

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

LOTTO

FANTASY 5

31, 36, 25, 15, 14

DAILY 3

Afternoon picks: 3, 2, 5

Evening picks: 4, 8, 7

DAILY DERBY

1st Place: 08, Gorgeous George

2nd Place: 11, Money Bags

3rd Place: 01, Gold Rush

Race Time: 1:43.57



NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

■ The Salon Mexico restaurant in New York City introduced a \$45 burrito in July, with a filling of filet mignon and truffles.

■ The founder of Paul Mitchell salon products recently launched John Paul Pets (shampoos for dogs), joining Estee Lauder's Origins line in the so-far-uncrowded upscale pet hair-care field.

■ A June runway show at Mitsukoshi Department Store in Tokyo featured eight dogs modeling fashions such as a yellow dog raincoat (US-\$72) and a wedding dress and matching hat for dogs.



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"My toughest fight was with my first wife."

— Muhammad Ali



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Going deep



Carolyn Sackarison/Daily Press

A crew digs deep into the ground underneath the parking structure next to Santa Monica Place as part of their work retrofitting the garage. The work has temporarily eliminated some parking.

Elderly woman sues City Hall over bus accident

Trial expected to last a week in Santa Monica

BY JOHN WOOD

Daily Press Staff Writer

The trial began this week in the case of an elderly woman who blames City Hall for causing her injuries when she fell while riding a Big Blue Bus last year.

Olive Karony, 85, of Santa Monica, broke her hip and femur last July while riding on the No. 3 bus from the local YMCA to her Montana Avenue home.

During opening arguments on Wednesday, Karony told a Santa Monica jury through her attorneys

that bus driver Victor Sanchez of Palmdale, accelerated too quickly before she had a chance to sit and as a result she fell down.

But City Hall denies responsibility for the accident.

Deputy City Attorney Norman Hirata argued Karony already was seated and decided to stand up just before Sanchez hit the gas. City Hall claims it's Karony's own fault that she fell.

"A bus has to move," Hirata said. "You have to anticipate that a bus is going to move. All Mrs. Karony had to do was hang onto a bar or a railing and this accident never would have happened."

See SUIT, page 8

Chamber plans to analyze City Hall spending, service

Planning department will be looked at first

BY JOHN WOOD

Daily Press Staff Writer

Not pleased with how government spends its money or serves its customers, a group of business leaders has decided to analyze how City Hall operates.

Members of the governmental affairs committee, a group set up within the Chamber of Commerce that examines government issues, thinks City Hall charges residents too much for what they get.

The biggest disparity is in the planning department, where long waits for necessary permits and approvals are coupled with expensive filing and licensing fees, chamber officials say. The City Council this summer voted to raise business license and other fees in the planning department to help close City Hall's multi-million deficit.

That's why the committee agreed earlier this week to conduct an independent analysis of the planning department this fall to compare Santa Monica's fee structure and wait times to comparable cities.

The goal is to be able to provide alternatives in the future to elected officials when they consider raising permit fees or sales taxes, said chamber executive director Kathy Dodson.

It's no secret that City Hall is

known for its bureaucratic system that often slows down the approval process for permit-seeking business owners. In fact, the planning commission earlier this summer asked that an internal audit be done on the planning department's management.

"Politicians like to spend money. That's what they do."

— DR. MIKE GRUNING

Chamber of commerce president

"The extra hundreds of dollars per person that we spend in Santa Monica isn't seen in greater services," Dodson said. "Even without the money part of it, it's impossible to get through the process. People go through the process and risk personal bankruptcy. What takes one month or two in other cities takes a year or more (here)."

City Hall puts such a burden on businesses that small, independent merchants can't afford to open their doors here, said Dodson, adding that corporations have their share of headaches, too. The only projects that seem to get fast-tracked are city projects, she said.

Syrna Glasser, who along with

See ANALYSIS, page 8

Californians move out faster than others move in

BY GENARO C. ARMAS

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Holly Sharpe lived in Southern California for 15 years before abandoning the Golden State for neighboring Nevada in 1997, saying she was fed up with being broke. She was not alone in leaving.

Though immigrants kept California's population rising, more people left the state during

the latter half of the 1990s than moved in from other states, according to the Census Bureau. It was the first time that's ever happened.

Sharpe said she was tired of "going broke" working in the music industry when she left for Henderson, Nev., where she owns a jewelry business.

"The cost of living was the most important, and a normal job market," Sharpe said of her

reasons for moving.

Pamela Neuens, who left Huntington Beach for the Phoenix area in February, said it was the cost of housing that drove her away. She rents an apartment in suburban Chandler for nearly half as much as the \$1,400 a month she paid in California.

"It's just that we keep reaching and

See CALIFORNIANS, page 11

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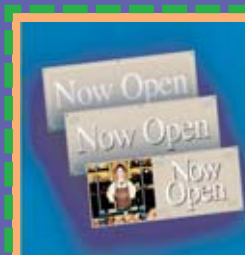
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HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR FRIDAY, AUGUST 8, 2003

Your unusual creativity bursts through no matter what you do. You always seem to have a response or a solution. You always see the path, while others have a problem seeing the trees from the forest. Examine your goals, especially financially. This year you will see a gain from work and your natural talents. You also might have an unexpected win — be it the lottery or a bonus. If you are single, a new relationship waves hello. You make the call here. If you are attached, your relationship will blossom because of a tendency to be more nurturing with a loved one. You'll see sparks flicker as in days long gone. CAPRICORN wants to chip in, no matter what the project is.

♈ ARIES (March 21-April 19)
 ★★★★★ Your optimism gets your day going. Yes, finally you wake up on the right side of the bed. By afternoon, it becomes clear to you that you will need to assume a position of authority if you are to get out of work at all. Tonight: A must appearance.

♉ TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
 ★★★★★ Dealing with a partner could be quite delightful this morning. You might dillydally a bit getting to work. If you can, avoid going into work at all. Research, travel and breaking new patterns mark the later part of the day. Tonight: Live out a dream.

♊ GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
 ★★★★★ Others demonstrate their receptivity to your ideas as well as their good will. Finally, you are sitting pretty and in a much better place than before. Deal with others individually in the p.m. Others have similar ideas, with perhaps the exception of a boss. Tonight: Go for a cozy night for two.

♋ CANCER (June 21-July 22)
 ★★★★★ Plunge into work and clear your desk. You will feel a lot better than you have in the past. You feel like indulging and being indulged. Your vibe must be quite evident, as others become unusually responsive. Someone has a surprise up his or her sleeve. Tonight: Take off if you can.

♌ LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
 ★★★★★ You have a spring in your step this morning. You also might have a twinkle in your eyes as you head into work. You might not anticipate what is dropped in your lap. Deal with someone on a more direct level. Tonight: Make someone's wish your command.

♍ VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
 ★★★★★ Center yourself in the morning. You might veer off and do something very special. Another person demonstrates his or her caring in a way that counts. Lift up someone's spirits and add more playfulness, even in the work atmosphere. Tonight: Act like there is no tomorrow.

♎ LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
 ★★★★★ Your ability to visualize helps you create a lot more than you think. Be more upbeat. Talk about what you desire. Others have similar ideas and pull together to make what you want happen. Don't be surprised if you are dragging this afternoon. Tonight: Think "nap."

♏ SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
 ★★★★★ Your creativity takes you down a new path. Brainstorm with bosses and those who count. You might be more in control this afternoon than you realize. Count on your ability to always find your way through an obstacle. Tonight: Do your Friday-night thing.

♐ SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
 ★★★★★ Use the morning, when you are naturally empowered. How you approach someone can make a big difference in his or her reaction. Use your ability to walk in someone else's shoes. Deal with pressing money matters in the p.m. Tonight: Your treat.

♑ CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
 ★★★★★ Step back and take your time making decisions. Investigate what might be going on within a close association. You find out some key answers. If you relax, you will have reason to celebrate soon enough. Let your hair down. Tonight: The world is your oyster.

♒ AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
 ★★★★★ When an associate speaks, you listen. Though you might want to contribute; your strong suit is listening. In the afternoon, you might want to do some deep thinking. Not everything is as it appears to be. Tonight: Take your time.

♓ PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
 ★★★★★ Bosses make demands, and you produce. How you deal with someone close could be quite different though. Avoid a power play at any cost. Someone might not see eye to eye with you. Don't be reactive or do anything that you might later regret. Tonight: Wherever you are, the party is.

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LOCAL

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Learn how to deal with senior citizen driving

By Daily Press staff

In light of last month's Farmers Market tragedy in which an elderly man drove through a crowd of people, killing 10 and injuring close to 80 people, a local organization will address senior citizens and their driving.

The Center for Healthy Aging in Santa Monica is offering a free, two-hour session on Wednesday, Aug. 13, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., for family members and caregivers who are concerned with the ability of their older relative to continue driving.

The class will address a number of topics, including learning to spot signs of trouble, learning to discuss driving concerns with older relatives, understanding the older person's resistance, helping make alternate plans for getting around and learning where to get help.

The meeting will be held at the Ken Edwards Center on 1527 Fourth St. For reservations, call (310) 576-2550, ext. 363. Free parking will be available at the center.

Pico Youth center celebrates itself

By Daily Press staff

The Pico Youth and Family Center is holding an open house on Saturday, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. to celebrate more than a year and a half of service.

Since its opening in 2002, the center has served hundreds of community youth and their families through computer training, case management, music production, counseling, employment readiness and leadership building.

The open house celebration will include free food and entertainment by local youth and a mural inauguration.

Keeping with the motto "promoting peace, unity and social justice," the PYFC commissioned local artists Juan Carlos Munoz Hernandez and Alex Kizu to paint "Seeds of Peace," a mural symbolizing the urban peace movement.

The center is located at 828 Pico Blvd. #9. Food and refreshments will be served at 3 p.m. and the entertainment and mural inauguration will be at 4 p.m.

For more information, call Yolanda at (310) 396-7101. To learn more about the center, go to www.picoyouth.org or come to the center.

RAND to host trauma conference

By Daily Press staff

A national think tank based in Santa Monica will host a conference next month for children coping with trauma and violence.

