

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

DAILY LOTTERY

SUPER LOTTO

13 14 19 21 30

Megamember: 15

Jackpot: 22 Million

FANTASY 5

9 11 14 16 39

DAILY 3

Daytime: 2 2 2

Evening: 7 5 3

DAILY DERBY

1st: 02 Lucky Star

2nd: 10 Solid Gold

3rd: 07 Eureka

RACE TIME: 1:45.51

NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

Recently, Britain's BBC televised an educational program in which scientist Mike Leahy and pal Zeron Gibson undertook certain activities in the weeks leading up to the program, and then, live on April 15, the men's sperm was shown, by microscope, in a "race" inside tiny glass tubes, in an experiment to gauge the effects of different lifestyle choices on sperm motility. Gibson's won.

In March, U.S. Rep. Major Jones of Brooklyn, N.Y., proudly claimed authorship of a controversial rap-music play being seriously considered for staging in New York City. Rep. Jones' "The Viagra Monologues" champions male sexuality, with lines like (according to a New York Post story), "Monogamy is for chumps" and "Boyhood self-esteem dies / Gawking at the other guy's size / What deal with the angels / Awarded him a better tubular prize."

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Washington is a town where there's all kinds of allegations. You've heard much of the allegations. And if people have got solid information, please come forward with it. And that would be people inside the information who are the so-called anonymous sources, or people outside the information — outside the administration."

— GEORGE W. BUSH
CHICAGO, SEPT. 30, 2003

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Let the race begin: Councilmen hit the campaign trail

Race for local governing seats is underway

BY JOHN F. MULLER

Special to the Daily Press

CITY HALL — With four days left before candidates can file nomination papers, all four City Council incumbents up for reelection have made it clear they will run for another term.



Bloom



Katz



Feinstein



Genser

While several potential candidates have considered running against the incumbents, the field of opposition has remained largely unclear. For the first time ever, a Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce political action committee will endorse candidates who will run against incumbents — a move that could change a political landscape that has been dominated by the Santa Monicans for Renter's Rights group for 25 years.

Mayor Richard Bloom announced this week he would seek a third term. Bloom has sat on the City Council since 1999.

"There's a personal reason and a public reason (I'm running for

See COUNCIL, page 5

It's a family affair



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

Paul Grymkowski and volunteers clean up on Wednesday after his twice-weekly 'Paul Grymkowski Family and Friends Picnic' at Palisades Park. Grymkowski feeds up to 150 homeless people on Wednesdays and Thursdays in the park, just west of Arizona Avenue. On Wednesday, Grymkowski served up bagels, pastries, fresh fruit from the Farmer's Market, vegetarian chili and salad. Despite an ordinance passed by the City Council under pressure from the business community to reduce the number of homeless people downtown, Grymkowski continues to host gatherings for people who are hungry, some of whom are elderly on fixed incomes. The ordinance stipulates that feeding large groups of people requires a permit from the county health department and City Hall approval for events over 100 people. Grymkowski said it's everyone's constitutional right to gather in the park just like any other group.

Details of market crash expected to be released

California Highway Patrol report should become public, despite possible effect on trial, judge says

BY JOHN WOOD

Daily Press Staff Writer

SM COURTHOUSE

Nearly every detail of the July 16 Farmer's Market crash recorded by investigators in a 914-page report should become public, according to a tentative ruling handed down Wednesday.

Included in the report are interviews with elderly driver Russell Weller, his wife and dozens of witnesses, as well as details about Weller's health and driving record. Weller, 87, of Santa Monica, killed 10 people and injured 63 when he plowed through an outdoor market last summer.

The decision to release the report was a change in course for Santa Monica Superior Court Judge Valerie Baker, who's kept the report sealed to protect the ongoing criminal case. Judge Baker was set to release a heavily edited version of the report Wednesday, but changed her mind after lawyers for the Los Angeles Times joined the court proceedings, arguing the entire report should be made public.

Prosecutors and Weller's defense attorneys have fought vigorously to keep the report sealed. They fear that if its details are



Russell Weller

widely publicized it will impair their ability to select an impartial jury, and therefore prevent Weller from having a fair trial. Weller in January pleaded not guilty to 10 felony counts of vehicular manslaughter with gross negligence. He is expected to stand trial this fall.

LA Times attorney Kelli Sager pointed to a variety of high-profile media cases, arguing the court is obligated under the First Amendment to release the report in its entirety.

Though Judge Baker went through the report section by section on Wednesday, explaining

why each should be released, she will hear further argument on the hotly contested matter next week before she hands down a final ruling. In her tentative decision, Judge Baker said she carefully weighed First Amendment issues against the privacy rights of those listed in the report, as well as Weller's right to a fair trial.

Judge Baker has overseen all of the civil lawsuits stemming from the fatal market crash, which in recent weeks have gained momentum. At least 13 civil cases have been filed against Weller, the City of Santa Monica and Bayside District Corp., a nonprofit organization that manages downtown. Lawyers said City Hall and Bayside were targeted because they should have known the accident could occur and should have erected barriers to prevent Weller's 1992 Buick LeSabre

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Eddie Guerboian

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Keep your own counsel, Taurus

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 fire remains undaunted. Strong beginnings become possible if you listen to a family member. His or her presentation could be negative; get past that. Use your high-voltage energy positively. Tonight: The question is: What can't you do?



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
*** Listen, but don't judge. You might be a lot tougher than others think. Saying you're not sure or giving no answer at all works, though you might not be the most popular guy or gal on the block. Do needed research. Think before you leap. Tonight: Keep your own counsel.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
***** What feels right on target might not be. Evaluate and think before you take a leap of faith. Friends have many great ideas for YOUR finances. Review information carefully before taking any risks. Look to your long-term interests. Tonight: Happy as a clam.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)
**** You might be overly serious and raining on another's parade. Your way of handling a personal matter could vary. Focus on your work and public image. Consider another's action carefully. He or she could be a bit glum. Tonight: A must appearance.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
***** Investigate new ideas openly. You might have a tendency to shut down, which is unusual for you. Work on something different. Work on being open. Ask experts. Find those who are off-beat in their thought patterns. Tonight: Treat your mind.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
***** Visualize a long-term wish more carefully. See what goes on within a relationship or partnership. You might feel like getting what you want is going slowly. Be upbeat. Look at what you desire, and know in your heart that you are heading in that direction. Tonight: Say "yes" to a request.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
***** Be positive about what is going on around you. You have many opportunities. Someone could feel a lot weightier than the others. Realize that the effort just might be worth it. Think positively. Tonight: Where the crowds are.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
**** You are entrenched in your work and want to clear your desk — after all, it will be the weekend before you know it. Investigate options that allow you more constructive and dynamic methods of completing your tasks. Tonight: Work as late as you need to.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
**** Someone might come down with a strong no or yes, and with difficult terms on top of it. You might opt for other solutions. Break past rigid thinking. What feels like intuition needs to be followed through on. You have a strong premonition. Tonight: Pretend it is the weekend.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
*** Stay happy and be more in touch with your long-term desires regarding family and security matters. You have a hunch about money. Follow through, as you could be right-on, but don't risk anything that you cannot afford to lose. Tonight: Happy at home.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
***** You know what to say and when to say it. Your intuition works in an personal relationship. Be serious about a work- or health-related matter. Return calls and network. Romance perks up for those who are available. Tonight: At your favorite spot.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
*** Realize what you need to do in order to make ends match financially. Your discomfort could be obvious when you say "no" to a child or loved one. Be resourceful, and you'll come up with less expensive ways to indulge yourself and others. Tonight: Vanish home.

