California hospitals could get a break as they struggle to meet a deadline to renovate buildings in danger of buckling during a major earthquake.

State regulators want to use advanced technology to re-evaluate 1,111 medical buildings — a move that could reduce the need for costly renovations by some facilities to comply with tough safety codes passed after the deadly 1994 Northridge temblor.

"If buildings pose little or no risk to patients, then why impose millions of dollars of upgrades on them?" said Kurt Schaefer, deputy director of the Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development, which supports the new testing.

No hospitals collapsed during the magnitude-6.7 Northridge quake, but it disrupted care at two dozen medical centers and caused more than \$3 billion in hospital-related damage.

After the disaster, the state's 450 acute

care facilities were required to perform a first-ever inventory to identify shaky buildings. The 2001 survey found that 40 percent of hospital structures faced significant risk of collapse during a quake.

The evaluations primarily considered the structure of a building, including whether it was made of wood or concrete. Some facilities ended up in the high-risk category by default because operators couldn't afford to hire expert inspectors.

State regulators are now turning to computer software used by the Federal Emergency Management Agency to assess risk from natural disasters. Many experts consider it more precise in predicting possible quake damage because it factors in a region's seismicity, distance from an active fault and soil conditions.

It's unclear how the new tool might affect a hospital's current seismic rating, but state officials said they expect some buildings now flagged as most at risk could receive a safety upgrade and extra time for renovations.

The proposal to re-inspect buildings will

likely require action by the state Legislature. Schaefer expects the state to perform the reassessment at no cost to the facilities.

Under current state law, hazardous medical buildings must be retrofitted or replaced by 2008 or face stiff penalties. Facilities can win an extension until 2013 if they show the work will interfere with care. But the state is requiring that by 2030, all hospitals be able to keep treating patients after a disaster.

The California Hospital Association has persistently lobbied for relief from the upgrades, complaining that hospitals could end up spending more than \$50 billion because of skyrocketing construction costs.

"We've got to balance access to care with the need to get hospital buildings upgraded to be able to sustain a major earthquake," association spokeswoman Jan Emerson said.

Sutter Health operates 27 hospitals in Northern California and has 78 buildings listed as high-risk. Its facilities in Sacramento and the Central Valley would likely benefit from re-inspection because they are in less seismically active zones, said Carl

ON THE NET

Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development

<http://www.oshpd.cahwnet.gov/>

California Seismic Safety Commission

<http://www.seismic.ca.gov>

Scheuerman, company liaison to the state.

"It allows us to focus our limited capital on those buildings that are most in need of action," he said.

The California Seismic Safety Commission, an independent group that advises the Legislature and governor on earthquake matters, supports the new system to better gauge seismic risk.

However, Fred Turner, the panel's senior structural engineer, cautioned that it is more accurate when assessing large areas than individual buildings.

Nevertheless, Turner said it's a good step.

"We should have better smarts and tools at our disposal," he said.



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Ice Age 3: Sabertooth sighted near Wilshire

BY ANDREW GLAZER

Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES — Scientists went back to work Thursday at one of the world's richest Ice Age fossil sites, digging the tooth of a five-foot dire wolf and the toe of a sabertooth tiger from the sticky prehistoric asphalt near Wilshire Boulevard.

About 10,000 years before the arrival of mammoth traffic jams, the two beasts likely got stuck in the goo at La Brea Tar Pits while hunting a camel, horse or ground sloth, said John Harris, chief curator and head of vertebrate studies at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, which oversees the site.

Thousands of other animals made the same fatal mistake, leaving a treasure trove of well-preserved bones, plant remnants and microorganisms.

Excavation work began in 1915 and has been done every summer since 1969 to the delight of children and other visitors who watch from a glass-enclosed area overlooking the 14-foot deep pit.

"It's one of the, if not the, richest Ice Age excavation sites in the world," Harris said.

The work lasts from July 1 to Sept. 10. During the rest of the year, visitors to the nearby Page Museum can watch scientists behind a glass window scrub fossils found during the excavation.

The site is a favorite among children who let their imaginations wander as they watch tar-covered excavators move along gang-planks. s Through a fence at the park, 7-year-old Ben Guerra and his 9-year-old sister Remy got a peek at the dig.

"I like to imagine how the animals attacked the other animals who were stuck in the tar," Ben said. "Maybe they thought it was water and went to get a drink."

Last summer, scientists unearthed some 3,000 specimens from Pit 91, including bones of coyotes, horses and giant ground sloths.

While the larger bones enthrall most visitors, the remains of tiny insects, animals and microscopic organisms can be equally exciting for scientists.

While alive, those creatures were less likely to wander far from the site. As a result, their remains reveal a great deal about the character of the area tens of thousands of years ago.

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STATE BRIEFS

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NORWALK

Parolee heading back after deadly crash

A parolee who stole a tow truck shortly after being released from prison and then crashed into a group of people, killing three, pleaded guilty Thursday to three counts of murder.

Raymond David Bermudez, 30, apologized to families of his victims and was sentenced to 140 years to life in prison by Los Angeles County Superior Court Judge Philip Hickok, said Deputy District Attorney Ian Phan.

Bermudez, who was previously convicted of assault and drug possession, was released from Salinas State Prison on Oct. 6 and took a bus to Los Angeles, where he stole a tow truck in Huntington Park.

He collided with nine vehicles before he drove onto a curb and struck 11 pedestrians at a bus stop at Vernon and Santa Fe avenues.

The prosecutor said Bermudez drank throughout the day and had a 0.16 percent blood-alcohol level five hours after the crash.

Two of those killed were a husband and wife, Daniel Donrantes, 35, and Rosa Carrera, 34, who are survived by seven children.

LA QUINTA

Rise from the C-note: Salton gets \$2.2B tossed its way

The Salton Sea Authority, a myriad of water districts as well as Southern California county governments and Indian tribes, voted unanimously in favor of a \$2.2 billion plan to revive the troubled lake.

The unified step was seen as significant because the authority's plan is one of 10 concepts being considered by the California Department of Water Resources, which will recommend a plan to the Legislature by year's end.

Local, state and federal support is needed.

"My only regret is maybe we should have put something like this together before," said Andy Horne, who represents El Centro-based Imperial Irrigation District on the authority board.

Horne said the Dec. 31 deadline and a desire to keep as much water as possible flowing to the sea helped the authority's disparate groups overcome technical differences in various proposals.

The desert lake is home to 400 bird species and a key stopover for migratory birds on the Pacific Flyway. Rising salinity, an overabundance of nutrients and plans to divert some of its inflow to coastal cities threaten the future of the Salton Sea.

COSTA MESA

Cops log on, then check out with stash of fireworks

Undercover police responding to an Internet ad were led to a cache of illegal fireworks.

An undercover Costa Mesa police officer contacted the seller Wednesday and expressed interest in Roman candles, mortars and bottle rockets.

The investigator uncovered illegal explosives imported from China in two homes in Costa Mesa and Newport Beach.

"It was virtually a van full," Costa Mesa Sgt. Marty Carver said of the Newport Beach bust.

One man was booked for investigation of felony possession and sale of illegal fireworks and two others received misdemeanor citations.



ELECTION NEWS FOR SANTA MONICA RESIDENTS!

NOVEMBER 7, 2006, MUNICIPAL ELECTION

SANTA MONICA ELECTION INFORMATION:

Offices to be voted upon:

City Council	Three Seats
Rent Control Board	Three Seats
Board of Education	Four Seats
College Board of Trustees	Four Seats

Eligibility Requirements:

Candidate must be a registered voter in the jurisdiction at the time nomination papers are issued to him/her. All vacancies are for four-year terms.

