

DAILY LOTTERY

SUPER LOTTO

5 8 17 21 35

Meganumber: 21

Jackpot: \$42 Million

FANTASY 5

3 7 28 31 33

DAILY 3

Daytime: 6 2 1

Evening: 3 0 5

DAILY DERBY

1st: 08 Gorgeous George

2nd: 02 Lucky Star

3rd: 10 Solid Gold

RACE TIME: 1:46.43

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD

BY CHUCK SHEPARD

Gary Moody, 45, was arrested after being pulled by police from a tank underneath a women's outhouse in a park near Albany, N.H., in June. A teenage girl had reported that when she went to use the facility, she saw Moody, standing in the muck below the hole, staring up at her. News of the Weird has reported on others discovered in similar circumstances (and who typically wear raincoats and waders and stand patiently, waiting for a user): in Horsetooth National Park in Colorado in 1998; near Peterborough, Ontario, in 1995; at a state park near Hamden, Conn., in 1990; and near Durango, Colo., in 1990. According to Moody's arrest report, his explanation (which is a familiar one for these situations) was that he accidentally "dropped" a "ring" into the toilet and had to go looking for it.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 210th day of 2005. There are 155 days left in the year.

On July 29, 1958, President Eisenhower signed the National Aeronautics and Space Act, which created NASA.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"When I rest, I rust."

Fritz Thyssen

GERMAN INDUSTRIALIST (1873-1951)

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Nap, then decide, Sag

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Can't seem to stay on track



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

Santa Monica College cheerleaders squeeze in some extra fun and exercise at last weekend's Relay for Life at SMC. Ashley Crosse skips rope with Lauren Jenkins (left) and Justin Russ (right) keeping the ropes in motion.

Gang fight breaks out at beach

By Daily Press staff

SM BEACH — An apparent gang-related fight broke out early Thursday, leaving two victims in the hospital, three people in jail and police searching for additional suspects.

At about 1:40 a.m., Santa

Monica police responded to a call of shots fired at the 1550 beach lot just north of the Santa Monica Pier. Responding officers received additional information that a victim from the shooting was in the 1700 block of Fourth Street. Officers located one victim, a 17-year-old Hispanic male from Los Angeles, who suffered from at least one gunshot wound to the upper torso. He was transported to a local hospital, where he is listed in critical condition, police said.

Preliminary investigation has revealed that the victim was shot

See GANG FIGHT, page 10

LOCAL

City is on fast track to OK beach path

BY ROBERT FATURECHI

Special to the Daily Press

SM BEACH — Following years of unfulfilled requests from promoters, City Hall is finally considering a new beachside race route — the first of its kind in Santa Monica that would provide runners with an ocean view.

While the city currently has four race routes, two of the paths — both near Santa Monica College — are virtually unusable due to growing traffic, according to city officials. If councilmembers approve a new route along the coast, those two

See RACE ROUTE, page 11

PETA digs in to save city ground squirrels

City Hall considers rodents a health risk

BY RYAN HYATT

Daily Press Staff Writer

PALISADES PARK — Animal-rights activists have their chestnuts in a twist over the city's poisoning of ground squirrels, but the city contends they're barking down the wrong burrow.

People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals has lobbed criticism at City Hall for poisoning the rodents running rampant at Palisades Park, recently sending a letter to Mayor Pam O'Connor urging her to order city employees to immediately remove all pesticides being used to poison ground squirrels at the park.

"Death from the poisons being

used by the city is slow and agonizing," says PETA Wildlife Biologist Stephanie Boyles. "No one knows how many animals have suffered and died, but the mayor has the power to stop this cruel program."

City Hall had been attempting to suppress the ground squirrel

population at the park since the spring, following the Los Angeles County Health Department's finding of a rapid growth in the number of active ground squirrel burrows.

However, City Hall stopped

See SQUIRRELS, page 10





File photos

The animal-rights group PETA is looking out for ground squirrels (at left) occupying the city's Palisades Park, asking the city to remove pesticide traps (at right). Despite the city's claims that the traps were removed, this one was spotted Thursday.

Jacquie Banks

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11 High Cost Home Inspection Traps You Should Know About Weeks Before Listing Your Home For Sale

WESTSIDE - According to industry experts, there are over 33 physical problems that you will come under scrutiny during a home inspection when your home is for sale. A new report has been prepared which identifies the eleven most common of these problems, and what you should know about them before you list your home for sale.

Whether you own an old home or a brand new one, there are a number of things that can fall short of requirements during a home inspection. If not identified and dealt with, any of these 11 items could cost you dearly in terms of repair. That's why it's critical that you read this report before you list your home. If you wait until the building inspector flags these issues for you, you will almost certainly experience costly delays in the close of your home sale or, worse, turn prospective buyers away altogether.

In most cases, you can make a reasonable pre-inspec-

tion yourself if you now what you're looking for. And knowing what you're looking for can help you prevent little problems from growing into costly and unmanageable ones. To help homesellers deal with this issue before their home is listed, a free report entitled "11 Things You Need to Know to Pass Your Home Inspection" has been compiled which explains the issues involved.

To hear a brief recorded message about how to order your FREE copy of this report, call 1.888.465.4534 and enter ID#1003. You can call anytime, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Call NOW to learn how to ensure a home inspection doesn't cost you the sale of your home.

This report is courtesy of Steve Matilla, Matilla Realty, Not intended to solicit properties currently listed for sale. Copyright ©1997.

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Nap, then decide, Sag

Santa Monica Daily Press



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)

★★★ Everyone can get irritable sometimes, but today it seems as if the universe has taken grumpy pills. Focus on what is important to you, especially regarding finances. Double-check all figures. You could easily make a mistake. Tonight: Celebrate Friday.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ You might think you are being clear, but others have difficulty receiving your message. It's not you; it's the planets. Also, double-check your own messages; something could be askew. Check meeting times. Verify facts. Tonight: The lead actor.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★ Hide out right now, because you naturally trip over your words. Also, others will tend to misread you or misconstrue your statements. Don't keep trying; maybe later on you can make another attempt. Close your door and get your project or errands done. Tonight: Head home.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ You mean well and aim for the general well-being of the whole. Yet somehow there is a money error that could be irksome, if not troublesome, for you. Understand that others might be out of kilter as well. Tonight: Celebrate the weekend.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★ You might have difficulty separating yourself from your work and responsibilities today. You are called in when there are problems. Complete and straighten out as much as you can. You want to enter the weekend clear. Tonight: Fun begins late.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ You might not really get what another person is saying. In fact, you are projecting a lot of your fears or vulnerabilities onto a situation. Move past your stuff and listen to exactly what is being said. Tonight: Opt for something different.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Others simply will not back down. They want to have things go their way. You can listen to and consider alternatives. A meeting could cause a conflict or misunderstanding out of the blue. Stay clear if you can. Tonight: Have a long-overdue talk.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★ Others push and pull to have what they want happen. You might be surprised by what happens if you decide to let others have their way. You need to delegate responsibilities, so if there is a problem you are not in the middle. Tonight: Enjoy the people around you.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★ Keep your focus and don't get tied up in any problems that really do not involve you. Others might want to ask questions and get your opinion, then indirectly pull you in. Be smart; stay out of others' stories. Tonight: Nap and then decide.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Your solution might be workable, but a close associate is testy and difficult. He or she is bound to be negative. Don't get uptight. In fact, your good sense of humor could help loosen up the tense atmosphere. Tonight: Welcome the weekend in full style.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★ Priorities come forth, especially involving home, real estate and investments. Your creativity might not hit the right solution, because others seem to be out of sorts. Try again another day. Tonight: Run errands on the way home.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Express yourself, return calls and set up meetings. You might need to confirm appointments. Others seem to be askew or out of sorts. Just work with others with ease. Refuse to get irritated. Hang in there. Tonight: Swap war stories with pals.



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1427 Third Street Promenade, Ste. #202 • Santa Monica, CA 90401 • www.smdp.com

PUBLISHER

Ross Furukawa ross@smdp.com

EDITOR

Carolyn Sackariason editor@smdp.com

STAFF WRITER

Ryan Hyatt ryanh@smdp.com

SANTA MONICA PARENTING

Nina Furukawa nina@smdp.com

ADVERTISING SALES MANAGER

Robbie P. Piubeni rob@smdp.com

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Fabian Lewkowicz

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Rob Schwenker schwenker@smdp.com

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Stewart O'Dell stewarto@smdp.com

TRAFFIC MANAGER

Connie Sommerville connies@smdp.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Alejandro Cesar Cantarero II alex@smdp.com

NIGHT EDITOR

Lori Luechtefeld lori@smdp.com

NIGHT EDITOR

Michael Tittinger ...somechum@smdp.com

CLASSIFIEDS SALES MANAGER

Annie Kotok anniek@smdp.com

CIRCULATION

Keith Wyatt

CIRCULATION

Glenn Bolan

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Dave Danforth dave@smdp.com

MASCOT

Maya Furukawa maya@smdp.com

LOCAL



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Psychic fair and spiritual healing festival

By Daily Press staff

Care to find out what happened in your past lives? How about the shape of your aura?

The Southern California Psychic Institute will offer a variety of spiritual services at its Psychic Faire and Spiritual Healing Festival. Choose from such services of Tarot, past lives, career, palm, love life, money, aura and more. Admission and healings are free, and 20-minute readings will be offered for \$8 each, or three readings for \$20.

The festival will take place from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 13 at 1737 21st St., between Michigan Avenue and Olympic Boulevard in Santa Monica. For more information call (310) 587-3536.

Daybreak Designs holds summer sale

By Daily Press staff

Here's your chance to receive fun gifts and be philanthropic at the same time.

Daybreak Designs, run by the women of Daybreak Shelter who are working to overcome mental illness, will be selling a variety of gifts, including hand-painted greeting cards, jewelry, afghans and other gifts.

Daybreak Shelter is a project of the Ocean Park Community Center. The shelter aims to provide a supportive, structured living situation for as many as 15 mentally ill women for up to six months, officials say.

The Daybreak Designs Summer Sale can be found at 1610 Seventh St. The two sales will take place on Aug. 12 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. , and on Aug. 13 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, call Donna Miller at (310) 264-6646, ext. 235, or contact dmiller@opcc.net.

