

FREE

SATURDAY, JULY 6, 2002

Volume 1, Issue 204

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues.

For historic Aero Theater, the show's nearly over

BY TRAVIS PURSER

Special to the Daily Press

The Aero cinema is a throwback. The seats are wood, metal and cloth, with no cup holders. And there's no parking.

Its finicky, outdated projector has been known to spontaneously self-destruct with a loud bang and turn a show into an unintentional cliffhanger.

Still, many love the World War II-era movie house. To them, it is a quaint neighborhood treasure that was Robert Redford's boyhood cinema and where today, patrons go for a low-key slice of history. To them, it represents the soul of Montana Avenue.

But all that is poised to disappear.

The theater's operator, Chris Allen, is scrambling to raise \$60,000 this month through donations and increased sales, or he'll go out of business July 31, he said. The building's owners, who for years have allowed the \$10,000 monthly rent to go unpaid for months at a time, have now given Allen an ultimatum: pay up, or get out.

Paying the back rent still won't give Allen any guarantees in operating the theater in the future, since he operates on a month-to-month lease with James Rosenfeld and Rosenfeld's business partner in Chicago, who own the building, located on Euclid Street and Montana Avenue.

Allen said the theater has always struggled financially, but over the last several years,

fewer and fewer people have come through the doors, while the rent has remained the same. As other forms of entertainment move into the area, there are just too many other things for people to do, Allen said.

"Everybody walks by here and says, 'I love this place.' And none of them come in here."

— STEVE SMART

Aero employee

Rosenfeld was not available for comment Friday. His assistant, however, said the owners were negotiating to bring in a new theater operator. The assistant declined to give further details.

Like any well-plotted drama, the recent history of the Aero is filled with such twists and turns. In May 2000, a representative for Robert Redford announced to the Santa Monica City Council that the actor/director had plans to buy the theater and restore it as part of a planned

See AERO, page 5



Andrew H. Fixmer/Daily Press

Chris Allen, operator of the Aero Theater on Montana Avenue, is trying to keep the historic movie house alive.

The cost of bad luck is resolved in small claims court

BY JOHN WOOD

Special to the Daily Press

With a better fortune teller, Gurpreet Chaddah could have predicted that a legal headache was headed her way.

Chaddah paid Beverly Hills psychic Ross Marks \$7,700 in an effort to thwart a run of bad luck. Marks told Chaddah that if she didn't give her the money, Chaddah would have horrible life tragedies coming to her. Chaddah gave the psychic the money. She thought she

could buy protection for her and her family.

"She showed me some of her black magic and told me, 'Your brother is going to have an accident.' And then she told me, 'You have a devil inside you,'" Chaddah said. "She just scared me so much."

Even better, Chaddah thought, was Marks' guarantee to re-pay some of the money. Marks had told her the only way to avert the bad luck was if the psychic held onto the money for as long as she felt it was necessary, Chaddah reported.

But bad luck came to Chaddah anyway, in the form of her reported failure to get her money back from Marks. Chaddah sued in small claims court this week in an attempt to collect the money she alleged Marks failed to repay her.

So Chaddah forked over the cash under the condition that she would be repaid by Marks in monthly increments. But several months later, Chaddah had only been repaid \$2,400.

"She said she was going to give it back," Chaddah said.

Small Claims Judge Pro Tem Stuart Rissman ruled that Marks must pay Chaddah \$5,000 based on her testimony. It also helped greatly that it was a "default" judg-

See FORTUNE, page 5

Man wins hot dog eating contest

BY LARRY MCSHANE

Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK — He gorged, and gulped, and nearly gagged.

And then, in a last-minute feeding frenzy, Takeru Kobayashi of Japan — the Michael Jordan of hot dog eating — defended his world title Thursday by gobbling a world record 50 1/2 franks in just 12 minutes.

Antacid, anyone?

The reed-thin Kobayashi plowed through an average of one hot dog every 14.25 seconds to insure he would retain the mustard yellow championship belt in the 87th competition at Nathan's Famous in Coney Island.

The 5-foot-7 Kobayashi, despite the 94-degree heat and stifling humidity, managed to barely beat his 2001

mark of 50 hot dogs.

"The heat was inhuman," said Rich Shea, spokesman for the event organizer, the International Federation of Competitive Eating. "This proves he is the finest athlete in the world."

As he did last year, the 24-year-old Kobayashi employed the "Solomon method" — snapping the hot dogs in half, then simultaneously shoving both pieces into his mouth.

Since 1996, the Japanese have dominated the annual Fourth of July competition. The only U.S. winner since then was New Jersey's Steve Keiner in 1999.

Before the contest, Kobayashi was the lightest of the 20 competitors, weighing in at 113 pounds. After his record-setting performance, his weight had ballooned to 129, Shea said.

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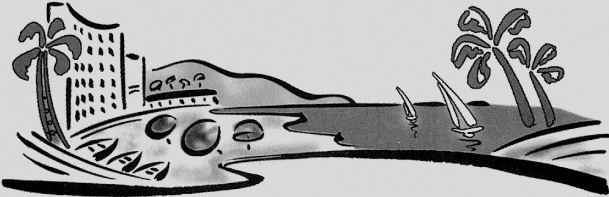
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ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Don't make much ado about nothing! Confusion could quickly derail plans. Use this time as an opportunity to do something just for yourself — something special you have been putting off! Listen to a neighbor's news. Swap key information. Tonight: Out and about.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Use the morning hours to deal with an authority figure or to finalize an important agreement. You could be surprised at another's actions or words. Plan on a lengthy, late lunch with a buddy or dear friend. Catch up on news. Tonight: Your treat.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Use the morning to complete a personal matter. Others seek you out later on, and you won't have a spare second! Good news comes forward involving a trip or someone at a distance. Remain secure, even if you're feeling a bit emotional. Tonight: What's your pleasure?



CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ Zero in on what you need to do this morning. Your instincts prove to be a formidable resource with money, feelings and a partnership. Use them. Later in the day, you might want some downtime just for yourself. Don't hesitate to take it! Tonight: Do your own thing.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ Listen well to suggestions that come your way. A parent or boss means what he or she says. Consider the most successful path to the end results you seek. A friend points out the way. Do listen. Unexpected developments surround relationships. Tonight: Where your friends are.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★★ Return calls, especially to those who aren't around you. News could put a different slant on work or a parent. Review recent decisions. Emphasize a strong association in your life. Consider alternatives that surround work- or health-related matters. Tonight: Bring others together.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ Your efforts come back in multiples. A child or loved one demonstrates his or her caring, but it could be in the form of a tantrum! Detach and view a situation with greater insight. You don't need to become aggravated; rather, choose to be flattered! Tonight: Do something totally new!



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ Work with others early on, but plan on some exclusive time with a friend or loved one. Your sense of humor helps you get past another's eruptive temper or displays of anger. A discussion might not get you far right now, but it will later. Tonight: Be a duo.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★ How another feels could change given a little time (like a day!). Give others space during the daytime. Do something you enjoy. Clear your desk and catch up on another's news. Your playful nature brings a smile later on. Tonight: Follow the crowd.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Allow your imagination to speak. Brainstorm with others and get together with your pals. Work with mixed financial news. You might not be exactly sure about a decision you need to make. If you can, wait awhile. Tonight: Do something totally nurturing for yourself.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Personal matters still veer to the forefront. Deal with your must-dos in order to have a more enjoyable and relaxing time. Consider a child or loved one's overture this afternoon. The two of you let go and have a ball together. Tonight: Play out a fantasy.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ Wonder less and enjoy more. Ask questions and find out what is going on with others. You don't need to be the magnet that draws everyone. Give yourself permission to play it low-key. You don't need to let another know what you are always thinking. Tonight: Stay close to home.



QUOTE of the DAY

“Alimony is like buying
oats for a dead horse.”
— Arthur Baer (1896-1975)

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LOCAL

Auto dealership not at fault for overheating car

BY DAVE DANFORTH
Daily Press Staff Writer

A lawsuit against an auto dealership for failing to diagnose a car's problem must carry specific proof to be successful, a Santa Monica judge reminded an unlucky pair in court Friday.

Carmelo and John Amoroso — father and son — sued Honda of Santa Monica. They blamed the dealership's mechanic for failing to discover the cause of their 1996 Prelude's chronic overheating. They said by the time another dealer found the problem, they had to replace the engine at a cost of \$3,277.

But when neither father nor son could state in court why the car had overheated, Judge Julius Title strongly hinted he would rule against them.

"What did they do wrong?" Title asked about Honda of Santa Monica. He said the father and son had failed to show that an earlier and apparently unrelated repair job was responsible for the car's problems.

It was one hot car. The Amorosos, from Agoura, Calif., brought the overheating Prelude to the Honda dealership no fewer than six times between May and December of last year, they testified. They also took it to another Honda dealership in Thousand Oaks twice in an apparently unsuccessful attempt to get it fixed.

A third dealership finally fixed it by replacing the engine. But that dealership wrote a note suggesting that whatever caused the overheating, the heat had probably caused the water and coolant to mix together, harming the engine.

The Amorosos apparently confused the judge and their case by suggesting that an earlier repair by the Honda shop in Santa Monica — for the timing belt and water pump — had somehow caused the problem.