Filing Period: July 17, 2006 to August 11, 2006. Nomination papers will be issued by the City Clerk starting on July 17, 2006, and throughout the nomination period. In order to qualify, a candidate must obtain at least 100 valid signatures, from voters registered in the jurisdiction, on his/her petition. Candidate Workshops will be held on July 17, 2006, at 8:30 a.m., and 5:30 p.m., at the Ken Edwards Center, 1527 4th Street, Santa Monica. Candidates not able to attend the workshops will be issued nomination papers throughout the filing period at the City Clerk's Office upon request. There is no filing fee.

Last day to Register to Vote: October 23, 2006

For information on the following related topics, please call the City Clerk's Office at 458-8211:

Elected Official Duties
Campaign Fundraising
Establishing Campaign Committees
Related Election Regulations
Initiative Process

California mower laws a cut above the rest

BY ERICA WERNER

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The federal government may use California's strict pollution rules for lawnmowers and other small-engine machines as a national standard, a top Environmental Protection Agency official said Thursday.

While environmentalists and air quality regulators would welcome the development, it would be bad news for much of the small engine industry. California aims to cut smog emissions from the highly polluting engines by about 35 percent.

Margo Oge, director of EPA's office of transportation and air quality, said implementing California's standard nationally could work well, though no final decision has been made.

"We believe harmonizing with California will be cost-effective, good for the environ-

ment, good for the industry, good for all the stakeholders," Oge said after a hearing Thursday on California's request for an EPA waiver so it can implement the rules.

"We are concerned that as other sources are being controlled, this source is going to continue to be a bigger source for air pollution, so we are pretty interested in finishing our work and putting forth cost-effective standards for the country," she said. "... A strong option that we're considering is harmonizing with California."

EPA is considering California's waiver request even as it works to write the national small-engine rules. Both decisions are expected by year's end, after lengthy delays because of opposition from Sen. Christopher "Kit" Bond, R-Mo.

Missouri is home to two factories owned by Briggs & Stratton Corp., the nation's largest small engine maker. Briggs & Stratton has resisted California's approach, which

would require adding catalytic converters to the small engines that power lawn mowers, leaf blowers, chain saws and other devices.

The company says adding catalytic converters would be so costly that jobs would have to be sent overseas, and also has contended there could be fire safety risks. An EPA study mandated by Bond rejected any safety risk when it was released in March, but Bond and the small-engine industry have criticized that finding, and the industry is funding its own, separate safety study.

No one from Briggs & Stratton testified Thursday, and officials from Honda and Kohler said they supported California's rules.

But Bill Guerry of the Outdoor Power Equipment Institute said the results of California's rules would be less availability of power equipment in the state. He said the industry has decided not to try to block California from implementing its rules, but that many in the industry don't want to see

those regulations apply nationally.

"A lot of my members are very concerned," Guerry said after the hearing. "What they're going to do to comply in California is eliminate half of their product line."

California officials testified that the rules were necessary so the state could meet federally mandated clean air attainment goals. Environmentalists and regulators from other states also testified in favor of giving the state a waiver to implement its rules and pave the way for national standards.

"I consider this regulation of major importance in our efforts to achieve clean air," said Robert Sawyer, chairman of the California Air Resources Board.

Without new rules, pollution from small engines is expected to account for 15 percent of mobile source pollution nationally by 2020. California contains more areas with high air pollution than any other state.

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LADI ROSHANIAN Ladi moved to California in 1981 from Rome, Italy, where she lived for 5 years and attended Marymount International School. After obtaining a Bachelor of Science degree from UCLA, Ladi started working for a Real Estate Investment and Management Co. in Brentwood. After 12 years, of dealing with commercial properties, she decided to switch to residential real estate. She feels that there is an indescribable satisfaction in witnessing the look on people's faces when you hand them the key to their dream home. Ladi resides in Beverly Hills, California and specializes in all of the surrounding cities. She can be reached at (310) 435-1541



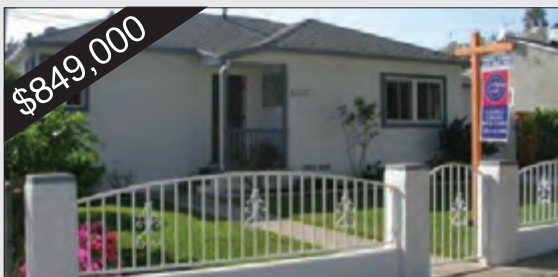
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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

BRIEFS, from page 3

Patriotic Pacific Palisadians visit the White House

By Daily Press staff

President George W. Bush gave accolades to a group of westside residents at the White House on June 26 for its support of the Armed Forces.

America Supporting Americans (ASA), a Pacific Palisades-based organization, was one of 14 groups that President Bush invited to the White House for a special meeting to discuss their work and thank them for their support of the military at home and abroad.

ASA is a member of the America Supports You Team, a national 225-member organization launched by the Department of Defense in November 2004, which unites U.S. military supporters.

The organization's goal is to provide military members with respect, care, support and to strengthen the civilian-military bond by increasing civilian understanding of the military experience. Its efforts involve writing letters, sending care packages and helping the wounded when they return to the United States.

ASA members also hope to provide servicemen and servicewomen the opportunity to become directly involved with residents of a community committed to their support.

Actor Gary Sinise, known as "Lt. Dan" in the movie "Forrest Gump," was present as a celebrity spokesperson for the campaign. Sinise is a founder of Operation Iraqi Children, a Kansas-based organization.

After the meeting, Sinise and other team members met outside the West Wing for an open news discussion about their meeting with the president.

More information may be found at www.americasupportsyounil.com.

The gospel of Judas unveiled in SM

By Daily Press staff

Galilean archeologist Jonathan L. Reed will discuss the recently published "Gospel of Judas," on Wednesday, July 5 at 7 p.m. in the fireside room of the First United Methodist Church of Santa Monica. Reed, an author, professor, and authority in first century Palestine archeology, will examine the facts, controversy and intriguing issues raised by the new Judas text. The church is located at 1008 11th St. Free underground parking is available across from the church on 11th Street. For more information, call (310) 393-8258 or visit www.santamonicaumc.org.

Program taps childrens' potential

By Daily Press staff

The Virginia Avenue Project next month will feature nine Santa Monica children each with an original play. The program uses theater arts and one-on-one mentoring to help underserved children in Santa Monica think creatively about their lives so they can discover their full potential.

"Signs of the Times" will be performed on July 7 at 7:30 p.m. and July 8, 3 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., at the Little Theater at UCLA. Admission is free, with a \$5 suggested donation. Reservations and more information can be found at (310) 264-4224 or www.VirginiaAvenueProject.org.

In June, the nine teams spend a week in a boarding school in Ojai, Calif. to rehearse their plays, eat, swim and "go on adventures." When the week is over, the company will return to Los Angeles to perform the plays for live audiences. A new set of teams will repeat the process to present their own original plays in August.

New stall tactics employed

BATHROOM, from page 1

or wash themselves, particularly those living on the streets.

"It's not how much they were used, it was how they were used," said Miriam Mack, manager of City Hall's economic development department.

As a result, the general public has shied away from using the bathrooms — located adjacent from the elevators in parking structures throughout downtown. As an alternative, people oftentimes use restaurants along the Promenade, even if they aren't customers. Many patrons in bookstores and coffee shops are turned away altogether, with the establishments no longer offering restrooms to customers as a result of having the same problems with which the city has been dealing.

"You have no idea how pleased I am to be able to send people somewhere now," said Kathleen Rawson, executive director of the Bayside District Corp., which manages downtown Santa Monica in conjunction with City Hall.

