



FREE!

Santa Monica Daily Press

July 17-18, 2004

A newspaper with issues

Volume 3, Issue 212

DAILY LOTTERY

FANTASY 5

4 5 6 25 29

DAILY 3

Daytime: 9 1 7

Evening: 6 9 5

DAILY DERBY

1st: 10 Solid Gold

2nd: 12 Lucky Charms

3rd: 01 Gold Rush

RACE TIME: 1:47.07

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

■ Serena Prasad, 22, got into a fight with her boyfriend in Turlock, Calif., on May 2 and allegedly stabbed him several times in the chest, but seeing that he was injured, put him into her car and headed for the hospital. According to a police account, while she was stopped en route at a traffic light, she realized that her boyfriend had not had enough yet, and she walked around to the passenger side, stabbed him again in the shoulder with a steak knife, and kicked him in the head, but police happened by, and she was arrested on a charge of attempted murder.

TODAY IN HISTORY

■ ON JULY 17, 1945, President Truman, Soviet leader Josef Stalin and British Prime Minister Winston S. Churchill began meeting at Potsdam in the final Allied summit of World War II.

■ In 1821, Spain ceded Florida to the United States.

■ In 1898, during the Spanish-American War, Spanish troops in Santiago, Cuba, surrendered to U.S. forces.

■ In 1917, the British royal family adopted the name "Windsor."

INDEX

Horoscopes

You are the party, Libra 2

Local

Pie in the sky 3

Surf

Water temperature: 65° 3

Opinion

Doing swimmingly 4

Q-Line Responses

Variety is the spice of life 5

Entertainment

Rhythm king 8

National

Blaze of glory 10

Crossword

2 Across? Anyone? 12

Classifieds

Class action 13-15

People in the News

A kinder, gentler Prince 16

The cat and the fiddle



Nicky Five Aces/Special to the Daily Press
Chas Waltz of the Young Dubliners strikes a high note during Thursday's Twilight Dance Series concert at the Santa Monica Pier. The music series is held each week throughout the summer.



Ronda Rousey

Greece lightning: Teen going for the gold

BY JOHN F. MULLER

Special to the Daily Press

Ronda Rousey has broken her toes seven times doing judo. Sometimes she doesn't even notice.

"They get caught under the mat, sometimes they break in a fight, you know," said the 17-year-old. "Like my pinkie is broken right now. It's

twisted the wrong way ... I just tape it to another finger so it's like one. Medical tape will fix anything."

The Santa Monican will make her first Olympic appearance this August in Athens, the first of many she hopes, as the youngest member of the U.S. Judo team. Her intense work regimen, aggressive style of play and fearlessness on the mat have left her

favorable to be the first American woman to win Olympic gold in judo, if not this year, then in 2008. Her mother, AnnMaria Rousey, became the first American woman to win the Judo World Championships in 1984.

Rousey found herself on the Olympic team this year even after a

See ATHENS-BOUND, page 6

Sounds of silence mark anniversary

BY JOHN F. MULLER

Special to the Daily Press

DOWNTOWN — The silence was deafening at 1:47 p.m. in First Presbyterian Church on Friday — one year to the day since an elderly Santa Monica man drove through the bustling downtown Farmers' Market, killing 10 people and injuring 63 others.

A crowd of about 60 participated in an interfaith service held by the community worship council to remember those who lost their lives that fateful day, when Russell Weller, 87, plowed through the market and triggered

one of the worst tragedies in the city's history.

Weller is currently awaiting trial.

The Second Street church was a cool, shady refuge from a hot and sunny downtown that proceeded with business as usual. Mourners wrote messages to those lost and shared their feelings of loss with the others present amidst tears and contemplation.

"It's really hard to lose somebody so quick when life is so short and unpredictable," remarked Maria Martinez, whose sister-in-

See ONE YEAR LATER, page 9



John Wood/Daily Press

Victims, family members and friends attend a service on Friday at the First Presbyterian Church of Santa Monica, held in memory of the fatal Farmers' Market crash.



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Eddie Guerboian

GOOD TO EAT

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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)

★★★★ A resolution involving your family will stick. Think of different approaches and solutions. The traditional will not work. Humor will loosen up others later in the day. Don't sit at home; hop out the door. Tonight: You're the life of the party.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ You might be up for a change of pace, which might be meeting someone halfway to visit. New wheels might fit the bill. You also might decide that another form of communication could work. Plan on heading home late this afternoon. Tonight: Surprise! The party is at your place.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Use the morning to pay bills and balance your budget. When you clear out the door this afternoon, you can let go of responsibilities and simply enjoy yourself. You don't have to go far. Chat, catch up on friends' news and meet new people. Tonight: Hang out at a favorite spot.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ You are on cruise control as the day begins. Be spontaneous and do what feels right. Your personality attracts others. Make the most of the moment. You tend to go to extremes later in the day, as you are having such a good time. Tonight: Don't count on an early night.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★ Use the morning for personal matters. You might not want to be found. Make a resolution about having more personal time. You will discover that by late afternoon you are in full swing again. Let your magnetism and personality roll. Tonight: Whatever makes the Lion happy.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Use the daylight hours to interact with others. You will be more personable than usual. Make a personal resolution that is way overdue. Go for what you want. By late afternoon, you might want to do something just for yourself. Tonight: Vanish.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ You have handled enough responsibility. Perhaps it is time to take a break and do something for yourself. Enjoy yourself. Get together with friends. Let your hair down; paint the town red — just forget your burdens for now. Tonight: You are the party.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Reach out for others and make calls in the morning. Your plans could change at the last minute. You discover something new or get key information. Others look to you for suggestions and ideas. Anything can happen. Tonight: You are the lead actor.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ You're right-on about a partner who expresses his or her feelings. Make a new beginning together. Don't keep dealing with heavy matters. Go off and do something you both enjoy. Consider driving to a resort near you. Tonight: Try something different.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ Others simply want to be near you. You find that you might need to establish terms and boundaries. Watch all the innuendoes and moves toward you. Decide to be with one person at a time. Tonight: Get to know one of your admirers better.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Plunge into a home project early on. You will get a lot done if you focus. You might make a resolution to do this more often or never to do it again. Loosen up later in the day and find your friends, who might pitch in. Tonight: Play the night away.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ You might have difficulty calming down, and why would you want to? Enjoy yourself. Let your imagination churn up your plans. Whatever happens, you'll have a great time. Your feelings about another person could be changing. Tonight: Hang loose, if you can.