RAND will host the conference on Saturday, Sept. 13. The program is designed to appeal to parents, professionals and interested community members.

Dr. Daniel Siegel from the UCLA Center for Culture, Brain and Development, and Bradley Stein from the RAND Health and RAND Child Policy Project will be the presenters.

The conference will be held at the Santa Monica College Concert Hall. Registration and the breakfast buffet will be at 8 a.m. and the presentations will go from 9 a.m. to noon.

To reserve seats early, contact Iao Katagiri at RAND (310) 451-6964 or e-mail iao@rand.org. Provide your name, daytime telephone number, e-mail address and the seats you would like to reserve.

surf report

There's a slight S and SW combo in the background, but right now we're mostly riding on a NW wind swell. That means surf in the waist-high and below range for a little while.

OUTLOOK: A new SW starts to fill in on Sunday and a stronger S a week from today. Have fun out there.

Get stoked on an epic sesh? Get burned by a bad report? Write us at wood@smdp.com and tell us what the surf is doing today at your local break.

Today the water is:

68°

Sunrise: 6:13 a.m.
Sunset: 7:54 p.m.

	LOW TIDE				HIGH TIDE			
	Morning	Height	Evening	Height	Morning	Height	Evening	Height
SATURDAY	6:50	0.2	7:11	2.0	12:01	5.3	1:27	4.8
SUNDAY	7:27	0.8	8:31	1.8	12:56	4.6	2:11	5.0
MONDAY	8:09	1.4	10:05	1.5	2:08	3.9	3:02	5.2
TUESDAY	9:01	2.0	11:35	0.9	3:52	3.3	4:01	5.5
WEDNESDAY	10:10	2.4	N/A	N/A	5:55	3.2	5:05	5.8
THURSDAY	12:47	0.2	(11:29)	2.7	7:28	3.5	6:07	6.1
FRIDAY	1:44	-0.4	12:40	2.7	8:27	3.8	7:03	6.5

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LETTERS

Motel a problem for long time

Editor:

It's about time! I got a kick out of reading the "Pico Boulevard motel owner arrested for pimping" cover story in your Aug. 6 newspaper. I didn't even have to read the article to know which hotel you were talking about. I had lived and owned property in the immediate area since 1988 and witnessed prostitutes strutting their stuff around the corner of 14th and Pico since that time. Which about coincides with the time Mr. Farzam, the owner of the motel, has owned the property. I'm no prude, but prostitution in residential neighborhoods, and across the street from the YMCA, is a bit much. Those "handful of neighbors" insisting "that problems at the Holiday Motel have existed for years" are not exaggerating. What gets me is that it took the city at least 15 years to take effective action to correct the situation. In the meantime, I wonder how many people have mistakenly reserved a room here, instead of at Santa Monica's Holiday Inn!

Jeffrey Weinstein
Santa Monica

Don't blame Reagan for city's mentally ill

Editor:

Although the point made by Ms. Brennan (Mentally ill shouldn't be on the streets, SMDP, Aug. 6, page 4) is well taken. And, I can sympathize with her regarding her encounter with the mentally ill woman. Was it really fair to place all the blame on President and Mrs. Reagan?

Keep in mind that Reagan hasn't been in office for almost two decades. What, if anything, was done to address this problem by Bush 41 (four-year term), Clinton (eight-year term), or Bush 43 (mid-term)?

You can believe what you want about the Reagans (and apparently Ms. Brennan doesn't find much to like), but you also have to consider that current law and groups like the ACLU, who make a living by challenging any perceived threat to civil liberties no matter what the cost, make it impossible to keep people in facilities or to force them to take medicine and to get help against their will.

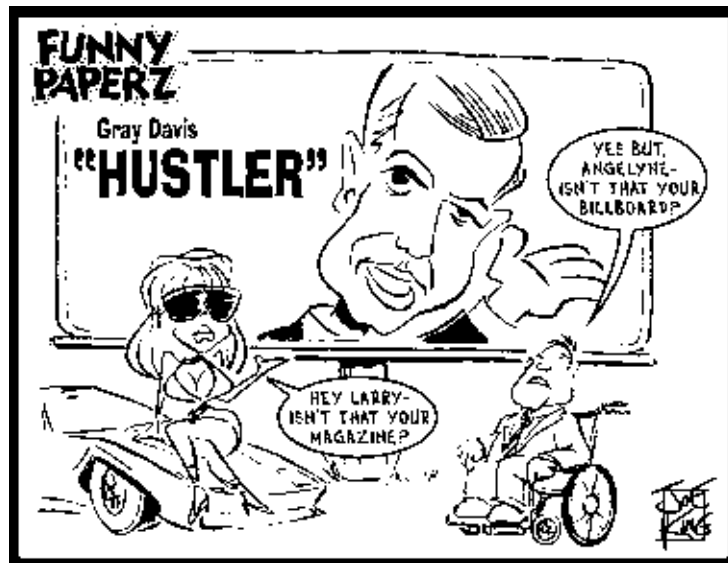
It's a catch 22. You want to make the decision for the mentally ill to get help whether through forced hospitalization or other means. It seems like the right thing to do. But you can't because of Constitutional interpretations and groups that exist to

challenge every perceived infringement on civil liberties.

Based on her opinion piece, I would bet that Ms. Brennan would be willing to "force" the unwilling mentally ill into facilities because she thinks she knows what's in their best interest. I would also bet that Ms. Brennan is a card-carrying member of the ACLU (or at minimum supports their cause). You really can't have it both ways.

It's simple minded and easy to blame a past president (that you don't much like) for the problems of today and it's a little disingenuous. Don't you think?

Scott Bellomo
Beaverton, Ore.



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Homeless center could sink politicians in next council race



MY WRITE

By Bill Bauer

Is there blood in the water?

For years, the city's "pro-homeless" position has gone forth, criticized but rarely seriously challenged.

Citing a neighborhood — and a city — filled to the brim with low income housing projects and social services, the Pico Neighborhood Association is leading the charge against an expanded Ocean Park Community Center shelter and drop-in center proposed for 1751 Cloverfield Blvd.

Nearly \$7.4 million of housing funds designated for affordable and moderate income housing subsidies for families being diverted to a homeless shelter seems to be a particularly offensive violation of the public trust.

This and another \$1.8 million of Big Blue Bus funds, if approved, means the city will give a private, non-profit more than \$9.1 million for providing shelter and services to transients — with no benefit to residents and lots of downside.

Pico residents are concerned that this expanded operation will dump hundreds of mentally ill, dual diagnosed OPCC

clients — many with criminal histories and anti-social tendencies — into their streets and parks.

It's an argument that can be applied to the entire city. Residents are fed up with the anti-social behavior, aggression, panhandling, public urination and defecation, dirt and crime this exceedingly large and difficult population brings to the community.

Citizens are increasingly critical of a city council that squanders precious resources and promotes more services for non-residents while ignoring the dangers created for the rest of us.

For more than two decades, the current political power, Santa Monicans for Renters Rights, has championed the homeless cause. They drive the city's homeless "red carpet" philosophy.

Year after year, "homelessness" is the top resident concern. So, the city's public relations machine minimizes their impact and portrays transients as a harmless and benign presence.

This fantasy fosters the creation and expansion of homeless services into a multi-million dollar industry and propagandistic PTA flyers and articles in the city's Seascope newspaper, advising children to approach homeless strangers and ask them how their day is going.

We already have more homeless services and shelter operations than any other city

in Los Angeles County — except the City of Los Angeles. What do we get for our efforts? Labels such as "one of the meanest cities" and lawsuits for not doing enough.

At three public meetings earlier this week, residents and businesses were virtually unanimous in their dislike for OPCC's project and expressed dissatisfaction with even more homeless services.

Both the normally sympathetic Disabilities Commission and Social Services Commission voted not to support OPCC's project. The Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce's Governmental Affairs Committee recommended further study of the matter.

By now, most thinking citizens even recognize that the success rate for getting people off the streets is alarmingly low and the combination of public feedings and services attracts more vagrants enabling them to live on the streets indefinitely.

Objections have inflamed the "what we should do for transients and the cost to the community" controversy.

But things have changed recently.

The "homeless friendly" suburban editions of the Los Angeles Times have folded, replaced by the Santa Monica Daily Press and two online news services. For the first time in many years there are a number of centrists, such as myself, contributing regular news and opinion pieces

to our respective media that educate the public and challenge the socialist agenda.

The Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce has banished their former pro-homeless leadership. The new Chamber has adopted a much more practical, pro-business politically active stance.

More hardworking, taxpaying families resent seeing valuable resources spent on thousands of transients just here from Texas, Vermont or Utah, especially after the embarrassing and demeaning struggle to get the city council to support our schools.

Our politicians' non-resident priorities have upset of lot of — dare I say it? Voters?

It looks like homeless will be the major campaign issue next year. Ten years ago, a group of homeowners led the charge to stop the giveaways and take back parks and streets. Their candidates for City Council, Asha Greenberg and Ruth Ebner swept into power.

The challenge is to the SMRR opposition. Who will the Asha Greenbergs and Ruth Ebners be in 2004?

The opportunity to topple a couple of long-standing city councilmen has never been better so whomever it is, better start planning now.

(Bill Bauer is a longtime Santa Monica resident and a freelance writer.)

Opinions expressed are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff. Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters will be published on a space-available basis. It is our intention to publish all letters we receive, except those that are libelous or are unsigned. Preference will be given to those that are e-mailed to sack@smdp.com. All letters must include the author's name and telephone number for purposes of verification. Letters also may be mailed to our offices located at 1427 Third Street Promenade, Suite 202, Santa Monica, 90401, or faxed to (310) 576-9913. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content.

YOUR OPINION MATTERS! Send your letters to Santa Monica Daily Press Attn. Editor:

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OPINION



The Q Line

Lack of parking should be everyone's problem

This past week, Q-line asked:

"Should the beach lots be available for the Main Street Farmers Market? If not, what should be done about the lack of parking on Main Street on Sundays?"