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LOCAL



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Breathing life into summer safety

By Daily Press staff

The American Red Cross of Santa Monica is hosting its eighth annual “ABC’s of a Safe Summer” event on Saturday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Santa Monica YMCA will host the event and free CPR lessons will be offered for adults and children. In addition to the lessons, there will be free swimming, free literature on summer safety and free first-aid lectures. Anyone may register for the CPR classes by calling (310) 394-3773.

Nursing a spiritually in-tune staff

By Daily Press staff

In an effort to close the gap on the nursing shortage, a local hospital is hosting an open house to draw new caregivers.

The Heart and Soul of Nursing Open House and Career Fair invites experienced nursing staff RNs and new graduates to Saint John’s Health Center on July 13 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. The event will feature information about nursing opportunities at the health center and educational seminars on health care topics.

The seminar will be led with a lectures on “Managing the Spiritual Needs of Patients” by clinical nurse specialist, Chris Maupin and on “The Power of Prayer in Healing” by sister Marlene Panko.

“Nurses are the heart and soul of health care, and we have tremendous respect for all of them,” said Mary Ellen Blakley, a RN and vice president of patient services at St. John’s Health Center.

The open house/career fair will take place in the health center’s team room at 1328 22nd St. For more information on the event and to make reservations, call (310) 829-8824.

Barking up which tree?

By Daily Press staff

The National Arbor Day Foundation has created an 84-page guide book that will enable anyone to identify up to 157 different types of trees in the western United States.

The book is designed with drawings of tree leaves, needles and other identifying features such as berries, seed pods, cones and acorns. The “What Tree is That?” booklet’s step-by-step identification guide enables even the most inexperienced nature lover leaf out exactly what tree they have discovered.

“Helping people enjoy and appreciate trees is central to the educational mission of the Arbor Day Foundation,” said John Rosenow, president of the foundation. “Being able to identify trees is important to knowing how to care for them and how to plant the right tree in the right place.”

To receive the tree ID guide, send your name, address and \$3 to “What Tree is That,” The National Arbor Day Foundation, Nebraska City, Neb., 68410 or visit arborday.org.

Therapy for the body, mind and holistic spirit

By Daily Press staff

The Body Mind & Spirit Expo will offer Santa Monicans a chance to visit free holistic living exhibits, massage therapists, astrologers and lectures this Saturday and Sunday at the Santa Monica Civic Auditorium.

There have been about 60 exhibitions each year for the past 20 years, and it will debut for the first time in Santa Monica this weekend.

The Expo brings together ancient healing traditions and new age technology in the holistic field to educate and entertain the body, mind and spirit of everyone interested.

The entire weekend of 120 exhibitors, 70 free lectures and a shopping bazaar will be available for a \$10 pass. The Expo will take place on Saturday from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and on Sunday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. at 1855 Main St.

Expo-goers will be able to get their aura photo taken, have their future revealed, purchase nutritional supplements and connect with lost loved ones. For more information on the event contact Laura Suter at (541) 482-3722 or visit www.bmse.net.



SURF REPORT

Today look for a mix of small NW wind swell and fading SW swell. The morning low tide will keep most spots pretty drained out early on, but as it fills look for the better-exposed breaks of Northern LA County to see knee- to waist-high waves. Standout breaks see occasional bigger sets early, but then lose size and consistency through the afternoon. South Bay spots stay below waist-high through the day, with a few waist-high sets at best SW/combo breaks in the north half of the bay (mainly on the tide push). Look for light and variable wind in the morning to build out of the W in the 8-12 knot range for the afternoon.

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

Today the water is:

65°

	LOW TIDES				HIGH TIDES			
	Morning	Height	Evening	Height	Morning	Height	Evening	Height
SATURDAY	5:07	-1.6	4:16	2.2	11:47	4.1	10:32	7.0
SUNDAY	5:54	-1.6	5:13	2.3	12:36	4.2	11:22	6.5
MONDAY	6:41	-1.1	6:16	2.3	N/A	N/A	1:26	4.3
TUESDAY	7:28	-0.6	7:28	2.4	12:15	5.9	2:16	4.4
WEDNESDAY	8:14	0.0	8:51	2.3	1:13	5.1	3:08	4.6
THURSDAY	9:00	0.7	10:22	2.0	2:20	4.3	3:59	4.8
FRIDAY	9:48	1.3	11:47	1.5	3:44	3.6	4:48	5.0

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The QLine

There has been some debate lately over the perceived increase of graffiti in Santa Monica. City Hall-sponsored murals, which line walls throughout town, have been the latest targets.

Some people consider graffiti as art, while many believe it’s nothing more than vandalism. Its roots derive not from gang activity, but from the hip hop culture when individuals created it to express themselves.

So this week, Q-Line wants to know, “Why can’t graffiti be considered an art form, regardless of its illegality? Why isn’t it socially accepted?”

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

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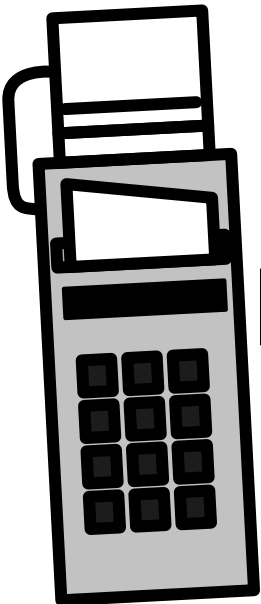
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OPINION

GUEST COMMENTARY BY DAVID E. JOHNSON

Kerry-Edwards ticket will be a tough sell

One of the most charismatically challenged candidates in presidential history has selected his running mate, and in doing so has added much needed pizzazz to the Democratic ticket. But has John Kerry created a winning ticket and given voters an experienced running mate to pit against Vice President Dick Cheney? The early answer is probably not.

Discount the early polls that show that the selection of John Edwards is a popular choice. More meaningful polls will come when the glow of the Kerry announcement fades. Those polls will show that Edwards has not moved any states into the Kerry column. The last time a vice presidential candidate was able to do so was in 1960, when Lyndon Johnson carried Texas and the election for John Kennedy.

According to most reliable polls, Edwards will not be able to carry his home state of North Carolina nor any other state in the South. The Kerry campaign was aware of this when they made the pick. Of the candidates under serious consideration by Kerry, only Florida's Bob Graham or Louisiana's John Breaux could possibly have carried their states on election day for Kerry. Indeed, for all of the talk of a Southerner being on the ticket, the Edwards choice will have no impact on the South. Indications are that the Kerry campaign realizes this and that is why they have stopped advertising in targeted Southern states such as Arkansas and Louisiana.

John Edwards is a capable and charismatic politician with his stump skills honed during his days as a trial lawyer. Yet will he pass the late night comedians laugh test? Probably not. All of the Democrats who mercilessly attacked Dan Quayle (who has served in the House of Representatives for several terms and was in his second Senate

term) will now have to explain how a Senator with less than six years of experience is prepared to be a heartbeat away from the presidency. The answer is he is not. One of the best kept secrets among Democrats was that no matter how much they were impressed by John Edwards' skills on the campaign trail, they did not believe that he was ready for the presidency. His foreign affairs and defense experience is practically nil. In a debate with Vice President Cheney, those issues will dominate and play to the vice president's advantage.

In selecting Edwards, Kerry also forgot the one rule in politics — don't be overshadowed by your understudy. In this case, he doubtlessly will come in second in reviews on style when compared to the debonair Edwards.

Indeed in selecting Edwards, Kerry violated his own criteria in selecting a running mate. The key ingredients he argued were compatibility (it is an open secret that Kerry is not overly fond of Edwards) and the ability to assume the presidency (Kerry stated on the campaign trail only Dick Gephardt, among his rivals was). Then why select Edwards? Because party leaders felt that his campaign needed excitement and a boost with Edwards the ticket. Now the question is will there be buyer's remorse? Probably so. For Republicans this is a ticket ready for the attack on the issue that is the president's strongest — leadership in war. Kerry-Edwards does not seem to rise to that challenge.