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LOCAL



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Get into the Ozone

By Daily Press staff

A neighborhood group will be in the Ozone this weekend. This Sunday, July 18, from noon to 4 p.m., the Borderline Neighborhood Group is having its annual picnic at Ozone Park. There will be music, children's activities and a potluck of hors d'oeuvres, drinks, salads, food for the grill and desserts brought by neighborhood residents. The police community relations department will bring in face painters, and a police vehicle and fire truck will be there for the children. Community speakers will be on hand and a raffle representing local businesses also will be held. If you want to attend, sign in at the neighborhood check-in table and deliver your potluck item and bring your smile, too. This is the 13th year that the small, nonpartisan neighborhood improvements group has put on the picnic.

Neighborhood group votes for new voting system

By Daily Press staff

The Wilshire/Montana Neighborhood Coalition (Wilmont) recently voted to adopt instant runoff voting to elect its officers. Wilmont is the first neighborhood organization in Santa Monica to adopt IRV, and hopes to ensure majority rule by outlawing separate runoff elections. With IRV, members of the board will be allowed to rank their choices when they vote for officers. If no candidate is a majority, a runoff will instantly be held among top candidates. If a voter's favorite candidate is not one of the candidates in the runoff, their vote will go to their next choice. The city has been considering IRV for some time. In 1992, a city charter review commission recommended it for City Council elections. In 1999, members of the City Council gave city staff direction to explore IRV as an option for its elections, and that exploration process is still ongoing. Mayor Pro Tem Kevin McKeown and Councilman Mike Feinstein are both on record as supporting IRV. The California League of Women Voters has stated that they "(s)upport election systems for executive offices, both at the state and local levels, that require the winner to receive a majority of the votes, as long as the majority is achieved using a voting method such as instant runoff voting, rather than a second, separate runoff election." In November, San Francisco will conduct IRV elections for the first time. The Grassroots Venice Neighborhood Council also recently adopted IRV for its elections. Santa Monica Ranked Voting is a local organization that is promoting IRV and "Choice Voting," both voting systems where people are empowered to rank their choices at the ballot. More information may be found at www.smrankedvoting.org.

St. Joseph Center gets nod from county

By Daily Press staff

Those down-and-out are finding their futures in the kitchen. Los Angeles County's GROW Program for unemployed and low-income individuals recently recognized St. Joseph Center's culinary training program with an award for the job training and placement the center has provided for 29 men and women during the past year. The county's GROW program is mandatory for employable General Relief recipients and consists of three components: Orientation, job-skills preparation and job skills assessment. The center's culinary training program is for unemployed men and women who are interested in the food service industry and consists of six weeks of classes and four weeks of internship at local hospitals, colleges and restaurants. Operating at the center's "Bread & Roses Café," the program offers food preparation, life skills coaching, resume preparation, and bus tokens for transportation to interviews. Five of the last year's 40 graduates have been hired as permanent employees at UCLA. St. Joseph Center assists more than 8,000 working poor and homeless adults and children, veterans, and seniors each year to achieve self-sufficiency through case management, food distributions, child care, mentoring and job training.



SURF REPORT

Today, look for a mix of leftover SSE swell and slowly fading SW swell. Northern LA County spots see the southerly mix for knee- to waist-high surf at many breaks and occasional chest-high sets at best spots. Average South Bay spots stay below waist-high off the wind swell. Best SW/combo breaks in the north half of the bay see occasional waist-high sets. Look for light and variable wind in the morning to build out of the W in the 8-12 knot range for the afternoon. OUTLOOK: New SW starts to arrive Sunday and peaks on Monday for some EPIC waves. Nice one.

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

Today the water is:

65°



LOW TIDES

HIGH TIDES

	Morning	Height	Evening	Height	Morning	Height	Evening	Height
SATURDAY	4:38	-0.5	3:31	2.6	11:17	3.8	9:46	6.1
SUNDAY	5:08	-0.5	4:07	2.6	11:46	3.8	10:19	6.0
MONDAY	5:38	-0.4	4:46	2.5	12:16	3.9	10:52	5.8
TUESDAY	6:08	-0.2	5:30	2.5	12:48	4.0	11:28	5.4
WEDNESDAY	6:38	0.1	6:23	2.5	N/A	N/A	1:21	4.2
THURSDAY	7:09	0.5	7:28	2.4	12:09	4.9	1:56	4.4
FRIDAY	7:42	1.0	8:50	2.2	1:00	4.3	2:36	4.6

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YOU HAVE THE ANSWERS.
CHECK OUT THIS WEEK'S Q-LINE RESPONSES ON PAGE 5.



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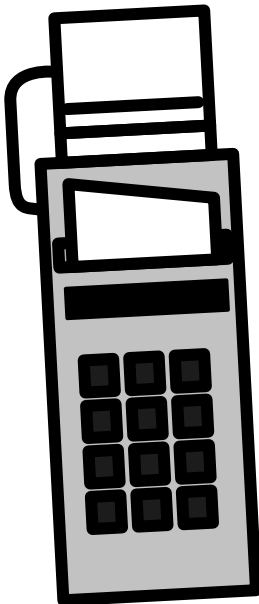


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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

It's good to be king

Editor:
So King George W. Bush wants to postpone the November elections — if there is another major act of terrorism within the United States before then.
I distrust this administration to the point where I believe he would create the act of terrorism and, of course, blame the country of his choosing.
I fear he wants to turn our democracy into his dictatorship.
It is not at all farfetched. Just review his actions during his presidency.

Flo Ginsburg
Santa Monica

Double trouble: Rude drivers out of control

Editor:
It seems like there is not a single day that goes by without me seeing someone double-park their vehicle on the streets of Santa Monica. Often, they double-park for reasons such as to ask directions, talk to friends, etc. This problem is much worse on weekends because of garage sales that lure many to double park. This in itself may not be so dangerous, but cars, SUVs, trucks that come barreling out from behind those double-parked vehicles into the oncoming lane can be a very dangerous situation. Most of the time, these drivers dart into the oncoming traffic lanes and use no sense of speed, distance and have little or no regard for safety. Not once have I ever seen a police try to make an arrest.