The renovated bathrooms will be staffed by attendants from 9 a.m. to midnight. The attendants — employees from City Hall's solid waste division — will wear polo shirts and oxfords to indicate their status. They

also will be asking bathroom visitors to fill out surveys detailing their experience.

But more importantly, said Mack, they will be on hand to "discourage bad behavior."

If deemed successful, city officials will look at how they might be able to fund permanent attendants for a new central bathroom facility in parking structure No. 4. That project will include a total of 26 stalls — 13 each for men and women — as part of a \$5 million retrofit for the entire parking structure, which is expected to be completed in 2007, Mack said.

"We are going to look at the effectiveness of the attendants and how the public uses the restrooms," she said.

The men's bathroom is located in parking structure No. 3, just behind the food court between Arizona Avenue and Wilshire Boulevard, between Fourth Street and the Promenade. The women's bathroom, located in parking structure No. 4, is located between Arizona Avenue and Wilshire Boulevard, between Second Street and the Promenade, just behind the Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf.

Each of the facilities have two stalls and will be open with attendants through Sept. 9, Mack said.

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Community court to handle quality of life

HOMELESS COURT, from page 1

homeless and end the revolving door of our criminal justice system," Vernez said. "We will have to continue working very closely with judges, prosecutors, public defenders and homeless providers to construct the most effective program. That's the next phase."

There is hope to have the court up and running by the end of the month. While a location has yet to be selected, Judge Bernard Kamins, who currently runs the drug court at the LAX Courthouse, has volunteered to oversee operations of the community court, which will operate for a half-day once a month.

The court will handle those cases involving quality of life crimes, such as public intoxication, camping and public defecation, according to Vernez. The community court is expected to compliment City Hall's current roster of homeless services, while simultaneously saving money by ridding the system of repeat offenders.

City officials conservatively estimate that the annual cost of providing police, paramedic and city jail services to

chronically homeless individuals can run as high as \$8,000 per person, along with substantially greater costs to the county in additional jail, court and hospital expenses.

Former Los Angeles County Supervisor and homeless czar Ed Edelman and Vernez have been working closely with Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky and homeless service providers for the last six months to develop the pilot program, modeled after community courts in New York City, which elected officials visited this winter.

The court became a reality on Monday, when county supervisors approved \$500,000 to help run the program for one year. City Hall will commit \$1.2 million in services and permanent housing.

"I can't say enough good things about Supervisor Yaroslavsky and the rest of the board of supervisors for funding this," said Councilman Richard Bloom, who represents City Hall on homeless issues. "They could have spent the money on any number of things, but for them to budget this the way they did shows they're prioritizing the homeless problem."

"We've been working hard to make sure everyone in the region makes it a priority."

Bloom, an attorney, said allocating a judge, clerk and other resources "is really a big deal," given that the judicial system is already overworked and understaffed.

Judge Linda K. Lefkowitz, supervising justice of the Superior Court, West District, characterized the court as "innovative" and said it was "long overdue."

"Very few courts have the luxury of bringing in social services," Lefkowitz said. "Usually people come in, they are sentenced to jail, community service or pay a fine, and then in a few weeks, they're right back in front of a judge. Here we are aimed primarily at rehabilitation."

With local jails underfunded and overflowing with detainees, many of those convicted of minor offenses never spend a day in jail.

"When that happens, (the homeless) are just redistributed downtown or at the airport," Lefkowitz said. "We're just moving people around, and all you accomplish is maybe getting people off the street for one night."

Lefkowitz said a 100 percent success rate is unrealistic, "but every time you help one person, they have the potential to tell other people and maybe they'll get help too."

Douridas denies any wrongdoing

DOURIDAS, from page 1

Keith Schwartz. Douridas is free on \$1 million bail and is expected back in court July 25, according to prosecutor Hamid Towfigh, who refused to disclose the amount of cocaine allegedly found in Douridas' possession.

The 43-year-old Douridas was arrested by Santa Monica police outside of the Circle Bar on Main Street shortly after midnight on Jan. 6 for narcotics possession and allegedly drugging and kidnapping a 14-year-old girl, who used a fake I.D. to gain entrance to bar.

The District Attorney's Office investigated the case for more than five months before filing the drug charge against Douridas earlier this week. Prosecutors said they found "insufficient evidence to file any additional charges" against Douridas.

Christopher Chaney, the attorney representing Douridas, said his client was pleased with the outcome of the District Attorney's investigation and was confident all along that no kidnapping charges would be filed. Douridas has steadfastly denied any wrongdoing.

Chaney said his client is "OK," but still struggling with the death of his 14-year-old daughter Marieke, who suffered a grand mal seizure and died April 30.

"This has been a tragic year for him," Chaney said. "He lost his daughter recently and everything else just pales in comparison. When I told him that the District Attorney had concluded the investigation and that no charges would be filed, he seemed to receive very little satisfaction."

"He's trying to take everything one day at a time."

KCRW Assistant General Manager Jennifer Ferro said in a statement that the station fully supports Douridas through this "difficult time."

"We know there were some who rushed to an unwarranted judgment," Ferro said. "We are hopeful this matter can be resolved in a positive way."

An employee at the Circle Bar told the Daily Press in an interview days after the arrest that he saw Douridas and another man, David Keffer of Malibu, slip something into the teen's drink, causing her to become ill within 10 minutes.

"She was crazy," witness Juan Hernandez said during the interview, describing the girl as nearly unconscious and vomiting. "I was watching them and I saw him put powder

Saying it by spraying it



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

Graffiti artists Kon (foreground) and Shmo make their marks in Venice, spraypainting the community graffiti wall at the beach.

in her drink."

When the teen became disoriented, Hernandez said Douridas and Keffer carried her outside of the bar on Main Street and placed her in a vehicle parked nearby.

The co-owner of the Circle Bar, Will Karges, said in a prior interview with the Daily Press that he convinced Douridas and Keffer to remove the girl from the car. She was allegedly placed on the sidewalk, lying face down, convulsing and unconscious.

Police and paramedics arrived a short time later and tried to revive the teen at the scene, to no avail. She was then taken to a local hospital. Her condition is not known.

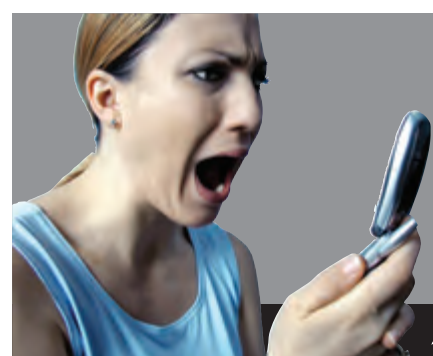
Karges said the SMPD's forensic unit showed up and cordoned off a section of the club with police tape and began surveying the crime scene. A bartender saved the supposed

tainted drink that was left on the bar and a capsule was found on the floor.

The girl looked much older than her age, Karges said. She was described as Asian, 5 feet 6 inches tall, with a body that was developed beyond her years. She was dressed nicely and accessorized. She clearly felt comfortable in a bar setting, especially since she was by herself, both Karges and Hernandez reported.

No charges have been filed against Keffer, Towfigh said.

Along with hosting "New Ground," a Saturday morning radio show that features new recording artists, Douridas has helped compile soundtracks for movies such as "Shrek 2," "As Good As It Gets," "Grosse Pointe Blank," "Austin Powers 2: The Spy Who Shagged Me" and the Academy-Award winning "American Beauty," for which Douridas was nominated for a Grammy.



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Missing molester has SMPD looking

By Daily Press staff

CITYWIDE — Santa Monica police are keeping an eye out for a registered sex offender who is prohibited from entering the city's borders.