Monteiro captures Fulbright Scholar Award

By Daily Press staff

Santa Monica College adjunct political science professor Natalina Monteiro has been awarded a prestigious Fulbright Scholar's Award to teach and research in Mozambique.

Monteiro will leave for the southwestern African nation in August and will spend a year there, teaching a course on political science research methods to students at Eduardo Mondlane University in the capital city of Maputo.

She also will conduct research on the effects of globalization and gender in the market economy and on child labor laws in Mozambique.

This is the third Fulbright Scholar award to be given to an SMC professor in the past year.



NATALINA MONTEIRO

CLARIFICATION— In the July 28 edition of the Santa Monica Daily Press, an article discussing a council decision to approve demolition of a property ("Christie's is no landmark, council says"), a relationship was described with Councilman Ken Genser and the developer that was not accurate. Genser is employed by a consulting firm that has worked on the project. He had no personal involvement in it. In the course of his employment, Genser also has provided consulting services on projects outside of Santa Monica for the developer of Christie Court.

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SURF REPORT

Today there will be a small burst of southern hemi SW from the lower 50s. It isn't much, but it should help south facing breaks get into waist-high sets with an occasional plus at standouts when the tide is right. This swell is looking weak though, and mostly longboardable.

Expect sunny weather except for patchy morning low clouds and fog. Highs in the 70s.

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

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	Morning	Height	Evening	Height	Morning	Height	Evening	Height
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WEDNESDAY	8:30	1.3	10:28	1.4	2:31	3.8	3:22	5.2
THURSDAY	9:18	2.0	N/A	N/A	4:16	3.17	4:19	5.3
FRIDAY	10:20	2.51	12:00	.93	6:27	3.03	5:19	5.41

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The Q Line

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Board members of the Bayside Business District Corp. are looking for ways to bring in more revenue to increase services — such as hiring ambassadors to assist visitors and monitor for illegal activity — in and around the Third Street Promenade. Ways of increasing revenue could include increasing the amount of fees assessed on businesses by City Hall.

So this week, Q-Line wants to know, "Do you support requiring businesses to pay more to provide additional services downtown? Why or why not?"

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your responses in the weekend edition. Please try to limit your comments to a minute or less. It might help to think first about the wording of your response.

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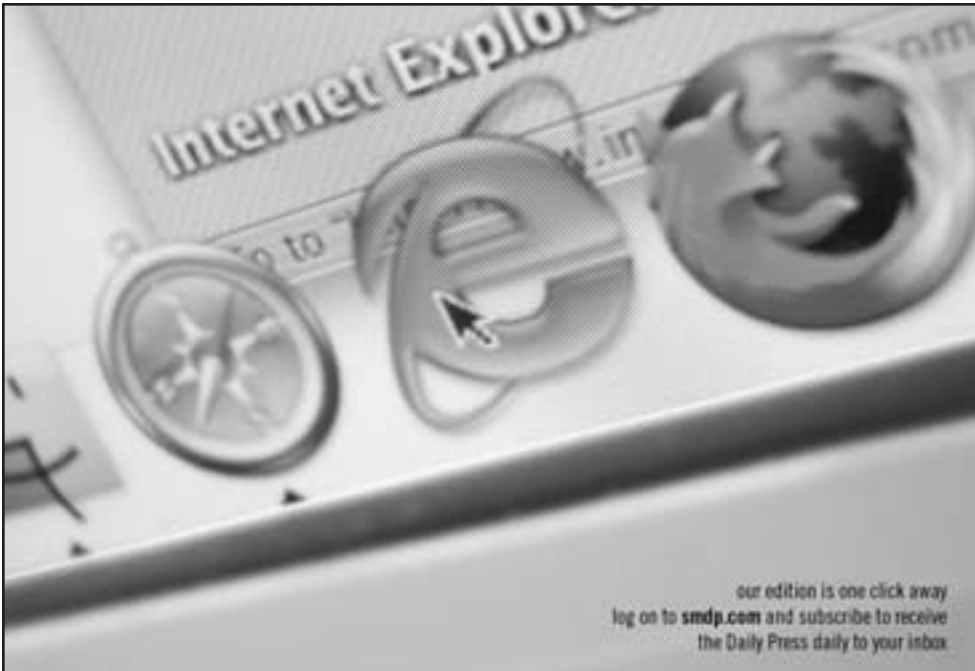
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OPINION

GUEST COMMENTARY BY TARA SMITH

Justice must protect individual rights

As the battle over John Roberts' Supreme Court confirmation begins, the one widely agreed upon measure of qualification is that he not be a "judicial activist." While conservatives have long railed against "activist" judges "making" law by legislating from the bench, many on the left in recent years have similarly criticized the Rehnquist court as "activist" — on behalf of executive powers, for instance. Charges of "activism" have essentially become a smear intended to discredit any decision with which one disagrees. The use of this label, on all sides, fosters a serious confusion about the role of the judiciary.

The charge of "judicial activism" typically condemns proper activity on the part of judges along with improper activity. It has become dangerously commonplace to equate a judge's support for overturning a law with pernicious activism. Prevailing wisdom holds that we can identify "activists" simply by counting up the number of times a judge rules against existing laws or government practices. By that logic, the only way for a judge to avoid overstepping his authority is to engage in no activity — to simply rubber-stamp whatever the legislature and other agencies of government serve up. What, by this reasoning, is the point of having a Supreme Court? Some laws should be struck down. Because the United States is a constitutional republic, we are all bound — private citizens and government alike — to abide by the Constitution. It is precisely the role of the judiciary to strike down laws and prohibit government actions that fail to do so. Judges who so rule are acting responsibly and fulfilling their function.

Laws are necessarily written in broad terms, designed to govern an array of cases that are similar in principle but different in particulars. Judicial rulings are needed when the proper application of those laws, in a specific case, is not transparent. The logical application of a Constitutional provision to novel circumstances is not, therefore, a case of creating new rules ex nihilo. Rather, it is exactly what we need judges to often do. While Article I, for instance, provides for the common defense and the specific maintenance of an army and navy, courts have not been activist dictators by also allowing an air force. While the

First Amendment protects freedom of "speech" and of "the press," courts have not brazenly "legislated" by treating written letters as also protected.

In doing their job, judges must be mindful of the 9th Amendment. The Constitution does not provide an exhaustive catalog of every right that citizens possess. The 9th Amendment explicitly instructs us that those rights not named in the Constitution are retained by the people. It is thereby laying down a principle to guide Constitutional interpretation. Accordingly, judges must apply the law in a way that respects all the rights of the citizens, unenumerated as well as enumerated.

The salient question in assessing any nominee, then, is not whether a judge takes action, but the factors that guide his actions. To be qualified to sit on the Supreme Court, a person must, at minimum, understand three basic facts. First, that individual rights are broad principles defining the individual's freedom of action. The familiar rights of life, liberty, property and the pursuit of happiness subsume a vast array of particular exercises of this freedom, some explicitly named in the constitution (e.g., the freedom of speech) and some not (the right to travel). Second, he must understand that the government's sole function is to protect individuals' freedom of action. As Jefferson explained, it is "to secure these rights, (that) governments are instituted among men." Third, he must recognize that our government properly acts exclusively by permission. Articles I, II and III specify the powers of the three branches of government and the 10th Amendment expressly decrees that powers not delegated to the federal government are reserved by the states or by the people.

These, correspondingly, are the considerations that should guide a judge's decision-making. It is precisely because action from judges is often needed that principled action — action premised on the basic principles of our republic — is essential. Only a nominee whose record demonstrates that he is so guided is fit to be entrusted a place on the Court.

(Tara Smith, associate professor of philosophy at the University of Texas at Austin, is a contributing writer for the Ayn Rand Institute in Irvine.)

Getting out in field crucial for lawmakers



GUEST COMMENTARY
BY MARK WRIGHTON

During my year as an American Political Science Association Congressional Fellow, I have had many opportunities to learn about the inner workings of Congress. This year, while on leave from the University of New Hampshire's political science department, I had the privilege of serving on the staff of the House Republican Policy Committee. The committee is part of the leadership apparatus and this year has become an important actor in the policy process under the chairmanship of Rep. John Shadegg of Arizona. For much of my time, I worked on Social Security but have recently found myself working on international trade and immigration.

Among the many things I have learned this year is that despite the recent controversy surrounding them, fact-finding trips play an important role in the legislative process. In early July, I had an opportunity to go to Arizona and to participate in a series of meetings on an issue which divides the nation: Immigration. The torrid Sonoran desert along the Arizona border with Mexico has become the focal point of the debate over how best to balance the concerns of citizens, the needs of employers, the aspirations of those seeking a better life, and the necessities of keeping those whose aim is to wreak havoc out of the United States.

While in Arizona, committee staff members had an opportunity to meet with a wide range of people concerned with immigration policy. We met with immigrant advocates, federal and state law enforcement officials, representatives of agribusiness, and those on the front lines at the border. The goal was to learn how the government might more effectively spend resources and create policies which balance the interests of all involved. We learned that various parts of government are not working well together, that farmers simply cannot find adequate labor among American citizens and permanent resident aliens, and that people who want to foment terror are still getting into the country. It painted a very discouraging picture of the immigration situation.

The most compelling part of the trip came on the morning of our last day when

we met with border agents on the tarmac of the air base in Tucson and boarded a Blackhawk helicopter to go with them on patrol. The plan was to fly to the border and survey it. Although flying in a Blackhawk is quite thrilling in and of itself, it was the most informative "being there" experience of my fellowship.

Only 20 minutes into the flight, we spotted a group of undocumented aliens waiting for rides into the interior just east of Interstate 19 between Tucson and Nogales. We dropped off the two spotters, and the helicopter rose to help them in the group. Once grouped together, they proceeded single-file to the nearest road so that the Border Patrol trucks could take them for processing and repatriation to Mexico.

The helicopter touched down again, and we watched as they were processed. We listened intently as a Mexican woman — who was with her 7-year-old daughter, Cillaly — answered questions. She was sincere in her desire to come to the United States in order to work to make a better life for her daughter. Additionally, we saw and talked to the humanitarian workers providing food and water.

