



CAMOUFLAGE SUITS DUFF JUST FINE
PEOPLE IN THE NEWS 15

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS
14 29 32 43 49
Meganumber: 14
Jackpot: \$24M

Super LOTTO
1 2 8 16 32
Meganumber: 10
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Fantasy 5 5 24 26 32 37

DAILY 3 MIDDAY: 5 5 9
EVENING: 9 3 5

DAILY DERRY
1st: 03 Hot Shot
2nd: 10 Solid Gold
3rd: 02 Lucky Star
RACE TIME: 1.44.47

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

In Yorktown, N.Y., in June, one spouse who was roughed up by the other during a domestic eruption tried (as sometimes happens) to talk police out of filing charges. However, the battering spouse this time was Emily Hanlon-Tarasov, a novelist, and the explanation of her husband (who was knocked unconscious when Hanlon-Tarasov angrily threw a book) was fittingly creative: "A few things began flying at the wall," he said, "and one of them was a telephone book. And unfortunately, my head moved into the space that the book was flying (into)." Hanlon-Tarasov was nevertheless charged with assault.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 215th day of 2006.
There are 150 days left in the year.

Twenty-five years ago, on Aug. 3, 1981, U.S. air traffic controllers went on strike, despite a warning from President Reagan they would be fired, which they were.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"It takes a great deal of history to produce a little literature."

HENRY JAMES
AMERICAN AUTHOR (1843-1916)

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TWILIGHT DANCE SERIES



THE AGGROLITES



CHRIS MURRAY

Steady dose of rhythm bumps Pier

By Daily Press staff

SM PIER — Tonight, the twilight will be taken over by a reggae trifecta as The Aggrolites, Joey Altruda's Classic Riddims and Chris Murray take to the stage at the Santa Monica Pier.

The three Reggae groups, each hailing from the LA area, will play for free in the open air as part of the 22nd Annual Twilight Dance Series.

The Aggrolites came together by accident, when five musicians from two different groups were backing the Jamaican ska singer Derrick Morgan on an album recording. What was once the Vessels and the Rhythm Doctors merged to become The Aggrolites, now together for four years. The band plays rocksteady, ska and reggae laden with keyboard riffs and horn-filled rhythms.

The Aggrolites song "Funky Fire" was voted one of Esquire Magazine's "Six Songs of Summer" in June. Esquire called it "summer's best ska-funk, drop-top driving anthem; perfect for fans of War."

Joey Altruda's Classic Riddims pays tribute to the golden era of Jamaican ska, rocksteady and reggae. Led by bassist Altruda, a veteran Los Angeles musician, they perform a repertoire largely derived from the vaults of Coxson Dodd (Studio One) and Duke Reid (Treasure Isle). Classic Riddims is

See **TWILIGHT**, page 10

Playing it nice

Chamber ditches its political arm in favor of city liaison

BY KEVIN HERRERA

Daily Press Staff Writer

SIXTH STREET — Trying a new tactic that relies more on honey than vinegar, the Chamber of Commerce has dissolved its political arm in favor of a more friendly approach to getting things done in City Hall.

Instead of raising money to fight city officials through their political action committee, or PAC, merchants

are now raising money to fund a new, full-time position at the chamber dedicated solely to forging a better relationship with officials at City Hall.

"We wanted to dissolve our PAC as a sign of good faith on our behalf," said Kathy Dodson, president of the chamber. "A lot of people saw the PAC as divisive ... as a tool by which the chamber fought against city ordinances. Dissolving the PAC is just a way of saying we

have this new relationship and we want to work on things early enough that we hopefully won't need to fight (City Hall) in the end.

"That doesn't mean we will not disagree on certain things," Dodson added. "With all good partnerships you get that. But we will try really hard to work together to create a better community in Santa Monica."

See **CHAMBER**, page 9

Pockets full and Kryptonite



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

Movie-goers take in 'Superman' at the Santa Monica Pier on Tuesday night — the first of four movies scheduled for this year's installment of the Santa Monica Drive-In. 'The Muppet Movie' is on tap for next Tuesday. Films at the pier are free.

Raising doubts: Teachers jump the gun

BY KEVIN HERRERA

Daily Press Staff Writer

SMMUSD HDQTRS — A misunderstanding over future contract negotiations here has caused the teachers' union to come out swinging, issuing a statement that blasts school district officials for wanting to freeze salaries.

The only problem is that school board members contend they want to do nothing of the sort. On the contrary, those board members interviewed said they are in favor of offering teachers a cost-of-living adjustment that would make them some of the highest-paid educators in the state.

So what prompted the Santa Monica-Malibu Classroom Teachers

Association (SMMCTA) to jump the gun?

Harry Keiley, president of the SMMCTA, said his members were disappointed when they saw the district's initial contract proposals and found no mention of a salary increase.

On top of that, there were

See **PAY RAISES**, page 9

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Horoscopes

2

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Talk up a storm, Scorpio

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)

★★★★ Take heart — even with a difficult person you'll make headway. Not everyone understands where you are coming from. Pull someone away from the crowd and take your time to explain what you are thinking. You'll get results. **Tonight:** Try a novel experience.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★★ Others finally smile and open up. Even in a difficult situation, you sense someone's willingness to negotiate. Think positively, and you can turn this person around to your perception. Working with someone as a partner draws good will. **Tonight:** Make nice.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Plug yourself into a project, and you'll get a lot done quickly. You might be quite pleased with what heads down your path. Evaluate what you expect before making a demand. How reasonable are you? **Tonight:** Happy as can be.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★★ Your imagination mixes well with foresight. This combination might actually be intelligence. Think carefully about your first reaction. Often talking opens doors. Your ability to read between the lines allows you to accomplish a lot quickly. **Tonight:** Slow down — you need some downtime.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ You realize certain facts and look at life very differently as a result. You might not understand what is motivating someone, but with insight and questions, a connection is made. Add your imagination to whatever you do today. Fun naturally occurs, though your spending could be out of whack. **Tonight:** Have fun.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★★ Take the first step and make an important call. Your good will and positive approach will make a big difference. Others talk and finally reveal much more of what is going on with them. Consider a family matter with care. **Tonight:** Happy at home.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ You hear news that impacts your finances. For some, this could be working overtime. Take charge rather than be affected by others. Think in terms of gain. Make a point of working with others directly. **Tonight:** Ask questions.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ Use this high energy to make not only your day but also someone else's. Pick up the phone and make a call. Plan a trip or vacation. Expenses need to be thought through. Look at the big picture financially. Gather information from new sources. **Tonight:** Talk up a storm.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★ You are the picture of energy. As the day builds and others fade, you zoom in. Someone gives you important facts. You need to listen. He or she intends to empower you. You are coming from an anchored, well-thought-out position. **Tonight:** Beam in what you want.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Use the daylight hours to zoom in on what you want. Others might talk like endless chatterboxes. Don't screen what they are saying. You might want to get strong feedback once you realize what is being said. **Tonight:** Slow down. Schedule some private time.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ You might want to rethink an issue that surrounds work and/or a parent. You are more in control than you realize. Think positively about what could happen if you focus. Go for what you want. **Tonight:** Claim your laurels.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ Take the high road and don't get involved in problems or minor details. You will be much happier as a result. Go for breaking patterns and getting past established boundaries. You can do it. **Tonight:** In the limelight.

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Suits them just fine

By Daily Press staff

The Santa Monica Elks are having a special clothing drive for the veterans at the VA Hospital in Westwood.

In addition to veterans with illnesses and/or injuries, there are those that suffer from the emotional trauma of their service. Many of them were part of the homeless population and had alcohol problems or drug addiction. When they are admitted, their clothes are immediately incinerated. Then it is pajama and hospital gowns. The only source of clothes are the donations from the community.

“The closets are bare,” said Robbie Robinson, an Elks’ past exalted ruler and chairman of veterans affairs, after a recent visit to the VA. “Small, medium or large, men or women, there is none.”

If people have clothing that was last year’s style or no longer fits, they are asked to deliver it to the Santa Monica Elks Lodge at 1040 Pico Blvd. before Aug. 15. If people need help in transporting, call Curt Curtiss (310) 645-8989.

If you wish to donate money for underwear, make a check out to S. M. Elks Lodge with the notation “for VA hospital clothing” and mail to the lodge at the above address, Santa Monica, 90405.

Model behavior can be catching

By Daily Press staff

Recognizing the need for positive role models in young Santa Monicans’ lives, the local Chamber of Commerce has partnered with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Los Angeles and Virginia Avenue Park to find mentors for local youth.

The summer months have been targeted as a time of outreach and recruitment for volunteers who are interested in making a difference in their community, as well as for signing up local youth into the program. Santa Monican boys and girls, ages 6 through 16, will be matched with Big Brothers and Big Sisters who serve as mentors, friends and role models for the youth. Anyone who is over 18 years old, has a safe driving record, and passes the extensive background check and screening process is eligible to be a mentor. A one-year commitment is required.

Though potential mentors may be intimidated or overwhelmed, spending time with local youth and being a positive role model can be a very rewarding experience.

Some mentors teach a child in their community how to ride a bike; others take them on their first picnic. Most importantly, mentors can change the course of a young person’s life for the better.

Ty Treadway, a three-time Emmy nominee and Big Brother to a young Santa Monican, has stressed the importance of donating his time to mentoring.

“Not everyone is lucky enough to be born with two loving parents that are strong role models,” he said. “There are so many really great kids out there that could use the positive guidance of a caring mentor. And you may just be surprised by all the fun you end up having.”

The mentoring program is part of an ongoing effort to curb gang violence in Santa Monica. According to a national study, children who are matched with caring mentors do better academically, are less likely to be involved with alcohol or drugs, are less likely to engage in gang violence, and have better relationships with their parents and peers compared with those who do not have mentors. Interviews for potential mentors and mentees are ongoing. Anyone interested in signing up can contact Sheila Estaniel at (310) 393-9825, ext. 10.

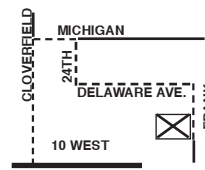
See BRIEFS, page 11

CORRECTION The headline of a letter to the editor that appeared on page 4 in the Aug. 2 edition was inaccurate. The content of the letter suggested that the comments made by Bayside District Corp. officials regarding the smoking ban were self-serving and desperate.

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SURF CONDITIONS

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LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS
SIZEABLE SW COMES IN THURSDAY...

TIDE FORECAST FOR TODAY IN SANTA MONICA

The Q-Line

Chiming in and butting out ...
The City Council is expected to adopt in the coming weeks a far-reaching smoking ban that, for all intents and purposes, will render it illegal to light up just about anywhere outside of a residential street. By a 5-1 vote, elected leaders have chosen to make Santa Monica a national leader in efforts to remove smokers from all public places — parks, beaches, outdoor dining patios, Third Street Promenade, downtown sidewalks.

So this week, Q-Line wants to know:
Do you agree with the anti-smoking measures? Does the ban represent the wants and will of Santa Monica voters?
Call (310) 285-8106 or type responses at smdp.com/forum and we'll print your answers.

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STATE BRIEFS

ASSOCIATED PRESS

RIALTO

Pollution problem a blast from the past

Levels of perchlorate contamination have spiked here in the last year, according to a report by an environmental advocacy group.

The Environment California Research and Policy Center of Los Angeles blasted the Goodrich Corp., which operated a facility in Rialto in the 1950s and 1960s, for not addressing the pollution problem more quickly after it was discovered in 1997. Perchlorate in an ingredient in rocket fuels.

