

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

00000

SUPER LOTTO PLUS

20-23-46-2-5

Megamember: 15
Jackpot: \$10 million

FANTASY 5

31, 30, 19, 35, 34

DAILY 3

Afternoon picks: 7, 5, 3

Evening picks: 6, 1, 4

DAILY DERBY

1st Place: 04, Big Ben

2nd Place: 07, Eureka

3rd Place: 03, Hot Shot

Race Time: 1:45.74



NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

In May, battered wife Elizabeth Rudavsky stabbed to death her severely abusive husband of seven months, Angelo Heddington, in Thedford, Ont., but to Rudavsky's shock, Heddington was soon identified as a woman (who had long ago adopted male mannerisms and dress). A former Heddington girlfriend, who had discovered the secret earlier, told a reporter, "(Heddington) had soft hands, but she spit like a guy. The whole time you were talking to her, she'd have her hands in her pockets playing with herself like she was a guy."

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"There is no human problem which could not be solved if people would simply do as I advise."

— Gore Vidal

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Suit delays enforcement of food line laws

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON
Daily Press Staff Writer

It could be several months before City Hall enforces a law passed last fall that's designed to regulate food lines for the homeless.

Homeless advocates in January filed a federal lawsuit challenging the constitutionality of the law, which gives police the ability to break up food distribution programs that lack permits from both the Los Angeles County Health Department and the city.

The lawsuit seeks a preliminary injunction and will be heard by a federal court judge this month. The judge also will review City Hall's motion for summary judgment, which asks that the suit be tossed out with no trial.

If the motion for an injunction is denied, it will be appealed to the

"We had planned to be warning and citing people by now but we aren't because we are being sued."

— MARSHA MOUTRIE
Santa Monica City Attorney

Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals, said Carol Soble, a local civil rights attorney who is litigating the case. If the matter is appealed to the high court, it could be months or years before a final decision is made.

"We are right on the law and right on the facts of this case," she said. "But I recognize that judges don't always rule the way they should and then we'll have to take it up on appeal."

City Attorney Marsha Moutrie said while she believes City Hall

will prevail in the case, local officials don't take constitutional right infringement allegations lightly. She added that constitutional lawsuits are taken extremely serious because they challenge legislative action.

"We had planned to be warning and citing people by now but we aren't because we are being sued,"

she said, adding that it's not uncommon to postpone enforcing laws until the courts decide whether or not they are constitutional.

City officials say the ordinance, which was passed by the Santa Monica City Council last October, doesn't create any new barriers to food lines but does allow for laws that are already on the books to be enforced.

Santa Monica also plans to enforce an existing law that restricts large groups to distribute food only three times in a 90-day period. The city also requires that groups over 150 people get a permit from City

See SUIT, page 5

Thousands of apartments repaired throughout city

City's 'rent reduction' petitions prompt action

BY JOHN WOOD
Daily Press Staff Writer

More than 4,000 Santa Monica tenants have petitioned City Hall for cheaper rent based on the condition of their apartments since rent control was instituted in 1979.

Their complaints range from leaky ceilings to aging carpets and broken bathroom fans to torn screen doors. The reductions, which stay in place until the repairs are complete, range from tens to hundreds of dollars each month.

"The goal is to get the items fixed," said Tracy Condon, spokeswoman for the Santa

Monica Rent Control Board. "In most cases, the tenants aren't interested in a rent reduction — they just want their unit repaired."

And it seems to be working. Though thousands have filed with the RCB, the majority of cases never make it to a hearing.

But some do. From 1999 to 2002, 149 cases were heard, with 114 decreases granted and only eight denied, according to the RCB's annual reports. The remainder of the cases were either resolved out of court or pending a ruling.

The documents also show that many of the landlords, once confronted with the loss of revenue, act quickly to make the requested upgrades and bring the rents back

See PETITION, page 6

The chief's last blaze?



John Wood/Daily Press

Santa Monica Fire Department Chief Ettore Berardinelli wears a flaming cake hat Wednesday, honoring his 55th birthday. Berardinelli, who plans to retire later this month after 31 years with the SMFD, is flanked by two captains — Dale Hallock, left, and Bruce Davis.

African and Celtic music blend tonight at SM pier

By Daily Press staff

Tonight's free concert at the pier features a local 10-member band that has honed their skills as musicians to be more than a sound system, which they were once regarded as.

The Afro Celts blend techno beats, Celtic sounds and African rhythms with more classical instruments, such as the harp.

The band has developed their skills and put the focus on musicianship, technique and songwriting.

"It became apparent as we made the record that we're not a sound system anymore," said co-producer and guitarist Simon Emerson. "We've developed a very defined sound which has

See CONCERT, page 6

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HOROSCOPE

Look into a future trip, Aries



JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

The stars show the kind of day you'll have:

★★★★★-Dynamic ★★★★★-Positive ★★★-Average
★★-So-so ★-Difficult

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Thursday, July 10, 2003:

Don't waste time debating the pros and cons of issues. Work on the facts. Your ability to sift through a myriad of information might become a key feature in your success. Often, a well-meaning partner or associate puts a haze onto what he or she sees. Use your ability to organize and execute plans to add to the quality of your day-to-day life. You will produce more money this year, if you don't lose your focus. If you are single, make an effort to get out more often after the summer. Through this process you will meet many new people, allowing more social opportunities. If you are attached, your relationship will grow if you understand how well-intended your partner is. SAGITTARIUS makes a great teammate.

♈ ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★★ Reach out for others, but choose your words carefully. Your imagination helps you research and sort through information. Your creativity emerges around a friendship and/or a meeting. Think "vacation." Tonight: Flip through some travel brochures. Hop on the Internet and see where you might like to go.

♉ TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Deal with the people in your life individually, and you'll get the type of responses you seek. Others feel flattered by your attention. Stay in charge, moving a project to the finish line. You know what you want; therefore, you need to take charge. Tonight: A cozy dinner for two.

♊ GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Others know what they expect, and they let you know it, perhaps in a tone you would prefer not to hear. You have a way of detaching that helps others get the gist of what you're saying and helps them verbalize more of what they want. Tonight: A must show.

♋ CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Dig in, understanding that the weekend is nearly upon you. News or information could force you to revamp your schedule with an eye to completion. Sometimes others don't agree, and they let you know it. Incorporate different ideas. Tonight: Work off stress with some exercise.

♌ LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ Your libido energies spring forth, but remember that how you express them is up to you. Flirtation might get you in trouble, especially if you're attached. Why not use some of your imagination to create more of what you want? Tonight: Kick up your heels. Start the weekend early, if you can.

♍ VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ You might want to listen more carefully to another's sharing, even if there is a quality of ranting involved. Stay cool. Look at the big picture. Your intuitive ways help complete a job as it should be. Tonight: Head on home, perhaps stopping to pick up a favorite snack.

♎ LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ Your budget could go out of whack, especially if you're not looking at the whole picture. Try to step back and take an overview. Keep communications open, demonstrating your willingness to talk. What you see as a conversation, another person might interpret differently. Tonight: Find your friends.

♏ SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ What you want could be manageable as long as you quit risking and become more realistic. Get another's point of view on how to make this goal a reality. Remember, many paths can get to the same point. Don't worry so much. Tonight: Your treat.

♐ SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ Your personality emerges as a strong force, whether at work or play. A family member pushes very hard to have his or her way. You might want to discuss an unusually vague statement. You might be wearing rose-colored glasses. Tonight: It's your call.

♑ CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Dig into your resources before responding to someone's offer. Your finances might be impacted. Someone might not be able to gain the type of insight you can. In fact, he or she might become quite defensive to your questioning. Tonight: Get a good night's sleep.

♒ AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ Though some might find you vague, you are most definitely goal-directed. Because someone doesn't see eye to eye with you about funds, refuse to spend until you have a solid plan that makes you comfortable. Tonight: Start your weekend early, if possible.

♓ PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ You get a perspective that could be unique. Convincing a boss or someone else about the rightness of your ways could be difficult and unnecessary. Assume a low profile, especially when involving someone in charge. Tonight: A must show.

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LOCAL



YOU BE THE JUDGE



"You be the judge" is an occasional series in which we invite readers to predict the outcome of Santa Monica small claims cases. Yesterday we presented the facts of the case. Today, we report the actual judge's ruling.

