

FREE

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Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

Ex-SMPD officer sues city for racketeering

BY ANDREW H. FIXMER
Daily Press Staff Writer

A former Santa Monica police officer is suing the city and eight high-ranking officers — including the police chief — for conspiring to damage his career.

The newly amended lawsuit alleges officer John Biel was terminated and later reinstated, only to be denied overtime pay and subjected to other “harassing activity,” which Biel alleges resulted in his developing a disabling case of high blood pressure and forced him to leave the department last year.

Biel states in his lawsuit that police chief James T. Butts, Jr., along with some of the department’s senior officers, conspired to create a stressful working environment for him to allegedly make him more obedient in an internal affairs investigation looking into overtime practices.

Biel’s original lawsuit, filed in Beverly Hills Superior Court on Jan. 9, 2001 by the police officers union, said the termination violated Biel’s First Amendment rights.

However, Los Angeles Superior Court Judge Lisa Hart Cole threw out the suit last month for having no legal basis.

Judge Cole allowed Biel’s attorney, Tim Vrastil, to re-file the lawsuit with new claims that are better supported by Biel’s arguments.

Vrastil now argues the alleged conspiring between Butts and his senior officers constitutes violations under the Racketeer

Influenced and Corrupt Organizations, or RICO, statutes. The statutes are commonly used by federal prosecutors trying organized crime figures, and not municipal police officers.

“We have alleged people have taken over a legitimate organization and turned it around into a corrupt institution,” Vrastil said.

“We have alleged people have taken over a legitimate organization and turned it around into a corrupt institution.”

— **TIM VRASIL**
Attorney

Police department spokesman Lt. Frank Fabrega said as a matter of policy, he could not comment on Biel’s lawsuit.

“We don’t comment on pending litigation,” he said.

Deputy City Attorney Barbara Greenstein, who is handling the case, said she will file a response to the new claims within 30 days.

“I have no comment on what they have filed,” she said. “I just got it today and I

haven’t had time to study it yet.”

The 44-page complaint chronicles alleged abuses of power by the police department since 1991, when Butts was hired as the police chief. However, less than a third of the complaint deals with how Biel was personally wronged.

Vrastil said that’s not because of any grudge Biel may have against the department, but rather because he must establish a pattern of racketeering activity.

“It has to be pled this way,” he said. “Two-thirds of the brief is how you proper-

ly plead a RICO cause of action and those have to be pled with great specificity.”

Biel said he was guaranteed overtime pay for attending an awards ceremony in 1997 when he received a pin marking five years of service with the department. At the time of the ceremony, Biel had worked for the department for more than 10 years, the lawsuit states.

According to the complaint, when Biel tried to claim overtime pay, the request

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History on the move



Rick Laudati/Ocean Park Community Organization
City preservationists convinced city officials to store this 1880’s-era shotgun home at a vacant lot at the Santa Monica Airport. It was moved from Second Street to the airport over the weekend.

Santa Monica girl victim of attempted kidnapping

BY ANDREW H. FIXMER
Daily Press Staff Writer

Santa Monica Police nabbed a Sylmar man within hours of him attempting to kidnap a young girl in an eastside neighborhood on Sunday.

Christopher Dean, 48, has been charged with attempted kidnapping after he tried to lure a 7-year-old girl into his car while she bought ice cream from an ice cream truck on the 1800 block of 17th Street.

SMPD responded to the area at 7:18 p.m. after they received reports from several eye witnesses who saw Dean trying to lure children into his vehicle.

The girl — whose identity is being withheld — was among a crowd of young children gathered around the ice cream truck when Dean allegedly drove his car up to the group and tried to lure the girl into his vehicle, police officials said.

Police said when Dean failed to lure the girl into his car, he then allegedly attempted to lure another young female into the vehicle.

Witnesses told police Dean drove away but then returned. This time, however, a parent attempted to stop him to get more information on him and what he was up to. Police said Dean then drove his car toward the parent in an attempt to flee.

A witness was able to obtain a description of Dean, his car and its license plate number, police said.

Santa Monica detectives were contacted and they immediately tracked Dean’s license plate. Within a few hours, detectives found Dean at his home in Sylmar, south of Magic Mountain in the San Fernando Valley. He was arrested and taken to Santa Monica Jail.

Dean faces one count of attempted kidnapping and is being held on \$500,000 bail.

Selling Hollywood on Ohio

By The Associated Press

CLEVELAND — How do you persuade Hollywood executives, who think of the Midwest as having little more than factories and farms, to come to Ohio to make movies?

That’s the challenge for Chris Carmody, who heads the Greater Cleveland Media Development Corp. — better known as the Cleveland Film Commission.

Carmody admits it’s a tough sell. A complicated permit system at City Hall hampers efforts, as does the fact that Toronto — only five hours north of Cleveland — offers competitive tax rebates and a low exchange rate that cuts cost.

But perhaps most difficult is the fact that Cleveland doesn’t register on most studios’ radar screens.

“In L.A., there’s a sense that the Midwest, except for Chicago, is a factory surrounded by cornfields,” he said. “The question we hear most often is: Is there a body of water near Cleveland?”

See OHIO, page 6

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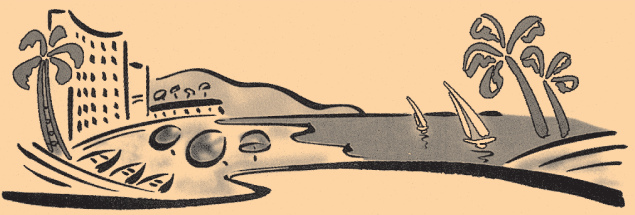
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♈ ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★★ Knowing more of what you want helps you consider another's perspective. Reach out to those at a distance. Find an expert if need be. Express more of your opinions. You'll get strong feedback as a result. Discuss new ideas with people whose minds you respect. Tonight: Whatever makes the Ram happy.

♉ TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ Take your time responding to another's comments. You might want to think through both an associate's and a family member's feedback. You're presented with many different perspectives, whether you're prepared for it or not. Tonight: Do some hard evaluating.

♊ GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ Meetings help you gain a perspective on different associates and, possibly, friends. You might not always understand what others are up to. Laugh and lighten up about what is going on. Keep the communication flowing. Tonight: Do what you want.

♋ CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Continue to handle your work with discipline. You might not recognize what an important role you are in. Be direct with your finances. Don't hold back right now, especially if you want feedback. Listen to a co-worker. Tonight: Don't push.

♌ LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ Don't hold back, but rather express more of what's on your mind. You want others to hear your opinions. Reach out for others at a distance. You also might need to get an expert opinion. Tonight: Movie time.

♍ VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★★ Dealing with others continues to be unusually successful, if you continue on a one-on-one level. Realize more of what is important to you in a relationship. You might be uncomfortable dealing with a domestic matter, but you can't avoid it. Tonight: Dinner for two.

♏ LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ Others hold the cards, but that doesn't need to be a problem. Find the right time and place to express your point of view. You might want to phrase your words in an appropriate way for those around you. Express your adaptability. Tonight: Go along with plans.

♐ SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★ Use your instincts to follow through with work and finances. You might need or want to restructure your finances or handle them differently. Absorb a boss's ideas without deciding whether he or she is right or wrong. Explore your options. Tonight: Ask for a back massage.

♑ SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ Be playful and fun-loving. An associate lets you know what he or she thinks, which might help you get past a barrier or some rigidity. A child or a potential loved one plays coy. Express what you think here. Tonight: Pretend it's the weekend and delight another.

♒ CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★ If you need to stay home, do so. Perhaps you might enjoy another's approach to a situation. Feedback clears the air. Exchange ideas with a partner or associate. You both gain from brainstorming. Tonight: Happy at home.

♓ AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ You have a way of saying things that stops others short. As a result, an associate feels free to express many of his or her ideas. A meeting could develop into a lot more. Go with the flow and worry less about having everyone agree or like you. Tonight: Out and about.

♐ PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ Curb spending, even if a bonus or pay raise is in the wind. The smart Fish waits until the funds appear. A reorganization at work might be forthcoming. Don't worry, but understand that you also might be carrying a bigger load. Tonight: Pay your bills.

QUOTE of the DAY

“When the going gets tough, the smart get lost.”
— Robert Byrne

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LOCAL



Trust adds 40 new acres to preserved recreation area

BY JESSE HALEY
Special to the Daily Press

Above the city of Calabasas, a convoy of half-full black SUVs snaked up a windy, private fire road, chauffeuring land preservationists, environmentalists and public officials to tour their newest acquisition.

The Mountain Restoration Trust recently bought 40 acres in the Santa Monica Mountains to ensure that they will never be developed.

Dubbed Secret Valley after the Secret Trail, which runs through the plot of rocky desert, the parcel brings MRT's acquisitions to more than 4,400 acres since its inception in 1981. The property will be maintained under the MRT and California State parks, and will be used by recreationalists.

Secret Valley lies adjacent to MRT's principal holding, the Cold Creek Preserve, a 540-acre property home to one of the Santa Monica Mountains' rare, year-round streams. The gated entrance to the Calabasas/Cold Creek Trail is located at the one mile marker on Stunt Road, four miles east of Malibu, off of Mullholland Drive. Two and a half miles up the rocky, hard packed fire road is Secret Valley.

Fair market value for the property is estimated at \$2 million. MRT president Stephen Harris, a veteran of the real estate business, negotiated the deal so MRT would pay \$500,000 in cash and accept a charitable donation of \$1.5 million by the owner.

A majority of MRT's acquisitions depend on tax deductible donations.

California State Parks, Land and Water Conservation Fund, the federal Recreation Trails Fund, the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy and the County of Los

Angeles helped MRT acquire the property. In January 2002, the MRT had 800 acres of land in escrow, under contract, and in negotiations for acquisition.

A non-profit corporation, the MRT funds its projects through federal and state grants, and contributions from its board members and supporters. The organization is the largest non-governmental land owner in the Santa Monica Mountains. Of the 4,400 acres MRT acquired in about 300 transactions, the MRT owns and maintains 2,000 acres.

The MRT was established jointly by the California State Coastal Conservancy and the California Coastal Commission. Its mission is to preserve the Santa Monica Mountains for use as a recreational destination, a protected park where millions of LA County residents can enjoy hiking, mountain biking and equestrian trails.

More than half of the 150,050 acres in the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area is privately owned. The area includes 500 miles of trails and hosts 30 million visitors a year. At night, wildlife uses the trails to move between open lands.

Environmentalists say the threat of development jeopardizes more than the principal and scenic landscape of the area — it also would make an irreversible impact on a delicate ecosystem, officials say.

"It's per square mile, the most unstable environment (in California)," Harris said.

Building codes call for the clearing of trees and underbrush for 200 feet around new homes to limit fire danger. The removal of the natural root structure of native brush leaves the ground loose, increasing erosion and the potential for land slides, environmentalists say.



Photo courtesy of the Mountain Restoration Trust

The forty preserved acres of the Secret Valley Acquisition lie along the mountainous Cold Creek Trail above Calabasas.

LA County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky recognized MRT's progress in resisting commercial development and preserving the local ecosystem.

"If you're going to build anything in this part of town, it's going to be a fight," he said. "This is our cathedral. This was made for us and handed to us as a legacy."

The Q-Line

It seems that one by one, Santa Monica's old-school institutions are leaving town. Places like Midnight Special Bookstore on the Promenade, the Aero Theater on Montana Avenue, the Santa Monica Playhouse on Fourth Street and the Boathouse restaurant on the pier, have either closed up, are closing up or may close up.