Bill Alberico
Santa Monica

No such thing as a free lunch

Editor:
I am taking for granted that Ms. Jan Keller (SMDP, July 15, page 4) is a very young person, for she has yet to learn that nothing is free, and the Celebrate America on July 3, 2004 was free to the public, but someone paid for this event.
If Ms. Keller would have taken the time to read the brochure she would have learned who paid for this free event. Several entities took part in paying for this free event, among these many was Councilman Katz, and another person who should be recognized by the City of Santa Monica for his generosity for over 60 years for sure. He is Bob Gabriel.
I came to Santa Monica 43 years ago, and our beloved newspaper, The Outlook, wrote about Santa Monica and its citizens, the Gabriels were always in the news because they donated to all causes, and they still do. The Gabriels, and other “old timers” are citizens who made Santa Monica a dream city, they supported all kind of organizations, they deserve our thanks.
At this time there is a question if the facade of the theater on Santa Monica Boulevard, between Third and Second streets should be preserved. Yes, it should. That is an historical building, paid with private funds, two noble and generous Santa Monica citizens paid for that building.
So, Ms. Keller, do try to learn a bit about the city of Santa Monica and you will learn that nothing is free, someone, at sometime paid for you to have a free event.

Maria Sirotti
Santa Monica

A bad case of the Benz

Editor:
The following sentence is from the California Driver Handbook and addressed to all drivers in Santa Monica but most especially to the woman in the Silver Mercedes Benz station wagon traveling east on Arizona Avenue at approximately 8 a.m. on July 14:
“Always stop for any pedestrian crossing at corners or other crosswalks.”
This morning while walking the dogs, we were crossing at the corner of Arizona and Princeton. I had almost made it to the other side when the Mercedes traveling east, headed right towards me, didn't slow down swerved around me without even slowing down. When I yelled at the driver (a mistake on my part perhaps, but there is only so much a person can take), she made a U-turn and came back to the corner. At that point she yelled insults about my weight (not that she was one to talk) and told me I was not at a pedestrian crosswalk, as if I did not have the right to cross my own corner while she in a vehicle had more rights than I as a pedestrian.
I am tempted (with some justification) to blame city traffic policies that have turned Arizona Avenue into an alternate route for east/west traffic for Wilshire and Santa Monica boulevards. But what really is to blame are drivers, (particularly this woman's) ignorance, arrogance and rudeness. The ignorance of basic traffic laws, the arrogance that she and her vehicle were somehow superior to me, and just plain rudeness. Not only has the physical quality of life in this city deteriorated (as a 22-year resident of the city I've seen it happen) but the quality of the citizens has deteriorated as well. Being ignored as a pedestrian is not new to the city, drivers are so ignorant, arrogant and rude they will not even stopped at crossings with traffic lights, the red traffic light or sign should now be called a “stoptional.” Given the number of close calls I have experienced as a pedestrian I guess I should be used to it, but can one ever get used to living in a world with people like this woman and her behavior?

Caroline Sisneros
Santa Monica

Olympic trials, errors: Athletics for rest of us



MODERN
TIMES
BY LLOYD GARVER

In this cynical world, it might not be fashionable to admit it, but I can't wait for the Olympics to start.
The television coverage is usually infuriating. Sometimes, we see events whose results we read about two days ago. The commercials are endless, and do we really need to hear things like, “Viagra is the official E.D. medication of the Olympics?” Some of the athletes appear to be spoiled brats whose entourages are larger than some countries' entire teams. A dark cloud, laced with steroids and human growth hormones hovers over the whole thing. And yet, I'm still always excited to watch the games.

How am I able to put aside all the negatives, and still enjoy the Olympics? I got some answers to that question this past weekend when I went to the U.S. Olympic swimming trials. I was reminded of just how special Olympic athletes are. For many of them, their event is over in a matter of seconds. Think about that pressure. Think about the courage. Think about how much they must trust themselves. All those hours of practice, all the things they had to give up that other kids take for granted, all the money their families had to spend over the years, and they could blow it all today if they're just one one-hundredth of a second slower than somebody else. Their dreams come down to the blink of an eye. What if they happen to have a cold today? What if they just don't feel right? What if they had some bad clam sauce last night? It's over, that's what.

Perhaps the closest analogy for non-athletes is when a couple is on the “Big Date.” They're back from the movie, they're sitting next to each other on the couch, and one of them turns off the lights. Like the Olympic athlete, their actions in the next few seconds will determine whether they feel joyous or defeated. But if it doesn't work out for them, there will be other dates. If these athletes blow it, they may have to wait four long years for another “date.”
As the swimmers got ready to race,

you could see that these were not ordinary people. Their broad shoulders and almost invisible waists didn't look like anything I'd ever seen in a mirror. And then they did their stretches. Backstroke world record holder Natalie Coughlin didn't just bend over and touch her fingertips to the ground. She bent over and touched her elbows to the ground! The only time my elbows touch the ground is when I fall asleep on the floor, watching T.V.
When they got in the water, any doubt anyone had about their being special dissolved immediately. They move with a startling grace. Those who make the team will be among the top 26 swimmers in the entire nation. I'm sure you're good at what you do, but are you really among the top 26 people in the nation at it? Maybe the top 30, but 26? There's no doubt about it — these are very special people.

But the more I watched them, the more I realized that these extraordinary young people were, in some ways, quite ordinary. They look and act just like regular teenagers. They slump when they walk, they wear baggy clothes, they have ear-phones glued to their heads, they laugh, they cry, they wave to their friends. They tolerate their parents at the restaurant after the meet, while they put away an enormous amount of food. I think it is this being “regular people” that makes watching them all the more compelling. It's not that hard to imagine them being the kid down the street.

It's this interesting combination of talent and dedication on one hand, and youthful ingenuousness and unpredictability on the other that makes them so fascinating to watch. We can imagine them winning a gold medal as the best in the world, and then two minutes later their parents calling out to them, “Hey! Stand up straight, and pull up your pants.”
That's why I'll be watching the Olympics. And because at least one of the athletes can touch her elbows to the ground.

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

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.

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The Q Line

A RUN THROUGH PROMENADE IS RUN OF THE MILL

This past week, Q-line asked:
What mix of businesses would you like to see on the Promenade and its surrounding areas? Should all businesses have equal access or should City Hall closely regulate the balance of independent owners and corporate chains?

Here are your responses:

☉ "I'm very unhappy with what Santa Monica has done. I've lived here for 40 years, and it has just screwed up the whole Third Street Promenade. There are no stores there anymore for low-income senior citizens. Everything is owned by corporations with outrageous prices. We had a Woolworth's on Third Street where everything you wanted was there. We had a JC Penny where everything was reasonable. Now, the senior citizens cannot shop anymore on the Promenade."

☉ "I strongly believe, now that I'm disabled, that we need to have businesses on the Promenade that are wheelchair-accessible. I think that City Hall should not regulate like they do."