In April of 2005, Richard Francis Gibbons was seen on several occasions loitering in the area of the 1100 block of Stanford Street, Santa Monica, where numerous juveniles live. When neighbors confronted Gibbons, he fled in a burgundy Ford Bronco.

Earlier this month, the SMPD was contacted by the Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation of Gibbons' release.

Gibbons is currently on parole for molestation. Special conditions of his parole include: He is not to enter either Santa Monica or El Segundo, not to have any contact with minor children, not to be within 100 yards of places where children congregate (schools, parks, etc.) and he is to adhere to a curfew from 7 p.m. to 7 a.m.

Gibbons is a Registered Sex Offender and is said to be drawn to elementary school-age children, particularly girls. He is a white male, 53 years of age, six-foot, one-inch tall, weighing 200 pounds, with brown hair and brown eyes (wears glasses). His last known address was in Culver City.

Anyone who spots Gibbons is asked to call the Santa Monica Police Department at 310-458-8491.

ARMED ROBBERS' WRISTS CUFFED

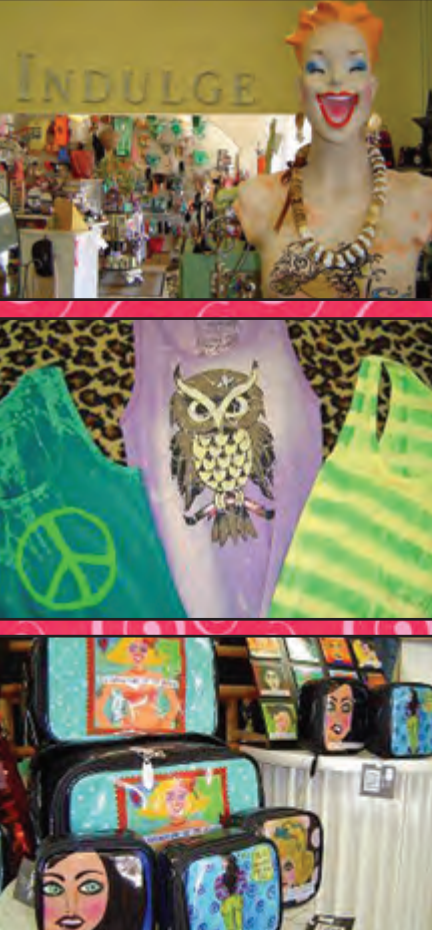
The Santa Monica Police Department also announced the arrests of two armed robbery suspects.

On June 9, detectives took into custody Sergio Abrego, of Palmdale, for armed robbery, residential burglary, and parole violation. Abrego, 23, was arrested in connection with an armed robbery that occurred on May 29 in the 200 block of Bay Street. Evidence recovered at the residential burglary lead to the identification of Abrego.

Six days later, detectives received information regarding a robbery suspect that was in custody by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department. Apparently, the suspect was arrested in an in-progress robbery at a Walgreen's Drug Store in Lakewood, California.

Santa Monica detectives spoke to the suspect, who is identified as Cecil Jerome Darby, of Los Angeles. During the interview, Darby made statements implicating himself in the robbery of a Santa Monica Walgreen's on June 1, in the 1900 block of Wilshire Boulevard.

On June 23, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office filed 13 felony counts of armed robbery against Darby. The armed robberies were committed throughout the Los Angeles County area.



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8 PAPER BAG PUPPETS

(Noon to 4pm, Center Court, Level 1)

Make a fun and furry animal puppet then put on a show in our puppet stage.

14 THE HAPPY CROWD

(11am, Community Room, Level 3)

It's concert time for kids of all ages. The Happy Crowd performs the best music for kids you'll ever hear. They'll rock the house with songs like "Happy Socks" and "Pop"! Get ready for a very special morning at KidsWorld!

15 MOSAIC DESIGNS

(Noon to 4pm, Center Court, Level 1)

Glue seeds, beans, cereal and pasta shapes to create interesting mosaic designs.

21 MAGICIAN STOIL STOILOV

(11am, Community Room, Level 3)

Our fun continues with some great morning magic. Stoil is a man of few words, and he prefers to let his magic speak for him. What makes him special is how he involves his young audience, and directs them without speaking. Stoil's show is extraordinarily hilarious, so come join the fun!

22 HUICHOL INDIAN YARN PAINTING

(Noon to 4pm, Center Court, Level 1)

Explore this Pre-Columbian tribe's painting techniques using colorful yarn.

28 WENDEE'S MUSIC

(11am, Community Room, Level 3)

If you like to hear great music in a fast-paced setting, you'll love Wendee. Her performance combines movement, music and education. We'll learn about the human body, dinosaurs and history through music and song. She'll have your kids roaring, jumping and laughing for more!

29 TISSUE PAPER FLOWERS

(Noon to 4pm, Center Court, Level 1)

Fold fabulous color tissue paper into flowers. Create a colorful bouquet.

AUGUST

4 READER'S THEATRE PROJECT

(11am, Community Room, Level 3)

Books come to life with actors, dancers and musicians.

5 TEXTURE RUBBINGS

(Noon to 4pm, Center Court, Level 1)

Use rough, smooth, soft, bumpy, lumpy textures and crayons to create a work of art.

11 READER'S THEATRE PROJECT

(11am, Community Room, Level 3)

Books come to life with actors, dancers and musicians.

12 TAMBOURINES

(Noon to 4pm, Center Court, Level 1)

Make and decorate your own musical instrument.

18 READER'S THEATRE PROJECT

(11am, Community Room, Level 3)

Books come to life with actors, dancers and musicians.

19 RUBBER STAMP BOOKMARK

(Noon to 4pm, Center Court, Level 1)

Create your own rubber stamp and print colorful designs on a bookmark.

25 READER'S THEATRE PROJECT

(11am, Community Room, Level 3)

Books come to life with actors, dancers and musicians.

26 BACK TO SCHOOL BOOK BINDING

(Noon to 4pm, Center Court, Level 1)

Bind and decorate a fancy book to use as a journal, storybook, picture book or notebook.



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When campers attack: Forest Service gets pelted

BY CHASE SQUIRES

Associated Press Writer

DENVER — U.S. Forest Service officers were slugged, elbowed and pelted with a rock when they tried to arrest some unruly campers at a gathering of the Rainbow Family near Steamboat Springs, officials said Thursday.

None of the injuries was serious, Forest Service spokeswoman Kimberly Vogel said.

The confrontation occurred Monday night but was not reported until Thursday. It was one of at least three clashes between officers and campers to occur as thousands of the Rainbow Family gather for a weeklong outing, which officially begins Saturday.

About 5,000 members of the free-spirited, loosely affiliated band of hippies have arrived at the campsite in the Routt National Forest about 30 miles north of Steamboat Springs in defiance of the Forest Service, which has refused to grant the group a permit, citing the fire danger.

Up to 20,000 are expected. Routt County Sheriff John Warner said his department is prepared for anything, but he wouldn't discuss how many officers are available. He said the sheriff's department is working with the Forest Service, Steamboat Springs police, the Colorado State Patrol and other law enforcement agencies.

About 250 campers have been cited for camping without a permit, and on Thursday forestry officials banned open fires, except in authorized fire pits.

In the Monday incident, about 200 campers surrounded 15 officers and became verbally abusive, Vogel said.

As the officers tried to arrest some of the campers, the crowd surged forward, striking at least three officers and pulling the suspects free, she said.

Campers piled on top of one suspect, blocking officers from making an arrest. One male officer was injured when someone dived at his knees, a second suffered bruises when a rock was thrown at his leg and a female officer was elbowed in the knee and face, she said.