Using test data reported by the company, the paper's authors conclude some wells are now measuring water 200 times more contaminated than last year.

"The evidence suggests the perchlorate contamination problem in Rialto is not getting better, it's getting worse," said the report's lead author, Sujatha Jahagirdar. "It also shows very clearly the negligence and recalcitrance of the corporations responsible for polluting the area."

An e-mail sent to Goodrich Corp.'s spokeswoman was not immediately answered on Wednesday.

The new report is only one element of renewed attention to the problem of Rialto's perchlorate contamination.

The City Council on Tuesday approved a resolution calling on the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board to issue cleanup orders to Goodrich Corp., Emhart Corp. and other perchlorate dumpers. The resolution also called on the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to join the city in its efforts to get the perchlorate cleaned up.

The council also authorized \$22,000 for the distribution of "Blast From the Past," a perchlorate-education DVD produced by Cal State San Bernardino, to each of Rialto's 32,000 households.

Estimates of the total cleanup cost on the plume of perchlorate contamination stretching beneath Rialto and Colton have ranged up to \$200 million.

CORONA

Teacher convicted of sexually assaulting boys

A teacher accused of sexually abusing six boys has been convicted of aggravated sexual assault and multiple counts of lewd conduct with a minor.

Jurors deliberated less than two hours Tuesday before convicting Thomas Lee West, 51. The former Moreno Valley Unified School District employee faces between 30 years to life in prison when he is sentenced on Sept. 8.

West was arrested in August 2003 after one of the victims talked to police. His arrest sparked an outcry from parents who learned that West had faced similar allegations in 1992 but reached a plea deal that allowed him to remain a teacher.

West denied all the victims' accusations, except for one boy's claim that he was abused during a sleep-over. West testified that he had taken heavy doses of sleeping and pain pills that night and was not sure what may have happened.

After West was sentenced, 21-year-old victim Brady Blair praised the verdict as "a day for calming of the spirit for the people involved."

But he said it's also "a day of mourning in how the state failed the first time around."

LAKEWOOD

Woman denies stabbing family members

A woman accused of breaking into a home and stabbing several family members — one fatally — has pleaded not guilty to charges of murder and attempted murder.

A public defender entered the plea Tuesday on behalf of Virginia Ann Krall, 22. Krall was arrested June 16 on suspicion of killing Yolanda Meraz, 37, and injuring Meraz's sister, daughter and mother during a 3 a.m. knife attack in the family's home.

The surviving victims have said they didn't know Krall, who moved into her boyfriend's home a few doors down from the Meraz residence only weeks before the attack.

They said she entered their home through a window and appeared calm as she attacked.

OXNARD

Nurse arrested for feeding tube foible

A nurse at an assisted-living facility accused of involvement in a patient's death was arrested in Las Vegas and will return to California to face charges, officials said.

Sandra Monterroso, 49, waived her right to protest extradition Tuesday after her arrest last week, officials said. Monterroso was declared a fugitive when she didn't show up for her arraignment on dependent adult abuse and involuntary manslaughter charges last month.

Monterroso is accused of incorrectly reinserting a feeding tube into a 20-year-old patient who had been left comatose by a surfing accident. Monterroso had been told not to touch the Fillmore man's feeding tube and he died shortly after she reinserted it, officials said.

CareMeridian chief Jamison "Jim" Ashby said it was misleading to refer to Monterroso as a fugitive because she did not seem to have known of her indictment.

"Our understanding is that she had no awareness that she had been charged," Ashby said. "As soon as she found out, she offered to turn herself in, but she wasn't given a choice. They went ahead and arrested her."

SANTA ANA

On second thought, voters may want recall

County supervisors have ordered an investigation into whether Registrar of Voters Neal Kelley inappropriately helped Capistrano Unified School District officials avoid a recall last year.

Tuesday's unanimous vote instructs Orange County's executive officer to contract with an "experienced" retired registrar with no former link to the county to handle the probe.

"What we want to do is make sure elections are run properly and according to the law," Supervisor William Campbell said.

Parents backing last year's recall attempt say Kelley sunk their effort by telling district officials that a recall would cost the school district \$600,000 dollars.

Workers' tips on table

BY ERICA WERNER

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Tip money earned by waitresses in Las Vegas, manicurists in Hollywood and bartenders in Seattle is on the table in the nation's capitol, as lawmakers scrap over an election-year minimum wage bill.

Nevada, California and Washington are among seven states where workers get to keep their tips on top of getting paid their state's full minimum wage. In other states, tip-earning workers get paid less and make up the difference with tips.

A provision in GOP-written minimum wage legislation passed by the House and under consideration this week by the Senate could change the law in those seven states — the others are Montana, Alaska, Minnesota and Oregon. It would deal a pay cut of \$3 or more an hour to thousands of waiters, bellhops and hairdressers in those states, according to Democrats and labor groups.

"Everything that has been achieved in seven states to support low-wage workers who earn tips is destroyed by this bill," said Sen.

Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif. "This bill would slash the salaries of thousands of workers."

Republicans and the National Restaurant Association, which opposes a minimum wage increase and fought for the tip provision, dispute the Democratic interpretation. They say the legislation would only have an impact when the states in question increase their minimum wage — at which point the increase would come out of a worker's tips, not an employer's payroll.

"No provision results in the lowering of wages for any worker. The purpose of the provision is to allow employers with tipped employees to count their employees' tips as wages for purposes of meeting their minimum-wage obligation," Brendan Flanagan, a spokesman for the National Restaurant Association, said in a statement Tuesday after Democrats began raising concerns.

But the minimum-wage-increase legislation already was controversial because House Republican leaders passed it as part of a bill cutting inheritance taxes on multimillion-dollar estates, a top GOP priority opposed by most Democrats. The tipped-

workers' provision looked likely to heighten Democratic opposition.

The GOP package, expected to come to a vote Friday, would increase the federal minimum wage from \$5.15 to \$7.25 per hour, phased in over the next three years. States with higher state minimum wages — in California it's now \$6.75 an hour; in Washington \$7.63 — would keep their higher levels, at least until the federal level exceeds it.

Except for in the seven states at issue, employers of tipped employees now pay only a portion of the minimum wage — starting at \$2.13 an hour — as long as the employees draw enough tips to make up the rest. A tipped employee is defined as one who regularly receives more than \$30 per month in tips.

Under the GOP-written legislation, according to Democrats, that same system would go into effect in the seven states where employers now pay the full wage. So instead of getting to keep tips on top of their minimum wage in California, Nevada and the other states, tipped workers would be paid a base wage of \$2.13 an hour and employers could use their tips to make up the rest.

Court wants stiff penalties for blackouts

BY DAVID KRAVETS

AP Legal Affairs Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — A federal appeals court ordered energy regulators Wednesday to consider ordering stiffer penalties for power companies that manipulated the market and caused blackouts during the 2000-2001 energy crisis.

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's 2003 handling of some of the fallout from California's energy crisis was "arbitrary, capricious and an abuse of discretion."

The state has sought reimbursement for an estimated \$8 billion to \$10 billion paid by consumers and businesses for overpriced power. FERC ordered energy companies, including several subsidiaries of bankrupt Enron Corp., to pay about \$3 billion for market manipulation.

Those repayments cover the period from Oct. 2, 2000 — when power companies were put on notice they could be forced to pay refunds — to June 20, 2001. A three-judge panel of the court said FERC must entertain allegations and possibly demand refunds for market manipulation that occurred before Oct. 2, 2000.

California is seeking \$2.8 billion in refunds before that date. But California is unlikely to get that much because some power purchases by state agencies were not covered by the opinion.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Guns are the killers

Editor:

Regarding your “Police go on the defensive in Pico” (SMDP, July 19, page 1), police presence won’t protect anyone because they are outgunned. We are all at risk because of the massive amount of guns in our society.

We have a public health epidemic because the NRA and gun lobbies have consistently blocked the most minuscule of meaningful gun control legislation. Their blood money has politicized a public health and safety issue.

President Bush and his administration even killed the assault rifle ban. So we are afloat in a massive arsenal of firepower like ducks in a shooting gallery.

Ruth Rosen
Santa Monica

Hug a tree, while you can

Editor:

I was sitting in a park in June and I saw men cutting down a huge tree. The man who worked at the park on Seventh and Wilshire in Santa Monica told me the trees had a disease in the roots and they were cutting them down so they won’t fall on people. Hmmm, fall on people? Well, then why don’t you close the park instead of bulldozing in parks where people are walking and kids are playing basketball and homeless people are laying on the ground? I saw bulldozers coming towards me and other people. There were children nearby. Ask me what is wrong with this. Many things, actually. I am angry with Santa Monica park attendants for allowing this activity to happen while there are people around. This could’ve been a dangerous situation. To who? You and I — the citizens of Santa Monica. Why? It takes too many people in a park to see a tree being killed. Last count I had was three. I am not sure because I left there. Here is the equation I saw — people laying on the ground, kids on the basketball court, and children playing in the playground and the bulldozers taking dead trees away after chainsaws cut them down. An officer of the law asking me to move from one of the trees because they were going to cut it down. Sure, she wanted me to be safe. But wouldn’t we be safer outside the park? In another park somewhere else? Yes, probably. They should have closed that park. I don’t believe them. The trees that have red tags means a red flag and certain death. Some trees are not sick, so don’t cut them down. If the trees are ill, then treat them. Cure them, please. We need trees. Think about it. We are important and so are trees. So the equation is this — children watched that happen. So now they will probably think killing trees is acceptable. I don’t get it, do you? So look at what we are teaching children. Look at how the people at the park were endangered. The trees were here before us. They have rights. Trees are for everyone. Wake up people. Please remember trees need people to love them. Please hug a tree, they like that a lot.

Cherie Hall
Santa Monica

Viva la vegan

Editor:

Congratulations to Mike Feinstein for helping Bubba Gump appeal to more people (SMDP, July 28, page 1). Just this week, the news covered studies showing that a vegan diet can reduce the need for diabetes medication. This will not only make Gump attractive to more customers, it could help those customers to keep coming back — longer. And since a business makes money based on the lifetime value of a customer, why not help to extend that lifetime? Besides, the way some see it, you are what you eat — if you’re not vegetarian (or vegan), you’re dead meat.

Tim I. Martin
Corona, Calif.

Veterans need not carry their burdens alone

Editor:

It is with a profound sense of loss and regret that I read of a Santa Monica veteran of the conflict in Iraq who was the sole survivor of an attack that left him disabled and suffering, and who ultimately took his own life (SMDP, July 29, page 1).

I am especially sorry that his wife now endures the burden that claimed her husband.

There is no way to know what tormented him so badly as to make the decision to leave us, we who would much rather have fought to save him than to lose him. There is no way to know for sure how many more who carry the daily reminders of combat with them are in crisis, but I very much want anyone who read what happened and who will fight for the life of our next affected veteran to please do something by taking action and support the National Veterans Foundation at their 800 hotline.

The National Veterans Foundation is staffed by veterans who are dedicated to helping veterans in whatever way that they can.

If you know any veteran or a family member of a veteran who is in crisis and you believe they must get help, please take a moment and make a call to the National Veterans Foundation at 888-777-4443 from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., and let them know. They are standing by and ready to help.

Stewart Resmer
Santa Monica

Enough with the gripes, let sleeping homeless lie



ICONOCLAST BLAST

BY SETH BARNES

Everyone loves a good whining fit once in a while. In a postmodern world where openly displaying unconscious angst is encouraged and often lauded as a terrific release of negative energy, never has there been such an incentive to pitch a fit. Showing your emotions or losing your cool is healthy. You can’t keep all that rage bottled up inside. You might burst! So by all means, take it out on somebody. Preferably a meek, innocent and defenseless bystander.