The issue is so much more messier than some believe. It is certainly an incredibly important one given heightened homeland security concerns, yet there is no one line of argument which can win the day, or adequately address the issue. Neither the "kick 'em out and build a 20-foot concrete fence" crowd nor those who want a blanket amnesty for UDAs are right on this issue. It will take a difficult compromise that allows good people to come to the United States in order to contribute to — and benefit from — our economy while making sure that the bad guys get caught as they attempt to get in and wreak havoc.

The experience underscored the importance of getting out in the field. The making of public policy should not be merely a mental exercise performed at a desk in Washington. Going on these trips — despite the derision they might engender — is an important part of the governing process. The memory of looking into the eyes of a 7-year-old Mexican girl whose mom wants her to have a better life will always remind me of that.

(Mark Wrighton is an assistant professor of political science at the University of New Hampshire and has spent the past year in Washington, D.C. as a congressional fellow. He can be contacted at Cajunman@aol.com.)



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STATE



Beach closures reach new high-water mark

BY TIM MOLLOY
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES — The nation had a record number of beach closures and health advisories last year, the most in 15 years that the Natural Resources Defense Council has been monitoring them, according to a report by the group Thursday.

The increased numbers resulted from heavy rainfall and poor cleanup efforts in many areas, as well as better detection of pollution, according to the NRDC's annual "Testing the Waters" beach report.

The study found that the number of beach closures and advisories around the country increased to 19,950 last year, a 9 percent increase from the year before. It noted that beach closures hurt not only the environment and public health but also the economy, especially in towns that rely on tourism.

The main sources of the pollution were contaminated storm water and sewage that was not fully treated, said Nancy Stoner, director of the group's Clean Water Project. Heavy rains helped flush the contamination into the water, she said.

"We have a significant problem with human waste and animal waste in our waters," Stoner said. "The more we look for that pollution the more we find."

Beach authorities issue warnings when there is a level of bacteria in the water that can make people sick, and in some cases close shorelines to protect health, though different states have different standards on when to close, Stoner said.

California had a 26 percent statewide decrease in closures and warnings in 2004, but Los Angeles County had a record 1,469 closings or warnings last year — the most in the state — even as nearby Orange, San Diego and Ventura counties posted improvements.

The NRDC collected data from the Environmental Protection Agency, states and cities.

The report was released one day after the EPA said in a news release that improved water monitoring and state and local efforts to address pollution have made U.S. beaches "more-enjoyable places for Americans to play."

EPA figures show that the percentage of beaches with closings and advisories has stayed relatively steady since 2002. The findings do not necessarily contradict the NRDC study, which counted the number of closures and warnings, not the number of beaches affected by them.

The EPA said 942 of the 3,574 beaches it monitored in 2004 — or 26 percent — had at least one advisory or closing in 2004. By comparison, 709 of the 2,823 beaches monitored in 2002 had a closing or advisory — about 25 percent, EPA spokesman Dale Kemery said.

The NRDC said states with the biggest increases in closures and warnings included Texas, which went from 71 closures or advisories in 2003 to 834 last year, and Hawaii, which went from no recorded closures or advisories in 2003 to 1,169 last year.

Other states with significant increases included Washington, Maryland, Minnesota, Michigan, New York, and Illinois.

The NRDC chided Los Angeles County and 44 cities for filing five lawsuits opposing a plan by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board trying to force the county and cities to meet the board's requirements for dealing with run-off. The NRDC joined in the defense of the board.

A Los Angeles Superior Court judge dismissed the suits in March, but the county and most of the cities are appealing.

Howard Gest, an attorney for the county, said it has implemented all the programs requested by the board, including educating the public about pollutants, conducting inspections and collecting household hazardous waste. He said the county sued because it wanted to ensure that future measures by the board are cost-effective and technologically feasible.

Even as it criticized the county, the NRDC praised the city of Los Angeles for passing a bond last year dedicating \$500 million to reducing garbage, chemicals and bacteria that pollute rivers and beaches.

The NRDC study looked at closures in coastal states and territories, including Great Lakes states but not Alaska or American Samoa.



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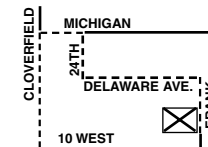
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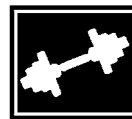
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Beefing in a bubble is researcher's plight

BY KATHLEEN HENNESSEY

Associated Press Writer

DAVIS, Calif. — In a white, tent-like "bio-bubble" on a farm near Davis, eight pregnant Holsteins are eating, chewing and pooping — for science.

"The ladies," as they're called by University of California researcher Frank Mitloehner, are doing their part to answer a question plaguing one of California's largest agricultural industries: How much gas does a cow emit?

The findings will be used to write the state's first air quality regulations for dairies and could affect regulations nationwide.

But before he explains how it works, Mitloehner wants one thing to be clear.

"We're not talking about flatulence," he says.

He emphasizes the point because his research has been dismissed as "fart science," a label he says doesn't do justice to the seriousness of his work.

There are more than 3 million cows in California, the vast majority living in the booming Central Valley, home to some of the most polluted air in the country. How much to blame the cows and how much to blame the cars for the bad air is no small concern.

Mitloehner's research has suggested that cows are responsible for far fewer of the compounds that contribute to smog, known as volatile organic compounds or VOCs, than previously thought, perhaps as little as half the amount.

That puts the air quality specialist and animal emissions expert in the middle of a heated dispute coming to a head Aug. 1, when the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District will announce its new emissions factor for cows—the amount of VOCs, in pounds, that a cow releases each year. The number will eventually determine which dairies must apply for air quality permits and invest in mitigating air pollution equipment.

"This is a multibillion decision," said Mitloehner. "It's not just a number."

Currently, regulators assume that a cow produces 12.8 pounds of VOCs a year.

But regulators, environmentalists and many in the \$4 billion dairy industry agree that the current emission factor, which is based on a 1938 study, is out of date.

A regulator for the air control district has proposed an increase to 20.6 pounds per cow. Industry groups estimate that number is around 5 pounds.

Mitloehner says he just wants to make sure the new number is based on science.

His solution was to recreate a cow's living conditions in a modern dairy and then seal it off.

In one experiment, eight cows spend two days in the space-agey, air-conditioned "bio-bubble." The large white structure houses a typical dry-lot corral, blanketed with dirt and, by the end of the experiment, manure. The cows are left to eat, chew and emit compounds while their every move is caught on video and the air is monitored by machines so sensitive they can detect one molecule out of a trillion others.

A similar test is conducted in a smaller environmental chamber simulating a typical stall with a concrete floor.

To Mitloehner's surprise, the first results from that study show the presence of smog-causing compounds dropped significantly after the cows left chamber, even though they left fresh manure behind.

"We thought it was the waste that would lead to the majority of emissions, but it seemed to have been the animals," he said.

The chief offender appears to be the ruminating process. After a cow eats, the food is briefly deposited in its bathtub-sized stomach. There it mixes with bacteria, begins to break down and produces methane, a greenhouse gas. About 20 minutes later, the food comes up again as cud. As the cow chews it, the methane is released into the air. The process also emits methanol and ethanol, both VOCs.

For some in the industry, the results indicate that dairy farmers who may be forced to mitigate pollution may be trying to fight nature.

"Is this something that we really want to do, try to regulate a living thing?" said J.P. Cativiela, a program coordinator for Dairy CARES, an industry-funded environmental group. "All living things have emissions, plants, animals, even, people. It absolutely makes sense to regulate the industrial part of a dairy, are we really seriously talking about regulating animals?"

Cativiela said changing a cow's food may prove to be more effective than expensive technologies. He and other industry advocates are concerned that regulators will call for expanded use of methane digesters. The digesters cover a dairy's lagoon of diluted waste, trap pollutants and create electricity. They also cost about \$1 million a piece, and industry groups argue their effectiveness is unproven.

Meanwhile, environmentalists contend that the import of Mitloehner's research has been exaggerated. They note that it tests only one of the many polluters on a modern, large-scale dairy.

"It doesn't take into account the lagoons that store the waste or the decomposing feed, the decomposing corn stored on a dairy," said Brent Newell, an attorney with the Center on Race, Poverty and the Environment.

San Joaquin regulators say Mitloehner's research is just one factor in the decision.

"The district's assessment is based on all of the science in total," said spokeswoman Jaime Holt. "It is not based on any one study, or any one process being measured."

Mitloehner agrees that his research should only be one of several factors being considered by regulators. But he's recently criticized the other studies being used by regulators, as well as how the district, which funded part of his research, is interpreting his findings.

He and other scientists have written letters to San Joaquin Air Pollution Control Officer David Crow expressing their concerns.

But for now, Mitloehner has returned to his bio-bubbles to continue researching other cow-related air quality problems, like dust and ammonia.

Someday, he and his students joke, he may like to use the bio-bubble to measure emissions from another polluter: the car.

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STATE BRIEFS

Mow 'em if you got 'em

By The Associated Press

PERRIS — Landscaping restrictions to meet future water needs are inevitable because of the housing boom in Riverside and San Bernardino counties, officials said. Delegates to the second annual Riverside County Water Symposium were told Wednesday that cutting back on outdoor water use by planting drought-tolerant gardens will have to occur on a grand scale to meet the needs of a burgeoning population. Supervisor Marion Ashley, noting Riverside County recently passed an ordinance calling itself a water-wise county, said outdoor water use accounts for 60 percent of a home’s water bill, and up to 80 percent in the Coachella Valley desert area. A landscape ordinance will soon be considered by the county, Ashley said. “It’s inevitable, these things are going to happen, they have to,” he said. A recent report estimated the state’s thirst for water will increase an average 40 percent by 2030, much of the water going for landscaping. A 62 percent jump is expected in Riverside and San Bernardino counties. Experts said lawns, tropical plants and other water-hogging vegetation will have to go.

