FREE

SATURDAY, JULY 26, 2003 Volume 2, Issue 219

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

LOTTO

FANTASY 5
28, 13, 26, 7, 9

DAILY 3
Afternoon picks: **0, 4, 3**
Evening picks: **4, 8, 1**

DAILY DERBY
1st Place: 02, Lucky Star
2nd Place: 04, Big Ben
3rd Place: 11, Money Bags
Race Time: 1:45.72

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
by Chuck Shepard

God's Been Busy:

■ Christian Broadcasting Network reported in June that it was no coincidence that the Bush administration's April and May announcements to support a separate Palestinian state were followed by "the worst months of tornadoes in American history" (375 twisters in eight days) and other meteorological disasters; God is punishing the United States, CBN said, for supporting the biblically unthinkable division of Israel.

■ In May in Brunswick, Ga., after Mary Burgess inherited a cockapoo dog named Cindy and $10,000 to care for her, she told a probate court that God had recently told her she would actually need "$50,000" for Cindy; Burgess had figured expenses (e.g., $225 a month for haircuts) as even more, but said she' d accept the Lord's number.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Never read a book that is not a year old."
– Ralph Waldo Emerson

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Bad mamma jamma



Del Pastrana/Daily Press

79-year-old Liz Bevington, a.k.a. "Skateboard Momma," windskates in a parking lot at the beach on Thursday. A Santa Monica resident since 1965, Bevington first learned to skateboard from her son and has been an avid rider since she was 52.

Man sentenced for stabbing his mother

By Daily Press staff

A man who stabbed his mother in Santa Monica last year was sentenced on Thursday to five years in state prison.

However, Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Katherine Mader suspended that sentence and ordered Tyler Hurricane Ehrlich, 21, to serve five years in a locked mental health facility and five more years of formal probation.

Ehrlich, of Woodland Hills, was arrested on April 30, 2002, by Santa Monica police officers after stabbing his 52-year-old mother, Josina, in the arm and torso with a folding knife when she refused to give him the keys to her car.

The pair, which were standing on the sidewalk of the 600 block of Ashland Avenue at the time of incident, had traveled from LA to visit a friend in Santa Monica.

Residents who witnessed the attack called police to report what appeared to be a carjacking. Ehrlich fled the scene but officers found him on a nearby roof. After jumping off and giving chase, Ehrlich was eventually taken into custody.

Stephen Sitkoff, Ehrlich's attorney, has said Ehrlich's family does not blame their son for the stabbing incident. At the sentencing, Ehrlich's mother asked for her son to be released but acknowledged that he needs medical help.

Ehrlich did not stand trial. He pleaded guilty on May 29 to attempted murder, assault with a deadly weapon, attempted carjacking and second degree robbery, said Sandi Gibbons, a spokeswoman for the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office.

His case was heard at the Airport Courthouse near LAX.

Santa Monica crash victims remembered

BY JEREMY KUTNER AND JOHN WOOD
Daily Press Staff Writers

Memorials have been held for two of the three Santa Monica victims in last week's deadly accident at the farmer's market.

All three victims died at the scene after 86-year-old Russell Weller apparently lost control of his car and drove through the crowded market, leaving 10 dead and nearly 80 injured.

A funeral for Movsha "Michael" Hoffman, 78, was held earlier this week.

Hoffman was a retired manager of a large construction company who immigrated to California from Lithuania. He and his wife, Esther, 73, moved to Santa Monica in the late 1980s.

The pair celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary on July 13, just three days before the fatal accident.

Esther Hoffman was with her husband at the time of the accident and was also struck by Weller's car. She was taken to Santa Monica-UCLA Hospital where she was treated for a broken left shoulder, broken arm, broken leg and three broken ribs.

One of the Hoffmans' sons, Boris, said his mother appeared to have a concussion, and her nose was blue and bleeding. After undergoing surgery to have a pin installed in her shoulder, Esther Hoffman was released from the hospital Wednesday and taken to a community rehabilitation center, where she is recovering, said hospital spokesman Ted Braun.



Movsha Hoffman



Leroy Lattier



Theresa Breglia

"All of it happened on her left side," Boris Hoffman said. "She was brushed away. I don't think she remembers anything particularly, but (Michael) was going in the middle of the passage and suddenly she was away from him.

"She is doing pretty well now," he added. "She is walking a little bit already and goes to the bathroom herself. These are important things. She is a strong woman. She is very energetic. She never gives up."

Boris Hoffman said his father loved Santa Monica and enjoyed reading, poetry, fishing and staying active in a local Jewish-Yiddish club. Michael Hoffman is survived by two sons and one daughter, as well as four grandchildren, aged three to 26, all girls.

"He was in excellent shape," Boris Hoffman said Friday, adding

See VICTIMS, page 6

Report: Best chance to foil 9-11 plot was in San Diego

BY SETH HETTENA
Associated Press Writer

SAN DIEGO — Numerous contacts between two hijackers and a longtime counterterrorism informant in San Diego could have given the FBI's San Diego office "perhaps the intelligence community's best chance to unravel the Sept. 11 plot," according to the final report of a congressional inquiry.