Many people cherish these places not just because of what they provided, but because they collectively make Santa Monica what it is — a funky, cool beach town.

But as these long-time businesses continue to disappear, many people wonder what Santa Monica is becoming.

So this week Q-Line wants to know:

"Is Santa Monica losing its soul? Why or why not?"

Call (310) 285-8106 with your response before Thursday at 5 p.m. We'll print them in Friday's paper. Please limit your comments to a minute or less; it might help to think first about the wording of your response.

surf report

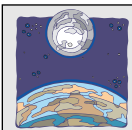
Information compiled by Jesse Haley

From Venice to Manhattan Beach, expect waves in the two and three-foot range as the south/tropical dies down. Southwest swell peaks; fast, powerful, chest-high surf hitting at County Line and Zuma.

Best spots still see overhead sets around high tide.

Surf should remain mostly the same Wednesday, similar heights and conditions thanks to consistent mix of fading south swell and southern hemisphere swell.

Paradise cove and Santa Monica's Wilshire storm drain sport "C" beach advisories, but other spots look clean with temps in the high 60s.



Today's Tides:

High-	1:06a.m.	3.96'
Low-	7:56a.m.	1.23'
High-	2:43p.m.	4.17'
Low-	9:02p.m.	2.36'

Location	Tuesday	Wednesday	Water Quality
County Line	2-4'/Fair	2-4'/Fair	A
Zuma	3-4'/Fair	3-4'/Fair	A
Surfrider	2-3'/Fair	2-3'/Fair	A
Topanga	2-3'/Fair	2-3'/Fair	A
Breakwater	2-3'/Poor	2-3'/Poor	A
El Porto	2-3'/Fair	2-3'/Fair	A

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OPINION

LETTERS

Thanks for the memories

(This letter was originally written to Rufus Baker).

Editor:

Your column “Do you remember Santa Monica in its hey day?” is wonderful. My husband was born and raised in Santa Monica (67 years ago). I was raised in West Los Angeles from the age of 1 1/2. (almost as long ago). We remember all of these things that you write about. It brings back such wonderful memories of how Santa Monica use to be. We lived here as a family from 1956 to 1996. We then sold and moved to Playa del Rey. I still work here for the Santa Monica-Malibu school district.

The good old days are gone, but not forgotten. I am sharing your article with many old friends who I know will enjoy and laugh about many of the things mentioned.

Again, thank you.

Maggie Hanson
Santa Monica-Malibu USD

The city holds double standard on rents

Editor:

Though I no longer live in Santa Monica, I read your paper regularly and was disgusted when I read of the pending increase in rent for the Hot Dog On A Stick stand. Again we see the city’s attitude of “do as I say not as I do” in regards to rent control. As a landlord I have intentionally avoided owning rental property in Santa Monica for this exact reason. While the property owners are unable to raise rents on their units and must follow mind-numbing and often bizarre ordinances should they wish to remodel or rebuild, the city council seems to see itself as above its own laws and is continuing to use a double standard.

I would like to share an argument made to the Santa Monica City Council way back at the inception of the rent control ordinance by my father, who has re-told the story

to me many times over the years. He pointed out to the council that what they were doing was restricting an individual’s return on his investment (the property) to the 3 percent annual increase.

“We must protect the renters and less fortunate,” they replied. “OK” my father said, “that’s a great idea. Then we should also restrict the return from all bank accounts and stock investments of all Santa Monica residents to 3 percent regardless of how well they are doing and then use the excess to help the less fortunate.” “Oh no” replied the council, “you can’t do that! You can’t take away the profit from our investments and portfolios.”

“But you’re doing exactly that to the landlords,” was his reply.

What we have is a need for people to provide housing. What we also have is a group of people with capital to invest as they wish. By restricting their return on their investment to 3 percent, the council basically says “go invest in something else you can actually profit at.” Landlording is a time-consuming and expensive investment but someone has to own the apartments in the city. Individuals who could just as easily open a money market account with a higher annual return have decided to provide housing and charge a fee for it. What rent control does is essentially force the landlord to pay part of his tenant’s rent every month. What if every resident in the city had to chip in \$400 a month to help out? It wouldn’t happen. But as it stands it is only a small group shouldering this burden.

Karmically, one should not triple a tenant’s rent, but this choice should belong to the person whose credit rating and financial well being depends on the stability and profitability of his investment. A final thought. If the landlords all went bankrupt and the city took over, do you think for a second that they would restrict themselves to the same rules they apply to private owners?

Scott Baron
Landlord and former Santa Monica resident

A witch hunt on Santa Monica’s Beach hotels

(Editor’s note: This is one of a series of weekly columns editorializing on the hotly contested living wage ordinance. The city council passed an ordinance last July requiring businesses that generate more than \$5 million in annual revenue to pay their employees \$12.25 an hour. Those businesses and their supporters have asked for the ordinance to be rescinded, which is before voters this November.)

When I began this column two months ago, I invited supporters of the city’s Minimum Wage Ordinance to respond so that a dialogue might prove informative to the voters. However, no one has chosen to do so.

Those supporters have now submitted their ballot argument which will appear in the booklet voters will receive later this year. Assuming it reflects the contentions you will be hearing from them over the next few months, it will do as a substitute for a direct response to my points, at least until they submit something to this newspaper. Organizers who support the living wage effort have been asked to provide counter points but have declined to do so for the moment.

Judging from the rhetoric in the ballot argument, supporters of the ordinance

would like you to believe it’s all about fancy hotels paying poverty level wages. This complete fabrication is not surprising of course since the law’s proponents have spent the last three years demonizing Santa Monica’s beach hotels as if this were Salem, Mass. in 1692 and the hotels were accused of witchcraft. Although the reasons differ, the strategy is the same. And, of course, the truth is quite different for a variety of reasons, one of which is discussed in this column.

Santa Monica has six high-end hotels: Casa del Mar, Shutters on the Beach, Loews, Le Merigot, the Fairmont Miramar and the recently reopened Viceroy. Employees in the last two are represented by the Hotel

Employees and Restaurant Employees Union, Local 814; the first four are non-union, although Local 814 has waged an extensive and unsuccessful organizing campaign at Loews over the last few years.

While the law’s proponents, driven by Local 814, are busy whipping up hysteria over the four non-union hotels, they have failed to mention that those hotels pay wages equivalent to those which the law would require while the two union hotels have not necessarily done so.

For example, compare the wage levels during 2001 at Casa del Mar with those

contained in the 2001 union contract for the Viceroy:

JOB CATEGORY		Casa: \$6.25	Viceroy: \$6.58
<u>Housekeeping Supervisor</u>		<u>Bellman</u>	
Casa: \$12.91	Viceroy: \$9.15	Casa: \$6.25	Viceroy: \$6.83
<u>Room Attendant</u>		(Some of these employees receive a substantial portion of their income from tips that are not counted under the ordinance.)	
Casa: \$10.50	Viceroy: \$8.15	Both Casa del Mar and the Viceroy undoubtedly provide good benefit packages for their employees. However, even if you add the \$1.75 the law allows for health benefits and the \$1.15 increase the Viceroy contract provided employees for 2002, a total of \$2.90, the wages at the Viceroy are still generally below the \$12.25 required by the ordinance, particularly for tipped employees.	
<u>Houseperson</u>		This is not to say that the Viceroy union contract is a bad one; it may contain other benefits of value to employees. However, non-union employers would not be given credit under the ordinance for higher or additional benefits. But it does demonstrate that an argument in favor of the ordinance consisting of an attack on the four non-union beach hotels is simply spurious and should be viewed as rhetorical nonsense.	
Casa: \$10.50	Viceroy: \$8.15	So when you see or hear it, recognize it for what it is.	
<u>Steward</u>		(Tom Larmore is a Santa Monica resident and a property rights attorney.)	
Casa: \$10.50	Viceroy: \$8.15		
<u>Front Desk Agent</u>			
Casa: \$12.38	Viceroy: \$10.30		
<u>Cook</u>			
Casa: \$12.43 (average)	Viceroy: \$9.42		
<u>Cashier</u>			
Casa: \$10.76	Viceroy: \$7.92		
<u>Engineer</u>			
Casa: \$10.54 (average)	Viceroy: \$10.07		
<u>Bartender</u>			
Casa: \$10.00	Viceroy: \$7.80		
<u>Busser</u>			
Casa: \$8.20	Viceroy: \$6.75		

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LOCAL



Officer alleges gross abuses of SMPD power

SUIT, from page 1

was denied. Along with another officer, Biel was told that "there is a significant problem with the overtime procedure and that so many officers are receiving unauthorized overtime that it has become a problem," the complaint states.

In April 1997 an internal affairs investigation was launched to determine why Biel asked for overtime at his own service celebration. Biel claims in his lawsuit that he told investigators he was informed by Capt. Mark E. Smiley he was eligible for overtime pay, and he presented investigators with a list of witnesses to verify his statements.

However, investigators never spoke to any of Biel's witnesses, the lawsuit alleges.

Instead, Biel says Smiley was allowed to retaliate against him for being named in the investigation. Smiley removed Biel from his position as a "Field Training Officer," a bonus given to longtime officers for training new cadets. The "demotion" cost Biel a 5 percent reduction in pay, the lawsuit states.

Biel said the "demotion" was rescinded the following day when no wrongdoing could be cited.

After the incident, the lawsuit states the police department changed the way longtime officers are chosen to participate in the field training officer program — which was to exclude officers who cooperated with Biel and rewarded those officers loyal to Smiley and Butts, Biel claims.

The Police Officers Association, the union representing Santa Monica's officers, requested to "meet and confer" about the new system, which was not resolved until Biel's medical retirement in

2001. After that, the original field training officer program was reinstated, according to the complaint.

Based on the internal affairs investigation's report, Butts attempted to discipline Biel for his overtime request, but Biel objected to the punishment and demanded an arbitration hearing.

"I have no comment on what they have filed. I just got it today and I haven't had time to study it yet."

— BARBARA GREENSTEIN
Deputy city attorney

According to the complaint, an arbitrator found Biel had been authorized overtime pay. Despite the finding, Butts appealed the decision to the city's personnel board, which upheld's Biel's claims.

In retaliation for winning the arbitration award, Biel said Butts ordered Capt. Philip L. Sanchez to leak sensitive information from Biel's personnel file to a woman contesting a traffic ticket Biel had issued her in 2000.

At the woman's hearing, Biel said he was surprised with her knowledge of his confidential file. He refused to answer any questions that were asked of him about his career with the department.

See SUIT, page 6

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CrimeWatch

Woman robbed at gunpoint in broad daylight

■ A woman sitting in her car was robbed at gunpoint on Thursday, July 18.

Just after 4 p.m., the victim parked at the 600 block of Euclid Street when a man approached her car, pointed a handgun at her and took her purse and cell phone.

The suspect is described as a white male in his 20s, 5' 10" tall with a medium build and wearing a light colored T-shirt.

He escaped in a gray or black car.

■ A Montana man visiting the Santa Monica beach was robbed at gunpoint Tuesday, July 16.

The man was walking along the 1000 block of the beach at 11:30 p.m. when three guys approached him. One suspect drew a semi-automatic pistol and demanded all of the victim's money, about \$55 in cash.

The three suspects took off on foot.

The first suspect is a male Hispanic 17-18 years old, 5' 6" tall, thin, and wearing a dark blue hooded sweatshirt, police said.