(David E. Johnson is the CEO of Strategic Vision, LLC, an Atlanta-headquartered public relations and public affairs agency with offices in Florida and Georgia. He may be reached at djohnson@strategicvision.biz).

U.S. to Bush: 'Wait just a minute there, ol' bub'

NEWS ON THE EDGE

BY RON SCOTT SMITH



Step aside, Scott Peterson. Move over, Kobe Bryant. Go to the rear, Michael Jackson. Robert Blake? Martha Stewart? As if Court-TV wasn't already about to burst from all the current or pending high-profile cases on the docket, along comes the mother of all televised jurisprudence, the trial of Saddam Hussein.

When the deposed dictator stepped into a courtroom last week that had been pointedly set up in one of his former palaces, had the shackles removed from him, and faced off against an Iraqi judge hand-picked by the coalition to bring swift justice, all the world was watching. What they saw was — you can't teach an old dog new tricks. After nine months of hard time in God-knows-where, and after reorienting himself to the bizarre courtroom scene in front of him, he quickly became his old self, the defiant ruler, pointing his finger at the young judge, questioning his authority and the legality of the proceeding. "I am the current President of Iraq," he said, when asked his occupation. One of the charges read against him was for the illegal attack on neighboring Kuwait 15 years ago. He responded by calling the Kuwaitis "dogs," who treated Iraqi women as cheap whores. He called Bush a "criminal" for attacking his country, and called the whole proceeding "theater." Theater it surely was — it blew Peterson and Kobe out of the water as such — and don't expect the rest of this thing to be televised as promised. In what was to have been a showcase of the newly sovereign Iraq taking care of Iraqi business, it has already backfired, as polls taken after the arraignment show over half of all Iraqis — whose liberation from the evil tyrant is what American soldiers have spilled their blood for — believe he should go free.

To show how the newly liberated and Saddamless Iraq will share security responsibilities with their conquerors, a unit of American soldiers was to have been joined by Iraqi police on a foot patrol through the hostile streets of Baqubah last week. The sight of American and Iraqi forces walking shoulder to shoulder was to be symbolic of the new cooperative spirit. But the Iraqis chose to walk at least 20 feet behind the U.S. soldiers, fearful of being seen marching through their hometown next to the invaders. When the GI's would stop to allow them to catch up, their new partners would stop too. When the American in charge, Capt. Chris Solinsky, suggested a couple of the locals take a look down a side street, the whole group peeled off, and disappeared for the night. "Great," Solinsky deadpanned. "Sovereignty is bringing us together."

Sovereignty appears to be as lucrative an occupation for the mighty Halliburton Corporation that continues to rebuild the mess. But now, even the Pentagon is growing leery of the profiteering, as their own Defense Contract Audit Agency has officially declared Halliburton's system of billing the government, "inadequate," failing to determine in many cases whether subcontractors are even performing the work they're being paid for. Former Halliburton workers have issued signed statements, documenting the routine waste of money. They cite \$45 cases of soda, \$100 bags of clean laundry, and \$85,000 trucks being routinely abandoned in the desert. A former high official of the company, Marie Young said, "There was this whole thought process that we can spend whatever we want to because the government won't crack down in the first year of a war." Vice President Dick Cheney, ex-CEO of Halliburton, who still reportedly owns hundreds of thousands of shares in the company, would appear to have no incentive for cracking down in the first year of a war, or even the second or third.

Before the words, "John Edwards," were fully out of John Kerry's mouth on Tuesday morning, attack dogs were barking all over the airwaves. The bald Rush Limbaugh mocked the part in Edwards' hair, the effeminate Michael Medved declared him gay, and the shameless pitchman, Sean Hannity, called him a money-grubbing ambulance chaser. Then the balanced Bill O'Reilly dug into his archives and spun out some old video showing the Senator voicing opposition to placing American soldiers on the Mexican border, presumably to expose him as a weakling on terror. Welcome to the junkyard, Edwards.

Meanwhile, the Bush-Cheney campaign — perhaps fearing their media pets might not be able to adequately chew up the young North Carolinian — is stepping it up, up on high. A guide has been issued to religious congregations across the nation listing "duties" and a series of deadlines to be met in order to best serve the reelection process. They've called for church membership directories to be handed over to state campaign committees. Volunteers of the faithful have been enlisted to pass out voter guides and register new voters at Sunday sermons, as church and state continue to become less and less separate on the slippery slopes of Bushamerica.

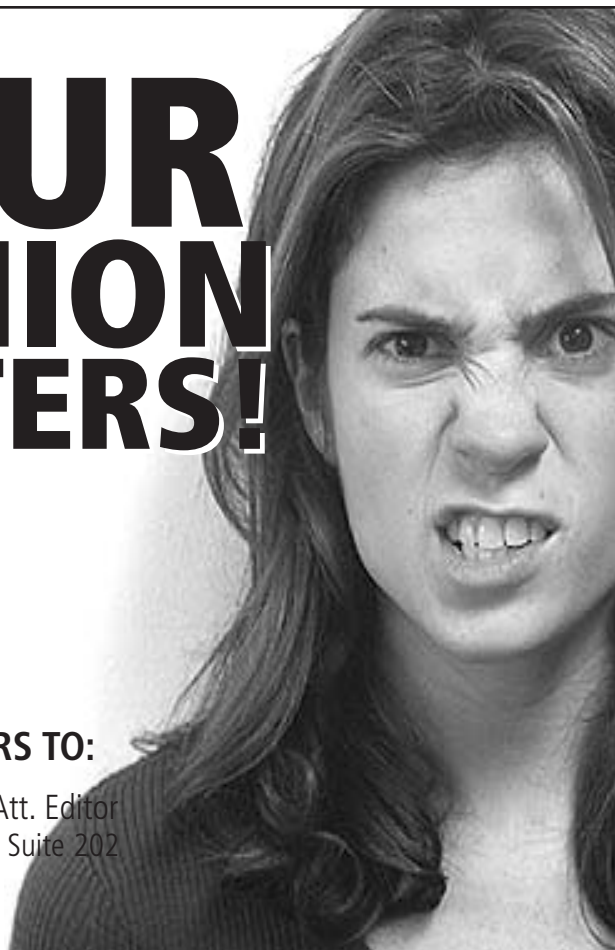
This new activism within the walls of the house of the Lord is being blasted by conservative religious leaders as well as civil libertarians. Reverend Richard Land, a member of the Southern Baptist Convention, a key Bush constituency, said, "It's one thing for us to do that, it's a totally different thing for a partisan campaign to come in and try to organize a church ... Wait a minute, bub."

(Ron Scott Smith can be reached at EdgEOFthewest@aol.com).

YOUR OPINION MATTERS!

PLEASE SEND LETTERS TO:

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LOCAL



Deadline for candidates to run for council is Aug. 9

COUNCIL, from page 1

reelection)," Bloom said. "The work that we've been doing is really ongoing work so there are a lot of things that remain undone that I've been involved in. Personally, I feel that the work I do on the council is really gratifying work."

Councilmen Ken Genser and Herb Katz also said that they would seek another term. Councilman Michael Feinstein was unavailable for comment, but he has begun fundraising for the upcoming election.

Bloom said he wants to continue working to promote affordable housing and social justice in Santa Monica, as well as sustain the city's commitment to education. He also stressed the city's need to address homelessness through a 10-year plan that involves more than 80 people within Los Angeles County.

Bloom said he hopes his contributions over the past five years will make positive change more attainable in the years to come.

"I've helped provide leadership for the city to help get us through the budget crunch," Bloom said. "I think I've helped

to foster a collaborative environment between the members of the City Council and the members of the public.

