

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

LOTTO

FANTASY 5

1, 24, 25, 4, 35

DAILY 3

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DAILY DERBY

1st Place: 11, Money Bags

2nd Place: 06, Whirl Win

3rd Place: 01, Gold Rush

Race Time: 1:44.75



NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

The Future of War: Although India and Pakistan have backed off of their recent potentially nuclear confrontation over Kashmir, computer hackers from both countries have stepped up their wars against each other's government Web sites and networks, according to a July Washington Times dispatch. Retaliating against increased hacking that accompanied the attack on India's parliament in 2001, Indian hackers unleashed the annihilating Yaha virus, which has been answered by a massive flood of Pakistani attacks (at about seven times the Indian attack rate), which has provoked Indian hackers to consider an even-more-devastating Yaha virus.



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"God made everything out of nothing, but the nothingness shows through."

— Paul Valéry



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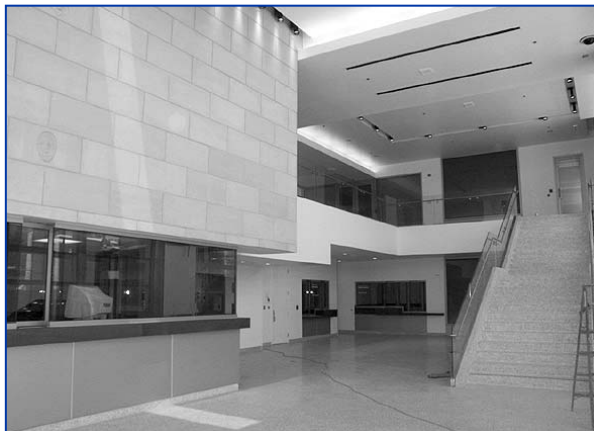
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Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

Top: A box of muriatic acid sits on a wall in front of the new Public Safety Building, which is nearly complete after four years of construction. **Below:** The main lobby of the Public Safety Building will have the Santa Monica Police Department's front desk, records and the city's traffic enforcement division, where parking tickets can be paid.

Safety on the horizon

New digs set to open for cops, firefighters and prisoners

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON
Daily Press Staff Writer

Almost a year overdue and \$66 million later, the Public Safety Building is nearly ready.

The grand opening for the new police and fire administration building is scheduled for next Wednesday. City personnel will move into their new digs in early September.

The complex behind City Hall will replace the 50-year-old police building, which will allow emergency personnel to operate under one roof. Both the police and fire departments have expanded significantly in the past five decades, which has forced employees to work in crowded spaces or in satellite offices throughout the city, officials say.

The six-story building, which crews began constructing in July of 1999, was supposed to be done in December of 2002. But a series

See SAFETY, page 6

Union's letter to Santa Monica hotel appears a mystery

Hotel manager calls the letter a threat; others question why it was sent at all

BY JOHN WOOD
Daily Press Staff Writer

A letter from the head of a local union to a Santa Monica hotel has raised questions about tactics labor organizers are using.

Francois Khoury, general manager of the Doubletree Guest Suites, said the note was intended to scare the hotel into unionizing by threatening to expose certain city code violations.

The letter, written by Kurt Petersen, organizing director of the Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees Union Local 11, questions whether the hotel is complying with a variety of City Hall building and planning restrictions.

"It's the typical tactics of the union — threaten and hope that someone gets scared enough to come and cry," said Khoury, who has ignored the letter. "They're threatening me with the city. Well let's see who in the city they bought."

The war of words over the Petersen letter comes as the latest paragraph in the long campaign to unionize the workers in Santa Monica's hotels.

Petersen sounded surprised in a telephone interview when a reporter questioned him about the note. He asked repeatedly how the reporter had obtained it.

Petersen said he doesn't know that the hotel is violating any building rule and refused to say why he wrote what he did. Asked if the union normally patrols potential violations or if the union is working with City Hall, Petersen responded, "No, we have no interest."

"It's a private letter with the company, so there's nothing to say about it," he said. "We send letters all the time to employers. I'm not going to comment on it."

