

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

DAILY LOTTERY

FANTASY 5

17 23 27 32 33

DAILY 3

Daytime: 6 1 0

Evening: 4 8 4

DAILY DERBY

1st: 03 Hot Shot

2nd: 10 Solid Gold

3rd: 12 Lucky Charms

RACE TIME: 1:49.90



NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ South Carolina Gov. Mark Sanford, intending to score some publicity in his battle against what he believes is irresponsible spending by the state legislature, held two small pigs in his arms at a photo opportunity outside the House chamber in May, telling reporters that one was named "pork" and the other "barrel." Before the event ended, both pigs had soiled the governor's suit jacket and the elegant carpet at the State House, forcing Sanford's press secretary and speechwriter to pull quick duty with cleanser and paper towels.

■ Breakaway Mormon polygamist John Daniel Kingston, testifying in May at his child-abuse trial in Salt Lake City (he had been charged with threatening to beat two teenage daughters if they got their ears pierced), strongly asserted his devotion as a parent, despite having to keep up with numerous children from his reported 14 wives. However, when asked to name the 13 children he had with one of the wives, he struggled through nine names before giving up.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Pride and dignity would belong to women if only men would leave them alone."

EGYPTIAN PROVERB

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Past Midnight: Local bookstore gone for good

Born in Venice, liberal bookstore was 34 years old

BY JOHN WOOD

Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN — In the end, the most difficult thing for staffers at the Midnight Special Bookstore was sales were picking up — just not quickly enough to cover the bills.

Even sadder for some customers of the popular independent bookstore was that they'd only recently discovered the shop's new location on Second Street. It opened there last winter, after being pushed off the Third Street Promenade by a spike in rent.

It didn't last for long. After half a year at its new location, the 34-year-old liberal bookstore permanently closed its doors Thursday afternoon, ending a six-day, 50-percent-off sale that left its shelves half bare, and its longtime

employees exhausted and jobless.

"People are coming in to say good-bye, and I'm not handling it very well, I'm not handling it very well at all," said owner Margie Ghiz, a Sunset Park resident who first volunteered for the political bookstore in the '70s. "I might just leave. It's very hard.

"People do not believe we're closing, they think we're moving. They really believe that we're permanent," she added. "I just hope our ideas are permanent, because the store doesn't matter as much as what we believe in. Too many things need fixing, and they aren't going to get fixed by themselves ... We have to do that. For that, I'm sad — that we're not going to be part of it."

HUMBLE BEGINNINGS

Started in a tiny Venice shop in 1970 on the

See BOOKSTORE, page 6



John Wood/Daily Press

Worker Olin Tezcatlipoca on Thursday afternoon closes the door at Midnight Special Bookstore on Second Street for the last time.

Brownley withdraws from council race

By Daily Press Staff

Julia Brownley has decided not to run for City Council, she announced Thursday.

She will hold her seat on the local school board until 2006, when she plans to again consider a run at the council.

"While my family and many community leaders and friends have encouraged me to run for City Council, I believe at this time I can serve the city the best by continuing my leadership on the school board," Brownley said in a statement. She said her decision came after a lot of personal deliberation.

Brownley has served on the school board since 1994. She won the most votes among the six candidates who ran for school board in 2002 and has been a Santa Monica resident for 21 years.

"I will continue to advocate for progressive policies in the areas of education, social justice, the environment and open space, housing, the arts, and continuing to ensure the unique qualities and amenities of living in Santa Monica," she said.

With Brownley's withdrawal, the group of candidates preparing to challenge the four incumbents for their council seats includes Matt Dinolfo, Jerry Rubin



Brownley

See BROWNLEY, page 7

Bond proposal advances

BY SHRADDHA R. JAISWAL

Special to the Daily Press

Santa Monica College board members voted unanimously on Wednesday to move forward on the \$175 million bond proposal that voters could see on the November ballot.

However, board members made it clear that the approval should not be construed as a vote in support of placing it in front

of voters. The board's official vote on the proposal is expected in August.

"I hope that a vote tonight is not tantamount to saying 'yes' to next month, and I wouldn't want my vote to be perceived that way," said Carole Currey, vice-chair of the SMC board.

Although the board approved writing the language for the ballot measure, some members expressed concerns echoed by

See SCHOOLS, page 7

Transient falls to his death

By Daily Press Staff

A homeless man fell to his death over the holiday weekend after he rolled off the Palisades Bluffs and onto the Pacific Coast Highway. The man's death marked the second unnatural death of a local transient in four days.

It's unclear whether the death was an accident or suicide. A witness notified Santa Monica Police at 7:22 a.m. Saturday after he was drawn to 33-year-old David Villanueva's falling body by dust rising from the bluffs. Villanueva fell facedown in the northbound lane of the PCH's 1200 block. He was pronounced dead at 8:27 a.m. at Santa Monica UCLA Medical Center.

David Campbell, a spokesman for the Los Angeles County Coroner, said the

coroner's office would conduct an autopsy in the next few days. Villanueva's ex-wife was notified of his death, Campbell added. The last she heard of Villanueva's whereabouts, he was staying in a homeless shelter in the Pasadena area.

The transient found murdered on June 30 near the entrance to the YMCA parking lot on Sixth Street has been identified as Scott Dishmon. The 35-year-old man was found dead at 5:57 a.m., and police are investigating the homicide. No suspects have been identified.

Dishmon suffered deep lacerations to the back of his head, said Campbell, who described the transient as a victim of "blunt force head trauma."

— John F. Muller

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Cancer, out and about

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)**
★★★★★ Dig into any project that must be done before you split for the weekend. You might have a difficult time staying present with your work and those you are with. Take off as soon as you can. Work on being efficient. Tonight: Take off. If you can, get out of town.

 **TAURUS (April 20-May 20)**
★★★ Your ability to read between the lines directs your activities in the next few days. A partner has a lot to share. Carefully listen to news around work or from someone in charge. Make the calls that you must. Don't gab away. Tonight: Vanish, for now.

 **GEMINI (May 21-June 20)**
★★★★★ Aim for more of what you want. You could be surprised by how easily everything falls into place. Groups and crowds are particularly lucky for you. Flex with others as only you can. Use care when spending. Tonight: You are the party.

 **CANCER (June 21-July 22)**
★★★★ Take charge when others seem to flake out. Your abilities might be tested, but you'll come out on top. A mini-reorganization might be necessary if you want to clear out your work. Invite associates to join you. Tonight: Out and about.

 **LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)**
★★★★ Your mind is everywhere but on the moment. Hop on the computer. Do some research. Think in terms of gains by detaching and using your endless imagination. You can organize yourself and become more efficient. Tonight: Do something a bit different. Break out of your routine.

 **VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**
★★★★★ Do what you need to do in order to get ahead. Ask for a partner's or associate's help. Whatever is on your plate or must be done, you'll accomplish with ease if you ask for another's support. Say thank you in a way that is meaningful to this person. Tonight: Indulge yourself and another.

 **LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)**
★★★★ Others dominate, and there is nothing that you can do about it. Of course, you cannot be responsible for what others do. Be open for discussions, as they will be one of the few avenues in which you can express your feelings. Tonight: Just don't be alone.

 **SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)**
★★★★ You might have too much to do and could be overwhelmed. Stay steady. If you need to purchase an item to help complete your work or a project, do just that. Think in terms of efficiency. Yes, you can be an efficiency expert too. Tonight: Relax tonight, because tomorrow ...

 **SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)**
★★★★★ You're finally in sync with others, although you might want to do something different at the last minute. Others enjoy your enthusiasm and spontaneity. Be the free spirit that you are known to be. Tonight: How 'bout a ballgame or a concert?