Here are your responses:

■ "They absolutely should open those lots to the Farmers Market patrons. The city created that market to be a fun event and I know there are times when I decide not to go down there because I don't want to deal with the hassle. The city wanted it to be a pedestrian event, but people are addicted to their cars so they must provide adequate parking. If the market vendors get to park at the beach, why don't the customers who spend their money? Or better yet, why doesn't everyone just do what I do, ride their bike. We live at the beach remember?"

■ "A well-thought out tram street car system that would carry people from the Santa Monica Pier to the Marina del Rey inlet along the ocean front would allow motorists to use the various available sea-side parking lots and then tram their way to any beach location. Trust me, this is not an original idea. We had trams for years. And now that the beach area is cooking again, folks will ride them."

■ "Those beach parking lots are always available. We don't get preferential parking if we want to go down to the Farmers Market on Arizona and Third Street, nor does anyone else anywhere else. There is parking available sometimes on the Pico-Cloverfield Farmers Market. Like everyone, you use the parking lots on the beach and you pay.

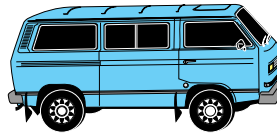
And that goes for the beach people or the Farmers Market lot people. And now that the Farmers Market on Main has gotten out of hand, it wants to be everything. It wants the big entertainment, everything. I think it's really outrageous that stands would be there cooking there, selling their food while we have those restaurants on Main street."

■ "No. Those beach lots should be available to anybody who holds a Santa Monica address on their driver's license and actually lives in Santa Monica, such as myself, who has been paying for those lots all of our lives. Those that come visit should pay to park there. We as citizens who own the lots should have a free pass or a greatly reduced cost to park there, maybe just 50 cents an hour. I don't think they should increase parking to the Main Street market, because that will increase traffic and make it more hectic and dangerous than it already is. It's already now at insanity levels."

■ "What they should do is move the Farmers Market to the airport. That makes more sense. It would be also safer there. It won't bother the neighbors. Secondly, if they want to keep it at Main Street, why does the Farmers Market have free parking? The meters should be in effect at 9 a.m. not 1 p.m. Let's be fair to all."

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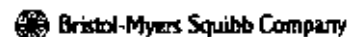
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Entertainment

S.W.A.T. makes a better movie than TV series

REVIEW BY DAN DUNN
Special to the Daily Press

"S.W.A.T." the short-lived 70s TV series about an elite Los Angeles law enforcement unit wasn't very good. In all honesty, it stunk. The only memorable thing about it was the theme song, the sheer mention of which has probably induced many of you to break into a rhythmic hum. But this is one of the rare times we can appreciate Hollywood's affinity for offal because without "S.W.A.T." the malodorous series, there'd be no "S.W.A.T." the highly entertaining movie. With a compelling story, strong characters and a number of gritty action sequences, "S.W.A.T." is proof positive that you can indeed polish a turd.

Colin Farrell plays Jim Street, a top-notch S.W.A.T. member who winds up in deep trouble after his mercurial partner Brian Gamble (Jeremy Renner) injures a civilian during a hostage situation. Gamble quits the force rather than accept a demotion from the calculating Captain Fuller (Larry Poindexter) but Street — with his eye on making it back to S.W.A.T. — takes a dreary job working the gun cage. Six months later,

legendary sergeant "Hondo" Harrelson (portrayed with aplomb by Samuel L. Jackson) enlists Street to join his new team of S.W.A.T. studs. It's a nice bit of one-upmanship for Hondo — who is being set up to fail by his old nemesis Fuller — and a chance for Street, who Farrell instills with the unruffled nobility of Steve McQueen in "Bullitt," to redeem himself. (My guess is Street was also chosen because he's played by a hot young Irish actor who will put female butts in theater seats for what is an otherwise unabashedly testosterone-fueled film.)

Hondo's unit also includes Deke (LL Cool J, who will knock you out with his dynamic performance), Boxer (Brian Van Holt), Sanchez (Michelle Rodriguez of "Girlfight," who sure isn't just the token eye candy here) and T.J. (Josh Charles). After the requisite training/bonding sequences, the real action begins when the team is assigned to transport drug kingpin Alex Montel (Olivier Martinez) to a federal prison. Problem is, Montel's offered a \$1 million prize to anyone who can free him from police custody, leading all sorts of bad elements, including Street's ex partner, to



Left to right: Samuel L. Jackson, Colin Farrell and LL Cool J on the set of the movie S.W.A.T.

come gunning for our heroes. Now, if this premise sounds implausible, well, it is. But with several nifty plot twists and clever slight-of-hand, director Clark Johnson and his team make it pretty darn easy to suspend

your disbelief enough to really enjoy this cool cop caper and the excellent performances that drive it.

(Rated PG-13 for violence, language and sexual references.)

Freaky Friday succeeds in being inventive, comical

REVIEW BY DAN DUNN
Special to the Daily Press

The Summer of Retreads steams along this week as we get not one, but two major studio releases cloaked in the familiar habiliments of 1970s schlock: The film adaptation of the television series "S.W.A.T." and a remake of the 1977 mom-daughter-switcheroo flick "Freaky Friday." The difference is that unlike the anemic "Charlie's

Angels: Full Throttle," the latest entries in the remake field are actually improvements upon their unremarkable progenitors. Let's begin with the latter...

Jamie Lee Curtis stars as Dr. Tess Coleman, a widowed mother of two juggling the demands of single-parenthood with a hectic career as a psychiatrist and author. On the eve of her wedding to her complaisant fiancé Ryan (Mark Harmon), friction between Tess and her free-spirited

16-year-old daughter Anna (Lindsay Lohan) reaches critical mass. Anna is Hollywood's prototypical PG-variety rebellious youth — she wears Doc Martens and has crazy-color in her hair, but drinking, smoking and cussing are out of the question. All she really wants to do is rock out with her bubblegum garage band, go to the mall and date older hunks.

The Palm Pilot-dependent Tess, on the other hand, wants her daughter to behave like a proper young lady, and can't understand why Anna is so averse to the impending nuptials.

After some bizarre "Asian voodoo" involving a meddling restaurant proprietor and some supernatural fortune cookies, Anna and Tess switch bodies and are literally forced to walk in each other's shoes.

While desperately trying to figure out how to switch back in time for Tess to get married and Anna to win a big battle of the bands competition, the two begin to see one another in a new light.

Where the original "Freaky Friday" was content to derive its humor from the most predictable places, the remake strives to be a lit-

tle more inventive and succeeds to a large degree. The primary reason for this is clear: Curtis and Lohan are excellent playing against and as each other. They're having more fun, and consequently so are we. No doubt Jodie Foster (star of the original) is one of the best dramatic actresses ever, but comedy is clearly not her bag. With successful turns in "The Parent Trap" and the Disney Channel's "Get A Clue" on her

resume, Lohan has proven to possess considerable comedic chops. Though I wonder how she would have fared in "Taxi Driver." And Jamie Lee Curtis flat-out shines here. It's the best thing she's done since 1994's "True Lies." At the risk of being trite, "Freaky Friday" truly is fun for the whole family.

(Rated PG for mild thematic elements and some language. Running time: 97 minutes)



© Disney Enterprises, Inc. All rights reserved
Lindsay Lohan and Jamie Lee Curtis in 'Freaky Friday.'

Buy movie memorabilia, jazz it up and support a local film institute

By Daily Press staff

Looking to put a little jazz into your life while loading up on movie memorabilia?

It's possible this Sunday at the Union Restaurant for the American Film Institute Associates' first fundraiser. The event, "An Evening Under the Stars," will give guests a chance to enjoy cabaret and jazz performances while bidding on silent auction items of movie memorabilia and dining under the night sky.

The silent auction will feature rarities like an annotated original screenplay of "Psycho" signed by Alfred Hitchcock, Janet Leigh and Anthony Perkins; a first edition of "The Martian Chronicles," signed by Ray Bradbury; a police helmet worn by Tom Cruise in Minority Report; a 78 rpm playback recording of a song performed by Marilyn Monroe in "River of No Return," as well as items from "Titanic."

Meanwhile, performers will include cabaret artists Ray Jessell and jazz musicians Stacey Rowles, Ron Kalina, Herb Mickman and Jeff Lass.

The AFI Associates was founded in

1984 as a volunteer group raising funds for the American Film Institute. Since then, the group's membership has more than tripled from 30 to 100 people and the associates have raised more than \$3.5 million. The funds serve to help students of the institute and to maintain Hollywood's most precious possessions, its movies.

"We feel it is worthwhile to give young people opportunities and also to preserve films," said Penny Bigelow, an event co-chair.

Future events which the AFI Associates hope to organize include the "International and Classic Film Series." The group also hopes to continue hosting "Family Values Luncheons," which are events honoring prominent Hollywood families such as past winners like the Fondas.

"An Evening Under the Stars" will take place on Aug. 10 at the Union Restaurant, located at 1413 Fifth Street. The evening will begin at 5:30 p.m. with cocktails followed by dinner and entertainment. Tickets are \$125 and require reservations, which can be made by calling (310) 652-1996 or (310) 275-7126.

ENTERTAINMENT



Interview

On-screen kisses, stardom on Lindsay Lohan's mind

INTERVIEW BY DAN DUNN
Special to the Daily Press

At times, talking to 17-year-old Lindsay Lohan, you get the sense that she's a young lady with an uncanny self awareness and maturity beyond her years. But then the young star of "Freaky Friday" gushes about how "really totally awesome and cool" it was working alongside co-star Jamie Lee Curtis, and describes her "type" as being "you know, like, hot boys," and you realize she's still a girl with a whole lot of growing up in front of her. After all, Christina Aguilera and Britney Spears were this sweet and innocent at 17, too.

Best known for playing twin sisters in her 1998 feature film debut, "The Parent Trap," Lohan has also appeared in the television series "Life Size" with Tyra Banks, the Disney Channel's "Get A Clue" and the short-lived sitcom, "Bette." She has the distinction of being the first red-headed child model to sign with the Ford Modeling Agency, and has graced the cover of Vanity Fair as well as worked on more than 60 TV commercials.