Councilman Bob Holbrook said

he's never heard of this type of communication between the union and local businesses before. He added that it seems odd the union would take their concerns to the hotel itself.

The conditions at which the union letter hints are attached to conditional use permits, which are issued by City Hall and govern everything from parking spaces to noise levels and building height.

"It has nothing whatsoever to do with their labor relations."

— TOM LARMORE
Local attorney

"If the union or anyone else knows of a CUP that's not being enforced they merely need to tell the city and we'll enforce it," Holbrook said.

But Councilman Kevin McKeown said it is normal for outside parties, such as neighborhood groups and other organizations, to investigate planning compliance. McKeown, who is a staunch supporter of unions and has been seen at several rallies outside of non-unionized hotels, said there is no connection between City Hall and organized labor.

"I think this is one of the regular things their research department does," McKeown said. "I don't see it as sinister because they're doing the neighborhood a favor. We want these CUPs ... to be observed and enforced."

The letter to the Doubletree asks that Albert Lowe, a research analyst for the union, be contacted by hotel managers by Aug. 15. Khoury, who ignored that request, said since reviewing the dozens of restrictions, which were imposed in 1986, his staff has found that the hotel is violating a few of them. Though he

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★★-So-so ★-Difficult

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR MONDAY, AUGUST 18, 2003

You can have what you want this year, especially with your sunny ways. The only person who can stop you is you. Recognize how creative and dynamic you can be. You seem to have a natural gift for making money, but also for spending it. Groups, associates and friendships often pitch in and open the door to what you want. If you are single, you could meet that special person anytime, even today. This relationship could be unusually significant. If you are attached, your relationship develops an especially loving tone. You might decide to forge a new project together or go in a new direction. CANCER reads you cold.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Your devotion to a project helps others understand your intentions and the depth of your caring. Express your thoughtfulness in your actions and ability to bring others together. Pay special attention to a family member. Be a nurturer. Tonight: Take a night off.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Though you might not think in the same way as a friend, your caring nature certainly draws him or her toward you. You don't have to spend money to make your point. Tonight: Do the Friday night thing.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Your smile draws many opportunities and people toward you. You could find that a loved one drops so much caring on you that you might be overwhelmed emotionally. Buy something special for your home at lunchtime. Tonight: Your treat.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Lie low in the morning, even if you have fabulous news to suddenly share. You might not be sure what you want to do with it. Examine more of what you want. You have a unique style of asking questions. Tonight: You're a star. Just don't stay home alone.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ You have a wonderful way about you that draws others and makes you close to irresistible. You understand a lot more than many as you seek out answers. Buy something special for yourself as well as others. You get results wherever you are. Tonight: Vanish with a favorite person.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Venus moves into your sign today, adding to your desirability and magnetism. Emphasize work, even if it means shutting yourself off from others. Your instincts guide you with a demanding boss. Others seek you out. A friendship develops, adding a quality of newness. Tonight: Ask for what you want. Follow the crowds.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Take charge of your work and clear out calls first thing in the morning. Your ability to communicate draws many toward you. Be careful because you might feel very expansive. Someone you meet today is all that he or she seems. Tonight: Out late. Others look to you for suggestions.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ A boss makes a proposition that could overwhelm you. At the same time, a friendship warms your heart. You can zero in on what you want with ease. Others pitch in and are more than willing to help you. Spend one-on-one time with an associate. Tonight: Take off ASAP.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Others seek you out. Apparently, you have very special and good news coming your way. A boss or a superior suddenly becomes unusually docile and caring. Arrange a meeting later in the day on an individual level. Tonight: Make time for a special rendezvous.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Plunge into work, realizing your efficiency and ability to get the job done. A financial and/or emotional opportunity might be too good to say "no" to. Review a situation more carefully with an eye to breaking past a self-imposed restriction. Tonight: Say "yes" to an invitation. You might have a surprisingly good time.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Your playfulness might not help you get the job done, but it will permit a greater rapport with others. Sometimes you need to understand when to be less businesslike and more playful. Remember, tomorrow is another day. Tonight: Put your feet up. Avoid unnecessary spending.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Emphasize a positive relationship between you and a co-worker. You also might want to curb a tendency to overindulge and go way overboard. Think through an offer, knowing you don't need to jump on it. Tonight: Let a loved one make the first move.