 **CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**
★★★ Head home as early as you can, even if it means bringing work with you. You need to get through a lot of paperwork before tomorrow. Make it your business to do what you have to do. After all, you do want to enjoy yourself this weekend. Tonight: Order in.

 **AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)**
★★★★★ You flagrantly flip through your messages and take long coffee breaks. Call a spade a spade. You're not in the mood to work. Why not take off and do your thing, if you can? Know that you will have to make up what you don't do right now. Tonight: Hang out with friends.

 **PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)**
★★★★★ Balance your budget. Handle your finances with care. You might need to deal with a boss about money. Or perhaps you are asking for overtime. Take care of your needs before you decide to plunge into your weekend. Tonight: Lie low. Rest — you will need it.

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LOCAL



DEBBIE ANDERSON

1955 – 2004



Santa Monica nurse Debbie Anderson mourned

By Daily Press staff

Debbie Anderson, a surgical nurse and first assistant at St. John's Hospital in Santa Monica, died in a car accident near her home in Brentwood on June 24.

Anderson, 48, worked as a nurse for more than 20 years.

She was born Dec. 27, 1955, and grew up in Redding. She moved to Los Angeles in the early 1990s.

She began her career as a surgical nurse in Redding, where she assisted in complex heart surgeries. She later worked at Encino-Tarzana Regional Medical Center.

She was an accomplished athlete who enjoyed track and field, discus, snow skiing and working on ski patrol. She became the National Water Skiing Champion in the mid-1980s. She was also a 14-year-old yo-yo champion in her high school days.

Anderson also enjoyed golf, bicycling, tennis and daily fitness training. Just this year, she had started learning to surf.

During her life, she traveled throughout the United States and to Costa Rica and Nova Scotia. Earlier this year she traveled across Europe, where she visited the homeland of her ancestors in France and met many of her relatives.

Anderson was a member of All Saints Episcopal Church and regularly attended services in both Pasadena and Beverly Hills.

Anderson is survived by her parents, Richard and Evelyn Anderson of Redding; her brother, Frank Anderson of Redding; and other relatives and friends.

A memorial service for close friends and family will be held Saturday, July 10, at 10:30 a.m. at All Saints Episcopal Church in Beverly Hills.

CORRECTION — The CPR event hosted by the Santa Monica Red Cross highlighted in the July 8 edition contained an error. The event will be held on Sunday, July 11 at the YMCA.



SURF REPORT

On Friday look for a mix of modest SW energy and some slowly building NW ground and wind swell. Look for the better-exposed SW breaks of Northern LA County to see knee- to waist-high waves. Standout breaks see occasional bigger sets. Average South Bay spots stay below waist-high through the day, with a few waist high and occasional bigger sets at best combo breaks in the north half of the bay. Look for light and variable to light onshore 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:

66°



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 Q Line

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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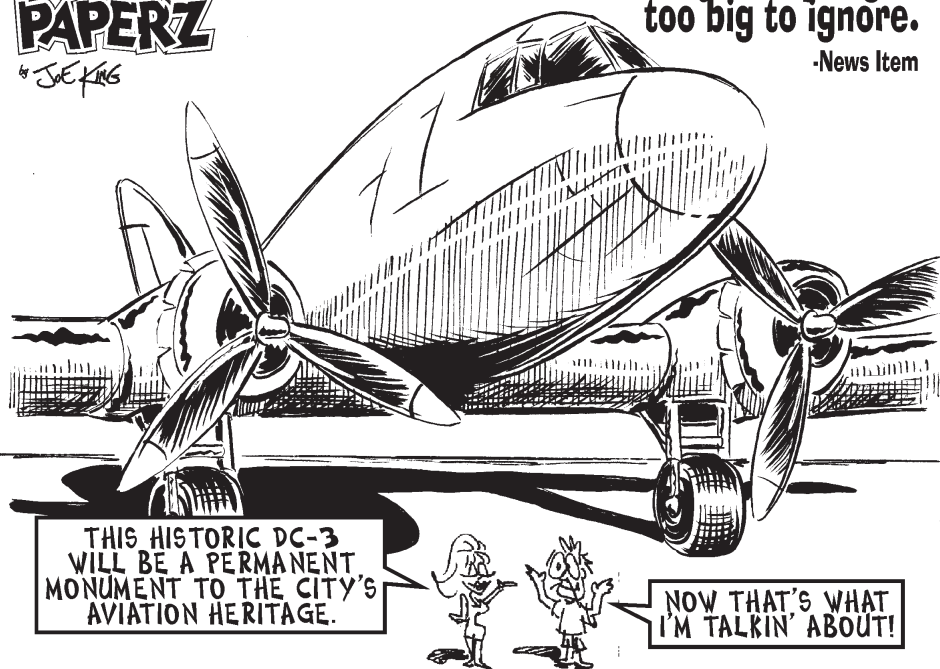
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OPINION

FUNNY PAPERZ
by Joe King

City accepts gift
too big to ignore.
-News Item



"Thumbs Up" to David Price & the Museum Of Flying!

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Homicide story showed bias

Editor:

After reading "Man found dead in YMCA garage," (SMDP, July 1, page 1), I was disappointed that you would allow your reporter to trivialize the murder of a human being by using the article as a platform to vent their anger over receiving a traffic violation. It seemed as if the article was an attempt to ridicule officer Crafton for doing his job, instead of keeping the citizens of Santa Monica informed, which should be the reason the Daily Press is published.

Since you did publish the article, one thing that would be interesting to know that is not mentioned in the article, is how many times was your reporter told to step back on the sidewalk before being issued the citation? Additionally, the statute for which your reporter was cited was a vehicle code section and not a penal code section as your article stated.

Just as police officers have a responsibility to report without bias, members of the media have the same responsibility.

Robert Hernandez

Chairperson, Santa Monica Police Officers' Association

Sick and tired of 'stupid' city

Editor:

This is my first letter to the editor. I was so enraged by one of your stories that I had to write in.

Richard Bloom's comments (SMDP, July 8, page 1) on what issues he wants to work on, social justice and affordable housing, is appalling. Get your priorities straight. We need to get rid of the transients that infest this community, and your way sucks. You need to go.

I am so sick of living in a city that enjoys being stupid.

Pamela Swanson

Santa Monica

U.S. hasn't saved the world alone

Editor:

I agree with Mr. Glasser (SMDP, "Dose of Reality," July 6, page 6) that we are very fortunate to live in the United States of America and we are proud of our country.

However, I take exception to Mr. Glasser's remark "We saved the World in World War I and II." This remark is an insult to all the allies who fought and died to bring freedom to the world. To name just a few, Australians, British, Canadians, Indians, New Zealanders, Poles, Russians, South Africans and so many others from each of the continents. All of them fought with the Americans. We did not fight alone. We did not save the world alone. All the allies won the wars together.

How can we expect the support of our allies if do not give them the credit when it is due?

Beryl Vincent

Santa Monica

Local resident groups are losing their impact



MY WRITE

BY BILL BAUER

One of Santa Monica's oldest "official" neighborhood groups — the Wilshire/Montana Neighborhood Coalition (Wilmont) — will hold its annual congress today at 11 a.m. in the Reed Park Auditorium. Wilmont covers an area bounded by Wilshire Boulevard and Montana Avenue from Ocean Avenue to 21st Street.

Neighborhood groups in Santa Monica began springing up more than 20 years ago. The Pico Neighborhood Association was one of the first and was formed by residents concerned about social issues. Other groups followed with associations being established in Ocean Park, two groups in Sunset Park, Wilshire-Montana, mid-cities, north of Montana Avenue and the Northeast area.