The second suspect is a male Hispanic 17-18 years old, 5' 10" tall, thin build and wearing a blue and white plaid shirt and dark baggy pants.

The third suspect is a male Hispanic 17-18 years old, 5' 6" inches tall, wearing a dark blue baseball cap.

■ A Ralph's Grocery Store employee was unable to hold a shoplifter, but he recovered the car the criminal allegedly stole.

At about 11:30 a.m. on Monday, July 15, an employee of Ralph's at the 1600 block of Cloverfield Boulevard watched a man steal a loaf of bread and some meat, police said. The employee grabbed the shoplifter in the parking lot, but the would-be thief dropped the goods, broke free and ran down Colorado Avenue.

Santa Monica police arrived and the employee pointed out the car the suspect drove to the store with. The Chevy Silverado was reported stolen by the Los Angeles Police Department, police said.

The suspect is described at a white male, 37 years old, 5' 11" tall, 240 pounds with blonde hair, blue eyes and wearing a blue polo shirt.

The case is under investigation.

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LOCALSTATE

Suit claims harassment

SUIT, from page 5

Biel says after the traffic hearing, Butts used the court transcript to further discipline him in June 2000 by saying Biel did not answer questions that could have helped the woman's case.

Meanwhile, Biel was attempting to adopt two Hispanic children, one who had been sexually abused and another that suffered from chronic lung disease, hepatitis, autism, cerebral palsy and mental retardation.

"Butts, knowing that the adoption procedure was underway, opted to terminate plaintiff based upon the internal affairs investigation of the (court hearing) matter on the basis that (Biel) misled (the woman) by not volunteering additional information that would have been of assistance to her in opposing the citation," the complaint alleges.

Biel said Butts knew that a termination would negatively affect his ability to adopt the children, yet he suspended Biel from

duty until a termination hearing was held.

However, the lawsuit states at the termination hearing, the matter was dismissed and no personnel action was taken. Biel did not attend or make a statement, and no new information that was not contained in the original internal affairs investigation — which Butts had relied on in signing the Notice of Intent to Terminate — was disclosed.

After Biel was returned to duty, he said he was informed he was no longer eligible for overtime assignments. Biel says no reason was given explaining his disqualification.

The stress and worry over the adoption — which was recently approved — caused Biel so much stress that he experienced episodes of high blood pressure. As similar "harassing" activities continued, Biel's high blood pressure ultimately resulted in a disability retirement in 2001.

The lawsuit does not specify the damages Biel is seeking.

Ohio tries to be more 'hip'

OHIO, from page 1

Apparently the commission is doing well educating Californians about the location of Lake Erie. Since the commission was founded in 1998, direct expenditures by media production companies have grown from \$1.74 million in 1998 to \$10 million in 2001.

Last year was a big year, with local shoots of Warner Bros.' "Welcome to Collinwood," Fox Searchlight's "The Antwone Fisher Story" and Good Machine's "American Splendor," based on Cleveland writer Harvey Pekar's comic books.

This year, films shot in the area include part of Paramount's "Against the Ropes," starring Meg Ryan, and Tag Entertainment's "Miracle Dogs." With commercials and TV productions added in, 45 projects were shot in the area.

The commission operates on an annual budget \$450,000, with the city of Cleveland and Cuyahoga County each contributing about a quarter of the money, the state about an eighth and the remainder from the private sector and philanthropies such as the Gund, Cleveland and Lennon foundations.

Film production means money and jobs for the cities where they're shot. According to the film commission, 75 to 100 local crew members are hired for each film in Cleveland.

The rest of the money goes to expenses like hotels, rental cars, equipment and catering. All taxable goods, Carmody points out.

He says a media industry in Cleveland also would provide something harder to quantify. "It would make Cleveland a hip place to live," he said.

Carmody is a Cleveland native who attended St. Ignatius High School and Oberlin College. He tells The Plain Dealer he considered moving to Los Angeles to work but decided to stay, working on former Mayor Mike White's campaign and later serving as White's special assistant for education.

Carmody estimates the commission staff spends half its time getting permits and taking care of other city logistics.

"Welcome to Collinwood," filmed earlier this year, had 62 locations. Each location required between two and seven separate permits, for everything from street obstruction to parking vehicles.

Carmody's goal is to eventually make Cleveland as big a film center as Wilmington, N.C., or Austin, Texas. Each of those cities attract about \$75 million a year in direct expenditures from filmed entertainment.

To grow, though, Cleveland needs more skilled crew members. The commission is working with Cuyahoga Community College and the Cleveland Institute of Art to increase education in filmmaking.

"If Cleveland can give young people training in new media, then the idea is to cultivate them and make sure they're connected with jobs," Carmody said. "It's something that we believe Cleveland can be a significant player in — if we move now."

Asteroid impact with Earth ruled out for 2019

By The Associated Press

PASADENA — Astronomers said Monday they have determined that a newly discovered, 1.2-mile-wide asteroid will miss the Earth in 2019.

Last week, preliminary calculations of the orbital path traveled by asteroid 2002 NT7 suggested the space rock had about a 1-in-250,000 chance of plowing into the Earth on Feb. 1, 2019. Such an impact would cause devastation on a continental scale.

Follow-up observations during the weekend showed that the asteroid and the Earth will not meet — at least for now, according to NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

Astronomers initially calculated at least seven potential impact dates beginning in 2019. Only one — Feb. 1, 2060 — has yet to be ruled out, but astronomers expect to dismiss that threat as well after more observations of the asteroid are made.

STATE



Town pioneers research on wastewater and trout

BY DON THOMPSON
Associated Press Writer

ARCATA — A soft odor of raw sewage permeates the air, competing with the sharper salt smell of the Pacific Ocean.

Humboldt State University student Mike Shoemaker tosses fish food pellets into two wastewater ponds, which burst into a simmering boil as nearly 10,000 steelhead trout and coastal cutthroat trout roil to the surface.

Shoemaker is wearing a "Flush with Pride" T-shirt, featuring a fish leaping out of an open toilet — the official logo of the Arcata Wastewater Aquaculture Project.

It's believed to be the only one in the world studying the use of wastewater to grow oceangoing freshwater fish, though studies elsewhere have centered on everything from catfish to carp.

"Those are really hardy fish, where trout are really known to be sensitive. So a lot of people don't even try it, but we haven't found any problems," said Kristine Brenneman, a Humboldt State fisheries biologist who also heads the city's wastewater utilization program.

The sewage-raised trout emerge clean of all the nasties, including significant levels of cholera and fecal bacteria, Brenneman said.

Indeed, research by graduate student Andrew Jensen found steelhead hatchlings raised in wastewater filtered through the treatment center's marshes grew significantly larger, were more likely to survive and had fewer abnormalities than those raised in Arcata's drinking water, which picks up higher copper levels while passing through pipes.

Wastewater, by contrast, "is very high in nutrients," Brenneman said.

The research holds potential for hatcheries that grow great numbers of notoriously finicky salmon and steelhead to replenish natural stocks, said Brenneman and Jensen.

Each year the university already releases into the wild several thousand wastewater-raised fish that aren't needed for research.

But the thought of using wastewater to raise thousands of fish that people may eat is innately troubling to Americans, Brenneman acknowledged, although other cultures have used human waste for fish and fertilizer for centuries.

The U.S. Department of Interior sent representatives to inspect the project this spring, and Minnesota flew out observers last summer. Other hatcheries have also toured the program.

If wastewater-raised fish never catch on in the United States, the research could help in other countries that have a scarcity of water and protein, Jensen said.

"It's all controversial," said Brenneman. "We just do the experiments; if anyone wants to do it commercially, they can."

Until a few decades ago, cities saw nothing wrong with pumping raw sewage into wetlands.

Since the mid-1960s, however, the state and federal governments have gone to great lengths and expense to protect wetlands from sewage.

In 1975, Arcata residents were confronted with plans for a new sewage treatment plant that would drastically raise their sewage rates. So they proposed building their own plant that would use the marshes to help filter wastewater before spilling it into Humboldt Bay.

Research by Humboldt State University professor emeritus George Allen, who started the aquaculture research project in 1971, helped convince the state that the marsh-treatment was not only safe, but beneficial.

All the fish died during Allen's first attempt to raise coho. By 1977, however, he successfully released 12,000 coho, some of which returned to spawn as adults. He continued experimenting through the late 1990s, with increasing success, though the program has since switched from endangered salmon to steelhead and cutthroat.

But proposals for "ocean-ranching" salmon at the wastewater treatment plant

"Those are really hardy fish, where trout are really known to be sensitive. So a lot of people don't even try it, but we haven't found any problems."

— KRISTINE BRENNEMAN
Humboldt State fisheries biologist

were rejected due to opposition by both commercial fishing and environmental groups, as were previous proposals by two commercial fish hatchery projects, Allen writes in a trilogy of reports entitled "Aquatic Hoop Dreams Revisited."

Arcata's pioneering use of wetland filters for wastewater, completed in 1986, has since spread around the world, wherever it's warm enough so the marshes don't freeze in winter.

The system was several times cheaper than the proposed mechanical sewage treatment system that Arcata residents rejected. And with it, Arcata got a wildlife and recreation area frequented by bird watchers, joggers and dog-walkers, and thousands of waterfowl.

Through the mid-1990s, Allen hosted annual fish barbecues where his students snacked on their research subjects with no ill effects.

More recently, the only ones eating the wastewater-raised fish are otters that sampled the captive population until researchers installed netting and an electric fence to keep them out.

While Shoemaker is satisfied there is nothing wrong with the fish, he and other researchers still can't stomach the idea of eating them.

But it's not because the fish have grown up in human waste.

It's because after raising the fish from eggs to adulthood, he said, it's as if "they're your children."

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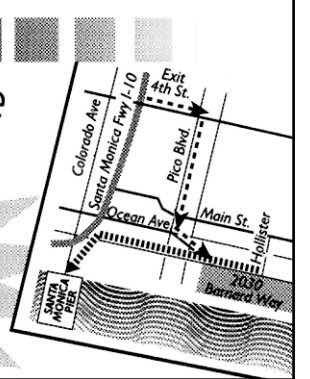
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BUSINESS

Dot-com darlings: worth more dead than alive?

BY MICHAEL LIEDTKE

AP Business Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — Investors thought Internet software maker BroadVision Inc. was worth \$23 billion in early 2000, more valuable than Sears, Roebuck & Co. and many other hallowed names in corporate America.

With a market value of just \$98 million Monday, BroadVision can't even persuade investors that it's worth the \$111 million sitting in its bank accounts.

This "trading below cash" phenomenon is an unwelcome development facing more high-tech companies as their sagging shares sink to new depths. It indicates investors have reached a chilling conclusion about BroadVision and some other once-beloved Silicon Valley companies: they might be worth more dead than alive.

The list of forlorn tech companies with market values near or below their bank balances also includes Inktomi Corp. and Ask Jeeves Inc., which sell online search services, and Commerce One Corp., which makes software designed to help other businesses buy and sell supplies online.

At their peaks, Inktomi's market value stood at \$25 billion while Commerce One's was at \$21 billion and Ask Jeeves' at \$5.5 billion. As of Monday, Inktomi's market value had shriveled to \$87 million, Commerce One's had plunged to \$133 million and Ask Jeeves' had dropped to \$41 million.

In both bull and bear markets, it seems, investor emotion can override logic.

In the good times, it was hard to understand how a company like BroadVision — a maker of business software that helps handle online customers — could be worth more than Sears. Now, it's hard to fathom how BroadVision and other companies can be worth less than the cash they have in their accounts.