School bell tolls for homeowners

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Residents don’t want to leave homes they’ve had for more than a half-century so the school district can build a new school in the Wilmington area. During a community meeting Tuesday at Banning High School, homeowners said they were angry the district plans to level homes to create a new kindergarten-through-8th grade school for 1,270 students. The district wants to relieve overcrowding at nearby campuses. Other alternatives should be explored, such as vacant and commercial properties, residents said. “You have had alternatives but you have chosen to ignore them. Is your mind so bureaucratically set you can only see destruction?” asked Jo Ann Wysocki, whose King Avenue home where she has lived for 63 years would be razed. The school district’s Rod Hamilton explained that a search for a Wilmington property has been challenging because of the environmental hazards posed by underground pipelines, active oil wells, high-voltage power lines and sources of air pollutants in the area. The four sites discussed Tuesday aren’t affected by those factors, he said. Eight sites previously considered were eliminated because of environmental concerns, location and other factors, he said. The district will recommend a site to the school board, which will then hold public hearings and decide on a site for the new school. “I just think we need to keep trying until we find a better site, or a different configuration of the school so that it doesn’t impact the homes,” Council member Janice Hahn said.

Game over? Residents oppose sports complex

By The Associated Press

OXNARD — The City Council’s plan to finance a \$15.2 million sports complex in College Park is encountering resident opposition. Critics are discussing ways to stop the project, including litigation or a ballot measure to either overturn Tuesday’s council decision or challenge plans to partly finance the complex with \$9 million in bonds. “We’re weighing our options,” said Bill Terry, a member of the Saviers Road Design Team, which opposes the project. Activist Martin Jones also said he plans to sue the city over its agreement with Big League Dreams of Chino Hills to operate the park. The city intends to pay for the complex of five baseball/softball fields through a combination of state grants, park fees and municipal bonds. Under terms of a 30-year contract, Big League Dreams will maintain and operate the 25-acre complex. Big League Dreams has guaranteed the city \$193,602 a year, and up to \$300,000 annually, beginning in the park’s fourth year of operation. Mayor Tom Holden defended the city’s decision, noting the council considered the matter for seven months, holding numerous study sessions and public hearings. “Unfortunately, there will be some who oppose the decision,” Holden said Wednesday. “It’s time to move forward.”

Rangers opt to grin and bear it

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Rather than shoot a gregarious bear cub with tranquilizer darts or bullets, Angeles National Forest rangers decided to close the Switzer Picnic Area where the cub had been mingling with picnickers. Families sitting at the Switzer tables were often joined by the 18-month-old cub, which helped itself to bits of hamburger and potato chips or rummaged around the trash bin. Picnickers would shout at the bear in an attempt to scare it off, but it just stared. “This one bear was getting, oh, very friendly with people,” acting district ranger Marty Dumpis said. “When they get to that point, they’re losing fear of people.” Threatening bears are usually shot with tranquilizer darts by state Department of Fish and Game officials who move the creature away from campgrounds and picnic areas. Rangers decided to try something different this time because the cub wasn’t threatening people. They shut down access to the picnic site northeast of La Canada Flintridge earlier this month. The closure is expected to last one more week.

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NATIONAL

House grants a considerable boost of energy

BY H. JOSEF HEBERT

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The House by a wide margin approved a mammoth energy plan for the nation Thursday that sends billions of dollars in tax breaks and subsidies to energy companies, but is expected to do little to reduce U.S. oil consumption or dampen high energy prices.

"It is not a perfect bill," said Rep. John Dingell, D-Mich. But he called it "a solid beginning" to diversifying future energy sources, improving the nation's aging electricity grid and fostering more energy conservation.

The bill was approved 275-156. Congress now awaits action by the Senate, probably on Friday. The White House said President Bush looks forward to signing it into law.

Facing public pressure to outline a direction for the nation's energy strategy amid soaring oil prices and high gasoline costs at the pump, Bush had called on Congress to give him an energy bill before lawmakers depart for their five-week summer recess.

The 1,725-page bill, the product of weeks of compromise between widely different versions approved by the two chambers earlier this year, would provide \$14.5 billion in energy tax breaks, much of it to traditional energy companies. It also provides money for promoting renewable energy sources and new energy technologies and measures to revitalize the nuclear power industry.

"This is a good bill for America," declared Rep. Joe Barton, R-Texas, a key author of the legislation.

But opponents called the legislation a giveaway of taxpayer money to large energy companies, including wealthy oil giants reaping record profits with crude oil near \$60 a

barrel and gasoline averaging well over \$2 a gallon.

"This bill is packed with royalty relief, tax breaks, loan guarantees for the wealthiest energy companies in America even as they are reporting the largest quarterly profits of any corporation in the history of the United States," complained Rep. Edward Markey, D-Mass.

"It is politically and morally wrong," he said.

The bill would funnel \$2.7 billion in tax breaks to the oil and gas industries and provide additional support in form of royalty relief, including \$500 million over 10 years for research into drilling in extremely deep areas of the Gulf of Mexico.

While emphasizing the president's enthusiasm for the bill, Energy Secretary Samuel Bodman acknowledged the administration was concerned about some provisions, including the level of subsidies for profitable oil companies.

"The oil and gas companies don't need incentives with oil and gas prices being what they are today," Bodman said Wednesday.

The legislation would be a boon to farmers. It requires oil refiners to double the use of corn-produced ethanol in gasoline to 7.5 billion gallons a year by 2012.

Among the provisions most apparent to consumers are its call to extend daylight saving time by one month and tax breaks for making homes more energy efficient and for hybrid gas-electric cars.

Bush has said that one way to help ease gas prices is for Congress to pass a comprehensive energy strategy. But the White House acknowledged that the legislation itself won't do much to reduce pump prices in the short-term.

"We didn't get into this overnight and we're not going to get out of it overnight," White House press secretary

Scott McClellan said Thursday.

"What this legislation will do is put us on a path to reducing our dependence on foreign sources of energy," he said. "It will help address those root causes that lead to higher energy prices and that is what is important."

Other major provisions in the legislation include:

— Subsidies and tax breaks for wind, geothermal and solar industries and technology aimed at making coal more environmentally friendly.

— New efficiency standards for commercial appliances from air conditioners to refrigerators.

— Requirement for utilities to meet federal reliability standards for the electric transmission grid, hoping to avoid future blackouts like the one in the summer of 2003.

— Easing the way for more imports of liquefied natural gas by giving federal regulators final say over import terminals.

— Spurring construction of new nuclear power reactors by offering loan guarantees and "risk insurance" against regulatory delays for the initial units to be built.

— A nationwide inventory of offshore oil and gas resources. Critics said they're concerned the inventory may lead to drilling in areas now off limits.

A provision that had passed the Senate to require the president to find ways to reduce U.S. oil demand by 1 million barrels a year by 2025 was abandoned because of strong opposition from House Republicans and the administration.

"We're going to have imported oil in our economy for a long time," Barton, a former petroleum engineer, told reporters, responding to criticism by some Democrats that the bill, despite its expansive reach, does virtually nothing to curtail growing U.S. oil demand.

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NATIONAL



Local agencies forming human smuggler squads

BY JACQUES BILLEAUD

Associated Press Writer

PHOENIX — Two local law enforcement agencies in metropolitan Phoenix have opened up special units devoted to cases against people who smuggle thousands of illegal immigrants into the state from Mexico each year.

The decision to assign a small group of employees in the Maricopa County Attorney's and Sheriff's offices to immigrant smuggling cases is an unusual move for local authorities, given the long-held notion that immigration is the sole province of the federal government.

Some state politicians frustrated with Arizona's porous border with Mexico and the costs of illegal immigration say the federal government hasn't done enough to confront illegal border-crossings. They say Arizona, the nation's busiest illegal immigration corridor, must do what it can to lessen the problem.

The squads in the two Maricopa County agencies were set up, in part, to enforce a new law that creates the state crime of human smuggling.

Maricopa County Sheriff Joe Arpaio said his six-person unit will target immigrant smugglers, not the people who cross the border illegally merely to work.

"We don't go after the addicts on the street," Arpaio said, likening his immigrant smuggling crackdown plans with his office's approach in investigating drug cases. "We go after the peddlers. Same philosophy."

Local and state authorities have long pursued cases against immigrants who violate Arizona law, but in the past, they haven't been able to arrest smugglers, unless they committed state crimes.

Even so, state authorities have conducted financial investigations of people connected to smuggling operations, such as 21 employees of used car lots who were charged last year with helping sell vehicles to smugglers.

The state also is working to establish a pilot project that would assign a dozen Arizona Department of Public Safety officers to assist local police and federal agents in immigration cases.

Like Arpaio, Maricopa County Attorney Andrew Thomas said his five-person squad hopes to not only put smugglers in jail, but also to reduce other crimes — murders, extortion, kidnappings — tied to illegal immigration.

"We will be able to have a multiplier

effect," Thomas said.

Unlike Arpaio, however, Thomas spokeswoman Krystal Garza said the prosecutor's office is considering whether to charge as co-conspirators illegal immigrants who sneak into the country for the purpose of working.

Arizona has been dogged by a heavy flow of illegal immigrants since the government tightened enforcement in El Paso, Texas, and San Diego during the mid-1990s.

While immigrants provide the economy with cheap labor, Arizona shoulders huge health care and education costs for illegal workers and their families.

Political pressure for the state to confront illegal immigration began mounting last year when voters approved a law that denied some government benefits to illegal border-crossers.

It continued when state lawmakers gave local and state police the power to arrest immigrant smugglers. The new law, which takes effect Aug. 12, also aims to confront the problem of immigrants and others being forced into labor or prostitution.

The Legislature didn't provide any additional money for police to enforce the law. Some officials have said the law will be of limited use because they don't have the time or money to build cases against smugglers.

Santa Cruz County Attorney George Silva, whose jurisdiction includes 50 miles of the U.S.-Mexico border, said federal agents are still in the best position to arrest smugglers. His office has a \$900,000 budget and eight attorneys to prosecute criminal cases.

"It's awesome that Andrew can open up a unit, but I can't afford it," said Silva, who will consider using the new law on a case-by-case basis if federal authorities can't prosecute smuggling cases.

One difficulty local authorities will face is taking into custody immigrants who aren't smugglers but are key witnesses in smuggling cases and have committed no state crimes.

"We can't hold those people because we don't enforce federal law," Arpaio said.

Elizabeth Gilbert, the attorney running Thomas' smuggling unit, said county prosecutors could ask their state counterparts to hold the witnesses.

Or they could ask federal authorities to make arrangements for the witnesses to remain in Arizona while the case is pending, Gilbert said.



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City bests affordable housing standard

IN LIEU, from page 1

Those supporting further financial analysis included Councilmen Bob Holbrook, Herb Katz and Bobby Shriver. Those hoping to put the new fee structure in place immediately included Councilmen Richard Bloom and Ken Genser, and Mayor Pam O'Connor.