These seven organizations are recognized by the city as "official" neighborhood associations. Each is eligible for city funding up to \$4,000 a year. They must be registered with the state as 501(C) non-profit organizations, have an elected board of directors, have a constitution or bylaws, have regular public meetings and be nondiscriminatory.

Some are now defunct and a few soldier on with limited memberships. One — Ocean Park Community Organization — is enveloped in financial controversy while a couple have been taken over by individuals with personal agendas, appealing to a narrow neighborhood faction. Almost all decisions are made by small boards of directors as opposed to the entire membership.

Nevertheless, City Hall strongly encourages department heads and private developers to outreach to these groups for public input. For example, Wilmont representatives are meeting with developers who plan to expand the Fairmont-Miramar Hotel, which includes a high-rise tower on Wilshire Boulevard at Ocean Avenue. Similarly, Pico neighborhood representatives have met with developer Lantana/Hines, which wants to expand its Olympic Boulevard campus.

Most neighborhood groups have stated purposes. Wilmont's articles of incorporation state that one of its purposes is to "provide and improve, protect, preserve and maintain" affordable housing. So, would Wilmont endorse a controversial high rise or a large, undesirable development in return for 40 or 50 units of affordable housing the developer says he'll build on Second Street?

Neighborhood groups often ignore public opinion because of their leaders' agenda. Example: Even though an overwhelming number of neighbors supported

a recent ballot initiative requiring homeowner approval of city landmark designation, the North of Montana Association's board opposed it.

Recently, a City Hall planner researching zoning changes told me that most people he interviewed on the street completely disagreed with the position the local neighborhood association's board of directors had taken. He wondered if neighborhood groups were really in touch with their constituents.

In Wilshire-Montana, as in other neighborhoods, vagrants are a huge problem, yet only the City Hall budget, transportation plan, sustainable city plan and the Fairmont-Miramar development are on the published agenda for Wilmont's congress. The "sustainable city" issue is not high on any community needs survey, but it is a politically correct, social issue that city politicians and Santa Monicans For Renters' Rights activists controlling Wilmont's board love to promote.

While these associations often try to influence the big picture, small neighborhood issues are almost always ignored. Last year, when my neighbors and I requested parking restrictions in our neighborhood, I turned to Wilmont for support. One board member told me that preferential parking was unfair to merchants.

The then chairman said Wilmont was too busy to get involved — even though this involved a parking zone covering 10 square blocks of Wilmont's territory. Thankfully, the City Council granted our request but with absolutely no help from our official neighborhood group.

But neighborhood associations do find the time to push for requests by leaders who want something special, such as a stop sign near their homes. Or, a board will just OK a controversial plan, commercial liquor permit or condo project because its leaders aren't impacted.

Wilmont and North of Montana organizations both supported sidewalk dining and more incidental food shops on Montana Avenue, yet most of their board members live blocks away and are not affected by their recommendation. However, neighbors closer to Montana Avenue are not quite so enthusiastic about impassable sidewalks, and the additional vehicular traffic and parking pressures that will result.

City Hall must recognize that opinions from as few as two or three official board members don't accurately reflect neighborhood consensus on any issue. So, it's time to marginalize these middlemen and special interests.

City Hall needs to devise and implement mechanisms that would ensure honest and a more accurate consensus about proposals that affect our neighborhoods and residents now — and into the future.

(Bill Bauer is a longtime Santa Monica resident and a freelance writer).

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Santa Monica Daily Press

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 1427 Third Street Promenade, Suite 202, Santa Monica, 90401, or faxed to (310) 576-9913. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content.

OPINION



Game on: Playtime brings people together

PISTACHIO PERSPECTIVE

BY SUSAN ANN CONNOR



Several times a year, a group of my friends gather for game night. We play everything from Cranium to darts.

A few weeks ago, just as we were winding down after a rollicking game of Taboo — my personal favorite — Clare started up again with “20 Questions.” The guys ughed, but the girls were ready to take the plunge. This tug of war usually goes on until the opportunity for competition gets the better of the boys. And the games begin ...

Ahhhh! Games. Games. What a hoot! The more you play, the more you root! The more you root, the better you feel ... so why not play games at every meal? It is a song sometimes sung with different lyrics, but for us game lovers, a welcome change of verse.

In the last few years there has been a resurgence of games as social entertainment, especially board-game playing by adults. Thank goodness. For a time, there was this misconception that games were child's play. A sure sign of being a grown-up was tossing out Twister.

When in fact if you were hanging out with ancient Egyptians or Greeks, you would find a fascination with Nine Mens Morris, or would cherish checkers. Life with the Moors might mean you'd risk ruin to participate in the next chess match. And if you were a member of the United States Senate in 1889, you'd probably be playing Pigs in Clover during political debates.

There are so many good reasons to play games. Numero uno reason is for fun. Oh, the magic of a group of people having a good time — so focused, chomping on chips, jumping up and down, making guesstures as to what movie Jack's trying to convey by charading himself as a snake. And bingo, when you get it, it's like you're a member of the zone tribe.

Games are an ice breaker. Through a shared fun experience, they break down obstacles and bring together those who

otherwise would not have much in common. Strangers become friends. Families become united. Adversaries become allies. Visualize, if you will, that sitting in a cozy living room, sipping on a beer after consuming home-cooked fajitas made by hosts, Gore and Bush, are Condoleezza Rice, Ted Kennedy, Barbara Boxer and Rush Limbaugh. These four have a monopoly on the chaise lounge and are secretly conspiring over their game plan. Huddled in the opposite corner on two love seats discussing their strategy for charades are Cheney and Hilary, Michael Moore and Ann Coulter. Maybe they might stumble upon creative teamwork and collaborate on a book about it.

Our hearts and our minds benefit from games. When gaming, laughter ensues. One ha-ha usually dominoes to ho-ho-hos and hardy-har-hars. This laughter is darn good medicine for the heart. Not only is it a cardiac workout (belly it up, boys and girls), but it also could reduce blood pressure. “When you laugh, you decrease adrenaline and cortisone production,” said Dr. Steven Allen Jr., who specializes in laughter therapy. Adrenaline and cortisone are both hormonal compounds that have an adverse effect on blood pressure.

And our minds, well, it's no big puzzle to learn that our brains are exercised by games. And the more we practice any game, the sharper we get. Confucius says, “Keep your minds lively.”

And Plato says, “You can discover more in a person in an hour of play than in a year of conversation.” I guess this is the theory my friends and I clue into. We enjoy one another. We know a lot about each other and learn more every game night. We know who wins well, who loses well, and how they play the game. And I have to say, you learn a large amount about yourself, too.

So, get together. Play games. You won't be sorry. It's a guaranteed blast!

Inserted in this article are 25 games, some obvious, some not. It might take a little concentration, but see if you can find them all. Have fun! Lalalala ...