The case of the more than dinged dinghy

Yesterday we reported on an episode in Marina Del Rey in which Louis Lussky, who owns a 25-foot sloop, claimed that Brian Griffiths, who owns a powerboat in an adjacent slip, backed over the dinghy tied to the rear of Lussky's boat, totaling it.

Nobody actually saw the accident. Lussky, who was below deck during the Oct. 29, 2002 episode, claims only a boat backing up would be able to suck the dinghy under a propellor, which cut it. He wanted the full replacement value of \$1,000 for the 9-year-old boat.

Griffiths denied backing over the boat. He said the way the dinghy was tied onto Lussky's stern with an 8-foot line, it could have swung into the "fairway" or waterway and any boat could have run over it.

The ruling in the case, without comment, was in favor of Lussky for \$400. It indicates the judge found that

the most convincing evidence favored Lussky's version of events, but that the award had to be reduced because the dinghy wasn't new.

The case of the slippery, sprinkled stairwell

Yesterday we reported that Marina Harbor Apartments in Marina Del Rey was being sued by non-resident Maria Guerrero who had slipped down the communal stairwell while helping a friend move from her apartment to another apartment in the same complex.

The sprinklers in the garden had been turned on and water had spilled onto the stairway. Guerrero slipped on the stairway, which had a handrail on both sides. She sued the building owners and asked the court to award her damages for out of pocket medical expenses and punitive damages amounting to \$5,000.

The ruling in the case, without comment, was in favor of Guerrero.

surf report

If you're out early enough, you'll get some leftovers — knee- to waist-high sets at the good spots.

BAD NEWS: It is weaker right now than it has been and the swell is dropping more today.

GOOD NEWS: There is still a mix of SW ground and NW wind swell to keep our beaches stocked with rideable waves.

OUTLOOK: A new 3-4' SW will build into the weekend.

Today the water is:

72°

Sunrise: 5:50 a.m.
Sunset: 8:15 p.m.

Get stoked on an epic sesh? Get burned by a bad report? Write us at wood@smdp.com and tell us what the surf is doing at your local break.

	LOW TIDE				HIGH TIDE			
	Morning	Height	Evening	Height	Morning	Height	Evening	Height
SATURDAY	3:50	-0.5	2:34	2.5	10:26	3.5	8:55	6.1
SUNDAY	4:24	-0.6	3:08	2.5	11:04	3.6	9:29	6.1
MONDAY	4:59	-0.7	3:45	2.6	11:42	3.6	10:04	6.1
TUESDAY	5:35	-0.7	4:25	2.7	(12:22)	3.6	10:41	6.0
WEDNESDAY	6:12	-0.6	5:11	2.7	(1:04)	3.7	11:21	5.7
THURSDAY	6:51	-0.4	6:09	2.8	N/A	N/A	1:48	3.8
FRIDAY	7:32	-0.1	7:23	2.8	12:07	5.3	2:32	4.1

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

'Chez PAL' tonight at Back on Broadway

By Daily Press Staff

There will be some young chefs in the kitchen of a local restaurant tonight.

The Santa Monica Police Activities League will host Chez PAL at Back on Broadway, where youths from PAL will prepare a special dinner under the supervision of the well-known restaurateur, Fred Deni.

All proceeds benefit the Santa Monica Police Activities League. Table seating will be for parties of two, four, six, eight and 10. Tickets are \$25 per person. The public is invited, but reservations are required.

PAL is a non-profit corporation and contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Back on Broadway is located at 2024 Broadway in Santa Monica.

Chez PAL will have two seatings: 5:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

The Santa Monica Police Activities League, located at the PAL Youth Center, 1401 Olympic Blvd., provides free educational, recreational and cultural programs for more than 1,600 youths throughout Santa Monica. PAL is a nonprofit corporation and contributions are tax deductible. For more information contact Patty Loggins-Tazi at (310) 458-8988.

The QLine

California politics are on the nation's front burner again these days as the campaign to recall Gov. Gray Davis continues to gain momentum.

Recently supporters of the recall effort said they have gathered the one million signatures necessary to put the issue in front of state voters in a special election.

Supporters blame Davis — a Democrat — for the state's serious budget deficit, problems with the energy industry and a general lack of leadership, among other things.

Opponents of the recall say the state's

problems won't disappear overnight no matter who occupies the governor's mansion and that the cash-strapped state can ill afford the \$25 million the special election is reported to cost.

So this week, Q-Line wants to know, "Do you support recalling Gov. Davis from office? Why or why not?"

Call (310) 285-8106 before Thursday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your response in Friday's paper. Please limit your call to one minute or less. It might help to think first about the wording of your response.

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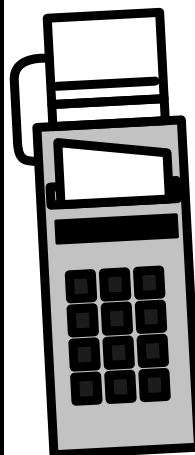
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LETTERS

'Incites' not too insightful

Editor:

This past July 2, (SMDP, page 4) it was great to have a chance to reread the "Incites" editorial on why the author hates George Bush. As we enter an election year it's good to remember some of the points made in that column.

First of all, we have to keep trying to convince people that the ballots in Palm Beach and Dade County were confusing. That's the only way they won't focus on the actual series of events. We never want them to remember that elderly voters decided they were confused only after Democratic operatives called and asked them if they might possibly have been confused.

We've got to keep a lid on that. I also enjoyed the mention of Trent Lott. I liked that by adding the "wink, wink, nudge, nudge" line it was implied that Trent Lott is a racist. By focusing on Trent Lott and with a little luck, we can keep people from remembering that Democratic Sen. Robert Byrd (wink, wink, nudge, nudge) used to be in the KKK.

Another great thing about the column was the way certain religious beliefs were made fun of. Democrats were made to look extremely tolerant while making fun of people with more conservative beliefs. If there is anything Americans can latch on to it's making fun of religion. That was used to transition seamlessly into criticizing Republicans and their connection to big business.

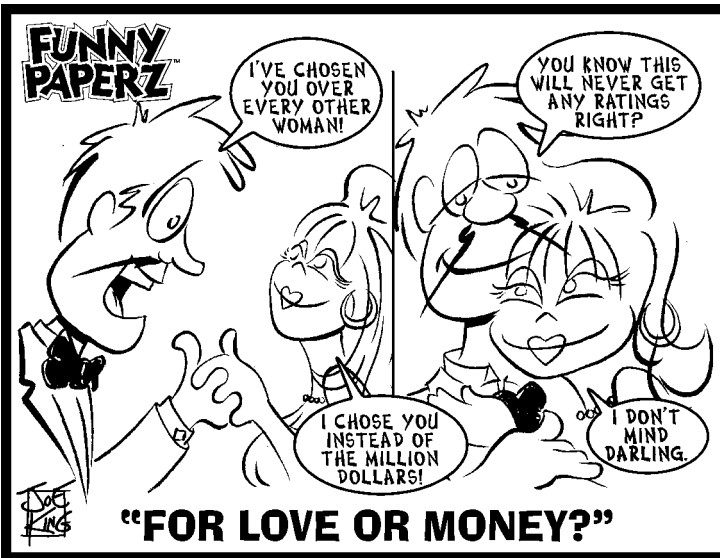
I think what Democrats can learn here is to attack Republicans with no concern for facts. For instance, saying, "there is no funding for alternative energy sources" just sounds like something Republicans would do. Never mind the comprehensive plan that increases funding for alternative energy sources.

Most people haven't read it anyway. Surely we'll win support by mentioning Kyoto. So what if most European countries have admitted they had no intention of meeting the goals? So what if the biggest polluters weren't included in the treaty? If we keep repeating how bad it was not to sign it, come next November George Bush is going to pay where it counts — at the voting booth. Some of the voting booths will even be computerized thanks to that whole "confusing" ballot thing. And there is nothing that confuses elderly voters more than technology. We'll be able to contest that election for years too.

It was also great the column brought up our bread and butter issue. Tax cuts. The more Democrats can say it's irresponsible the more likely people will forget all about that extra money they have and listen.