"I'm really proud of the work we've done expanding our park system and all that that brings to the community," he said. "I'm proud of the work we've done and really cognizant of the work that needs to be done on affordable housing, social justice and sustaining our commitment to education, which is going to require that we keep the city fiscally sound and financially strong."

Genser said he will focus on improving city planning and education if reelected. Genser has been on the City Council since 1988.

"We're going to be looking at our land-use policies to make them more compatible with the city the people want to have," Genser said. "Also, I think we need to keep increasing the amount of open space we have in the city and do whatever we can to preserve affordable housing."

Katz reserved his comments for a July 12 official statement. He served on the City Council from 1984 to 1992 before he was elected to a third term in 2000. Feinstein

has been on the City Council since 1996.

Education advocate Matt Dinolfo, a doctor at UCLA Healthcare in Santa Monica, will make a run at a council seat. Dinolfo may be endorsed by the chamber. He ran unsuccessfully in 2002.

Jerry Rubin, who officially changed his name earlier this year to "Jerry Peace Activist Rubin," will join Dinolfo in the race. Rubin, a fixture at public meetings and community gatherings, has twice run for local office unsuccessfully.

Among those reportedly considering entering the race are local school board members Julia Brownley and Maria Leon-Vasquez, as well as former board member Patricia Hoffman. Both Pico neighborhood activist Maria Loya and Tom Viscount of the Red Cross said they are considering runs.

Abby Arnold, who missed getting a seat by less than 300 votes in 2002, said she will sit out of the 2004 race. Arnold lost despite SMRR backing.

"I'd like to wait until there's an open seat," Arnold said. "My supporters are disappointed that I'm not running again this year, but I think I have to wait ... We

need to have some opportunities to get some new people on city council, but to do that we'll need to get some incumbents to retire one of these years."

The chamber will decide which candidates it will endorse in late August or early September, said Tom Larmore, who heads the chamber's political action committee. The chamber announced its decision to support candidates in February. It has traditionally been at odds with the SMRR-dominated City Council. Larmore said there had been a "pretty good turnout" of alternative candidates seeking the committee's backing.

Potential candidates must file nomination papers between July 12 and Aug. 9. For a candidate to qualify for the Nov. 2 election, he or she must file the signatures of at least 100 registered voters.

Judge switches course, wants report public

REPORT, from page 1

from entering the market on Arizona Avenue.

More lawsuits are expected to be filed. Geoffrey Wells, who works at the high-profile downtown Santa Monica firm of Greene, Broillet, Panish & Wheeler, said he plans to file another 13 civil lawsuits next week. Four of those represent victims killed in the crash, and the other nine represent victims who were injured.

"We wanted to wait as long as we could, so we could try and get the report before (we filed the lawsuits), but that's not going to happen," Wells said Wednesday.

The one-year anniversary of the Farmer's Market crash will be next Friday. While some victims harbor anger towards Weller for the fatal

accident, others said they have forgiven him. But City Hall is another matter. Mark Miller, 40, who was struck as Weller sped through the market, said he thought the city should have known the accident could occur and done more to protect shoppers.

"Older people get confused and hit the gas instead of the brake. All those kinds of things happen, I think anyone could place themselves in those shoes," said Miller, a filmmaker from Westchester. "(The city) could have easily prevented this. Prevented the sorrow, the suffering and the pain."

Miller said he was at the market buying avocados, basil and flowers when he saw Weller's car coming through the market and tried to run away. He wasn't successful. Weller's car struck him and threw him into the air, snapping both of his legs and breaking more than a dozen of his teeth.

"I heard people scream, 'Look out' and as I turned and looked over my left shoulder, I saw things flying up in the air," said Miller, who now has a plate and several screws in each leg. "It looked like a tidal wave, or a special effect out of a movie."

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21 AND OVER

Business

Don't be in the dark, know about your business



MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS

BY COREY K. QUINN, BRETT A. BROWN

Individual investors are used to keeping a close eye on the value of their portfolios. But, as a small-business owner, are you also keeping careful watch over the value of what is probably your biggest investment of all — your business? Although you may regularly monitor sales and profit figures, doing so without knowing how much your business is worth in today's market is comparable to looking only at your portfolio's earnings without knowing your portfolio's overall worth. Just as investment decisions should be geared toward maximizing the value of your portfolio, the same criteria should apply to decisions that affect your small business.

CURRENT VALUATIONS ARE IMPORTANT

Most small business owners realize the importance of knowing their companies' worth during major transitional periods such as mergers and acquisitions, shareholder buyouts and initial public offer-

ings. However, every major business decision you make has the potential to affect the value of your company. Have you ever thought about relocating to more modern facilities, upgrading your technology, expanding your product line or changing your management team? If so, knowing the current value of your business will help you to more accurately predict what the impact of such actions is likely to be.

ARE PROFESSIONAL VALUATIONS NECESSARY?

When asked, small business owners regularly over- or under-estimate the value of their companies by as much as 50 percent, which is understandable given the complexity of the valuation process. Although no single formula can realistically estimate the value of your business, there are some basic variables that can be applied in most situations. These include current market conditions and the company's stock value, earnings history, finan-

cial condition and future earnings capacity. However, even these basic components may not be as simple as they appear since they deal with numerous complicated factors — such as supply and distribution contracts, tangible and intangible assets, and pending legal and regulatory issues, among others. Professional valuation firms — some of which specialize in serving small to medium-sized businesses — have the resources and experience to collect and interpret this essential information.

VALUATION OPTIONS

Different types of business valuations feature different levels of complexity. As a small business owner, the type that's best for you will probably depend on why you're having the valuation prepared.

If you're preparing a valuation for tax and estate planning purposes, a "59-60" appraisal may be your best choice. Based on IRS Revenue Ruling 59-60 (the IRS standard for estate and gift tax purposes), a 59-60 valuation compares a privately-held company to public companies in the same or a similar line of business and then applies a lack of marketability discount or a control premium.

If, however, you're preparing a valuation for a specific proposal such as a sale, merger or acquisition, you'll probably

need a more detailed appraisal tailored specifically to the proposal. In general, transactional appraisals will require more time and money than "59-60" valuations because of the additional factors (such as products, management and competitors) to be examined.

Regardless of which type of valuation you need, it should be updated on a regular basis. If you review your business plan once a year, consider updating your business valuation at that time. Doing so will help you to evaluate the effectiveness of last year's business decisions and may even offer some insight into the year ahead. And remember, your business decisions — like the decisions that affect your portfolio — should always be geared toward maximizing the value of your investment.

Although frequently overlooked, current valuation is an extremely useful tool for the small and medium-sized business owner.

(This article does not constitute tax or legal advice. Consult your tax or legal advisor before making any tax- or legally-related investment decisions. Morgan Stanley is a service mark of Morgan Stanley Dean Witter & Co. Services are offered through Morgan Stanley DW Inc., member SIPC. To reach Morgan Stanley financial advisors Corey Quinn or Brett Brown, call (310) 319-5210.)

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STATE BRIEFS

Titan loses counseling contract

By The Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — The federal government has decided it will not renew Titan Corp.'s contract to provide up to \$250 million worth of counseling services for U.S. soldiers and their families.

In August, Titan was given the job of setting up Military One Source, a 24-hour counseling service available to help solve a range of problems — from finding a mechanic to marital strife — around the globe via the Internet, e-mail or telephone.

Titan's contract, paid for initially out of emergency funds appropriated by Congress for the war in Iraq, was good for one year, with an option for four more.

But the General Services Administration, which awarded the Titan contract on behalf of the Department of Defense, will allow the deal to lapse next month, a spokesman for the agency confirmed Tuesday. The GSA cited concerns raised by its own inspector general in an ongoing audit of the Titan contract and others.