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

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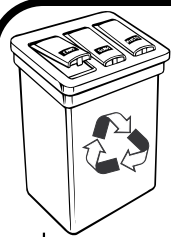
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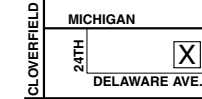
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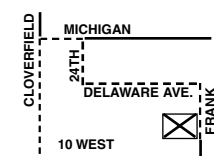
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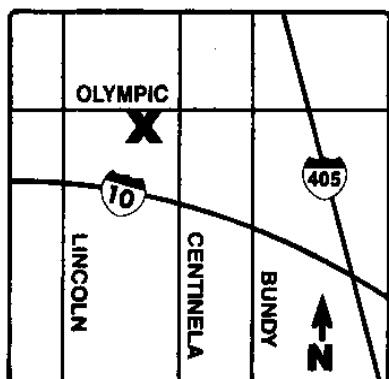


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Independent bookstore closes its final chapter

BOOKSTORE, from page 1

street now called Abbot Kinney Boulevard, the Midnight Special Bookstore grew out of the civil rights movement into a powerhouse that spent more than two decades on the Promenade. It moved to Second Street last winter after its longtime landlord decided he could no longer subsidize the bookstore's rent. But foot traffic was light on Second Street, and Ghiz said it would have taken another year for sales to offset expenses.

Over the decades, millions of volunteer hours were spent in the store — painting, building shelves, helping move boxes of books, even providing professional services such as accounting and legal counsel. Profits, Ghiz said, were rare and always were reinvested back into the bookstore.

"The height of prosperity was, I think, the entire time — in terms of people, attendance at events, interest, our reach," Ghiz said. "We have repeat customers from all over Europe, and Japan ... That, to me, is the height. It never lessened. The money was up and down, but the money was always [there] because we were subsidized by the Marks family. I just put the money right back into it."

"Bookstores don't make money, really."

Asked what she planned to do next, once the store is emptied, Ghiz replied, "I don't know. I've been so wrapped up in this store, I have to take some time of separation. I answer the phone, 'Margie, Midnight Special' — even when I'm home sometimes."

ONWARD AND UPWARD

Competing bookstores might be where some of Ghiz's small group of dedicated workers land next. A few said they wanted to stay in the book business, and others said they didn't. Though their wages weren't high, all workers at the bookstore were given full health benefits.

"I've made my peace with it," said Jason Haldemen, 33, who's worked in the store for four years. "To me it's an opportunity to move onto other things. It isn't saddening, it's frustrating."

Haldemen said he plans to send his resume to a variety of production and post-production houses, collect unemployment checks and use any spare time he has to write.

But for workers such as general manager Ruben Perez, 28, a Santa Monica High School graduate, unemployment checks won't be enough.

Ruben worked at Midnight Special nearly 12 years. He has two young daughters and a third on her way. Add to that the mortgage Ruben pays on a house he and his wife bought in Riverside just two months before Ghiz decided to close Midnight Special, and Ruben's financial situation becomes clearer. His pregnant wife stays at home and cares for their two daughters.

Ruben started working at the bookstore when he was a Samohi freshmen, and dropped out of SMC after two years to focus on work and make more money for his family.

"All my education that I got, it's all here," said Ruben, who also purchased the store's Spanish titles. "I wouldn't trade it for the world."

MURKY ENDING

Shortly after the doors closed Thursday afternoon, Ghiz hosted her fellow independent booksellers from around Los Angeles at a final Midnight Special event, over drinks. Then Ghiz opened up what was left of her collection and invited her colleagues to take the books they wanted.

"I'd rather have them have them, because they understand. They don't just stick them on their shelves and forget," said Ghiz, adding she planned to give any leftover books to charity.

Local leaders rallied behind the bookstore after it closed its Promenade store. They called it a community asset that needed to be preserved. Despite that backing, Ghiz, after renting the Second Street location, said she was hamstrung for months by delays in City Hall. While she was juggling City Hall, her contractor and her architect, Ghiz continued to pay \$15,000 a month in rent.

Rob York, a consultant that has tracked businesses downtown for more than a dozen years, said the closing of Midnight Special is bad for the community and bad for business.

"I think it's a huge disappointment," York said Thursday. "It was an opportunity for Midnight Special to kind of go into this next phase, and also could have been a very positive thing for Second Street ... There were just a lot of issues that came home to roost and, unfortunately, the book business is among the most difficult there is to be involved in."

AFTER MIDNIGHT

Despite the difficult odds, the Midnight Special managed to reach a diverse group of customers, many of whom were present during the store's final moments.

The store was busier in its last two days than it had been since opening on Second Street. Lines stretched back from both front registers Thursday afternoon, and customers lingered inside long after the front door was closed and locked for good. The door was first closed just minutes after 3 p.m., but reopened for another 30 minutes so more supporters could filter in.

A couple of customers in the store snapped photos. Others walked between the bookshelves and looked through the remaining collection as they talked about the store's demise.

"I'm not living in LA since 1996, but every time I come back, I come to this store," said customer Wenqing Kang. Kang, 40, is a graduate student who lives in Santa Cruz.

"It's very sad to me," added Kang, who carried in a bag two Chinese history books he had bought minutes earlier. "It's really sad. But I bought some books. These are the classics of my field. I bought them as a souvenir. I read them before."

INTERESTED IN YOUR DAILY FORECAST?

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LOCAL

Candidates not yet set

BROWNLEY, from page 1

and Patricia Hoffman. Hoffman, a former school board member, will only run with the backing of the Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights group, which has not yet made any endorsements.

Maria Leon-Vasquez also is reportedly considering a run for City Council. Leon-

Vasquez is the president of the school board.

Among those still unsure whether they will run for City Council are Mothers for Justice leader Maria Loya and Tom Viscount of the Red Cross. Potential candidates must file nomination papers between July 12 and Aug. 9.

— John F. Muller

\$175 bond would fund community projects

SCHOOLS, from page 1

community members regarding the specific uses of the bond, the proposal's short notice and whether it was too soon to ask for additional money only two years after asking voters to approve \$160 million in college improvements.

"I think it's critical if we're looking for voter support that we clearly identify what it is we're asking them to do," said SMC trustee Graham Pope.

If approved, \$75 million of the proposed bond would be used solely for SMC projects. Another \$25 million would be spent on joint projects with the City of Malibu, and \$75 million would be used in partnership projects with City Hall.

Although the final project list has not been released, SMC President Piedad Robertson said the community projects would create athletic fields, specifically for women's soccer; a childcare center that would serve the city's children while educating the college's students; and other coastal construction projects. The cost of the educational improvements to the average homeowner would be \$6.60 per month for the next 30 years, according to a presentation made at Wednesday's meeting.

SMC's administration will eliminate all site-specific language, and stick to only declaring the educational purpose and uses of the proposed projects.

"In our view this is a manageable, discussible set of projects," said Don Girard, the director of marketing for the college. "It's not open ended, it's not unlimited, it's not a wish list. It's actually rather well defined."

Aside from the actual project list, community members and officials were turned off by the rushed timing to put the measure on this year's ballot.

"I'm also concerned about the short time frame," said Ed Moosbrugger, co-chair for the Friends of Sunset Park neighborhood group. "I hope that you will feel comfortable that you will have the answers that you need by Aug. 2. If you don't feel comfortable, I think you should consider deferring action on this bond issues."

The proposal was brought to the attention of the SMC board on June 7 and to City Hall just a few weeks ago. Since that time, SMC's administration has been meeting with neighborhoods in hopes of informing the community of the projects and winning their support for the measure.

Despite the apparent rush of the issue, SMC officials said the proposed cooperative bond has been in the works for many months, but talks were delayed because of a dispute between a group of school boosters who formed the "Community for Excellent Public Schools" and City Hall. CEPS was formed to push a charter

amendment onto the November ballot that would force City Hall to give the local school district at least \$6 million a year. However, in May the campaign was abandoned after elected leaders agreed to give at least \$6 million each year for the next five years to the local school district.

"A partnership involves a cooperative environment, and there was an issue out there that didn't lend itself to that discussion," Girard said. "Until the issue between the city and the school district was settled, it was clearly an inopportune time to talk about cooperation."