But perhaps my favorite part of the editorial was the mention of Enron and Nixon. As long as we encourage people to forget that Enron's crimes were committed during a Democratic administration, that issue is a real winner for us. And accusing Bush of being more secretive than Nixon is a stroke of genius. If we catch him lying to cover up a secret like Clinton we'll really be on to something. That editorial is a great blueprint for the coming election year. I just wish every Democrat could read it and work off of it.

Steve Pell
Santa Monica



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Like time itself, Santa Monica needn't stand still



TITTINGER'S TAKE

By Michael J. Tittinger

A very dear friend took time over the holiday weekend to read for me her favorite poem — "Dover Beach" by Matthew Arnold. It was a poem with which I was not previously familiar, though there it was smack on page 794 of my "Anthology of Poetry" textbook from college.

"The sea is calm to-night,"

"The tide is full, the moon lies fair ..." she began.

And while art is eternally open to interpretation, upon my first exposure to the poem I was struck by the continual references to reminders past — both good and bad — and how one symbolic object can represent one and the same. In this case, the ocean moves Arnold to tears. It is now seemingly retreating, when in years past it was crashing forth with wave after wave of optimism.

What once represented love and serenity and contentment, now only serves to render sadness and confusion and loneliness.

"The Sea of Faith,"

"Was once, too, at the full, and round earth's shore,"

"Lay like the folds of a bright girdle furled."

"But now I only hear,"

"Its melancholy, long, withdrawing roar,"

"Retreating, to the breath,"

"Of the night-wind, down the vast edges drear,"

"And naked shingles of the world."

Symbols such as the one Arnold speaks of — the eternal sea outside his English estate — exist in each of our lives on one level or another. I was reminded of one such symbol the other day when an article appeared in the Daily Press detailing the refurbishment of the former Crocker Bank Building ("Downtown clock tower to begin ticking again," July 7). The depression-era art-deco treasure of a building is capped with a clock tower frozen in time.

Time stopped at the Crocker Building, as it did for so many in and around the city of Santa Monica, at precisely 4:17 a.m., January 17, 1994, when the Northridge earthquake struck a sleeping and unsuspecting Southern California. Nearly a decade later, reconstruction projects abound throughout the area, including the UCLA Medical Center across the street from me, where jackhammers and power drills have become my alarm clock by default.

Ever since moving to Santa Monica in recent years I have heard story upon story about that day — where people were, what they were doing, how they responded and rebuilt their lives — a day no one who lived here will forget, to be sure, nor should they forget. For Santa Monicans, it is a day akin to the moon landing, O.J.'s white Bronco "getaway" and 9/11 in terms of sheer "Where were you?" indelibility.

Yet, maybe it is time we let go. Maybe it is time we forged ahead.

I have driven, jogged or walked past the Crocker clock tower hundreds of times since finally landing here on the left

coast, as have most of us when we are not so caught up in the hustle and bustle to take note of the majestic clock tower frozen at "4:17."

The aftershocks of the Northridge earthquake were felt across the nation in more ways than we can possibly imagine.

"Are you awake?" I remember my mom calling upstairs. I seldom was. I had been working the graveyard shift at a printing company and couldn't wait to quit. The week before, I had secured a job with a Santa Monica production company some 3,000 miles away from my childhood home. My clothes and possessions were packed neatly into a series of boxes sitting idle in the center of my stripped-down boyhood bedroom.

"Yeah ... why?"

"Did you hear what happened out in California?"

Soon after, my plane tickets were refunded, my job with the now-defunct Production Company nixed and my pre-drafted resignation letter for the printing plant was filed away for another day. But those boxes remained, sitting idle in the center of my room. I had neither the heart nor the will to unpack them for weeks, maybe months. Once a symbol of optimism and excitement and the future, they had since come to symbolize isolation and frustration and the past.

"... For the world, which seems,"

"To lie before us like a land of dreams,"

"So various, so beautiful, so new,"

"Hath really neither joy, nor love, nor light,"

"Nor certitude, nor peace, nor help for pain;"

"And we are here as on a darkling plain,"

"Swept with confused alarms of struggle and flight,"

"Where ignorant armies clash by night."

Those boxes stacked in the middle of my room vexed me for the longest time, as my dreams of far away success seemed swallowed up by an earthquake across the country while I slept. But, as it always does, time ticked on ... life moved on. Eventually, it was time to unpack those boxes. Eventually, it was time to stop dwelling on the past and begin looking to the future anew.

Ultimately, I did move to Santa Monica, and upon reflection, the life experiences I had during those interim years changed my life in ways I couldn't have imagined. There was love and loss, euphoria and sorrow. But the image of those stacked boxes sitting idle no longer vexes me. It has since taken on yet another meaning — rebirth and renewal.

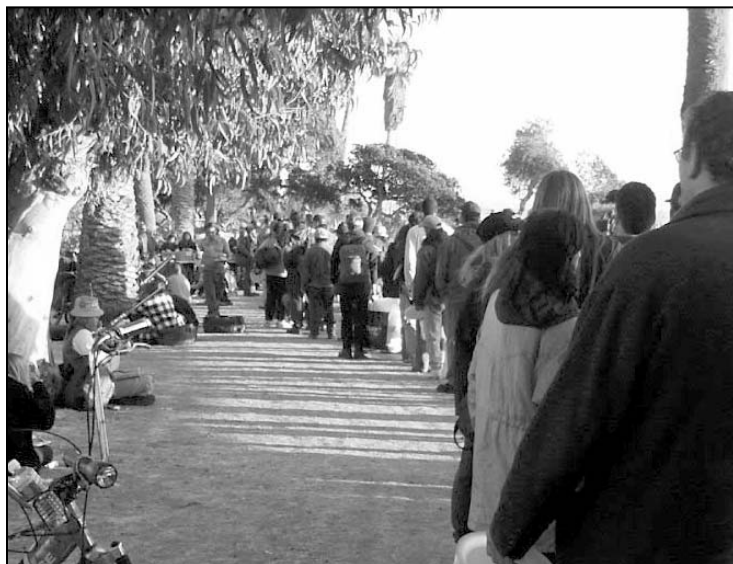
Finally, it was time to move on, as should we all. It's time to reset Santa Monica's stopwatch and let time heal the wounds, not let them bleed and bleed. The Crocker clock tower, according to developers, will be ticking once again by the end of the summer, and I, for one, can't wait.

It's time to create new memories and forge ahead. Let the symbols of the fleeting past be reborn and take on a positive meaning once again.

Let the Sea of Faith retreat no more.

(Mike Tittinger is a freelance writer living in Santa Monica. To reach him, e-mail him at TooRoam@aol.com).

LOCAL



File photo

Long lines are common in Palisades Park, where social service groups hand out free food. City Hall wants to require the groups to obtain permits.

Training for food distributors complete, but law not enforced

SUIT, from page 1

Hall to use public spaces.

A city staff report has indicated that as many as 30 private groups distribute thousands of meals each month and that serving meals on the street could pose "significant public health risks" because sanitary facilities are not readily available. The food distribution lines also attract large crowds, which unfairly dominate public parks, city officials argue.

Some have argued the City Council adopted the law because it was under political pressure by residents and business owners who say the homeless roam downtown Santa Monica partly because they can get free food.

By enforcing the already established laws, some people — including business interests and residents — hope many of the food distributors will disappear from Santa Monica and the food lines will become less frequent.

Homeless rights advocates say the law gives the city unilateral power to deny large groups to set up in the city's parks, violating the constitutional rights of the charities and religious organizations that run the programs, among others who want to use the public space.

"This is not a law about feeding the hungry and homeless, this is about the freedom of exercising your expression," Soble said. Many volunteers of various food distribution programs said they don't believe the city is trying to protect the health of the homeless with its new law. They believe the city enacted its ordinance to help clear the city of its homeless.

County health officials have said they welcome the city's controversial new law

and say there is a need to better monitor outdoor food distribution programs.

City and county officials have met with operators of the food program as part of a training effort designed to teach them how to comply with state health standards.

"This is not a law about feeding the hungry and homeless, this is about the freedom of exercising your expression."

— CAROL SOBLE
Local civil rights attorney

However, Soble said the training wasn't necessary because many of the providers distribute prepackaged food.

"They did those trainings and they walked out more confused," she said.