☉ "I think that we have enough chain restaurants and big corporate businesses. I think it could really be nice if Santa Monica had some unique little shops and restaurants. We need that badly because it looks like any other place. It would be nice to have something unique about Santa Monica, other than the trashy people that are hanging around."

☉ "I would prefer to see more independent merchant owners on the Promenade. In certain areas, it's getting so boring. You walk down there and you can see the same shopping facades anywhere."

☉ "I'd like to see a couple of nice warehouses and a few good bars on the Promenade and the surrounding area."

☉ "This is the kind of downtown this is. The only way to be successful is to

allow Wal-Mart Target, drugstores and popular names restaurants to open up. If not, they will open and shut up as in the past. Out-of-towners come in and see thousands upon thousands roam and wander around. Oh boy, we'll make a fortune if we open up some dumb business, it just doesn't work that way."

☉ "The first prerequisite for any person going into business is for that person to be masochistic. It starts with 'the customer is always right.' Then compounded by high rent, insurance, advertising, sales, taxes, accounting fees, shortage of wholesale inventories and finding dependable staff. And lastly, the stipulations imposed by the city."

☉ "The more corporations that come in Santa Monica, to the Third Street Promenade, the more charm that's taken away from Santa Monica. The little stores are what give this city its charm."

☉ "You can see all these chain stores anywhere, they're boring, they're all alike. We should not let chain stores in Santa Monica. They should get rid of Barnes & Noble and replace it with the Midnight Special Bookstore."

☉ "I'd like to see very few corporate businesses and a lot of local ones on the Promenade. If they want to go to Wal-Mart, let them drive to Downey."

☉ "Well it's obvious the little guy is out in Santa Monica, as far as the downtown area is concerned. The rent can only be paid by the big corporation so why even ask a question that we don't even have an input about."

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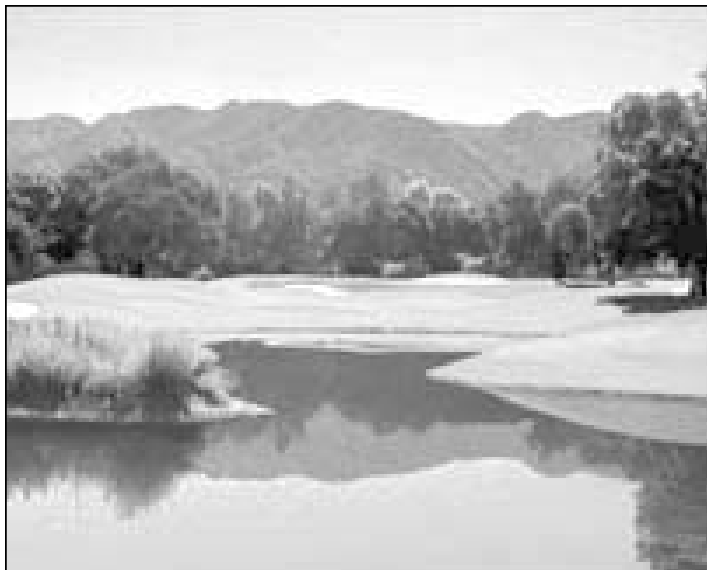
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LOCAL

Teen athlete fights way to top of judo rankings

ATHENS-BOUND, from page 1

torn ACL left her trapped in the weight room last April and unable to use a leg she generally uses to balance twice her weight. She has just six years of training in a sport in which players tend to start training around the age of three or four and reach their peaks in their mid 20s ... and no fear.

LATE BLOOMER

Rousey didn't start taking judo until she was 11, partly because she was content with swimming. It also didn't help that her family moved from the LA area to North Dakota for seven years. Even in the cold, AnnMaria Rousey required each of her four girls to play athletics, at least until they were 12, and had each of them try judo.

But North Dakota wasn't exactly a hotbed of judo training, so Rousey didn't take a crack at the sport until she returned to Santa Monica. There she moved to a house two blocks from SAMOHI, where she still lives with her mother, two of her sisters and her step-father. Rousey's father died when she was 8. Rousey attended SAMOHI until the middle of her sophomore year, when school officials suggested she switch to an online home-schooling program that could better accommodate her travel schedule.

Despite the late start, Rousey quickly got very serious about judo. The allure of combat attracted the young girl to a sport she viewed as much more distinctive than swimming.

"I've always been a really bouncy kid," she said. "I always needed something to hang on to, something to be doing. Judo gave me a chance to do something where I wasn't just going back and forth."

BALANCING ACT

Developed in feudal Japan, judo is best known for its spectacular throwing techniques, which competitors use to flip their opponents and slam them to the mat. Competitors can win matches by gaining points from clean throws, pins or choke holds. They can also win by applying pressure to their opponent's elbow. Judo is one of the most popular sports in the world and has been an Olympic event for men since 1964, and was introduced for women in 1988.

The sport requires a certain and unique set of skills — mainly good balance and coordination — which appear to suit Rousey just fine. For example, the teen can throw opponents to the floor with perfect balance on one leg, but admits her hand-eye coordination, a necessity is so many sports, leaves something to be

"What I look for in a kid that I think is really going to make it is an absolute refusal to lose."

— ANNMARIA ROUSEY
Olympic athlete's mother

desired.

Nevertheless, Rousey gained almost immediate success after she started judo. Entering tournaments just four months after she began training, Rousey won the junior nationals and the junior U.S. Open within a year. Locally, she started entering every tournament in every possible weight class. When she was unable to find willing female opponents, Rousey entered men's black belt divisions and won those too.

TRAINING DAZE

Rousey has circled the globe over the past eight months — from Korea to Venezuela to Germany — picking up gold medals at nearly every stop. She won the first-ever gold medal for a U.S. woman in the junior PanAmerican games earlier this year.

She attributes her success to her work ethic, rather than any exceptional athletic abilities.

"There are a lot of people who could be really good at judo," Rousey said, "but they don't work hard enough to make themselves really good."

"I want to know when I look across the mat at that person in Athens that there is no way she trained harder than me."

Until this past January, Rousey trained at judo clubs around the Los Angeles area, went for runs around Santa Monica, exercised on the ropes and rings at the beach and worked out at the YMCA. Now, in gearing up for the Olympics, she splits her time between Santa Monica and Massachusetts, where she trains and lives with Jim Pedro, father to a world champion.

Each day, Rousey trains in the early morning by running and lifting. Then she does schoolwork until the evening, when she practices judo for three to four hours. Rousey plans to go to college and is considering a career in the biological sciences after she retires from competitive judo.

Both Rousey's coach and her mother feel there was more to her success than just training. Pedro said Rousey is much more aggressive than most American competitors and uses that aggressiveness to her advantage.