"You can't tell me that the work they did caused the overheating," Judge Title declared. John Amoroso based the case on a guarantee by the Honda shop that "we're going to make it good."

But Honda technician Joey Abe said in court that he couldn't get the car to "duplicate" the overheating when it was in his shop. The only further bill to the Amorosos, for \$254, came when he decided to replace the fan switch and thermostat as precautionary measures.

Judge Title suggested he would award

the Amorosos only the \$254. He said the Honda dealership was liable only for any damage it clearly caused. When the Amorosos couldn't prove that the Honda shop had hurt the car, their case apparently fizzled.

"They didn't fix it," complained Carmelo Amoroso. "Their not fixing it destroyed it."

"They didn't fix it. Their not fixing it destroyed it."

— CARMELO AMOROSO
Plaintiff

Had they argued that point up front, they might have convinced Judge Title. The Amorosos did not argue clearly that a Honda dealership, apparent experts on Hondas, should have been able to duplicate and diagnose the overheating problem before it ruined the engine. Instead, they became involved in a long discourse with the judge about what caused the overheating and whether the original unrelated repair job had anything to do with it.

Had they pursued that path, however, they probably would have needed an "expert" to testify that the overheating actually damaged the engine and that the Honda shop should have figured it out.

Judge Title heard the case "de novo" on Friday — a re-trial of an earlier case. He will likely issue his formal ruling Monday. The judge is known for relentless and pointed questioning as he seeks to cut to the chase.

The Amorosos appeared to start off poorly when they began with a chronology of their car's problems without stating their case, or "cause of action."

At one point, John Amoroso began blaming the Honda dealership by saying how he "felt."

But Judge Title cut him off. "What you feel is not the issue," he snapped.

Family fun in the sun



Del Pastrana/Daily Press

A family spends some recreational quality time together on the Santa Monica boardwalk one recent sunny afternoon.



Small, clean, morning surf improves as southwest swell peaks this afternoon. Expect waist- to chest-high waves in the north bay, Leo Carrillo and Zero's among the choice spots. Topanga and Surfrider stay shadowed from the swell, leaving those breaks with inconsistent ankle- to waist-high surf.

Onshore winds pick up in the afternoon, and water temperature remains in the low 60s for the weekend. (Information compiled by Jesse Haley.)

Location	Saturday	Sunday	Water Quality
County Line	2-4'/Fair	2-4'/Fair	A
Zuma	2-4'/Fair	2-4'/Fair	A
Surfrider	2-3'/Fair	2-3'/Fair	A
Topanga	2-3'/Fair	2-3'/Fair	A
Breakwater	2-3'/Fair	2-3'/Fair	A
El Porto	2-3'/Fair	2-4'/Fair	A

Tides:

	2:12 A.M. Low .047'	8:21 A.M. High 3.20'	12:54 P.M. Low 2.19'	7:18 P.M. High 5.48'
Saturday				
	2:48 A.M. Low -0.01'	9:07 A.M. High 3.35'	1:35 P.M. Low 2.26'	7:53 P.M. High 5.79'
Sunday				

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OPINION

LETTERS

Sad to see the museum go

Editor:

At first, unfocused glance, I thought your story (on July 4, 2002) referred to the closing the Santa Monica Airport, and my heart skipped a beat. Then, I zeroed in to discover that is the Museum of Flying which is leaving the airport, and is being relocated elsewhere. How silly of me to even dream of the closure of the Santa Monica Airport, no less think I see it in print. I've been to the Museum of Flying with children. For half a minute I felt a hint of sadness over the fact that I will no longer be able to visit the airport, and bring guests and children there. It was a brief moment of gloom. For those enthusiasts of the museum, I extend my condolences. I am not one of them. I wish the airport was going with them too.

Perhaps, if it is unsafe to fly the planes in compliance with the city's noise ordinance, as Dan Ryan, the museum's executive director indicates, then the planes should not be flown at all. After all, these World War II planes are 60 or more years old, so it may be time to retire them, especially if they present a danger to the surrounding community. I have to admit that I do not know much about planes, so I don't know about the necessity of flying these particular ones on a regular monthly basis. It would seem to me that the museum's purpose is to house them, and not necessarily fly them.

Julia Reeves
Santa Monica

Clearing the air on smoke-free parks

Editor:

I applaud our civic leaders for working to keep tobacco smoke out of our beautiful parks. Why should our children and the vast majority of adults who choose not to smoke be subjected to secondhand smoke when enjoying healthy activities in our parks? Alcohol is not illegal, yet we wisely ban its consumption in our parks. Why should cigarettes be different, especially when their deadly effects are not limited to the smokers themselves? I look forward to celebrating a new law that will be good for the health of all who enjoy our parks.

Susanne Resnick
Santa Monica

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

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LOCAL



Theater calls for help

AERO, from page 1

chain of independent movie houses.

Theater fans were relieved the Aero, located on a street that is fast becoming the Rodeo Drive of Santa Monica, had been saved from conversion to a clothing store, as so many other small theaters have become. But Redford's plan later unraveled due to financial problems. Allen thinks patrons would have been more supportive if they knew that.

The Wilshire/Montana Neighborhood Association and the North of Montana Association petitioned the city's Landmark Commission to declare the theater a historical landmark three years ago. But the associations withdrew the petition in 2000 because landmark status could have hindered the deal with Redford.

Landmark status limits changes to the architecture of a building. Even owners who wish to restore a building to its historical appearance sometimes view the status as a hindrance.

And the status does not preserve a building's historic use, only its appearance. Other theaters with landmark status have been turned into GAP stores and restaurants that feature old marquees and box offices.

Mayor Pro Tem Kevin McKeown, who is the former chair of the Wilshire/Montana Neighborhood Association, wouldn't speculate on whether the associations had plans to file a new petition.

City officials have rallied behind the theater, which they see as a link to the past and as symbol for a livable community. McKeown said he has been working closely with Rosenfeld, who he believes sincerely wants to save the theater.

But Allen, who has run the Aero for 10 years on a shoestring budget, said theater owners are under immense financial pressures to convert theaters to something else. He is the first to admit that a nationally known clothing store or a restaurant could make a lot more money there. But he would hate to see that happen, and he thinks neighborhood residents would, too.

Allen and his handful of employees have distributed 3,000 flyers door-to-door asking for support. Allen sees himself as merely a caretaker of a piece of history and is hoping the community will rally in keeping the theater alive with donations and increased attendance.

Friday afternoon, Aero employee Steve Smart was running his usual one-man show preparing to sell tickets, pop popcorn and operate the projector. Patrons had arrived in unusually high numbers the previous day because of the flyers, he said, and more were showing up Friday.

About a dozen people came for the 1:30 p.m. show.

There was only one problem — the projector malfunctioned and the show, "About a Boy," was canceled. Moviegoers with unexpected free time gathered to discuss the theater's fate.

"This is the last vestige" of old Montana Avenue, said Susan Shilliday, who had received a flyer and decided to see a movie Friday afternoon in support of the theater. Shilliday, a screenwriter who co-wrote the "Legends of the Fall" movie script, said she has walked to the Aero from her home nearby for 27 years. "Maybe it's a dinosaur, but it's a dinosaur I think should be here."

"It's part of the culture of the neighborhood."

— SAM SCHULTZ
Resident

Not everyone is sentimental, however. Dr. and Mrs. Gilbert Kuhn, wouldn't support the theater, financially or otherwise, because the movies are "never any good," they wrote in a letter to Allen.

The Aero got its name from the Douglas Aircraft Co., which built the theater for its workers in 1939. Movies showed 24 hours a day at first to cater to wartime employees who worked in shifts around the clock. Later, the Aero became a popular movie venue among the general public. Patrons sometimes strained to hear the low-tech sound system, but kids always got a free piece of bubble gum on the way out the door.

Today, it shows second-run blockbusters fans might have missed at big-name multiplexes, or independent films they might have missed elsewhere. Only five or six people arrive for most showings, Smart said.

"It's part of the culture of the neighborhood," said 20-year Montana Avenue resident Sam Schultz, who said he goes to the theater at least once a month.

Smart blamed the theater's problems on the proliferation of new technology, like high-tech home entertainment systems that keep people on their couches, and a fickle public that won't put its money where its mouth is.

"Everybody walks by here and says, 'I love this place.' And none of them come in here," he said.

Psychic believer wins case

FORTUNE TELLER, from page 1

ment — Marks didn't show up to the court hearing.

Chaddah credits her Indian heritage for her fervent faith in horoscopes. She said she first met Marks "at the mall" in October 2001, where Marks was distributing cards. She later made two visits to Marks' home where Chaddah said the fortune teller lit candles, rolled dice and prescribed bathing potions.

Marks could not be reached for comment. A man answering her phone who identified himself as her brother disagreed with Chaddah's story, saying Marks and Chaddah met regularly for "like five

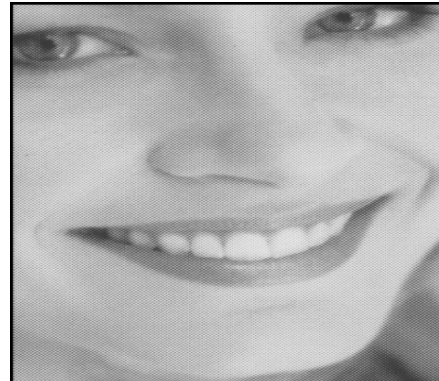
years," later acknowledging it had been "two years, maybe three." He claimed that Chaddah got upset when her boyfriend, with whom Marks had set her up, dumped her. Chaddah then demanded all the money she had given Marks, according to the man.