With the training effort complete, both sides await the judge's ruling. Meanwhile, there are still food lines in front of City Hall every Saturday and a few held in Palisades Park throughout the week that are not being monitored.

City officials' goal is to tie the free meal programs to the city's social services so the homeless aren't just getting a free meal, but also using the programs designed to lift them off the streets.

But Soble hasn't seen any evidence that city officials are looking for ways to connect food and services.

"We're still waiting," she said.

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Dennis C. Hardin, M.F.T., Ph.D., is a licensed psychotherapist and marriage counselor specializing in personal growth and goal achievement. He is the author of *THE ETHICS OF PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT*. He has also been certified by the Albert Ellis Institute in the techniques of rational-emotive behavioral therapy. His specialty is developing self-help methods which enable clients to retake control of their lives and remake their own destiny.

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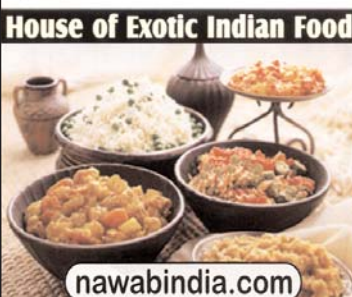
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LOCAL

Local landlords perform repairs under pressure

PETITION, from page 1

to the maximum allowed by law.

During the same three-year period, one-fifth of the owners made all of the requested repairs immediately after the ruling. And dozens more eventually performed some or all of the repairs.

Joseph Fitzsimons, vice president of Sullivan Dituri Realty, a commercial and residential broker that oversees 1,250 units in the city, said some tenants misuse the city's reduction clause.

"The board tries to be fair and administer the law fairly," said Fitzsimons, who added that Sullivan Dituri receives less than 10 petitions for rent reductions each year. "But I think it's open to abuse by those who know how to work the system. It's just like any system, if someone knows how to work it, they can."

Fitzsimons also said that landlords seeking compensation for upgrades face a long and complicated battle. He suggested the local RCB adopt a one-page application for rent increases like the one used in LA.

"There's no short-form easy process and I think that's one of the problems with the rent control ordinance," he said. "It's a very lengthy petition process, so much so that I think I've only done one in the last 20 years. The stack of paperwork was like five feet tall."

Fitzsimons's petition for rent increase, filed in the late 1980s, was for a complete building makeover, including redoing the roof, plumbing, stucco and paint. The board approved the requested rental increase.

The range for various types of repairs depends on the severity of the damage and the rent level of the unit, Condon said.

Tenants can get between \$10 to \$120 taken off of their monthly rent for each area that is affected by a leak and \$5 to \$60 taken off for each broken window or

door. Loss of heat or hot water can warrant a \$10 to \$150 reduction, while defective plumbing or drains can lead to reductions of \$10 to \$240. Bad appliances or an inoperative elevator can cause a \$60 reduction, carpet and flooring problems as much as \$225 and broken cabinets as much as \$40, according to the city's rent control laws, which list several other categories.

"In most cases, the tenants aren't interested in a rent reduction — they just want their unit repaired."

— TRACY CONDON
Rent Control Board spokeswoman

Tenants who think they are entitled to a rent reduction first must tell their landlord in writing about the work they want performed. After giving the owners at least 30 days — but no more than 180 days — to complete the work, they can file a petition for a rent decrease with the RCB.

Once the petition is filed, Condon said the board first sends the matter to mediation, where more than half of the matters are resolved. If the two parties cannot reach an agreement on all of the items in the complaint, the case will be heard by a hearing officer.

Before the hearing, where both sides offer testimony, the board sends an investigator out to inspect the state of the unit. Once a decision has been made, either party can appeal to the RCB.

Third week for Twilight Dance Series at SM Pier

CONCERT, from page 1

come from us playing together. It's not about a DJ and programs and samples. It's taken a long time, but we've finally become a band."

The Afro Celts are becoming local celebrities with a name change and the release of their fourth album, "Seed."

Four albums later, the group has proven that this eclectic mix stands the test of time as they continue to perform at local venues. The afro Celts also have added many new aspects to their sound, including uilleann pipes and the bamboo flute. Meanwhile, lead singer Larla O Lionaird is said to captivate the crowd with her voice.

The name of the band comes from

combining Celtic music with ancient African drums.

The opening band, Electric Skychurch, features James Lumb — a composer, producer, artist and pioneer in rock and electronic fusion music.

Bringing legendary vocalist Roxanne Morganstern to the state once again, Electric Skychurch gives an up-tempo, transcendental performance that features classic Skychurch hits, as well as new, unreleased material. The band has played for more than 1 million people worldwide and their record, "Together," was No. 1 on the charts for 20 weeks straight.

The concert runs from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. on the parking deck of the Santa Monica Pier as part of the Twilight Dance Series.



check out your forecast in today's horoscopes ...

page 2

STATE

U.S. authorities unseal indictment against cartel

BY SETH HETTENA
Associated Press Writer

SAN DIEGO — Attorney General John Ashcroft and his Mexican counterpart, Rafael Macedo de la Concha, announced a new criminal indictment Tuesday against three brothers accused of heading one of Mexico's most violent and powerful drug gangs.

The Arellano Felix brothers and eight of their high-ranking subordinates are accused of ordering a series of murders to consolidate their control of the flow of tons of narcotics into the United States.

Federal authorities also cited evidence that the Arellano Felix cartel, based in Tijuana, Mexico, tried to send weapons to Colombian guerrillas in exchange for drugs.

The 11 suspects are charged with racketeering, conspiracy to import and distribute drugs, and money laundering. U.S. authorities also are seeking \$289 million in cash and property allegedly acquired through the drug trade.

Prosecutors said they had evidence the cartel held meetings in the late 1990s in Mexico with a representative of the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, the rebel group known as the FARC, to discuss a proposed trade of weapons for cocaine. The deal was thwarted by the 2000 arrest of Ismael Higuera Guerrero, the cartel's top lieutenant, in Mexico, authorities said.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Laura Duffy called evidence of dealings between the FARC and the Arellano Felix cartel "conclusive." She did not offer specifics.

The indictment against brothers Benjamin, Eduardo, and Francisco Arellano Felix lays out the scope of their operation, which used fishing boats, helicopters, backpackers, cars, planes and trucks to smuggle cocaine from Colombia and Mexican marijuana into California.

The cartel "used a campaign of fear, torture and murder to silence potential informants, rivals, Mexican law enforcement, Mexican media and the public at large," Ashcroft said. They also rode around in armored vehicles equipped with guns, bulletproof glass and devices that spewed oil, nails and smoke.

It blames the cartel for 20 murders carried out in the United States and Mexico stretching back to 1989, including the deaths of a Mexican federal prosecutor and two Mexican federal police officers.

Five of the 11 defendants are in Mexican custody, including Benjamin Arellano Felix, who was captured in central Mexico last year. Another brother, Ramon, had

been fatally shot by police in the Mexican resort of Mazatlan a few weeks earlier.

"This case sends a message to drug dealers everywhere: You have nowhere to hide."

— JOHN ASHCROFT
Attorney General

The youngest of the nine Arellano Felix brothers, Francisco Arellano Felix, 33, also known as Javier, has "filled the shoes of Benjamin and Ramon," Duffy said. He is being advised by Gustavo Rivera Martinez, a U.S. citizen from San Diego, who was charged in a separate indictment also unsealed Tuesday.

Authorities said Tuesday they are finalizing plans to offer \$2.5 million rewards for information leading to the

capture of each of the six suspects who are at large.

"This case sends a message to drug dealers everywhere: You have nowhere to hide," Ashcroft said. "There is no escape across the border."

Macedo said: "The borders do not signify impunity and the differences between the judicial systems are not obstacles to achieving a just sanction against those who attempt to go against the values most important to our societies."

Ashcroft said the indictment was structured to ease the extradition of the ring leaders. The racketeering and drug charges do not carry the death penalty or life prison terms; Mexican law does not allow for the extradition of suspects facing such sentences. A request for the extradition of 11 defendants was being finalized in Washington.

The 34-page indictment, more than two years in the making, would not have been possible without the help of Mexican authorities, who made evidence and witnesses available to U.S. authorities and a federal grand jury, Duffy said.