Councilman Kevin McKeown was not present at the meeting.

The council's consideration comes on the heels of a presentation that indicated that City Hall hasn't kept promises made to voters that it would be consistent in the number of affordable housing units it produces for the past 10 years.

While Santa Monica, overall, has produced 2,208 units of affordable housing in the last seven and a half years — exceeding the region by 126 percent — City Hall has failed to be consistent in production, as promised to voters in Proposition R, according to information provided by Hamilton, Rabinovitz and Alschuler, the firm hired to help Santa Monica manage its affordable housing portfolio.

Proposition R — a measure approved in 1998 by Santa Monica voters requiring 30 percent of housing units constructed in the city each year to be affordable — has been met or exceeded five out of the last 10 years, according to HR&A. However, that rate of production has been declining steadily in the past few years, prompting elected officials to take action.

The City Council agreed in May that city staff should draft a resolution which

would increase the in-lieu fee for apartment developments from \$6.14 per square foot, a rate established in 1998, to \$26.08 per square foot citywide, an increase of 300 percent. Condominium development fees, which were \$11.01 per square foot in 2000, would be doubled to \$22.33 per square foot citywide.

Jim Kemper, acting housing administrator at City Hall, said developer "in lieu" fees comprised approximately \$500,000 of the \$12 million that went toward the affordable housing fund in Santa Monica last year. The vast majority of the affordable housing fund — \$9.2 million — came from re-development taxes accrued and distributed throughout Los Angeles County, which City Hall has no direct control of, Kemper said.

The council will re-address the issue in September when all seven members of the council can vote. If the new fees go into effect, they will be retroactive from any developments proposed beginning in May.

Shriver, who also made the same point at the May meeting, wanted staff to perform a financial analysis to determine what such a dramatic increase would have for development.

"I don't feel we're being accountable without a financial analysis of the matter, and I hoped staff would be back with something that gives us some sense of how this might play out in the real world," he said.

Attorneys Chris Harding and Ken Kutcher, who represent Santa Monica

developers, said the increases could be effective for City Hall. However, they echoed Shriver's thoughts that the City Council needed to "look before it leaps."

"Doing more financial analysis is a plain, sensible approach to the issue," Kutcher said.

However, there was gridlock among other councilmembers who opposed Shriver's suggestion.

"Further study often means putting it off," Genser said, indicating that the strength of the market was a good opportunity for City Hall to accrue the fees.

Allen Freeman, a developer with JSM Construction, Inc., a local development company, said the increases would likely not affect his firm, since it already takes the general approach of building affordable housing on site as opposed to paying the "in-lieu" fees.

"I understand why the city is doing it," Freeman said. "They are trying to increase the level of affordable housing, and I

think it will work."

However, Freeman noted other developers, who typically pay the "in-lieu" fees, may not be happy with City Hall's approach.

Kemper said it was difficult to speculate what effect increases to in-lieu fees might have on development in Santa Monica and the affordable housing fund since the two factors are inter-related. He said the fees could contribute significantly to the affordable housing fund if development continues at the same pace or increases, but he said an adverse effect of slowing development was also a possible result.

Katz opted to put off increasing the fees for a similar reason.

"Right now, the market is good, but we all know it will dip again, and when it does, I want to know what impact this change will have," Katz said.

No squirrel birth control

SQUIRRELS, from page 1

using the pesticide in late June.

LA County officials classify ground squirrels as communal rodents with fleas, which carry the bubonic plague — a health risk to humans and other animals when a field inspection reveals there are more than three per acre above ground, said Gail VanGordon, a supervisor for the vector-borne disease surveillance unit.

Exceeding this visual survey, VanGordon said the county conducted two in-depth inspections at Palisades Park in March, which revealed the number of below-ground burrows had increased from 46 to 146 in a matter of weeks. Since the ground squirrels frequently burrow together, that likely put their number well into the hundreds.

County officials informed City Hall the ground squirrel population had to be reduced to safer levels. City Hall managed to accomplish that using pesticide bait traps that decreased the number of ground squirrels, rats, mice and other rodents at Palisades.

According to VanGordon, the county conducted its last visual inspection of the park a month ago.

"We will continue to monitor the situ-

ation," VanGordon said.

Since it stopped using the pesticides a month ago, City Hall is not taking any measures to control the ground squirrel population at Palisades Park. City officials couldn't calculate the number of ground squirrels that have been killed due to the pesticide.

City Hall spokeswoman Judy Rambeau said if residents stopped feeding the ground squirrels, it might minimize their population growth. She said alternate control methods have been explored, but birth control is not available for ground squirrels.

PETA representative Mylie Thompson said in the letter to Mayor O'Connor that City Hall should be targeting fleas — not ground squirrels or other animals. Thompson suggested City Hall apply a flea powder around the bait traps that will only eradicate the fleas.

O'Connor said City Hall's efforts to keep the ground squirrel population down is a precaution against humans and pets being infected.

"The goal is not to eradicate the ground squirrel population, but to address a public health issue and get the ground squirrel population down to a natural level," O'Connor said in response to PETA's letter.

Three suspects arrested for fight

GANG FIGHT, from page 1

in the 1550 beach parking lot. Additionally, Santa Monica police received information from another hospital in Los Angeles that reported a stabbing victim, an adult black male of Los Angeles, who was attacked in the 1550 beach lot. The victim was stabbed in the upper torso. He is listed in stable condition, police said.

Several suspects were arrested, and have been identified as Marco Villalobos, 22, of Los Angeles; Pedro Villalobos, 23, of Los Angeles; and a juvenile who was transported to a juvenile detention facili-

ty. The suspects, all Hispanic, were each booked for attempted murder and gang enhancement with no bail, police said.

Additional suspects are being sought by police. They are described as black males, between 18 and 25 years old, police said.

The investigation is ongoing.

Anyone with information is encouraged to contact the robbery-homicide unit of the Santa Monica Police Department at (310) 458-8451, or the watch commander's office at (310) 458-8426. Callers who wish to remain anonymous also may call the We-Tip national hotline at 1-800-78-CRIME (27463).



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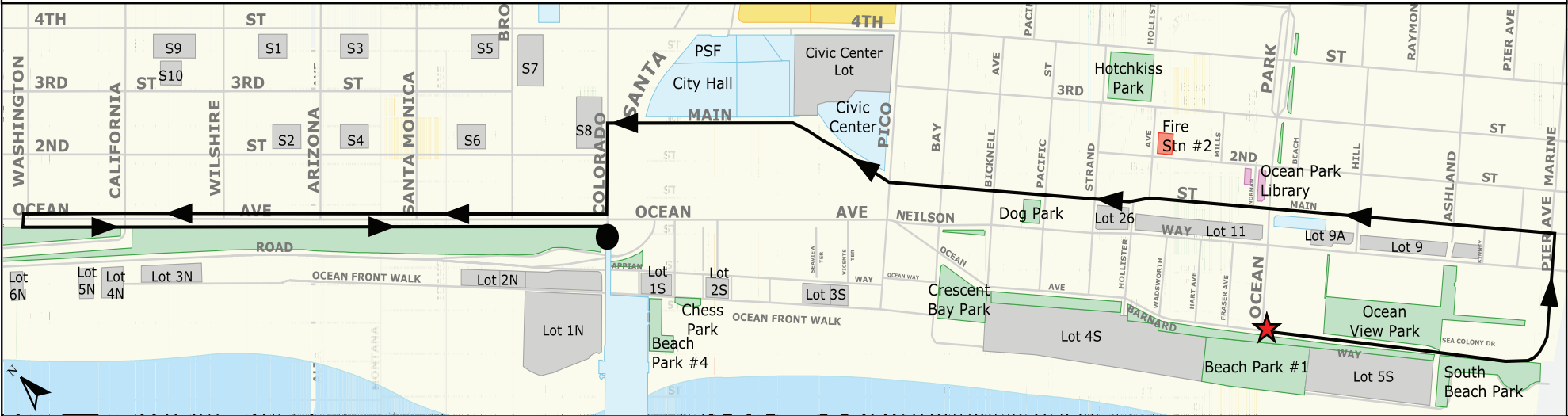
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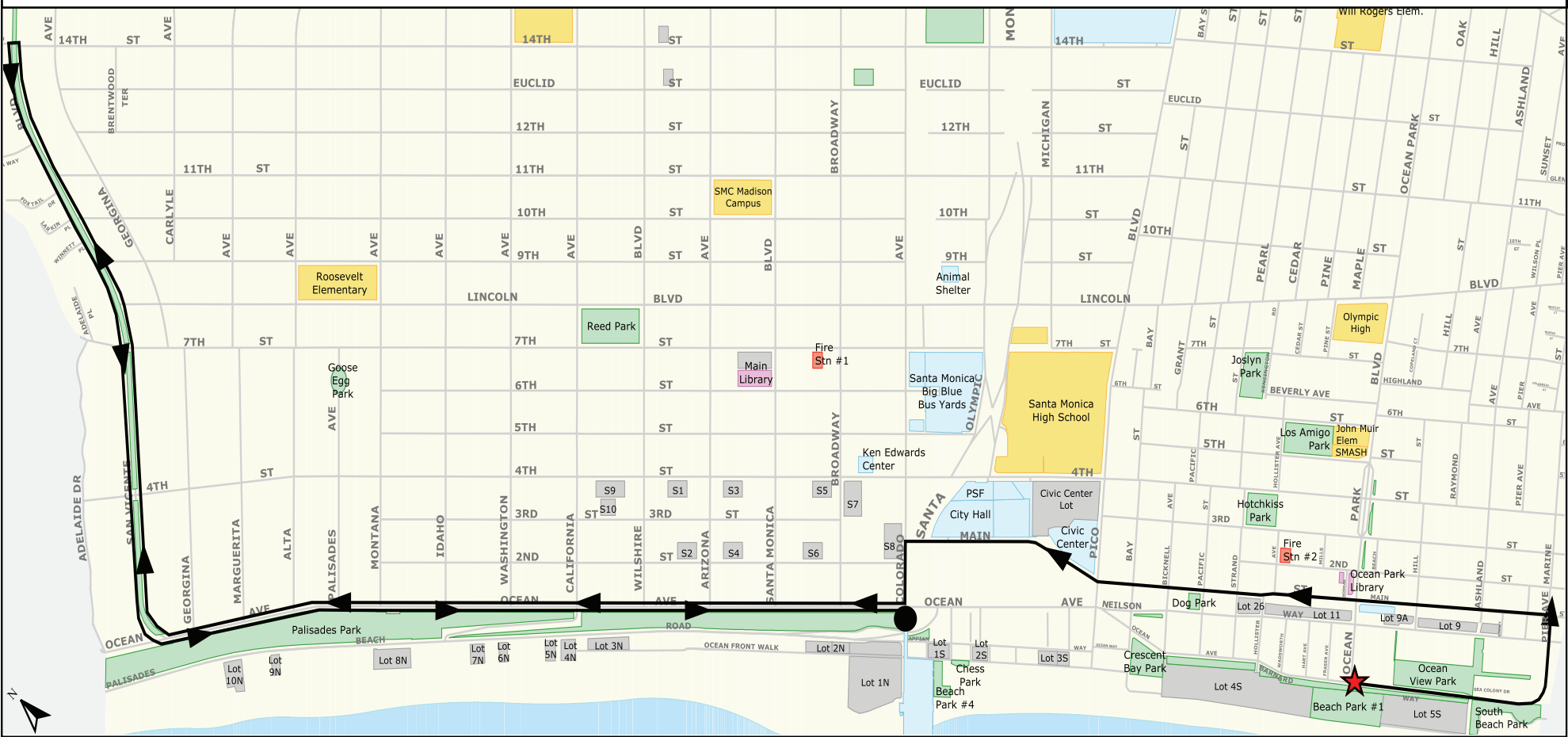
LOCAL