The massive report released Thursday also says the hijackers dealt with others who emerged on the FBI's radar screen during investigations of radical Islamic extremists including Omar al-Bayoumi, a Saudi who, an FBI source believed to be a spy.

FBI officials in San Diego insisted that they did not have enough information to thwart the

See PLOT, page 7

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HOROSCOPE

Go to a play or concert, Taurus



JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

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

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, July 26, 2003:

Much goes on behind the scenes this year. You might be a bit uncomfortable with keeping a low profile, but it might be instrumental to your success. Take in information rather than give it out. Others find that often you say one thing but do another. You learn to blaze your own trail by listening to your instincts. A close associate will stun you with his or her moneymaking decisions. Be as financially independent as possible. If you are single, be on guard, because you could easily hook up with someone who is emotionally unavailable and who might not be straightforward about who he or she is. If you are attached, your relationship will benefit from frequent timeouts alone and together. You want to share more of your essence with your sweetie. CANCER reads you cold.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ Make it OK to be impulsive within your immediate circle. You actually might like a day or two off. Invite others over, only if you want to. Make it OK to play recluse and not do anything you don't want to do. Get some extra R and R. Tonight: At home.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ You don't have to look too hard to find company. Simply kick back and enjoy yourself. Your attitude changes when in a serious conversation. You might really wonder about what you hear, as well as your very serious tone. Tonight: Go to a play or concert. Just let go of an overly serious mood.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Use discrimination and discipline with spending. You might easily put yourself in an uncomfortable or touchy situation. Know when to say "no." A boss or older relative makes unusual and touchy requests. Use your diplomacy. Tonight: Pick up the tab.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★★ Unusual news might have you detouring your plans and heading in yet another direction. You need to know that you do make a difference and that whatever you feel is right very well could be. Don't be overly serious or hard on yourself or anyone else. Tonight: It's your call.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Take your time. You could be inordinately hard on yourself right now. In the same manner, you could be just as hard on those around you. Allow more lightness in from a partner or someone who tends to be overly serious. Tonight: Take a break.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ A friend could be overly serious and difficult. Let go of what you expect, and focus more on the present. Others around you could be delightfully unpredictable. Find those people, and you'll relax and enjoy yourself. Tonight: Gather with your friends.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Though others might have the pleasure of a leisurely day, you decide to put in that extra oomph and complete a job. Accept more innovative ways of working or effecting change. Accept new technology as a friend. Tonight: A must appearance.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★★ You might want to cancel a trip because of unexpected surprises involving a child or new relationship. Of course this is your choice, though you might find someone quite reticent to let go of seeing you. Take a raincheck. Tonight: Try something new.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ Recognize what might be happening on a subliminal level with a partner. This person might have difficulty verbalizing what he or she needs or wants. Approach someone from a more loving and caring space, if possible. Tonight: Go along with another's wishes, especially as he or she could be quite uptight.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ You might be surprised at how another person presents him- or herself. Plans rapidly change; go with the moment. Someone close could be unduly hardheaded without knowing it. Stay easy and work with the moment. Tonight: Say "yes" despite another's mood.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Everyone needs a day off — you included. How hard you push to achieve your goals might be determined by how energetic you are. All work and no play could wear you down. Don't push yourself that hard if you can avoid it. Tonight: Take it easy.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Examine what might be important to a child or loved one. You might veer in a totally different direction and disappoint a loved one. Know when to put a halt to what you're doing. Honor the importance of the relationship. Tonight: Emphasize another's wishes.

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Local woman returns from Iraq with stories

By Daily Press staff

Santa Monica resident Kelly Hayes-Raitt has just returned from her second trip to Iraq and wants to tell the community about her experiences there.


Kelly Hayes-Raitt

Hayes-Raitt had gone to Iraq in February, before the war began. She went back last month to find some of the children and women she met during her first visit. She also saw firsthand the impact of the bombings and invasion on people's lives, homes and hearts. She said the trip revealed much devastation and much inspiration.

She is speaking at several community events about the people she met in her travels in Baghdad, Hillah, Babylon, Fallouja, Basra and Umm Qasr.

Since February, Hayes-Raitt has addressed more than 60 audiences, including religious congregations, state women's conferences, school classes, community clubs, large peace rallies and small neighborhood meetings. If you are interested in having Hayes-Raitt speak at an upcoming function, call (310) 581-4421 for information or e-mail at C2CCampaigns@aol.com.