Although more time would put the minds of some board members and many City Hall officials at ease, Girard said there was nothing that more time would change. Their assessment of 69 percent of the public's support and the need for the facilities would not benefit or disappear with the passage of two years. Instead, it would only delay necessities that are important to both the community and the students at SMC, he added.

"(City Hall, the SMC Board and the community) have asked the questions that should be asked to make sure that these dollars are needed, and that they are maximized and looked after and that they deliver what people thought they were voting on when they said 'yes' to it," Girard said.

Even after discussing the exact projects and why the bond seemed rushed, board members were reluctant to ask for more money. They pointed to the \$160 million Measure U they asked Malibu and Santa Monica voters to approve two years ago.

"We went out under Measure U, we had the potential to encumber the property owners for \$160 million," Pope said. "We told them at the time we were covering a whole myriad of projects that really needed to be done, and this was something that could go on for a substantial period of time."

"Then here we are coming back a few years later and trying to get another kick at the cat."

However, SMC officials said the money for Measure U is being used for things like retrofitting current SMC buildings and maintaining the campus. Instead of using funds for construction, the new bond will provide the students and the community with facilities that serve an educational and recreational purpose.

Despite the expressed reservations, some community members and old SMC alumni vocalized their support of the project.

"This community has to maintain unity for this," said Jerry Rubin, an SMC alum and Santa Monica resident. "That money is necessary. 'You know it, and I know it, and my gosh, all we're asking people to do is sacrifice a Coca-Cola and small popcorn once a month. Give me a break.'"



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FAHRENHEIT 9-11
No matter which side of the political fence you choose to stand on, it's impossible not to be moved by the film's most powerful images. Well-deserving of all the attention it's garnering.
Starring: Michael Moore

THE NOTEBOOK
Rachel McAdams is the best thing going in this otherwise limp flick. Starring: Rachel McAdams, Ryan Gosling

WHITE CHICKS
Diarrhetic house pets produce better crap than this. "White Chicks" is fit for the Pooper Scooper.
Starring: Shawn and Marlon Wayans

THE TERMINAL
It's easy to relate to the main character, who is stuck somewhere awfully boring (when was the last time anyone had fun at an airport?) for what feels like an eternity.
Starring: Tom Hanks, Catherine Zeta-Jones

DODGEBALL: A TRUE UNDERDOG STORY
It's inane, implausible and at times very funny. Anyone who shows up expecting highbrow humor deserves to get whacked in the noggin by a red rubber ball. Starring: Vince Vaughn, Ben Stiller

THE STORY OF THE WEEPING CAMEL
The soul of this magical, simplistic film is as stirring as the visuals.

THE CHRONICLES OF RIDDICK
A fine return to action-hero form by Vin Diesel, but the film suffers from excess and a convoluted storyline.
Starring: Diesel, Thandy Newton, Judi Dench

NAPOLEON DYNAMITE
Boasts enough humdingers to qualify as a winner in what has thus far been a humdrum year for comedies.
Starring: Jon Heder, Jon Gries,

GARFIELD
What abhorrent sin did humankind commit to deserve Breckin Meyer?
Starring: Meyer, Bill Murray, Jennifer Love Hewitt

HARRY POTTER AND THE PRISONER OF AZKABAN
Not only more visually appealing than its forebearers, it is decidedly more mature and interesting. A momentous motion picture that effectively evokes author J.K. Rowling's bookish magic.
Starring: Daniel Radcliffe, Emma Watson, Rupert Grint

THE DAY AFTER TOMORROW
Hampered by galumphing human interest stories, but filled with enough edge-of-the-seat action to make it worth the price of admission.
Starring: Dennis Quaid, Jake Gyllenhaal

RAISING HELEN
In the wake of a recent spate of similar slush - "Jersey Girl" and "Uptown Girls" come to mind - I offer this: Give it a rest, please.
Starring: Kate Hudson, John Corbett

SHREK 2
There are oodles of gut-busting gags for all ages in a sequel that not only does its predecessor proud, but ranks among the funniest animated features ever.
Starring: Mike Meyers, Eddie Murphy, Cameron Diaz

'Riding Giants' catches the right wave

BY DAN DUNN
Special to the Daily Press

"Riding Giants," the latest comer in a recent mini-revival of films about board-riding thrill-seekers, is narrower in scope than last year's winsome encomium to surfing, "Step Into Liquid," but no less appealing. Skateboarding legend turned budding media mogul Stacy

Review

Peralta, who scored in 2002 with his autobiographical documentary "Dogtown and Z-Boys," catches the right wave here with a comprehensive examination of big wave riders, past and present. Surfers, skaters and anyone who just plain enjoyed the aforementioned fare will no doubt get a rise out of "Riding Giants," but there's also plenty here to capture the imagination of damn near anyone with the slightest sense of adventure.

In walking us through the history — at times a bit too leisurely — Peralta focuses his lens on three giants of this mythic, elementally violent world: Greg Noll, surfing's most legendary hotdogger, who is credited with opening the holy grail of big wave surf spots, Hawaii's Waimea Bay; Jeff Clark, who discovered America's big wave capital, Mavericks in Northern California, and spent 15 years surfing the huge break alone; and Laird Hamilton, the

bronzed god from the North Shore of Oahu who is widely considered the most intrepid rider ever to brave the waves. The film is an entertaining and highly informative tutorial featuring a tsunami of archival footage masterfully cobbled together by Peralta and editor Paul Crowder.

(Rated PG-13 for brief strong language. Running time: 105 minutes)

Stacy Peralta: An SM boy hits big time

BY DAN DUNN
Special to the Daily Press

Skateboarding legend turned award-winning filmmaker Stacy Peralta's ("Dogtown and Z Boys") latest documentary, "Riding Giants," pays homage to the fearless athletes who brave the world's biggest swells. Peralta, an avid surfer from Santa Monica, spoke recently about a life spent riding boards, and his reincarnation as a Hollywood mover and shaker.

Q&A

QUESTION: From poor skate rat to award-winning movie director. Did you ever dream your life would turn out like this?

STACY PERALTA: Never, in a million years, did I ever think I'd wind up here. The circumstances we grew up in didn't allow us to think like that. The notion that the choices we made were wrong was constantly being reinforced. None of us ever had any reason to believe that our lifestyle would someday be popular.

Q: They just wrapped shooting on "Lords of Dogtown," a dramatic feature inspired by your documentary "Dogtown and Z Boys." Besides you writing the film and Tony Alva playing a small role, were the original Z Boys involved?

SP: None of the kids who played us in the movie could really match what we did footwise, so both Tony and myself had to stand in for ourselves in some skate scenes. It was really funny.

Q: "Riding Giants" is sure to draw comparisons to another recent surf flick, "Step Into Liquid." How are the two films different?

SP: I think "Riding Giants" falls more under the heading of "documentary." I didn't see "Step Into Liquid," but from what I understand it's more of a traditional travelogue through surfing. What I was more interested in doing was giving more of a historical perspective on surfing.

Q: There's a strong element of territoriality in the sport. Do you think diehard surfers might bristle at the unwanted attention from outsiders that comes along with films such as yours?

SP: Even the hardcore surfers want understanding brought to the thing they do. Everybody wants respect, you know. And when you grow up surfing the way I did — where it was looked down upon as kind of an outcast thing or an anti-social choice — at some point you want the people in your life to know what it is you do, and why you do it, and that it is not a frivolous pursuit. Now, do surfers want more surfers in the water? No,

they don't.

Q: Are you concerned at all that some yahoo might see your movie and kill himself trying to drop into a 50-footer?