We’re in the age of the gripe. Our own vice president told off a member of Congress on the Senate floor and afterwards boasted about how it made him feel better. Here in Los Angeles, celebrities engage in daily combat with the paparazzi as they attempt to secure the world’s supply of funny looking handbags from elite fashion boutiques. With the proliferation of new media, average Dicks and Janes are even getting into the act, churning out bits and bytes of their own vitriol in Internet chat rooms, blogs and over podcasts and talk radio. Everyone has a right to bitch and moan.

All of this has been exacerbated by an oppressive California heat wave that has turned the mild-mannered lady next door into a bitter, cantankerous hag with a hair-trigger temper. It’s a well-known fact that as the mercury rises, crime and murder rates increase. Personally, I’ve been putting a little extra into my normal sneers, rude remarks and overreactions. When human beings are forced to live in a boiling cauldron, they like to turn their own disposition to boiling and bitter. Scientists would say we’re mimicking the conditions of our surrounding environment. Others might say the race is composed entirely of self-absorbed jerks who don’t give a damn about anyone else.

I don’t think I have to tell you the subject Santa Monicans love to gripe and whine about the most. If Santa Monica were a poet, the homeless situation would be her muse. In truth, complaining about transients is the perfect gripe because it’s an ever-present problem that never will be completely solved. So for affected whiners with nothing better to do, there’s an endless amount of material to hash and gnash over. Some of these folks might not be poets, but they probably were drama majors in college: Their breathtaking descriptions of the problem besetting our city could convince an

outside observer that this enclave by the sea has turned into some sort of tent city that might be more familiar in say, Mogadishu.

Last time I checked, the only permanent encampments and canvas tents downtown were those selling overpriced organic produce to yippy yoga moms a few times a week. So far, the weekly markets haven’t morphed into refugee camps, but I’m sure there’s some ad hoc community group monitoring the situation.

This isn’t to say there isn’t a homeless problem in the city. Undoubtedly there is. Undoubtedly, transients consume a disproportional share of resources compared to the rest of the population. But it’s also true that the issue is a perfect launching pad for civic-minded residents who just want something to complain about. And considering Santa Monica is one of the most expensive zip codes in the country — by median home value — it isn’t like we can argue about a broken spotlight on Main Street that, darn it, just hasn’t been fixed yet. We’re so privileged, so spoiled by our prime location and glittering assets that we’ve picked one relative inconvenience and blown it out of proportion.

There are always going to be mentally and physically destitute individuals, and a certain percentage of them are always going to be living on the streets. Always. So get used to it. That doesn’t mean you and I shouldn’t do anything about it, but it also doesn’t mean that we should devote our lives to stoking our egos and gratifying our individual need for attention by using the issue as a personal soapbox.

Mind you, I’m criticizing both sides of the issue here — the bleeding hearts who set up buffet-style brunches for the homeless and the hard-liners who want to crack down on the problem with militaristic force. You both need to tone it down. Why is it that the majority of Santa Monicans can live their day-to-day lives without getting whipped into a fervor about homelessness? Would your time be better served working quietly behind the scenes on policy and budget initiatives? Of course, there’s a time and place for public dialogue. But I’d submit that we’ve had our share of that for awhile to come.

Imagine if we had a “homeless free” zone in the pages of this newspaper for a week? I bet as much would actually get accomplished as any other week. Maybe more. Sometimes toning down the rhetoric and actually digging your heels in and snapping into action can be the best medicine.

So maybe we should all put a sock in it. Just for a little bit. Or at least until the heat breaks.

(Seth Barnes can be reached at barneseth@hotmail.com.)

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GUEST COMMENTARY BY JOHN W. WHITEHEAD

Video killed the journalism star

Viewers best take TV news with a cynical grain of salt

Anyone who relies exclusively on television news reporting for insight into what's happening in the world is making a serious mistake. However, since Americans have, by and large, become non-readers and primarily viewers of television, it has become an inescapable necessity for most that if they desire information on current events, they get it from watching TV news shows.

Yet TV news networks, having fallen prey to the demands of a celebrity-obsessed and entertainment-driven culture, provide viewers with what they want to see rather than what is newsworthy. As a result, there tends to be little deviation between the networks as to what stories are covered. Hence, more time is spent titillating and entertaining viewers than educating them about pressing issues of concern. As I write this, CNN's top stories include a report on a woman who was found dead in her basement after liposuction, a father who allowed his 4-year-old son to take the wheel and actor Heath Ledger being cast as the Joker in the upcoming Batman movie. Even warfare is presented as an entertainment item.

The amount of time spent on particular news stories also is telling and is a reflection of the misplaced priorities and sensibilities of the networks. For example, while the networks have spent days reporting about the scandal involving an inebriated Mel Gibson spouting anti-Semitic remarks, far less time — if any — is spent on harder-hitting issues like crime, welfare, homelessness and government accountability.

While the networks must bear the brunt of the blame for producing little more than entertainment babble, the lack of discernment on the part of television news watchers also plays a part. For example, surveys of viewing patterns indicate that, in an average household, the television set is in use over seven hours a day. Most people, believing themselves to be in control of the process, are scarcely bothered by this statistic. But it is a false sense of control. The fact is that television not only delivers programs to your home; it also delivers you to a sponsor. The whole point of television in America, including television news programs, is to get you to watch so that programmers, performers and others can make a lot of money. That is why so-called news events are commingled with a bevy of inane entertainment items. It is to keep you glued to the set so that a product can be sold to you.

This does not mean that television news is not important. There are things the public must know whether they "like" it or not. This is a necessity in a democratic society. Thus, TV news should give people what they need, not necessarily what they want. However, that rarely happens.

Realistically, there are some things that can be done to help you understand TV news and, thus, minimize its impact on you.

Some of these are analyzed by Neil Postman and Steve Powers in their book, "How to Watch TV News" published in 1992.

TV news is not what happened. Rather, it is what someone labeled a "journalist" or "correspondent" thinks is worth reporting. Journalists would prefer that you trust them, but you should not. It is your business to judge and analyze what is reported. Although there are some good TV journalists, the old art of investigative reporting has largely been lost. For example, how often have you heard a reporter preface a "news" report with the statement "This comes from official sources?" What this means oftentimes is that the government is speaking directly to you through a reporter. This cannot be trusted since the government hires thousands of spin doctors to spread government propaganda.

TV news is entertainment. TV news is not communication but broadcast. Communication is between equals, and when you are being spoon-fed by advertisers, you are in no way equal. And although the news may have value, it is primarily a commodity to gather an audience, which will be sold to advertisers. That is why the program you are watching is called a news "show." That means that the so-called news is delivered as a form of entertainment. "In the case of most news shows," write Postman and Powers, "the package includes attractive anchors, an exciting musical theme, comic relief (usually from the weather people, especially men), stories placed to hold the audience, the creation of the illusion of intimacy, and so on. The point of this kind of show is that no one is expected to take the news too seriously. For one thing, tomorrow's news will have nothing to do with today's news."

Never underestimate the power of commercials, especially to news audiences. People who watch news tend to be more attentive, educated and have more money to spend. They are, thus, a prime market for advertisers, and, as such, sponsors are willing to spend millions on well-produced commercials. Such commercials are often longer in length than most news stories and cost more to produce than the news stories themselves. Moreover, the content of many commercials, which often contradicts the messages of the news stories, cannot be ignored. Most commercials are aimed at prurient interests in advocating sex, overindulgence, drugs, etc., which has a demoralizing effect on viewers, especially children.

It is vitally important to learn about the

economic and political interests of those who own the "corporate" media. There are few independent news sources. Indeed, the major news outlets are owned by corporate empires. For example, General Electric owns the entire stable of NBC shows, including MSNBC, which it co-owns with Microsoft (the "MS" in MSNBC stands for Microsoft). Both GE and Microsoft have poured millions of dollars into the political campaigns of George W. Bush. CBS is owned by Westinghouse while Disney, another large contributor to the president's campaign, owns ABC. CNN is owned by the multi-corporation Time-Warner, while Fox News Channel is owned by media mogul Rupert Murdoch. The obvious question: How can a news network present objective news on a candidate that it financially supports?

"One doesn't have to be a Marxist," note Postman and Powers, "to assume that people making a million dollars a year will see things differently from people struggling to make ends meet." This is why it is so vitally important to get your news from more than one source. There are independent television news channels and shows that present a different view than what is seen on the corporate news networks. It is important to get differing views on news stories.

Pay special attention to the language of news casts. Because film footage and other visual imagery are so engaging on TV news shows, viewers are apt to allow language — what the reporter is saying about the images — to go unexamined. A TV newscaster's language frames the pictures, and, therefore, the meaning we derive from the picture is often determined by the reporter's commentary. TV by its very nature manipulates viewers. One must never forget that every television minute has been edited. The viewer does not see the actual event but the edited form of the event. Add to that the fact that the reporters editing the film have a subjective

view — sometimes determined by their corporate bosses — that enters in. For instance, when we see a political figure such as the president on TV, we are not seeing the person as he necessarily is. We are seeing the image that his handlers have decided we should see.

Reduce by at least one-third the amount of TV news you watch. TV news generally consists of "bad" news — wars, torture, murders, scandals and so forth. It cannot possibly do you any harm to excuse yourself each week from much of the mayhem projected at you on the news. Do not form your concept of reality based on television. TV news, it must be remembered, does not reflect normal everyday life. Indeed, studies indicate that a heavy viewing of TV news makes people think the world is much more dangerous than it actually is. One "study indicates that watching television, including news shows, makes people somewhat more depressed than they otherwise would be," say Postman and Powers. This may lead to chronic depression and constantly being alarmed. Of course, a bevy of commercials pitch drugs at you that allegedly relieve the depression.

One of the reasons many people are addicted to watching TV news is that they feel they must have an opinion on almost everything, which gives the illusion of participation in American life. But an opinion is all that we can gain from TV news because it only presents the most rudimentary and fragmented information on anything. Thus, on most issues we don't really know much about what is actually going on. Sometimes we need to realize that we don't have enough information to form a true opinion. How can that be done? Read good books and newspapers and carefully analyze issues in order to be better informed.

Finally, schools must begin teaching children how to watch TV news. Specific courses should be taught so that our future citizens can hopefully avoid the pitfalls that the television news monolith will continue to lay before future generations. If not, our democracy may not survive.

(Constitutional attorney **John W. Whitehead** is founder of The Rutherford Institute. He can be contacted at johnw@rutherford.org.)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

People first, squirrels second

Editor:

Regarding the article "Squirrels are for the birds" (SMDP, July 21, page 1), if the City Council would only devote as much time and effort to the transient population as they do to the squirrel population we'd be way better off.

Priorities, people, priorities. November is coming soon.

Marilyn Brennan
Santa Monica



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Narrow your focus when picking stocks

Analysts weigh a handful of issues to fine-tune a portfolio



MIND YOUR BUSINESS
BY KIRK G. AGUER

When you decide to invest in the stock market, how do you refine the huge list of available equities down to just the most promising candidates?

First, you keep in mind something that professional analysts must remember — investing always requires weighing potential risk against potential reward. Analysts use certain criteria in an effort to focus their stock selection process. In broad terms, analysts generally weigh three issues: fundamental business factors, the technical position of the stock and intangible factors that may provide a sense of how reliable a stock may be. You can use these same criteria yourself when fine-tuning your stock picks.