Upcoming speaking events:

Sunday, July 27
10:15 a.m. (During church service)
Church in Ocean Park
235 Hill St.
Santa Monica
(Also featuring music by Stephen Longfellow Fiske)

Monday, July 28
10:45 a.m.
LA County Women's Commission
Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 W. Temple St., Room 830
Downtown LA

Monday, July 28
7:30 p.m.
Gaslite "Blues, Booze and Views"
2030 Wilshire Blvd.
Santa Monica
(Also featuring music by JJ Badboy Jones, and free pizza and soft drinks)

Thursday, July 31
7:30 p.m.
Sister City USA
Private home, call for information (310) 581-4421
Long Beach
(Reception with five Russian women visiting as part of sister city program)

Thursday, Aug. 7
7:30 p.m.
Westside Greens
2809 Pico Blvd.
Santa Monica

Monday, Aug. 11
7 p.m.
International Longshore & Warehouse Union
Marine Clerk's Hall
Labor Room (upstairs)
350 W. 5th St.
San Pedro

Sunday, Aug. 17
2 p.m.
Democratic Victory Neighborhood Community Group
Private home, call for information (310) 581-4421
Pico-Fairfax area

Friday, Sept. 5
6:30 p.m.
Pacific Palisades Methodist Church
801 Via de la Paz
Pacific Palisades

Sunday, Sept. 21
12 p.m. (following church services)
Unitarian Universalist Church of Long Beach
5450 Atherton
Long Beach

GOOD THING YOU RECYCLE YOUR PAPER... CHANCES ARE YOU'RE READING IT AGAIN.

surf report

The SW will hold strong today before starting to back off tomorrow morning. Expect some fun, closeout bombers at the beach breaks and some glassy sets at the point breaks.

BAD NEWS: LA is crowded.

GOOD NEWS: There are waves here.

OUTLOOK: Swell takes the backseat in the early part of the week. Smaller waves dominate for a little while.

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.

Today the water is: 73°

Sunrise: 6:10 a.m.
Sunset: 8:03 p.m.

	LOW TIDE				HIGH TIDE			
	Morning	Height	Evening	Height	Morning	Height	Evening	Height
SATURDAY	**3:00**	**-0.1**	**1:48**	**2.7**	**9:40**	**3.7**	**8:07**	**6.0**
SUNDAY	3:33	-0.4	2:27	2.6	10:10	3.8	8:43	6.3
MONDAY	4:04	-0.6	3:05	2.5	10:39	3.9	9:19	6.4
TUESDAY	4:36	-0.7	3:44	2.3	11:08	4.1	9:56	6.4
WEDNESDAY	5:08	-0.7	4:26	2.2	11:39	4.2	10:34	6.2
THURSDAY	5:41	-0.5	5:13	2.2	(12:12)	4.4	11:15	5.9
FRIDAY	6:15	-0.2	6:07	2.1	N/A	N/A	12:48	4.5

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The Q Line

As most residents of Santa Monica — and, indeed, the entire country — know by now, 86-year-old Russell Weller plowed through the farmers market on Arizona Avenue on Wednesday, killing 10 and injuring nearly 50.

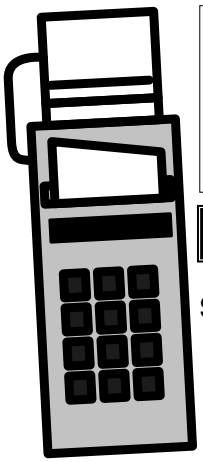
It is one of the worst tragedies ever to befall this city. The grief process and reality of the situation likely is just beginning to sink in for residents.

Therefore, the Daily Press invites anyone who wants to share their feelings, experiences or thoughts about this horrific incident to call our Q-Line.

Dial **(310) 285-8106** and we'll print your response throughout the week. 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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LETTERS

Kobe isn't the first and won't be the last

Editor:

In a series of articles discussing the pending charges against Laker star Kobe Bryant, one addressed the national epidemic of violence against women: "On a typical day in the United States, 8,200 women are battered, 2,345 are raped and 11 are murdered" (LA Times, July 19). Since many assaults and rapes are not brought to the attention of law enforcement officials, those figures are even higher. The yearly totals are 2.9 million assaults, 885,925 rapes and 4015 murders.

For Los Angeles, this total translates to 38,909 assaults, 11,127 rapes and 52 murders per year. In Santa Monica, the respective figures are 895, 256 and 1.

Despite this unprecedented and epidemic level of violence, there is little outrage. If this violence were committed against any other social group, e.g., Jews, Latinos, or gay men and lesbians, there would be much national reaction and efforts to end it.

This reaction would not arise for the most part from a principled stand on injustice against these groups, but from a minimal understanding of the collective nature of anti-Jewish, racist and homophobic hatred that has been forced upon the American consciousness by courageous individuals and organizations within those groups.

Despite similar struggles by feminists to bring such attention to the epidemic of violence, this categorical or group consciousness about hate crimes is denied to females. Thousands of violent acts committed against them each day do not even register a blip on our moral radar scale.

John Marciano
Santa Monica

Children risk losing adequate health care

Editor:

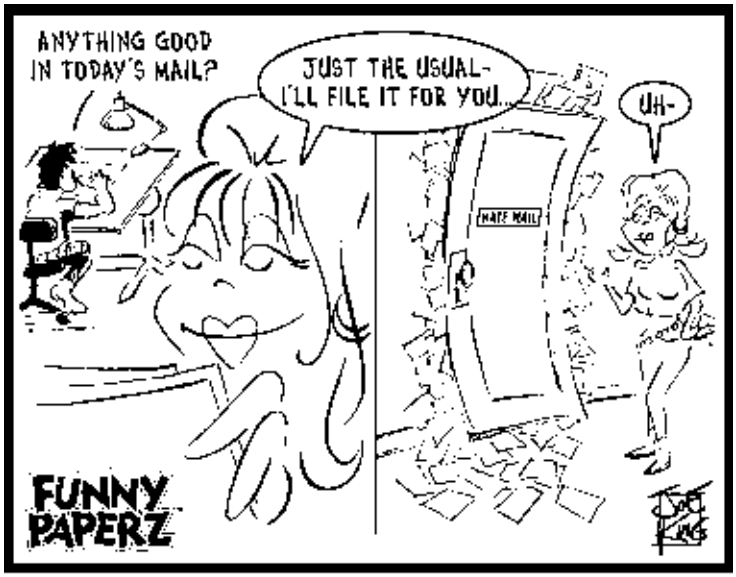
Press coverage of the budget crisis has focused on the basic political stalemate: Democrats want to avoid spending cuts, Republicans want to avoid new taxes. Nearly lost in this debate is the harm to children that would result from eliminating or greatly restricting children's health insurance programs, as three proposals before the Legislature would do.

Under one proposal, 3 million low-income children covered under Medi-Cal would lose the guarantee of one full-year of health insurance coverage. In the last few years, California's Medi-Cal program has wisely followed the private sector model of annual insurance renewals. But the Richman-Canciamilla budget proposal and Republican proposals in both the Assembly and Senate would eliminate the current guarantee of a full year of coverage once enrolled. With this shortsighted policy change, budget estimates are that nearly 500,000 children would lose their insurance coverage and California would lose the federal dollars that pay for 50 percent of Medi-Cal's costs. Families whose children were mistakenly dropped would have to reapply for coverage and scarce public resources would be spent on administrative costs rather than on health care.

A second proposal would cause another 150,000 low-income children to lose their coverage under the Healthy Families program. Assembly Republicans have proposed to reduce the number of children eligible for Healthy Families, a successful program providing coverage to almost 700,000 children that is paid for with two-thirds Federal dollars. Not only would this reduction in Healthy Families disrupt children's existing relationships with their doctors, children would end up in costly emergency rooms for their care. These cuts would also be a severe setback to a program that improves children's health. A recent study released by the University of California, San Diego and the Children's Hospital of San Diego — funded by the David and Lucile Packard Foundation — found that children enrolled in Healthy Families had better health and did better in school.

A third proposal would result in another 1 million children losing their access to basic immunizations and health screenings. Assembly Republicans have proposed to eliminate the Child Health and Disability Prevention (CHDP) program, which serves

See LETTERS, page 5



Meeting of minds: Ari Fleischer meets Baghdad Bob



MODERN TIMES

By Lloyd Garver

Ari Fleischer recently left his post as President Bush's press secretary. I started wondering what it might be like if he went on a well-deserved vacation and ran into another person who had had a similar job.

FADE IN:

Ari is having a sandwich in a coffee shop in Las Vegas. Sitting next to him is the former Iraqi Minister of Information, Muhammed Saeed al-Sahaf — also known as "Baghdad Bob."

ARI FLEISHER: I can't believe you spent the whole day out at the pool. It's 117 degrees out there.

BAGHDAD BOB: But it's dry heat. Besides, I'm used to it.

ARI FLEISCHER: I got pretty used to the heat, too.

BAGHDAD BOB: I guess it shouldn't surprise us that we both ended up here. I mean, we were in the same business.

ARI FLEISCHER: What?! You can't compare what you did to what I did! You were the spokesman for a leader who brought death and destruction to Iraq.

BAGHDAD BOB: And what do you think your boys were dropping on us — bagels?

ARI FLEISCHER: I don't have to defend what we did. We got rid of Saddam, didn't we?

BAGHDAD BOB: Did you?

ARI FLEISCHER: Tell me, Bob, how did you handle it when most of the world thought you were saying ridiculous things and well, to tell you the truth, they were laughing at you?

BAGHDAD BOB: No big deal. Just part of the job. How did you handle it?

ARI FLEISCHER: Very funny. But you have to admit, you made some pretty outrageous statements. Like, "Heavy doesn't accurately describe the level of casualties we have inflicted." And when Baghdad was falling, you had the guts to declare, "They are not even within 100 miles of Baghdad. They are trying to sell to others an illusion."

BAGHDAD BOB: You had some humdingers yourself. Like, when you said that if Saddam Hussein says he has no Weapons of Mass Destruction, that obviously means that he's "misleading the world." Or how about when you had to pretend the administration was thrilled by the "powerful" countries that finally joined the coalition? By the way, did Iceland ever send its two soldiers?

ARI FLEISHER: Look, I thought then, and I still think that we were doing what was best for America and the world.

BAGHDAD BOB: Speaking of America, all my life I heard how evil America and Americans were. And now, when I look around me here, all I see is greed and decadence and women walking around barely clothed.

ARI FLEISCHER: That's just Las Vegas. If you don't like it, there are lots of other places in America you could visit.

BAGHDAD BOB: Who said I didn't like it?

ARI FLEISCHER: Did Saddam's government provide for your old age?

BAGHDAD BOB: Yes, they're letting me have one.

ARI FLEISCHER: So, do you want to go to a show tonight?