Officials consider debit cards for metered parking

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Supervisors want to explore county implementation of a successful Hermosa Beach program that lets motorists use prepaid debit keys for metered parking, an alternative that could make it easier for drivers to park at beaches and elsewhere.

The Board of Supervisors on Tuesday unanimously approved a motion by Supervisor Don Knabe to have the Sheriff's Department, the Chief Administrative Office and the Department of Beaches and Harbors study Hermosa's "cash key" program.

The departments will report back on whether it is feasible to duplicate it at county beaches and in other cities and unincorporated areas.

"It's basically prepaid parking," Knabe said. "People going to the beach don't like having things in their pocket, so this is going to make it easier for people."

In Hermosa Beach, motorists are charged a \$10 deposit for the cash keys, and can buy them in amounts up to \$100. The keys are made to fit on a standard key ring, and slip into a special slot on the parking meters. The charge for parking is automatically subtracted from the prepaid amount in 25-cent increments.

The program could save money because meters wouldn't have to be emptied as often.

Pasadena and West Hollywood have similar cash key programs for parking meters.

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For further information regarding the survivor's reception and lap, contact survivor chairperson Judy La Patka at (310) 579-7100 or judylapatka@aol.com Tracey Mayer at the American Cancer Society (310) 348-0356 option 3/ext. 246 or tracey.mayer@cancer.org.

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STATE

CALIFORNIA BRIEFS

Nuclear waste to be moved

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Low-level nuclear waste may be trucked from Nevada on a roundabout, 300-mile trip through California as early as Thursday, despite arguments from state officials that the route is unnecessary and unsafe.

California officials have complained about the route, which winds through California and Arizona before ending at a disposal facility in New Mexico. Part of the trip is along state Highway 127, a former wagon road that authorities say is not designed for heavy trucks, is poorly maintained in places and is popular with tourists heading to Death Valley.

"It's an antique roadway," California Highway Patrol Commissioner D.O. Helmick said Tuesday. "We just think there's better, shorter, more direct routes to be taken."

The U.S. Department of Energy has not indicated how much waste would be trucked nor exactly when the shipments will be made. But authorities had indicated they could begin as early as Thursday.

The first shipment had been scheduled for the last week of June but that was postponed at the request of U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., and state officials.

Senate rejects ban on driving and talking

By The Associated Press

SACRAMENTO — A Senate committee Tuesday rejected legislation designed to ban the use of hand-held cell phones while driving after the panel tacked on amendments that caused the author to fight his own bill.

The measure by Assemblyman Joe Simitian, D-Palo Alto, went down to defeat in the Transportation Committee with Simitian urging committee members to oppose the bill because of amendments he said would make it unenforceable.

He described the 7-4 vote against the legislation as an "odd coming together of folks ... who either disliked the bill in any form, liked the way I proposed it initially or were simply not going to force a bill on me that I opposed."

The bill initially would have made it an infraction, punishable by a fine of up to \$20 for a first offense and up to \$50 for a subsequent violation, to use a hand-held phone while driving. Devices that permit the phone to be used handsfree would be allowed.

Simitian said that legislation would save lives by helping ensure that drivers had greater control over their cars when they talk on the phone.

"You are always safer when you have both hands on the wheel, but particularly in this instance when you are distracted on three different levels," he said.

Consumer groups work for privacy

By The Associated Press

SACRAMENTO — An Assembly committee on Tuesday rejected, for the second time in a month, a long-sought, heavily lobbied bill that would give greater privacy protections to consumers' financial records.

Consumer groups and the bill's author, Sen. Jackie Speier, D-Daly City, said they instead will push for an initiative on next year's ballot.

"The bill has almost become a sideshow at this point, because it's so watered down" in a futile attempt to gain legislative support, said Jerry Flanagan of the Foundation for Taxpayer and Consumer Rights.

It faced strong opposition from the financial community, which said it would cost too much to implement and would not be flexible enough to work with all companies. By Speier's count, opponents spent more than \$20 million the last four years to kill the bill.

It's the fourth time the Assembly rejected the measure, which was backed by Senate leader John Burton, D-San Francisco. Speier added 11 amendments Tuesday in an attempt to satisfy various interests.

"I don't know what more we can do," Speier said.

Firm accused of filing bogus suits

By The Associated Press

SACRAMENTO — Attorney General Bill Lockyer filed suit against a Southern California law firm and one of their attorneys Tuesday, accusing them of misusing consumer protections laws and seeking more than \$1 million in damages.

Lockyer claims attorney Harpreet Brar and the Brar & Gamulin law firm sued hundreds of small businesses in Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties solely to obtain nuisance settlements. The suit claims Brar wrongly accused the business owners of violating unfair business practice laws and then attempted to get quick cash settlements.

"The lawsuits filed by Brar and the other defendants were shams," said Lockyer in a statement. "When they brought these actions, they claimed to be representing the public's interest. But their only interest was in lining their pockets with easy money."

The suit is the second filed by Lockyer this year against a law firm he believes has misused a law intended to allow private attorneys to represent the public's interest against companies that engage in price-fixing, false advertising and other unfair business practices.

Lockyer also filed a lawsuit against the Trevor Law Group of Beverly Hills in February for the same alleged abuses.

NATIONAL



Vail town retailers fear business is going downhill

BY JASON BLEVINS

Associated Press Staff Writer

VAIL, Colo. — The weekly winter-time deluge of day-tripping skiers at Vail is fomenting grief among the tony resort town's retailers, who have spent the past 20 years sculpting a shopping experience for the upper-crust vacationer.

"The way this is going, we are starting to hear from our high-end clients that they are no longer coming to a resort that caters to the upper-end destination skier," said Robert De Luca, who has owned Vail Village's Currents jewelry shop for 26 years.

"Vail's target has always been the upper-end destination skier. Now we are sending a message to people who always considered this a high-end resort that we are changing our target market," De Luca said. "You cannot change horses in the middle of the race and still win."

With local visitation climbing 50 percent and destination visitation falling as much as 15 percent in the past five years, Vail's business community is wondering where their town is heading.

As many as five miles of cars clogged the frontage road in Vail on a majority of Saturdays last season. Both parking structures were filled to the brim. And the fur shops, galleries, jewelry shops and fancy furnishing shops watched the visitors march on by, focused on the skiing, not the shopping.

Sales tax revenues in the town are dropping below timid expectations. The conservative budget of 2.5 percent growth in sales

tax was recently lowered to 1 percent, which does not keep pace with inflation.

Rents continue to climb in Vail Village and Lionshead, reaching as much as \$140 a month for every square foot of space. That's \$70,000 a month for a 500-square-foot shop that does most of its business during the five months of skiing. And those five months are seeing more and more of Colorado's Front Range skiers, who do not visit Vail to shop.

"For the long run of the Vail economy, if we are not a destination resort, there's not a lot going on," said Rob Swimm, whose Scotch on the Rockies shop in Vail Village has seen steep declines in business. "The day traffic takes away from the experience of people who have been coming to Vail for years, and they are noticing the change, and they aren't coming back."

Retailers like Swimm and De Luca express an eagerness to work with the town of Vail and Vail Resorts to address the parking issues and possibly tweaking the season-pass plan. The ski company has promised to open 200 spaces at a lot on the west end of town, has pledged \$4.3 million to add a new parking deck to the Lionshead parking structure, and has offered to lay down mats or even synthetic turf on the town's Ford Park during peak parking times.

But they aren't dropping the pass program that puts \$36 million in revenue into company coffers in the spring and fall, times when the company typically bleeds cash.

It's misguided to blame the town's retail woes on day skiers, said Bill Jensen,

chief operating officer for Vail Resorts and head of Vail Mountain.

Front Range skiers, who come from Denver, Boulder, Colorado Springs and Fort Collins or cities east of the Continental Divide, spent the night more than they visited for just a day, Jensen said. Local skiers in the growing county of 42,000 far exceed the number of Front Range skiers who visit the valley, he said, pointing to the seven busiest parking days in the valley coinciding with the busiest days for local passes.

And the majority of the mountain's visitors are overwhelmingly destination visitors.

"This is not a Front Range issue," he said.

In fact, day-tripping traffic this past season fell 3 percent in Vail, while destination traffic was ahead 9 percent before the Iraq war lowered visitation.