Officers arrested one suspect, drew their batons and used pepper spray as they backed

RAINBOW FAMILY GATHERING

By The Associated Press

WHAT: The annual gathering of the Rainbow Family, a free-spirited, loosely affiliated band of hippies.

WHERE: Routt National Forest about 30 miles north of Steamboat Springs.

HOW MANY: Up to 20,000.

WORRIES: Authorities say the wildfire danger is high and access to the site is limited to a narrow dirt road.

QUOTE: "They're being tolerated at this point. Most of them are coming right through (towns) and heading up to camp." — Routt County Sheriff John Warner.

■ The Rainbow Family holds several regional gatherings and one national gathering each year.

■ In 2005, about 10,000 members camped in the Monongahela National Forest in West Virginia, according to the U.S. Forest Service.

■ In 2004, about 20,000 camped at the Modoc National Forest in California, the Forest Service said.

■ Gatherings have been held annually since 1972, according to an unofficial Web site hosted by Rainbow members, <http://www.welcomehome.org>.

■ The first gathering was in the Roosevelt National Forest near Granby, Colo., and U.S. gatherings since then have been held in national forests all over the country. European gatherings have been held in Italy, Poland, Romania, Russia, Spain and other countries.

away, Vogel said.

Vogel said forestry officials met Tuesday with a group calling themselves elders of the Rainbow Family.

"The way they explained it is there are a lot of the younger generation that come from the inner-city environment. As soon as they see law enforcement, they sort of get into a gang mentality," she said.

In the other two incidents, campers surrounded and intimidated Forest Service officers last week, once at a roadside checkpoint and once inside the camp, Vogel said.

Vogel said the Forest Service is not arresting campers or trying to break up the gathering, but officials are concerned about wildfires, sanitation and access.

Campers are spread out in eight square miles of meadow and forest where up to 60 percent of the trees have been killed by a beetle infestation and are vulnerable to fire, officials said. Forestry officials worry that if a big fire erupts, the narrow dirt access road would become clogged and campers would be trapped.

Warner said no residents have reported trouble with the campers.

"They're being tolerated at this point," he said. "Most of them are coming right through (towns) and heading up to camp."

He said the campers and the usual influx of July Fourth visitors could triple the county's usual population of about 20,000.

The Forest Service reported five arrests, two for assault on law enforcement officers and three for failing to appear on citations issued in West Virginia at last year's Rainbow Family national gathering.

Routt County deputies had made about five drug or alcohol-related arrests, Warner said. Campers cited by the Forest Service for permit violations have been appearing before a federal magistrate in a makeshift court in a fire station near the camp. The typical fine for violating the Forest Service's camping ban has been \$135 including court costs, according to Jeff Dorschner, spokesman for the U.S. attorney's office.

A judge on Thursday rejected an appeal from a Rainbow Family member to immediately move the hearings from a makeshift courthouse to a larger facility.

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

BY JAMES COSTELLO AND JOHN MCCORMACK

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

This industry report shows clearly how the traditional ways of selling homes have become increasingly less and less effective in today's market. The fact of the matter is that fully three quarters of home sellers don't get what they want for their home and become disillusioned and — worse — financially disadvantaged when they put their home on the market.

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

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

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Committee aiming to cut wasteful spending

By The Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — A congressional committee has voted to cut spending for a national nuclear waste repository in Nevada and raised questions about how the Yucca Mountain project was being redesigned.

The Senate Appropriations Committee on Thursday allocated \$494.5 million for the project in an Energy Department spending bill for 2007, \$50 million less than the Bush administration requested.

Committee members said they wanted more information from the Energy Department about how used nuclear fuel

would be packaged at reactors and managed at the repository, 90 miles northwest of Las Vegas.

Senate Minority Leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., a senior Appropriations Committee member and a Yucca Mountain repository opponent, wrote parts of the legislation — including a call for a Government Accountability Office audit of the project's budget.

In a budget report, senators told the Energy Department to limit spending on repository transportation activities and a planned waste canister handling complex at the Yucca site, and to hold spending below this year's levels on other redesign components.

"The committee is concerned that the

department is redesigning the repository with significant changes," the committee said, adding that the changes and delays in the program, "have forced the committee to reconsider the project's budget needs."

The GAO audit request grew out of a Clark County study earlier this year that suggested the Energy Department might be budgeting for engineering tasks that are premature considering the site has not been licensed, a Reid aide said.

The Yucca Mountain "go-slow" directive is in a bill that authorizes Energy Secretary Samuel Bodman to designate sites for temporary spent fuel storage in states that have

nuclear power plants.

Congress in 2002 approved the Energy Department plan to entomb 77,000 tons of the nation's most radioactive waste at the Yucca site.

The department wanted to open the dump in 2010, but allegations that government scientists skirted quality control requirements and a federal court's invalidation of the government's proposed radiation safety standards have pushed back the opening date.

The department now says it hopes to open the repository by 2020, but won't give an exact date.

It's been a long Road for Falwell and his legion of followers

BY SUE LINDSEY

Associated Press Writer

LYNCHBURG, Va. — The Rev. Jerry Falwell's conservative politics have earned him both friends and enemies in a long, public career — but there's no denying he's been a successful pastor.

Joined by thousands of supporters, Falwell will mark the half-century anniversary of Thomas Road Baptist Church on Sunday with a daylong celebration that begins with a service in a new, 6,000-seat sanctuary.

The sanctuary is just a small part of a 1 million-square-foot complex for the Falwell empire's administrative offices, Liberty University recreational facilities and classrooms and Liberty Christian Academy, which has students from preschool through high school.

Days before the opening ceremony, workmen hustled to install the raised choir loft, lay carpet around the dark gray upholstered seats, and put wall coverings over insulation.

Even unfinished, the setting bore no reminder of the church's beginnings.

Fresh out of Baptist Bible College in Springfield, Mo., a 22-year-old Falwell returned to his hometown and started his church with 35 members in an old Donald Duck soda bottling plant.

"We scraped syrup off the floors and walls," he said during a recent interview.

Falwell, whose countenance is jovial even

when talking about serious subjects, built his congregation with knuckles and shoe leather. "I began knocking on 100 doors a day, six days a week," he said. He would invite people to church, and leave them with his phone number in case they needed his help.

One year later, Thomas Road Church had 864 members; it has continued to grow dramatically. Today, the rolls number 24,000, with several hundred evangelists going door-to-door in central Virginia.

Falwell still believes in recycling old buildings, however. Everything but the church sanctuary has been converted from an 888,000-square-foot facility formerly used by Ericsson, a Swedish-based supplier of cellular phone network equipment. Parts of it are still being renovated.

Within a few weeks of starting the church, Falwell found a way to expand his reach quickly — first with a radio program, then a live Sunday night television show — the "Old Time Gospel Hour" — on the Lynchburg ABC affiliate. In 1956, the move was bold.

"Nobody else was doing it," Falwell said. Today, the preacher has his own Liberty Channel as well as shows on other cable networks.

Falwell's influence moved from strictly religious matters to politics in the 1970s, with the Supreme Court's Roe v. Wade ruling that established a woman's right to an abortion. "Believing life begins at conception, I became very exercised over this," he said.

The result was the founding of the Moral Majority in 1979, which Falwell used to mold the religious right into a political power. "He is the face of the so-called religious right in America," said the Rev. Barry Lynn, executive director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State, and a sharp Falwell critic.

Falwell hit the road, traveling some 300,000 miles a year to campaign, a schedule that he kept for 10 years and now says he realizes was costly to the church and the university. The congregation was behind him, though.