BAGHDAD BOB: Why not? Last night, I saw Engelbert Humperdinck. He was wonderful. The man is not just a singer, he's an entertainer. For tonight, how about "cirque du soleil?" I hear it's fantastic — dancing, juggling, impossible positions ...

ARI FLEISCHER: Sounds too much like my old job.

BAGHDAD BOB: How about David Copperfield? Maybe he can make some Weapons of Mass Destruction appear.

ARI FLEISCHER: We are going to find those weapons.

BAGHDAD BOB: I'm not so sure. You don't have a very good record when it comes to finding things — or people.

THE WAITRESS BRINGS THE CHECK. BOTH ARI AND BOB GRAB IT.

ARI FLEISCHER: Let me get it. Once I sell my book, I'll have plenty of money.

BAGHDAD BOB: If you insist. I have to admit, I'm having a hard time finding a new job. When most people hear my name, they think of someone who twists the facts and distorts the truth. Who's going to hire me?

ARI FLEISCHER: Have you tried the tobacco companies?

FADE OUT

(Lloyd Garver has written for many television shows, ranging from "Sesame Street" to "Family Ties" to "Frasier." He has also 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.

OPINION

LETTERS

LETTERS, from page 4

California's most vulnerable children — those who are poor, homeless, those in foster care and detention, and children of migrant workers. Without immunizations and health screenings, children's basic health needs will go undetected, compromising their readiness for school and making them vulnerable to life-long disabilities. Needless to say, eliminating immunizations for children is senseless public policy that threatens basic public health.

Even during a budget crisis, it is penny-wise and pound-foolish to take actions that would cause millions of California children to miss out on preventive health, dental and vision care. Preventive care protects children from unnecessary illnesses while saving state dollars. We cannot afford to revert back to a system where our children are forced to rely on emergency rooms for their care. Moreover, we cannot afford to forego the millions of dollars in Federal funds we would lose if any of these proposed cuts are enacted.

At times like these, we rely on our elected representatives to make difficult but smart choices, particularly those that further our wise investment in children. The question that remains for our leaders is this: Do we balance the budget deficit with a mix of increased revenues and smart reforms, or do we jeopardize our children's health and well-being by simply cutting crucial programs without considering the consequences?

Wendy Lazarus
The Children's Partnership
Michael Reisch
Children Now
Deena Lahn
Children's Defense Fund

Elderly drivers aren't the problem

Editor:

With last week marking the one-week anniversary of that tragic accident and the memory of it burning in my mind and heart, it was almost inconceivable to me that while crossing Wilshire Boulevard with a green light at the top of the Third Street Promenade, a car screeched to a very loud halt well past the crosswalk. I thought, especially today, so close to the scene of the accident, how could this person be so careless? This was not an elderly person and it was not even a slightly old person. It was a young woman. Then, some 30 to 45 minutes later, when attempting to cross back at the northeast corner of Second Street and Wilshire Boulevard, a car went through a red light. The light was green for pedestrians to enter the crosswalk as the car sailed through the light.

Nothing has changed since that horrific accident. It does not seem to have made a dent in the mind of drivers about the necessary caution required when driving. People want to blame the city for not having stronger barriers in place. The Santa Monica Farmer's Market has been held at that location since 1981 and there has not been one such accident as far as I know. While it is important to learn from this incident and take steps to provide greater security for shoppers, what is the city going to do to prevent drivers from going through red lights and almost hitting people in the crosswalks? Or, take for example those drivers who take no heed of pedestrians crossing with a green light when they are attempting to make a turn onto that thoroughfare that the pedestrian is crossing? None of these people whom I encountered were elderly, but, were anywhere from their 20s to 50s. Let me remind everyone also that senior citizen applies to anyone 55 and older.

So, this all leads me to what I really want to say. No one should be allowed to drive who is not competent. Throw away the keys? Where do we start? How about the keys of those using handheld cell phones driving with only one hand on the wheel? Better yet, how about having tests to determine the ability of those who talk on handheld cell phones with one hand on the wheel, perceptibly oblivious to anyone around them or in their path? How about devising a test which will measure the reflex time and ability to drive with one hand on the wheel and a peripheral vision test and anything else that can be dreamed up to evaluate their ability to drive while on their cell phones? Perhaps it should be a requirement for a driver's license for all those who talk on handheld cell phones to reveal that information in the same way people who wear glasses must reveal that information. I'll probably get some flack from this portion of the driving population, but a lot of attention has been focused on elderly drivers as a result of the accident and while I do not believe that any elder driver should drive who is not competent, I think there has been a rash of age discrimination being proffered.

So, like it or not, everyone needs to look at their own driving habits instead of just pointing the finger at the elderly.

Julia Reeves
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SANTA MONICA RELAY FOR LIFE

The 2nd Annual American Cancer Society's Relay for Life is a unique 24-hour event to increase cancer awareness in Santa Monica while raising much needed funds for the American Cancer Society.

Where: Santa Monica College, Corsair Field
1900 Pico Boulevard in Santa Monica

When: Saturday and Sunday, July 26th and 27th from 9 a.m. to 9 a.m.