"What I look for in a kid that I think is

See ATHENS-BOUND, page 7

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LOCAL



Olympian feat: Athlete exceeds own expectations

ATHENS-BOUND, from page 6

really going to make it is an absolute refusal to lose," AnnMaria Rousey said. "Ronda wins matches she has no business winning against people that are older than her, bigger than her and have trained longer than she has. She has that absolute fight in her ... no matter how much bigger and better her opponent is, she'll keep coming at them and coming at them until they just say, 'enough already! Stop!'"

AnnMaria Rousey doesn't think there is a significant connection between her success in judo and her daughter's. Her support has often forced her to put her job as the vice president of a consulting company on the back burner.

"For Ronda, being so good is Ronda," she said. "I have three other daughters and she's the only one on the Olympic team. I've been able to lay out the opportunities for her ... but you can't miss the fact that Ronda's done all of those things."

"I don't think Ronda has ever doubted that she can win a gold medal."

Rousey always expected she would compete in the Olympics and remains confident she will be the first woman to stake claim to Olympic gold, but she never thought her run would begin in Athens. She even named her cat "Beijing" after the 2008 host city.

CHOMPING AT THE BIT

After Rousey tore her ACL in half last spring, she was confined to the weight room and unable to use her leg properly for months. Nevertheless, she was back to her regular training schedule by the summer.

"I was really frustrated," she said. "One day, I got so mad I gave myself a big whack across the knee, and that wasn't too good after I'd had surgery a few months earlier. It wasn't like a career-ending injury or anything. I was 16 ... It was just holding me back."

Rousey used the time to work on other parts of her game, especially her skill off her feet.

"Actually, I think it really helped my repertoire," she added. "To do some of my

main throws before I had to stand on that leg and balance another person. Now I couldn't do that, so I had to work on the other things."

Rousey was back in competitions by November, and quickly back on top.

"After I came back, I won a couple of tournaments in August and November, and all of a sudden I was ranked number one in the country," she said. "That's when I sat down and figured I could get to Athens."

PRESSURE COOKER

AnnMaria Rousey admits she hasn't always seen her daughter's rise to prominence as a positive.

"At first, I thought (judo for her) was a really bad idea," she said. "I found out early on that because America has not won very much in judo, they were so hungry to win they immediately expected Ronda to win. That's a lot for a kid. I thought she would have been a lot better off in swimming."

Even with all the time she spends training and all the pressure she's under, Rousey said she hasn't regretted her commitment to judo or her decision to miss out on a lot of the activities "regular" teens participate in. She's never been to a school dance and said she doesn't get to go to many parties.

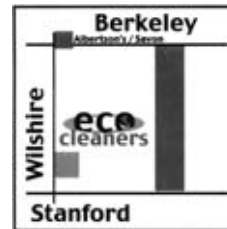
Being a former world champion, AnnMaria Rousey knows full well the difficulties her daughter will face, especially being a female in a male-dominated sport. She recalled male teammates trying to get her on the mat and force her to quit.

"In life, you decide what you're going to do and what type of person you're going to be," said Pedro. "I tell her, 'if you're going to be the type of person that nobody else is, then you've got to be ready to live with the consequences of that decision.'"

So far, Rousey has accepted that challenge, even if she must confide that she doesn't anticipate having any free time or breaks in the near future.

"I think it's all worth it," she said. "To be a world champion, to be the best at something. That would make my entire life."

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ENTERTAINMENT

Like Ike? Turner rockets in for Harvelle's gig

BY GREG WILLIS

Special to the Daily Press

DOWNTOWN — Ike Turner, the king of rhythm, is in town. He plays tonight at Harvelle's Blues Club on Fourth Street, the oldest blues club on the Westside.

Turner, 72, is "The Man" when it comes to making music to drive by. Turner was in the car on his way to Sam Philips Recording Studio in Memphis when he wrote "Rocket 88," perhaps the first rock-and-roll song of all time. He got to the studio about three years before Elvis Presley, who came there while running around town, working as a truck driver.

I have a pretty good feeling that Ike Turner is a better driver than Elvis Presley ever was. That matters to me, because I am a truck driver and a former roadie. I love to listen to music as I do my job. I have been listening to music in powerful vehicles since I was a child.

I come from suburban middle America, where fast cars, music, and the pursuit of lovely women is a vocation. My white

father brought me up on Louis Armstrong and Jackie Gleason — he was discerning and color blind when it came to his choice of entertainment.

Turner is mentioned in the third edition of the "All Music Guide to The Blues," the definitive guide, about 20 times before you get to his entry. It's a long way from A to T, and Turner seems to have been very busy in the years after his arrival at Sun Studios. He surreptitiously recorded the "Great Howlin Wolf" in Sam's studio on the sly, and it appears he was all over the map in his travels.

Along the way he was a talent scout who gave many musicians their start in the business. He also played with most of them, first on piano and then on guitar.

Among them are B.B. King and the Beale Streeters, Billy the Kid Emerson, Jackie Brenston, Hank Crawford, Robert Mojo Elem, Lowman Pauling, Roscoe Gordon, Frankie Lee, Earl Hooker, Little Milton, Clayton Love, Junior Parker, Otis Rush, Eddie Shaw, Rufus Thomas and Elmore James. He discovered and nurtured Anna Mae Bullock musically, and

he made her into the star she is today. He seems to have been very generous with his time, color blind when it came to music, relentless in his pursuit of good talent. He had to be a good driver, as he must have gone all over the south in pursuit of hot talent at juke joints.

A man faces dangers when he leaves his home to pursue his dreams, and I can tell you first hand what it is like to go on the road with a traveling music show, because I've done it for Prince. It is a grueling endurance contest, and Turner seems to have fared pretty well over the years.

No matter that I've been present at many great moments in rock-and-roll history — to say I am excited at the prospect of seeing Turner is an enormous understatement. Cevin Clark, Harvelle's proprietor, is a man that understands musicians. He's not going to publicize or sell any advance tickets to this performance. You have to wait in line in front of Harvelle's to get in.

Turner personally told Clark he would do the show while upstairs at Harvelle's, in the room where all the latest recording

equipment is. That equipment will be used Aug. 21 by Paul Warren, Tina Turner's former guitarist. Warren has been all over the world with Turner's ex. We don't talk about her.

Monica, my 9-year-old daughter, weighs in with an opinion about Turner. She forgives him for any bad he has done, says we all make mistakes. She also says she wasn't happy to find his recordings aren't readily available. The great rock critic Lester Bangs said that Turner's 1963 Crown Records release "Ike Turner Rocks The Blues" was the greatest guitar album ever made. I'm not happy we didn't find it when we went to do research on Turner.