If investors continue to shove the stock values of high-tech companies below their bank balances, their boards of directors will be forced to make some tough choices, said David Kathman, an analyst with Morningstar.

In one scenario, a board might decide to liquidate the business rather than spend any more of the company's cash, as online grocer Webvan did in July 2001 when it shut down with nearly \$40 million in cash.

A company with more cash than stock value also might be a takeover candidate for a bidder looking to close it down and pocket the remaining money.

Such a takeover bid would more likely come from corporate insiders than opportunistic outsiders because liquidating without management's cooperation "would cost more money and cause a lot of hassles," Kathman said.

"These are all ongoing concerns, so it's not like you can just flip a switch and turn everything off."

BroadVision, Inktomi, Commerce One and Ask Jeeves all have business plans that still envision the companies making a profit before they run out of money. The executives carrying out those plans have assured investors they will be rewarded over the long haul if they remain patient.

But the market seems to have little hope for these companies.

By valuing the stocks near or below the remaining cash, investors have basically concluded that the companies' products, employees, intellectual property and other assets have little or no value.

Forced to make do with the cash they have left, unprofitable companies that have already laid off employees and closed divisions have few alternatives left when it comes to boosting share prices.

Traditional methods, such as buying back stock, aren't viable options, since they need to conserve their cash to stay alive.

Both BroadVision and Commerce One are resorting to reverse stock splits. This significantly reduces the number of outstanding shares, boosting the stock price without affecting the company's market value. Such a move is widely viewed among investors as the last gasp of a dying company.

BroadVision and Commerce One are turning to reverse splits for more desperate reasons. The companies are counting on the reverse splits to boost their stocks above \$1 per share so they won't be delisted from the Nasdaq Stock Market.

Reverse splits often backfire. Just the mention of a reverse split frequently drives away even more investors who figure the business must be doomed if management can't find any other way to increase the stock price.

The reverse splits are ironic for BroadVision and Commerce One. Both companies substantially increased their outstanding shares through a series of traditional stock splits made during the late 1990s.

BroadVision plans to execute its 1-for-9 reverse split on Tuesday. Commerce One will ask shareholders to approve a 1-for-10 reverse split in September.

Guide released to help keep SSN private for businesses

By The Associated Press

SACRAMENTO — The state Office of Privacy Protection released a guide Monday to help California businesses comply with a new law that aims to keep Social Security numbers private.

"The Social Security number has a unique status as a privacy risk," said Gov. Gray Davis. "It's the key to the vault for identity thieves."

The law went into effect this month and prohibits businesses from posting or displaying Social Security numbers, printing them on identification cards, or requiring people to transmit the numbers over the Internet unless the connection is secure.

All businesses must comply with the requirements for every new customer since July 1, 2002. For existing customers, businesses can continue their former practices unless the consumer requests otherwise.

Health care businesses are exempted from this deadline, but will phase in the new law between January 1, 2003, and July 1, 2005.

NATIONAL



Town natives to Census: We count, despite what you say

By The Associated Press

SEARCHLIGHT, Nev. — Don't tell the local bartender, the grizzled old miner or the real estate agent who prides herself on selling her hometown that the U.S. Census doesn't count them as Nevada natives.

Mary Ann Myers McInnis, 62, a bartender and blackjack dealer at the Searchlight Nugget, the town's gathering spot and largest employer, can point to where she was born.

"It was in a little old shack right across the street," she told the Las Vegas Review-Journal.

Searchlight — a dusty town on U.S. 95 about 60 miles south of Las Vegas and 20 miles north of Laughlin — has abandoned mines, two casinos, a highway crossroads and the home of the second-ranking Democrat in the U.S. Senate.

But according to the 2000 Census, no one who lives there was born in Nevada.

That comes as news to U.S. Sen. Harry Reid, D-Nev. "Senator Reid lists Searchlight as his residence, and

he was born there, so we know there's at least one," said Sharyn Stein, a Reid spokeswoman. Reid recently built a new home in town and is listed to vote there.

Campbell Gibson, a demographic adviser in the Census Bureau population division, termed the survey results from Searchlight surprising and puzzling.

One problem: the census said Searchlight has 576 residents, but long form returns suggested there were 768 people in town.

"It's disturbing that it's that far apart," Gibson said.

Diane Kendall, a Realtor in Searchlight, said she believes the town's population is closer to 1,000.

One is retired miner Terry D. Hudgens, who was born 87 years ago in Cherry Creek, Nev., in White Pine County. He has called Searchlight home, on and off, since first grade.

Another is David Pinkerton 17, who works at a McDonald's restaurant inside a new convenience store and gas station in town. He was born in Las Vegas, but has lived in Searchlight all his life.

"There's a lot of families and a lot of kids who were born here," said Kendall, the real estate agent. She was born 40 miles up the road in Boulder City.

"I would really like to know how they tally this up," she said, "because it doesn't make any sense."

Gibson and Jeff Hardcastle, Nevada's state demographer, said mistakes in the census Profile of Selected Social Characteristics for Searchlight probably resulted from sampling.

The Census generally sends detailed long form surveys to about one in every six households in the country. That would be about 74 homes in Searchlight.

Unlike the short form sent to most people, the long form asks details including income, disability status and place of birth.

Gibson said more people in Searchlight might have returned long form questionnaires than expected, producing a statistical overcount.

He tried to compare 2000 census data to 1990, but hit a snag.

"I don't even see Searchlight designated as a place," the census official told the Review-Journal, noting that the 1990 Census didn't include detailed surveys from towns with fewer than 1,000 people.

Gibson blamed data showing no native Nevadans in Searchlight on simple bad luck.

The census found 21 percent of Nevadans were born in the Silver State. The number was slightly lower for Clark County, at 19 percent.

Relieved



Gene Puskar/Associated Press

Leslie Mayhugh, center, whispers to her father, rescued miner Tom Foy, right, as fellow rescued miner Randy Fogle, left, watches during a news conference at Conemaugh Health System's Memorial Medical Center in Johnstown, Pa. on Monday. The two were trapped with seven other coal miners in a mine for three days over the weekend. Leslie's husband was also one of the trapped miners.

Eight-year-old kidnapped, sexually assaulted in own yard

By The Associated Press

CONWAY, Ark. — An 8-year-old girl was roused from her bed by a stranger who told her the house was on fire, then sexually assaulted in her yard as her family slept.

Bobauk Akhau, 20, was arrested just hours after the Sunday assault about five blocks from the girl's home, police Maj. Mark Elsinger said. He was charged with burglary, rape, public intoxication and kidnapping.

"This guy is our main suspect in the case," Elsinger said. Police said they knew of no connection between Akhau and the girl's family.

The girl's abductor "went to her bedroom and told her the house was on fire and they had to get out," Elsinger said. "She asked about her parents, and he said they'd meet her outside."

Elsinger said the girl told police that she and the man tried to wake her younger sister, who was sleeping next to her, but the girl would not wake up. The man then led her to the side yard where he assaulted her, Elsinger said.

"He left. She went inside," he said. "She woke up her parents."

Elsinger said the girl was in good condition Monday.

Akhau is in jail without bond until an arraignment Aug. 12.

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NATIONAL

Powell: US troops will stay and stand guard in Asia

BY GEORGE GEDDA
Associated Press Writer

BANGKOK, Thailand — The United States is committed to keeping troops stationed in Asia to guard against nations that might have "aggressive intent," Secretary of State Colin Powell said Monday.

Powell mentioned North Korea, a country that he said has been following an "incorrect path." The United States generally maintains about 100,000 troops in Asia, based both on land and at sea.

The forces, Powell said, help ensure stability in the region.

The assurances were made during an interview with a local television outlet as Powell neared the end of an 18-hour visit here.

Powell flew to Malaysia Monday night for talks with Prime Minister Mahathir Mohamad and other officials. On Tuesday, he will travel to Singapore for a three-hour visit before flying on to Brunei, where he plans to meet more than a dozen Pacific rim foreign ministers.

North Korean Foreign Minister Paek Nam-sun is expected to be among them. Pyongyang sent a message to the Bush administration late last week expressing interest in renewing long-stalled talks with the United States.

This has produced speculation that Powell or his top deputy for Asian affairs, James Kelly, may meet with Paek in Brunei.

But U.S. officials said it was still unclear whether such a meeting would take place.

There have been no substantive discussions between the United States and North Korea since late in the Clinton administration.

Powell arrived here Sunday night after weekend visits to India and Pakistan. He is on a six-nation Southeast Asia tour, focussing mainly on expanding cooperation in the war against terrorism.

Diplomats meeting in Brunei have been working on agreements to curb financial transfers by terrorist groups and on expanding overall cooperation to deter terrorists.

They have been haggling for days over the wording of the latter agreement. Powell said he expected the differences to be overcome by the time of his arrival in Brunei.

He met in late morning with Thai Foreign Minister Surakiart Sathirathai. Afterward, Powell thanked Thailand for its cooperation in battling terrorists and for its plans to send an engineering brigade to Afghanistan before the end of the year.

Surakiart said he was pleased with the level of cooperation on terrorism with the United States. Later, Powell paid a Royal Palace visit on King Bhumibol Adulyadej.

Thailand and the United States are longtime defense allies. A senior American official accompanying Powell noted the country has a strong record of ratifying U.N. counterterror treaties.

Osama bin Laden's son is rising in al-Qaida's ranks

BY JOHN J. LUMPKIN
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Osama bin Laden's son Saad has become a rising star in his father's terrorist network, gaining so much new authority that U.S. counterterrorism officials now consider him among their top two dozen targets in al-Qaida.

Saad bin Laden has provided financial and other logistical support for several al-Qaida operations, said one official, speaking on the condition of anonymity.

Saad, a Saudi like his father, is thought to be in his early 20s, and is one of Osama bin Laden's eldest sons, officials said. Also, like his father, he is thought to be in the Afghanistan-Pakistan region.

Osama bin Laden, himself in his mid-to-late-40s, has at least 23 children by numerous wives, officials said.

"Some of them share his ideology," one counterterrorism official said. "(Saad) is definitely a believer."

Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld said Monday that men like bin Laden's son will keep al-Qaida dangerous even if his father is killed.

"There are three, four, five, six, seven people who could — who know where the bank accounts are, who know the key players, the key planners, and are perfectly capable of running that operation," he told reporters. "Whether the son ends up being one of them, one never knows until there's a sort that takes place."

U.S. officials have no evidence that Saad bin Laden played a role in the Sept. 11 attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon, but he is suspected to have provided support for al-Qaida's April 11

bombing of a synagogue in Tunisia that left 19 dead, most of them German tourists.

It marked al-Qaida's first successful terrorist operation outside of the Afghanistan region since the Sept. 11 attacks.

Al-Qaida leader Khalid Shaikh Mohammed, the suspected mastermind of the Sept. 11 attacks, is believed to be a close associate of Saad bin Laden. Mohammed has also been linked to the Tunisia bombing, U.S. officials have said.

"Some of them share his ideology. (Saad) is definitely a believer."

— Counterterrorism official

Officials attributed Saad's importance to simple blood ties: when most of the world is hunting for him, Osama bin Laden can trust his son.

He began his rise last year as the United States went to war on al-Qaida in Afghanistan and elsewhere, officials said.

It has accelerated even as the terrorist network decentralized its power structure. This move, under way since earlier this year, gives commanders in the field more authority to conduct terrorist operations without guidance from bin Laden's inner circle.

Officials have no evidence that Saad bin Laden is positioned to take over al-Qaida in the event of his father's death or capture.