"Based on the work we've done, we've had concerns with the way the contract was being used," spokesman Jack Lebo said. He said he could not be more specific until the audit was finished by the end of September.

Wil Williams, a Titan spokesman, said the company has not been notified of the GSA's decision. He declined further comment.

Lights out on appeal

By The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — A federal appeals court on Tuesday dismissed more than a dozen lawsuits that accused power companies of double-billing the state of California millions of dollars during the energy crisis.

In tossing out Attorney General Bill Lockyer's lawsuits against Reliant Resources, Inc., Dynegy Inc. and other energy concerns, the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that California courts don't have jurisdiction over the issues at the heart of the complaint.

The suits alleged the generators reaped millions by being paid to hold power in emergency reserve that they then sold on the open market. Lockyer argued the companies were paid \$49 million between 1998-2000 to reserve electricity that was not delivered when requested.

The alleged double-billing increased electricity prices by forcing California's grid operators to buy power from those companies on the expensive spot market instead of calling on their reserve capacity when supplies became tight during the 2000-2001 energy crisis, Lockyer charged. The companies deny the charges.

The San Francisco-based appeals court's Tuesday action upheld a lower court that dismissed the same suits last year, ruling that the state must state a claim before the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission instead of suing under a California business fraud statute.

ACLU lands in SF

By The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Can San Francisco get any more liberal?

It's home to gay marriage, medical marijuana, Haight-Ashbury and free love. Beginning Tuesday, there's an additional 2,000 card-carrying members of the American Civil Liberties Union here for the 84-year-old group's annual meeting.

Watch Michael Moore's Fahrenheit 9/11. Get instruction on social activism. Send a message to a member of Congress. Learn about racial profiling and the First Amendment or get a lesson in bioethics.

Or hit the ACLU's temporary storefront at the Hilton Hotel for the latest in civil rights paraphernalia.

"This is our chance to rally the troops, to go over where we are and where we need to go," Anthony Romero, the group's 38-year-old executive director, said in an interview.

While the group does not endorse political candidates, Romero did not hesitate to criticize the Bush administration and what he described as its "erosion of civil liberties in the name of national security."

The three-day conference is more than preaching to the choir. A First Amendment panel includes former Whitewater independent counsel Kenneth Starr and Wayne LaPierre, the executive vice president of the National Rifle Association.

"We want to hear from people who disagree with us," Romero said.

Violent crime down

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Violent crime, including homicides, rape and robbery, dropped in California in 2003 compared to the year before, according to a state report released Tuesday.

The state Department of Justice's report found a 3.4 percent drop in violent crime, with rates of homicides per 100,000 people decreasing 1.5 percent.

Forcible rapes were down 4.2 percent, robbery decreased 3.6 percent and aggravated assaults were lower by 3.2 percent. There also were drops in arson and burglary.

The report found that violent crime rates have dropped 48.4 percent from 1992, the peak year for violent crime in California over the past two decades.

"As state and local governments struggle with limited resources, our peace officers continue to do a herculean job in protecting our communities," Attorney General Bill Lockyer said in a statement. "The combination of tight budgets, a sour national economy and increasing populations will require law enforcement to do more with less and rely heavily on high-tech tools to keep our streets safe."

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STATE

Unorthodox California record label succeeds

BY BRAD KAVA

Associated Press Writer

MONTE SERENO — San Jose's Mike Park is one of the most unlikely record executives in the country. He's hardly known in his hometown, but is internationally recognized and respected for putting out quality albums by bands who later make it big.

Over eight years, the 34-year-old has quietly sold an astounding 2 million discs out of his parents' Monte Sereno garage through his Asian Man Records label. Park — a musician himself — has stuck to his beliefs, insisting that things be done his way: He will produce discs only for bands that, like the title of his own recent solo album, play for "the love of music," not just money.

In a business with a 95 percent failure rate, Park is the West Coast's version of Buffalo's Ani DiFranco, the per-

former and entrepreneur who has been hugely successful despite turning her back on the mainstream music industry. He believes in the do-it-yourself punk rock ethic, and regularly turns down offers that could make him rich.

"Money, I realize, is a necessary evil, but I think it drives people in the wrong way. I try to stay away from it," says Park, who lists as one of his best accomplishments the fact that everyone who has worked for him has received a health care plan.

"I sign people who are making music to make a statement. A lot of times I go about finding bands with the knowledge that this won't sell, but I don't care. The fun is putting out what you like."

"Today, what he has done is a huge success," said Mark Bliesener, the author of a guide to the music industry called "The Complete Idiot's Guide to Starting a Band."

"Records aren't selling the way they used to. People are getting their music in other ways, and it's not a matter of course that you will sell a few hundred thousand units of anything. If you can sell 2 million discs, especially with a small company that doesn't have a huge overhead, that's a great accomplishment."

Small being the operative word. Park's company has one full-time employee, Mya Osaki, who handles accounting, graphics, answering phones, advertising, the Web site. Then there is his mother, Sonia Park, who picks up the mail at the Monte Sereno post office, makes lunches and furnishes the garage.

"I think some of the general public have the wrong idea and believe we're this huge record company with tons of employees," Park wrote on his Web site, www.asianmanrecords.com. "But we've only got one phone line (with no call waiting), a fax machine, and just recently purchased a second computer."

His own musical accomplishments can't be denied. He was one of the first to help popularize California ska music, the reggae-flavored sound that spread around beach communities and has the pop band No Doubt as one of its most popular artists.

Park's first Asian Man disc was 1995's "Misfits of Ska," which featured early performances by Sublime, Less Than Jake and Reel Big Fish, groups that went on to big success.

He has released rock, rockabilly, punk, jazz and experimental albums by bands from as far away as Switzerland and Japan.

He also keeps the price of his discs down, selling most for around \$8 (he pays shipping) and some in packs of

two for \$10 — prices that do little to boost his bottom line.

He scored his biggest hits with the first three albums by Chicago's Alkaline Trio, an "emo" (short for emotional) punk band, a group described by the Internet site allmusic.com as "hands down, the perfect listening in the wake of a broken heart."

Those albums, released from 1998 to 2000, sold a couple of hundred thousand copies for Asian Man, before the band moved onto a bigger label. In keeping with his industry-defying ethic, Park had encouraged them to move on to a bigger label that could do more to promote and distribute their work.

"I tried to get them to leave after the second album, but they wanted to stay with us," Park says.

Park was raised in Monte Sereno and attended Los Gatos High School, a childhood that is documented on his album, "For Love of Music," a tender Elvis Costello-flavored document that deals with, among other things, racial slights he encountered as one of a few Asians at the school.

His father, Shin Young Park, who came from Korea in 1965, was a biochemist at San Jose Hospital for 30 years before he died in 1999. His parents were skeptical of their son's choice of profession.

After attending San Jose State University Park chose to play music in the ska band Skankin' Pickle.

"I always heard: 'You have to get a real job. You can't do this.'" But he earned his father's pride after articles in Korean newspapers celebrated his accomplishments with his record label.

"It's tough for Asian-Americans who want to go into the arts," Park says. "You are encouraged to play an instrument, but if you want to do it professionally, your parents say 'No, it's a hobby.'"

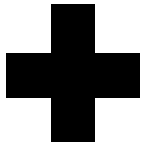
Park wants to establish a nonprofit foundation that will create a music hall and school for teens in downtown San Jose.

He's working to raise \$250,000 in the hopes of opening a hall that will offer all-ages concerts and be a place where young people can learn all aspects of concert production, including operating lights, booking acts, doing sound and selling tickets.

"I feel like I haven't supported the scene," he says. "I never play in San Jose. I never signed any San Jose bands. I want to help out some kind of underground movement. Think of how big this city is, and we have no all-ages venue. I'd like to open something top-notch, with a pro sound system and a pro attitude."