■ **Fundamentals.** Business fundamentals are the first factor to consider. For example, does the company have a projected earnings growth rate that is substantially better than that of the Standard & Poor's 500 Index? Is the company first or second in its industry in terms of market share for its products and services? If not, is it gaining market share against its larger competitors? Is the company the lowest-cost operator in its industry?

■ **Technical factors.** Next come the technical characteristics of the stock. Technical analysts seek clues to a stock's future performance by charting its historical price and volume action. Questions they ask themselves include: Is the stock in a long-running uptrend? Are there signs that it might be building to a peak from which it is likely to fall? Is

the industry sector in or out of favor? Has the stock been displaying above-average relative strength compared to the broad market? Finally, does the stock trade in enough volume to make it relatively easy to buy and sell?

■ **Don't forget the intangibles.** Does the stock have the aura of a winner or a loser? For example, does the company have a growth record that can capture the imagination of other investors? Does it seem likely it will attract institutional buyers? Can you live with this stock through the downswings most stocks have from time to time? On a more objective level, is the stock widely followed by Wall Street analysts, or is it followed by only a few firms, possibly making it more vulnerable to an analyst's downgrade? Finally, you need to consider the stock's performance history. What were the causes of any large sell offs over the past decade? Were they related to company or industry developments or the consequence of general market weakness?

■ **Take valuation into account.** Is this stock you're considering just a trading vehicle, or are there enough positive answers to the previous questions to suggest that it may have the potential for an enduring rise? If your answer is the latter, but the stock's price/earnings ratio (P/E) seems too high, there's another factor to consider. The further into the future that you can project a stream of growing earnings, the more likely it may be that the stock could trade at a high P/E ratio for an extended period of time and outperform many issues that look cheaper.

The information given here is for general guidelines only. Many stocks won't measure up to standards like these, but taking these criteria into account when evaluating a stock may provide the potential for rewarding investments. Consult your financial advisor if you want further guidance.

(Kirk G. Aguer is a Santa Monica financial advisor for Morgan Stanley, member SPIC. To reach him, call (310) 319-5220.)

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BUSINESS BRIEFS

Kaster & Partners are top dogs

By Daily Press staff

A local advertising firm is going to the dogs.

Kastner & Partners beat out 10 competing shops, including McCann Erickson and Brand Architecture International, to become agency of record for the newly launched Isle of Dogs, devoted to improving the health, beauty and well-being of dogs.

With offices in Atlanta, Santa Monica and New York, Kastner & Partners in America is part of an independent, international network providing creative, strategy and media under one roof. The company works for a select roster of top brands and operates on one principle: to improve its clients' business.

In initial meetings, the client was looking for an ad agency partner to help handle the U.S. launch of a shampoo from the U.K.

"We selected Kastner & Partners based on their strategic prowess and the level of interest and commitment that took their approach far beyond classical advertising," said Kailas Rao, CEO, Isle of Dogs. "We admit to being curious about what the creators of Red Bull and the energy drink category could do to help us recreate the pet grooming sector."

Using the strategic insight that every dog owner views their pet as a unique member of the family, and leveraging the proven product ingredients, Kastner & Partners recommended not introducing just one new dog shampoo to the U.S. market, but instead helped develop a complete canine grooming system tailored to the individual needs of dogs.

"We knew from our experience helping to build the Red Bull brand around the world and successfully introducing it in the U.S., that there was a similar opportunity to create a bigger picture grooming solution for dog parents with Isle of Dogs," said Thomas Grabner, CEO, Kastner & Partners in America. "Although nearly 60 percent of small dogs sleep with their owners in the U.S., dog grooming hasn't caught up with the country's dog loving craze."

Kastner & Partners developed the Isle of Dogs brand from scratch, starting with market research to build the foundation for solid strategic positioning of this premium brand, and continuing through name, logo, product and packaging design.

"We're looking to create the 'Clinique of the dog world, and Kastner & Partners provided the strategic framework which enabled us to launch not just a shampoo, but a complete canine grooming category," said Carlos Tribino, Isle of Dogs vice president of marketing and sales, formerly with Brand Architecture.

Visitors Bureau reaches for Best

By Daily Press staff

The Santa Monica Convention & Visitors Bureau has announced the appointment of Alison Best as director of sales.

Best will be responsible for development and maintenance of CVB sales and client services including establishing and implementing sales programs designed to generate sales leads and group bookings from Santa Monica's top feeder markets, as well as organizing tradeshow attendance and overseeing the development of a convention services program.

"This is a great opportunity and I look forward to selling this unique and beautiful city," Best said. "I was drawn to this destination because it is known worldwide for its friendly people and forward thinking. I am so excited about being a part of the Santa Monica team."

Prior to coming to Santa Monica, Best has provided more than 14 years of hospitality/tourism work experience. Most recently, Alison was senior sales manager of conventions and group sales of tourism at Whistler.

"We are very confident that Alison's expertise, sales knowledge and enthusiasm will add tremendously to our teams efforts," said Misti Kerns, president and CEO of the CVB.

Best is a native Canadian and currently resides in Marina Del Rey. She attended the Canadian Tourism College in Vancouver, BC with a diploma in tourism and host training. She received her sociology degree from the University of Victoria.

The CVB is a non-profit entity designed to promote travel/tourism to Santa Monica. The bureau is located at 1920 Main St. and can be reached at (310) 319-6263.

Chamber exits arena

CHAMBER, from page 1

The governmental affairs position, which Dodson hopes to fill by the fall, will be charged with establishing key relationships with city staff and proactively informing chamber members of issues affecting them. The staff member also will act as an ombudsman for chamber members with projects before City Hall.

To fund the position, the chamber has established a "Business Roundtable," where up to 30 chamber members pay an annual fee of \$2,500 to have quarterly meetings with City Manager Lamont Ewell, elected officials and city department heads.

Dodson said 18 members have already signed up, each for the required three-year commitment. The first roundtable luncheon is scheduled for Sept. 7, Dodson said.

Ewell, who served as governmental affairs liaison as the assistant city manager in San Diego, supports the chamber's move.

"I was extremely happy to see this occur," Ewell said. "It helps us create a stronger working relationship with the city and the business community, which was badly needed. I'm glad to see we have removed the last barrier preventing us from working closer together."

Formed in 2002 to fight a living wage law passed by the City Council in 2001, the issues-related PAC was short lived,

and its influence on Santa Monica politics unclear. Supporters said it was key in defeating the living wage law in November 2002, while others view its departure as a sign that it was ineffective.

"Most likely, the chamber wasn't able to raise enough money to counter the opposition," said Bob Stern, president of the Center for Governmental Studies, a nonprofit, non-partisan organization that studies and helps implement innovative approaches to improving social problems and the processes of self-government. "Chamber members probably thought hiring another staff person to work with City Hall was easier than running an effective campaign opposing Santa Monicans for Renters Rights (SMRR)."

SMRR has been the ruling political party in Santa Monica, holding a majority of the seats on the City Council for last 30 years. Its members have often butted heads with the chamber over issues related to development, rent control and other political issues.

Denny Zane, a co-founder of SMRR, characterized the chamber's recent move as a "gesture that they are moving in the right direction in reducing unnecessary misunderstandings and conflicts" with City Hall and others.

"I hope its meant to be an olive branch towards community organizations such as SMRR, who have sometimes differed with the chamber," Zane said. "Olive branches are always good."

Lessons in jumping to conclusions

PAY RAISES, from page 1

requests to have teachers spend more time supervising students while on recess and at lunch, rather than using that time to meet with colleagues or prepare lesson plans. Keiley also said the district's initial proposals included cuts to health care benefits that would have required teachers to pay more out of their own pockets.

"The reason why the union is coming out aggressively is that these initial proposals will further reduce the purchasing power of teachers," Keiley said. "There is a shortage of quality and qualified teachers, many of whom are leaving the profession in droves. If we are to do anything about retaining quality teachers, we must do something about compensation."

Julia Brownley, president of the school board, said her colleagues plan to act on a pay raise, however, did not feel comfortable going into details until a final contract is reached. Negotiations are expected to commence in the coming weeks.

The issue of a raise was absent from a list of initial proposals presented to the union last week because the teachers had already included a cost-of-living adjustment in their proposals to the board, district officials said. Under the current contract, when one party opens an issue for discussion, the other party is not required to include it in their proposals. To do so would be redundant, district officials said.

"If they open a particular article of the contract, we don't have to open it because it's already open," Brownley said. "If that caused any misunderstanding with union leadership

and its members, we apologize. That certainly was not our intention at all."

The board's initial proposals did include the desire to create full-day Kindergarten and increase the number of hours teachers would be required to spend on yard duty. The proposals also included changing the rate of pay for summer school teachers and the way in which those teachers are selected. In addition, secondary substitutes would no longer have preparation periods, according to the proposals.

Keiley said the union, while recognizing members of the school board want to grant raises, is prepared to fight for substitutes and will seek additional pay if teachers are required to spend more time supervising playgrounds and lunch periods.

"The fact of the matter is, teachers deserve the same level of compensation as administrators," Keiley said. "Our teachers deserve to be the best paid teachers in LA County and we will work tirelessly to achieve this."

Interim Superintendent Tim Walker said district staff and the board are equally committed to working with the union to ensure the best possible contract for everyone, including students. Walker could not comment further on the proposals out of respect for the negotiating process.

"The district will work collaboratively with the union," Walker said. "We are going to enter the negotiations with an open mind and we will come up with a compromise that both sides feel extraordinarily comfortable with by the time we come to a conclusion. My hope is that we will do so in a reasonable time and to mutual satisfaction of both parties."



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Santa Monica, CA 90401

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:
The City of Santa Monica has prepared a proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration for the adaptive reuse of a manufacturing building to a self storage facility. The project proposes to add 400 square feet to the first floor and a 34,585 square foot second floor, bringing the total area within the building to 73,945 square feet. The Initial Study examines impacts of the proposed project on the City's environment. Mitigation measures have been identified in the Initial Study/Proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration that will mitigate potential impacts in the following areas to levels of insignificance: Hazards and Hazardous Materials, Air Quality, and Mandatory Findings of Significance

HOW TO COMMENT ON NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT AN INITIAL STUDY/MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION:
The City of Santa Monica encourages public comment on this and other projects. Copies of the Initial Study and proposed Mitigated Negative Declaration for the project are available for you review at City Hall, 1685 Main Street, in the Office of the City Clerk, Room 102 and at the City Planning Division public counter, Room 111. Copies are also available for review at the Main Library located at 601 Santa Monica Boulevard and the Fairview Branch Library located at 2101 Ocean Park Boulevard.

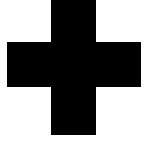
PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD: August 3, 2006 to September 1, 2006 5:00 p.m.

WHERE TO SEND COMMENTS:
City Planning Division, 1685 Main Street, Room 212
Santa Monica, California 90401-3295
Telephone: (310) 458-8341
Attention: Dennis Banks, Associate Planner
Email: dennis.banks@smgov.net

Espanol: Esto es una noticia de un estudio preliminar y declaracion negative sobre la renovacion propuesta para 1707 Cloverfield Boulevard. Este estudio preliminar y declaracion negative han sido preparados y estan disponibles para su revision y comentario. Para mas informacion, llame a Carmen Gutierrez al numero (310)458-8341.

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The wind taken out of its sails



Richard Chase/Special to the Daily Press

A helicopter owned by Celebrity Helicopters experienced engine problems over the beach area in Ocean Park around 5:30 p.m. on Tuesday, forcing the pilot to make an emergency landing in the 2700 block of the beach lot. No injuries were reported. Four people were on board, including a young boy. The helicopter was trucked away with a minor fuel leak.