I have traveled with a famous multi-talented performer who is equally at home on piano or guitar, and I wanted to compare Prince to Turner. I know Prince, and my daughter and I are going to meet Turner. Monica has already met B.B. King and Dr. John, and she is very excited at the thought of meeting her daddy's personal hero.

Agassi nets milestone at UCLA

Local Sports

BY TOM A. MCFERSON

Special to the Daily Press

Andre Agassi won his 800th professional match Tuesday night at the 2004 Mercedes Benz Cup. Nervous tournament organizers hope he'll be playing for his 804th win in Sunday's final.

The tournament, which draws to a conclusion this weekend, suffered an unprecedented wave of player withdrawals and injuries prior to its start. More than seven top players sent their regrets, and even the appearance of Agassi was uncertain, given the severe hip injury that has plagued him the last couple of months.

Agassi did arrive at UCLA, and, after two relatively easy wins, appears to be healthy and back to his winning ways. Winner of eight grand slam titles and cur-

rently ranked 10th in the world, Agassi has had a spotty first six months of the year, and he hopes to use this tournament to build momentum for the summer.

American Mardy Fish is the only other remaining seeded player still in the draw. Last year's defending champion Wayne Ferreira was beaten in the first round.

The tournament continues through July 18. Due to a reorganized men's circuit and the upcoming Summer Olympics, the Mercedes Benz Cup was scheduled a week earlier this year.

The Mercedes Benz Cup is played at the Los Angeles Tennis Center on the campus of UCLA, near Pauley Pavilion. The singles draw is comprised of 32 players. The doubles draw is comprised of 16 doubles teams. Total prize money is approximately \$1,000,000.

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John Wood/Daily Press

Mourners are urged to strive for ideal sense of community

ONE YEAR LATER, from page 1

law, Gloria Olivera Gonzalez, was killed at the market. Martinez, 23, brought Gonzalez's two children along with her. "You never know when it's going to hit you. You have your family and your job and then everything goes 'bang.' You don't believe it....

“She was a hard-working mom with three jobs, getting up every morning to give her kids a better future,” she said. “And I think one of the best things we can do as a family is to give her kids the knowledge of what she was.”

Rev. Janet Bregar of the Santa Monica Bay Interfaith Council called on mourners to continue growing from their experiences and strengthening their ties to the community. She told them to strive for the Buddhist ideal in which every member of a community is connected to each other as one.

“In order to go on, we must honor our lives and the lives of everyone in the community by asking ourselves how we can more fully respond to one another,” she said, “and how we can more fully live a quality of life as people whose lives are just as close to one.”

Even mourners with a less-direct connection to the tragedy expressed deep-seeded remorse and remained somber throughout the service.

“If I’ve learned anything from all that, it’s been patience and forgiveness, because for me it’s been very difficult to forgive right now,” said Lori Thompson, 49, as she choked back tears. Thompson works on Arizona Avenue, where the Farmers’ Market is held twice a week. “Be good to each other. We only have each other for a

short while. And continue going to the Farmers' Market. I'm having a hard time even stepping out and going there."

Thompson said she came because she still thinks about the tragedy every day. She wondered why the city has continued to refuse to guard the entrance to the markets with ballasts.

“Why are we covering up the scars instead of adding ballasts?” she said. “I can’t believe the city still hasn’t done what it needs to do to make the market safe. They say the ballasts are too heavy to pick up and move.”

“Ballasts are a bit easier to lift up than a dead body that never saw it coming.”

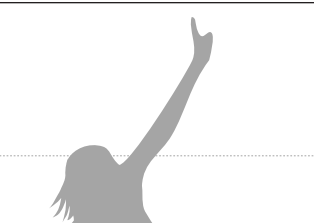
One man said he hadn't had any idea Friday was the anniversary until the day before, but that he had to come and confront his feelings. Another implored the group to reconsider driving automobiles.

Chuck Siegal, 49, called on the group to love one another.

“People might say there’s a small turnout, but there’s a lot of love in this building,” said Siegal, 49. “I don’t care how many people were here. What matters is that there was a lot of love under this roof.”

Mayor Richard Bloom, Councilmember Kevin McKeown and Nat Trives, chairman of the chamber of commerce board, were all on hand to express their feelings and applaud the city for its ability to react so cohesively in response to the catastrophe.

A pair of flower pots and religious candles sat at the intersection of the Third Street Promenade and Arizona Avenue on Friday afternoon, a tiny memorial one anonymous mourner erected in remembrance.



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Colorado firm hot and bothered taking care of the Olympic torch

BY LEIA BAEZ
Associated Press Writer

DENVER — Putting together the Olympic torch relay is a daunting task: Twenty-six countries in little more than two months, two Boeing 747 aircraft, an 18-vehicle caravan in every city, and delivering uniforms and torches to 3,700 people.

All of this fell to Alem International Management Inc., a company based in Louisville, northwest of Denver.

"We do everything," President and CEO Steven McCarthy said in a recent telephone interview from Bulgaria. "We are sort of a one-stop shop for special events."

McCarthy, a Colorado native, said he spent about three years planning this year's relay, including visits to every country and city that the torch would visit. No other relay has traveled through the five continents represented by the Olympic rings.

On March 25, the Olympic torch flame was lighted at a ceremony in Greece. The relay began June 2 in Athens and has since returned to Greece to travel across the country before the opening ceremony on Aug. 13.

Whether the torch was being carried in a boat, on a bike or in a plane, McCarthy managed to stay a few feet behind it.

"It's the single-biggest moving event in peacetime history," McCarthy said of the relay. "And it's an extraordinary honor to produce it."

The company handles everything — logistics, transportation, media and broadcast operations, public relations, security and safety operations. But the Olympics relay was a big job.

"The planning that has gone into this is extraordinary," said Andrew Dunscomb, spokesman for the 2004 Olympic Torch Relay. "When you think of the complexity of the task, they have done an excellent job."

At its Colorado headquarters, Alem has about 28 full-time employees.

There are also employees working in six satellite offices in Munich, Germany; Hong Kong; Washington, D.C.; Rio de Janeiro; Italy; and South Carolina.

"It's the people that work for us that make us unique," McCarthy said. "We've got this really extraordinary core group of people that have been with us for a long time."

Alem specializes in managing sporting events such as the Ironman Triathlon in Hawaii as well as new-product introductions for companies such as BMW and Land

Rover. Alem first worked on the Olympic torch relay in the summer of 1996 in Atlanta.