"We tried to pay her back, we made a settlement, and we were paying her not less than \$200 a month," he said. "Then she decided she wanted all the money at once and my sister can't afford that."

Along with the award came some advice: "My recommendation to you is to be careful who you deal with," judge pro tem Rissman said.

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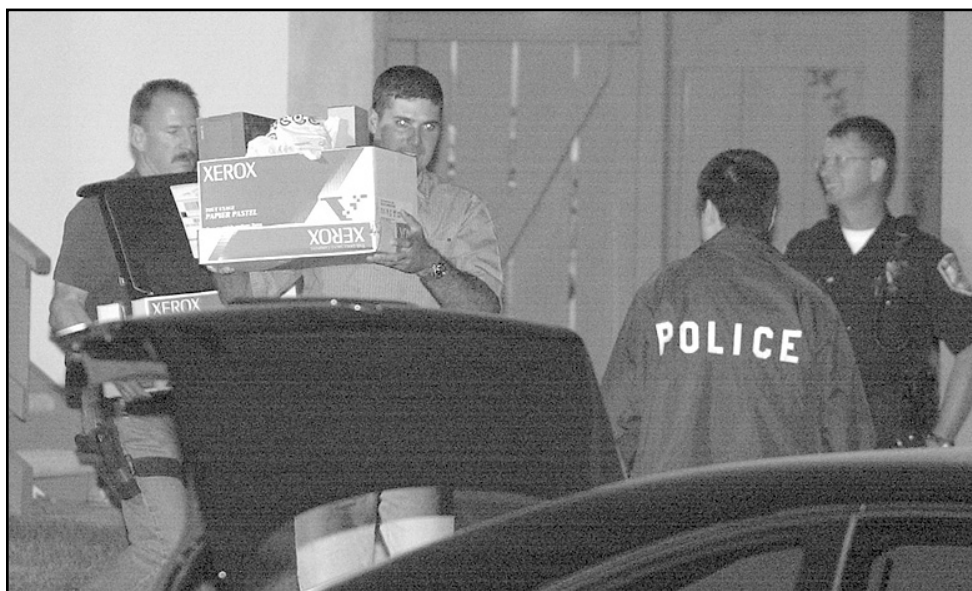
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STATE



Nick Ut/Associated Press

FBI agents carry items seized during a search of the home of Hesham Mohamed Hadayet on Friday in Irvine, Calif. Hadayet, a 41-year-old Egyptian limousine driver who listed July 4 as his birthday on one of two driver's licenses, was identified as the shooter who opened fire at Los Angeles' airport Thursday, killing two people at Israel's El Al ticket counter before being shot to death by a guard.

FBI: Gunman went to LA airport intending to kill

BY ANDREW BRIDGES
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES — The heavily armed Egyptian immigrant who fatally shot two people at the ticket counter of Israel's national airline went to the Los Angeles airport to kill, the FBI said Friday. "Why he did that is what we are still trying to determine," FBI special agent Richard Garcia said.

Hesham Mohamed Hadayet was the fourth person in line at the El Al counter when he opened fire, authorities said. He fired 10 or 11 bullets before he was fatally shot himself by an airline security guard, as hundreds of people dived for cover.

Three other people were wounded, including a guard who was stabbed by Hadayet as he fought with the wounded gunman. A fourth bystander suffered heart trouble after the attack.

In his pockets, authorities found an extra magazine for each gun, FBI spokesman Matt McLaughlin said. "I think it's safe to say he planned to reload his guns and didn't get the chance to do it," McLaughlin said.

Hadayet was identified by tracing the weapons he used, a law enforcement source said, speaking on condition of anonymity. Hadayet had owned one of the guns "for years" and purchased the other a couple of months ago, the source said.

The shooting could have been a random act of violence or a hate crime, Garcia said. He said authorities also had not ruled out a number of potential motives, including terrorism, though Hadayet, 41, was not on any FBI or federal aviation "watch" lists.

Israeli officials said they would consider the attack an act of terror unless it was proven otherwise. A source close to Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres said Peres' granddaughter was in the terminal at the time of the attack.

Hadayet was armed with a .45-caliber semiautomatic Glock pistol, a 9 mm handgun and a 6-inch knife, authorities said. The FBI said it wasn't clear whether he acted alone or why he had drivers' licenses with two last names — Hadayet and Ali.

Abdul Zahav, a man who said he worked for Hadayet until he was fired two

years ago, said Hadayet once told him he hated all Israelis.

"He kept all his anger inside him. So he can't hold it anymore, he can't hold it anymore," Zahav said.

Hadayet's California licenses also had two birth dates, July 4, 1961 and April 7, 1961. Authorities believe the discrepancy was caused when he filled out his application and wrote 4-7-61 instead of 7-4-61.

Relatives said Hadayet was a Cairo-born accountant who ran a limousine company out of his Irvine apartment. Hassan Mostafa Mahfouz, who is married to Hadayet's aunt, said Hadayet had studied commerce at Ain Shams University in Cairo, and had worked as an accountant in a bank before he left for the United States in 1992.

"He is a very, very tender person and close to his family," Mahfouz said in Cairo. He confirmed that Thursday was his nephew's birthday.

Hadayet, his wife and two sons, ages 8 and 11, lived in a small apartment building in a middle-class section of Orange County. His family had left for Egypt about a week ago.

Neighbors said Hadayet was quiet, but became angry when an upstairs neighbor hung large American and Marine Corps flags from a balcony above his front door after the Sept. 11 attacks.

There was no record of such a complaint, said Rich Elbaum, a spokesman for The Irvine Co., which owns and manages the complex where Hadayet lived.

The flags were there the day of the shooting. A bumper sticker on Hadayet's front door that read "Read the Koran" was removed by authorities.

The FBI searched the apartment Thursday night, impounding a Toyota Camry and carrying away a computer, books, binders and other material. They refused to say what else the search turned up.

Hadayet's state limousine permit, issued in August 1997, was revoked last November when he failed to maintain insurance papers on file with the state, the Public Utilities Commission said. Irvine Police Lt. Dave Freedland said Hadayet had three contacts with the department since 1996 — all of them "unremarkable."

STATE



Union Pacific testing out 'Green Goat' locomotive

BY LOUISE CHU
Associated Press Writer

ROSEVILLE — For years, the sign of the working railroad has been the locomotive chugging along, blasting its booming horn while trailing an endless line of cars and a long plume of smoke.

But the pollution in that smoke, mostly nitrogen oxide and particulate matter emissions, has spawned what its developers call the Green Goat, a hybrid electric and diesel locomotive now being tested in a Union Pacific Railroad switchyard in this Sacramento suburb.

Railroads currently account for more than 5 percent of total nitrogen oxide (NOx) emissions and 0.1 percent of total particulate matter (PM) emissions nationwide. RailPower Technologies Corp. officials hope their locomotive could provide a more environmentally friendly and less expensive alternative to current models.

The Green Goat is expected to reduce NOx and PM emissions by 85 percent, RailPower officials said. Similar to hybrid automobiles on the market, it uses a small 100-horsepower diesel engine to charge 55,000 pounds of lead acid batteries. The result is a smaller, lighter and more efficient locomotive that is specially suited for rail yard switching.

"In a typical duty cycle, it's less than 1 percent of the time that you need full power. Eighty-seven percent of that time, the locomotive is just idling," said Frank Donnelly, chief technology officer of RailPower and inventor of the Green Goat.

An idling locomotive causes about 14 percent of its exhaust emissions, industry experts said. Because of the stop-and-go switchyard work, RailPower designed an engine that automatically turns off when idling, cutting 85 percent of emissions and decreasing fuel usage by 35 percent.

The Green Goat also boasts a smaller

design, which allows greater visibility in the front and rear for the engineer, as well as a 10-year battery life, which is longer than a current switcher's overhaul cycle.

While the locomotive works as a switcher or "goat," towing railcars around the switchyard, it is not built to do long-haul work.

"This locomotive won't continually produce power," Donnelly said. "It has its limits, but there's a very good niche (for it) in yard service and in industrial areas."

Ultimately, Donnelly said, they want to use the same technology for commuter rail, which also has much stop-and-go work. But that's at least six months to a year from development.

One of the largest remaining unregulated sources of NOx emissions, railways finally came under the scrutiny of the EPA in 1990 with the Clean Air Act amendments. The plan mandated a 60 percent reduction in NOx emissions and a 46 percent reduction in PM emissions by 2005, compared to 1995 baseline levels.

NOx is a major component of smog and acid rain, and PM has been found to cause headaches, eye and nasal irritation and respiratory problems.

With NOx and PM levels currently below the national average, California has already taken considerable steps toward more environmental practices. Spurred by a 1998 California Air Resources Board plan, railroad companies such as Union Pacific and Burlington Northern Santa Fe have worked to create emission-reducing technology.