Proposed 5K Ocean Route:
Route begins at Beach Park #1 (Barnard Way at Ocean Park Boulevard) and continues south on Barnard Way, follows the bend to go east on Marine Street, north on Main Street, west on Colorado Avenue, north on Ocean Avenue to the 1000 block where participants will turn around and continue south on Ocean Avenue to end at the 1500 block of Ocean Avenue (before the entrance to the Pier ramp).



Proposed 10K Ocean Route:
Route begins at Beach Park #1 (Barnard Way at Ocean Park Boulevard) and continues south on Barnard Way follows the bend to go east on Marine Street, north on Main Street, west on Colorado Avenue, north on Ocean Avenue, east on San Vicente Boulevard to 14th Street where participants will turn around and go west on San Vicente Boulevard, south on Ocean Avenue to end at the 1500 block of Ocean Avenue (before entrance to the Pier ramp).



City currently hosts two races

RACE ROUTE, from page 1

paths would be shut down.

“Part of the reason may be that the existing routes don’t appeal to people right now,” said Trinie Garcia-Valdez, community use administrator at the office of open space management at City Hall. “But we frequently get calls from event organizers who are interested in running a race route with an ocean view.”

The new beachside route — if approved — would start along Ocean Park Boulevard, lead onto Barnard Way and run through Main Street, before wrapping around Ocean Avenue into Palisades Park. The track — set to accommodate 5K and 10K races — would eventually loop back around into the Santa Monica Pier entrance.

The proposal was supposed to be discussed Tuesday night at City Hall, but was pushed back by the City Council due to time constraints.

Though traffic concerns have been

raised, merchants along Main Street have voiced their support for the new route, hoping big races will attract new clientele.

“Anything that calls positive attention to the street is good,” said Gary Gordon, executive director of the Main Street Business Improvement Association, which represents about 400 businesses along Main Street.

“This brings people to the street and then hopefully they’ll discover new stores they haven’t been to, stores that are new to them,” he added.

Though the Main Street merchants have not yet officially endorsed the beachside route — which would cut through their business district — Gordon said he conducted an informal straw poll by e-mail.

“Not everybody has checked their e-mail, but the response so far has been positive,” Gordon said.

The proposal includes specific provisions to tame the influx of traffic expect-

“Part of the reason may be that the existing routes don’t appeal to people right now. But we frequently get calls from event organizers who are interested in running a race route with an ocean view.”

TRINIE GARCIA-VALDEZ
Community use administrator

ed on race days.

“We are trying to minimize the impacts on residents and neighbors,” Garcia-Valdez said. “Obviously, you can’t run a race in the city without affecting somebody, and we’re just trying to work it out in the least impactful way.”

Races are restricted to weekends between 7:30 a.m. and 11 a.m., when traffic is typically light. A maximum of four runs can be held on the beach route if it’s

approved, according to a city staff report.

Currently, the city is home to only two regular races every year, a number Garcia-Valdez expects to double if the beachside route proposal is passed.

Though race promoters are required to pay a nominal fee for permits — up to a couple hundred dollars per race — they also are faced with covering other expenses, including traffic control, bus rerouting, liability insurance and resident notices.

Entertainment

‘Aristocrats’ oldie, but goodie

BY DAN DUNN

Special to the Daily Press

Guy walks into a bar ... actually, it was a screening room, and he walked out with a big smile on his face, having spent the better part of 86 minutes busting a gut while some of the funniest people on the planet deconstructed and delivered variant versions of “The Aristocrats,” the world’s most ribald joke. The brainchild of come-

dians Paul Provenza and Penn Jillette (of Penn & Teller fame), “The Aristocrats” is a celebration of the comedic craft featuring the very biggest names in the business — George Carlin, Chris Rock, Whoopi Goldberg, Drew Carey and Robin Williams among them.

The joke itself is a sort of secret handshake among stand-ups that has been around for ages yet is rarely performed in public. It begins with a family pitching an act to a talent agent and ends with the punchline for which the

film is named. What comes in between is a blank canvas that the teller fills in with all manner of fecal matter, incest, bestiality, obscenity and violence. The film was shot at various locales — dressing rooms, TV sets, hallways — on consumer cameras without the benefit of elaborate lighting set-ups and sound equipment, and it has a definite after-hours, locker room feel to it. We’re seeing these people in their element, letting loose in a way one imagines they might when the cameras are off and they’re

amongst friends. Not only are the world’s biggest comics letting us in on the joke, they’re providing a clinic on technique and style. Highlights come from some unlikely sources, including Bob Saget, Howie Mandel and especially Gilbert Gottfried, whose hilarious rendition of the joke at a Friars Club banquet just weeks after the 9-11 tragedy literally had people rolling on the floor.

(Not rated. Running time: 86 minutes)

Evel doer: Knievel still rides, despite pain

By The Associated Press

BUTTE, Mont. — Former daredevil Evel Kniewel says health problems are now his biggest hurdle — to the extent that even his wife Krystal is wary to ride on his motorcycle.

“I hate to be Evel Kniewel and told by my wife she doesn’t want to get on a motorcycle with me,” he says.

Kniewel, 66, will ride Friday at the fourth annual “Evel Kniewel Days” in Montana. Since his wife won’t join him, though, Kniewel says he may have a blowup doll on the bike with him: “A naked blowup doll.”

Kniewel says he has been diagnosed with an incurable lung disease and has diabetes and hepatitis. He has constant pain from having steel plates in his back and screws in his ankle, the result of bone-breaking crashes during motorcycle jumps.

The stuntman says he still loves to ride the motorcycles that made him an icon. However, on a recent outing on a new fuel-injected road machine he had to flag down a passing motorist to help him turn the bike around on a two-lane highway.

Kniewel became famous in the 1970s for riding his motorcycle over everything from vehicles to alligators while wearing a red, white and blue jumpsuit. He retired from jumping more than 20 years ago.

HONG KONG — Moby says he has newfound respect for Eminem — who once mocked him in a song — because the rapper criticized President Bush and the war

in Iraq on his last album.

“I found myself respecting him for doing that,” Moby told reporters during a promotional stop in Hong Kong for his latest album “Hotel.”

Moby and Eminem have a long-standing feud. Moby has criticized Eminem’s lyrics as misogynistic. Eminem lashed out at Moby and electronic music in “Without Me” and spoofed him in the song’s video. He also called Moby a girl at the 2002 MTV Video Music Awards.

“Honestly, if he retired, I think the world of music would be a poorer place. He’s a really fascinating public figure,” Moby said.

Eminem bashed Bush and Iraq policy in his song “Mosh,” which said, “Let the president answer on higher anarchy. Strap him with an AK-47, let him go fight his own war.”

Moby said he still has qualms about some of Eminem’s lyrics but praised him as talented, saying, “I’d much rather have public figure musicians like Eminem because at least he’s exciting.”

The 39-year-old electronic musician said he welcomed Eminem’s public criticism of him, calling it free publicity.

“To have the most successful musician in the world dress up like you in a video and sing about you in a song — it was honestly some of the best publicity I’ve ever had.”

NEW YORK — TV personality Brooke Burke and her husband Garth Fisher have called it quits.

The co-host of CBS’s “Rock Star: INXS” and Fisher announced their separation in a statement issued to

People magazine Wednesday. The couple, who have been married since 2001, have two children.

“We are saddened to announce that we have mutually decided to separate after seven years together,” the statement read. “Although our careers have taken us in different directions the past few years, we have a great deal of respect for one another and remain committed to raising our two children together.”

Burke, 33, formerly hosted E!’s “Wild On” series. Fisher, a plastic surgeon based in Beverly Hills, has appeared on ABC’s “Extreme Makeover.”

NEW YORK — From Eva Peron to Mrs. Lovett.

Patti LuPone, who won a Tony Award for her performance in “Evita,” will portray the entrepreneurial meat-pie maker in a revival of “Sweeney Todd,” opening Nov. 3 on Broadway.

The production, which will also star Michael Cerveris as the murderous “demon barber of Fleet Street,” will be performed with only 10 actors, who will play all the musical instruments in the show. It will be directed and designed by John Doyle.

“Sweeney Todd,” which has a score by Stephen Sondheim and a book by Hugh Wheeler, originally opened on Broadway in 1979, with Angela Lansbury and Len Cariou heading the cast. It was revived 10 years later with Beth Fowler and Bob Gunton in the lead roles.

Preview performances for this new production, which originated in London last year, begin Oct. 3 at the Eugene O’Neill Theatre.