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LOCAL



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Celebrities to appear at party on Pier

By Daily Press staff

Los Angeles Laker Rick Fox, actor Frankie Muniz, Nickelodeon's "All That" cast members and Steven Lawrence from Disney's "Even Stevens" are scheduled to appear at the 4th Annual Party on the Pier benefiting Mattel Children's Hospital at UCLA, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Sunday Sept. 14.

The family event at the Pacific Park on the Santa Monica Pier includes unlimited rides, carnival booths, prizes, lunch, entertainment and a silent auction.

"Party on the Pier is a great way to spend an afternoon at the pier with family and friends while supporting Mattel Children's Hospital at UCLA," said Dr. Edward McDabe, physician-in-chief of Mattel Children's Hospital at UCLA. "Funds raised will help care for our young patients, advance research on childhood diseases and teach the new generation of pediatricians."

Mattel Children's Hospital at UCLA is a 120-bed "hospital within a hospital" located at UCLA Medical Center in Westwood. The hospital offers a full spectrum of primary and specialized medical care for infants, children and adolescents. The mission of Mattel Children's Hospital at UCLA is to provide state-of-the-art treatment for children in a compassionate atmosphere, as well as to improve the understanding and treatment of pediatric diseases.

General admission tickets cost \$50 for adults and \$20 for children ages 16 and under; children under age 2 are admitted free. Tickets must be ordered in advance. To order tickets, call UCLA's Central Ticket Office at (310) 825-2101 or visit www.tickets.ucla.edu (go to Buy Tickets/Special Events).

The event is being sponsored by Mattel Inc., Cap Gemini Ernst & Young, Beth and Neal Cutler M.D., Spiegel Foundation, Milken Family Foundation, LA Parent Magazine and Radio Disney, among others.

Coastal landowners offered a way to fight back

By Daily Press staff

A foundation has formed a new way for coastal landowners to protect their rights from the government.

Denouncing the California Coastal Commission by claiming that the agency makes ownership nearly impossible for many families in the state's coastal region, the Sacramento-based Pacific Legal Foundation has unveiled a comprehensive project designed to help coastal property owners fight back.

The new legal effort, called "The Coastal Land Rights Project," includes a special Web site, www.coastalhorrors.org, where coastal landowners may report regulatory excesses and unfair treatment by the Coastal Commission, or local coastal governments making decisions on their permits to build or make improvements on their properties within the state's coastal zone.

Among its most notable cases against the state agency is the 1987 landmark Supreme Court ruling in *Nollan v. California Coastal Commission* which held that government entities may not use their permitting authority as a means to extract property concessions from landowners. In that case, the High Court described the regulatory methods of the Coastal Commission as "an out-and-out plan of extortion."

In addition to investigating the "coastal horrors" reported on its Web site (www.coastalhorrors.org), PLF attorneys are closely monitoring public hearings held by the Coastal Commission. If warranted, they will go to court to challenge unreasonable permit conditions having no basis in law, challenge regulatory actions not authorized by the California Coastal Act, challenge denials or unfair limitations on building permits, or defend property owners who have been unjustly accused of violating the state's Coastal Act. PLF attorneys also will make available to coastal landowners and their attorneys PLF's extensive knowledge of the law developed in over 20 years of conflict with the California Coastal Commission. PLF legal experts will consult with landowners who have questions and concerns about regulatory red tape and legal obstacles they may be experiencing.

Founded in 1973, Pacific Legal Foundation is a Sacramento-based public interest legal organization dedicated to property rights protection, limited government and individual rights.



surf report

This morning look for mainly wind swell and old S swell sending piddly little waves our way. By the afternoon a new S swell will be filling in with waist-high surf at the best spots.

OUTLOOK: Early next week there will be a bump in NW wind swell and a super-steep SSE that will most many local breaks. But the first week of September still looks like it's on for head-high sets.