Here are some highlights from a recent interview:

QUESTION: Were you intimidated taking on a role that once belonged to the iconic Jodie Foster?

LINDSAY LOHAN: I think it was more cool than it was intimidating. I was, like, wow, I get to play a role that Jodie Foster played. Let's just hope I did it as well as she did.

Q: How similar are you to your character, Anna?

A: Anna kind of keeps everything inside rather than confiding in people. She goes to her music and stuff, which I tend to do sometimes. But she's got a lot of anger inside her because she has a father that passed away and I think that's where she's different from me.

Q: What was the most enjoyable element of this role?

LL: For me it was playing in a band. That's a lot of girls' dream at my age — to be in a band and play guitar. So that was really cool. Playing Jamie was more of a



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Lindsay Lohan with 'Freaky Friday' director Mark Waters.

challenge, which was fun in a different way. Anna was fun for me personally, but as an actor, playing Jamie was too.

Q: What female rockers inspire you?

LL: I love Janis Joplin and Madonna.

Q: You share your first on-screen kiss with co-star Chad Michael Murray. Were you nervous?

LL: I was so nervous because I was kissing a guy that I don't know extremely well, who's good looking and 21, and it's in front of 100 people. But I talked to Jamie, and she said "Oh, don't be nervous." And I told Chad, "Listen, I'm really nervous. You may not be nervous because you've done it before on your shows, but I'm really nervous, so just know that." But it worked out fine. I mean, he's really good looking, so it wasn't bad (laughs).

Q: You're a well-known actress, but you're also a 17-year-old girl who goes to school with all the other kids. Have you experienced much jealousy?

LL: If you're 17 and doing films and you're on posters — I mean, it's weird for me to even see myself on a big billboard on Sunset — and then you go back to regular school, you have to expect people to be judgmental. A lot of people assume that if you're in magazines and on TV that you're going to be overly-confident and act like you're better than everybody else. But if you are yourself and you're not that kind of person, that'll come across eventually.

Crossroads theater enters political arena this month with new plays

By Daily Press staff

Crossroads Theater is getting political this month with two new plays.

The Charlie B. Company will start the first politically-themed play on Aug. 8 called, "We Won't Pay! We Won't Pay!"

The production is a farce of two Italian housewives who are forced to steal groceries while concealing it from their husbands. But the men also have a few surprises up their sleeves, adding to the continuous line of hilarious events.

The second play, Terrence McNally's Vietnam-era comedy, "Where has Tommy Flowers Gone?" introduces the audience to the title character, a rebel during the flower-power generation taking it upon himself to change the world, but eventually hurting himself in the process.

The Charlie B. Company was founded in 2001 by Andy Donald and Daniel Hartley, graduates of the Crossroads School for Arts and Sciences. The two best friends have known each other since kindergarten and performed their first play together in fifth grade.

Since its inception, the Charlie B. Company has expanded from four members to 27 and has enjoyed success. Their

first play, "This Is Our Youth" sold out all five performances at the Santa Monica Playhouse, a trend followed by their later production "Baby with the Bathwater."

The members of the company have chosen to dedicate this summer's performances to politically themed plays.

"We wanted to use our art to comment on what is going on in the world," Donald said.

Both plays will be performed by young actors currently enrolled in universities such as Sarah Lawrence College, Vassar College, and UC Berkeley. The plays also will include performers such as Brooke Bloom, who has previously appeared on "ER" and "Buffy the Vampire Slayer" and Billy Aaron Brown, star of "8 Simple Rules for Dating My Daughter."

The plays will run five times, beginning with "We Won't Pay! We Won't Pay!" from Aug. 8-10 and followed by "Where has Tommy Flowers Gone?" from Aug. 14-17. Both plays will be performed at Crossroads Theater, located at 1714 21st Street. Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$8 for students and seniors. For reservations call (310) 829-7391, ext. 224.

Music Scene

Carlos Guitarlos is back and he's better than ever

Guitarist to appear for special performance at Santa Monica blues club

BY GREGG WILLIS
Special to the Daily Press

Carlos Guitarlos, guitarist for the legendary '70s and '80s LA house band "Top Jimmy" and the "Rhythm Pigs," returns to Harvelle's Blues Club in Santa Monica Saturday night.

It will be his second appearance at Harvelle's since a slew of news articles, including one on the front page of the L.A. Times, appeared earlier this year, chronicling his comeback from a period of substance abuse and homelessness.

Harvelle's proprietor Cevin Clark was the first in Southern California to book Guitarlos, who had been living in Northern California. During a recent performance, those present, myself included, saw for themselves why a once-washed up and homeless musician was the subject of so much press.

It was not hype, Guitarlos is the real thing, with wonderful songs and a great show. He was all that a club owner could ask for — heavily publicized, with a live show that exceeded expectations, which were high because of the press.

I share Clark's puzzlement and dismay that there was not a line down the street that night, even though there was a reminder with a picture in the Times the day of the show.

Guitarlos looks older than his 53 years. His health has been affected by years of hard living. The fact that he is still with us is a gift. His old bandmate, larger than life

singer Top Jimmy, passed away at the age of 47 from liver failure. Guitarlos is the musical equivalent of a writer who turns a life of drinking, drugging and adventure into a critically acclaimed novel.

His songs are well crafted gems, evidence of a lifetime spent honing his skills as a songwriter. His music has elements of blues, pop, rock, jazz, Cajun and zydeco, but like his unorthodox guitar technique, is a creation all his own.

I have seen Guitarlos with Top Jimmy and the Rhythm Pigs on one of those nights at the old Palomino Club and his appearance the night of June 6 was just as special.

Guitarlos' band, with original Rhythm Pigs drummer Joe Morales, bassist Marc Dolen, sax and harmonica man Vince Meghrouni, and guitarist Marcus Watkins were more than up to the task of backing the grizzled veteran. Their musicianship, spirit and soul were an essential part of Guitarlos' connection with the audience.

At the end of the night the crowd was demanding an encore, but Guitarlos, intent on proving his professionalism, left the stage despite the entreaties of the crowd. Clark has promised to let Guitarlos know that, indeed, it would be perfectly all right if he performs an encore on Saturday.

Let's see to it that there is a large crowd left at the end of the night because Guitarlos is one musician who truly deserves the support of the LA music community. To say that he has paid his dues would belittle what he has been through and returned from. It would be a mistake to miss the unique musician. He is living proof that redemption and recovery are possible, and that the results can be inspiring as well as entertaining. Come honor the man and hear some wonderful music.

A meeting of the minds this weekend in Venice

By Daily Press staff

Something is afoot in Venice.

It's a new gathering to celebrate the arts and indulge in the eclectic mix of music, mirth and "massaging of the mind."

A "Circle of Friends" presents the first "Chautauqua Circle Coffee House" on Sunday, Aug. 10, at the Venice Center for Peace with Justice and Arts.

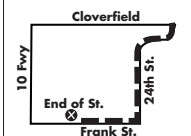
The gathering is a mix of music, food and the exchange of political consciousness. Future plans for the Venice Center will be reaching out to the community and surrounding areas to bring diverse social and cultural programs to the neighborhood.

The Chautauqua Coffee House is an idea created by musician and songwriter Stephen Longfellow Fiske.

"I have a passion for performing and for communicating meaningfully and spiritually," he said. "Beyond being an entertainer, I feel a commitment to contributing to peace, justice and environmental causes through music and the arts."

Joining Fiske at the launch of the new Sunday series will be "eclectic violinist" Scarlett Rivera who gained fame performing with Bob Dylan on his famous "Rolling Thunder Revue" in the '70s and the Duke Ellington Orchestra. Singer, Stefani Valadez and composer Dwight Stone will be sharing the bill. The evening will open with a "Shamanic Blessing Ceremony" and close with a "Chautauqua Circle."

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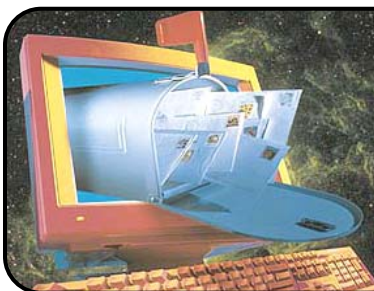

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City Hall: Bus passenger should have held onto bar

SUIT, from page 1

Daniel McGee, one of Karony's attorneys, told jurors that Karony was put in harm's way because of a negligent driver, poor training and virtually nonexistent supervision. He said Karony should be reimbursed for \$70,000 in medical bills, plus an unspecified amount for pain and suffering.

"Before she could sit down, the bus suddenly lurched forward and she fell down," he said. "The bus driver was careless. But more importantly, the city of Santa Monica failed that bus driver."

Hirata said Sanchez did wait for Karony to sit down, but Karony suddenly got up before the bus took off, apparently after she saw a friend on the bus.

Regardless, Hirata said Sanchez was under no obligation to wait for Karony to sit before continuing on his route.

"The only time you have to ... wait for someone to sit down on your bus is if you're disabled ... or if you have special needs," he said. "Mrs. Karony was neither."

Once she fell, the bus stopped and paramedics brought Karony to St. John's Hospital where she stayed for a week. She was then transferred to a nearby convalescent home where she spent three weeks being rehabilitated.

Before the accident, McGee said Karony was independent and energetic, working out three times a week and traveling around town on her own. Since the accident, McGee said Karony requires the assistance of a caregiver.

"All Mrs. Karony had to do was hang onto a bar or a railing and this accident never would have happened."

— **NORMAN HIRATA**
Deputy City Attorney

"Her spirit has changed," he said.

But Hirata attributed Karony's health problems to variety of other factors, including a heart attack she suffered since the bus accident.

Karony retired in 1982 and moved to Santa Monica to be with her family in 2000. She has two daughters, two grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

Gloria Keeling, one of her daughters, sat in the courtroom immediately behind her mother during opening statements. She said afterwards that Karony, who now walks with a cane, was exhausted by the court proceedings.

The trial, which is being heard by Santa Monica Superior Court Judge Lorna Parnell, is expected to last seven days. It will include testimony from medical and other experts, Karony's family members, as well as two residents of Australia who were on the bus and testified via satellite.