Reggae trifecta takes to Pier stage tonight

TWILIGHT, from page 1

Altruda's latest band; he has been performing and putting out albums since 1995.

Murray, the former leader of influential Canadian ska group King Apparatus, has earned a strong reputation as a dynamic performer and gifted songwriter. After King Apparatus disbanded, he moved to Los

Angeles and began work as a solo artist. His soulful reggae ballad "Let There Be Peace" was featured on the most recent "Give Em The Boot" compilation (Hellcat/Epitaph). Murray also hosts Bluebeat Lounge on Tuesday nights at Hollywood's Knitting Factory.

Bike Attack and Amoeba Records will give out more prizes at tonight's reggae concert. Bike Attack, located on Main Street, is raffling

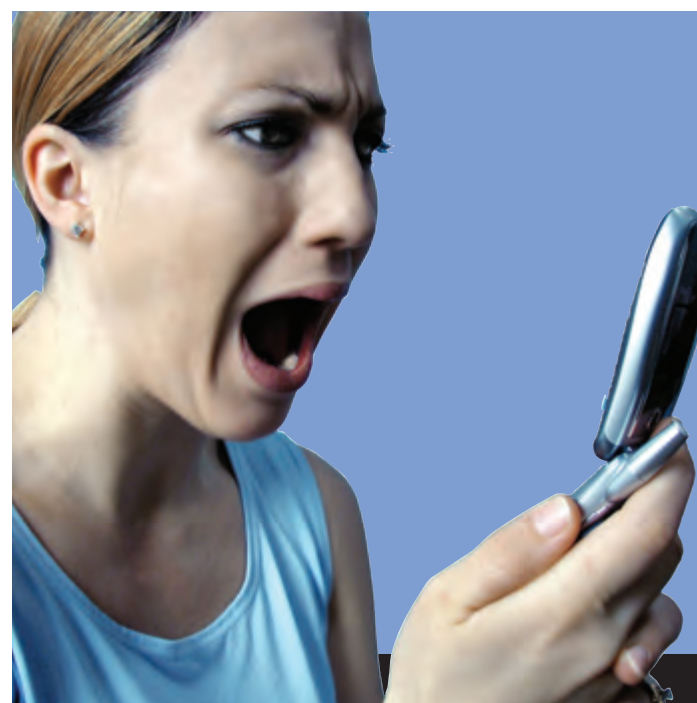
off a beach cruiser. The proceeds from the raffle will support Heal the Bay. Amoeba Records will give away a \$100 gift certificate to a fan who signs up for their mailing list at their booth.

The Santa Monica Pier entrance is at the intersection of Colorado Avenue and Ocean Avenue in Santa Monica. Beach parking is available in lots located at 2030 Barnard Way and 1550 PCH, both of which are accessible

from Ocean Avenue. Parking space is limited and pier officials encourage walking, biking, and using mass transit.

For more information and a lineup of future Twilight performers, go to www.twilightdance.org.

For bus information, visit www.bigbluebus.com and www.mta.net, or call (310) 451-5444.



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Santa Monica Daily Press

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

BRIEFS, from page 3



Photo courtesy

AT HOME IN THE OUTDOORS Daybreak Shelter campers and managers took to the evening at their annual camping trip at Leo Carrillo State Beach.

Surf's up for Daybreak campers in Malibu

By Daily Press staff

Thirteen Daybreak Shelter women in New Directions (WIND) members and staff held their annual camping trip at Leo Carrillo State Beach last month with campfire support groups, cave exploration and group hikes on the beach. The excursion gives homeless and formerly homeless women the opportunity to experience the great outdoors, some for the very first time.

"This was our eighth year for the camping event," said Amy Turk, project director. "The women put up their own tents, cook their own group meals, play games, and gaze at the stars at night together. It allows nature to rebuild our spirits and to bond us as a group."

Tents and camping equipment are provided by FamCamp and funded by the California State Parks Foundation.

"Daybreak is a place that saves lives," said one camper. "And then the new ones come in. The camping trip was fun."

Daybreak Shelter provides transitional housing, money management, life skills classes, mental health treatment, and housing search assistance to prepare residents for independent living and self-sufficiency. The WIND program also holds weekly classes in arts and crafts, health issues, and interpersonal relationships, as well as other recreational activities.

Daybreak Shelter is one of OPCC's (formerly Ocean Park Community Center's) 11 programs on eight sites in Santa Monica and the Westside, providing food, outreach, emergency services, transitional housing, health programs and more services for more than 10,000 homeless and low-income residents.

For more information, call (310) 264-6646 or visit www.opcc.net.

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Senate looks to stream into the Gulf

BY H. JOSEF HEBERT

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The Senate wants to expand oil and gas drilling to a large chunk of the Gulf of Mexico that has been off limits to energy companies.

The House has a more ambitious plan: Open coastal waters to drilling everywhere unless a state objects.

Opening the Outer Continental Shelf to oil and gas rigs has moved to the center of the energy debate in Congress where lawmakers for months have struggled to respond to growing anger among voters over high energy prices.

By a vote of 71-25 Tuesday, the Senate passed a bill directing the Interior Department to begin selling leases for oil and gas development in 8.3 million acres of the east-central Gulf of Mexico.

Moving toward a monthlong summer recess, the Senate still faces a rush of business including approval of a \$444.6 billion Pentagon funding bill that also has an additional \$50 billion for the Iraq war.

GOP leaders also hoped to vote Friday on a bill that would both raise the minimum wage and make permanent a cut in the estate tax while extending a variety of popular tax breaks

such as deductions for college tuition. Democrats are trying to block the tax-wage bill, arguing the two issues should not be combined.

A debate on legislation to deal with an overhaul of federal pension law, passed by the House before it adjourned last week, could take senators into the weekend.

Many Senate Republicans called Tuesday's vote a breakthrough that could lead to opening more ocean waters that have been under a drilling moratorium for 25 years. The House passed legislation in June that would end the moratorium everywhere and allow development 50 miles off any state unless it formally objects.

That fight is for another day, Sen. Pete Domenici, R-N.M., told reporters Tuesday.

Any bill that goes beyond the 8.3 million acres would run into a filibuster in the Senate, requiring 60 votes to overcome, he said. "It's a monster that you have to jump" and the votes aren't there.

Domenici will lead Senate negotiators in a conference with the House on offshore drilling in September so his remarks to reporters sent a message to the House leadership: Go beyond what the Senate passed and Tuesday's "great victory will be turned back into nothing."

Rep. Richard Pombo, R-Calif., a principal

sponsor of the House-passed bill, left open the possibility of compromise. He said both chambers agree more offshore oil and gas development is needed "to provide relief for consumers."

"The only remaining question is just how much relief will Congress grant," said Pombo.

Republican senators hailed their bill as a major step toward increasing domestic oil and natural gas production.

"It brings more American energy to American consumers," declared Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn. With more supply of natural gas, prices may drop, he said.

Domenici called it "welcome news for the people of the United States" — for homeowners facing high heating bills as well as for manufacturers and chemical companies that have seen natural gas costs soar.

Never mind that no oil or gas would flow from the new area for four or five years, perhaps longer.

At best "this will supply a small amount of gas years from now," said Sen. Mark Dayton, D-Minn., who voted against the bill because GOP leaders maneuvered to bar amendments. Dayton wanted a provision that would expand support for ethanol.

Many of those who opposed the bill — including Sen. Olympia Snowe of Maine, the only Republican to vote no — feared it could

lead to oil and gas drilling along the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, now protected by the moratorium.

While 18 Democrats joined Republicans in support of the bill, only Sen. Mary Landrieu, D-La., joined the Republicans at the news conference.

It was her time to bask in the glory.

She had pushed to increase the royalties from offshore oil and gas for four Gulf coast states that have rigs in nearby waters. The bill would give the four states 37.5 percent of future royalties, compared to less than 2 percent today.

Louisiana would receive \$600 million a year 10 years from now and more in later years, compared to about \$30 million to \$40 million a year under current rules, according to Landrieu's staff.

Eventually the four states could share as much as \$12 billion to \$15 billion a year under the bill, according to an analysis by Sen. Jeff Bingaman, D-N.M., who opposed the royalty changes.

Senate Democratic leader Harry Reid's support for the bill was said to be largely to help Landrieu take something back to Louisiana voters and get re-elected in 2008, when her fate may determine whether Democrats regain a Senate majority.

Restoration of tainted habitat a long time coming for ecologists

BY PEGGY ANDERSEN

Associated Press Writer

SEATTLE — A 1991 oil spill that killed thousands of seabirds along Washington state's outer coast has spurred a plan to provide 200 years of protection for 900 acres of coastal forest — critical nesting habitat for federally protected marbled murrelets.

Tribal, state and federal officials gathered Tuesday at Neah Bay, on the northwest tip of the Olympic Peninsula, to mark completion of a \$5.2 million habitat restoration plan to offset damage from the Tenyo Maru oil spill, according to a news release from the state Department of Ecology and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The Japanese fishing vessel sank in 540 feet of water about 23 miles northwest of the peninsula's Cape Flattery after the ship was struck by the Chinese freighter Tuo Hai in heavy fog on July 22, 1991.

Over the next month, the Tenyo Maru released more than 100,000 gallons of oil, which — driven south by summer currents — fouled beaches and killed wildlife from

Canada's Vancouver Island to northern Oregon.

Less than two years earlier, in December 1989, the same general area had been oiled by 231,000 gallons of bunker fuel from the oil barge Nestucca, which lost its tow in 20-foot seas at the mouth of Grays Harbor on the central Washington coast. Winter currents drove that spill north.

"It really was a double whammy," said Fish and Wildlife spokesman Doug Zimmer.

The heaviest oiling from the Tenyo Maru was along the Makah Indian Reservation coast along the peninsula's northwest corner, and along the Olympic National Park shoreline to the south.

Scientists estimate that 7 percent to 11 percent of the marbled murrelet population on Washington's outer coast may have died from the spill. At that time, the entire state population was estimated at roughly 5,000 birds. The marbled murrelet was listed as a threatened species in 1992 under the federal Endangered Species Act.

The Tenyo Maru spill also killed thousands of other seabirds, including murrees,

auklets, tufted puffins and pigeon guillemots. Oil also lingered in giant kelp beds along part of the northwest coast.

The elusive murrelet flies at night and nests solo in forestland, which makes it very difficult to count, said Cindy Schexnider, environmental contaminant specialist for Fish and Wildlife. Even without major spills, the murrelet population is believed to be declining 4 percent to 7 percent each year, she said.

Spill responders recovered 4,000 dead birds, a fraction of the total.

"The spill couldn't have come at a worse time for area seabirds," said Dick Logan, who leads natural resource damage response for Ecology's oil spill program.

Marbled murrelets lay one egg on the ground, often on a ledge in a space about the size of a teacup, said Fish and Wildlife spokesman Zimmer. When the baby bird is ready — usually mid-July — it flutters down to the water, where its parents tend it for about two weeks as it learns to forage, swim and fly.

The owner of the Chinese freighter paid a

\$9 million penalty that went into a special fund created by tribal, state and federal agencies, with \$5.2 million earmarked for seabird restoration and preservation, and \$3.8 million to cover spill containment costs.

A committee representing the Makah, Fish & Wildlife, Ecology and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration used the restoration money to help pay for a rescue tug at Neah Bay, support nesting site studies and conduct a long-term seabird census.

A tug has been stationed at Neah Bay during the winter months since 1999, said Ecology spokesman Curt Hart. Funding is still being sought for year-round tug protection at Neah Bay, he said.