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Week that was in Tinseltown

BY VIC PLATINUM

Special to the Daily Press

HOLLYWOOD — Hello all you beautiful people out there! Vic Platinum, former child star turned THS cautionary tale turned stylist to the stars cum Hollywood gadfly, in the hizzy. Sweeties, I couldn't be more excited about this new venture, unless of course I were writing it from the aisles of Fred Segal during their annual midsummer clearance sale! And have I mentioned how much I love the exclamation point? Absolutely! Worship!! It!!!!

Lots to talk about this week, beginning with the remake of "The Bad News Bears." Haven't seen it myself because I hate sports like LA cops hate camcorders, but I hear that Billy Bob tosses back boocoo brews in the film. Guess this means he's finally off Atkins. Now if he would just do something about all that awful gray stubble ...

Overheard at The Ivy: Despite being in desperate need of a haircut (honey, the Romantics look went out with the Romantics and with good reason) Ben Affleck is still gorgeous and an absolute sweetheart to boot. Turns out, Ben is shopping around for projects he and Jen II can do together because he loves being around her that much. I just pray to Gawd he isn't thinking about doing a duet at the Grammy's!

Jude Law is in the market for a new nanny, and from what I hear about his, um, benefits package, there should be no shortage of eager applicants. Law's fiancé, Sienna Miller, however, would do well to try and lure Mrs. Doubtfire out of retirement.

Speaking of which, Robin Williams appears in the upcoming film "The Aristocrats," and critics are already describing his performance as "excessively hairy and perspirant." Well, that's how I'd describe it anyway. Williams also starred in a film called "Insomnia," a disorder, incidentally, that's easily cured by watching "Death to Smoochy."

This item came across the wire recently: "Forbidden fruit is always the most tempting. With so much of it — R-rated movies, mature-rated video games, and CDs slapped with parental advisory labels — dangling before teens' eyes, it's not astonishing that they don't want parents or guardians to keep it off the menu ... More than six in 10 teen respondents in the latest Gallup Youth Survey said parents and guardians should not keep teens from watching, playing, or buying these 'restricted' movies, video games, or CDs."

The complete survey results will be published in the upcoming issue of "Duh!" magazine.

A final thought: A Tom Cruise-Gary Busey buddy flick can't be that far off. Throw a chimpanzee into the mix and it could be one for the ages. Somebody needs to make this happen!!!!



THE IMBIBER

BY DAN DUNN

Interview ... always a good decision

In 1984 Jim Koch, then 35, founded The Boston Beer Company, whipping up the first batch of Samuel Adams Lager in his kitchen. He didn't know it at the time, but like his beer's famous namesake Koch was at the forefront of a revolution. It was called "microbrewing," and two decades later Samuel Adams boasts 18 different beer flavors and is the largest of the over 500 craft breweries in the country. So when Koch rang me up recently, needless to say, I immediately got off the other line (sorry, Mom).

Question: You abandoned a very successful career as a management consultant to start the Boston Beer Company. How's that working out for you?

JIM KOCH: Pretty good. I've gotten free beer for the past 21 years. That's every beer lovers dream.

Q: Six weeks after its introduction, Samuel Adams was named "Best Beer in America" at The Great American Beer Festival. Looking back, how important was that award in the development of the company?

JK: It was helpful, but after we won we immediately ran out of beer. Beer takes six weeks to make, and we were out of it for a month.

Q: Did you ever imagine it would be like this?

JK: Honestly, no. Today, the best place in the world to be a beer drinker is here in the United States. I had no idea that America would replace Europe as the best place in the world to be a beer drinker.

Q: What do you drink when you're not having beer?

JK: Diet Pepsi. And occasionally water.

Q: Do you wince when you see people drinking crappy mass-produced cold ones?

JK: I accept my dad's philosophy. He said, "All beer is good, but some are better."

Q: Have you seen the Samuel L. Jackson Beer ad on "Chappelle's Show?"

JK: Yes, and I thought it was great. I think we bought an ad on that program and ran the original commercial.

Q: "Utopias" is the latest of your "extreme" products — pricier, non-carbonated beers with rich flavor and high alcohol content. What drives you to keep experimenting?

JK: I don't believe that everything cool that you can do with the fermentation of malt has already been done. Somebody invented Champagne. Somebody invented cognac. Somebody invented porter and stout. I believe there are still great beers yet to be created, and extreme brewing is about finding the next great beers that people 300 years from now may figure always existed.

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NASA grapples with ongoing foam problem

BY MARCIA DUNN

AP Aerospace Writer

SPACE CENTER, Houston — Discovery seems to have been spared serious damage from the foam shrapnel that flew off the fuel tank during liftoff in an eerie repeat of the problem that doomed Columbia and appears in good shape for a safe return in just over a week, NASA said Thursday.

"Some good news is, it looks like all of the foam loss that we had from the tank did not hit the orbiter," flight operations manager John Shannon said a day after future shuttle flights were grounded because of the problem.

Shannon noted that all initial reports indicate "it looks extremely good and we don't have anything to worry about on Discovery." He cautioned that it will be another three days before the space agency can conclusively

give the shuttle a clean bill of health.

Earlier in the morning, NASA Administrator Michael Griffin said the space agency may never be able to prevent threatening chunks of insulation foam from breaking off the shuttle's fuel tank during launch.

"We are trying to get it down to the level that cannot damage the orbiter," Griffin told NBC's "Today." "We will never be able to get the amount of debris shed by the tank down to zero," he said.

NASA's growing confidence in Discovery's condition came after the shuttle did a somersault maneuver to allow the crew on the international space station to photograph the shuttle's belly for signs of damage. Discovery later arrived at the station to deliver long-awaited supplies and replacement parts. The shuttle will remain docked for a week and return to Earth on Aug. 7.

Griffin stressed in a statement late Wednesday that the current mission was a test flight and "among the things we are testing are the integrity of the foam insulation and the performance of new camera equipment installed to detect problems."

"The cameras worked well. The foam did not," he said.

The loss of such a large chunk of debris was a vexing problem NASA thought had been fixed and shattered the euphoria from Tuesday's shuttle launch, the first in 2 1/2 years. The redesign of the fuel tank was the focal point of the space agency's \$1 billion-plus effort to make the 20-year-old space shuttles safer to fly following the 2003 Columbia tragedy.

House Science Committee Chairman Sherwood Boehlert, R-N.Y., said NASA is handling the situation "exactly right."

"It doesn't appear that the mission is in jeopardy. Nothing is in jeopardy except the schedule. But I don't want to underestimate the seriousness of it in terms of the future," Boehlert said.

The three remaining shuttles are due to retire in 2010, and a new spacecraft is in the works. President Bush has a lofty plan for NASA to return astronauts to the moon by 2020 and eventually to Mars. It's unclear how the latest grounding might affect public sentiment for the space program.

It will add to the burden on the space station, which has been relying solely on Russia's much smaller spacecraft for crew and cargo deliveries, and experiencing equipment failures.

The piece of foam flew off Discovery's redesigned

tank just two minutes after what initially looked like a perfect liftoff, right after the booster rockets peeled away. In less than an hour NASA had spotted images of a mysterious object whirling away from the tank.

Mission managers did not realize what the object was until Wednesday after reviewing video and images taken by just a few of the 100-plus cameras in place to watch for such dangers.

Shuttle program manager Bill Parsons offered no excuses, saying, "You have to admit when you're wrong. We were wrong."

Engineers believe the irregularly sized piece of foam that came off was 24 to 33 inches long, 10 to 14 inches wide, and between 2 and 8 inches thick. It weighed an estimated 0.9 pounds, about half the mass of the 1.67-pound chunk that smashed into Columbia's left wing during liftoff. The plate-sized hole let in superheated gases that caused the shuttle to break up on its return to Earth on Feb. 1, 2003.

On Discovery, the foam broke away from a different part of the tank than the piece that mortally wounded Columbia.

Atlantis was supposed to lift off in September, but that mission is now on indefinite hold. Parsons refused to speculate when a shuttle might fly again, but did not rule out the possibility there may be no more this year.

Parsons said it was unlikely Atlantis would be needed for a rescue mission, in the event Discovery could not return safely to Earth and its astronauts had to move into the space station.

Wednesday's inspection of Discovery's wings and nose using a new 100-foot, laser-tipped crane turned up nothing alarming, but analysis was ongoing, Hale said.

In addition to the big chunk of foam, several smaller pieces broke off, including at least one from an area of the fuel tank that had been modified after Columbia. Thermal tile was also damaged on Discovery's belly soon after liftoff; one tile lost a 1 1/2-inch piece right next to the set of doors for the nose landing gear, a particularly vulnerable spot.

Deputy shuttle manager Wayne Hale said none of the tile damage looked serious and likely would not require repairs in orbit.

Imagery experts and engineers expect to know by Thursday afternoon whether the gouge left by the missing piece of tile needs another look. The astronauts' inspection boom could determine precisely how deep the damage is, and they will probably pull it back out Friday.

Defending champ is sent motoring from Mercedes Cup

BY TOM A. MCFERSON

Special to the Daily Press

Defending champion Tommy Haas of Germany on Wednesday was knocked out in the second round by unseeded Xavier Malisse 1-6, 6-3, 6-4 at the Mercedes-Benz Cup, ending any hopes of duplicating last year's performance.

"(Malisse) served really good I thought," Haas said after the match. "I don't think I've ever seen him serve that consistently well, plus with placement."

"(His serving) really probably won the match for him," he added.

After losing the first set quickly, Malisse started to find his game.

"I started serving better, started playing better, my backhand was better," he said. "I started to play more aggressive in the last two sets."

Malisse will now play Juan Ignacio Chela of Argentina in the quarter-finals, scheduled for today. The tournament continues through July 31 at the Los Angeles Tennis Center-UCLA

Andre Agassi, playing in his first tournament since losing his opening match at the French Open in May, was set to play unseeded American Kevin Kim on Thursday.

Three-time Los Angeles champion and eight-time Grand Slam king, Agassi is the No. 1 seed at the Mercedes-Benz Cup. Severely hampered by a sciatic nerve problem in his back and leg, Agassi had been forced to sit on the sidelines since May.

Second seed Dominik Hrbaty of Slovakia has rolled through his first two matches and now faces unseeded Ricardo Mello of Brazil. The two are scheduled to meet on the court today.