Chamber questions City Hall on its operations, spending

ANALYSIS, from page 1

her husband, share the pain Dodson refers to. They have been trying for the last year to open Schmerty's Gourmet Cookies at 2819 Ocean Park Blvd. Glasser said dealing with City Hall has been difficult.

"We've lost so much money," she said, adding that she has struggled to make rent payments while her permits have been stalled in City Hall for more than a year. "They need to have a booklet called 'Planning 101' they can hand out that tells the basic person, step by step, what they need."

Dr. Mike Gruning, president of the chamber, said there is a glaring disparity in the amount of money City Hall charges Santa Monica citizens and the services they receive. He said there are 43 residents for each public employee in Santa Monica, while other cities have far fewer government employees.

"If you have funds you're going to spend them," Gruning said. "Politicians like to spend money. That's what they do."

In addition to deciding to conduct the analysis, the committee discussed the spending and services of each department in City Hall.

Despite that City Hall spends more than \$2 million each year on social services for the homeless, Santa Monica appears to have one of the highest populations of people living on the street, Dodson said.

And the City Attorney's office appears to be another area where City Hall could save money, Gruning said.

He said City Hall uses a "proactive

approach to litigation" and cited recent legislation like the defeated living wage law and a local ordinance that banned ATM fees, which was overturned in state and federal courts.

Dodson agrees on the legal fees.

"They need to have a booklet called 'Planning 101' they can hand out that tells the basic person, step by step, what they need."

— **SYRNA GLASSER**
Co-owner, Schmerty's Gourmet Cookies

"The expenses there are very high and that's partly because we get sued a lot," she said. "But it's also because we make so many ordinances. They're not tweaking the system — they're re-writing it on a daily basis."

Steve Stark, the city's finance director, said he welcomes constructive criticism of City Hall's spending and he's looking forward to the chamber's suggestions.

As for Glasser, she hopes she can start doing business in Santa Monica soon.

"If everything — knock on wood — goes smoothly, we'll be open by the end of the month," she said.

STATE



CALIFORNIA BRIEFS

Vandals flood college dormitory

By The Associated Press

POMONA — Vandals flooded a nearly completed \$13 million Cal Poly dormitory building, delaying opening for months and disrupting more than 200 students set to move in next month.

There was more than \$2 million damage to the California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, dorm.

The three-story building was just weeks from completion when vandals sneaked inside on July 15, turned on kitchen sink faucets in more than 50 units and flooded the rooms, said Douglas Freer, assistant vice president for Student Auxiliary Services.

The vandals then ran large hoses from the ground level through the windows of the upper level suite bedrooms, leaving up to six inches of water in places.

"We have to believe it was somewhere in the neighborhood of seven to 10 hours before it was detected by the construction crew when they came on the next morning," Freer said. "It's just terribly disappointing. Clearly the folks who are most impacted by this are the students."

The university is working to find emergency off-campus housing for students. Classes start Sept. 25.

Hells Angel to file lawsuit against fair

By The Associated Press

VENTURA — Hells Angels leader George Christie Jr., turned away from the Ventura County Fair because his motorcycle club vest violated anti-gang dress codes, is angry that the Ventura County Red Devils were allowed in with their motorcycle club jackets.

"Other motorcycle clubs are being admitted, whereas the Hells Angels are being declined admittance," Christie said after learning 10 members of the Red Devils were freely roaming the fairgrounds Tuesday night while wearing jackets featuring the club's name.

Fair policy bans gang-related clothing, and the Hells Angels are on a list of 27 groups identified as a "criminal street gang." The Red Devils, which has ties to the Hells Angels, aren't on the list.

Red Devils president James Ivans Jr. said Wednesday that police followed the group for about three hours but never questioned members or asked them to leave.

Christie said allowing the Red Devils into the fair was further proof that the dress code policy discriminates against his group.

On Saturday, Christie was wearing his Hells Angels vest when he was refused entry. "The Red Devils are a gang independent of the Hells Angels," Lt. Quinn Fenwick said. "They don't wear Hells Angels patches. The Hells Angels are a criminal street gang, and the Red Devils are not."

Christie said Wednesday he plans to file a federal civil rights lawsuit against the fair.

City won't build new skate park

By The Associated Press

SANTA PAULA — Facing a nearly \$350,000 loss in revenue due to state budget woes, the City Council voted to reject all bids for construction of a skate park.

Organizers of the proposed attraction at Veterans Memorial Park had hoped the city would come up with \$100,000 for the \$317,000 project.

City Manager Wally Bobkiewicz said he couldn't recommend using city reserves at a time when the state is withholding auto license fees from Santa Paula and other cities.

"It really taints how we view our finances," Bobkiewicz said. "If the state weren't reaching into our pockets and stealing money from us, we would be more likely to dip into our pockets for community projects."

After the vote this week, the council agreed to work with the Santa Paula Association of Skaters to raise the additional funds.

LAPD officers to get raise

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The City Council agreed to a 9 percent raise over three years for the Police Department's 9,100 officers.

The raise approved Wednesday will cost taxpayers \$80 million this year, which is higher than the \$70 million estimated when officials drafted the budget. A raise still being negotiated by the city's firefighters is expected to add \$5 million to the deficit.

Coupled with state budget cuts to cities, it could leave Los Angeles in fiscal trouble.

"I don't think it's an issue of whether the Police Department deserves the pay raise," said Councilman Bernard C. Parks, the former police chief and lone dissenter. "I think every time we can pay police officers more, I would support that."

"But I think the issue is the timing. We have a situation here where we could be \$300 million in the hole at the end of the fiscal year."

City Administrative Officer Bill Fujioka, who said the \$15 million gap, which includes the expected pay raise for firefighters who are still negotiating a contract, will have to be offset with cuts in other services.

Many on the council said the LAPD needs to stay competitive in recruiting and keeping officers. Currently, the annual pay for LAPD rookies is more than \$46,000, while the pay scale for lieutenants tops out at more than \$102,000.



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STATE

Gov. Davis recall race becoming like a carnival

BY ERICA WERNER
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES — Arnold Schwarzenegger said Wednesday he will run for governor of California, awarding Republicans his marquee value in their campaign to oust Gov. Gray Davis. Democratic Sen. Dianne Feinstein ruled out a run, labeling the election “more and more like a carnival every day.”

Schwarzenegger made the stunning announcement during a taping of “The Tonight Show with Jay Leno.” His advisers had said he was leaning against a run. Instead, the Austrian-born actor told Leno: “I can promise you that when I go to Sacramento I will pump up Sacramento.”

“The politicians are fiddling, fumbling and failing,” he said.

Said Leno: “This is kind of the American dream.”

Schwarzenegger said the decision to run was the toughest he’s made since opting to get a bikini wax in 1978. He said he would pick up nominating papers Thursday, just days away from the Saturday filing deadline.

In recent weeks, as Schwarzenegger promoted his film “Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines,” advisers said the 56-year-old actor was leaning against running because of opposition from his wife, journalist and Kennedy relative Maria Shriver. The couple have four children, ages 5 to 13.

In a press conference later, he said he decided after his wife told him: “You know something, I support you no matter what you do.”

“I felt in the end it is my duty to jump into the race and to bring hope to the people,” Schwarzenegger told reporters.

Davis’ campaign committee responded by saying Schwarzenegger was merely the latest in a long list of people who have declared their intent to run, noting that Hustler publisher Larry Flynt is among them.

“The more candidates who join, the greater the likelihood that a small minority of voters will be controlling California’s future,” read a statement from Californians Against the Costly Recall, which was speaking for the governor.

The statement also reminded voters of the cost of a special recall election, estimated by the secretary of state’s office at \$67 million, “money which would be better spent on our schools and our children.”

The two-month campaign is sure to be a rough-and-tumble affair. Davis is able to raise large amounts of money and has run negative campaigns against past opponents. In addition, polls have shown former Los Angeles mayor Richard Riordan would be a stronger candidate than Schwarzenegger in the Oct. 7 recall election.

Schwarzenegger, a moderate Republican, told Leno he’s not afraid of Davis allies attacking him as being “a womanizer,” “a terrible person” or anything else. “I know that they’re going to throw everything at me.”

Riordan had said he would seriously consider running if Schwarzenegger, a close friend, did not. He was assembling a campaign team on the assumption Schwarzenegger was out. His spokeswoman, Lisa Wolf, had no immediate comment Wednesday.

Schwarzenegger said he made the decision over the last few days and kept it a secret from everyone — even his own advisers said they didn’t expect it. Speculation was so intense that his advisers had to twice squash media reports that the actor was not running.

Schwarzenegger would not say whether he’d spoken with Riordan.

He also defended the decision to make an announcement about a serious political matter on a talk show.

“I deeply believe the recall is a terrible mistake and will bring to the depth and breadth of California instability and uncertainty, which will be detrimental to our economic recovery and decision-making.”

— DIANNE FEINSTEIN
State Senator

“It’s not really mockery. I think it’s a very good way of communicating to the mass,” he said.

Feinstein’s decision earlier Wednesday to stay out of the race gave an initial boost to Davis, while frustrating some Democrats who wanted her to run to ensure the governorship would remain in the party’s hands if Davis lost.

“After thinking a great deal about this recall, its implications for the future, and its misguided nature, I have decided that I will not place my name on the ballot,” Feinstein said in a statement.

“I deeply believe the recall is a terrible mistake and will bring to the depth and breadth of California instability and uncertainty, which will be detrimental to our economic recovery and decision-making,” she said.

The recall election is yet another setback for Davis, who has seen his popularity plummet as the state grappled with a record \$38 billion budget deficit. It also is the latest force to bedevil Californians, who in recent years have endured an energy crisis, the collapse of the dot-com economy and a federally mandated cut-back in one of the state’s main water supplies. Residents now face the prospect of higher car taxes and college fees to close the state’s budget gap.

Davis is the first California governor to face a recall and would be only the second governor nationwide to be removed from office if the effort succeeds.

“This man has to go,” Schwarzenegger said. “The situation we’re in today is because of Gray Davis.” He said that if elected he would repeal the recent tripling of the state vehicle tax.