SP: Not at all, because it's just too dangerous. Some guy might look at it from the beach and say, "Yeah, I can do this." But the second they paddle out there, they will experience a moment of clarity that will fundamentally change everything they were thinking up to that point (laughs).

Q: There are three primary subjects of "Riding Giants" — pioneers Greg Noll and Jeff Clark, and reigning king Laird Hamilton. What separates these iconic surfers from the rest?

SP: These guys have put their footprints in places others haven't. They broke through that ceiling in their own head that said, "I can't do this," and realized "I can do this, and I will do this."

Q: The film dubs Hamilton the best big wave surfer of all time. Do you anticipate any backlash from other superstars in the surf community, especially given that he's also a producer on the project?

SP: I don't think so. In fact, I was very careful about that. I questioned so many people in making this film, and they not only think Laird is the best big wave surfer, they think he's the

best surfer in the world.

Q: What makes him so great?
SP: He has a very deep relationship with his destiny. Riding those waves is so much a part of his identity, that it goes way beyond fear or desire. It's what he is. What he was made to be.

BONUS QUESTIONS:

Q: What can you tell us about Greg Noll, perhaps the sport's all-time most colorful character?

SP: He's one of America's greatest subcultural heroes. The general public doesn't know who he is, though, because they know so little about the real history of surfing.

Q: In the '80s, you worked as an assistant director on "Gleaming the Cube," "Police Academy 4: Citizens on Patrol" and "Thrashin." You have a favorite?

SP: That's a really tough question. For some I want to say "Police Academy 4" (laughs). It's not exactly a stellar trio though.

Q: The director of "Lord of Dogtown," Catherine Hardwicke ("Thirteen"), seems an interesting choice.

SP: We knew that whoever was going to sign on to direct the film was going to get involved in kind of a cauldron of testosterone, and Catherine was the perfect chemical ingredient to diffuse all that.

Will Ferrell nails the story in 'Anchorman'

BY DAN DUNN
Special to the Daily Press

It's the 1970s, and mustachioed Ron Burgundy (Will Ferrell) is the top-rated anchorman in San Diego, and the king of the all-male

REVIEW

empire of local TV news. But the women's lib movement arrives in the newsroom, and Burgundy's world is turned upside down by sexy fireball Veronica Corningstone (Christina Applegate) who steals Ron's heart, then his job. Ferrell, who co-wrote the screenplay with

former SNL head writer Adam McKay (making his directorial debut), is fast becoming the most bankable comedic actor in film, and this effort certainly won't slow him down. While "Old School" is the funnier movie — and Ferrell owned that one — Burgundy is Ferrell's most sidesplitting character to date. With his resonant voice and ease with a teleprompter, Ron exudes confidence and smarts, but behind the façade that's made him a star is an insecure simpleton who talks to his dog. Applegate is the first of Ferrell's leading ladies not to be bulldozed by the force of his per-

sonality. All those years trading barbs with the dysfunctional family on "Married With Children" prepped her for this, and she gives as good as she gets.

Burgundy's sexist minions on the news team — man on the scene Brian Fantana (Paul Rudd), sports anchor Champ Kind (David Koechner) and the black hole-dense weatherman Brick Tamland (Steve Carell) — all contribute plenty of laughs, with Carell emerging as the standout. Some may have had enough of the whole '70s retro-thing, but I don't know if that era's remarkably ridiculous style will ever cease to be a source

of great amusement. Fred Willard is on board (always a plus) and cameos abound, with Ben Stiller, Luke Wilson and Tim Robbins central to the film's most hilarious set piece — a "West Side Story"-esque brawl between rival news teams. Jack Black kills in a brief appearance as a pissed-off biker, and Vince Vaughn sizzles as Burgundy's arch nemesis, Wes Mantooth. And if you think all the names are a hoot, wait 'til you see the movie.

(Rated PG-13 for sexual humor, language and comic violence. Running time: 91 minutes)

ENTERTAINMENT



The Hollywood Hills will be alive with music

Sing along to the popular musical on Saturday at the Hollywood Bowl

By Daily Press staff

Pull out your lederhosen, polish the glockenspiel and practice your yodeling. The international sensation "Sing-A-Long Sound of Music" returns to Southern California at the Hollywood Bowl on Saturday at 8 p.m. and will have the audience literally singing in their seats. After two highly successful Hollywood Bowl presentations, the "Sing-A-Long" version of the beloved Twentieth Century Fox classic film hits the historic amphitheater's stage for a third time for one night only.

"Sing-A-Long Sound of Music," celebrating the most successful movie musical and the No. 1 family film ever, is a screening of the classic Julie Andrews film musical — the winner of five Academy Awards, including Best

Picture — in full-screen Technicolor and six-track digital sound, complete with subtitles.

Twentieth Century Fox and the Academy Film Archive recently completed an eight-month restoration of "The Sound of Music." The original camera negative and sound materials were meticulously hand-cleaned and processed to replicate the original theatrical presentation, making the film look and sound as much as possible like it did at its original 1965 debut.

Before The Sound of Music screening (pre-show begins at 7 p.m., film begins at 8 p.m.), there will be a vocal warm-up, as well as instructions for audience members about how to use their complimentary Fun Pak. The audience also will hear about the finer points of cheering for Maria, waving Edelweiss and booing the Nazis.

Bowl-goers attending the event are encouraged to dress in costume, perhaps as a Sound of Music character or one of their "Favorite Things." In years past, audience

members came dressed up as anything and everything including nuns, Maria, Kurt, girls in white dresses with blue satin sashes, goats, a range of Alps and even Ray, a drop of Golden Sun.

The Sound of Music continues to be the most popular film musical in history. Based on the 1959 Broadway show, with original songs by Rodgers and Hammerstein, the film, starring Julie Andrews and Christopher Plummer, premiered on March 2, 1965, in New York City. Since then, it has earned more than \$160 million. For more than four decades, generations of adults and children have enjoyed the timeless story of the governess Maria and the von Trapp family. "Sing-a-Long Sound of Music" is produced with Sing-a-Long Productions by arrangement with Twentieth Century Fox and the Rodgers and Hammerstein Organization.

Ticket prices range from \$1 to \$57. Contact the Hollywood Bowl box office at (323) 850-2000 or online at LAPHIL.com.

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21 AND OVER



NATIONAL

Mayor orders Spokane homeless camp cleared

BY JOHN K. WILEY
 Associated Press Writer

SPOKANE, Wash. — Homeless people protesting a new anti-camping ordinance abandoned a downtown tent city Thursday after Mayor Jim West ordered them to leave or face arrest.

As police stood by, about 50 protesters took down their ragged tarp and tent encampment on a grassy median in the middle of the tree-shaded downtown street. There were no arrests.

They had set up the temporary shelters 10 days earlier to protest a new city ordinance that bans such camps on city land.

West had earlier ordered the homeless off the median and said he intends to sign the ordinance into law. He said the encampment showed why the city needs the measure.

“The point they made is that the city does need a shelter ordinance to prevent something like this from happening,” West said. “I’ve tried to work together on this, but I’m not going to tolerate squatting on public property.”

Police arrived at the camp about 7 a.m. and told resi-

dents they had an hour to leave. Officers stood by while campers piled their possessions into shopping carts and backpacks. Many of the campers went to the House of Charity, a homeless shelter, a couple of miles away.

Protesters and city workers had cleaned up debris at the site by 9 a.m.

The last tent struck — nearly 45 minutes after the deadline — belonged to Dave Bilsland, who coordinated the protest.