The power of this Relay allows our community to grieve for those we have lost to cancer and to celebrate the lives of those who have successfully survived. It gives everyone, from the newly diagnosed patient to the caregivers of those who have struggled with the disease, an opportunity to be with others who have been touched by cancer. Further, it builds our community by rallying around a common cause while having fun at the same time.

Participants form teams of 12-24 people who walk or run around the track in shifts. Teams can be made up of friends, relatives, local businesses, hospitals, schools, churches and other organizations. Each team is asked to keep one member on the track at all times. Team registration fee is $150.00 and each team member is encouraged to raise a minimum of $100.00.

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LOCAL

Crash victim would have turned 51 today

VICTIMS, from page 1

that his father spoke in and translated between five languages. "He was reading, he was enjoying himself and having a good time."

Two other local people lost their lives in last week's accident. One of them was Leroy Lattier, 55, a former homeless man who was hired to help clean up Arizona Avenue after market vendors had left.

Lattier's friends gathered Thursday night to share their memories and commemorate his life.

"Leroy was a beautiful person," said Virgil Hill, director of Turning Point, a transitional housing facility in Santa Monica where Lattier recently lived. Looking out over the nearly 50 people who came to the memorial service, Hill added, "It is a testimony to Leroy that all of you are here."

Lattier's work ethic impressed many who lived with him at Turning Point. He struggled with diabetes and came to Santa Monica from Louisiana to find medical care that wouldn't require his legs to be amputated, as doctors had suggested.

"He was the hardest working person I ever met," one Turning Point resident said. "He was homeless but he wasn't hopeless."

Lattier, who recently moved out of the transitional facility and rented his own apartment, had a warmth and charm that reached beyond the homeless community.

Jonathan and Fahima Grant, of Santa Monica, attended the memorial even though they had met him only once. Jonathan Grant said he and his wife were at the farmer's market on the day of the crash and had briefly eaten pizza with Lattier.

"We only shared a few words but what a beautiful smile he had," Jonathan Grant said. "As we left he said, 'God bless you.' We felt that we needed to come here tonight to show our support and our love too."

Despite his ongoing struggle with diabetes, Lattier was described by friends as an animated man.

"He had such flare about him," one Turning Point resident said. Others recalled him as an avid sports fan, a fast-talking entertainer and a gentleman.

"He used to meet me at seven in the morning when I'd come through the door," Hill said. "He would turn himself in and tell me, 'I got into an argument with so-and-so over the remote,' wanting to get it off his chest. He was that kind of guy.

"I know he's up there looking down now and saying, 'Ha ha. Look at all my friends,'" Hill added, smiling.

Rosemary Prior, a friend of Lattier's who organized the memorial, said Lattier sometimes bumped heads with people, but the goodness of his character always emerged.

After Lattier and Prior had a falling out some time ago, Prior approached Lattier in hopes of making peace.

"He signed the peace treaty," Prior said. "He had such spirit. His decision to reconcile with me was the catalyst for me to want to organize this. Most people would have just walked away."

Though Lattier's friends said they would miss him, many took comfort in the thought that he is now in a better place.

"I know he's up in heaven and his legs aren't hurting, and he's feeling really good," one resident said. "I just thank God for my having met him."

The third local person to die in last week's accident had only been in Santa Monica for five weeks.

"Sometimes I just can't face it. They say she's dead, but I need to see her. I need to feel her, touch her. She's in my thoughts."

— VIRGINIA MERCADO
Sister of victim

Theresa Breglia, who would have turned 51 today, flew to California from the Bronx June 8. She apparently was looking for housing and a job in Santa Monica so that she could save money to travel to Moreno Valley.

It was there that Breglia hoped to find her ex-husband, Steven, who suffers from multiple sclerosis and lives with his sister.

Coroner's officials said it appears Theresa Breglia, who had a history of mental illness, was homeless during the brief time she was in Santa Monica. Her sister, Virginia Mercado, said she received a handful of letters from Breglia but still doesn't know where she was staying or what she was doing at the time of the accident.

Another letter from Theresa Breglia arrived Friday, Mercado said. In it, Theresa Berglia sent her love to her sister and family members, urging them to take care of one another and the family pets.

"Sometimes I just can't face it," Mercado said Friday. "They say she's dead, but I need to see her. I need to feel her, touch her. She's in my thoughts."

Theresa Breglia lived with Mercado for more than four years before she decided to fly to California. Her body is being kept at the LA Coroner's Office because her family does not have the means to fly it home to the east coast. They are hopeful that funds set up for victims and their families will be available to help them.

The uncertainty over how her sister spent her final days and who she spent them with has made Mercado distraught, she said. Anyone with information about Theresa Breglia should contact Rob Piubeni at the Daily Press at (310) 458-7737. Piubeni, an ad salesman and a trained emergency medical technician, was with Breglia at the time of her death and is in contact with Mercado.

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STATE

Gov. Davis must raise millions to defeat recall

By The Associated Press

SACRAMENTO — Facing the shortest and arguably toughest campaign of his political life, Gov. Gray Davis is set to raise as much as $20 million in the next 10 weeks to fight a Republican-led effort to recall him.

Steve Smith, director of the Davis campaign operation called Californians Against a Costly Recall, said his committee would need to raise between $15 million and $20 million to reach voters in the nation's most populous state.