Before the actor’s appearance on “The Tonight Show,” Davis told a San Francisco radio station that it was important that other prominent Democrats remain off the ballot.

“To the extent that Democrats get in the race, it makes it look like a normal election, and legitimates what is really an effort

See RECALL, page 11

STATE



New York has biggest decline in residents leaving

CALIFORNIANS, from page 1

reaching but you never get there because of the cost of living," Neuens, a marketer for a real estate firm, said of the 25 years she lived in California.

Only New York, which lost 874,000 more residents to other states than it took in, had a bigger net decline than California, which lost 755,000. Illinois, New Jersey and Pennsylvania also lost more than they gained.

Overall, California drew about 1.4 million residents from other states between 1995 and 2000 but lost 2.2 million of its residents.

It was the first time more people left California for other states since the government started keeping track of domestic migration statistics in 1940, said Census Bureau analyst Jason Schachter.

The figures count only gains and losses between states. California had a big gain when foreign immigrants were counted.

The numbers were contained in four reports released Wednesday. They offer the most comprehensive look so far at U.S. migration in 2000.

They show the longtime retirement destination of Florida having the biggest net increase of movers, with 607,000 more people coming in than leaving.

Warm-weather states with fast-growing economies in the late 1990s rounded out the top five: Georgia, North Carolina, Arizona and Nevada.

The West had the highest percentage of any region of people who changed residences between 1995 and 2000. Fifty-one percent of people who in 2000 lived in the 13 Western states, including Alaska and Hawaii, had lived at another home in 1995. The percentage includes people whether they moved to a new state or just down the street.

The South, where 48 percent of people changed residences between 1995 and 2000, had the second-most transient population, followed by the Midwest at 44 percent and Northeast at 39 percent.

William Frey, a demographer with the Brookings Institution in Washington, said the California departures could be a sign that residents were fed up with high housing prices and sprawl.

Analysts also noted that although the San Francisco Bay area's economy boomed during the late 1990s, Southern California's economy slumped.

Next-door Nevada was the place of choice for the largest number of exiting Californians: 199,000 settled there.

"People are leaving urbanism and wanting to move where there is more space or more affordable housing," Frey said.

Spurred by immigration, however, California's population still rose 14 percent, or 4.1 million people, between 1990 and 2000 to nearly 33.9 million. Its foreign-born population rose by more than one-third to almost 8.9 million.

The trend may be due in large part to immigrants entering the United States through California, then using

the state as a springboard to find work in other parts of the country, said Dowell Myers, a demographer at the University of Southern California.

"California has been the recipient of much of the nation's immigration. The only way you can balance that is by exporting people out of state," Myers said. "These numbers should in no way be attributed as a setback to California."

The report was based on people's responses to the 2000 census long-form question, which asked if the respondent had lived in the same address five years earlier. Those who responded "no" were then asked to say from where they had moved.

Overall, of the 262 million people 5 and older in 2000, 120 million, or 45.9 percent, had moved in the previous five years. That's down slightly from the 46.7 percent of people in the 1990 census who reported having moved.

Schachter said people in their 20s and early 30s are the most apt to move. Rates decline until retirement age, then increase especially after age 85, when many people either are moved to nursing homes or closer to family members who can take care of them.

Those people who move out-of-state typically go to a nearby state.

One exception was New York-to-Florida, a longtime route for retiring New Yorkers. More than 300,000 people traveled that route between 1995 and 2000, the largest flow between two states.

Regardless of where they came from, Florida had a net gain of 149,000 residents age 65 and over from other states, more than any other state.

Other highlights from the reports:

■ Nevada had the highest net rate of people moving in, gaining nearly 152 residents for every 1,000 people in 1995. Hawaii lost 65 residents per 1,000 people in 1995, the highest net rate of people moving out.

■ There was a net increase of 510,000 of people moving into nonmetropolitan areas, though much of that increase came in counties near fast-growing metropolitan areas like Denver and Atlanta. Such areas are losing their rural feel quickly, Schachter said.

■ Two metropolitan areas that prospered during the late 1990s — Washington-Baltimore and San Francisco-Oakland-San Jose — gained immigrants but had a net loss in people moving out of the area.

Despite the high-tech booms in these areas, that might be another sign that the real job growth came in lower-paying jobs, while more educated people may have been lured to smaller, fast-growing areas like Austin, Texas, or Denver, said John Logan, a sociologist at the State University of New York at Albany.

Feinstein: Alternate Democrat a mistake

RECALL, from page 10

by the right wing to steal back an election they couldn't win last November," he said. "I think at the end of the day people will realize that the party is better served rallying around its sitting governor."

Some party members still thought otherwise.

"I want to back the strongest candidate, and it's important that we coalesce around one, and now I'm appealing to the leaders, the folks whose pay grade is one or two notches up from mine, to figure out who our strongest candidate is and lead us in coalescing behind that candidate," said Rep. Brad Sherman, D-Calif., who had supported a Feinstein candidacy.

Members of California's congressional delegation discussed the matter in a conference call Wednesday, with the majority leaning toward finding a consensus candidate, said a source familiar with the discussion who spoke on condition of anonymity.

In a conference call with reporters late Wednesday,

Feinstein said she thinks it would be a mistake to place an alternate Democratic candidate on the ballot.

"It divides the votes, takes away from the central issue. I think that the problems facing California are not easy ones that can be handled over night," she said.

Earlier in the day, Arianna Huffington, the ex-wife of former Republican Congressman Michael Huffington, announced her candidacy at a news conference in Los Angeles. She would run as an independent.

Michael Huffington also has taken out papers, but has not indicated whether he will enter the race.

The ballot also is likely to include several conservative Republicans. U.S. Rep. Darrell Issa, who funded the recall, is a declared candidate, and state Sen. Tom McClintock filed papers Tuesday. Businessman Bill Simon, who lost to Davis in November, also is expected to run.

Issa, R-Vista, said in a statement: "Despite the late date, I am pleased to have Arnold in the campaign to help me recall Gray Davis. Whether or not he should be governor is not my decision but the voters."

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INTERNATIONAL

Suspected collaborator killed in West Bank, Israeli police prevent clash in Jerusalem

BY MARK LAVIE
Associated Press Writer

JERUSALEM — Palestinian militants executed a suspected collaborator with Israeli intelligence in the central square of the West Bank town of Ramallah on Thursday, while a halt to attacks against Israelis continued to hold.

In the Old City of Jerusalem, meanwhile, hundreds of Israeli police prevented Israeli extremists from entering a hotly disputed holy site, heading off a potential confrontation with Muslims.

The Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades, linked to Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement, carried out the summary execution in Ramallah, not far from Arafat's office.

Witnesses said three gunmen pulled the man into a car and drove to the center of town. Then, one of the gunmen pulled the man from the car and shouted, "In the name of the Al Aqsa Martyrs' Brigades, we carry out the sentence of death," and shot him.

He was identified as Samer Sharour, in his early 20s. Doctors said he was hit by six bullets in the head and chest.

During the past decade, Palestinian militants have executed dozens of suspected collaborators, sometimes hanging their bodies in public squares, drawing criticism from human rights groups. The Palestinian Authority also has publicly executed several such suspects after quick trials.

Palestinian-Israeli violence remained at a low level. The main Palestinian groups called a unilateral truce on June 29, and most militants are obeying it. Exceptions are breakaway cells of the Al Aqsa group in the Jenin area of the northern part of the West Bank and militants in southern Gaza, where some attacks continue.

However, Palestinians warned that the truce might fall apart because of Israeli actions. On Wednesday, Israel released 334 Palestinian prisoners, but Palestinians complained that most were near the end of their terms and few were leading militants.

Palestinians demand that Israel release thousands of the estimated 7,000 prisoners it is holding.

Israel counters that release of prisoners is a goodwill gesture not mentioned in the U.S.-backed "road map" peace plan. Israel rules out releasing Palestinians involved in terror attacks.

The Israeli military announced Thursday that it had removed three roadblocks along a seven-mile-long road linking Jenin with 15 villages. Palestinians said it allowed them freedom of movement there for the first time in more than two years.

In a statement, the military said the barriers were removed to "ease conditions for Palestinians to improve their daily lives."

However, an Israeli tank was still positioned at the entrance to Jenin, where soldiers checked ID cards of Palestinians entering and leaving.

Dozens of Israeli roadblocks have carved up the West Bank during nearly three years of violence, decimating the Palestinian economy and causing severe hardships.

Israel has said the roadblocks are necessary to stop armed militants. Palestinians infiltrating from the West Bank have carried out nearly 100 suicide bombing attacks in Israel during the conflict.

**During the past decade,
Palestinian militants
have executed dozens of
suspected collaborators,
sometimes hanging their
bodies in public squares,
drawing criticism from
human rights groups.**

In Jerusalem, hundreds of police surrounded a hilltop shrine in the walled Old City on Thursday to keep out about 40 ultranationalist Jews.

The hilltop, home to the two biblical Jewish Temples and Judaism's holiest site, is now the location of the Al Aqsa Mosque, Islam's third-holiest shrine. Thursday was the annual day of fasting and mourning for the destruction of the Temples by invading armies.

Each year, police allow the Temple Mount Faithful group, which aims to rebuild the Temple in place of the mosque, to march to the gates of the mosque compound.

The hill is being administered by the Supreme Muslim Council and has been closed to non-Muslims during nearly three years of Israeli-Palestinian fighting. On Sept. 28, 2000, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon — then the opposition leader in parliament — toured the site, a visit followed by days of rioting that widened into the current battle.

Several weeks ago, Israeli police had begun allowing small groups of tourists, including Jews, to again visit the site, drawing bitter Muslim complaints. The visits were halted last week.

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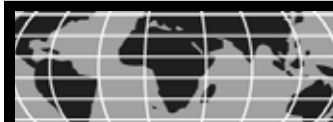
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WORLD BRIEFLY

Bali bomber sentenced to death

By The Associated Press

BALI, Indonesia — In the first verdict on last year's Bali bombings, an Indonesian court on Thursday convicted and sentenced to death Amrozi bin Nurhasyim for his role in the attack that killed 202 people.