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: 6:24 a.m.
Sunset: 7:43 p.m.

	LOW TIDE				HIGH TIDE			
	Morning	Height	Evening	Height	Morning	Height	Evening	Height
SATURDAY	6:32	0.8	7:00	2.0	12:01	4.9	1:02	4.7
SUNDAY	6:59	1.4	8:04	2.0	12:45	4.2	1:37	4.7
MONDAY	7:26	2.0	9:33	2.0	1:41	3.6	2:18	4.6
TUESDAY	7:54	2.5	11:17	1.7	3:19	3.1	3:12	4.6
WEDNESDAY	8:42	2.9	N/A	N/A	6:24	3.0	4:21	4.7
THURSDAY	12:34	1.2	(10:41)	3.2	8:00	3.3	5:29	4.9
FRIDAY	1:23	0.8	12:07	3.1	8:30	3.6	6:24	5.3

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OPINION

The QLine

Readers sound off on bus drivers' concerns for elders

This past Sunday, Q-line asked:

"Should Big Blue Bus drivers wait for elderly people to be seated before they take off on their routes?"

Here are your responses:

■ "Not only should the bus drivers wait for the elderly to be seated, other passengers should be more courteous and respectful and yield the front seat to the elderly. Often times, you see the elderly rushing across the street to the bus and waving the bus down and the driver still takes off. The bus drivers should be more courteous in that area as well."

■ "Yes, the bus drivers should wait for the elderly before they take off on their routes. The front seats are reserved for the elderly and the bus driver should remind those younger people sitting there that they are reserved for the elderly."

■ "I'm a senior woman who rides the bus often and I walk with a cane. I always ask the bus driver to please not start the bus up until I sit down. I always sit on those sideways seats in the front of the bus, if possible. I think the drivers should wait for elderly people to sit because it's very easy to fall, especially if you have a cane or a walker — you can't hold on to the railings and the walker at the same time."

■ "Seats are provided for elderly people in the front. The driver should not have to wait on an elderly person to sit all the way in back or in the middle of the bus if seats are provided on the side for the elderly. If they walk past that point, they are able to continue while the bus is rolling."

■ "Webster's definition of the elderly is somewhat old — advanced beyond middle age, quite old. The word elderly has too much of a sledgehammer effect on those over 50 years of age. Motorists who receive handicapped tags from the Department of Motor Vehicles are of every age group. Elderly does not mean physically impaired. I am an elderly person who could pole vault into the bus and tap dance to a back seat before the driver could get the bus in forward motion. I also ride a mountain bike 100 miles a month. Riders who find it difficult to board the bus and those on crutches and canes should be given every consideration by the driver, regardless of their age."

■ "No. I'm an older woman. I'm 80 years old and if you had to stop for every elderly person who got on the bus, we'd never get anywhere. If they're disabled and they have a problem, then yes, that's why you have those seats at the front of the bus for people who are in that condition and they should sit down at the first seat that's available to them."

■ "Yes. Absolutely. The big blue bus drivers and all drivers should be required to wait, not only for elderly people, but for everyone to be seated or stable before they start the bus. Passenger safety is important. Not only the elderly get thrown around when buses stop or start suddenly. Drivers should be better trained in breaking as well. There are some buses that jerk more than others, but there are some drivers who are good drivers and can give you a smooth ride anyway. But some stop with such a jerk that when you stand up to exit before the bus has completely stopped, you'll get thrown by that final jerk. The bus drivers need much more training in attention to passengers. After all, if they didn't have passengers, where would they be?"

■ "The bus drivers should wait for the elderly. I sit in the disabled seat some of the time and if I'm having trouble, I say please wait until I sit down. Maybe all elderly people should say the same thing. Sometimes the bus lurches and we get tossed around a little. Most of the time, I'm really on their side. But I think the elderly should have the benefit also."

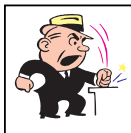
■ "Of course not. The bus will never be on schedule. The bus drivers don't have enough time as it is to get from point A to point B."