"The day traffic is a convenient excuse to explain the softness of their business. It's a red herring," said Adam Aron, chief executive of Vail Resorts. "The influx of local skiers is not driving away out-of-state skiers. It's just two trends that are happening at the same time."

Not all business in the valley is declining. Bars, coffee shops and restaurants reported a strong year, citing bustling business from the day skiers.

"It makes me really angry to hear local talk about this horse-and-buggy traffic that comes over the pass every weekend," said Phil Long, the guitar-strumming owner of the venerable Red Lion bar in Vail Village. "These guys are not lower-class citizens because they simply take

advantage of a great ski deal. The (Vail business) people I talk to who are doing reasonably well are putting something in people's hands that people want."

As the ski industry changes and Vail Resorts works to replace a steady decline in out-of-state visitation with Front Range skiers, maybe it's time for the ski retail community to follow suit, said Town Councilman Dick Cleveland.

"I think Vail Resorts has adjusted with the change in the economy and reached out to a segment of the ski market they shunned in the past," said Cleveland, who is organizing round-table discussions among town leaders to identify the sources of the town's ailing economy. "I think it's time for our retail community to examine itself also. Maybe the merchants need to sell things that the people who come here want to buy."

But the town's retailers have spent decades crafting a village that caters to a specific guest. A better solution would be to find a way to accommodate the non-shopping skiers who crowd the resort's pedestrian villages on weekends, said Kaye Ferry, founder of the Vail Chamber & Business Association and owner of Vail's Daily Grind coffee shop and bar.

"The best thing we can do is bite the bullet and say, 'They are coming. Now what are we going to do with them?'" she said. "It's not the existence of the day skiers that troubles us; it's what to do with them once they are here."



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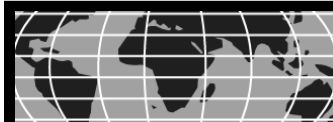
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WORLD BRIEFLY

Overcrowded ferry sinks

By The Associated Press

DHAKA, Bangladesh — An overcrowded ferry sank in southern Bangladesh, and about 600 people were feared to be trapped inside the boat at the bottom of a river, rescue officials said Wednesday.

Local fishermen were using their boats to desperately search for survivors and a salvage ship with cranes had arrived at the scene to try to lift the ferry from under 200 feet of water, officials said.

The ferry was carrying 750 people when it capsized late Tuesday at the meeting point of the Padma, Meghna and Dakatia rivers as it approached a ferry terminal at the town of Chandpur about 40 miles south of the capital, Dhaka.

About 150 people swam to shore or were rescued by local fishermen, said Manzoor-e-Elahi, the area's administrator. Sujan, a 7-year-old boy, saved himself by holding on to a small piece of wood.

Some Dhaka newspapers said the ferry was carrying more than 1,000 passengers — nearly three times its legal capacity.

The ferry was "extremely overcrowded" because about 400 passengers boarded at the last moment after another ferry canceled its scheduled trip, south, Dhaka's Ittefaq newspaper said.

US military rescuers stopped

By The Associated Press

MONROVIA, Liberia — U.S. military experts listened to thousands of Liberians pleading for an American-led rescue mission, but at one point were turned back when they tried to visit refugees in an abandoned Voice of America compound.

Waving hankies and American flags, refugees swarmed the U.S. team's convoy Tuesday as it visited some of the camps housing tens of thousands of people displaced by the fighting between President Charles Taylor and rebels who have surrounded his capital and demand his ouster.

At a high school where 18,000 refugees live, crowds clambered over the Americans' vehicles and chanted,

"No more war, we want rest!" Thousands more danced and chanted, "USA, USA," at Monrovia's athletics stadium, where families left destitute by war are sleeping beneath the bleachers.

But the delegation, which had had planned to visit a refugee camp in an abandoned Voice of America radio station compound, was turned back at a government checkpoint.

Defense Minister Daniel Chea later said the Americans were welcome to go wherever they wanted, but had to discuss their plans with him first as a matter of protocol.

When the convoy re-entered the city crowds grew, and in the confusion a diplomatic car ran into a young boy. As diplomats put the child into the vehicle to get medical treatment, the crowds grew again. Liberian police special forces on a bridge fired shots in the air to disperse them.

Assembly worker kills five co-workers

By The Associated Press

MERIDIAN, Miss. — Police were trying to determine why an assembly-line worker described as "mad at the world" left a business meeting at an aircraft parts plant only to return and gun down 14 colleagues, killing five.

Doug Williams shot himself Tuesday following his lethal rampage at the Lockheed Martin plant. Co-workers said the 48-year-old worker had had run-ins with management and several fellow employees.

Some of the 138 employees at the plant said Williams, who was white, was known as a racist who did not like blacks. Eight of the 14 shooting victims were black, including four of the five fatalities.

Nevertheless, Sheriff Billy Sollie said it appeared Williams fired at random. "There was no indication it involved race or gender as far as his targets were concerned," Sollie said.

Hubert Threat, who has worked at the Lockheed Martin plant since the 1980s, said Williams was "mad at the world." He said Williams, employed at the plant since 1984, had a big heart, "but then 'boom!' it's like Jekyll and Hyde."

Intelligence on Iraq to be investigated

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Democrats said White House acknowledgment that President Bush misspoke when he said Saddam Hussein tried to buy uranium in Africa justifies a broad review of how the administration used pre-war intelligence on Iraq.

"This is a very important admission," Senate Democratic Leader Tom Daschle of South Dakota said Tuesday. "It's a recognition that we were provided faulty information. And I think it's all the more reason why a full investigation of all of the facts surrounding this situation be undertaken."

Sen. Carl Levin of Michigan, the ranking Democrat on the Armed Services Committee, said: "The reported White House statements only reinforce the importance of an inquiry into why the information about the bogus uranium sales didn't reach the policy-makers during 2002 and why, as late as the president's State of the Union address in January 2003, our policy-makers were still using information which the intelligence community knew was almost certainly false."

The Bush administration used purported Iraqi weapons of mass destruction as a major justification for the war, and the failure to find such weapons so far has generated intense criticism from some Democrats.

Shuttles share mishap in similar area

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Superheated gases penetrated the left wing of the space shuttle Atlantis during its fiery return to Earth nearly three years before a larger breach in nearly the same location is believed to have doomed the shuttle Columbia and its seven astronauts, internal NASA documents show.

Atlantis suffered no irreparable damage after the May 2000 episode, and, after repairs, it returned to flight four months later. But after the incident, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration ordered fleetwide changes in how employees install protective wing panels and sealants.

The small leak through a seam in Atlantis' wing during its return from the International Space Station was disclosed in documents sought by The Associated Press under the Freedom of Information Act. NASA blamed the breach on an improperly installed seal that became dislodged, opening a quarter-inch gap between insulating materials.

U.S. envoy meets Palestinian officials to ease peace crisis

BY JILL LAWLESS

Associated Press Writer

JERUSALEM — U.S. Middle East envoy John Wolf met with a top Palestinian official Wednesday to try to ease a crisis within the Palestinian leadership that prompted Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas to threaten to quit, a diplomat said.

In Washington, meanwhile, a senior U.S. official said the government would grant \$20 million to the Palestinian Authority, but bypassing Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat. The aid is meant to bolster Abbas, the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The United States and Israel pressed Arafat to appoint Abbas as prime minister in April, charging that Arafat is tainted by terrorism.

The aid decision reflected intense U.S. diplomacy aimed at ending 33 months of Palestinian-Israeli violence.

Israeli media reports said Wolf would also meet with Israeli Defense Minister Shaul Mofaz and urge Israel to release more Palestinian prisoners and dismantle more illegal settlement outposts, moves that Palestinians have been demanding and which would bolster Abbas' position.

Raanan Gissin, an adviser to Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, said Wolf was "exploring ways of how to advance the peace process, how to speed it up, how

to move it along."

A diplomat confirmed the meeting with Palestinian security chief Mohammed Dahlan and indicated that meetings with Israeli officials were also planned.

On Tuesday, Abbas threatened to resign unless his party backed his tactics in talks with Israelis, Palestinian officials said. The three largest Palestinian militant groups declared a unilateral cease-fire on June 29, but say it will collapse unless Israel releases the bulk of thousands of Palestinian prisoners it holds.