The committee bought conservation easements for two parcels of Makah tribal land to provide future additional habitat for marbled murrelets: a 278-acre parcel in Waatch Valley that includes 100 acres of old growth forest (\$1.4 million), and a 277-acre parcel at Anderson Point that includes 91 acres of second-growth timber, as well as nesting habitat (\$2.1 million).

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Japan back in red, but may be wary

BY JOSH FUNK
Associated Press Writer

OMAHA, Neb. — Now that Japan has lifted its ban on U.S. beef, American beef producers are eager to resume trade there, but analysts say restoring sales to pre-ban levels and regaining the trust of Japanese consumers will be a slow process.

“The Japanese consumer likely has a lot of questions about the safety of the U.S. product,” said Darrell Mark, an agricultural economist with the University of Nebraska’s Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Fears of mad cow disease prompted Japan and other countries to ban U.S. beef in 2003, but that ban was lifted in December.

Safety concerns prompted a new ban in January when Japanese inspectors checking a veal shipment found banned parts believed to be at risk for the illness. The latest ban was lifted Thursday after Japanese representatives toured U.S. facilities to ensure they met safety guidelines.

Mad cow disease — formally known as bovine spongiform encephalopathy, or BSE — is a degenerative nerve disease in cattle. In humans, eating meat contaminated with BSE is linked to variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease, a rare and

deadly nerve disease.

U.S. officials and industry representatives maintain that there is no reason to question the safety of American beef, and groups like the Denver-based U.S. Meat Export Federation have already started trying to convince the Japanese.

The federation has tried to keep Japanese customers informed about new procedures and safety precautions, federation spokesman Lynn Heinze said. There will also be a campaign to let Japanese beef importers and consumers know that American beef producers care about safety of their product, he said.

The beef trade with Japan is important to the industry because it was the top export market for U.S. beef. About \$1.4 billion of U.S. beef was sold in Japan in 2003.

Beef producers from Australia, New Zealand and South America have moved into the Japanese market since 2003, but Heinze said less beef is being eaten in Japan today than before the scare about mad cow disease.

Before the ban, beef accounted for about 5 percent of the protein consumed in Japan, he said. Now beef accounts for only about 3.5 percent of the protein the Japanese eat.

Opinion polls the federation has conducted in Japan

show that less than 10 percent of consumers say they’re confident the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s inspections will ensure beef is safe. At the height of U.S. beef sales there, only about 20 percent of Japanese consumers expressed confidence in the inspections, he said.

The export federation expects that it will take three to four years to return to normal levels of trade in Japan, Heinze said.

Pete McClymont, president of the Nebraska Cattlemen, said he’s looking forward to full trade with Japan. Before the 2003 ban, Nebraska sold about \$300 million of beef products annually to Japan.

“We will be more pleased after we know the first load has been received in Japan and after multiple shipments prove Japan is sincere about being a fair trading partner again,” the feedlot owner said.

Mark, the agricultural economist, wasn’t sure how long it would take to restore the beef trade with Japan to 2003 levels. These days, exports account for only about 5 percent of all U.S. beef sales, which is half of the pre-ban figure, Mark said.

“It’s going to take months or years until we get back to that point,” Mark said.

Summer of midnight sun coming to an end in Barrow

By The Associated Press

BARROW, Alaska — The summer of the midnight sun in Barrow is coming to an end.

The sun set at 2:04 a.m. Wednesday for the first time since May 10, almost three months ago, according to Royce Fontenot of the National Weather Service station in Barrow.

But it was a short night, he said. The sun edged back over

the horizon just an hour later.

Days will get shorter and nights longer until mid-November, when the sun will set until January and Barrow will begin three months of darkness.

Tina Wolgemuth said she expects it will soon be easier to get her daughters to go to bed, once it starts getting dark again at night.

“Now they ask ‘Why is it bedtime when the sun is still

shining?’ Also, it will be time to take down the aluminum foil from our windows,” she said.

Teri Andreassen said it’s nice to have the darkness back.

“It’s sort of like welcoming old friends back into town after a long absence,” she said. “After so much light, I almost forget that we have a moon and stars and northern lights. I guess that’s what the first sunset does. It is sort of a preview of coming attractions.”

Which of These Costly Mistakes Will You Make When You Sell Your Santa Monica Home This Summer

BY JAMES COSTELLO AND JOHN MCCORMACK

SANTA MONICA — A new report has just been released which reveals 7 costly mistakes that most homeowners make when selling their home, and a 9 Step System that can help you sell your home fast and for the most amount of money.

This industry report shows clearly how the traditional ways of selling homes have become

increasingly less and less effective in today’s market. The fact of the matter is that fully three quarters of home sellers don’t get what they want for their home and become disillusioned and – worse – financially disadvantaged when they put their home on the market.

As this report uncovers, most home sellers make 7 deadly mistakes that cost them literally thousands of dollars. The good news is that each and every one of these mistakes is entirely preventable.

In answer to this issue, industry insiders have prepared a free special report entitled “*The 9 step System to Get Your Home Sold Fast and For Top Dollar.*”

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Israel on the move

Fighting continues as troops launch massive ground attack

BY HAMZA HENDAWI
Associated Press Writer

BOURJ AL-MULOUK, Lebanon — Israel pressed the first full day of a massive new ground attack, sending 8,000 troops into southern Lebanon on Wednesday and seizing five people it said were Hezbollah fighters in a dramatic airborne raid on a northeastern town. Hezbollah retaliated with its deepest strikes yet into Israel, firing a record number of more than 160 rockets.

Diplomatic efforts faltered, with France saying it will not participate in a Thursday U.N. meeting that could send troops to help monitor a cease-fire between Israel and Hezbollah. France, which may join or even lead such a force, said it does not want to talk about sending peacekeepers until fighting halts and the U.N. Security Council agrees to a wider framework for lasting peace.

Pope Benedict XVI issued a new appeal for peace in the Middle East. He urged “the international community and those who are more directly involved in this tragedy to lay down conditions as soon as possible for a definitive political solution to the crisis.”

Israeli military officials, speaking on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk to the media, said their troops were going from village to village in south Lebanon to clear them of Hezbollah guerrillas.

Hezbollah was putting up resistance, but the officials said they were confident that would not change their objective of reaching four miles into Lebanon by Thursday. They said they could easily dash inland to the Litani River but that they were moving methodically so as not to leave behind pockets of resistance.

Israeli commandos flew in by helicopter before dawn into the northern town of Baalbek, on the border with Syria, capturing five Hezbollah guerrillas and killing at least 10, said Israel’s army chief, Lt. Gen. Dan Halutz.

Witnesses said Israeli forces partially destroyed the Dar al-Hikma hospital in Baalbek, where chief Hezbollah spokesman Hussein Rahal said fierce fighting raged for more than one hour.

Israel has not yet released the identity of those captured. When asked by The Associated Press whether any were “big fish,” Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert said: “They are tasty fishes.”

A Hezbollah official, speaking on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to give official statements to the media, said that Israeli troops captured “four or five” people, but not at the hospital.

He denied they were Hezbollah fighters, saying one was a 60-year-old grocery store owner and two relatives who work in construction.

The hospital, which residents said is financed by an Iranian charity that is close to Hezbollah, was empty of patients at the time of the raid, the guerrilla group said.

Olmert said that, although the scene of the fighting is called a hospital, “there are no patients there and there is no hospital, this is a base of the Hezbollah in disguise.”

Hezbollah fought the commandos with automatic rifles and rocket-propelled grenades, while Israeli jets fired missiles at the surrounding guerrilla force, Rahal said.

One of a series of air raids struck the village of Al Jamaliyeh near the hospital. A missile hit the house of the village’s mayor, Hussein Jamaleddin, instantly killing his son, brother, and five other relatives.

“Where is the press? Where is the media to see this massacre? Count our dead. Count our body parts,” Jamaleddin told The Associated Press on the telephone, minutes after the missile strike.

HEZBOLLAH STRIKES BACK

A family of seven were killed in another air raid on an area near Al Jamaliyeh, witnesses said. A van driver was killed when another missile struck nearby.

Fighting ended at about 4 a.m., residents said.

Hezbollah guerrillas hit back, firing at least 160 rockets at towns across northern Israel, wounding at least 17 people and killing a 52-year-old Israeli-American at the entrance to his home in Kibbutz Sa’ar near the town of Naharia, Israeli police said.

The man, who was not immediately identified, had been riding his bike home after a warning siren went off, said Yehuda Shavit, a local government official. Neighbors said he was originally from the Boston area and had been living in Israel for the last 20 years. The man’s wife and two daughters had fled to southern Israel when the rocket attacks started, Shavit said, adding that more than half of the kibbutz residents also had left.

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New York 62 41 .602 _

Philadelphia 50 55 .476 13

Boston 63 42 .600 _

Atlanta 50 56 .472 13 1/2

Toronto 57 49 .538 6 1/2

Florida 50 56 .472 13 1/2

Baltimore 49 60 .450 16

Washington 48 60 .444 16 1/2

Tampa Bay 44 63 .411 20

Central Division

Central Division

W L Pct GB

W L Pct GB

St. Louis 58 47 .552 _

Detroit 71 35 .670 _

Cincinnati 55 51 .519 3 1/2

Chicago 63 42 .600 7 1/2

Milwaukee 51 56 .477 8

Minnesota 61 45 .575 10

Houston 50 56 .472 8 1/2

Cleveland 46 59 .438 24 1/2

Chicago 44 62 .415 14 1/2

Kansas City 37 69 .349 34

Pittsburgh 40 68 .370 19 1/2

West Division

West Division

W L Pct GB

W L Pct GB

San Diego 55 51 .519 _

Oakland 57 51 .528 _

Arizona 54 52 .509 1

Angels 55 52 .514 1 1/2

San Fran 52 56 .481 4

Texas 54 54 .500 3

Colorado 51 55 .481 4

Seattle 53 54 .495 3 1/2

Dodgers 51 55 .481 4

Thursday's Games

Thursday's Games

Atlanta (Hudson 8-9) at Pittsburgh (Chacon 0-0), 9:35 a.m.

Toronto (Marcum 1-0) at N.Y. Yankees (Lidle 0-0), 10:05 a.m.

Arizona (Cruz 3-6) at Chicago Cubs (Mateo 0-0), 11:20 a.m.

Cleveland (Westbrook 7-7) at Boston (Beckett 13-5), 4:05 p.m.

Houston (Albers 0-0) at San Diego (Hensley 6-8), 12:35 p.m.

Detroit (Robertson 9-6) at Tampa Bay (Seo 1-5), 4:15 p.m.

N.Y. Mets (P.Martinez 8-4) at Florida (Willis 6-8), 4:05 p.m.

Minnesota (Radke 9-8) at Kansas City (De La Rosa 3-2), 5:10 p.m.

Dodgers (Maddux 9-11) at Cincinnati (Milton 7-6), 4:10 p.m.

Texas (Millwood 10-7) at Angels (Weaver 7-0), 7:05 p.m.

Philadelphia (Hamels 3-5) at St. Louis (Marquis 12-8), 5:10 p.m.

Friday's Games

Friday's Games

Pittsburgh at Cubs, 11:20 a.m.

Cleveland at Detroit, 4:05 p.m.

Philadelphia at N.Y. Mets, 4:10 p.m.

N.Y. Yankees at Baltimore, 4:05 p.m.

Atlanta at Cincinnati, 4:10 p.m.

Chicago White Sox at Toronto, 4:07 p.m.