"They believed that his voice was an important voice, and if that meant sharing him with other people they were willing to do it," said Mark DeMoss, his executive assistant from 1984 to '91.

Falwell was able to travel extensively and still lead a congregation, DeMoss said, because he never stopped being a pastor.

"Even as busy as his schedule was, he still was visiting people in Lynchburg's two hospitals several times a week," he said, as well as performing weddings and conducting funerals for everyone who asked.

These days, slowed by health problems and a desire to focus on his ministry, Falwell has pulled back from politics somewhat.

While possible presidential contender Sen. John McCain was Liberty's commencement speaker in May, and another potential GOP contender, Virginia Sen. George Allen, has been invited to speak at Sunday's festi-

ties, Falwell carries the weight of being a polarizing figure. Even among evangelicals who share his views, he is sometimes considered tactless in his public comments.

After the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, Falwell partly blamed the tragedy on groups that "tried to secularize America," singling out pagans, abortionists, feminists, gays and the American Civil Liberties Union. "God continues to lift the curtain and allow the enemies of America to give us probably what we deserve," Falwell said. He later apologized.

Falwell has taken steps to ensure the future stability of both the church and the university, DeMoss said. One son, Jerry Jr., is a lawyer who manages the finances, while Jonathan preaches at several of the five regular Sunday services.

Falwell said he views his church as the fulcrum of his ministry, but Liberty University will be his legacy.

"The university produces thousands of young men and women trained as Christian leaders," he said.

Founded in 1971, Liberty now has 9,600 students on campus and another 15,000 in its distance learning program. A law school opened in 2004, and Falwell's goal is to have 25,000 on the campus in 13 years.

"At 72, I have to make all my licks count," he said.

The university began as an offshoot of Thomas Road but once it began to grow, the old church was too small to accommodate the students.

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She's producing Paradise

Former shy schoolgirl is rocking the Spanish-language scene

BY YVONNE WINGETT

Associated Press Writer

PHOENIX — Melek Portillo sashays through the narrow hallways of her music company to a large meeting room that showcases guitars, gem-studded belt buckles and bottles of tequila signed by Latino artists Mana, Soraya and Vicente Fernandez.

She kisses the cheeks of several music label executives in town to update her on the summer's hot new albums. Images of reggaeton and pop stars flash across a big screen TV.

She has come a long way from the quiet university girl, born Melek Akcay, who immigrated from Turkey in 1983 with a new husband and little money. Portillo, who lives in the Phoenix suburb of Paradise Valley, is now president of Angelica's Record Distributors Inc.

At 43, she is one of the three largest wholesale Spanish-language music distributors in the country. Portillo has built a multimillion-dollar music machine in a male-dominated industry, striking profitable business deals with music label giants.

Confidence, courage and a warm personality have helped her escape a sweaty 10-by-20-foot space at a west Phoenix swap meet and move to a glitzy two-story building at the end of a cul-de-sac.

In 1985, a 22-year-old Portillo, her first husband and 1-year-old son Steven moved to an Avondale mobile-home park. In Turkey, she was studying to become a teacher, so she started night school at Phoenix College studying Spanish.

Meanwhile, her mother-in-law helped her get a job sewing bridal gowns for \$3.25 an hour.

The following year, she asked a friend if he knew of anyone who needed help on the weekends. She started working at the swap meet for a couple from Jerusalem, earning \$20 a day. She'd sell hundreds of cassettes, ranging from mariachi to rock. Her customers were mostly Spanish-speakers.

"At the time, I didn't know the language," she said. "(The owners) said, 'Just look pretty and count the money.' I watched them bring product in boxes and I saw it was easy, just a table as big as my desk."

Four months later, Portillo quit her day job and bought several hundred cassettes from the couple and rented a space of her own. Over the next two years, she got through a divorce and worked the swap meets.

Few people were filling the Phoenix area's high demand for Spanish-language music, Portillo said. Cassettes were hard to come by outside of Los Angeles and those who did have connections with large distributors refused to share contacts. Being a non-Hispanic woman also didn't help.

Around 1987, a sympathetic swap-meet neighbor — an elderly man who sold canned goods — offered to take her with him on his next run to Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, across the border from El Paso. She found a distributor and bought \$2,000 worth of music and exchanged information. She marked up the cassettes 10 percent and made a profit at the swap meet.

Over the next several years, she began ordering wholesale

from major music labels.

"All of the sudden, everyone was buying from me," she said. "This whole town was buying from me."

She hired someone to work the space while she drove a van to New Mexico and across Arizona, selling cassettes at flea markets and small music stores.

By 1989, the mother of two set up her first store. She named the store after herself: Melek is Turkish for angel. She rented space at other indoor swap meets and opened a small space at K-Momo, a clothing store.

In the early 1990s, she met Luis Portillo, who worked for the Mexican distributor. They teamed up to sell music in the U.S. and married in 1994. That same year, she had her third child, Jonathan, and rented a 5,000-square-foot store in west Phoenix. She flipped through the phone book to call store owners from Texas to Tennessee, urging them to buy from Angelica's.

Her tenacity, combined with the region's exploding Hispanic population and demand for rock, pop, norteno, banda and mariachi, helped sales climb from tens of thousands of CDs annually to millions. She negotiated deals with more record labels, and the CDs were ordered out of the warehouse almost as quickly as she received them.

She expanded her business, opening a warehouse in Denver in 1995, and another in Dallas two years later. The Phoenix operations outgrew the building and in November 1999, she moved down the street to a brand-new \$2 million headquarters. Three years later, she and her second husband divorced.

"This is the fruit of my labor," she said, waving her hand around the building. Pop music drifts in from across the hall.

Pictures of Portillo posing with Latin superstars line shelves. Backstage photos with Chayanne when he played the Dodge Theater. With Shakira at the superstar's release party at her Miami home.

She walks through the 39,000-square-foot office space. She passes her employees, who negotiate deals with music labels EMI-Capitol Records, Universal Music and Sony BMG Music Entertainment. Cubicles filled with young women with headsets work deals with independent music stores. In a separate area, mom-and-pop buyers from around Arizona learn about new releases and order music in person.

Angelica's sells about 5 million CDs and DVDs to these stores yearly. The Arizona market makes up about 25 percent of those sales.

Portillo moves through an air-conditioned warehouse where a worker assembly line fills orders, packs boxes and chitchats. More than 500 rows of shelves are filled with almost every type of music. Her managers can run the day-to-day business without her but Portillo loves to come. Also engaged, Portillo couldn't be happier.

"I love getting the new releases, getting to see what's coming out in the next two to three weeks," she says. "I love having companies over, and catching up on gossip in L.A. with the artists, the companies, and upcoming events. ..."

"At one point, I remembered nothing but working, working, working. Now I'm enjoying life."

Message loud, clear: Defense shuns suit to allow Navy sonar

BY LOLITA C. BALDOR

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The Defense Department granted the Navy a national security exemption Friday for the use of sonar during a maritime exercise, sidestepping a lawsuit that sought to protect whales from the noise.

Environmental groups sued the federal government on Wednesday to prevent the Navy from using sonar during maritime exercises off Hawaii, saying the sound could harm whales and other marine mammals.

The exercise began this week, but the sonar portion of it will not begin until after Tuesday, the Navy has said.

The six-month exemption will allow the exercise to continue without a permit from U.S. regulators. And it will exempt the Navy from any requirements of the Marine Mammal Protection Act for that time.

Rear Adm. James Symonds, director of environmental readiness, said the Navy will continue to abide by the permit agreement forged with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration earlier this week.