INTERNATIONAL



Making it on his own



Charles Krupa/Associated Press

Pope John Paul II walks unassisted up an aircraft stairway during his departure for Guatemala from Pearson International Airport in Toronto, Monday. The Pope visited Toronto for the week-long World Youth Day celebration.

Toyota expects stronger sales both at home, abroad

BY YURI KAGEYAMA
AP Business Writer

TOKYO — Japan's top automaker, Toyota Motor Corp., expects its global sales to grow 5 percent this year as Japanese and American economies recover in the latter half and new models roll into showrooms.

Despite some emerging worries about a slowdown in the pace of the recovery on both sides of the Pacific, Toyota President Fujio Cho said Toyota was confident because of the strong performance of its recent models.

"Although global competition is increasing, Toyota remains determined to win in this competition," Cho said Monday.

Toyota's worldwide sales will total 5.5 million vehicles in 2002, up from 5.26 million, he said. Sales in Japan will total 1.75 million, up 2 percent from last year, while 3.75 million will be overseas, up 6 percent.

Toyota said it expects the U.S. auto market to stay relatively strong at about 16 million vehicles a year. The company declined to give a regional breakdown in overseas sales.

Toyota's worldwide production for this year will total 5.55 million, up 8 percent from 5.14 million last year. Domestic production will rise 3 percent to 3.45 million, while overseas production will surge 18 percent to 2.10 million, it said.

Toyota has been raising production in North America, aiming for 1.45 million by 2003. Production in North America reached 1.09 million in 2001.

Toyota said Monday the number of vehicles it has produced over the years in North America had topped 10 million. Toyota began producing cars in North America in 1986 at 14,000 vehicles a year.

"There is nothing bad to say so far about Toyota's ability to produce profits," said Shotaro Noguchi, auto analyst at Nikko Salomon Smith Barney in Tokyo.

For the latest fiscal year ended in March, profits at Toyota surged more than 30 percent to \$5 billion. Sales totaled \$126 billion, the best ever for the company, up 12 percent from the previous year.

Cho stressed that raising local production is critical to avoiding the kind of trade friction that erupted in the 1980s and 1990s.

"Our cars are being favorably received

Bertelsmann replaces chief executive Middelhoff

BY DAVID MCHUGH
Associated Press Writer

FRANKFURT, Germany — A clash with shareholders cost Thomas Middelhoff his job at the helm of media giant Bertelsmann — even though the company made money while rivals like AOL Time Warner and Vivendi ran into trouble.

Not even one of the deals of the decade — reaping billions from selling a stake in AOL Europe at the height of the Internet bubble — could save Middelhoff from the same fate as Vivendi's former chief Jean-Marie Messier and Robert Pittman, ousted as head of AOL Time Warner's AOL division in a management shakeup.

Bertelsmann said Sunday that Middelhoff was leaving due to "differing views between the chief executive and the supervisory board over the future strategy" of the German company.

He was replaced by Gunter Thielen, who currently heads Bertelsmann's printing and media services business Arvato as well as the Bertelsmann Foundation, which holds a majority stake owned by the Mohn family. The family controls three-quarters of the 167-year-old firm's shares, and thus the board of directors.

The elevation of Thielen, who comes from one of the company's more traditional businesses, raises questions about whether Bertelsmann will continue the global, Internet-focused course plotted by Middelhoff.

On Sunday, Bertelsmann said Thielen, a member of the management board since 1985, would pursue the company's international strategy but didn't elaborate on why Middelhoff was replaced. Company officials couldn't immediately be reached Monday.

The company's statement Sunday suggested earnings were not a source of contention. Operating earnings for the first half were at a "pleasing level," it said, without giving details.

in North America," he said at a news conference in Tokyo. "We don't foresee political friction arising anytime soon."

Toyota is also sending a strong message of technological leadership by promising fuel-cell vehicles for commercial sale although in limited numbers before the end of this year. Fuel cell cars use hydrogen as fuel and produce almost no pollution.

Toyota plans to sell about 20 fuel-cell

Middelhoff, 49, took over at the Guetersloh-based firm in 1998 after a speedy rise through the ranks. He built up its business at home and abroad, sealing landmark deals to take control of Luxembourg-based RTL, Europe's biggest television company, and U.S. book publisher Random House.

His dealmaking helped the company avoid the debt problems of its rivals, especially the sale of 49 percent of AOL Europe for \$6.8 billion just before tech stock prices collapsed. He also sold out of Munich-based Kirch Group's money-losing pay TV venture well ahead of the company's bankruptcy this year.

The extra cash helped Bertelsmann gear up for expansion, and earlier this year Forbes magazine called Bertelsmann "the least troubled media giant on earth."

The company posted a net profit of 931 million euros between June and December last year, the first half of its fiscal year. Since January, it has switched its accounting period to match the calendar year to prepare for a stock market listing in 2005. Vivendi lost 13.6 billion euros last year; AOL Time Warner lost \$4.9 billion. The euro is currently trading about even with the dollar.

The music business proved a rougher ride. Antitrust authorities blocked a merger of Bertelsmann Music Group with British rival EMI, and in June, Britney Spears' record company, Zomba Music, exercised an option forcing unprofitable BMG to pay \$3 billion for the 75 percent of the shares it didn't already own in the U.S.-based music publisher.

German news media reported that Middelhoff was being considered for the top job at Deutsche Telekom, whose CEO, Ron Sommer, was fired earlier this month. Deutsche Telekom dismissed the reports as speculation, and Germany's Bild newspaper reported Monday that Middelhoff hadn't received such an offer, citing sources close to Middelhoff.

cars in Japan and North America in a year. Fuel cell cars are still very expensive and are not expected to sell in significant numbers for about a decade.

Honda is also promising such cars before the end of the year, putting the Japanese at the technological forefront in clean cars. Toyota refused to say how much the cars will cost or how much it was spending on such research.

Firm found guilty of luring brokers, exploiting 9-11 attacks

BY BRUCE STANLEY
AP Business Writer

LONDON — A British financial services firm illegally enticed a broker to leave a U.S. rival that was shattered by the deaths of hundreds of employees in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, a judge ruled Monday.

The decision was a partial victory for New York-based Cantor Fitzgerald, which lost 658 staff in the attacks on the World Trade Center. Cantor Fitzgerald had sued competitor ICAP, accusing it of plotting to exploit the tragedy and lure away key employees.

High Court Judge Richard McCombe ruled that ICAP had offered an "unlawful inducement" in encouraging broker Luigi Boucher to break his contract with Cantor Fitzgerald.

"There can be no doubt that the tragic events of Sept. 11, 2001, in New York provided the backdrop to what happened," McCombe said in announcing his decision.

The hearing was held in London because ICAP is based in Britain.

The judge dismissed allegations that ICAP had acted illegally in the case of two other brokers who left Cantor. Like Boucher, Edward Bird and Spencer Gill took jobs with ICAP in April as Cantor was struggling to recover after the terror attacks.

McCombe was to determine financial penalties against Boucher and ICAP later. He also was to decide later about countersuits filed by Bird and Gill that claimed they were subjected to "domineering and bullying" behavior at Cantor's office in London.

"It is a fantastic result," said Bird, who attended court with Gill to hear the judge's ruling. "We can now start work for ICAP. We are going to start on Thursday."

Cantor had sought damages from Boucher, Bird and Gill for breach of contract, the repayment of a loan to

Gill and the return of bonuses paid to all three.

Lawyers for Cantor also had asked the High Court to order ICAP to pay damages for allegedly inducing the brokers to break their contracts and sought an injunction banning ICAP from approaching Cantor employees for the next six months.

Attorneys for ICAP had argued that the three employees were victims of constructive dismissal, a British term for being forced out through mistreatment. The lawyers claimed that one of the reasons the brokers resigned was that Cantor had changed the terms of their employment.

ICAP had maintained that far from exploiting Cantor's disarray after Sept. 11, it had pledged \$500,000 for the widows and orphans of its rival's employees. It also said Cantor had a history of poaching and that in 1999 Britain's Court of Appeal had ordered it to pay \$1.67 million in damages for luring away about 20 ICAP employees.



SPORTS

Agassi defies age to keep beating the competition

BY BETH HARRIS

AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES — When he was 17, Andre Agassi only worried about what he was going to do Friday or Saturday night. No way did he think he'd still be a top tennis player at 32.

"It was hard for me to plan a few days ahead," he says, "let alone 15 years later."

Yet here he is, still going strong and running younger players off the court. Agassi won his fourth title of 2002 and the 40th hard-court crown of his career at the Mercedes-Benz Cup, beating 25-year-old Jan-Michael Gambill 6-2, 6-4 in Sunday's final.

Agassi was fined \$80,000 by the ATP Tour on Monday for his late withdrawal from a Tennis Masters Series tournament in Toronto, citing a lower back and hip injury that he never mentioned in Los Angeles.

"I feel like he's playing better tennis than he used to," said Gambill, a friend and practice partner. "He used to just rip balls and make a lot more errors. He's just grown wiser."

Agassi agrees his accuracy has improved, but he said it's not because he's playing more conservatively.

"It's a function of just being stronger, being in position, moving better, taking a higher percentage cut at the ball," he said. "I'm stronger and I move better, so I'm hitting a big ball, but I'm hitting it with more margin for error than I used to. I'm making less errors but I'm still taking good cuts."

Five years ago, Agassi was in trouble. His world ranking plunged to 141 and he was reduced to entering USTA Challenger tournaments — tennis' version of the minor leagues — to work his way back.

It didn't take long. In 1998, he made the biggest one-year jump into the top 10 in the history of the ATP Tour rankings by climbing 122 spots to No. 6.

He hasn't been out of the top 10 since, including 1999 when, at 31, he became the oldest player to finish in the top three since 32-year-old Jimmy Connors was No. 2 in 1984.

Agassi is sixth in Monday's rankings. "My body changed as I started getting older," he said. "I couldn't get around the fact that I was getting slower and falling off."

So he committed to getting into the best shape of his life. Four years later, he's maintaining his conditioning and it continues paying dividends.

"I enjoy playing great matches and feeling like I'm playing better than I ever have."

— **ANDRE AGASSI**
Professional tennis player

He won his seventh Grand Slam singles title at last year's Australian Open. So far this year, he's 34-5 and has reached the semifinals or better in six of 10 tournaments.

However, his preparations for next month's U.S. Open hit a snag after beating Gambill, when he withdrew from the tournament in Toronto.

Instead, he said he could play even better than he did at the Mercedes-Benz Cup. He dropped just one set, against Gustavo Kuerten in the quarterfinals, over five matches.

"I can serve better, I can even get more aggressive," Agassi said. "When I control the ball that well, I have room on the other side. I can let it go a little bit more."