On Wednesday, Hamas founder Sheik Ahmed Yassin said the release of prisoners, "is a red line which we cannot pass."

Speaking after a meeting with Egyptian security officials in the Gaza Strip, Yassin said his group remained committed to the truce, but that it needed to see a mass prisoner releases by Israel.

"We ... told them that we are going to be patient, but patience is limited," he said.

Egyptian officials said the delegation would meet leaders of the three main Palestinian militant groups, urging them to maintain the cease-fire.

Underscoring the fragile state of Israeli-Palestinian peace moves, Israeli soldiers overnight shot and killed 27-year-old Iyad Halanesh and seriously wounded his 26-year-old wife during an operation in the West Bank to arrest Halanesh's

brother, a member of Arafat's Fatah movement, Palestinian sources said.

The Israeli army confirmed that soldiers shot a man during a raid. They said soldiers were fired on during an arrest operation and returned fire, hitting the gunman. The army said the militant they arrested had planned to carry out a shooting attack Wednesday. They could not confirm the name or condition of the man who was shot, or say whether a woman also was wounded.

On Tuesday, as internal tensions rose in the Palestinian leadership, Abbas called off a meeting with Sharon set for Wednesday. Some officials blamed Israel's refusal to release more prisoners and others cited a lack of support for Abbas from fellow political leaders.

Also Tuesday, in a largely symbolic gesture, Abbas resigned from Fatah's Central Committee, Fatah officials said. In his decades as Arafat's deputy in Fatah and the PLO, Abbas has resigned or threatened to resign many times. Fatah insiders said this time, too, it was a ploy to force Fatah to back him. Sakher Habash, an Arafat loyalist on the committee, said Wednesday that the committee had rejected the resignation.

"Abu Mazen (Abbas) will not be able to continue as prime minister if he is not a member of the central committee. That's why we

have rejected his resignation," he said.

The United States, which pushed for Abbas' appointment in April, gave its backing to the embattled premier. White House spokesman Ari Fleischer said President Bush "is confident" in Abbas.

"The Palestinian Authority still has responsibilities. Internal Palestinian politics is complicated for Palestinians, let alone outside observers," Fleischer told reporters in South Africa, the latest stop on Bush's African trip.

Fatah has been in turmoil over the declaration of the cease-fire 10 days ago, which also obligates its affiliated militia, the Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades. Militant groups, with backing from some Fatah activists, criticized Abbas for not pressing Israel harder for a prisoner release.

In a letter to Arafat, Abbas said he would step down as premier unless he received clear instructions from Fatah over how to handle contacts with Israel.

Israel refuses to free detainees involved directly in terror attacks, including members of the violent groups Hamas and Islamic Jihad. Abbas is said to be concerned that if Israel sticks by its refusal, the two groups might cancel their three-month truce. Fatah called a six-month cease-fire.

Israel is holding about 7,000 Palestinian prisoners, most of them rounded up during the past 33 months of conflict.

SPORTS

SPORTS IN BRIEF

By The Associated Press



BASKETBALL

■ **EAGLE, Colo.** — The sexual assault allegations against Los Angeles Lakers guard Kobe Bryant were made by a 19-year-old Colorado woman.

Eagle County Sheriff Joe Hoy confirmed the woman's age and said she has left on vacation with her family.

He also said investigators have sent unspecified evidence to the state Bureau of Investigation for analysis, but refused to discuss other details of the case.

The 24-year-old Bryant is accused of sexual assault, and prosecutors are expected to decide by the end of the week whether to charge him. Bryant's attorney, Pamela Mackey, says he is innocent and expects to be exonerated.

■ **EL SEGUNDO** — Gary Payton is set to join the Los Angeles Lakers. The team has been negotiating with Payton over the past several days and plans on signing him once the league-wide free agent moratorium period ends July 16, general manager Mitch Kupchak said.

Payton, a point guard, severed ties with his former team, the Milwaukee Bucks, on Monday.

■ **TORONTO** — First-round draft pick Chris Bosh signed a three-year contract with the Toronto Raptors.

Bosh, the fourth pick in last month's draft, will make about \$2.91 million a year under the terms of the NBA's rookie pay scale.



CYCLING

■ **SAINT-DIZIER, France** — Italy's Alessandro Petacchi won the third stage of the Tour de France.

Lance Armstrong finished 69th and is 12th overall, 19 seconds behind leader French rider Jean-Patrick Nazon.

Petacchi also won the first stage Sunday.



BASEBALL

■ **OAKLAND** — An 8-year-old boy watching the Oakland Athletics' game against Tampa Bay suffered burns on one of his legs when another fan tossed an explosive device from the upper deck of the Coliseum.

The boy was taken to a hospital for treatment. No further information was immediately available.

A suspect was in police custody, the A's said. The device, commonly known as a cherry bomb, made a loud boom as it fell from the third deck to the first tier of bleachers in left field. Players turned to look, causing a short delay during the third inning.



HOCKEY

■ **DETROIT** — Dominik Hasek announced that he's coming back to the Detroit Red Wings.

Detroit late last month exercised an \$8 million option on the 38-year-old goalie, who retired a year ago and now lives in the Czech Republic. Hasek won the Stanley Cup with the Red Wings in 2002.



TRACK & FIELD

■ **INDIANAPOLIS** — Hurdler Allen Johnson was among five defending world champions selected for the U.S. team at the IAAF World Outdoor Track & Field Championships next month in Paris.

Joining 110-meter hurdler Johnson on the team announced by USA Track & Field were shot put champion John Godina, women's pole vaulter Stacy Dragila, 100-meter champ Maurice Greene, and 2001 world indoor and outdoor gold medalist Anjanette Kirkland in the 100-meter hurdles.

The world championships will be Aug. 23-31.



SOCCER

■ **CARSON** — The draw to set the field for the Women's World Cup will be held July 17 at the Home Depot Center, site of the tournament final.

For the first time, FIFA also will unveil world rankings for women's teams on the previous day.

The draw will decide matchups for the 16-team tournament, which begins Sept. 20 in Philadelphia.



FOOTBALL

■ **ATLANTA** — Denver Broncos tight end Dwayne Carswell waived his right to a preliminary hearing on a complaint that he picked up his girlfriend by the neck.

The complaint also says Nkeiruka Anyamone sustained a bite wound to the right arm that required treatment.

Carswell, arrested Friday and freed on \$2,500 bail, will appear in state court to enter a plea on charges of domestic violence, battery and obstruction of an officer.

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SANTA MONICA SCENE °CALENDAR EDITION

THURSDAY, JULY 10, 2003

EVENTS

Twilight Dance Series: The Afro Celts Perform

The Twilight Dance Series offers a chance to dance under the stars. The dancing takes place in the Pier's parking deck to the sounds of live musicians. Tonight The Afro Celts, who recently released their forth album, Seed, will perform under the night sky. Their music seamlessly combines Celtic sounds with African drumming, tech-no beat, and smooth vocals. The ten-member band combines traditional instruments such as guitar and keyboard with the more eclectic sounds of the bamboo flute and the harp. Admission is FREE. 7:30-9:30pm

CULTURE

Angel's Attic

Founded in 1984 this museum of historic dolls offers a great place to take the whole family and experience a little bit of Santa Monica History. The museum reflects the growing popularity of doll and miniature collection in the last 400 years. The house itself was built in 1895 and has been

restored to the period, making it one of the few remaining victorian houses in Santa Monica. Current exhibits include: Dolls (English, American, French, and German), including Bru, Jumeau, Dionnes, and Shirley Temple and child sized, as well as "Gottschalk Dollhouses", "Spyri Rooms", "Large English Shoe House", "Miniature copy of Versailles", "Boer War House", "1864 English House" and "Noah's Ark" 516 Colorado Avenue, Santa Monica, CA 90401 E-Mail: dollshses@earthlink.net (310) 394-8331 Fax: 310-656-6865 Museum is open 12:30-4:30Thu.-Sun Adults \$6.50, Children under12 \$3.50 and Seniors over 65 4.50