"The Navy will continue to employ stringent mitigation measures to protect marine mammals during all sonar activities, to include habitat controls, safety zones around ships, trained lookouts, extra precautions during chokepoint exercises, in coordination with National Marine Fisheries Service," he said.

Symonds said the exemption period will give the Navy time to work with NOAA on long-term plans to comply with marine mammal protections and other environmental requirements.

NOAA on Tuesday granted the Navy a permit to use mid-frequency active sonar, which can affect marine mammals' behavior. It was the first time such a permit had been granted to the Navy. The monthlong exercise, which includes anti-submarine training, involves naval forces from eight nations.

NOAA determined that the exercise would cause no significant environmental impact, and concluded that the Navy's use of the sonar was not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of threatened and endangered species — including the Hawaiian monk seal — in the exercise areas.

As part of the permit agreement, the Navy said sonar operators will reduce active sonar power by 75 percent if a marine mammal is spotted within 1,094 yards of the ship, and drop it further if mammals are detected within 547 yards. They will turn off the sonar if the mammal is detected within 219 yards.

The exemption came after the Natural Resources Defense Council asked a federal court in Los Angeles to issue a temporary restraining order unless the Navy takes "effective measures" to comply with legal protections for marine life when it uses high-intensity, mid-frequency active sonar to hunt submarines in the drills.

Under the defense authorization law for fiscal year 2004, the secretary of defense, after consultation with the secretary of commerce, has the authority to approve such exemptions for national security reasons.



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Santa Monica Daily Press
MOVIEGUIDE
SHOWTIMES: JULY 1-2, 2006

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1328 Montana Avenue
(310)395-4990

Friday, June 30
Ghostbusters 7:30

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

The Break-Up (PG-13)
11:40am, 2:20, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30
Cars (G)
10:40am, 1:25, 4:20, 7:05, 9:50
The Da Vinci Code (PG-13)
12:25, 3:50, 7:00, 10:15
Nacho Libre (PG)
12:00, 2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30
Superman Returns (PG-13)
10:15am, 11:30am, 12:30, 1:35,
3:00, 4:00, 5:00, 6:30, 7:30, 8:30,
10:00, 10:50, 11:30

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

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

Landmark Nuwilshire
1314 Wilshire Blvd
(310)281-8228

The Heart of the Game (PG-13)
2:10, 7:10
Thank You for Smoking (R)
11:40am, 4:45, 9:45
Who Killed the Electric Car? (PG)
12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 9:50

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

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

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

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

More Information calendar@smdp.com



Hasselhoff in bright lights

By The Associated Press

LONDON



HASSELHOFF

David Hasselhoff had surgery after severing a tendon in his right arm in an accident in a London gym bathroom, his spokeswoman said.

The 53-year-old actor, who played lifeguard Mitch Buchannon on the TV beach drama "Baywatch" for 11 years, was shaving at a gym in the Sanderson Hotel on Thursday when he hit his head on a chandelier, showering his arm with broken glass, his publicist, Judy Katz, said Friday.

Doctors operated to repair the injury and Hasselhoff spent one night at St. Thomas' Hospital in central London, Katz said.

"He's fine," Katz said by phone from New York. "He's out of the hospital and will resume filming tomorrow."

Hasselhoff is working on an ad campaign for Pipex, a British internet company, she said.

WELLINGTON, New Zealand

Denzel wants action, Jackson



WASHINGTON

Denzel Washington says he wants Peter Jackson to provide the special effects for a film he plans to direct, a newspaper has reported.

The Oscar-winning actor told the Dominion-Post in Friday's editions that he had discussed the project with Jackson during a four-day visit to Wellington this week. He declined to provide other details.

Washington said the movie would likely be released in two years.

Jackson's Weta Workshop and Weta Digital provide special effects services for major movies.

Jackson, who won a best director's Oscar for "The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King," is working on a film version of Alice Sebold's best-selling novel "The Lovely Bones." Jackson, 44, is also expected to be the executive producer of a movie based on

the popular video game Halo.

Washington, 51, won Oscars for his roles in "Glory" and "Training Day."

LOS ANGELES

Little soldiers get Cage's cash



CAGE

Nicolas Cage has donated \$2 million to help former child soldiers worldwide.

The donation by the Oscar-winning actor will help provide shelters and medical and psychological rehabilitation services, said Larry Cox, executive director of Amnesty International USA.

Cox accepted the donation Wednesday at a United Nations Conference in New York. Amnesty International will administer the funds.

"I understand that this pledge is not a solution for the problem," Cage, 42, said when he announced the contribution by video.

"It's my hopeful wish that today's discussions on this tragic subject at the United Nations conference may bring us closer to eradicating the nightmare of child soldiers."

Cage said he has worked with Amnesty International for more than two years.

The United Nations estimates there are at least 300,000 child soldiers participating in armed conflicts in the world today.

Cage won an Oscar for his role in 1995's "Leaving Las Vegas."

LOS ANGELES

Baby is out of 'Order'



HARGITAY

Mariska Hargitay, star of TV's "Law & Order: SVU," and her husband Peter Hermann welcomed their first child, her publicist told The Associated Press.

Hargitay delivered a baby boy named August by Caesarean section Wednesday in Los Angeles, publicist Leslie Sloane Zelnick said

Thursday in an e-mail.

"Mariska and the baby are doing great," she said. People magazine and Us Weekly reported the baby was a week overdue but Zelnick would not confirm or deny that.

Hargitay, 42, and Hermann, an actor, married in August 2004.

The actress won a Golden Globe last year for NBC's "Law & Order: SVU."

Her mother, blond screen siren Jayne Mansfield, died in a car crash in 1967. Hargitay's father is former bodybuilder Mickey Hargitay.

STOCKTON, Calif.

Raw deal: Schneider goes down



SCHNEIDER

Former "Saturday Night Live" cast member Rob Schneider was taken to a Northern California hospital after collapsing from food poisoning and heat exhaustion during the filming of an upcoming movie.

Schneider, 42, was filming the comedy "Big Stan" at a women's prison near Stockton, about 80 miles east of San Francisco in the

San Joaquin Valley where temperatures have soared above 100 in recent days.

"The combination of bad food and the heat just hit him," said his publicist, Shara Koplowitz. She did not know what he ate but said he was treated at San Joaquin General Hospital and released Wednesday.

"He's back on the set directing today," she said Thursday.

Firefighters were called out to the set for several cases of heat exhaustion since the movie shoot began earlier this month, said firefighter Michael Olizas with the Montezuma Fire District.

Schneider, who recently starred in "The Benchwarmers" and "Deuce Bigalow: European Gigolo," is directing the new movie in which he plays Big Stan, a con man locked up on fraud charges who learns kung fu to defend himself against other inmates



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by Julie Larson



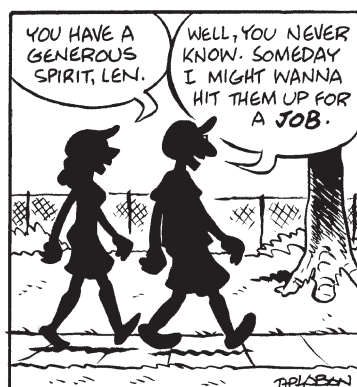
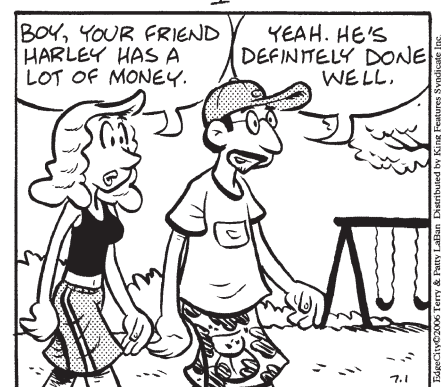
Natural Selection