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Santa Monica Daily Press

NATIONAL



Kerry, Edwards head out on four-day campaign

BY LIZ SIDOTI
Associated Press Writer

CLEVELAND — An upbeat John Kerry campaigned for the first time with running mate John Edwards on Wednesday and boasted that the Democratic team has a “better vision, better ideas” than its Republican counterpart — and joked, “we’ve got better hair.”

One day after Kerry chose Edwards as the vice presidential candidate, the two senators offered glowing critiques of each other at a downtown plaza in Ohio, a critical battleground state.

Introducing Edwards in Cleveland, the first city to get electricity, Kerry welcomed “a different kind of electricity called John Edwards.” The Massachusetts senator called his running mate a man with “passion, conviction and strength.”

“He represents the best of the hope of our country, the best of opportunity,” Kerry said.

Kerry also poked fun at himself as well as his running mate for something the two often are teased about.

“We’ve got better vision, better ideas, real plans. We’ve got a better sense of what’s happening to America — and we’ve got better hair,” Kerry said, laughing.

Edwards praised Kerry for showing “strength and courage and determination” during the Democratic primary. “And the truth is, it’s the same strength, courage and leadership that he showed his whole life,” he said.

Kerry and Edwards sought to dispel any notion of ill-will from the primary campaign by embracing and laughing together like old friends. The two promised that together they would fight for the middle class. And, they criticized President Bush.

The entire day had a celebratory feel and it was definitely a family affair.

Earlier, the candidates, their wives and children appeared on the Kerry family’s suburban Pittsburgh estate for family photographs before heading to Ohio and then to Florida to kick off four days of campaigning that

will end Saturday with a rally in Edwards’ home state of North Carolina.

Edwards, a constant grin on his face, said he had assumed when Kerry called him on Tuesday morning that it was another reporter calling. “I was very pleased to have gotten the news,” he said.

“This is a great privilege for me — a great opportunity to serve my country, which I love so dearly,” Edwards said.

Kerry said the two families spent last night talking about the announcement and having fun getting to know each other better. He joked that the ticket was announcing a new campaign manager.

“Jack Edwards is taking over everything,” Kerry quipped, referring to Edwards’ 4-year-old son. “He does a wild cannonball.”

In Raleigh, N.C., President Bush dismissed Edwards’ credentials to be vice president, curtly telling reporters. “Dick Cheney can be president.”

Amid questions about the depth of Edwards’ experience after less than six years in the Senate, the Kerry campaign on Wednesday defended the selection by pointing to his service on the Senate Intelligence Committee and his participation in an inquiry into the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

“He brings a great deal to the table and actually more than the current president did when he was elected in 2000,” Mary Beth Cahill, the Kerry-Edwards campaign manager, told “Good Morning America” on ABC.

Polling conducted the night after the choice of Edwards was announced indicated a favorable impression among voters toward Kerry’s choice. Sixty-four percent in a CNN-USA Today-Gallup poll taken Wednesday night said the choice of Edwards was excellent or good.

In 2000, just over half said they felt that way about the choices of Republican Dick Cheney and Democrat Joe Lieberman. Nine in 10 Democrats, and seven in 10 of all voters, said they were satisfied or enthusiastic about the Edwards pick, according to a CBS News poll.

On Capitol Hill, House Republican leaders dismissed

Edwards as another liberal Democrat and doubted he would gain the party serious support in Southern states.

“It’s not a very balanced ticket,” House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., told reporters. “Senator Kerry is the No. 1 liberal in the Senate and Senator Edwards is the No. 4 liberal in the Senate.”

“There has been a trend over the years that has rejected those liberals that come home and talk conservative,” said House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, R-Texas. “That’s why Republicans are the overwhelming majority party all across the South.”

Although Hastert said Edwards “didn’t even carry his own state against Kerry,” Edwards won both his native South Carolina during the competitive phase of the primary race and then North Carolina, which gave Edwards a victory even after he had dropped from the race.

Waste mars border crossings

BY ARTHUR H. ROTSTEIN
Associated Press Writer

CORONADO NATIONAL MEMORIAL, Ariz. — Sheets of used toilet paper drape manzanita bushes here. They dangle from creosote or cholla cactus elsewhere in southern Arizona.

Empty sardine cans lie on the ground next to family photos and deodorant containers. Discarded clothing, empty water bottles and soiled diapers litter the sides of trails that countless illegal immigrants have blazed in the sand.

These are sights that have become all too common across Arizona’s harshly beautiful desert borderlands over the years, marring ranches, scenic settings like the foothills of this memorial, forests and wildlife sanctuaries alike.

“It is very severe,” said Beau McClure, special assistant with the Bureau of Land Management for international programs. “It is near crisis conditions in many areas.”

Illegal immigrants from Mexico and other Latin American countries have created the trails of refuse over the years while crossing into this country.

Cleanup efforts have scarcely dented the problem. The trash has continued to pile up despite Border Patrol crackdowns that have added agents and high-tech equipment to try to stop the hundreds of thousands of immigrants who brave the Arizona border each year.

The Border Patrol has again embarked on an effort this year to curb the flow using increased manpower and technology, including aerial drones. It’s targeting people, not trash, but success on the former front could translate into success on the latter.

Residents and land managers along the border aren’t confident it will alleviate either, however.

“Realistically I don’t think it’s going to change until they put the military on the border,” said Jack Ladd, a southern Arizona rancher.

Like the other three U.S. states on the Mexican border, Arizona always had its share of illegal immigration. But the numbers began to surge in the 1990s as crackdowns in Texas and California began to push illegal

immigrants and the smugglers who bring them here to other, easier entry points.

Arizona became a favored crossing spot, and Phoenix, its largest city, became a major hub for smuggling operations.

The environmental degradation has become among the migration trend’s most visible consequences.

Periodic cleanup efforts are ongoing at various times and locations, but no one is coordinating them statewide. Most are voluntary, including past efforts to clean villages on the Tohono O’odham Indian Reservation and along heavily traveled trails through the Buenos Aires National Wildlife Refuge.

The BLM received \$1.3 million from Congress during the past two years to clean up trash and restore damaged lands. It has shared the money with other federal agencies, organizations and communities.

Most often, ranchers, park rangers and other employees end up picking up trash in the course of their daily work.

Plastic 1-gallon jugs, which immigrants use to carry water for their desert treks, are among the most common litter.

Conservatively, every adult crosser is thought to carry at least a gallon of water.

“All the bottles and containers that they carry probably last maybe a day,” said Ronald Ventura, chairman of the Baboquivari District of the Tohono O’odham Indian Reservation, another key crossing point. “Of course, when you drink your bottle of water up, you toss your container.”

But the refuse is much more diverse.

A few years ago, there were 45 abandoned cars on the Buenos Aires refuge near Sasabe, and enough trash that a volunteer couple filled 723 large bags with 18,000 pounds of garbage over two months in 2002.

Illegal immigrants coming through the 117,000-acre preserve daily have a high potential to affect its wildlife as they’ve impacted its endangered or rare plants, said Sally Gall, acting refuge manager.

Humble said the diseases most frequently associated with exposure to human waste are hepatitis A and giardiasis, a parasitic intestinal infection.



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NATIONAL

Despite Sudanese gambits, Powell convinced of Darfur crisis

BY GEORGE GEDDA

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — It was the leather shoes that caught the eye of U.S. officials with Secretary of State Colin Powell in a camp for Sudanese uprooted by ethnic violence.

Sudanese forced from their homes by war or famine normally have the most primitive footwear or none at all. Many had leather shoes at the camp and obviously didn't belong there. As U.S. officials saw it, they were assigned to intimidate actual residents who might be inclined to tell their harrowing stories to Powell and his party, including reporters.