Since then, the company was a consultant to the 1998 Games in Nagano, Japan, and the 2000 Games in Sydney, Australia. It conducted the torch relay for the 2002 Salt Lake City Winter Olympics.

"I think we were selected to do (the 2004 torch relay) because we were the only company that had the international contacts and experience to get it done," McCarthy said.

Alem works with contractors around the world as well as hundreds of volunteers that have helped welcome the torch relay. It is also working on Brazil's Pan-American Games scheduled for 2007, as well as the 2008 Olympics in Beijing, McCarthy said.

The Olympic flame was introduced at the 1928 Olympic Games in Amsterdam and lighted the Olympic Cauldron. The flame is rekindled every two years by the sun, alternating for Winter Games and Summer Games, in a traditional ceremony in Greece.

In all, 11,400 torchbearers — 3,700 internationally and 7,700 in Greece — will have taken part before the opening ceremony next month. Torches have been transported by foot, bicycle, wheelchair, in-line skates, skateboard, horse, cable car, tram, yacht, roller skates, canal boat, scull, river ferry, aircraft, helicopter, subway, aerial tram, London taxi, double-decker bus, canoe, dragon boat, kayak and camel.

Frozen assets: Ski company to pay \$5M after backing out of business deal

By The Associated Press

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, Colo. — American Skiing Co. agreed to pay more than \$5 million to settle a lawsuit filed after it backed out of a deal to sell Steamboat Ski Area, documents showed.

The Park City, Utah-based company will make one payment of \$3 million and another of \$2.14 million to Triple Peaks LLC, according to Securities and Exchange Commission documents cited by the Steamboat Pilot & Today newspaper.

"I think it's a reasonable settlement for both sides," Tim Mueller, managing partner of Triple Peaks, said Tuesday. "We thought we had the upper hand, but there are no slam dunks in the court system."

Dave Hirasawa, manager of investor relations for American, said the company had already set aside \$5 million to cover the settlement.

American agreed to sell Steamboat to Ludlow, Vt.-based Triple Peaks for \$91.4 million in February 2002. A month later, American decided to keep Steamboat and sell its Heavenly ski resort in California to Vail Resorts instead.

Triple Peaks sued. A state district court ruled in American's favor, but the state Supreme Court sided with Triple Peaks.

The settlement was announced Monday, but the terms were not disclosed until the SEC documents were filed on Tuesday.

Tim and Diane Mueller also operate Mount Sunapee Resort in Newbury, N.H. and own Okemo Mountain Resort in Ludlow, Vt., and Crested Butte in central Colorado.

American owns ski areas in Maine, Vermont, New Hampshire, Colorado and Utah.

American shares were down one cent at 12 cents at midday Wednesday on the OTC Bulletin Board.

Triple Peaks is privately held.

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NATIONAL

Both Bush, Kerry strive for balance in approaches to Middle East policy

BY CALVIN WOODWARD

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — John Kerry didn't wait to see if his presidential ambitions were realized before sending an emissary of sorts — his brother — to Israel. Fealty to Israel's security is so deeply embedded in both parties that symbolic touches may be the most that sets them apart.

In Kerry, Middle East analysts see a candidate who has indicated a willingness to return to the deep activism of the Bill Clinton years in trying to win an Israeli-Palestinian peace. In President Bush, they see a steadfast friend of the Israelis who has only fitfully put the weight of his presidency on ending the conflict.

In practice, any shift in policy is more likely to be driven by what happens in the region than who wins the U.S. election, they say. And with both Bush and Kerry pledging a single-minded focus on global terrorism, Clinton's zeal as a would-be peacemaker seems firmly of another time.

"The differences among Democrats and Republicans are not about the size of the commitment to Israel," said Shibley Telhami, a Middle East expert at the University of Maryland. "It is more about what the commitment means, and what policies to pursue to help Israeli and American interests."

That small country has a huge American audience: not only Jews and Arab-Americans, but Christian conservatives who take a pro-Israel line. Candidates mess at their peril with the precarious balance of supporting Israel while reaching out to Palestinians.

"The support and commitment for Israel run deep in the blood of the body politic of Americans," said Judith Kipper of the Council on Foreign Relations. "It is the one issue in foreign policy that has a genuine domestic constituency."

Kerry's rhetorical shifts have brought him closer in line with Bush, even as he accuses the president of abandoning the honest-broker traditions of his predecessor.

Many point to Bush's strong embrace of Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, a hard-liner with a history of supporting Jewish settlements in Palestinian areas, as an example of the difference in emphasis between the two candidates. But Kerry, just like Bush, now calls Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat "irrelevant," only months after declining to count Arafat out in negotiations, and after having once called him a "statesman."

When it comes to Israel, the broad strokes of U.S. foreign policy give way to paint-by-numbers particularity.

America takes positions on narrow slices of land, concerns itself with the fine print of tortured agreements between foes, and probably gives more thought to the West Bank security barrier than it gives to some countries.

The Middle East planks of the Democratic platform are threaded with language that means little to the average American voter but is keenly understood by Israelis, Arabs and the U.S. groups that support them.

"It is unrealistic to expect that the outcome of final status negotiations will be a full and complete return to the armistice line of 1949," the platform says, for example. To those who are alert to the nuances, that means the party supports some Israeli claims to the West Bank.

The platform avoids the debate over the 425-mile-long security barrier Israel is building on the West Bank — a topic so sensitive that much is read into whether someone calls it a fence, as Israel does, or a wall, as Palestinians do. In reality it is a combination of high concrete walls, razor-wire fences and trenches.

Both Kerry and the Bush administration have supported its construction as a necessary component of Israel's security and struggle against suicide bombers while urging that it be routed in the least repressive way for Palestinians living there.

Those complexities aside, Kerry's brother Cameron met top Israeli leaders this week on what was described as a goodwill visit organized by a pro-Israel group in the United States. Cameron Kerry, a political adviser to his brother and a Boston attorney who converted to Judaism in 1983, was said to be representing the Democratic candidate on the trip, and stressed his brother's "deep personal connection to Israel."

Jews strongly vote Democratic, but the party also has liberal activists sympathetic to Palestinian grievances. However, it has no wish to alienate far larger groups of voters with tectonic shifts in Middle East policy.

"The only question for Mr. Kerry has been the size of the Jewish minority that would vote for Bush," Telhami said. "I think he has worked hard to make sure that it would remain small."