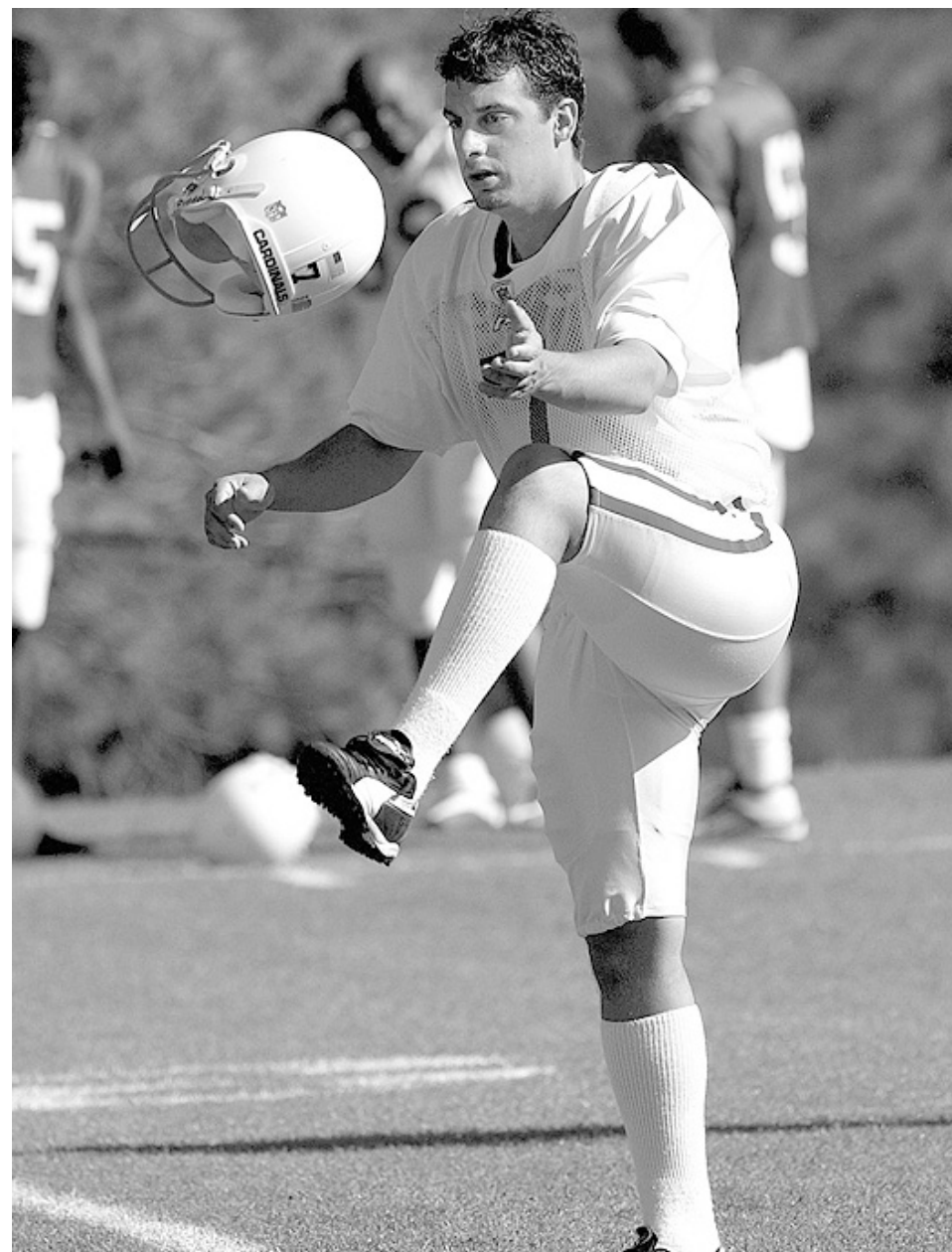
Even when his physical conditioning diminished and he took a massive tumble in the rankings, Agassi's enthusiasm for the game never wavered.

"I enjoy challenging myself. I enjoy playing great matches and feeling like I'm playing better than I ever have," he said. "I feel like I still have the opportunity to get better and that motivates me."

At the same time, though, there are increasing off-court obligations.

The most important is his first child, Jaden, who was born in October, four days after Agassi married seven-time

Kickin' it



Matt York/Associated Press

Arizona Cardinals kicker Bill Gramatica kicks his helmet at practice Monday, at the Cardinals' Summer Training Camp in Flagstaff, Ariz.

Wimbledon champion Steffi Graf.

"What greater joy is there than discovering your own child? It's pretty amazing," he said. "He likes food, so I'm thinking he got a little bit of me there. He doesn't like to sit still, he's got a little bit of Steff there."

Also requiring his attention is a charter

school Agassi helped fund last year for at-risk kids in grades 3-5 in Las Vegas. His charitable foundation to benefit kids has been going since 1994.

"Had I stopped working years ago, there would be a lot of people that would have been affected by that," he said.

George Allen was obsessed with football and winning

BY JOSEPH WHITE

AP Sports Writer

ASHBURN, Va. — Over the last decade, stories of George Allen's eccentricities nearly overwhelmed one powerful underlying fact: He was one of the most innovative coaches ever.

Allen's posthumous induction into the Pro Football Hall of Fame on Saturday revives all the tales — the good, bad and strange — of a man who reversed the fortunes of the Los Angeles Rams and Washington Redskins.

"He was a great coach," said quarterback Billy Kilmer, who played for Allen in Washington from 1971-77. "The only blip in his whole career is that he never won a Super Bowl."

Allen revolutionized special teams, giving it more attention than any previous coach. He invented the "nickel" pass defense, and it's been commonplace for three decades since. He stoked the fires of the Cowboys-Redskins rivalry, making it one of the most passionate in pro sports.

He was the first to conduct offseason minicamps, and it was his idea to build

Redskin Park, the league's first year-round practice facility.

"That alone sets him apart — that he would have the vision to have an operation that would stand by itself," said longtime Redskins trainer Bubba Tyer, who now works in the team's front office. "We came out here in the country in 1971. He wanted to build a facility away from town, where there were no interruptions."

"He was innovative. The things we're doing today, we're still doing because of George Allen."

Allen never had a losing season in 12 years as an NFL head coach, a remarkable achievement considering he took over two struggling franchises.

The Rams had endured seven straight losing seasons before he went to Los Angeles in 1966, and the Redskins had just one winning season in 15 years before he went to Washington in 1971.

Allen was coach of the year in 1967 and 1971, and his career regular season regular was 116-47-5. But he was just 2-7 in the postseason, with his best playoff run ending when the Redskins lost to Miami in the Super Bowl following the

1972 season.

Allen's methods were part genius, part madness.

He traded nearly every draft pick available to stockpile veterans and create Washington's "Over the Hill Gang." He justified it with a simple mantra: "The future is now."

The only thing missing was an offense. "He didn't care if we scored points," offensive tackle George Starke said. "As long as we didn't give away."

Allen's obsession with football had no end. It was the only topic he would discuss at dinner. He held staff meetings on Saturday afternoons in February — when virtually the rest of the league was on vacation. Former equipment manager Jay Brunetti remembers Allen associating victories with the oddest things — such as the time the coach got on his knees to wrestle a 6-inch dandelion.

"If I pull this out, root system and all, we're going to beat the Cowboys twice next year," Brunetti recalled Allen saying.

Allen tried, failed and gave the broken root to Brunetti.

"He hands it to me and says, 'We just

beat the Giants once.' And he walks away," Brunetti said.

Allen would stretch the rules for emotional and tactical advantages. He once had the public address announcer introduce the special teams unit — instead of the offense or defense — to start a game, drawing a reprimand from league officials.

Allen even once had his son, Bruce Allen, stand well down the sideline to steal signals from the opposing quarterback. When an official asked who the boy was, the coach said he didn't know.

Allen's often abrasive style led to conflicts that cut short his NFL coaching career. He left Washington in 1977 and returned to Los Angeles, but he lasted just two exhibition games before he was fired in a power struggle.

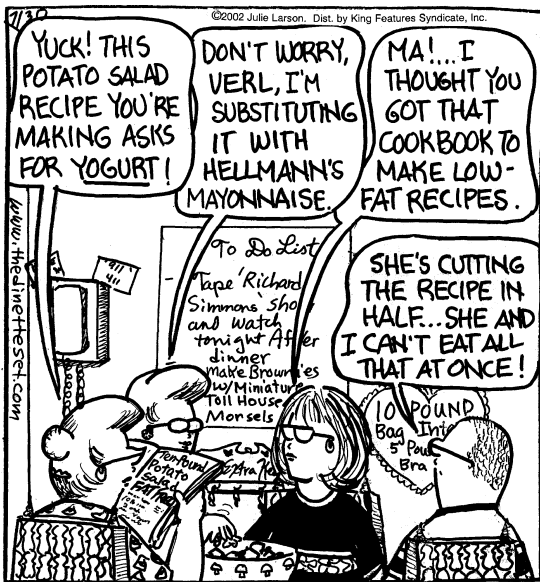
He later coached in the USFL and made an amazing final stand when he led perennial loser Long Beach State to a winning season in 1990. He died of pneumonia on Dec. 31 of that year at age 72.

"He was single-minded," Tyer said. "He demanded a lot of your time, but he was good."

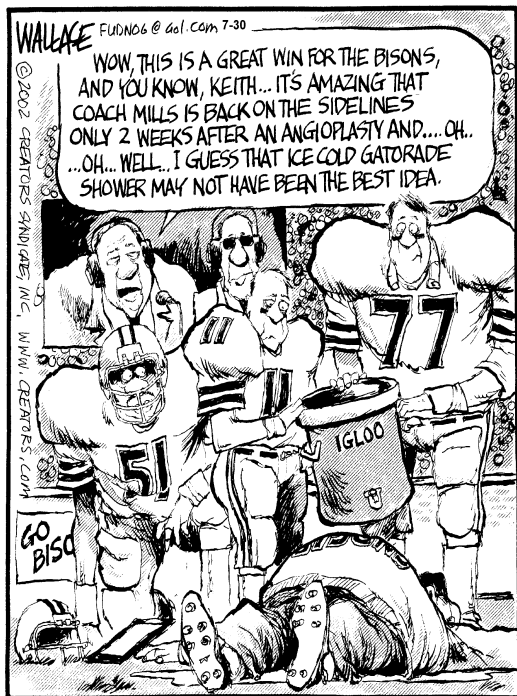
COMICS



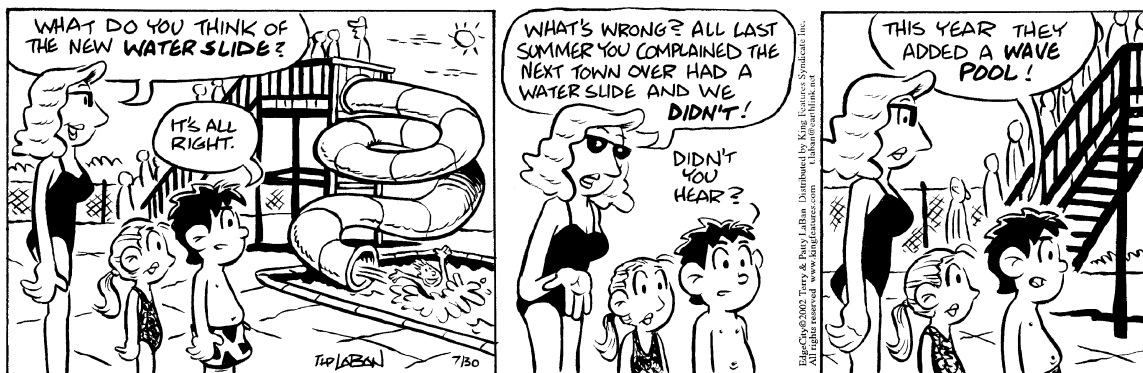
The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