In the days before Powell's visit to Darfur region in western Sudan last week, he and his colleagues had been aware that the Sudanese government might try to put the best face on a dire situation.

Powell has said repeatedly that the visit to the al-Shouk camp was not to investigate but rather to call international attention to the Darfur crisis, for which he believes Sudan's Islamic government bears heavy responsibility. The number of Darfur's displaced by raiders exceeds 1

million, many of whom are expected to die.

Powell also was relying on other sources to keep tabs on the situation. He got an earful from private U.S. relief groups and U.N. officials during an hour-long meeting before visiting al-Shouk, where 40,000 people are sheltering. He was told of the murders, rapes and the razing of villages, all said to have been committed by government-backed ethnic Arab militias against Darfur's black African population.

The government denies any role in supporting the so-called Janjaweed militias. It attributes the unrest to competition over land and resources.

After meeting with the relief experts, Powell boarded his van, which had been flown from Washington for the occasion. His aides worried that the van, its weight substantially increased by armor plating, could sink in Darfur's mud.

It made the trip to al-Shouk without incident. In terms of relief supplies, the camp is better off than perhaps any other in Darfur. Some camp residents told reporters about the murder of close family members. Others balked, citing the

presence of government agents.

Powell made a 25-minute walk through the camp, accompanied by relief experts. He moved hurriedly because he did not want to get caught in a sandstorm brewing nearby.

When he finally reached a shelter at the end of his tour, a group of women presented him with a petition suggesting that all was well in Darfur.

His delegation realized that the women were government agents. Not only were they well-dressed, they were overweight.

For weeks, Powell had been in almost daily contact with U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan on ways to pressure Sudan to lift curbs on delivery of humanitarian supplies to Darfur and to permit the safe return of the displaced to their homes. Another goal was a peace settlement between Darfur's Arab and black populations.

When Powell learned that Annan was planning to visit Sudan last week, he decided to go there at the same time, adding Khartoum at the end of two-city trip in Europe.

The plan called for Powell and Annan to deliver back-to-back messages to

President Omar el-Bashir that he must act to end the suffering. The one-two punch by the world's two best-known diplomats would be difficult for el-Bashir to ignore, or so officials hoped.

By week's end, el-Bashir had pledged to send troops Darfur to end militia violence and to remove all obstacles to delivery of relief supplies. There also were promises to start a peace dialogue among the rival factions. It remains unclear whether these assurances will be fulfilled.

Sudan's effort to orchestrate perceptions about camp life in Darfur did not stop with Powell. The day after he visited al-Shouk, Annan made a stop at the Meshtel settlement, where he expected to find 1,000 displaced people. To Annan's astonishment, all had been loaded on trucks and carted away.

"Where are the people?" Annan asked incredulously. A Sudanese official explained that the people were removed because conditions were too grim.

Annan turned down an offer to tour the same camp visited by Powell the day before.

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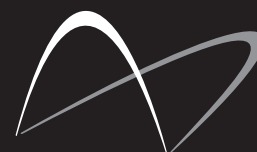
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INTERNATIONAL



Recent violence shows little has changed in border town of Tijuana

BY ELLIOT SPAGAT

Associated Press Writer

TIJUANA, Mexico — This sprawling metropolis of 1.2 million has made repeated attempts to shake its image as a hotbed of cheap booze and underground vice.

In recent years it has launched a city betterment committee; a council empowered to punish corrupt police; and construction of a new convention center.

But the campaign's benefits are continually undermined by the bloody violence that erupts from the city's notorious drug trade, which long has controlled much of the narcotics sent into the United States.

The recent slaying of a newspaper editor, a crusader against drug dealers and corrupt officials, and a later shootout on city streets were dramatic examples of how little has changed here in the southern neighbor of San Diego, which itself boasts of being "America's Finest City."

Francisco Ortiz, a founding editor of the weekly Zeta, was gunned down last month as he sat in a car with his two young children at midday. Police later arrested four men linked to the Arellano-Felix drug cartel in a brazen daytime shootout, but it remains unclear whether they were involved with Ortiz's slaying.

This year, the city's crime rate, which includes everything from petty theft to murder, is up, as are the number of American tourists complaining of violent crimes, but Tijuana continues to draw trinket-hunters, shoppers seeking discount prescription drugs, and late-night revelers who take advantage of Mexico's drinking age of 18.

Each weekend night, state tourism officials say about 6,000 Americans, mostly young Californians, arrive here. Tijuana itself is home to about 70,000 U.S. citizens, according to the U.S. Consulate.

Observers note most of the crime occurs in outlying neighborhoods, far from the central Avenida Revolucion tourist zone, and violent crimes often are tied to the drug trade. Tourists have not been targeted in the recent wave of violence, according to Liza Davis, spokeswoman for the U.S. Consulate.

"For the average American visitor, the situation has not changed significantly," she said. "There are still risks, but we don't think there is heightened risk."

But, certainly, there have been high-profile crimes against Americans. Since its fiscal year began on Oct. 1, the U.S. Consulate has fielded complaints of 35 violent crimes against Americans, up from 20 for the entire previous year. Some of the increase, however, may be due to a policy shift which has San Diego police taking crime reports that are now sent to Mexican authorities.

Tijuana's Honor and Justice Council — a panel of two police officials, two City Council members and two citizens — began fielding complaints from American tourists about crooked cops in November 2002. Of the 16 officers so far accused, two were fired, six suspended and the others exonerated, according to the U.S. consulate.

In October, an Iowa woman said she and her husband were detained by Tijuana

police after buying medicine at a pharmacy and that she was raped when her husband left to withdraw bribe money. One officer is jailed awaiting trial; three alleged accomplices were released on bail.

The recent headlines have had an unsettling effect among several visitors who walked along Revolucion one recent evening.

"The paranoia level is definitely a little higher," said Steve Jones, a Dallas aerospace engineer who visits Tijuana about four times a year on business trips to San Diego. "Stay on the main drag and don't stay too late is what my gut tells me."

Joe Peabody of Toccoa, Ga., said news of Ortiz's slaying upset the 30 children he guided on a three-week Christian mission here. Still, it didn't stop him from letting them go on a shopping spree as the trip drew to a close.

"As long as you're smart and you stay alert, I think you're OK," said Peabody.

The U.S. State Department hasn't stiffened its warning on the dangers of visiting Tijuana. The government has a blanket warning for all Mexican border cities, mainly that visitors should be especially careful in red-light districts in early morning hours.

Store owners and tour operators say the city began to lose its allure in the early 1990s as craft shops on Revolucion began to disappear. Today, an eight-block stretch is a mix of souvenir shops, adult entertainment bars and pharmacies.

Business hit a low when tightened security measures enacted after the Sept. 11 terror attacks created long lines at the international border, discouraging visitors, store owners said.

Baja California Tours Inc., a San Diego tour operator, bypasses Tijuana for scenic points a few miles south, including the beach town of Rosarito and the port city of Ensenada. It canceled a July dinner tour in Tijuana because there weren't enough takers. Owner Barbara Littlemore calls the recent spate of violence "nothing new."

"Tijuana is just a hard sell," she said. "Nothing has really changed."

Daniel Rendon Valenzuela, 62, says foot traffic at his two stores is only about half what it was before the 2001 terror attacks. He has posted losses every month since August 2001 — except for summertime — ending an unbroken string of profits since he opened his first store in 1982.

The dwindling number of attractions has coincided with a steady drumbeat of violence, notably the assassination of presidential candidate Luis Donaldo Colosio in 1994.

"The violence isn't just a few months old, it's 10 years running," said Victor Clark Alfaro, a Tijuana human-rights activist. "During those 10 years, there are bad months and there are months of relative calm."