"At the same time, Arab and Muslim voters — many of whom voted for Bush last time — are now much more inclined to vote against Bush" because of what they perceive as heavy-handed unilateralism in the region, Telhami said.

He said Kerry's challenge is to dissuade them from sitting out the election in close states such as Michigan or, worse for him, voting for independent Ralph Nader, who is Lebanese-American.

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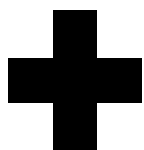
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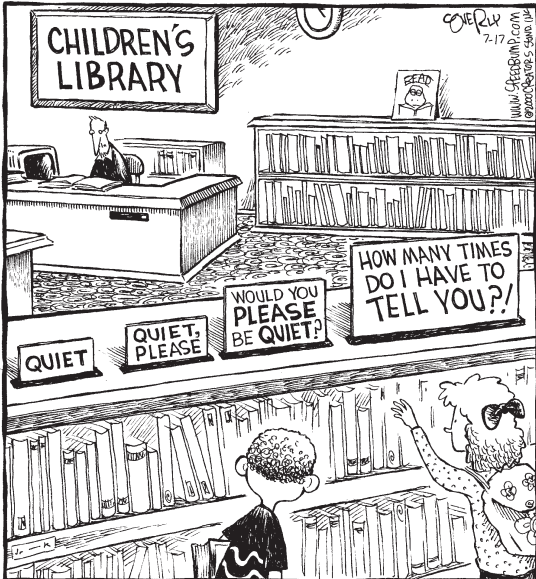
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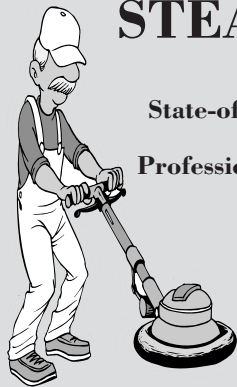
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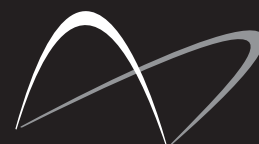
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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Oh Boy: Timberlake and 'N Sync back in tune

By The Associated Press

NEW YORK — 'N Sync haven't completely gone "Bye, Bye, Bye."

The boy-band pop group will perform together for the first time since the 2003 Grammy Awards as part of a benefit for their charity, the Challenge for the Children Foundation.

The event will be held July 23-25 in Miami. The five 'N Sync members, including Justin Timberlake, will sing the national anthem before a charity basketball game.

Celebrities expected to attend include actress Shannon Elizabeth, Jamie-Lynn DiScala of "The Sopranos" and rapper Jermaine Dupri.

Challenge for the Children Foundation was created by 'N Sync in 1999 to raise money for children's programs and charities throughout the country.

VERSAILLES, Ky. — Some central Kentucky residents got a taste of Hollywood when director Cameron Crowe filmed scenes in Versailles for his latest movie, "Elizabethtown."

Crowe didn't attract as much attention as Orlando Bloom, the movie's male lead.

Girls lined up on Main Street Thursday to shout, "We love you, Orlando!" to the 27-year-old actor, who was behind the wheel of a gray Mercury sedan that went up and down the street for multiple takes.

Bloom's films include "The Lord of the Rings" movies and "Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl."

"Wow, this is unbelievable!" said 9-year-old Emily Frangedakis, who joined her sister, Eleni, 11, in serenading Bloom.

NEW YORK — Colin Farrell isn't getting cocky about all the hype surrounding his edited-out nude scene in "A Home at the End of the World."

In the July 23 issue of Entertainment Weekly, Farrell, 28, speaks candidly about the full-frontal display. Despite published reports that the scene was cut because audiences were distracted by the magnitude of what they saw, Farrell said it wasn't anything to "write home about."

"I walk to a door and you see my ... and I walk out of the shot," Farrell said. "It's dark and it's three inches, uh, seconds long."

The film is based on the book by Michael Cunningham, the Pulitzer Prize-winning author of "The Hours." Farrell plays a bisexual baker who becomes embroiled in a love triangle with his childhood friend (Dallas Roberts) and his hat-making roommate (Robin Wright Penn).

NICE, France — An unfinished copy of U2's upcoming CD disappeared while the Irish rock band was posing for the album cover in a studio outside Nice.

About 20 people who were at Tuesday's photo shoot were questioned by police, who said Thursday it was unclear whether the CD's disappearance was accidental or theft.

In a posting on U2's Web site, guitarist The Edge said: "A large slice of two years' work lifted via a piece of round plastic. It doesn't seem credible but that's what's just happened to us ... and it was my CD."

According to the Web site, the band recently completed much of the new album in Dublin and have been involved in post-production work in France.

NEW YORK — Prince is turning down his mojo.

"I have a responsibility to (young fans) to perform in a manner that I would like my children to be performed in front of," he says in an interview to air Tuesday on CBS News' "The Early Show."

Prince, who has written songs such as "Gett Off," "I Wanna Be Your Lover" and "Kiss," says he's moving

away from the explicitly erotic lyrics of the past.

"I just want to be the best human being I can be ... on stage and off," he says. Excerpts of the interview were released in advance.

The 46-year-old singer-songwriter is listed as the No. 1 "greatest rock frontman" of all time, beating out Mick Jagger and Robert Plant, in the August issue of Spin magazine.

Prince earned a 10 out of 10 for sex appeal, in a vote of editors, and kudos for singing like an "oversexed elf."

NEW YORK — Let my people go, says Val Kilmer.

Kilmer will star as Moses in a stage musical production of "The Ten Commandments," producer BCBGMaxAzria Entertainment announced Thursday.

He'll lead a cast of 50 in a pop musical production of the 3,300-year-old story of Moses leading the Hebrews in exodus of Egypt.

The musical will run in a limited engagement at the Kodak Theatre in Hollywood, Calif., with preview performances beginning Sept. 18. Opening night is Sept. 27.

Kilmer, 44, voiced the character of Moses in the 1998 animated film "The Prince of Egypt." His movies also include "Top Gun," "The Doors" and "Batman Forever."

NEW YORK — Burt Bacharach will soon add another prize to his trophy case.

The Oscar and Grammy-winning composer will receive the Henry Mancini Institute's Hank Award, which recognizes distinguished service to American music, in a ceremony Aug. 14 in Los Angeles.

"We are so honored to be able to recognize our good friend Burt Bacharach this year," Ginny Mancini, widow of Oscar-winning composer Henry Mancini, said in a recent statement.

Bacharach's hits include "What the World Needs Now Is Love," "Do You Know the Way to San Jose?" and "The Look of Love."

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