Dodgers at Florida, 4:35 p.m.

Boston at Tampa Bay, 4:15 p.m.

Milwaukee at St. Louis, 5:10 p.m.

Minnesota at Kansas City, 5:10 p.m.

Houston at Arizona, 6:40 p.m.

Oakland at Seattle, 7:05 p.m.

Washington at San Diego, 7:05 p.m.

Texas at Angels, 7:05 p.m.

Colorado at San Fran, 7:15 p.m.

SPORTS

Davis addresses health, other topics at Raiders camp

BY JOSH DUBOW
AP Sports Writer

NAPA, Calif. — Al Davis was moving slowly, using the walker he needs because of a lingering quadriceps injury, wearing black, of course.

“I want you all to know I’m alive,” the Raiders owner said Tuesday. “I’m very healthy, can still smile and work out five days a week. If we could do away with this walker ... ”

Davis, in his first news conference since rehiring Art Shell as head coach back in February, addressed a number of topics ranging from John Madden’s upcoming Hall of Fame induction to Shell’s training camp, Jerry Porter’s trade demand, the NFL’s search for a new commissioner and his own health.

“I feel great,” said the 77-year-old Davis. “Especially if we win I’ll feel great. I do feel great. I have a quadriceps problem that no one seems to be able to fix for me and I certainly won’t touch it with an operation.”

Davis has not spent as much time at training camp as usual because he was back in Detroit last week working on the NFL commissioner search committee.

But since returning to California, Davis said he has watched tapes of all the practices and is still a presence around the team he has ruled for more than four decades as a coach and owner.

“He watches every single snap ... studies every single player on this football team,” Shell said. “He knows the players on this team. He watches every single snap and studies every play. ... That’s what he’s done all those years.”

Davis held the news conference at the Raiders’ training facility mainly to discuss Madden entering the Pro Football

Hall of Fame, 28 years after his tenure as Oakland coach ended. Davis will introduce Madden at Saturday’s induction ceremony, his record ninth Hall of Fame introduction.

Madden was only 32 when Davis hired him to coach the Raiders in 1969. Before leaving the sideline for the announcing booth in 1978, Madden led Oakland to a 103-32-7 regular-season record and a victory in the 1977 Super Bowl. Oakland never had a losing record under Madden, winning seven division titles and making the playoffs eight times.

“His record is just unparalleled among coaches,” Davis said. “His enshrinement in the Hall of Fame should have come a long time ago.”

Davis, coming off three straight losing seasons for the first time since joining the franchise as coach in 1963, said he hopes Shell can return the team to the level it reached with Madden at the helm.

Davis once again admitted it was a mistake to fire Shell after the 1994 season. Shell had led the team to the playoffs three times in five full seasons as coach.

Oakland has made it to the postseason only three times in 11 years since Shell was fired. And since going to the Super Bowl following the 2002 season, Oakland has won just 13 games, leading Davis to fire Bill Callahan and Norv Turner.

While he admits Shell has some rust and it will be difficult to turn the team around quickly, Davis believes strongly that Shell is the right man for the job.

“He knows what he wants to do and he knows how to do it,” Davis said. “It’s a reaffirmation of the Raiders. It’s a reaffirmation of everything we stood for.”

Davis backed the way Shell has handled disgruntled receiver Porter and didn’t believe Porter’s trade demand or problems with Shell would hinder the team.



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All jellied up

ELTON JOHN is sick of your tattoos and piercings. John, who will perform at the third Fashion Rocks concert Sept. 7 at Radio City Music Hall, says he'd like American bands to adopt the cutting-edge, glam-rock style made popular by his peers. "It's been a thing the British have always been very good at, with Bowie, myself, T.Rex, the Who,

Queen. ... We all embraced that side of it," John, 59, tells Fashion Rocks magazine, on newsstands Aug. 8. "And I think it's good that some American bands are beginning to do that, but it's still very rare for bands to make a real effort. So when you get groups like The Killers and Scissor Sisters who come along, it's thrilling. I'm so over the tattoos

Rocket man is tired of tattoos



SIR ELTON JOHN

and the T-shirts and rings through the noses. It's not pretty, it's not pleasant, it's not exciting. Please stop it now." John says his theatrical style, made famous in his '70s heyday, was meant "to give people a bit of fun" while he sat at the piano for long sets.

Associated Press

Belting out for the boys

HILARY DUFF took the stage of the Crown Coliseum in a free concert for military families. Duff, a multiplatinum recording artist and star of movies such as "A Cinderella Story," performed "Hilary Duff Rocks for the Troops" in Fayetteville, home of Fort Bragg, on Tuesday night. Those in attendance were either in the military or have a military family member. Duff, 18, has previously made a block of tickets available for military families but decided this time to perform just for them. "I think she understands, or at least wants to try to understand, the sacrifices soldiers and their families make," said Cynthia Ivins, who brought her two children, 13-year-old Morgan and 9-year-old Denise, to the concert. Duff met with a select group of military families before the show, snapping pictures and shaking hands.

Associated Press

A jumpsuit for naked guy

RICHARD HATCH, convicted of failing to pay taxes on the \$1 million he won on the debut season of "Survivor," has been sent to a federal prison in West Virginia. Hatch, 45, of Newport, R.I., was convicted by a federal jury of failing to pay taxes on the "Survivor" prize and other income. He was sentenced in May to 51 months in prison.

Associated Press



HATCH

Dream weaver

KEVIN COSTNER has been pretty much a ghost in Dyersville since starring in the 1989 movie "Field of Dreams." He hasn't returned to the eastern Iowa town since its famous cornstalks resurrected Shoeless Joe Jackson and other long-dead ballplayers on the big screen.



COSTNER

But now comes word that Costner will return. The 51-year-old actor-director will appear Aug. 11 at the baseball field in Dyersville as part of a "Rolling Roadshow" tour, in which 10 classic films are being shown at the sites of their filming. Netflix, an online movie rental service that organized the tour, confirmed this week that Costner will make an appearance before the movie is shown on a 30-foot inflatable screen in the outfield. Costner will play a free concert with his unnamed rock band, followed by the film.

Associated Press



DUFF



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Santa Monica Daily Press
MOVIEGUIDE
SHOWTIMES: THURSDAY, AUGUST 3, 2006

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Avenue
(310)395-4990

Wednesday
The Pied Piper 7:30
Thursday
Enter the Dragon &
Nightmare on Elm Street 7:30

AMC7 Santa Monica
1310 3rd Street
(310) 289-4262

The Ant Bully (PG)
12:45, 3:10, 5:20, 8:00, 10:15
John Tucker Must Die (PG-13)
1:00, 3:20, 5:25, 7:50, 10:10
Miami Vice (R)
12:00, 1:30, 3:00, 4:30, 6:15, 7:30, 9:30, 10:30
My Super Ex-Girlfriend (PG-13)
12:10, 2:30, 5:00, 7:20, 9:40
Pirates of the Caribbean:
Dead Man's Chest (PG-13)
12:30, 2:45, 4:10, 6:30, 7:40, 10:00, 10:50

AMC Loews Broadway 4
1441 3rd Street
(310) 458-6232

Scoop (PG-13)
1:15, 3:30, 7:30, 10:00
The Devil Wears Prada (PG-13)
1:00, 4:15, 7:15, 10:30
Superman Returns (PG-13)
12:30 | 3:45 | 7:00 | 10:15
Cars (G)
12:45, 4:00, 6:45, 9:45

Landmark Nuwiltshire
1314 Wilshire Blvd
(310)281-8228

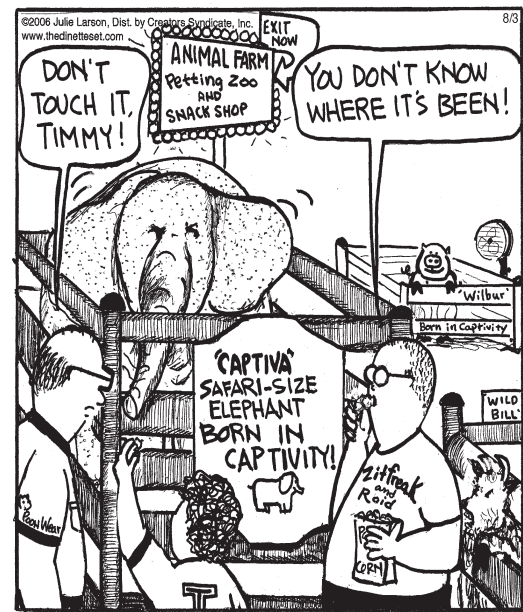
Strangers with Candy (R)
12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:00
Who Killed the Electric Car? (PG)
12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 9:50

Laemmle's Monica Fourplex
1332 2nd Street
(310) 394-9741

Little Miss Sunshine (R)
12:15, 1:45, 2:45, 4:20, 5:20, 7:00, 8:00, 9:30, 10:30
A Scanner Darkly (R)
12:15, 5:00, 9:55
Wordplay (PG)
2:35, 7:35
An Inconvenient Truth (PG)
12:30, 2:55, 5:20, 7:45, 10:10

Mann's Criterion Theatre
1313 3rd Street
(310) 395-1599

Clerks II (R)
12:40, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:20
Lady in the Water (PG-13)
11:00, 11:40, 1:40, 2:20, 4:20, 7:10, 7:50, 10:00, 10:30
Monster House (PG)
11:30, 12:30, 2:00, 2:50, 4:30, 5:10, 7:00, 7:30, 9:50
You, Me and Dupree (PG-13)
11:10, 1:50, 4:40, 5:20, 7:20, 9:20, 10:10

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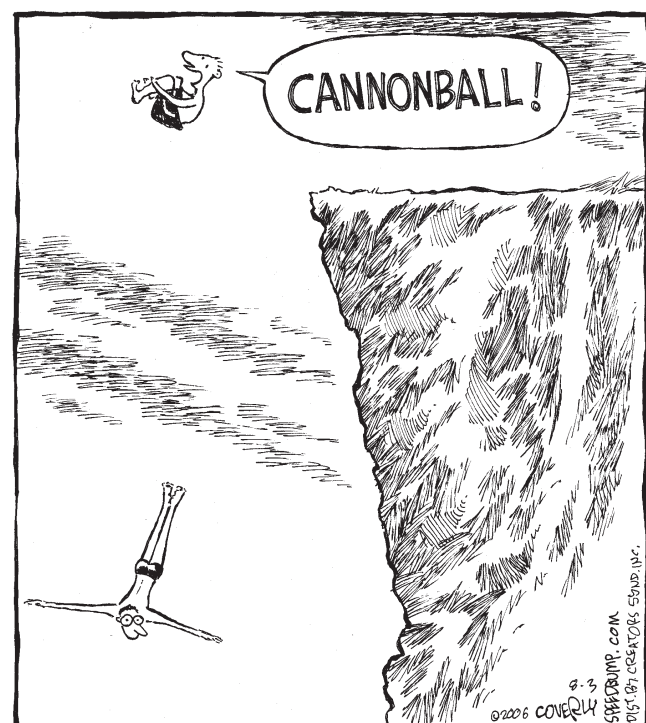
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- 1 Long tales
- 6 Coup —
- 11 Isolated
- 12 Greek letter
- 13 Conductor Zubin
- 14 Ford fore-runner
- 15 Oblique
- 17 Inlet
- 19 Beame or Burrows
- 20 Yak it up
- 23 Lose one's tension
- 25 Top-rate
- 26 Emulate John Glenn
- 28 Wait to pounce
- 29 Most muffled
- 30 — out (scrape by)
- 31 Swift plane
- 32 "Golly!"
- 33 Writer Susan
- 35 Spritelike
- 38 Lab liquids
- 41 Flimsy fabric
- 42 Nairobi's nation
- 43 Story meanies
- 44 Honed