■ "I think if the Santa Monica Big Blue Bus invites senior citizens to ride the bus, the drivers should be educated to wait until they sit down. I am an 86-year-old senior and I can handle myself pretty good. But I've seen people walk on a bus with canes and the driver will take off with a jerky start. Its a good bus line but the drivers should be educated a little more. I don't blame the drivers because if they're not told, they're going to be doing what they've always been doing, which is taking off when they shouldn't."

■ "Define elderly objectively. Wait. I've got the solution. The Santa Monica Department of the Elderly Registration — a new bureaucracy that could be funded for only \$10 million. All of those thinking that they are elderly could register and get a neck chain photo-ID and they'd have to wear that on a bus. And they'd have to wear that around their neck to save 10 minutes of fishing it out of their purse. Then when they get on the bus, they have to flash that at the driver and the driver has to wait until they give them permission to start. If you think \$10 million dollars is too much, then how about charging the elderly to register? No, but that would be discriminatory. Well, how about a bond or property tax?"

See Q-LINE, page 5

Introduction to people in secret cabal that runs the city

MY WRITE
By Bill Bauer

My Macmillan Dictionary defines "cabal" as "a small group of people secretly united to advance themselves or their aims by scheming and intrigue." It's a perfect description of the Santa Monica Renters Rights' Steering Committee.

SMRR has dominated local politics for 25 years. Its members dominate the City Council, School Board, Rent Control Board, city commissions, city boards, citizen task forces and neighborhood groups. To say the organization has clout is an understatement.

The steering committee sets SMRR's philosophy and priorities. It evaluates and suggests courses of action on everything from dealing with its critics to selecting and backing issues and candidates in local elections. It is the tail that wags the dog.

SMRR has two co-chairs who also co-chair the steering committee. Long time activist, former mayor and councilman Denny Zane is one. Patricia Hoffman is the "titular" co-chair and the other "real" co-chair is still Nancy Greenstein.

The group meets in private, one Saturday a month in the Santa Monica Air Center. The public is not invited. The press is especially unwelcome. Behind closed doors, they set policy and determine strategies designed to carry out the organization's agenda in both the municipal and educational arenas.

Steering committee members have power and influence that reaches into all areas of Santa Monica life. They try to exert SMRR's control over every organization they belong to.

Surprisingly, most are homeowners, not renters.

Zane is a co-chair and has been a SMRR leader for two decades. He was on council in the 1980s, but he is still a major force behind the scenes and has often been referred to as the "power behind the throne."

As a political consultant, Zane has acted as a manager or advisor for numerous local campaigns, including both school parcel tax proposals and the Measure U college bond proposal as well as the Santa Monica College Madison Theater project.

Hoffman is a member of the downtown business advocacy Bayside District Corp. Hoffman also is on the Santa Monica/Malibu Unified School District financial oversight committee and is on the board of Community Corp. of Santa Monica — a city-sponsored affordable housing developer.

She's a former chair of and is active in the Santa Monica Democratic Club. Hoffman is a former school board member and also was on the Measures EE and S Ad-Hoc School Parcel Tax Committees.

Greenstein sits on the SMC Board of Trustees and the Vector Control Board in addition to being a board member and past president of the American Civil Liberties Union.

She served on the boards of the Visitors and Convention Bureau, Charter Review Commission and is the former chair of the Pier Restoration Corp. Greenstein is employed as director of police community services at UCLA.

Greenstein supposedly stepped down as SMRR co-chair last year to run for the college board of trustees. However, since the election, Greenstein and Zane still run SMRR meetings.

Linda Sullivan is chair of the Pier Restoration Corp. and a member of the

SMC bond oversight committee. Sullivan has a long history of political activism in the community along with her husband Robert Myers, the former city attorney and a homeless rights activist who is not on the steering committee.

Julie Lopez Dad also has a long history of involvement in the community. She is a member of the planning commission and past president of the Santa Monica Democratic Club.

SMRR treasurer Roger Thornton also is on the steering committee. Thornton keeps a low public profile. As SMRR's treasurer, he receives a stipend.