Besides Union Pacific, North America's largest railway, the locomotive technology has piqued the interest of major railways in the United States and Canada.

If the test works, the locomotive may have a significant market, said Gerard Koldyk, RailPower's president and CEO.

Police still unsure what bit California girl off NC beach

By The Associated Press

WRIGHTSVILLE BEACH, N.C. — Police still were trying to determine Friday what kind of fish attacked a 9-year-old California girl as she swam in shallow water.

Avery Olearczyk's father said he believed his daughter was bitten by a shark about 5 feet long. Others aren't so sure.

"We have no positive confirmation yet, and we may never have positive confirmation" as to what bit the Pleasanton, Calif., girl as she swam a half-mile south of the Johnnie Mercer's Fishing Pier on Thursday, police Lt. Hank Narramore said.

Avery was in good condition Friday at Cape Fear Hospital in Wilmington, hospital officials said.

"We have a number of predatory fish that are here all the time," Narramore said, citing bluefish, barracudas and several types of small sharks.

"I'm not saying it's not a shark," he said. "But there's a variety of options."

Paul Barrington, director of husbandry and operations at the N.C. Aquarium at Fort Fisher, said several types of small- to medium-sized sharks frequent the waters within three miles of North Carolina's coast this time of year.

"The most common is the sharp-nose shark, which grows up to 4 feet," Barrington said. "Right now we've got a lot of pups in the water."

Sandbar, hammerhead and black-tip sharks are also found in North Carolina's inshore waters, he said.

"There's a good chance that it may have involved a shark," Barrington said, "but unless you bring in some true forensic teams that are knowledgeable about sharks, it's speculation as to what it can be."

The girl and some relatives were swimming in 3 feet to 4 feet of water when Matthew Olearczyk noticed a large fish swimming toward them.

Avery was dragged under the waves as a fish bit into her ankle, tearing tendons and removing a quarter-sized chunk of flesh, Matthew Olearczyk said.

She was expected to fully recover after 1 1/2 hours of surgery to repair tendons in the lower portion of her right calf and to close wounds to the foot and her right hand, with which she hit the attacker, her father said.

Matthew Olearczyk said he saw the fish.

"It caught my eye because it was moving faster than everything else," he said. "I'm not an expert. It looked like a shark to me."

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STATE

San Quentin, California's oldest prison, turns 150

BY MICHELLE LOCKE

Associated Press Writer

SAN QUENTIN — John Whearty was a young man of 22 with a shock of curly dark hair when he first took up his post in a guard tower at San Quentin State Prison.

Prison officials gave him a .38 revolver, a 12-gauge shotgun and a crash course in corrections.

"The officer I relieved was kind enough to stay half an hour to train me when I relieved the third watch," Whearty says with a wry smile.

These days, correctional officers go to a 16-week academy followed by 40 hours of orientation and a two-year apprenticeship, followed by more on-the-job training.

This Saturday, San Quentin marks 150 years as a state prison. Sgt. Whearty, still on the job at 78, has been there for 56 of them.

"There were good days and bad days," he says. "I guess most of them were good or I wouldn't have stayed."

In 1946, when Whearty first reported for duty, San Quentin was already nearly a century old.

In the helter-skelter Gold Rush, the nascent state of California got its first prisoners before its first prison. San Quentin began as a prison barge in the bay in 1852. After it got too crowded, convicts started building a facility ashore.

At first, the prison was privately run, with conditions ranging from harsh to flat-out corrupt.

In 1864, inmates revolted and marched the warden out of the gate with knives to his neck, only to be defeated by a group of local farmers.

Horrors of the early years included the "dungeon," a dank, airless hole; the "ladder," to which men were lashed and flogged or tortured with water hoses; and a straitjacket of sorts in which men were tightly laced and then suspended from the ceiling for hours, sometimes emerging permanently injured.

At first, the prison held men and women, and there are scandalous stories from those years. After a number of pregnancies, the state established a women's prison, which opened in 1933.

A few wardens instituted reforms, but by the late 1930s, San Quentin was an embarrassment. In 1935, four inmates took over the warden's house, seriously injuring him and briefly escaping. Shortly after that, it was discovered that inmates were making counterfeit money with the prison's photoengraving machine.

In 1940, reformer Clinton Duffy was installed as warden. He put an end to prisoner beatings, got rid of the "dungeon," improved the food and initiated the "San Quentin on the Air" radio show with its tongue-in-cheek theme song, "Time On My Hands."

Capital punishment was legalized in California in 1851, but was carried out by county sheriffs for years. The first state execution, by hanging, was held at San Quentin in 1893. Executions were carried out at San Quentin and the state prison at Folsom until 1937, when with the advent of the gas chamber, San Quentin became the official site of all executions. With more than 600 condemned inmates, San Quentin is now home to the nation's largest death row.

Some think San Quentin has served its time as a state prison. They recommend moving prisoners to a new facility elsewhere and finding other uses for the prime San Francisco Bay waterfront property.

But those plans haven't advanced very far. In fact, state prison officials now are looking at building new facilities on San Quentin's 432-acre site.

One of the reasons death row is so large is that there have been just 10 executions since the death penalty was reinstated in 1978.

These days, lethal injection has replaced the gas chamber as the method of execution. When it was instituted, the gas chamber was considered a humane reform.

In hangings, the condemned walked up 13 steps, one for each of the jurors and one for the judge, and the hangman had to judge the length of the rope correctly.

Three officers sat in front of three strings, which they cut with a knife at a signal from the executioner. Two strings were dummies, the third sprang the trap.

Hangings were noted as "very successful" or "successful." Very successful meant the inmate's neck had broken the first time he was dropped.

After the gallows were dismantled, Duffy turned the space into a gymnasium.

San Quentin has seldom been home to the rich, but it has known the famous.

Stagecoach robber Black Bart served time here, as did boxer Kid "The Real" McCoy and James "Bluebeard" Watson. Bluebeard was suspected of killing a number of his wives but police couldn't find the bodies. He told prosecutors where to find one in return for a life sentence.

Bluebeard was a trouble-free prisoner and above-average orderly at the prison hospital. But, wrote Duffy in his death sentence memoir "88 Men & 2 Women," he had a curious habit of strangling finches that landed on the hospital windowsill.

Singer Merle Haggard served two years here for a botched burglary attempt before he got out in 1960. He later received a gubernatorial pardon.

In the 1950s, San Quentin had a death row celebrity in Caryl Chessman, the "red light bandit," who used a flashing red light to stop unsuspecting couples and rob them, sexually assaulting the women. Chessman's 1954 biography, "Cell 2455, Death Row," sold a half-million copies. He won eight stays of execution. The ninth came 15 seconds too late.

Controversy has never been a stranger to San Quentin.

In 1992, the execution of Robert Alton Harris, the first man put to death since the 1960s, brought hundreds of protesters to the gates.

In 1971, "Soledad Brother" George Jackson was killed along with two other inmates and three guards in an escape attempt that authorities said started when Jackson pulled out a smuggled gun.

Whearty remembers that day.

He was away from the conflict in an interior office. The order was to lock the door and stay put. He did.

Afterward, "only one guy quit," he recalls. "Everybody else stayed and went on doing their jobs."



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NATIONAL



Vegas veterans program aims to get comrades off streets

By The Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Outside, the sign still advertises a lounge, liquor and slots.

But the old Meadows Inn is dry these days.

Inside, aging warriors spent the Fourth of July trying to overcome wartime demons, with James Drappeaux welcoming them to a celebration somewhat different from Independence Day festivities in parks across the United States.

Drappeaux, director of special projects for the National Veterans Foundation in Las Vegas, organized the picnic with the United States Veterans Initiative to reach out to homeless veterans who might not know help is available.

“Back in Vietnam, there was a lot of alcohol and drug abuse, but it was accepted in country ‘cause you could die tomorrow,” he told the Las Vegas Review-Journal for a Friday report. “Plus, you needed the drugs to keep your

head straight through it all.”

“But when we came back, we brought it all with us,” Drappeaux said, “and there wasn’t a parade. We didn’t get any treatment.”

The Independence Day picnic, started by the foundation, has been held in other states since the mid-1980s.

Officials said such outreach is crucial in southern Nevada, where estimates put the homeless population at 8,000 to 10,000 or more. Drappeaux said about 3,000 are veterans.

The United States Veterans Initiative, a nonprofit organization founded in 1992, opened the Meadows Inn project in September and has helped about 400 veterans. It now shelters 76 veterans, but has the capacity to support 41 more.

Homelessness is particularly prevalent among Vietnam-era veterans, said Paula Haynes-Green, site director of United States Veterans Initiative programs. She said many are disabled and afflicted with addictions

and with post-traumatic stress disorder.

Haynes-Green said affordable housing is one of the most-needed resources to help homeless Vietnam-era veterans get off the street.

At the Meadows Inn, the Veterans in Progress program focuses on employment, sobriety maintenance and relapse prevention.

As veterans move through the program, they enter transitional housing with low-rent rooms and are encouraged to stay in sobriety support groups.

Jim Lucas, a member of AmeriCorps who works at Westcare, a Las Vegas detoxification program, said he was homeless more than a decade after his return from Vietnam. He said he was addicted to crack cocaine.

Since his recovery, Lucas has devoted himself to helping other veterans.