Amrozi was found guilty of planning and helping execute the bombings — a verdict that could help end Indonesia's reputation as being soft on terrorists.

"The accused is found guilty in a legal and convincing manner of carrying out an act of terrorism," said judge I Made Karna.

After the verdict was read, Amrozi took off his Islamic skull cap, raised his arms and gave his lawyers the thumbs-up sign. Hundreds of people, including survivors of the bombings, cheered when the judge read the sentence.

As he was led out of the courtroom, Amrozi smiled broadly at Australian survivors, some of whom shouted back angrily. Australia lost 88 people in the attack.

The verdict came two days after another bomb exploded at the Marriott Hotel in Jakarta, killing at least 10 people and wounding nearly 150. Both attacks have been linked with Jemaah Islamiyah, a shadowy al-Qaida-linked terrorist group believed to be operating in Southeast Asia.

Powell still part of Bush team

By The Associated Press

CRAWFORD, Texas — President Bush and Secretary of State Colin Powell visited a coffee shop in a public appearance intended to send the message that Powell is still very much a part of the Bush team.

"The fact that he is here in Crawford, Texas, talking about issues of importance, should say loud and clear to the American people that he's completely engaged in doing what he needs to do, and that is, serve as a great secretary of state," Bush told reporters outside the Coffee Station Wednesday.

Bush and Powell brushed aside questions about whether Powell would serve again if Bush won re-election, insisting their focus is on world affairs for the remaining 17 months of the president's current term.

Asked again about the truth of news reports that Powell would not serve in a second Bush term, the president responded sharply.

"Well, first things first, we hope there is a second Bush administration," the president said. "And I will work hard to convince the American people that their confidence in me is justified."

Gephardt wants AFL-CIO endorsement

By The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Dick Gephardt thinks he can nab an AFL-CIO endorsement when labor leaders meet in October. His rivals have two months to work to deny him the prize.

The AFL-CIO's executive council voted Wednesday to give President John Sweeney authority to call an endorsement meeting in October to consider support for Gephardt, the only candidate with enough union backing to possibly meet the difficult threshold, leaders say.

Sweeney said he is likely to set the Oct. 15 meeting. Gephardt's supporters viewed the upcoming endorsement meeting as positive.

"We see this is a significant step toward the AFL-CIO endorsement," said Steve Elmendorf, a senior campaign adviser to the Missouri congressman who stepped aside as top Democrat in the House to make his presidential bid.

Gephardt, a longtime ally of organized labor, must meet a tough threshold: two-thirds support from the federation's 13.2 million members, or 8.8 million.

College president guilty by association

By The Associated Press

LOWELL, Mass. — University of Massachusetts President William M. Bulger had support from people in high places, but in the end, he couldn't escape the shadow of a fugitive mobster brother.

Bulger — whose brother is linked to 21 murders — resigned Wednesday after months of pressure, blaming

"a calculated political assault" against the university by Republican Gov. Mitt Romney.

The university trustees voted to accept the resignation, and agreed to pay him more than two years' salary in a severance package totaling nearly \$1 million. Bulger also is entitled to his state pension that will pay him more than \$200,000 a year, said trustee Lawrence Boyle.

"Although we have met the challenges and are up to the task of meeting more, I increasingly believe that the university and its Board of Trustees should not be subjected to further assault," Bulger said Wednesday.

In June, he had testified under a grant of immunity about his mob brother, Winter Hill Gang leader James "Whitey" Bulger, who has been on the lam since 1995. Whitey Bulger, who was allegedly a prized informant for the FBI even as he became a much-feared figure in Boston's underworld, fled just before his indictment on federal charges related to 21 murders.

Gay couple ceremonies won't be blessed

By The Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — As anguished conservatives protested the confirmation of the first openly gay Episcopal bishop, church leaders weary of debating homosexuality are tackling yet another divisive issue: blessing ceremonies for same-sex couples.

The House of Bishops, composed of bishops from around the country, voted Wednesday to reject a proposal to draft an official liturgy for the ceremonies — which are already performed in some parishes.

But by voice vote, they overwhelmingly approved a document saying: "We recognize that local faith communities are operating within the bounds of our common life as they explore and experience liturgies celebrating and blessing same-sex unions."

There was disagreement over the significance of the statement, which needs final approval from the clergy and laity in the House of Deputies. A vote could come as soon as Thursday.

Bishops already decide whether to permit same-sex blessing ceremonies in their own dioceses.

But the Episcopal gay advocacy groups Claiming the Blessing and Integrity said that, if approved, the measure would be the first time the church acknowledged in a national document that such ceremonies are held.

Car bomb at Jordanian Embassy kills at least seven

BY ANDREW ENGLAND

Associated Press Writer

BAGHDAD, Iraq — A massive car bomb exploded outside the Jordanian Embassy in Baghdad on Thursday, killing at least seven people and wounding 52, hospital and rescue workers said. Two U.S. soldiers died in a gun battle in another part of the Iraqi capital.

The two soldiers of the 1st Armored Division were killed in the Al Rashid district of Baghdad Wednesday night, U.S. Central Command in Tampa, Fla. reported. A translator with them was wounded.

Their deaths ended a four-day stretch in which the military said there had been no combat fatalities. The number of U.S. forces killed in combat since May 1, when President Bush declared major fighting over, now stands at 55. The military said it was withholding their names until family members were notified.

Shortly after the blast at the Jordanian Embassy, young Iraqi men stormed the gate and began destroying pictures of Jordanian King Abdullah II and his late father, King Hussein. They shouted anti-Jordanian chants, but were quickly dispersed by American forces and Iraqi police.

The bomb was believed to have been planted in a minibus parked outside the walled embassy compound and detonated remotely. Many cars were gutted and two bodies were seen still sitting in the vehicles.

An American tank was parked outside the embassy compound on the west edge of Baghdad. Soldiers in armored vehicles and Humvees cordoned off the area.

Mandoh Gaahi, who witnessed the explosion, said the blast shook buildings and broke windows hundreds of yards away.

Two of the dead were still inside the shells of two cars. One mangled vehicle could be seen on top of a building next to the embassy.

A Sudanese man working as a waiter at the embassy said about 30 people inside heard the explosion and many of them suffered minor injuries. He was bleeding from the left side of his face. One wall of the embassy compound was blown down.

Tensions between the neighboring countries have been high because of Jordan's support for the U.S.-led war on Iraq. Many Iraqis are resentful that Jordan dropped its support for Saddam Hussein after the 1991 Gulf War, and allowed U.S. troops to use its soil as a base during the latest war.

King Abdullah II last week granted "humanitarian asylum" to two daughters of Saddam, whose husbands took refuge in Jordan but were lured back and killed by Saddam's regime in 1996.

In Tikrit, U.S. forces captured a suspected leader of Saddam's loyalist militia after storming a workers' hostel in a series of pre-dawn raids that netted four men suspected of plotting attacks against coalition forces, the military said.

The man, who was identified only by his nickname "The Rock," allegedly organized cells, paid guerrilla fighters and armed them with rocket-propelled grenades and AK-47 assault rifles for attacks on U.S. forces in Saddam's hometown of Tikrit and surrounding areas, said Lt. Col. Steve Russell, commander of the 22nd Infantry Regiment's 1st Battalion, which executed the raids.

Two men believed to be former Iraqi generals who organized guerrilla attacks nationwide were also captured in raids in a village south of Tikrit, along with an additional suspected Fedayeen militia ring-leader, Russell said. He said he could not name them or say where they were captured.

Each raid increases the pressure on Saddam by triggering a chain reaction of tips leading to operations that further eat away at the remnants of the dictator's support network, Russell said.

"We are eroding all of the support of the former regime and as we continue to do so, it just collapses," he said. "Each raid seems to feed on itself now."

Thursday's raids were the product of a series of tips from residents who told soldiers that the suspects had held a meeting and then helped pinpoint their locations, Russell said.

As Apache attack helicopters circled above, about 100 soldiers backed by four battle tanks, eight Bradley fighting vehicles surrounded the hostel, which was

above a block of shops, in the raid witnessed by The Associated Press. They brought 39 men out from the building and neighboring tenements.

Many of the men were shirtless and barefoot as they sat cross legged with their hands tied behind their backs while soldiers interrogated them under flashlight beams before dawn. After finding their target, soldiers released 38 of the men with an apology and a warning.

The U.S. military had earlier announced the arrest of another suspected guerrilla organizer. The man, nabbed Tuesday by Iraqi police officers, was the brother of a Saddam bodyguard captured by U.S. forces on July 29, Russell said.

Russell did not identify the man, but said he was the brother of Adnan Abdullah Abid al-Musslit, who was believed to have detailed knowledge of Saddam's hiding places.

Eighteen other suspected guerrillas were arrested in seven raids conducted across north-central Iraq over a 24-hour period ending Wednesday, 4th Infantry spokeswoman Maj. Josslyn Aberle said.

She also said soldiers uncovered a large weapons cache 25 miles northeast of Tikrit, Saddam's hometown, on Sunday. It included two 20-foot missiles, 3,000 mortar rounds, 250 anti-tank rockets and almost 2,000 artillery rounds.

She said an Iraqi informant led soldiers to the cache.

SPORTS

SPORTS IN BRIEF

By The Associated Press

BASKETBALL

■ **EAGLE, Colo.** — NBA superstar Kobe Bryant made his first court appearance on a sexual assault charge at a seven-minute hearing that created a media frenzy in this quiet mountain town.

Attorneys for the 24-year-old Bryant waived his right to be formally advised of the felony assault charge, sparing the Los Angeles Lakers guard even more time in the courtroom jammed with reporters.

Eagle County Judge Frederick Gannett set an Oct. 9 preliminary hearing to determine whether the closely watched case will go to trial. The hearing would be one day after a Lakers' preseason game and about three weeks before the start of the regular season.

Bryant has said he had consensual sex with his accuser, a 19-year-old college student who worked at the front desk of the Lodge & Spa at Cordillera in nearby Edwards, but is innocent of assault.

■ **MILWAUKEE** — Terry Porter was hired as the new coach of the Milwaukee Bucks.