Steve Alpert is the brains of the committee and a part-time political consultant. He was on the recent Measures EE and S Ad-Hoc School Parcel Tax Committees and is on the board of the Santa Monica Democratic Club.

Architect Ralph Mechur has a number of developer clients doing business in Santa Monica, including CCSM. Mechur led the Save Our Schools/Ad Hoc Parcel Tax committee and was campaign manager/spokesman for the recent Measure S parcel tax proposal.

Long time community activist, labor and living wage supporter, Delores Press is a former Rent Control Board chair and chair of SMC's Madison Theater Task Force. Press is on the SMC Personnel Commission and, like Alpert, is a representative of the 41st Assembly District of the Los Angeles County Democratic Party.

Former mayor and city councilwoman Judy Abdo is on the board of the Metropolitan Water District. She's active in many local issues and is a vocal pro-labor and living wage supporter. Abdo is an administrator in early childhood development at the Santa Monica/Malibu Unified School District.

Planning Commissioner, former Rent Control Board Commissioner and North of Montana Association board member, Jay Johnson rounds out the 11-person steering committee. One seat is unfilled.

Monthly meetings are usually attended by a bevy of city and school heavyweights. Councilman Kevin McKeown, councilman Michael Feinstein, Rent Control Board Chair Betty Mueller and former Rent Control Board member and living wage advocate Bruria Finkle attended the June meeting.

Planning commissioner Arlene Hopkins was in the house along with Phil Hendricks, president of SMC's classified employees union; Parks and Recreation commissioner Joe Weichman and three members of the school board — Emily Bloomfield, Maria Leon Vasquez and school board vice-chair, Jose Escarce.

Ocean Park Community Center Executive Director John Maceri was a guest at the August meeting where he presented OPCC's controversial plan for expanded homeless services at 1751 Cloverfield Blvd. Typical of the steering committee, opposition representatives were not invited.

The SMRR Steering Committee's strong pro-labor, pro-affordable housing and pro-homeless agenda has overshadowed even its historically strong pro-renter agenda. It's the "social engineering over resident needs" cabal that drives SMRR.

It's this secret, almost socialistic clique, along with big labor and other special interests, that calls the shots and manipulates virtually every aspect of civic life in Santa Monica — and you probably didn't even know it exists.

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

OPINION



**FUNNY
PAPERZ**

City Hall Building Inspector sent to prison for bribery.

-News Item



THIS CELL
ISN'T REALLY
UP TO CODE.

I WONDER WHO THEY BRIBED?

JOE KING

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The Q-Line

Q-LINE, from page 4

■ "Yes, in the interest of safety, professionalism and politeness."

■ "The drivers should definitely wait until the elderly are seated. The drivers on many occasions will be rushing, perhaps to a light, and then because they see that they're a couple of minutes ahead of schedule, they'll wait for a signal to change once, twice or three times. Certainly they can wait an extra few seconds for an elderly passenger to be seated. They have a responsibility to all passengers on a bus to ensure that they're properly taken care of when they enter the bus. He's like the captain of a ship. Many times, they'll be discourteous to passengers either verbally or they'll give people dirty looks. They're not, to use computer terms, user friendly. A tip to the drivers: Wait until all passengers are seated."

■ "I am a senior bus rider and the seniors would be a lot better off if the middle school and high school students would leave the senior seating in the front for the seniors to sit on. Then they wouldn't have to go searching for a seat or hang on when the bus moves."

■ "Bus drivers should wait for elderly people to be seated. Drivers start up all the time before anybody is seated. They should also make sure that young

people get up and let older people sit down. I've seen young men and women seated at seats set aside for older people and these poor elderly have to hold on to the rails in order to stay stationary. I've seen an elderly woman who was thrown from her seat after the bus stopped very short and all of a sudden. She hit her head so hard on a pole that she had a hole in her skull."

■ "Absolutely. Age and physical limitations are not always visible to the naked eye. Big Blue Bus drivers should wait for people to sit before they begin their routes."