“A lot of the veterans just don’t realize what’s out there to help them,” Lucas said, “and it takes some time to get them to trust that these kinds of programs will help.”

Hundreds gather at Clooney’s funeral in her hometown

BY STEVE BAILEY

Associated Press Writer

MAYSVILLE, Ky. — Rosemary Clooney made a final journey to her hometown Friday for a funeral attended by family, friends and hundreds of fans.

The mellow-voiced singer and actress, who co-starred with Bing Crosby in “White Christmas” and staged a dramatic comeback after drugs and alcohol nearly destroyed her career, died June 29 at 74 after a long battle with lung cancer.

More than 700 people packed into St. Patrick’s Church downtown, where Clooney was baptized more than a half-century ago, to say farewell to the city’s sweetheart who never forgot her roots.

Many waited for hours for a seat, and by 9 a.m. — an hour before the service — the line snaked outside for more than a block.

“Everything she did, you felt like you were a part of it,” said Debbie Roberts of Maysville, who got the first spot in line around 6 a.m.

“When you knew she was in town, it was exciting to walk into places and do that quick eyeball around to see if she was there. There was always that little bit of anticipation in your stomach no matter how many times you’d seen her.”

The Rev. William Davis described Clooney as “disarmingly comical and frank.”

“She was ‘the girl singer,’ beloved by the people,” Davis said. “We’ve lost a

star, a light that shone brightly into all of our lives.”

Her brother, veteran television newscaster Nick Clooney, gave a eulogy at the end of the hourlong traditional Catholic funeral Mass.

“Let me do something I never would have presumed to do a week ago — speak for Rosemary ... dangerous,” he said. “She would like to thank all of you for making her life richer.”

Actor George Clooney, Nick’s son, sat with more than three dozen family members and was one of 10 pallbearers.

Also in the crowd were singer Debbie Boone, Clooney’s daughter-in-law; actors Al Pacino and Beverly D’Angelo; and Maysville native and former Miss

America Heather French Henry, the wife of Kentucky Lt. Gov. Steve Henry.

After the service, Clooney was buried at St. Patrick’s Cemetery near her mother and grandmother.

Mourners said they often saw Clooney shopping for groceries or strolling the streets whenever she returned to the river town of 8,900 near the Kentucky-Ohio border.

She frequented Delite’s, a restaurant known for its Coney Island hot dogs, and was a regular at Magee’s Bakery and a downtown jewelry store.

“She was the friendliest person you would ever meet, very approachable,” said Dee Dee Denton of nearby Cynthiana. “She’ll never be forgotten around here. She’s too big a part of this town.”

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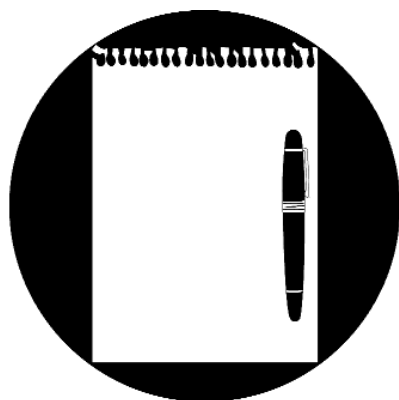
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NATIONAL

Dot-com companies may be nearing end of shakeout

By The Associated Press

NEW YORK — In a sign that the Internet sector may be nearing the end of its brutal shakeout, the number of shutdowns and bankruptcies by dot-com companies in the first half of this year fell 73 percent from the same period last year, a new report from Webmergers.com shows.

At least 93 Internet companies closed their doors or filed for bankruptcy protection in the first six months of 2002, down from 345 such casualties during the same period last year, according to the San Francisco research firm that has been keeping a tally of shutdowns.

June, which had 13 shutdowns, marked the sixth consecutive month in which the number of shutdowns came in at less than 20. That's a considerable contrast from the 16-month period preceding January, when casualties averaged 44 a month.

Since January 2000, when the Internet froth was at its peak, at least 862 dot-com companies have failed, according to Webmergers.com data.

E-commerce and content companies — many of which were business-to-consumer concerns that were quick fatalities during the first wave of the Internet shakeout — dominate the Internet company failures to-date.

Of the 862 shutdowns, 368, or 43 percent, are e-commerce companies, while content companies have a tally of 217, or 25 percent. Infrastructure, Internet access and professional-services companies account for 16 percent, 10 percent and 6 percent of shutdowns, respectively.

Over the past two months, shutdowns were dominated by Internet-content providers, infrastructure companies, Internet-services providers, and other providers of dial-up and broadband Internet-access service.

As companies disappear, many people would prefer to forget the excesses of the dot-com frenzy, when start-ups, often based on little more than a PowerPoint presentation, scooped up millions from investors before collapsing.

Webmergers.com has found, though, that a number of individuals are interested in remembering tales of such excesses.

The research firm, along with the University of Maryland's Robert H. Smith School of Business, last week launched an online archive designed to create a permanent record of the dot-com era.

The Web site, www.businessplanarchive.org, encourages former Internet executives, employees and investors to submit e-mails and other items from both failed and successful dot-com companies.

Town criers belt out their best in competition in Philadelphia

BY CATHERINE LUCEY
Associated Press Writer

PHILADELPHIA — Bellowing out "Oyez! Oyez!" and "hear ye, hear ye," town criers from the United States and Canada unfurled their ornate scrolls Friday in the North American Town Criers Competition.

"Come one, come all, come hear my call. My message's clear, for every year," boomed Bruce Bedell, of London, Canada.

Dressed in Revolutionary War-era garb — brocade waistcoats, knee-britches and velvet jackets with lace frills at the neck and wrists — about 20 criers clanged their bells through three rounds of competition.

The first call was a greeting, a rhyming cry of no more than 125 words delivered in rolling, singsong voice. The middle cry was a response to the Declaration of Independence and the last a thank you.

"The biggest thing is you want people to remember what you said and they remember it if it's humorous," said defending 2000 champion Chris Whyman, 41, of Kingston, Ontario.

A panel of six judges ranked criers on sustained volume, deportment, content and the use of the attention-getting devices, like bells.

First-place honors went to John Webster of Markham, Ontario, who has previously won three world trophies in the Bermuda International Competition.

Criers say the job dates back to ancient Greece, but Friday's display was closer to 1700s criers who delivered news to townspeople, many of whom were illiterate.

"Town criers are basically what newscasters are today," said host Rich LaLena, 45, wearing a gold waistcoat and dark, three-cornered hat. "The only difference is we don't do that editorializing."

Man pleads guilty to killing 15-year-old boy 10 years ago

By The Associated Press

WAMPSVILLE, N.Y. — A 34-year-old man pleaded guilty Friday to second-degree murder for sodomizing and strangling a teenager whose body was pulled from a lake a decade ago.

Jeffrey Clark faces 23 years to life in prison when he is sentenced July 16.

In a statement read by the judge, Clark said he wrestled 15-year-old Sean Googin to the ground, sodomized him, strangled him, then dumped his body in Cazenovia Lake southeast of Syracuse in 1992. Boaters found the body the next day.

The victim's family, who expressed relief the case was near an end.

"Hopefully, Jeffrey Clark is incarcerated for the rest of his life," said Ed Googin, the teenager's uncle.

Authorities say Clark was linked to Googin's slaying by DNA, which was taken from him and entered into a DNA database after his arrest in 1999 for sodomizing a 14-year-old boy.

Clark is serving a five-year sentence for the sodomy conviction.

SPORTS



Lad Lleyton tops 'Our Tim'

BY HOWARD FENDRICH
AP Tennis Writer

WIMBLEDON, England — Scrambling along the brown baseline, Lleyton Hewitt lofted a lob that curled over Tim Henman and floated down, barely in. Applause rang out.

By the end, Hewitt's magical play had to be admired even by the 13,000 or so fans trying to will a British man into a Wimbledon final for the first time since 1938.

Alas, "Our Tim" never had a chance against the No. 1-ranked Hewitt, who conjured up 41 winners to just nine unforced errors and picked apart Henman's serve-and-volley game 7-5, 6-1, 7-5 on Friday.

Hewitt heads to his first title match at the All England Club. Henman exits in the semifinals for the fourth time in five years.

"I got on a roll — the ball seemed to be as big as a football out there," U.S. Open champion Hewitt said. "It was hitting the middle of the racket. It was a pretty good feeling."

He'll be an overwhelming favorite for Sunday's final, no matter the opponent. Hewitt faces the winner of the rain-interrupted semi between No. 27 Xavier Malisse and No. 28 David Nalbandian.

That match resumes with the fifth set Saturday, at the same time that two-time defending champion Venus Williams plays younger sister Serena for the women's title. It's the third all-Williams final in the last four Grand Slam tournaments.

Henman tried to switch styles against Hewitt, against whom he's now 0-6: staying back on first serves, coming in on second serves, swapping baseline strokes.

"Well, as the scoreline suggests, not a lot did work, did it?" Henman said.

As Hewitt put it: "The last few games, he really didn't know what to do."

The Australian stuck with what in 2001, at 20, made him the youngest year-end No. 1: sharp service returns, solid baseline play, and a never-give-up-on-a-ball attitude that keeps his legs constantly churning. His shoes shuffling along the worn grass and dirt behind the baseline sounded like sandpaper on wood.