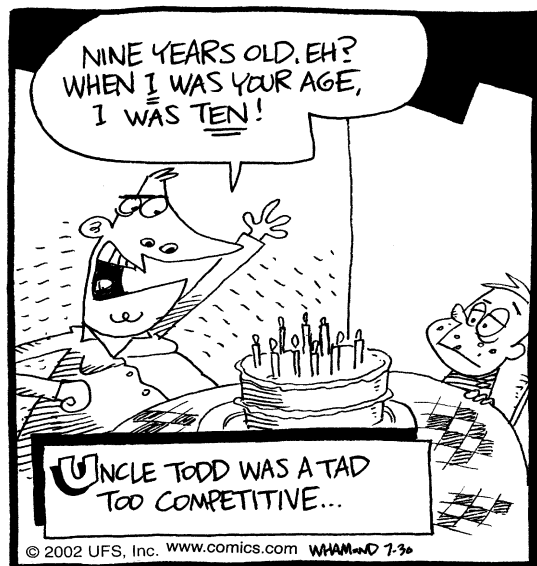
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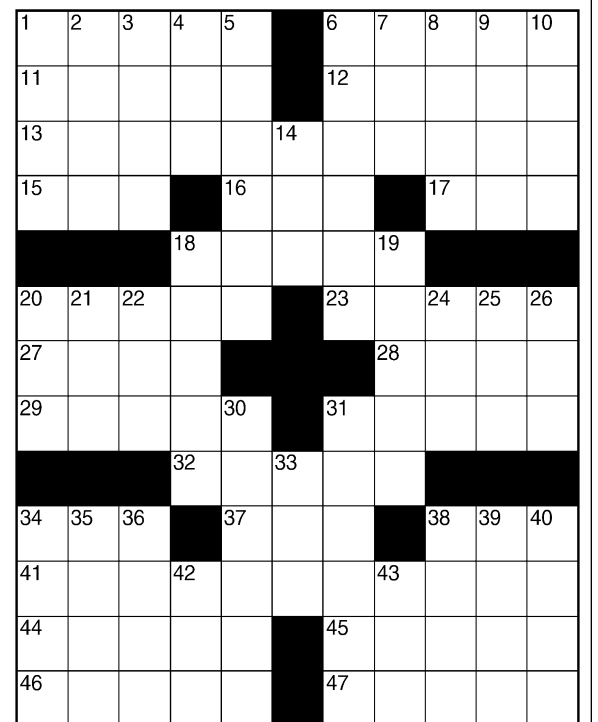
CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- Office aides
 - Settle a debt
 - Wipe clean
 - Writer Jong
 - "Family Law" co-star
 - Take to the slopes
 - Cleaning cloth
 - Append
 - Flower part
 - Was wide-open
 - Spock's portrayer
 - Way to go
 - Rent
 - Gauge
 - Chess piece
 - Shred
 - Verb ending
 - By way of
 - Soak up
 - Country trio
 - Make law
 - Smells
 - High points
 - Suggested
- DOWN**
- Composer Satie
 - Long skirt
 - Letter before omega
 - Fume
 - Carter's successor
 - Blunder
 - Bread with a pocket
 - Served perfectly
 - Croquet setting
 - Alley prowler
 - Nero at the piano
 - Illuminated
 - Sparkler
 - Chopping tool
 - Coal source
 - "The Simpsons" barkeep
 - Mine yield
 - Longing
 - Metal fasteners
 - Thick-shelled clam
 - Snapshot
 - Concept
 - Brittle metal
 - Test
 - Highlander
 - Gumbo ingredient
 - "You there!"
 - Finish the cake
 - Altar promise



Yesterday's answer

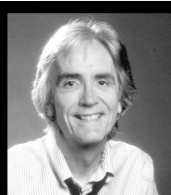
- Coal
- Concept
- Brittle metal
- Test
- Highlander
- Gumbo ingredient
- "You there!"
- Finish the cake
- Altar promise



7-30

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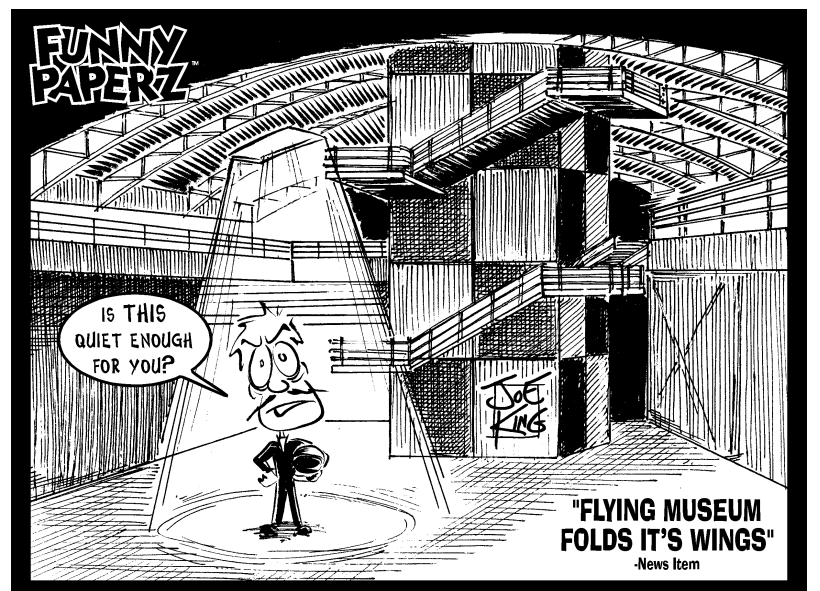


NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

'Simply Dapper' wins 4 ribbons in rat contest

Simply Dapper, age 6 months, won four prize ribbons at the American Fancy Rat and Mouse Association show in Costa Mesa, Calif., in May. According to a Wall Street Journal report, the rodent's "shiny beige coat, sweet temperament, and a blood line dating back 12 generations" were the main factors in his success. Contest rats have fancy names (e.g., "Himalayan" rat) but cost only a few dollars to acquire and are genetically the same as ordinary, Dumpster-diving Norwegian rats.





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2 BDRM 1 bath, 2031 20th st./ Pico. First floor, hrdwd. \$1350 (310)273-6639 (310) 450-0646

BRENTWOOD \$1050.00 BEAUTIFUL, large (600 sqft) guest studio, kitchen, beams, no pets, util. incl., (310)476-8941.

For Rent

BRENTWOOD ADJACENT \$1550.00 2bdrm/2ba condo. Central air, fireplace, 2 car garage, R/S, gated building, carpet. (818)404-7516.

MARKET YOUR apartment in the only comprehensive, local guide that is FREE to renters! For a buck a day, you can't afford not to! Call (310)458-7737 to place your classified ad today.

NEW STUDIO Apartments from \$1100.00 to \$1400.00. Six blocks from the beach. Three blocks from Third St. Promenade area! Waiting list forming now. (310)656-0311. www.breezesuites.com

SANTA MONICA \$1250.00 2 bdrm, r/s, crpt, lrg clsts, Indry, pkgng inc. Westside Rentals 395-RENT

SANTA MONICA \$1395.00 2 bdrm, PET OK, lrg clsts, crpt, pkgng inc. Westside Rentals 395-RENT

SANTA MONICA \$1595.00 2bdrm/1ba Upper, patio, stove, refrigerator, carpets, blinds, tandem parking, no pets. 1 year lease. (310)395-9344

SANTA MONICA \$725.00 Studio, PET OK, r/s, crpt, pool, Indry, pkgng. Westside Rentals 395-RENT

SANTA MONICA \$800.00 Studio, r/s, hrdwd flr, lrg clsts, pkgng inc. Westside Rentals 395-RENT

SANTA MONICA \$995.00 1 bdrm, CAT OK, r/s. crpt, lrg clsts, pool, Indry, pkgng inc. Westside Rentals 395-RENT

Guest Houses

MARKET YOUR Guest House in the only comprehensive, local guide that is FREE to renters. For a buck a day, you can't afford not to! Call (310)458-7737 to place your classified ad today.

SANTA MONICA \$850.00 Furn Gst hse, hrdwd flr, lrg clsts, w/d. yard, pkgng Westside Rentals 395-RENT

SANTA MONICA \$1200.00 Guest house, everything new! R/S, parking, new carpet, new floors. (310)829-3582.

Houses For Rent

MARKET YOUR rental house in the only comprehensive, local guide that is FREE to renters. For a buck a day, you can't afford not to! Call (310)458-7737 to place your classified ad today.

SANTA MONICA \$1195.00 Ctg, PET OK, hrdwd flr, pkgng inc. Westside Rentals 395-RENT

SANTA MONICA \$1395.00 Hse, PET OK, r/s. hrdwd flr, firepl, w/d hkp, yard, pkgng. Westside Rentals 395-RENT

SANTA MONICA \$1500.00 2bdrm Trplx, PET OK, r/s, hrdwd flr, Indry, yard, pkgng. Westside Rentals 395-RENT

SANTA MONICA House \$3500.00/month. North Wilshire, close to beach. 3bdrm/2.5 bath. Front & back yard. Hardwood floors. Central air conditioning. W/D hook-ups. Secure area: (661)822-6644, (661)330-0836 cell.

Townhouses

SANTA MONICA \$1195.00 2 bdrm Twnhse, r/s, patio, lrg clsts, crpt, pkgng inc Westside Rentals 395-RENT

Roommates

APT. TO share. \$575 Fully Furnished/ Pvt. room. Month to month. Share utilities. Close to UCLA+SM College. Sam (310) 453-6649

SANTA MONICA Apt. to share \$650.00 (unfurnished) Private bedroom, share bath, no pets, stove, dishwasher, microwave, fireplace, street parking. Available now! (310)260-4711

W. LA \$500.00 per month. Pool house, share bath, partial utilities. Refrigerator, microwave, oven, toasteroven. Available now! Elaine (310)391-2718

Roommates

W.LA \$800.00 2+1 House to share. Lrg/yard, across from park, W/D. Non-smoker, no pets. (310)312-8927.

Commercial Lease

COMMERCIAL SPACE can be leased quickly if you market to the right crowd. Reach local business owners by running your listing in the Daily Press. Call (310)458-7737 to place your listing for only a buck a day.

Storage Space

GARAGE STORAGE only. Very central, Santa Monica location. \$125/month. (310)828-6621

STORAGE UNIT 1105 18th Street. No pets. Good size storage space. (310)394-8121.

Vehicles for sale

70 GRAND Torino. Runs good. New 2003 tags. \$1600.00 (310)313-0848.

Massage

MASSAGE CARING, soothing, relaxing full body therapeutic, Swedish / back walking. You will melt in my magic hands! Home/hotel/office/outdoors ok. 1-4 hours. Non sexual out call. Anytime or day. Page Doris (310)551-2121.

STRONG PROFESSIONAL Deep Tissue bodywork by fit therapist. Introductory offer: \$35/hr or \$65/2 hrs. Women: first hour free. Paul: 310.741.1901.

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Call Angela at the Santa Monica Daily Press

310.458.7737 ext.101

CLASSIFIEDS



Massage

MASSAGE ENJOY a really great, amazing and wonderful full body massage. Swedish, deep-tissue and Tantra. (Platonic only!) No time limit. Will come to you. 24/7 Cute, slim, fit, petite mature chocolate. 14 years experience. Dolly's pager (310)236-9627.

MASSAGE THERAPIST C.M.T., M.S., Therapeutic massage with specialty in physically challenged elderly and rehabilitation. Burke (310)459-5973.

THE BEST solution to low cost advertising. Fill your appointment book by running your ad in the Daily Press. Only a buck a day, call (310)458-7737 to place your ad today.

THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE, Swedish, Accupressure, Deep-tissue, Sports Massage, Reflexology. For apt call Tracy at (310)435-0657.