ENTERTAINMENT

Casa Escobar

This club and restaurant was founded over 56 years ago by Juan and Rosa Jay Escobar. Today it retains it's Mexican heritage, still cooking with the recipes used over 5 decades ago. Peter, Juan and Rosa Jay's son, continues to run Casa Escobar with his wife. The restaurant and club features live music on a daily basis. Tonight is "DJ and Dancing" night. The dancing starts at 8p.m.

and the Flamenco Dancing Show begins at 9 p.m. 14160 Palawan Way Marina Del Rey, CA 90291 (310) 822-2199 Fax: (310) 822-5580

Harvelles's

A local Blues club that has been in service since 1931. Tonight the the club features the "Special Deluxe Combo, Rajin' Cajun Appalachian Blues."h. Doors open at 7pm 1432 4th Street, Santa Monica CA. For more information call: (310) 395-1676 or visit www.harvelles.com

Club Sugar

A great place for party-goers to enjoy the night life. Tonight DJ Colette spins with Tomoki and Kwame. Colette Marino not only spins the music she also sings, creating a captivating music experience. Colette, a Chicago native, was exposed to music early in her life, quickly becoming part of the Chicago dance scene in the early 90s and later an expert at electronic music. Admission is \$5 4 Broadway (@ Lincoln) Santa Monica 90401 (310) 899-1989

MOVIE °GUIDE

LAEMMLE'S MONICA 4-PLEX

1332 2nd Street
Whale Rider PG-13 — 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15,
Spellbound G — 12:15, 2:40, 5:05, 7:30, 9:55,
The Legend Of Suriyothai R — 12:45, 3:55, 7:05, 10:15
L'Auberge Espagnole R — 1:35, 4:25, 7:15, 10:05

LANDMARK NU-WILSHIRE

1314 Wilshire Blvd
Capturing the Friedmans NR—4:30, 7:00, 9:45
Winged Migration G — 5:00, 7:30,10:00

LOEWS CINEPLEX BROADWAY CINEMAS

1441 Third Street Promenade
28 Days Later R —11:00,1:40, 4:25, 7:05, 9:50
Terminator 3 R —10:45, 1:20, 4:05, 6:45, 9:25,12:05
also: 11:45, 2:20, 5:00, 7:35, 10:20
The Hulk PG-13 — 11:35, 2:50, 6:05, 9:15

AMC SANTA MONICA 7

1310 Third Street Promenade
Alex & Emma PG-13 —8:00pm, 10:20pm
Bend It Like Beckham PG-13 —12:45, 4:00, 7:15, 10:10
Bruce Almighty PG-13 — 12:20, 2:40, 5:05, 7:40, 10:00
Finding Nemo G — 11:40, 12:30, 2:10, 3:00, 4:35, 5:30, 7:05, 9:30
Legally Blonde 2: Red, White, & Blonde PG-13 — 11:50, 2:20, 5:10, 7:00, 7:50, 9:40, 10:25
Sinbad: Legend of the Seven Seas PG — 11:30, 1:50, 4:15

MANN CRITERION 6 THEATERS

1313 Third Street Promenade
2 Fast 2 Furious PG-13 — 11:15, 4:45, 7:35
Charlie's Angels: Full Throttle PG-13 — 10:30, 11:30, 12:15, 1:15, 2:15, 3:00, 4:00, 5:00, 5:45, 7:00, 7:45, 8:30, 9:45, 10:30,
Hollywood Homicide PG-13 — 1:55, 2:00, 10:20
Rugrats Go Wild G —10:00, 12:00, 2:05
The Italian Job PG-13 — 10:45, 1:30, 4:15, 7:05, 9:35
The Matrix Reloaded R — 4:20, 7:20, 10:15

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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Rapper Marion 'Suge' Knight may face jail time

By The Associated Press

■ **LOS ANGELES** — A security videotape shows Marion "Suge" Knight didn't punch a parking attendant outside a Hollywood nightclub, the rap impresario's attorney said.

Attorney Rose Kogeman said the tape and the unidentified victim refute accounts by police and state parole officials that the 37-year-old founder of Death Row Records punched the attendant in the face from behind last month. The label is now known as Tha Row.

Police said Knight apparently was unhappy about where his car had been parked outside the White Lotus Club. He could face up to a year behind bars if prison officials determine he violated his parole terms.

Kogeman said her office presented the videotape to parole officials.

She also said the alleged victim says Knight didn't assault him.

"He could see Mr. Knight in front of him when the guy punched him from the back. The video does show a guy walking up behind the valet," Kogeman told the Los Angeles Times for Wednesday's editions.

A Department of Corrections spokeswoman declined to respond to the claim.

"Mr. Knight has the right to a Board of Prison Terms revocation hearing, where both sides will be heard," Margot Bach said.

Knight, who was convicted in 1992 of assault and weapons violations, was sentenced to probation. He was sent to jail for five years for violating that probation in 1996 after a scuffle in the lobby of a Las Vegas hotel. Earlier this year, Knight spent 61 days in jail after authorities found he'd associated with a known gang member in violation of his prison parole.

■ **DAYTONA BEACH, Fla.** — A former stripper is demanding an end to the new cable television show "Stripperella," an animated series featuring Pamela

Anderson as the voice of a stripper who moonlights as a superhero.

Janet Clover filed the lawsuit Monday against Anderson and comic book legend Stan Lee, who created "Stripperella" as well as "Spider-Man" and "The Hulk." Also named as defendants are Viacom TV Networks doing business as TNN.

Clover, 37, claims she's Stripperella's "true creator," according to the lawsuit filed in Daytona Beach circuit court.

Clover, an unemployed Palm Coast resident who identifies herself in the lawsuit as "Sensual Entertainer's Home Studio Founder," said she wrote and filed the lawsuit without the advice or assistance of an attorney.

"This office challenges Lee to produce proof of his creative work, as true authorship belongs to Tanga's Jazz," she wrote, referring to an adult club in Tampa where she claims she asked Lee about the concept of "Stripperella" a year ago during a private dance session. "Evidence to support is available upon request," she wrote.

Viacom officials in New York referred comment to media spokesman Robert Pini in Los Angeles, who didn't return several phone messages.

Anderson's agent, Hedda Moye of Los Angeles, declined to comment.

"I'm just trying to get this off TV because it's not his idea," Clover told The Daytona Beach News-Journal. "She was supposed to be a nurse, which is what I'm studying for. I can't remember much about Mr. Lee, little bits and pieces come back. You know, I meet a lot of men."

"Stripperella" first aired last Thursday on TNN, which is being renamed Spike TV. Viacom is the cable network's parent company.

■ **LOS ANGELES** — Kent McCord said he'll run against Melissa Gilbert for president of the Screen Actors Guild in upcoming elections.

The current SAG treasurer and former star of early

1970s cop show "Adam-12" opposed Gilbert's push for a reorganization of the 70-year-old actors union and unification with its rival. The unification plan failed in a vote.

McCord said he'll team with Esai Morales of "NYPD Blue," who will run for the newly merged position of secretary-treasurer.

Gilbert, who played Laura Ingalls on "Little House on the Prairie," was elected in 2001 and is running for a second term as president alongside James Cromwell, an Oscar nominee for "Babe".

Other candidates have until July 24 to submit nominating petitions. Ballots will be mailed to members Aug. 26 and are due Sept. 23.

■ **LOS ANGELES** — Burt Reynolds still loves getting up on a horse and doing his own stunts.

He did both in "Hard Ground," a new Hallmark Channel movie airing Saturday. Reynolds plays an inmate and his longtime friend, Bruce Dern, plays the sheriff. They team up to track down an escaped felon in the late 1800s-era Western.

Reynolds, 67, has done his own stunt work throughout his career, including a stint on "Gunsmoke" in the 1950s and in the good ol' boy movies "Smokey and the Bandit" and "Cannonball Run."

"I wasn't a very good actor in the beginning and I got an awful lot of jobs because they didn't have to hire a stunt man. If they hired me, that saved them two jobs," he said.

"I was always good about hitting my marks and knowing my lines and doing the stunts. As I got a little bit more proficient at the acting, I tried to be thrown out of windows less."

Reynolds said Dern broke his collarbone and cracked a few ribs during filming near Lake Havasu, Ariz. Then Reynolds cracked his shoulder bone.

"Bruce crashed and burned pretty good. I got hurt the following day, but I didn't want us to look like 'M-A-S-H' so I didn't say anything," he said.

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