DOWN

- 1 Pal of Frodo
- 2 Pub pints
- 3 Malfunction
- 4 Crumb carriers
- 5 Waterproofing stuff
- 6 "Death Be Not Proud" poet
- 7 Put out
- 8 Singer Ritter
- 9 Before now
- 10 Brown shade
- 16 Gut

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Yesterday's answer

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| 18 Aimee of film | 33 Tag datum |
| 20 Be in little demand | 34 Served well |
| 21 Biscotti flavor | 35 Conceit |
| 22 Singer Midler | 36 Drop behind |
| 24 Pen fill | 37 Stole material |
| 25 Craft | 39 Color |
| 27 Unused footage | 40 Blue |

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Notices

Trustee Sale No. 812-050720 Loan No. 9040610321 Title Order No. 2899074 Notice of Trustee's Sale YOU ARE IN DEFAULT UNDER A DEED OF TRUST DATED 2/17/2004. UNLESS YOU TAKE ACTION TO PROTECT YOUR PROPERTY, IT MAY BE SOLD AT A PUBLIC SALE. IF YOU NEED AN EXPLANATION OF THE NATURE OF THE PROCEEDINGS AGAINST YOU, YOU SHOULD CONTACT A LAWYER. On 8/17/2006 at 11:30 AM PLM Lender Services, Inc. as the duly appointed Trustee under and pursuant to Deed of Trust Recorded 02/26/2004, Book , Page , Instrument 04 0448293 of official records in the Office of the Recorder of Los Angeles County, California, executed by: Juan Carlos Ramirez, a married man, as Trustor, Downey Savings and Loan Association, F.A., as Beneficiary will sell at public auction to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn by a state or federal credit union, or a cashier's check drawn by a state or federal and loan association, savings association, or savings bank specified in section 5102 of the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state. Sale will be held by the duly appointed trustee as shown below, of all right, title, and interest conveyed to and now held by the trustee in the hereinafter described property under and pursuant to the Deed of Trust. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, interest

Notices

thereon, estimated fees, charges and expenses of the trustee for the amount (at the time of the initial publication of the notice of sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Place of Sale: At the front entrance to the Pomona Superior Courts Building, 350 West Mission Blvd., Pomona, CA Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$336,996.88 (estimated) Street address and other common designation of the real property purported as: 1217 20th Street #303 Santa Monica, CA 90404 APN Number: 4276-014-039 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the street address and other common designation, if any, shown herein. The property heretofore described is being sold "as is". Date: 7/24/2006 For Trustee's Sales Information, please call 714-573-1965 PLM Lender Services, Inc., as Trustee 46 N. Second Street Campbell, CA 95008 (408) 370-4030 Elizabeth Godbey, Vice President PLM Lender Services, Inc., is a debt collector attempting to collect a debt. Any information obtained will be used for that purpose. P252664 7/27, 8/3, 08/10/2006

NOTICE OF Public Forum

Pursuant to Government Code Section 37361(c), a public Forum will be held by Or Khaim Hashalom, a religious non-profit organization to consider the following:

Pursuant to Gov. Code Section 37361(c) a public forum will be held by the Or Khaim Hashalom synagogue to discuss the replacement of the existing structures of residential buildings on the property with more units and a place of worship. The synagogue is in the process of determining whether to exempt its existing structures at 128 through 148 San Vicente Blvd. Santa Monica, a 28 unit building (Units are designated 130 through 142 San Vicente Blvd.) from designation for preservation under the City of Santa Monica's Historical preservation law. This public forum will solicit comments and information from the public concerning whether preservation of the buildings would cause the synagogue substantial hardship, which is likely to deprive the synagogue of economic return on it's property, the reasonable use of it's property, or the appropriate use of its property in the furtherance of its religious mission.

Date/Time: Friday, August 11, 2006 at 1:00 p.m.
Location: 1920 Santa Monica Blvd. Meeting Room "Santa Monica Room"
Santa Monica, CA. 90404 (Corner of 20th and Santa Monica Blvd.)
Parking: Parking is available at 2020 Santa Monica Blvd. in the parking garage located across the street.

How to Comment
If you attend the meeting, you can address the Synagogue in person to state your comments. If unable to attend you may mail your written comments to the Synagogue, however your comments must arrive before Friday, August 10, 2006. Mail your comments to Or Khaim Hashalom, attention Rabbi Hertzell Ilulian, 6317 Wilshire Blvd. Suite 502, Los Angeles, Ca. 90048, .

TENTATIVE SUMMARY OF HARDSHIPS
The synagogue believes that the existing residential structures on the property must be demolished to make way for a building or buildings of increased density, accompanied by a place of worship on the site if possible. The existing structures are rent controlled and cannot be converted into viable housing for members of our faith since there are very few vacancies. The housing planned by the synagogue is incompatible with the existing structures. Furthermore, there will be more living units in the new building than currently exist in the 28 units on the property.

If the synagogue is required to keep the existing structures on the property it will be deprived of additional needed housing, and it will be required to incur substantial economic loss.

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Notices

NOTICE OF TRUSTEE'S SALE TS # CA-06-58337-DL Loan # 321747 You are in default under a Deed of Trust dated 11/3/1999. Unless you take action to protect your property, it may be sold at a public sale. If you need an explanation of the nature of the proceeding against you, you should contact a lawyer. A public auction sale to the highest bidder for cash, cashier's check drawn on a state or national bank, check drawn by state or federal credit union, or a check drawn by a state or federal savings and loan association, or savings association, or savings bank specified in Section 5102 to the Financial Code and authorized to do business in this state, will be held by duly appointed trustee. The sale will be made, but without covenant or warranty, expressed or implied, regarding title, possession, or encumbrances, to pay the remaining principal sum of the note(s) secured by the Deed of Trust, with interest and late charges thereon, as provided in the note(s), advances, under the terms of the Deed of Trust, interest thereon, fees, charges and expenses of the Trustee for the total amount (at the time of the initial publication of the Notice of Sale) reasonably estimated to be set forth below. The amount may be greater on the day of sale. Beneficiary may elect to bid less than the total amount due. Trustor(s): RAYMOND A PEDDEN, A MARRIED MAN AS HIS SOLE AND SEPARATE PROPERTY Recorded: 11/10/1999 as Instrument No. 99-2100650 in book --, page -- of Official Records in the office of the Recorder of LOS ANGELES County, California; Date of Sale: 8/9/2006 at 10:30:00 AM Place of Sale: At the west side of the Los Angeles County Courthouse, directly facing Norwalk Blvd., 12720 Norwalk Blvd., Norwalk, CA Amount of unpaid balance and other charges: \$191,744.89 The purported property address is: 1457 CENTINELA AVE UNIT 6 SANTA MONICA, CA 90404. Assessors Parcel No. 4267-015-048 The undersigned Trustee disclaims any liability for any incorrectness of the property address or other common designation, if any, shown herein. If no street address or other common designation is shown, directions to the location of the property may be obtained by sending a written request to the beneficiary within 10 days of the date of first publication of this Notice of Sale. If the Trustee is unable to convey title for any reason, the successful bidder's sole and exclusive remedy shall be the return of monies paid to the Trustee, and the successful bidder shall have no further recourse. Date: 7/3/2006 Quality Loan Services Corp. 319 Elm Street, 2nd Floor San Diego, CA 92101 619-645-7711 For NON SALE Information only Sale Line: 714-259-7850 or Login to: www.fnasap.com Reinstatement Line: (619) 645-7711 ext 400 Erik Donzella, If you have previously been discharged through bankruptcy, you may have been released of personal liability for this loan in which case this letter is intended to exercise the note holder's rights against the real property only. This notice is sent for the purpose of collecting a debt. This firm is attempting to collect a debt on behalf of the holder and owner of the note. Any information obtained by or provided to this firm or the creditor will be used for that purpose. As required by law, you are hereby notified that a negative credit report reflecting on your credit record may be submitted to a credit report agency if you fail to fulfill the terms of your credit obligations. ASAP# 779224 07/20/2006, 07/27/2006, 08/03/2006

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DBAS

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAMES STATEMENT FILE NO. 06 1385338 FIRST FILING. The following person(s) is (are) doing business as SHERYL'Z CREATIVE DESIGNS, 15522 WOODRUFF AVE, #9, BELLFLOWER, CA 90706. The full name of registrant(s) is/are : SHERYL EPHFORM, 15522 WOODRUFF AVE, #9, BELLFLOWER, CA 90706 This Business is being conducted by, an individual. Signed: The registrant commenced to transact business under the fictitious business name or names listed on (Date)5/1/1998. /s/: SHERYL EPHFORM
This statement was filed with the County Clerk of LOS ANGELES County on 6/23/06. NOTICE: THIS FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT EXPIRES FIVE YEARS FROM THE DATE IT WAS FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE COUNTY CLERK. A NEW FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT MUST BE FILED PRIOR TO THAT DATE. The filing of this statement does not of itself authorize the use in this state of a fictitious business name statement in violation of the rights of another under federal, state, or common law (see Section 14411et seq.,Business and Professions Code). SANTA MONICA DAILY PRESS to publish 7/20/2006, 7/27/2006, 8/3/2006, 8/10/2006

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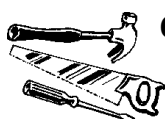
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ML350

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5 AT THIS LEASE PAYMENT

• 88¢ TAX
PER MONTH
FOR 27 MONTHS
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\$599.88 + tax first months payment for 39 months on approved credit. \$4204 cap cost reduction + \$795 acquisition fee = \$4999 total due at signing (\$50 security deposit). MSRP \$57,875. Tier 1 Credit. 7.5K Miles/yr. 25¢ per mile excess. OTHERS AT SIMILAR SAVINGS.

NEW 2006

CLS500

\$699
2 AT THIS LEASE PAYMENT

• 88¢ TAX
PER MONTH
FOR 39 MONTHS
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\$699.88 + tax first months payment for 39 months on approved credit. \$4704 cap cost reduction + \$795 acquisition fee = \$5499 total due at signing (\$50 security deposit). MSRP \$66,905. Tier 1 Credit. 7.5K Miles/yr. 25¢ per mile excess. OTHERS AT SIMILAR SAVINGS.

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CERTIFIED AND MORE! 5A771253		
'05 E320 DIESEL	RED TAG PRICE	\$51,981
NAVIGATION, CERTIFIED, 5A681292		
'06 E320 DIESEL	RED TAG PRICE	\$57,981
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'03 C230	RED TAG PRICE	\$19,981
PEWTER/BLACK, CERTIFIED, 3A506315		
'97 S420	ASKING PRICE ~~\$29,981~~	\$21,981
BLACK/BLACK, CD, CHROMES, LOW 56K MILES, YA372411		
'06 CLS 500	RED TAG PRICE	\$CALL!!!
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'07 S550
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BLACK/BLACK, CD, 34030906		
'03 TUNDRA \$CAB SR5	RED TAG PRICE	\$20,981
LOADED, NEW CAR TRADE, 35390808		
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GREY/BLACK, NEW CAR TRADE, 3A78190		
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SILVER/CHARCOAL, NEW CAR TRADE, 3LP27132		
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BLACK/BLACK, SPORT/PREMIUM PACKAGES, 2GY40391		
'03 LEXUS GX470	ASKING PRICE ~~\$44,981~~	\$37,981
NEW CAR TRADE, CHROMES, NAVI, DVD, 35008977		
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