"Given the dynamics of California, we've got to spend a million or two million dollars a week on paid media," Smith said. "We are certainly going to conduct an aggressive fund-raising campaign."

On Thursday, Lt. Gov. Cruz Bustamante set an Oct. 7 date for the election — 77 days from the date of its certification.

Davis, a prodigious fund raiser who raked in more than $70 million for his 2002 re-election effort, starts the race with a fund-raising advantage under California law. While the candidates running to replace him will have to abide by state campaign finance limits, the law says that Davis, as the target of the recall, is not subject to those limits. He will be able to raise unlimited sums from any person, business or labor union, while his opponents can raise just $21,200 from each of their donors.

Officials defend intelligence

PLOT, from page 1

attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

"Even in the bright light of hindsight there simply wasn't a roadmap to Sept. 11," said Daniel R. Dzwilewski, the special agent who took charge of the FBI's San Diego bureau three weeks ago.

Hijackers Nawaf Alhamzi and Khalid Almihdhar, who were aboard American Airlines Flight 77 when it crashed into the Pentagon, rented rooms in 2000 at the Lemon Grove home of Abdussattar Shaikh, a local professor identified in news reports as the FBI informant.

Shaikh phoned The Associated Press and denied being an informant before hanging up. The report says the San Diego FBI concluded that the informant had no knowledge of or role in the Sept. 11 plot, but notes that he made numerous inconsistent statements that call his credibility into question.

Steve Butler, a former San Diego FBI agent who was the informant's contact, testified before the congressional panel that he learned the names of the two hijackers only in a passing conversation during the summer of 2000.

Butler lamented the CIA's failure to pass along that the two hijackers had been identified after attending an al-Qaida meeting in Malaysia in January 2000.

"It would have made a huge difference," said Butler, who retired last year. "We would have done everything. We would have used all available investigative techniques. We would have given them the full court press."

FBI officials in San Diego say the hijackers, due to their limited English skills, were instructed to pose as students and rely on local Muslims to help them blend in. They did with help from al-Bayoumi and others linked to "terrorist elements," according to the report.

Al-Bayoumi found the pair an apartment, paid their first month's rent and security deposit and threw a welcoming party for them. Although he was a student in San Diego, the report states al-Bayoumi had access to "seemingly unlimited funding from Saudi Arabia," including $400,000 to fund a Kurdish mosque in the city.

In January 2000, al-Bayoumi had a closed-door meeting at the Saudi consulate in Los Angeles and then went to a restaurant where he picked up Alhazmi and Almihdhar and brought them to San Diego. One of the San Diego FBI's best sources believed al-Bayoumi "must be an intelligence officer for Saudi Arabia or another foreign power."

The FBI says its investigation found no signs that a foreign government was behind the Sept. 11 attacks.

According to the report, al-Bayoumi also had ties to al-Qaida, but an extensive investigation after the Sept. 11 attacks resulted in no criminal charges, and he is now living in Saudi Arabia.

New information emerged in the report about the owner and manager of a San Diego business that employed Alhazmi in 2000. Both men were on the FBI's radar. The business is not named, but Alhazmi briefly worked at a Texaco gas station in La Mesa.

The business owner, a U.S. citizen whose name does not appear in the report, told a San Diego police officer during a 1991 traffic stop that "all Americans should be killed for what they did to the Iraqis" during Desert Storm and "that the United States needed another Pan Am 103 attack and that he would be the one to carry it out."

In 2001, the man's stockbroker called the FBI to say the business owner had closed his account and was sending the money to freedom fighters in Afghanistan.

The manager of the business also had connections that caught the FBI's attention. In January 2000, the brother of a known member of Osama bin Laden's terrorist network got into the manager's car in a Los Angeles parking lot.

After the Sept. 11 attacks, the manager said he hired Alhazmi on the recommendation from a nearby mosque.

An imam at the Masjid Ar-Ribat al-Islami mosque served as "spiritual adviser" to the two hijackers in San Diego. When the imam moved to Falls Church, Va., in 2001, the hijackers moved there as well. The imam is not named in the report, but sources told The Washington Post he is Anwar Aulaqi, a Yemeni who left the United States last year.

The FBI opened a counterterrorism inquiry into the imam in June 1999 for reasons that are omitted from the report. The next year, the imam was visited by an associate of Sheik Omar Abdel Rahman, the blind cleric who is serving a life sentence for conspiring to blow up New York City landmarks and assassinate Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.