The tournament has been hit with a rash of last-minute player withdrawals, most importantly American Andy Roddick, who is out nursing a tender knee. Other player pull-outs include Taylor Dent (sick), Mardy Fish (wrist), Greg Rusedski (neck), and 2004 finalist Nicolas Kiefer (sick).

Wild cards were extended to James Blake, Cecil Mamiit and Paul Goldstein. Mamiit earned his wild card by winning Friday's All-American Shootout.

The Mercedes-Benz Cup presented by Countrywide features a 32-player singles draw and a 16-team doubles competition. Entering its 79th year, the landmark Southern California tournament is the longest running annual professional sporting event in Los Angeles, and offers total player compensation of more than \$1 million.

(Daily tickets are available. To purchase tickets, call (310) 825-2101 or 877 LA TENNIS. Tickets also can be purchased in advance at Ticketmaster and at the UCLA central ticket office. For information, call (310) 824-1010 or visit online at www.mercedes-benzcup.com.)

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House narrowly OKs Latin trade agreement

BY MARY DALRYMPLE
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — President Bush insisted that the small trade agreement with six Latin American nations would pay big dividends for security, stability and freedom in the Western Hemisphere. After persistent lobbying by the White House, Congress finally agreed.

It took personal visits from the president and vice president, along with strenuous arm-twisting from Republican leaders, before the House passed the Central American Free Trade Agreement early Thursday by a two-vote margin, 217-215.

The House vote, supposed to take 15 minutes, dragged on for an hour as negotiations swirled around the floor among GOP leaders and rank-and-file members reluctant to vote for the agreement. In the end, 27 Republicans voted against CAFTA, while 15 Democrats supported it.

The Senate approved CAFTA last month 54-45, and it now goes to the president for his signature.

It was a major victory for the Bush administration, which had to fend off claims by critics that the pact would harm American workers.

"CAFTA helps ensure that free trade is fair trade," the president said in a statement following the vote. "By lowering trade barriers to American goods in Central American markets to a level now enjoyed by their goods in the U.S., this agreement will level the playing field and help American workers, farmers and small businesses."

Peter Allgeier, deputy U.S. trade representative, said Thursday that congressional

approval of the pact give a boost to American attempts to advance global trade talks.

In an interview with The Associated Press in Geneva, Allgeier said the agreement "gives us a huge lift in terms of the negotiations."

The current round of global trade talks is meant to pay extra attention to the interests of poorer countries as World Trade Organization members slash subsidies, tariffs and other barriers to global commerce.

The accord eventually eliminates tariffs and other trade barriers between the United States and Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and the Dominican Republic. The countries signed the trade deal a year ago.

Those nations join Australia, Chile, Singapore, Jordan and Morocco in seeing free trade agreements approved during Bush's time in office.

White House press secretary Scott McClellan said Salvadoran President Tony Saca called Bush and congratulated him on the victory in passing the legislation.

The president took some political risk placing the relatively small trade pact at the top of his economic agenda. He and numerous administration officials advertised the agreement as a tool to give fragile Latin American democracies the opportunity for stability and prosperity.

House Republican leaders prevailed over mostly Democratic objections that the agreement leaves American workers vulnerable to losing their jobs, and Latin American workers vulnerable to laboring without employment protections.

Roadside bomb kills a pair of U.S. soldiers in Baghdad

BY TINI TRAN
Associated Press Writer

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Insurgents launched coordinated attacks Thursday against Iraqi army checkpoints northeast of Baghdad, killing six Iraqi soldiers, police said. Roadside bombs killed two U.S. soldiers and ignited a train carrying fuel in the south of Iraq's capital.

The attacks began about 2:30 p.m. against four Iraqi checkpoints along a road near Baqouba, 35 miles northeast of Baghdad, police Col. Mudhafar Mohammed said.

Attackers fired automatic weapons and rocket-propelled grenades during the attacks, he said.

There was no report of insurgent casualties.

The attacks occurred a day after a total of three American soldiers died in two separate bombings — one in Samarra, 60 miles north of the capital, and the other in northern Baghdad. Two U.S. soldiers died in the Baghdad attack.

On Sunday, four American soldiers from Task Force Baghdad were killed when their vehicle ran over a roadside bomb in southwest Baghdad.

As of Wednesday, at least 1,782 members of the U.S. military had died since

the beginning of the Iraq war in 2003, according to an Associated Press count.

On Thursday, a train carrying fuel exploded when it was hit by a roadside bomb in southern Baghdad, killing two people and wounding six others, police said.

The attack, which sent a massive cloud of smoke over the southern part of the city, occurred in the southern neighborhood of Dora, an area where insurgents are known to be active, police Lt. Thaer Mahmoud said.

The bomb appeared to have targeted a nearby police commando checkpoint, Mahmoud said.

One of those killed and four of the injured are security force members, he said. The rest were civilians.

It wasn't clear if the train, which was heading south, also was the target.

Most of the wounded suffered serious burns, Thaer said.

An Internet posting in the name of al-Qaida in Iraq, the country's most feared terror group, claimed responsibility for the train attack.

The violence came a day after al-Qaida said it killed two kidnapped Algerian diplomats because of Algeria's ties to the United States and its crackdown on Islamic extremists.

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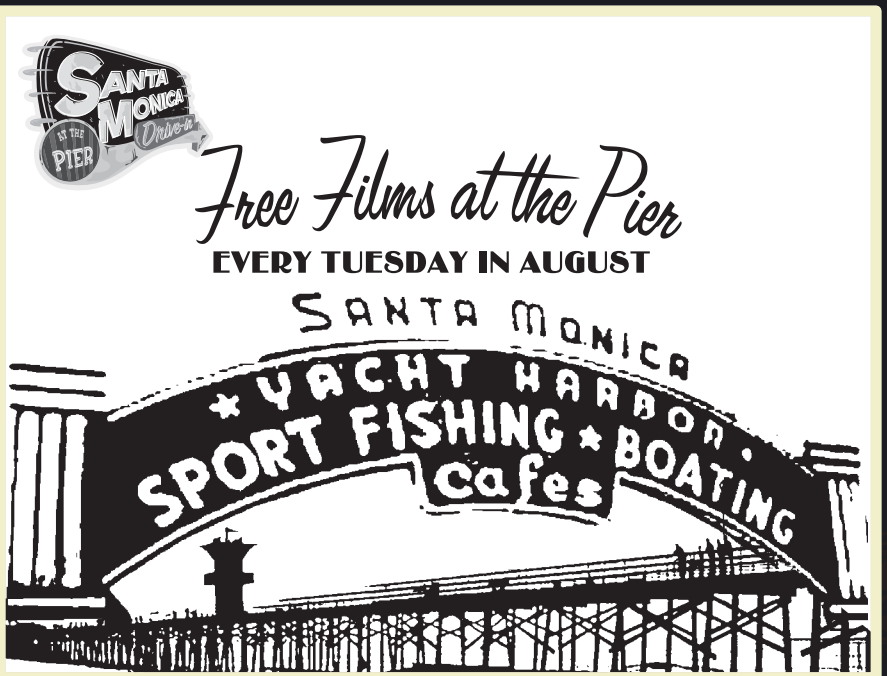
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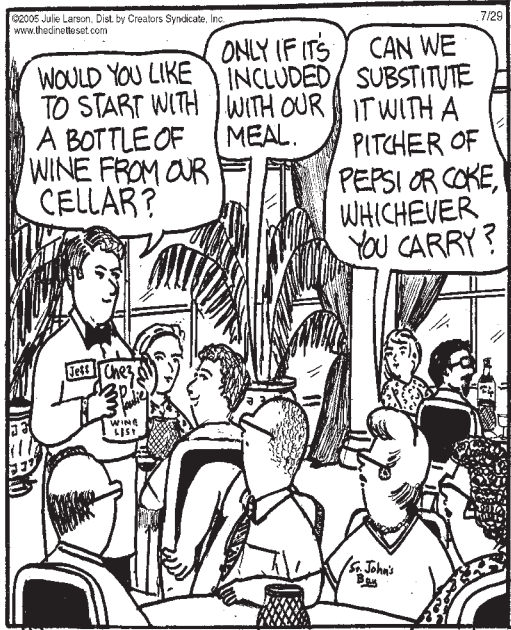
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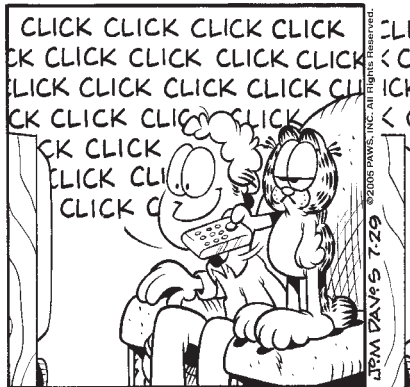


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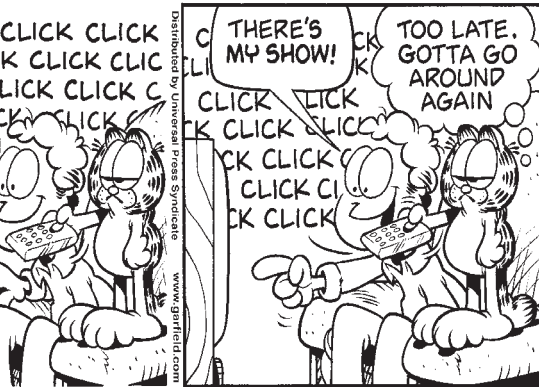
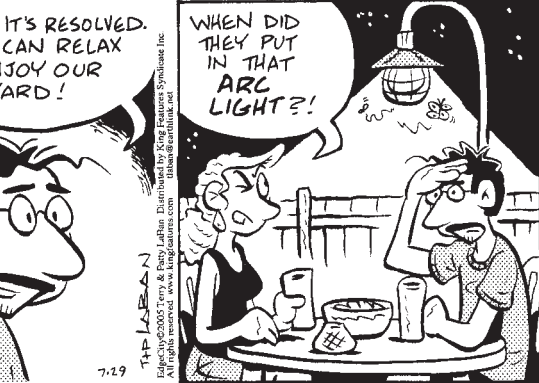


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- 17 Go down
- 19 Oppo-nents
- 22 Some trucks
- 24 Line
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- 28 Shirt part
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