Las Pulgas, a disco and boxing arena that draws about 15,000 customers every weekend, employs 60 security guards, up from 10 before the 2001 terrorist strikes. It's a comfort for many since, as general manager Enrique Ruiz Arretche says, "people are scared to go out."



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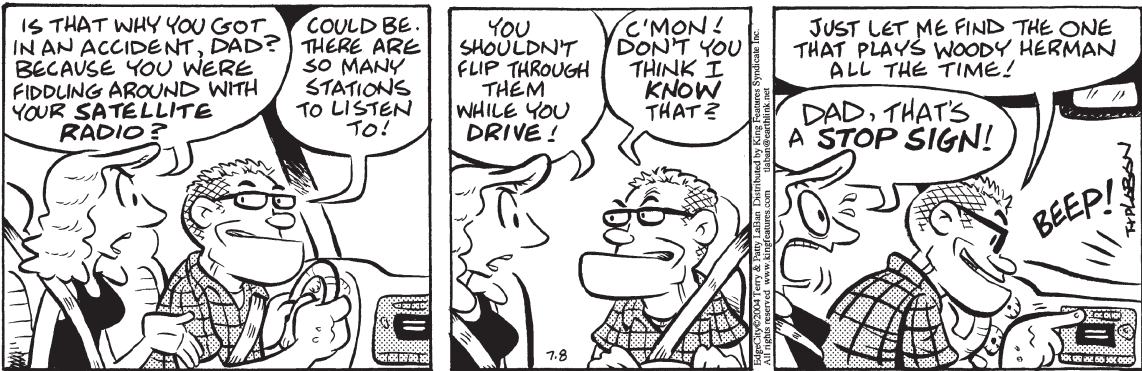


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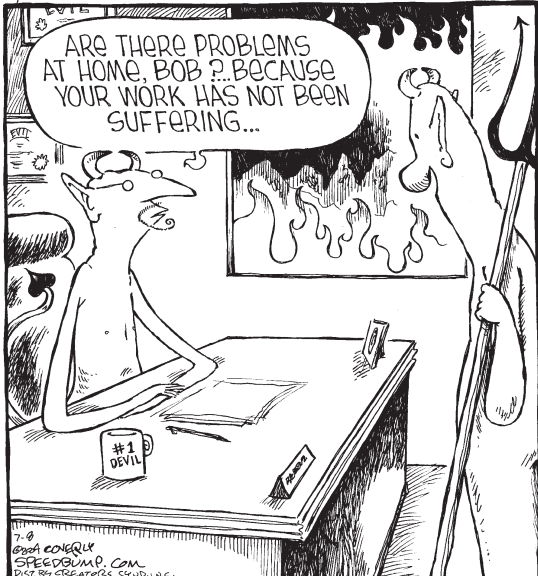
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DOWN

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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Mary-Kate Olsen not the best choice to promote health

By The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Out of “sensitivity to their current situation,” the “got milk?” magazine ads featuring twins Mary-Kate and Ashley Olsen have been retracted.

Mary-Kate recently entered a treatment program for what her publicist called a “health-related issue.” People and Us Weekly magazines have reported the 18-year-old actress has an eating disorder.

Ashley recently canceled a trip to Australia to promote the twins’ new film, “New York Minute,” to be with her sister.

Hugh Williams, a director with the Milk Processor Education Program, told The Associated Press on Tuesday the ads were pulled out of “sensitivity to their current situation.”

Williams said the ads may run in the future.

The magazine ads featuring the Olsen twins, each with the trademark milk mustache, began running May 7 and were to continue to the end of July.

BERLIN — Tobey Maguire admitted to a fear of heights as he brought summer blockbuster “Spider-Man 2” to Berlin for its European premiere.

“Standing on the edge of a building, looking over the edge — it’s so horrible. I hate it,” Maguire said Tuesday ahead of the screening. Still, he said, he had no problem swinging over streets on a crane or a rope.

In “Spider-Man 2,” Maguire reprises his role as Marvel Comics’ young Peter Parker, transformed by a mutant spider’s bite into a superhero. Alfred Molina joins the cast as Spider-Man’s new nemesis, Doc Ock, a villain encased in a tentacled suit.

“It took 15 to 20 minutes to get it on,” he said. “I don’t mind when I’m sitting in it,” he added, but moving around was less comfortable.

The film pulled in a record \$180.1 million in its first six days in North American theaters after opening just ahead of the Fourth of July holiday weekend.

NEW YORK — The Dogg will bark yet again.

Hip-hop star Snoop Dogg is recording a new album with production powerhouses The Neptunes tentatively titled, “R&G: (Rhythm & Gangsta) The Masterpiece,” Geffen Records said in a statement Tuesday.

The album, set for release Nov. 16, is a co-production of Snoop’s Doggy Style label, The Neptunes’ Star Trak imprint and Geffen Records.

Snoop will serve as executive producer on “R&G,” which will feature a collaboration with Gap Band founder Charlie Wilson. The album will be Snoop’s latest since the platinum-selling “Paid Tha Cost to Be Da Bo\$\$” in 2002, which yielded the hit single “Beautiful.”

Snoop was featured on Dr. Dre’s 1992 album, “The Chronic.” Since then, he’s starred in his own MTV show and created his own clothing line.

GALLATIN, Tenn. — Country singer Marty Stuart is serving his sentence for drunken driving.

Stuart, 45, arrived at the Sumner County Jail about 10:30 p.m. Monday, said Chief Deputy Bob Barker.

The singer will be jailed for 48 hours and receive four hours of credit for time he served the day of his arrest last month, Barker said.

He is being held in an area close to the jail supervisor for his protection, Barker said.

Stuart was arrested June 23 after police responded to a minor traffic accident in the parking lot of a fast-food restaurant. He was charged with first-offense drunken driving and released on \$1,500 bail.

Agent: Star Trek’s ‘Scotty’ diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease

SEATTLE — James M. Doohan, the actor who played Scotty on the ‘60s “Star Trek” TV series, has been diagnosed with Alzheimer’s disease, his agent confirmed Tuesday.

Doohan, 84, was diagnosed with Alzheimer’s “with-in the last couple months,” agent Steven Stevens told The Associated Press.

He said Doohan is in the beginning stages of the disease, a progressive neurological disorder that afflicted former President Ronald Reagan, who died June 5.

Doohan also has suffered for some time with Parkinson’s disease, diabetes and fibrosis, the latter due to chemical exposure during World War II when he was a soldier in the Canadian military, Stevens said.

He lives in Redmond, a suburb northeast of Seattle. A telephone number wasn’t listed, and a call to his son, Chris Doohan, of California, wasn’t immediately returned Tuesday.

Stevens said he last saw Doohan in January in Los Angeles when the actor made a cameo appearance in the upcoming horror film “Skinwalker: Curse of the Shaman.”

“He didn’t have any energy and he seemed very frail. But as soon as they yelled ‘action,’ he was the same old feisty Scotty,” said Stevens, who has represented Doohan for 28 years.

Doohan’s career spans more than 50 years, but he’s best known for his role as the USS Enterprise’s affable chief engineer, Lt. Cmdr. Montgomery “Scotty” Scott, in the original 1966-69 “Star Trek” TV series.

He’s also appeared in several “Star Trek” movies.

Doohan has lived in Redmond for almost a dozen years with his wife, Wende. They have a 4-year-old daughter and two older sons, and Doohan has four children from a previous marriage, Stevens said.

Doohan is scheduled to receive a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame Aug. 31.

He plans to attend a three-day “Star Trek” farewell convention, Aug. 28-30, in Hollywood, Stevens said. All surviving members of the original Enterprise crew are scheduled to attend, including William Shatner, who played Capt. James T. Kirk, and Leonard Nimoy, who was Mr. Spock.

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