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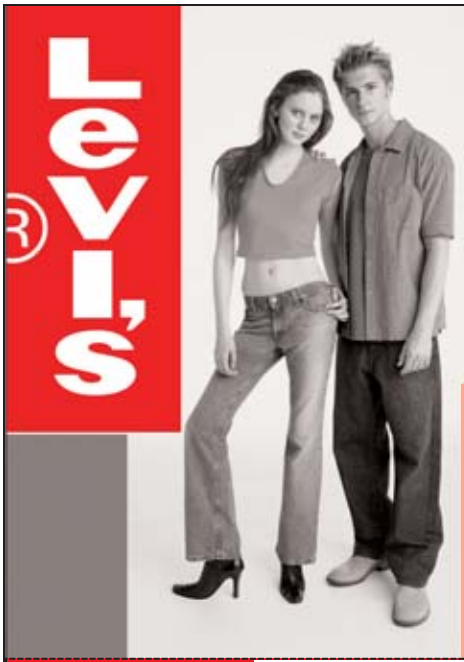
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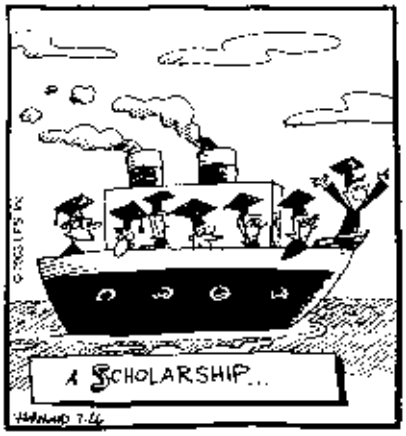
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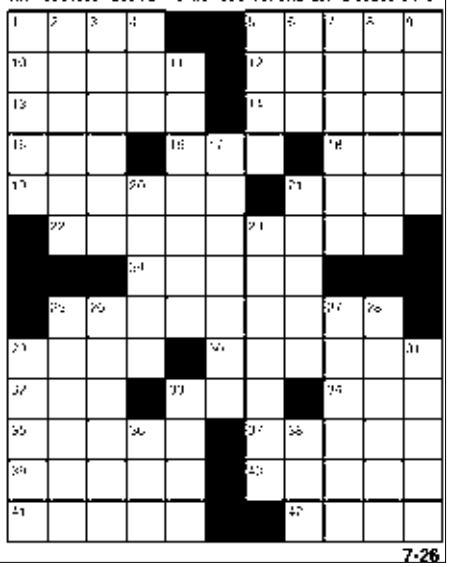
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17 Boss's command
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23 Exceed in the market
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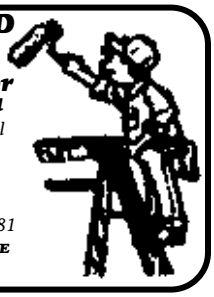
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Kate Winslet, husband expecting their first child

By The Associated Press

■ **LONDON** — Actress Kate Winslet and her husband, director Sam Mendes, are expecting their first baby, his publicist confirmed Friday.

Winslet, who has a 3-year-old daughter, Mia, from her previous marriage to Jim Threapleton, is due to give birth in January.

"They are both delighted with the pregnancy," said Chloe Dunbar of Premiere PR in London, which represents Mendes.

The pair were married in May, and Dunbar said they were currently on vacation in Italy.

Winslet, 27, was nominated for Academy Awards for her roles in "Titanic," "Sense and Sensibility" and "Iris." Mendes, 37, won the best-director Oscar for his first film, 1999's "American Beauty."

■ **LOS ANGELES** — The Hammer Museum at the University of California, Los Angeles will name a new theater after late filmmaker Billy Wilder.

Audrey Wilder made a $5 million donation in honor of her late husband to create the Billy Wilder Theater, the museum said in a statement Thursday. Construction will begin next year on the project, which also will be used for screenings by the UCLA Film and Television Archive.

Wilder died last year at 95. The influential Austrian-born writer-director's films included "Sunset Boulevard," "Some Like It Hot" and "The Seven Year Itch."

Audrey Wilder said her gift "reflects Billy's passion for film and art, and his dedication to supporting and encouraging artists of all kinds."

As co-writer, director and producer of the 1960 film "The Apartment," Wilder collected three Oscars, the only person to do so for one film until Frances Ford Coppola won three for 1974's "The Godfather: Part II."

Wilder also won an Oscar in 1951 for co-writing "Sunset Boulevard" and two others in 1946 for co-writing and directing "Lost Weekend." Other hits included "Double Indemnity," "Stalag 17" and "Witness for the Prosecution."

A nine-disc collection of Wilder films was recently released on DVD.

■ **HAMILTON,** — Comedian Jeff Foxworthy bought 2,000 acres of hunting and fishing land in west Georgia, ending speculation that the area would become a golf resort.

Foxworthy, 44, closed the deal earlier this week in Atlanta. The price was not disclosed, the Columbus Ledger-Enquirer reported Thursday.

The sprawling preserve includes streams, two lakes, a pond, kennels and silos. It also has an octagonal barn that has been converted into a lodge that can sleep 21 people.

Best-known for his "You might be a redneck if..." jokes, Foxworthy starred in the NBC sitcom "The Jeff Foxworthy Show" from 1995-97.

"It means a lot to him to be able to give this farm to his children," said Phebe Robertson, whose father, Harris County businessman Cason J. Callaway Jr., owned the property.

Foxworthy and his family "are real nature lovers," Robertson said. His family had a farm when he grew up. He and wife, Pamela, have two daughters, ages 11 and 9.

California developer Bill Phillips at one point had a contract with Callaway to build a golf resort community called Heritage at Callaway Farms but the project never materialized.

The Callaway family is a major landowner in west Georgia, home to Callaway Gardens botanical site.