With Union Jacks and the English flag of St. George flapping, fans did what they could to boost Henman, clapping at each Hewitt miscue, including a double fault in the third game.

There were few such mistakes.

In the fifth game, Hewitt erased two break points with an ace at 115 mph and a backhand pass. At deuce, the crowd twice yelled when Henman hit apparent winners only to have Hewitt get to them. The point ended when Henman's third overhead flew wide.

The first break came in the eighth game, when a tentative Henman backtracked from the net on a Hewitt lob, let the ball bounce at the baseline, and smacked an overhead 3 feet long.

The biggest blip in Hewitt's performance, really, came in the next game, as he served for the set at 5-3. Henman broke at love when Hewitt slapped a forehand wide.

That pretty much was it for the Brit, though. Hewitt won 36 of the next 44 points on his serve.

Up 6-5, Hewitt produced a lob, backhand pass and forehand pass to get three break points. He converted the second by snapping a cross-court forehand return past Henman.

Hewitt jumped to a 3-0 lead in the second set before a 53-minute rain delay. When they returned, Hewitt quickly finished the set, punishing Henman's slower serves to break to 5-1.

"I like playing in big matches," said Hewitt, who's 13-0 on grass and 40-7 overall this year. "Memories come back of that U.S. Open, knowing that I was able to play seven tough best-of-five matches there. I was able to use those sweet memories to try and get through this one."

He set up a break in the third game of the last set with more tenacity, ranging nearly into the row of photographers to get to a backhand overhead and smack another passing shot. Henman ceded that game by double faulting on break point.

Still, Hewitt had to get by one last hiccup. Serving for the match at 5-4 in the third, he was broken when a rare forehand error found the net.

"Anyone human would tighten up a little bit," Hewitt said.

But he broke right back, helped by

three straight Henman errors — including a forehand into the net on a 26-stroke rally, the match's longest. The game ended on Hewitt's lob that drew claps.

Hewitt then served it out, ending the match with an ace at 116 mph. He dropped to his knees and yelled.

"Sitting back at home, watching Pat Cash win Wimbledon 15 years ago — it's what every Australian kid who picks up a tennis racket dreams of," Hewitt said. "It's incredible."

Regardless of whom he plays, the final will be the first at Wimbledon between two baseliners since Bjorn Borg beat Jimmy Connors in 1977 and 1978.

The other semifinal was stopped at 9 p.m. because of darkness. Nalbandian won the first two sets, Malisse the next two. Malisse twice called for a trainer and, holding his chest or stomach, left the court after the first set for medical checks. In a match in San Jose, Calif., in March 2001, Malisse had heart palpitations.

Henman never has fared as well at other majors as he has here — but his countrymen aren't as concerned about other majors.

They want a men's champion at Wimbledon to succeed Fred Perry in 1936. No Briton even has made the final since Bunny Austin two years later.

A Sox loss



Scott Maguire/Associated Press

Ted Williams tips his cap to the crowd at Fenway Park during "Ted Williams Day" prior to the start of the Boston Red Sox and Texas Rangers game, in this May 12, 1991 photo. Williams, the Boston Red Sox revered and sometimes reviled "Splendid Splinter" and baseball's last .400 hitter, died Friday of cardiac arrest at Citrus County Memorial Hospital in Inverness, Fla., said hospital spokeswoman Rebecca Martin. He was 83.

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INTERNATIONAL

U.N. and Iraqi officials fail to agree on inspectors' return

BY DANICA KIRKA

Associated Press Writer

VIENNA, Austria — After two days of talks that had raised hopes Iraq might relent, the United Nations said Friday it had failed to convince Baghdad to allow the return of U.N. weapons inspectors.

Diplomats agreed, however, to continue talks in Europe in the coming months.

U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan said that the Iraqis needed to consult with officials in Baghdad and no date was set for the next round.

"There has been some movement, but obviously not enough," Annan said Friday.

Annan and Iraqi Foreign Minister Naji Sabri spoke privately before the announcement, but were unable to agree on any face-saving measures.

In Washington, State Department spokeswoman Jo-Anne Prokopowicz said the administration was not surprised the talks failed, claiming Iraqi statements in advance of the meetings foreshadowed the outcome.

"Iraqi representatives continue to raise issues aimed at preventing and delaying a focus on its core obligations," she said. "We see no basis or need for prolonged discussions of Iraq's obligations."

Diplomats earlier had expressed concerns about continuing the talks indefinitely, saying Iraq could be stalling in the face of American threats to attack and topple leader Saddam Hussein.

The unsuccessful session came after U.N. and Iraqi technical experts discussed the details of the return of inspectors should there have been an agreement.

Sabri said the talks would continue on a technical basis and called the two days

of negotiations "constructive."

"We agreed to continue contact on technical matters," he said. "There are a lot of issues involved."

Sabri, meanwhile, dismissed an article in Friday's New York Times which said the Bush Administration had drawn up plans for an attack.

"Iraqi representatives continue to raise issues aimed at preventing and delaying a focus on its core obligations."

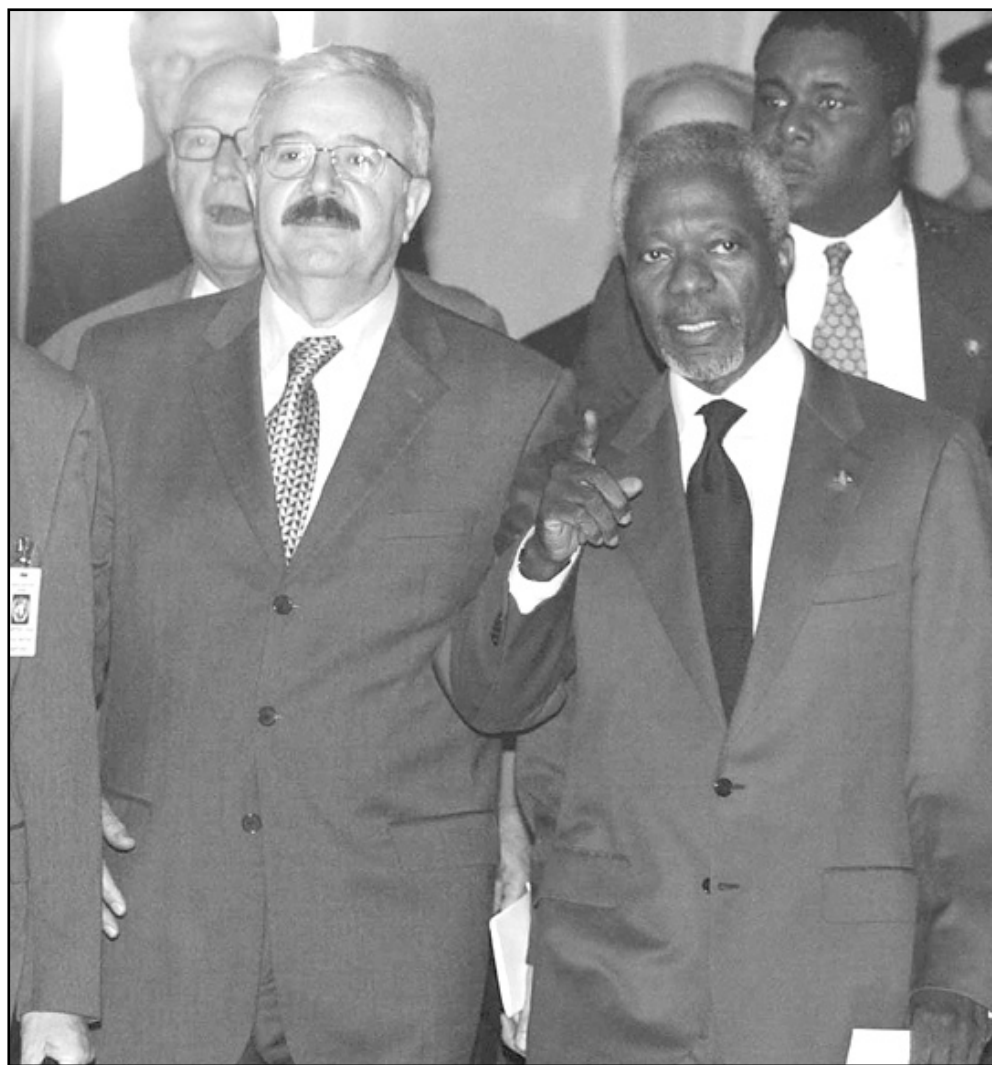
— JO-ANNE PROKOPOWICZ
State Department spokeswoman

"This was not a factor in our discussions," Sabri said. "We heard a lot of rubbish about these plans. These are wishes entertained by old colonialists and evil people."

Before allowing inspectors to return, Iraq has demanded the United Nations lift sanctions imposed on it for invading Kuwait and prompting the Gulf War.

Under Security Council resolutions, sanctions can be lifted only when inspectors certify that Iraq's nuclear, chemical and biological weapons have been destroyed, along with the missiles that could deliver them. Inspectors left in 1998 just before allied airstrikes to punish Iraq for having blocked the inspectors' work.

Iraq did agree, however, to return Kuwait's national archives, which were looted during the Gulf War.