Porter worked last season as an assistant coach with the Sacramento Kings, his first season in coaching after a 17-year playing career.

BASEBALL

■ **SEATTLE** — Just 2 1/2 weeks after getting him, the New York Yankees traded Armando Benitez to the Seattle Mariners for fellow reliever Jeff Nelson in a surprising swap between division leaders.

■ **CINCINNATI** — The college student who caught the baseball Sammy Sosa hit for his 500th home run is putting it up for auction.

MastroNet, Inc., of Chicago will take bids on the ball starting Aug. 11. The auction house has set a minimum bid of \$20,000, but expects the ball to go for many times that amount.

■ **HOUSTON** — Houston Astros second baseman Jeff Kent has dropped his appeal of the two-game suspension he received for pushing manager Jimmy Williams into an umpire, the team announced.

Kent was also fined an undisclosed amount.

■ **CHICAGO** — A man who along with his son attacked a Kansas City Royals coach during a game last fall was sentenced to 30 months of probation.

William Ligue Jr. also was ordered to perform community service and remain in a substance abuse program. The judge said probation was an opportunity for Ligue to recover from his substance abuse problems and "become a useful person."

OLYMPICS

■ **SALT LAKE CITY** — A former employee of a local power company pleaded guilty to setting off a bomb that knocked out a power substation during the Winter Olympics last year.

Under a plea agreement, Vince R. Rogers could receive nearly five years in federal prison and a fine of up to \$400,000, a prosecutor said.

The plea agreement depends on Rogers' cooperation with prosecutors before his sentencing, scheduled for Oct. 15. The maximum prison sentence for destruction of an energy facility is 20 years.

The explosion happened on Feb. 24, 2002, at the substation near Salt Lake City International Airport on the last day of the Olympics. The blast caused widespread power outages and sparked a fire at a nearby oil refinery, raising fears of terrorism. Vice President Dick Cheney attended the closing ceremonies that night.

COLLEGE BASKETBALL

■ **OWENSBORO, Ky.** — Kentucky Wesleyan must vacate its runner-up finish in this year's NCAA Division II men's basketball tournament, the NCAA announced.

In July, Kentucky Wesleyan agreed to forfeit all its wins from this past season after the NCAA found the school had committed two secondary rule infractions.

TENNIS

■ **MONTREAL** — Former No. 1 Lleyton Hewitt was upset in the second round of the Canada Masters, losing 7-5, 6-7 (4), 7-5 to Max Mirnyi.

Hewitt has lost four of his last nine matches, including a first-round exit as the defending champion at Wimbledon. His ranking has dropped to No. 5 in the world. Earlier, Andre Agassi waited through a 1 1/2-hour rain delay, then made quick work of Nikolay Davydenko 7-6 (3), 6-2 to reach the third round.

■ **CARSON, Calif.** — Kim Clijsters moved closer to replacing Serena Williams at No. 1, beating Emilie Lott 6-1, 6-1 in 50 minutes in the second round of the JPMorgan Chase Open.

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ACROSS

- 1 Chopped up, in a way
- 6 Harness race horse
- 11 Plain silly
- 12 Not out
- 13 Windmill parts
- 14 Heredity units
- 15 Cunning
- 16 Jargon suffix
- 18 Sandal sight
- 19 Fireplace fuel
- 20 Wine choice
- 21 Bakery buy
- 22 Avoid an accident
- 24 Ashtray sight
- 25 Election time, usually
- 27 Acting rapper
- 29 Deli dweller
- 32 Lots of secs.
- 33 Cartoonist Browne
- 34 Apple sampler
- 35 Expert
- 36 Giant Mel
- 37 Track trip

DOWN

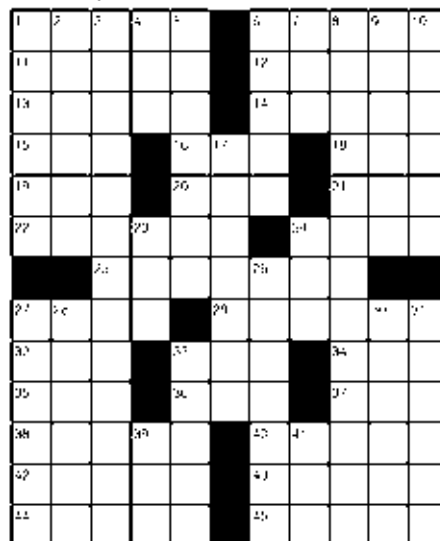
- 38 Biting
- 40 Domicile
- 42 Olympian in a sled
- 43 Baltimore player
- 44 Grate stuff
- 45 Namely
- 1 Emulates
- 2 Aligned
- 3 Bad Company song
- 4 Chemical suffix
- 5 Merit
- 6 Summoned to the phone
- 7 Wonder
- 8 Beatles song
- 9 Just make a living
- 10 Bristle at
- 17 Thinks appropriate
- 23 Boring life
- 24 Ingot
- 26 '60s series set in Africa
- 27 Gazelle's kin
- 28 Traveling show
- 30 Dodges
- 31 Be contrite
- 33 Active folks
- 39 Course start
- 41 Misbehaving

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A	L	O	N	E	E	U	L	E	R
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Yesterday's answer

- 8 Beatles song
- 27 Gazelle's kin
- 28 Traveling show
- 30 Dodges
- 31 Be contrite
- 33 Active folks
- 39 Course start
- 41 Misbehaving

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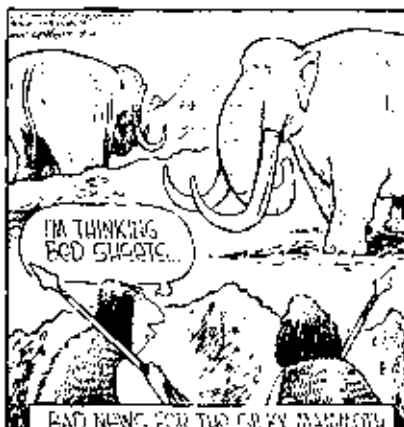
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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Spears is relieved she didn't end up with Timberlake

By The Associated Press

■ **LONDON** — Britney Spears, casting off the remnants of her sweet-as-pie image along with most of her clothes, says she's relieved she didn't settle down with fellow pop star Justin Timberlake.

Spears tells British *Elle* magazine for its September issue that the breakup made her a better artist. She also says she hated seeing Timberlake talk about their relationship and that she's actually quite shy.

On the cover, the 21-year-old singer appears in a seductive pose wearing only a pair of tiny black briefs.

"I'll always have feelings for Justin," she says. "OK, not feelings for him, but he'll always have a special place in my heart."

"He was my first love after all. I think I got way too serious, way too young. It's very healthy to not be in that relationship right now."

Spears says she wasn't ready to join friends from her native Louisiana who had settled down.

"I'll call up a friend and say, 'Hey! What's going on? You're pregnant? What? Already?' But that's where I come from and that's the mind-set I had all my life," she said.

"Now I think, 'Whoah, that would have been the biggest mistake of my life.' Y'know?"

Spears, who split with Timberlake in March 2002 after three years together, says it pained her to see him feature a look-alike of her in the video for his hit song "Cry Me a River."

"Freakin' horrible. You know what I mean?" she says. "It was hard for me that he was so exploitative. Every interview that he did, he was just talking about us

in such an open way and I just felt, 'Is nothing sacred anymore?' It was weird. It was ... disappointing."

■ **RALEIGH, N.C.** — Clay Aiken wowed a sold-out hometown crowd and bathed in an ovation that nearly brought him to tears.

Rising from below the stage, the "American Idol" runner-up opened his performance Wednesday with his single "This Is the Night." When it was over, he stood silently for several minutes as the audience screamed.

Appearing to tear up, Aiken said, "Thank you so much. There's no place like home."

After months of following the Raleigh native's televised journey to superstardom on the Fox talent search, his fans got what they wanted: Clay live.

"Words can't describe it," said 15-year-old Sarah Pearce of Raleigh.

The "Pop Tarts Presents American Idols Live!" tour hit the RBC Center Wednesday, featuring nine of the singers who performed earlier this year during the "Idol" competition.

Through toll-free phone lines and text messaging, viewers crowned Ruben Studdard the winner. Aiken, 24, finished second.

■ **KINGSTON, Jamaica** — The government will award reggae singer Jimmy Cliff with Jamaica's third-highest civic award this year.

Cliff, known for his role in the 1972 low-budget movie "The Harder They Come," will be the only person to receive the Order of Merit this year, though others will receive lesser honors during the Oct. 20 National Honors

and Awards ceremony, organizers said Wednesday.

Born James Chambers in rural St. James parish in 1948, Cliff began his career in the early 1960s as a ska singer with Chinese-Jamaican producer Leslie Kong.

He signed to Chris Blackwell's Island Records in the late 1960s and had a minor song in Europe with "Wonderful World."

It wasn't until writer-director Perry Henzell picked him to play Ivan, an aspiring singer-turned-gunslinger, in "The Harder They Come" that Cliff's career took off.

Singers Ken Boothe and Freddie McGregor, who started their careers in the 1960s, also will be recognized during the awards ceremony for their contribution to Jamaican music, according to the government's National Honors Awards committee.

■ **LOS ANGELES** — Robert Wagner found himself encased in a body bag on the first day of filming the cable television movie "Mystery Woman."

His character, Jack Stenning, is a best-selling crime writer who commits suicide, setting up a mystery solved by an amateur sleuth played by Kellie Martin.

"I had to use a little hypnotic therapy with that one," Wagner said. "I was kind of worried that maybe the zipper would get stuck."

Director Walter Klenhard took pity on Wagner.

"He just said, 'At the last minute, we'll zip you up and move you in.' I was happy when that was over with, believe me," Wagner said.

Wagner, 73, has appeared in all three "Austin Powers" movies and co-starred with Stefanie Powers in the 1980s detective series "Hart to Hart."

DID YOU KNOW?: The US has the most cinemas (23,662) while India (the country that produces the most movies - about 800 a year, twice as many as Hollywood) has about 9,000 cinemas and China has approximately 4,600 cinemas. - 326,000 people per cinema.

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