Announcements

THIS IS and IOU for answered prayers-thanks to God. PRAYER TO ST. JUDE-"O most holy apostle, St. Jude, faithful servant and friend of Jesus, the church honors and invokes you universally, as the patron of hopeless cases, of things almost despaired of. Pray for me, I am so helpless and alone. Make use, I implore you, of that particular privilege given to you, to bring visible and speedy help where help is almost despaired of. Come to my assistance in this great need that I may receive the consolation and help of heaven in all my necessities, tribulations, and sufferings, particularly for CURING MY CANCERS and that I may praise God with you and all the elect forever. I promise, O blessed St. Jude, to be ever mindful of this great favor, to always honor you as my special and powerful patron, and to gratefully encourage devotion to you. Amen.

Announcements

PRO SE of Neighborhood Project needs volunteers for events that honor our heroes. (310) 899-3888 pro.se@adelphia.net.

VOTE FOR Pro Se Santa Monica City Council! Our Residents, Businesses, Schools must come first!

THIS IS an IOU for answered prayers-thanks to God. PRAYER TO ST. BARBARA-"God, who among the other miracles of Your power, have given to the weaker sex the victory of martyrdom, grant, we beseech You, that we who are celebrating the heavenly birthday of St. Barbara, Your Virgin and Martyr, may by her example, draw nearer to you. Amen.

GET YOUR message out! For only a buck a day, call (310)458-7737 to run your announcement to over 15,000 interested readers daily.

Services

MIKE'S PLUMBING
The solution to all your plumbing & heating needs. New remodel, re-pipe. LIC.#605819 (323)874-8399 (323)356-7711

ALLDIS PLASTERING Interior finish plaster. Acoustic ceilings plastered smooth (no dust). (310) 458-9955

License number 701350

HOUSE CLEANING - Available 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. Windows, laundry, general house cleaning. References available. Responsible. Reasonable prices. Call Lalo (310) 313-0848.

TALENTED, DECORATIVE Painter. Walls, cabinets, furniture, moldings...glazing, antiquing, refinishing and much more! Call for estimate. (310)612-6042.

Services

HELP
BETTER than small claims; \$10
Pick your new job; \$25
(310)398-4130

QUICK AND Dirty (if the newspaper rubs off on your hands). Market your small business in our services section for a buck a day. Call (310)458-7737.

LEARN TO DANCE Tango, Swing or Salsa. Private lessons, low rates. Wedding prep and vacation prep for couples. (310)828-7326.

SPECIAL EDUCATION Day program. Tutoring. Saturday program also available. For more information call Nelda. (310)459-5973.

Services

REMEDIES BY ROTH Carpentry, Handyman Services. Reasonable rates. Contact Michael: (310)829-1316 MSG. (323)610-1217 Cell.

Health/Beauty

OJAI'S BEST Kept Secret Monte Verde Garden & Spa Massage, Sauna, Spa & more! Located on a beautiful secluded 21/2-acre setting. Call: (805)649-6899

Classified Advertising Conditions :DOLLAR-A-DAY NON COMMERCIAL: Ad must run a minimum of 12 consecutive days. Ads over 15 words add 20¢ per word per day. REGULAR RATE: \$2.50 a day. Ads over 15 words add 20¢ per word per day. Ad must run a minimum of twelve consecutive days. PREMIUMS: First two words caps no charge. Bold words, italics, centered lines, etc. cost extra. Please call for rates. TYPOS: Check your ad the first day of publication. Sorry, we do not issue credit after an ad has run more than once. DEADLINES: 4:00 p.m. prior the day of publication except for Monday's paper when the deadline is Friday at 4:00 p.m. PAYMENT: All private party ads must be pre-paid. We accept checks, credit cards, and of course cash. CORRESPONDENCE: To place your ad call our offices 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, (310)458-7737; send a check or money order with ad copy to The Santa Monica Daily Press, P.O. Box 1380, Santa Monica, CA 90406 or stop in at our office located at 530 Wilshire Blvd, Ste. 200. OTHER RATES: For information about the professional services directory or classified display ads, please call our office at (310)458-7737.

Calendar

Tuesday, July 30, 2002

movies

Loews Broadway Cinema
1441 Third St. at Broadway
Halloween Resurrection 7:00, 9:30. *The Bourne Identity* (PG-13) 10:45, 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30. *Stuart Little 2* (PG) 11:00, 12:15, 1:15, 2:30, 3:30, 4:45, 5:45, 8:00, 10:15. *Like Mike* (PG) 11:15, 1:45, 4:15, 6:45, 9:15.

Mann Criterion
1313 Third St.
Minotity Report (PG-13) 11:40, 3:15, 7:10, 10:30. *Men in Black II* (PG-13) 11:30, 2:10, 4:45, 7:40, 10:10. *Austin powers in Goldmember* (PG-13) 11:00, 12:00, 1:30, 2:30, 4:15, 5:15, 7:00, 8:00, 9:40, 10:40. *My Big Fat Greek Wedding* (PG) 11:20, 2:00, 4:30, 7:20, 9:50. *K-19: The Widowmaker* (PG-13) 12:30, 4:00, 7:30, 10:45.

AMC Theatre SM 7
1310 3rd Street
Eight Legged Freaks (PG-13) 1:30, 4:15, 7:10, 9:40. *The Country Bears* (G) 12:40, 2:50, 5:00, 7:20, 9:30. *Mr. Deeds* (PG-13) 12:50, 3:05, 5:20, 7:45, 10:05. *Road to Perdition* (R) 1:00, 4:00, 4:55, 7:00, 7:40, 9:55, 10:25. *Lilo & Stitch* (PG) 12:35, 2:35, 4:35, 7:05. *Insomnia* (R) 9:20. *Reign of Fire* (PG-13) 1:10, 3:25, 5:40, 8:00, 10:20. *The Crocodile Hunter: Collision Course* (PG) 12:30, 2:40

Landmark Nu-Wilshire
1314 Wilshire Blvd.
Sex and Lucia (NR) 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45. *Lovely and Amazing* (R) 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30.

Laemmle Monica
1332 2nd St.
Y Tu Mama Tambien (NR) 12:00, 5:10, 10:15. *Read My Lips* (NR) 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45. *Me Without You* (R) 2:35, 7:45. *Tadpole* (PG-13) 1:30, 3:35, 5:40, 7:45, 9:55. *Who is Cletis Tout?* (R) 1:00, 3:20, 5:40, 8:00, 10:20.

Today

Community

The Westside Walkers, a FREE program sponsored by UCLA Healthcare's 50-Plus Program! Walking programs for adults 50 or older looking for safe, low-impact exercise in a comfortable environment. The Westside Walkers meet Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 8 a.m. To 10 a.m., at Westside Pavilion, Pico Blvd. Between Overland Ave. and Westwood Blvd. In West LA. For more information about the program, call (800)516-5323.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUPS AT SMC'S EMERITUS COLLEGE. Santa Monica College offers free bereavement support groups in the summer session through it's Emeritus College, a widely praised program designed for older adults. Two support groups will meet Tuesdays on an ongoing basis. One group will meet from noon to 1:50 p.m. and the other from 7 p.m. to 8:50 p.m. For information and registration, call Emeritus College at (310) 434-4306.

Senior Suppers - Discounted meals for people AGE 55 or older are served daily, from 3:30 p.m. To 7 p.m., in the cafeteria at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center, 1250 16th Street in Santa Monica. \$3.69 Info only: (310)319-4837.

Classes

Los Angeles Arts Academy, Summer Art Camp in Santa Monica & Westchester. Ages 5 to 13 years old. Lots of fun: art, acting, singing, karaoke, drawing, sculpture, drum circles, field trips & more! June 24 through August 16, M-F. 9 a.m. To 3 p.m. (except field trip days). Now enrolling! laarts@earthlink.net.

Music / Entertainment

Anastasia's Asylum, 1028 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica. Board games, cushiony sofas, a full veggie menu, juices, teas, and coffee that grows hair on your chest. No cover. (310)394-7113.

Rusty's Surf Ranch, 256 Santa Monica Pier. Walls and ceilings are lined with one of the area's largest collections of pre-1970's surf-

boards. Cover varies. Full bar. All ages. (310)393-7386.

Wednesday

Community

Santa Monica Strutters, a FREE program sponsored by UCLA Healthcare's 50-Plus Program! Walking programs for adults 50 or older looking for safe, low-impact exercise in a comfortable environment. The Santa Monica Strutters meet Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, from 8 a.m. To 10 a.m., at Santa Monica Place, Fourth St. and Broadway Ave. in Santa Monica

Senior Suppers - Discounted meals for people AGE 55 or older are served daily, from 3:30 p.m. To 7 p.m., in the cafeteria at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center, 1250 16th Street in Santa Monica. \$3.69 Info only: (310)319-4837.

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Music / Entertainment

Poetry N Go Club, 8 pm. UnUrban Coffeehouse. 3301 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica, (310)315-0056.

Cara Rosellini hosts The Gaslite's Comic Review, followed by open-mic comedy karaoke, at The Gaslite, 2030 Wilshire Blvd. 7:30 p.m. FREE! (310)829-2382.

Anastasia's Asylum, 1028 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica. Board games, cushiony sofas, a full veggie menu, juices, teas, and coffee that grows hair on your chest. No cover. (310)394-7113.

LUSH 2020 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica. Three bars, plenty of booths, sofas, leopard-print carpet and a sunken dance floor. Mexican grill serves dinner after 5 p.m. Full bar. Over 21. Cover \$5 - Free. (310)829-1933.

Calendar items are printed free of charge as a service to our readers. Please submit your items to todayspaper@smdp.com for consideration. Calendar events are limited by space, and will be run at the discretion of the Calendar Editor. The Daily Press cannot be held responsible for errors.

KEEP YOUR DATE STRAIGHT

Promote your event in the Santa Monica Daily Press Calendar section.
Fax all information to our Calendar Editor: Attention Angela @ 310.576.9913

American Cancer Society's Relay for Life

Celebrate with your community!

Here's how you can help ...

The Survivor Lap & The Relay for Life

Opening Ceremonies begin on Saturday, August 3, 2002, @ 9:00 a.m. with the Survivor's Lap in celebration of their victory, because cancer never sleeps. This lap demonstrates the importance and reason for Relay For Life celebrations. If you are a survivor, mark your calendar to participate in this heart warming first lap. Special T-shirts and a reception hosted by Shutters On The Beach and Casa Del Mar will be provided to all cancer survivors at this event. The Relay for Life will be teams that are made up of 10-15 members and will relay a 24 hour walk around the Santa Monica College track. Enjoy music, entertainment and refreshments and build team spirit in this local, powerful fundraiser to find the cure for cancer.

Light the Way to a Cure with the Luminary Walk

On Saturday, August 3, 2002, at Santa Monica College, Corsair Field, we will be holding a Relay For Life luminary ceremony at 9:00 p.m. The luminary bags will line the track and will have the name of a person for whom the luminary was purchased. You may purchase a luminary in "honor" of someone who is battling cancer, or has survived cancer, or in "memory" for someone who lost his or her battle with cancer. You do not need to be present or a participant in the Relay to take part in this ceremony. But everyone is invited to attend and to light their luminary candles. It's the most powerful and moving part of Relay!

August 3-4, 2002

Teams are forming now!

Call Maxine Tatlonghari for sign ups

(213) 368-8537

Last Minute Walkers Welcome!

Relay For Life



City of Santa Monica
Police Department

Santa Monica Daily Press

A Team Event to Fight Cancer