Ronald Zak/Associated Press

Foreign Minister Naji Sabri from Iraq, and the United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan, right, leave after their talks about the return of U.N. weapons inspectors to Baghdad, at the United Nations office in Vienna, Austria on Friday. The UN failed to persuade Iraq to allow the return of weapons inspectors to Baghdad, wrapping up two days of talks Friday with no breakthrough.

Thousands demand revenge for killed Palestinian militia leader

BY IBRAHIM BARZAK

Associated Press Writer

GAZA CITY, Gaza Strip — Mourners fired assault rifles into the air and demanded revenge Friday after a car bomb killed a militia leader and a member of the security forces in what Palestinians say was the latest Israeli attack on prominent militants.

About 15,000 people marched in a funeral procession alongside the flag-draped bodies of Jihad Amerin, 48, the Gaza leader of al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades, a militia affiliated with Yasser Arafat's Fatah organization, and Nael Namera, 27, a security forces lieutenant.

"This is another crime against the leaders of the Palestinian people," said Nabil Abu Rdeneh, an adviser to Arafat.

Also on Friday, Arafat consulted with his security officers, trying to smooth a rift over his ouster of Jibril Rajoub from a key West Bank security position. Israeli forces, meanwhile, arrested 19 Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza who were "suspected of terrorist activity."

The Israeli army said three of the suspects were picked up in Jericho, the only one of the eight main Palestinian towns and cities in the West Bank not taken over by Israel in the past two weeks.

Arafat has been under Israeli and U.S. pressure to restructure his competing and overlapping security forces and direct them to stop terror attacks against Israel. Arafat appointed Jenin governor Zuheir al-Manasra to replace Rajoub and offered the Jenin municipal post to Rajoub.

Rajoub refused the job, and some preventive security officers were threatening not to work under the new commander, raising speculation the force — the strongest security branch in the West Bank — might be disbanded.

A senior Palestinian official said preventive security officers were meeting with Arafat to discuss the shake-up. Rajoub said he would not comment until the meetings were finished, which may not be until Saturday.

"These fanatics have received funds and arms from fanatical Arab and Islamic countries, along with the order to go ahead with suicide attacks."

— YASSER ARAFAT
Palestinian Prime Minister

Rajoub has been mentioned as a possible Arafat successor and has had close ties with Israeli officials, who say he is one of the few leaders not linked directly to terror attacks. So far, however, he has pledged his loyalty to Arafat. He also lost face among many Palestinians and outraged Islamic extremists for surrendering his compound — and Palestinian militants jailed inside — to Israeli forces in April during their campaign to crush militias behind deadly attacks on Israel.

Arafat met Thursday at his Ramallah headquarters with Piero Fassino, head of the Italian opposition party, Democrats of the Left, and blamed foreign powers for funding extremists, singling out Yemen and Sudan as countries that sponsor terrorism.

"These fanatics have received funds and arms from fanatical Arab and Islamic countries, along with the order

to go ahead with suicide attacks," Arafat said, according to a Palestinian official who made a transcript of the meeting and spoke on condition of anonymity.

Arafat, whom Israel accuses of direct links to suicide bombers and militias that target Israelis, said he ordered Palestinian banks to report to the Palestinian Authority the suspicious flow of money from abroad.

In the Gaza Strip, young men lifted AK-47 rifles into the air while children, wearing headbands saying al-Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades, held up pictures of Amerin and Namera. Amerin had resigned from the Palestinian security forces about nine months ago, frustrated by Arafat's calls for an end to attacks on Israel. He then became the militia's leader in the Gaza Strip.

During 21 months of fighting, Israel has claimed responsibility for killing dozens of Palestinian extremists and militia leaders in helicopter raids, and is also blamed for bomb attacks that have killed others. It has acknowledged some and claimed some were "work accidents" involving Palestinian bombs that went off prematurely. The army refused to comment on the explosion.

In interviews published Friday the outgoing Israeli military commander, Lt. Gen. Shaul Mofaz, said Arafat should be expelled from the Middle East.

Mofaz told the Yediot Achronot daily that Arafat is directing Palestinian terror attacks and has no intention of making peace. "As long as Arafat is here, we will not be able to reach an agreement," Mofaz said, "and he will continue to promote terrorism."

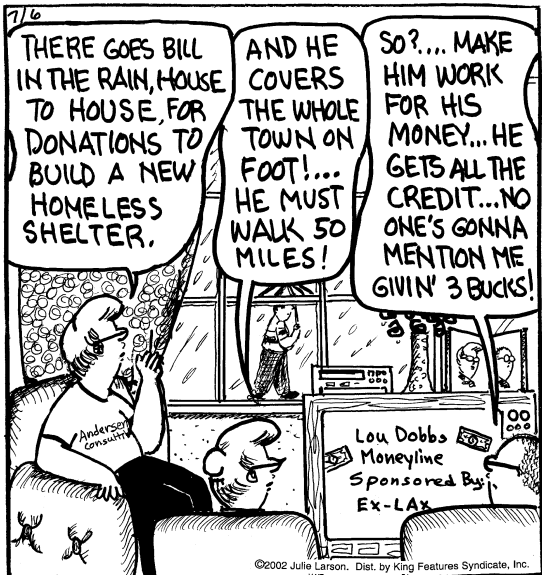
A poll in the Maariv daily showed that 58 percent of Israeli adults favor expulsion of Arafat, while 28 percent are opposed. The Market Watch survey questioned 590 Israelis and said the poll had a margin of error of 4.5 percentage points.

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- ACROSS
- 1 Learning method
 - 5 Mimic
 - 9 Site of Alice and Dallas
 - 10 Jazz players
 - 12 Nation on the Mediterranean
 - 13 City on the Kamo River
 - 14 Place for top stories
 - 16 Wine cask
 - 17 — de France
 - 18 Giving approval
 - 20 Randy Quaid's brother
 - 22 Tops tortes
 - 23 Solemn promises
 - 25 Feed into a computer
 - 28 News summaries
 - 32 Meticulous
 - 34 Cut off
 - 35 Gardner of film
 - 36 Hit song of 1929
 - 38 Brain parts
 - 40 Michelangelo work
 - 41 Word on an entry form
- 42 Hiss in the news in 1948
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- 44 Title proof
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 - 3 Race finish
 - 4 Tallinn's nation
 - 5 Invited
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 - 15 Panacea
 - 19 Software holder
 - 21 Less than any
 - 24 Landing place
 - 25 Sell at a significant profit
 - 26 Frolic
 - 27 King
 - 29 Assert without proof
 - 30 Was sullen
 - 31 Javelin
 - 33 Forgoes food
 - 37 Peevishness
 - 39 Conclude

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Yesterday's answer

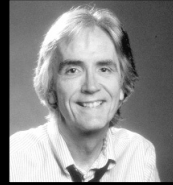
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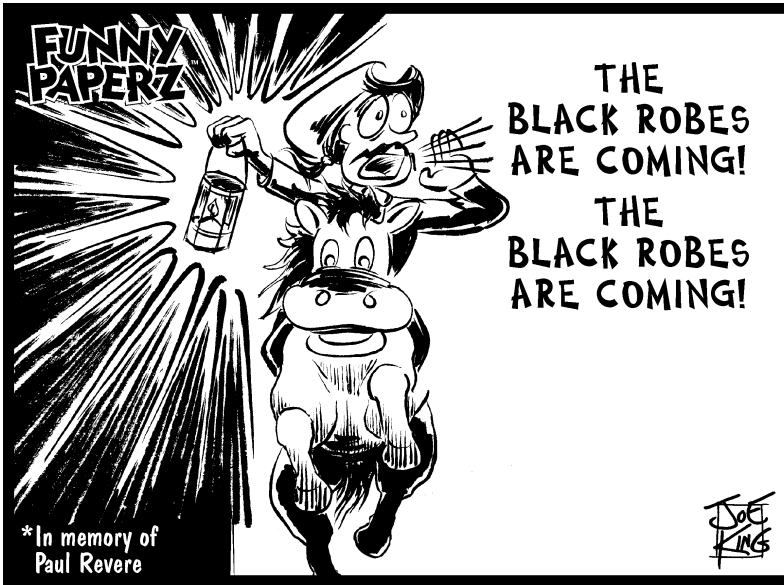


NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

Man says hello to his prosecutor after being on the lam for 15 years

Louis Papakostas, 35, was sentenced to eight years in prison on drug charges in Corpus Christi, Texas, in May. He had been convicted in 1987 and had gone on the lam for nearly 15 years, but he ran into his prosecutor at a restaurant in May and decided to say a nostalgic hello, apparently believing that authorities were not interested in him anymore. Papakostas even had to jog the prosecutor's memory, but once that was done, the prosecutor notified police.



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HAVING A hair moment? Models needed, any service, upscale salon (Santa Monica). Call Q, (323)691-3563.

PRO SE of Neighborhood Project needs volunteers for events that honor our heroes. (310) 899-3888 pro.se@adelphia.net.

VOTE FOR Pro Se Santa Monica City Council! Our Residents, Businesses, Schools must come first!

Services

DETERMINED COLLECTION Agency will collect your receivables, debts, judgments and individual issues. No recovery, no fee. (310)709-3251.