“They’re making a statement here, folks,” Bilsland said. “They’re trying to eradicate the homeless. They want to make it a crime to be homeless.”

Bilsland and others said they hope to file a federal civil rights lawsuit against the city.

“What the police and the city are doing is wrong. They’re violating our First Amendment rights to freedom of assembly,” camp resident Joseph Day said as he looked for someone to help move his possessions.

The homeless had called their protest site Camp Serene Freedom, and said it was chosen because of its location in front of buildings occupied by some of the city’s elite.

West said he intends to sign the ordinance Monday. It would take effect 30 days later.

“It’s our duty to protect Spokane’s public property and public right of ways so they are available for all 197,000 Spokane citizens, and not for the exclusive use of a few,” West said after the camp had been cleared.

Michael Stoops, a community organizer for the National Coalition for the Homeless in Washington, D.C., said a growing number of cities are adopting ordinances similar to Spokane’s.

“The number of anti-homeless laws continue to grow and spread like wildfire as cities have grown tired of the homeless,” he said. “Their solution is to make it illegal to be homeless, hoping homeless people will go away.”

Stoops said that rather than arresting people for being transients, city leaders should look at the causes of homelessness: lack of shelter beds and affordable housing and treatment programs.

The council passed the camping ordinance June 28, and the tents went up that night. The nuisance ordinance prohibits erecting structures in, or blocking, a public right of way.

The camp was set up near some of the city’s most impressive buildings, including the Masonic Temple, the Spokane Roman Catholic Diocese Chancery, a federal courthouse, the daily newspaper and the Spokane Club, where business-suited power brokers meet, eat and exercise.

There have always been homeless in and near downtown Spokane, a major crossroads for rail, bus and automobile traffic moving through the Northwest.

Advocates for the homeless have gathered some 1,600 signatures on petitions opposing the ordinance.

Stoops said it is uncommon for the homeless to band together, as the Spokane group did.

“It’s pretty extraordinary for a group of homeless people to protest on their own behalf,” he said. “There are things cities can do in lieu of passing no-camping ordinances. It has not worked anywhere else. It doesn’t mean homeless people are going away. They’ll just disperse through the city.”

House opposes effort by states to allow medical use of marijuana

BY ALAN FRAM
 Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The House voted Wednesday to let the federal government continue prosecuting people who use marijuana for medical reasons in states where local law allows its use by patients.

The 268-148 vote turned aside an amendment by Democrats and some conservative Republicans that would have barred the federal government from preventing states from implementing their own medical marijuana laws.

Nine states have passed laws allowing people to use marijuana if recommended by a doctor: Alaska, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Maine, Nevada, Oregon, Vermont and Washington.

“It won’t encourage the use of marijuana,” Rep. Sam Farr, D-Calif., one of the sponsors, said of the amendment. “It won’t encourage drug use in children. It won’t legalize any drugs.”

Supporters of the federal restrictions said that constitutionally, federal statutes must override state laws. They also argued that medical marijuana laws only encourage the abuse of marijuana and other drugs.

The amendment would hurt by “sending the message to young people that there can be health benefits by smoking marijuana,” said Rep. Frank Wolf, R-Va.

The Bush administration has supported the strong enforcement of anti-marijuana laws. Wednesday’s defeat

of the amendment by the GOP-run House, just four months from Election Day, came as little surprise.

Last July, the House overwhelmingly rejected a similar move by opponents of federal curbs over state marijuana laws.

Some patients being treated for cancer and other diseases say marijuana helps ease chronic pain and other problems.

“The Justice Department is working overtime to put sick people and those who would help them in jail,” said Rep. Dana Rohrabacher, R-Calif.

But opponents of marijuana use said more is involved. Rep. Max Burns, R-Ga., said the defeated proposal was “simply the first step in a scheme to overturn all the substance abuse laws.”

The Supreme Court said last month that it will decide whether the federal government can prosecute patients who use marijuana following a doctor’s advice.

Last year, the 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco ruled the federal law outlawing marijuana should not apply to people using the drug on a doctor’s recommendation. The Bush administration appealed that decision — which only covers the western states in the 9th Circuit — saying federal anti-drug laws supersede state laws.

The amendment was offered to a bill providing \$39.8 billion next year for the departments of Justice, State and Commerce. The Senate has yet to write its version of the legislation.

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NATIONAL



Former Enron chief Kenneth Lay surrenders

BY KRISTEN HAYS

AP Business Writer

HOUSTON — Former Enron Corp. CEO Kenneth Lay surrendered Thursday, and the government unsealed an indictment charging him in a wide-ranging scheme to deceive the public, company shareholders and government regulators about the energy company that he founded and led to industry prominence before its collapse.

The federal indictment adds 11 counts against Lay to charges already filed against his hand-picked protege, former CEO Jeffrey Skilling, and former top Enron accountant Richard Causey.

It accuses Lay of participating in a conspiracy to manipulate Enron's quarterly financial results. It also accuses him of making public statements about Enron's financial performance that were false and misleading and omitting facts necessary to make financial statements accurate and fair.

The Securities and Exchange Commission filed civil charges Thursday against Lay, accusing him of fraud and insider trading and seeking recovery of more than \$90 million in what the agency said were illegal proceeds from stock sales.

The contents of the criminal indictment, returned Wednesday, were released a few hours after Lay was taken away in handcuffs after surrendering to the FBI Thursday morning.

The indictment of Lay, 62, who also was Enron's chairman, caps an investigation that snared dozens of other employees and executives but took nearly three years to reach the man at the top.

Enron's collapse in late 2001 cost investors billions of dollars, put thousands of Enron employees out of work and wiped out retirement savings for many. The company, once admired, became a symbol of corporate greed and excess, and its fall was followed by a string of scandals at other companies.

"Nice of you all to show up this morning," Lay, accompanied by a pastor, told a throng of reporters before entering the FBI offices. About 20 minutes later, he left in handcuffs for the trip to the federal courthouse and a scheduled late morning appearance before a federal judge.

The indictment accused Lay, Skilling and Causey of enriching themselves through salaries, bonuses, grants of stock and stock options.

It specifically names Lay in 11 counts: one count of conspiracy, two of wire fraud, four of securities fraud, one bank fraud and three of making false statements to banks.

According to the Justice Department, Lay faces a maximum of 175 years in prison if convicted on all counts as well as fines possibly totaling more than \$5.7 million.

After learning of the indictment on Wednesday, Lay said in a statement, "I have done nothing wrong, and the indictment is not justified."

Lay's attorney, Michael Ramsey, said he would push for the former Enron chief executive to go to trial ahead of other executives charged in the investigation. He maintains Lay did nothing wrong and cast blame on former chief financial officer Andrew Fastow, who pleaded guilty to two conspiracy counts in January. Fastow admitted to orchestrating partnerships and financial schemes to hide Enron debt and inflate profits while pocketing millions of dollars for himself.

"Andy is obviously a liar and a thief," Ramsey said

before entering the courthouse Thursday. "He admits that."

Prosecutors have aggressively pursued the one-time celebrity CEO and friend and contributor to President George W. Bush who led Enron's rise to No. 7 in the Fortune 500 and resigned within weeks of its stunning failure. Lay is the 30th and highest-profile individual charged.

The indictment particularly focuses on Lay's behavior after Skilling abruptly resigned in August 2001 before Enron's collapse. Skilling had succeeded Lay as CEO six months earlier. He was indicted in February on nearly three dozen counts of fraud and other crimes.

Prosecutors allege Lay knew Enron was preparing to announce massive third-quarter losses and a \$1.2 billion writedown in shareholder equity, yet told Enron employees in a Sept. 26, 2001 Internet chat that he had strongly encouraged management to buy Enron stock.