By Russ Wallace



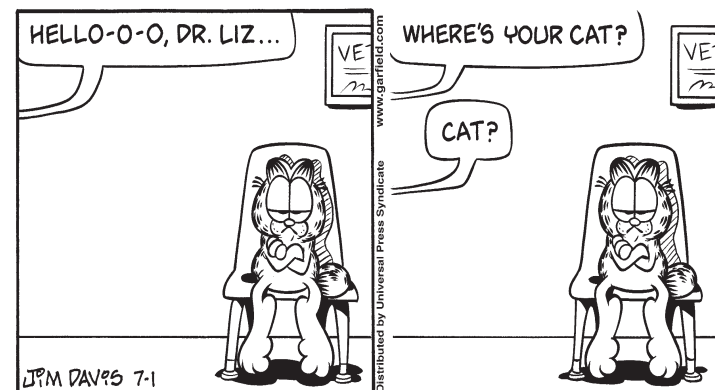
edge city

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Garfield

By Jim Davis



Speed Bump

By Dave Coverly



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Play group
- 5 Snifter part
- 9 Writer Levi
- 10 Academy attendee
- 12 Hunter of myth
- 13 Stomach
- 14 "Piece of cake!"
- 16 Father's Day gift
- 17 Brewpub product
- 18 Iberia native
- 20 Trojan War sage
- 22 Fancy planters
- 23 Workout by-products
- 25 Flimflam
- 28 Snare
- 32 Fleet honcho
- 34 Imitating
- 35 Stellar cat
- 36 "Lou Grant" star
- 38 Skylit lobbies
- 40 Make movie changes

- 41 Sender's need
- 42 Paces
- 43 Yodelers' place
- 44 Some linemen

DOWN

- 1 King of music
- 2 Originates
- 3 Poky
- 4 "Wild Thing" rapper
- 5 Sings like Ella
- 6 File part
- 7 Post man?
- 8 Highway strip

- 9 Role for Arnold
- 11 Cold forecast
- 15 Dolt
- 19 Small statue
- 21 Curbside cry
- 24 Blow up
- 25 Bears founder

- 26 One-named folksinger
- 27 Ignoring ethics
- 29 Noisome
- 30 Some Alaskans
- 31 Divides
- 33 Gathers
- 37 P. Diddy's first name
- 39 Little devil

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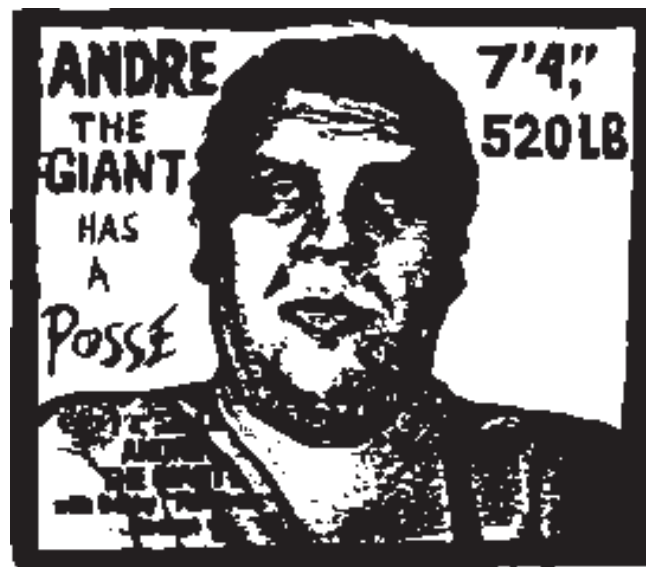
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FOR 27 MONTHS
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CD CHANGER

\$369
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\$369.88 + tax first months payment for 27 months on approved credit. \$3904 cap cost reduction + \$1095 acquisition fee = \$4999 total due at signing (\$0 security deposit). MSRP \$52,325. Tier 1 Credit. 7.5K Miles/yr. 25¢ per mile excess. OTHERS AT SIMILAR SAVINGS.

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AND MORE!

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.88¢ TAX
PER MONTH
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\$699.88 + tax first months payment for 39 months on approved credit. \$3904 cap cost reduction + \$1095 acquisition fee = \$4999 total due at signing (\$0 security deposit). MSRP \$66,655. Tier 1 Credit. 7.5K Miles/yr. 25¢ per mile excess. OTHERS AT SIMILAR SAVINGS.

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'02 CLK 320	RED TAG PRICE ~~\$26,984~~	\$26,984
COUPE, WHITE/ASH, CD, LOW MILES, CERTIFIED, 2T103918		
'03 ML350	ASKING PRICE ~~\$26,981~~	\$27,981
INSPIRATION PACKAGE, CERTIFIED, 3A411038		
'03 C320	ASKING PRICE ~~\$26,981~~	\$27,981
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'00 S430	ASKING PRICE ~~\$39,981~~	\$31,981
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'03 E500	ASKING PRICE ~~\$44,981~~	\$38,982
TECTITE/CHARCOAL, SPORT, CERTIFIED, 3A201522		
'02 CL500	ASKING PRICE ~~\$54,981~~	\$52,981
BLACK/BLACK AND MORE! CERTIFIED, 2A021945		
'02 S55	ASKING PRICE ~~\$56,981~~	\$52,984
SILVER/CHARCOAL, CHROMES, CERTIFIED, 2A259668		
'03 SL500	RED TAG PRICE ~~\$64,984~~	\$64,984
SPECIAL LAUNCH ED, NEW CAR TRADE, CERTIFIED, 3F00902		
'03 SL500	RED TAG PRICE ~~\$73,981~~	\$73,981
RED, SPORT AND MORE CERTIFIED, 4F071439		
'05 S600	ASKING PRICE ~~\$99,984~~	\$89,983
NEW CAR TRADE, CERTIFIED, 5A452502		

RED TAG MERCEDES-BENZ

'95 E320 CAB	ASKING PRICE ~~\$29,981~~	\$24,980
CABRIOLET, BLK/BLK, CHROMES, CD, MUST SEE! SC279701		
'06 CLS 500	RED TAG PRICE ~~\$CALL!!!~~	\$CALL!!!
SPORT/PREMIUM PACKAGES, KEYLESS, LOW 3K MI 6M067452		

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PEWTER/CHARCOAL, SIRIUS RADIO
3F034567
ASKING PRICE ~~\$84,981~~ **\$79,988**

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BLACK/TAN, NEW CAR TRADE, XM087719		
'01 DISCOVERY S	RED TAG PRICE ~~\$15,982~~	\$15,982
BLACK/TAN, DUAL MOONROOFS, 1A730566		
'03 MAZDA MIATA	RED TAG PRICE ~~\$16,981~~	\$16,981
BLACK/BLACK, 30301136		
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BLACK/BLACK, CD, 34030906		
'99 LANDCRUISER	ASKING PRICE ~~\$20,981~~	\$19,981
GREEN/TAN, NEW CAR TRADE, 2065005		
'03 M45	ASKING PRICE ~~\$26,984~~	\$24,984
CHARCOAL/BLACK, VALUE PRICED, 004514		
'02 BMW 525i	ASKING PRICE ~~\$27,981~~	\$24,981
BLACK/BLACK, SPORT/PREMIUM PACKAGES, 2G40391		
'03 BMW X5 3.0	ASKING PRICE ~~\$30,981~~	\$26,984
SILVER/CHARCOAL, NEW CAR TRADE, 3LP27132		
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NEW CAR TRADE, SILVER/CHROME, 40004344		
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