HOUSE CLEANING - Available 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. Windows, laundry, general house cleaning. References available. Responsible. Reasonable prices. Call Lalo (310) 313-0848.

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Graphic Design....Need to promote your business? You need a great looking ad? Call Joe to help put your marketing ideas together. 323.309.9089

Services

REMEDIES BY ROTH Carpentry, Handyman Services. Reasonable rates. Contact Michael: (310)829-1316 MSG. (323)610-1217 Cell.

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DURING THE day I work in High Technology Management. Everyone in the company relies on me for my computer expertise. I would rather work on my own. Digital Duchess 799-4929.

Lost & Found

LOST CAT Franklin/Broadway on 6/26/02. Large male Tabby grey/black/brown markings. Should have bell/tags. Answers to Carson. Cash reward. (310)795-2919.

Yard Sales

THREE FAMILIES, great stuff, Saturday, July 6, 8am-1pm, 2827 Delaware, Santa Monica, east of Stewart.

Health/Beauty

DARE TO BE THIN! Lose 10,20,40 pounds! Doctor recommended 100% guaranteed. www.results4you.com/ccc. 1-888-236-2139

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Classified Advertising Conditions

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

Calendar

Saturday, July 6, 2002

movies

Loews Broadway Cinema
1441 Third St. at Broadway
About a Boy (PG-13) 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00. *The Sum of all Fears* (PG-13) 12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:45. *The Bourne Identity* (PG-13) 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 9:30, 10:15, 11:45. *Juwanna Man* (PG-13) 11:30, 2:00, 4:30 7:00.

Mann Criterion
1313 Third St.
Windtalkers (NR) 4:00, 10:10. *Minority Report* (PG-13) 11:30, 12:30, 3:15, 4:15, 7:00, 8:00, 10:30, 11:15. *Divine Secrets of the Ya-Ya Sisterhood* (PG-13) 11:10, 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15. *Bad Company* (PG-13) 12:40, 7:20. *My Big Fat Greek Wedding* (PG) 11:20, 1:45, 4:30, 7:10, 9:40. *Insomnia* (R) 11:00, 1:50, 4:40, 7:40, 10:40.

AMC Theatre SM 7
1310 3rd Street
Lilo & Stich (PG) 10:40, 12:55, 3:05, 5:25, 7:35, 9:30. *Hey Arnold! The Movie* (PG) 10:30, 12:40, 2:55, 5:00, 7:10. *Mr. Deeds* (PG-13) 10:55, 11:55, 1:45, 2:30, 4:15, 5:15, 7:00, 7:50, 9:50, 10:30. *Star Wars: Episode II - Attack of the Clones* (PG) 10:30, 1:35, 4:40, 7:45, 10:50. *Scooby-Doo* (PG) 11:05, 1:20, 3:35, 5:45, 8:00, 10:15. *Spider-Man* (PG-13) 11:00, 1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10:40.

Landmark Nu-Wilshire
1314 Wilshire Blvd.
The Fast Runner: Atanarjuat (NR) 11:30, 3:15, 7:30. *Lovely and Amazing* (R) 12:00, 2:15, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30.

Laemmle Monica
1332 2nd St.
Y Tu Mama Tambien (NR) 12:00, 2:35, 5:10, 7:45, 10:15. *The Emperor's New Clothes* (PG) 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40. *Sunshine State* (PG-13) 12:30, 3:45, 7:00, 10:10. *Pumpkin* (R) 1:35, 4:25, 7:15, 10:05.

Today

Community

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

Theatre / Arts

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

Entertainment / Arts

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

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

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

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

14 Below, 1348 14th St., Santa Monica. If the band stinks, take advantage of commodious booths, pool tables, and fireplace. Full Bar. Over 21. (310)451-5040.

Just Dave and the New Family-"The future of Blues". Harvelle's, 1432 4th St., 3110-395-1676.

Open Mic Music. UnUrban Coffeehouse. 3301 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica, (310)315-0056.

Robin Moxey, 9:00 pm, Al, 10:15 pm, Pleasure Club, 11:30 pm. Temple Bar, 1026 Wilshire Blvd., (310)393-6611.

Improv nite: Unusual Suspects, 8 p.m., \$5, Off The Wall, 9 p.m., \$5. Comedy Underground, 320 Wilshire Blvd. *The showtime entrance is in the alley. Show info/Reservation line: (310)451-1800. No drink minimum!

Sunday

Theatre / Arts

Santa Monica Playhouse is proud to present **Picon Pie!** The World Premiere of a joyous and poignant musical play about the life and loves of legendary Molly Picon. Admission is \$25.50. Show starts at 6:00 p.m. 1211 4th Street, Santa Monica. For more information please call (310)394-9779 or visit www.santamonicaplayhouse.com.

Music / Entertainment

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

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14 Below, 1348 14th St., Santa Monica. If the band stinks, take advantage of commodious booths, pool tables, and fireplace. Full Bar. Over 21. (310)451-5040.

Almost Vaudville. 2 pm and 5 pm. UnUrban Coffeehouse. 3301 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica, (310)315-0056.

No Cover. DJ Sets By: Mason, 10:00pm. Temple Bar, 1026 Wilshire Blvd., (310)393-6611.

Jorma Kaukonen & Blue Country, 7 pm. \$17.50. McCabe's Guitar Shop. Pico at 31st. (310)828-4403.

KEEP YOUR DATE STRAIGHT

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

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



BACK PAGE

ODDS & ENDS

A true 'mayor smackdown'

By The Associated Press

MIAMI — Davie Mayor Harry Venis is a professional wrestler, but that didn't help him win the grudge match against the mayor of neighboring Sweetwater in a bout billed as the "mayor smackdown."

Sweetwater Mayor Jose "Pepe" Diaz pulled an upset in the Forth of July match over Vicious Vinnie, as the Davie mayor is known in the ring.

The crowd rooted for the underdog, shouting "Pepe! Pepe!" as Diaz pinned Venis.

The bout was held to raise money for the Jorge Mas Youth Center's ballet program. Davie and Sweetwater are near Fort Lauderdale.

The tag-team match included Thunder Heart Joe Gomez in Diaz's corner and Taskmaster Kevin Sullivan on Venis' side.

Mister Softee reacts to music complaints

By The Associated Press

HARTFORD, Conn. — The driver of a Mister Softee truck is facing assault and breach of peace charges for allegedly attacking a frequent critic of the music coming from the truck's loudspeakers, police said.

Luis Amaro, 51, is accused of charging out of his truck Saturday and swinging a bat at Wilbur Troutman.

"Mister Softee tried to kill me!" Troutman, 64, said Tuesday as he recovered from arm bruises and a graze to the head.

Amaro could not be reached for comment. But Felix

Rios, who owns the Mister Softee franchise in East Hartford, said Troutman is at least partially to blame for harassing his drivers for the last several weeks.

Troutman, 64, has been following the Mister Softee trucks throughout his neighborhood, taking pictures and recording the music from the trucks in a campaign to get them banned from city streets, Rios said.

"I'm not saying what our driver did was right or wrong because I wasn't there. But I know this driver, and I know he wouldn't lose his temper without a good reason," Rios said.

Lawmaker trashed over his lies

By The Associated Press

SPRING LAKE, Mich. — A Michigan lawmaker has come clean about his trash and acknowledged that he put refuse from his farm in a bin at a Spring Lake school then lied about it to a sheriff's deputy.

State Sen. Leon Stille said he cut corners while cleaning his farm for his daughter's wedding because he was running around "like a chicken with his head cut off."

Police were called to Jeffers Elementary School after a custodian said someone dumped tires, cans of paint, buckets of unknown material and boxes of trash in the school's bin.

Some materials had Stille's name on them, and the custodian noted the license plate of a vehicle registered to Stille.

An Ottawa County sheriff's deputy contacted Stille, who denied dumping the trash. Later, a Sheriff Doug Nowak stopped at Stille's home, and the law-

maker confessed.

"He indicated that he did not want any bad press as a result of this, so he did not want to take the initial blame," Nowak said.

'2 Dagos' deemed obscene

By The Associated Press

VALRICO, Fla. — A couple wanted to express pride in their Italian heritage with the license plate "2 Dagos," but were told to return the plate to the state because some people feel it's an ethnic slur.

Phil and Fran Lascola said they are fighting the request, saying they don't consider the term insulting.

"How in the world could they say this is obscene?" said Phil Lascola. "We're Italians, we're not slamming anybody."

Florida issued the license plate 18 months ago for the couple's BMW, but reconsidered its decision when it received a recent complaint.

The state says it has the right to withdraw or refuse to issue tags that are vulgar or objectionable.

Controversial plates have included "Atheist," "Mutiny," "H-8" (meaning hate), and variations of the "F" word. After a fight, the Gainesville man with the "Atheist" tag was allowed to keep it.

A Save the Manatee specialty tag that read "EAT UMM" was taken away from a Tallahassee driver.

Phil Lascola said he received a letter Saturday from the state telling the couple to return their plate. The couple is considering hiring an attorney to handle the dispute.

**Can't find the Daily Press in your neighborhood?
Call us. We'll take your suggestions.**

(310) 458-PRESS (7737)

**What do Shaq and Lenny
Krayzelberg have in common?**

as quoted in USA Today



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