"Some, including myself, have done so over the last couple of months and others will probably do so in the future," he said. "My personal belief is that Enron stock is an incredible bargain at current prices."

Then on Oct. 12, 2001, he told a credit rating agency that Enron and its auditors had "scrubbed" the company's books and that no additional writedowns would be forthcoming. Four days later, the company announced those big losses, but the shareholder equity writedown was not in Enron's press release.

The indictment alleges Lay also knew Enron was facing a \$700 million writedown in its water business, Azurix, but didn't disclose detailed information. In addition, it alleges Lay knew Enron had shifted hundreds of millions of dollars in losses from its retail energy unit to its wholesale trading unit to hide the retail energy unit's actual poor performance.

"We're not trying to conceal anything," Lay told analysts on Oct. 23, 2001, according to the indictment. "We are not trying to hide anything."

He also told employees that same day: "Our liquidity is fine; as a matter of fact, it is better than fine, it is strong."

Prosecutors allege Lay knew Enron had been forced to offer its pipelines as collateral to get a \$1 billion bank loan to maintain liquidity.

Then on Nov. 12, 2001, in a call to analysts and in another effort to combat bad publicity, he said: "We don't have anything we are trying to hide. I am disclosing everything that we've found."

Prosecutors allege Lay knew that he and other senior Enron managers had not disclosed a litany of negative facts about Enron's finances.

The counts alleging bank fraud accuse Lay of improperly drawing from his lines of credit, and exposing banks to a higher risk of loss, to directly or indirectly buy and carry margin stock.

Skilling succeeded Lay as CEO in February 2001 and resigned abruptly six months later, just weeks before the scandal broke. He was indicted in February on nearly three dozen counts of fraud and other crimes.

Waiting to testify for the prosecution is Fastow, who pleaded guilty to two conspiracy counts in January. Fastow admitted to orchestrating partnerships and financial schemes to hide Enron debt and inflate profits while pocketing millions of dollars for himself.

Enron's collapse was the first of a series of corporate scandals that led to Congress' passage of sweeping reforms to securities laws with the Sarbanes-Oxley Act two years ago. Thousands of Enron's workers lost their jobs, and the stock fell from a high of \$90 in August 2000 to just pennies, wiping out many workers' retirement savings.

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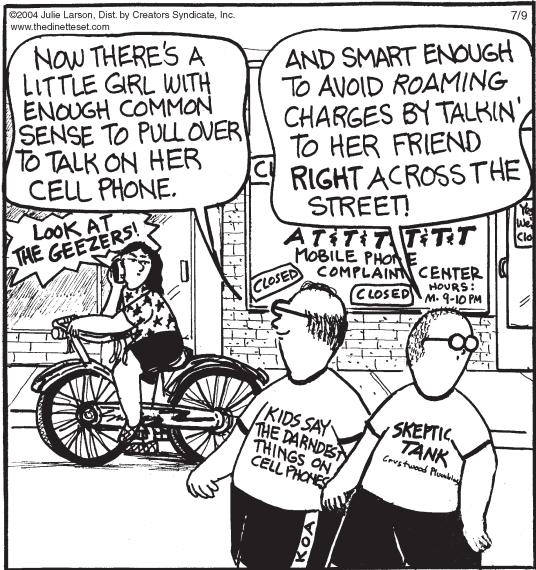
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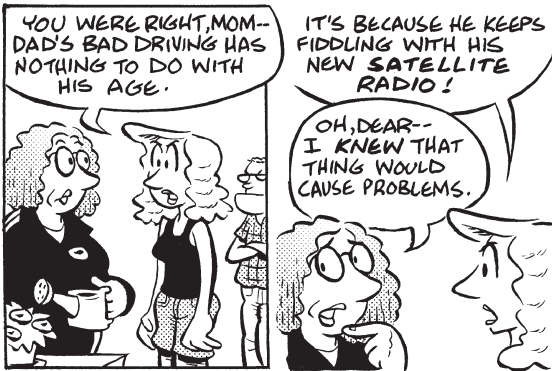


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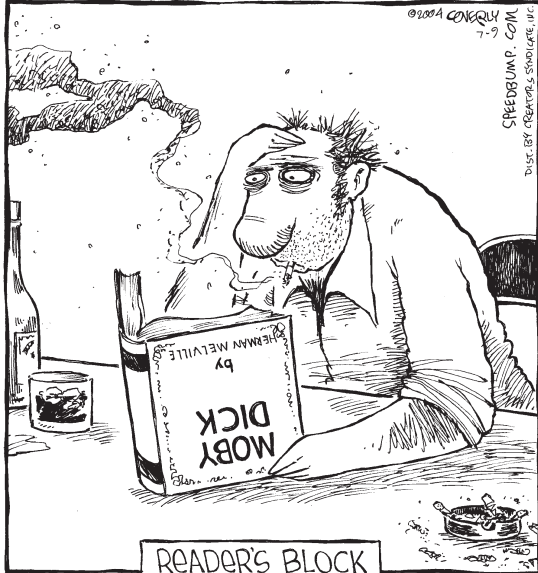
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 - 14 Be rude
 - 15 Goose egg
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 - 18 Cal. neighbor
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 - 20 — Cruces
 - 21 Mamie's man
 - 22 Samples
 - 24 Slippery — eel
 - 25 Cannabis extract
 - 27 Fail at the comedy club
 - 29 Be ungracious
 - 32 Burma's first prime minister
 - 33 Little rascal
 - 34 Opposite of "bien"
 - 35 Game caller
 - 36 Knight address
 - 37 Juan's wife

- 38 Boosts
- 40 Fanfare
- 42 Parting word
- 43 Blockade
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- 45 Full

DOWN

- 1 Piano type
- 2 1898 battle site
- 3 Breakfast item
- 4 Commotion
- 5 Baby toys
- 6 Shop holders
- 7 Aardvark snack

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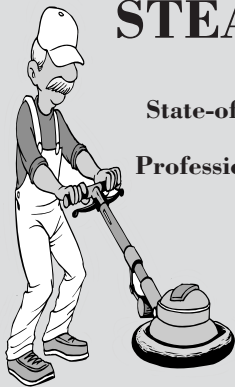
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13. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 2000; 284: 2689-2694.

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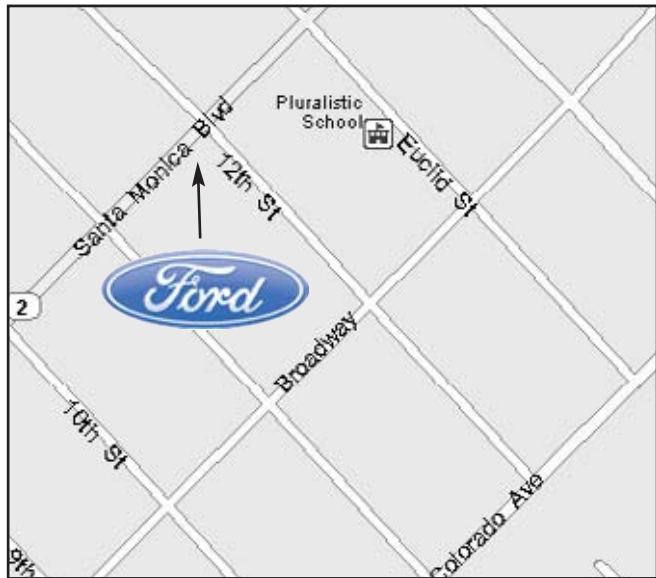
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