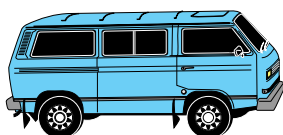
■ "Tour buses don't lurch like the Big Blue Bus. Try buying better equipment next time they purchases buses. Otherwise, they have great schedules and cheap fares."

■ "The bus drivers should wait for the elderly and the young as well. I myself was a victim of a slip and fall. I was airborne like Mary Poppins. I lost the case. I was rushed to the hospital, needing several stitches, and I injured my knee. When they talk about you cannot fight City Hall — in this city particularly, you can never win. The people on the jury, the people who have sent letters saying that people should hang on, obviously have never been the victim or a passenger, of the Big Blue Bus. They don't ride the bus, but they should. They would have a different take on it, trust me."

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.

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LOCAL

Safety building to offer plenty of room for sworn personnel

SAFETY, from page 1

of unexpected events and a less than desirable building site made the project's timeline and its price tag expand.

While city officials say the building's cost is on target, the project's budget was adjusted midway through construction because of unforeseen problems that contractors had to adjust for.

And because City Hall is in a severe budget crunch for the next three years, some would say it's not great timing for a multi-million dollar building to come on line.

"This building was conceived when we didn't have a budget crisis," said City Architect Lauren Friedman, who helped oversee the project. "A lot of people think it's extravagant but it's built to be a 50-year building."

Officials point out the money was budgeted in one of the best economic times Santa Monica has seen and most would agree that the building is badly needed.

"Anything we started in the '90s we had a different mindset (about)," said City Councilman Kevin McKeown, adding the Santa Monica Jail is one of the oldest facilities in Los Angeles County. "The current building was built in 1957 and was barely adequate then. We have police officers sitting on top of each other. This building is state-of-the-art and will bring us into the 21st Century."

THE MONEY PIT

Everything from building over a storm drain to finding hazardous material to dealing with bad weather created delays for construction crews. And constructing an office building on top of a jail added to the complexity of the project, especially when plans had to be changed after the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks to address additional security measures for the complex, officials said.

The entire building cost is \$60.2 million, with another \$2.6 million in voter-approved funding used to build a new street on the southside of the complex. Another \$3.3 million has been earmarked for furniture and equipment in the building.

The project, which had been discussed for years, was first estimated to cost \$33 million. When a bond measure failed at the polls in 1996 to pay for the structure, the City Council at the time decided to pay for the project through city funds.

But the bids from contractors came back at least \$9 million higher than what was expected and the City Council couldn't justify the additional costs. The project was originally billed as a "design-bid-build" to contractors, which allows construction companies to bid high and then charge what are called "change orders" for unexpected problems that arise. The price tag could have been as much as 30 percent more than the original bid, officials said.

In 2000, the City Council modified the contract to be a "design build" project, which restricts contractors from going higher than their original bid.

"The contractor has a responsibility to keep it at a set price," Friedman said, adding the award went to JA Jones for \$45 million.

Assistant City Manager Gordon Anderson said if the City Council hadn't modified the contract, the building could have cost millions more.

"In the industry, most contractors told us that we saved between 25 and 30 percent by doing a design-build project," he said.

ETA: NINE MONTHS AGO

But there were still unforeseen problems that led to additional engineering

work, more construction management and more inspection that increased the cost and lengthened the timeline of the project.

Despite that a site investigation had been done before construction began, construction crews found a few surprises underground.

Problems arose from the beginning when crews excavating the site ran into an old railroad yard filled with hazardous material that had been buried. A new contractor had to be hired to haul the tainted debris to a special landfill and the surprise caused nearly a five-month delay.

"That caused significant delays," Friedman said. "Then we found that a roof had been buried and that caused more of a delay."

And the location of the building, which is a 3.8-acre site sandwiched between City Hall, Olympic Boulevard and Fourth Street, posed its own set of challenges.

"The storm drain underneath the building posed challenges that were difficult to deal with," said construction manager Kanna Vancheswaran. "We buried it and now it's underneath the center of the building."

But what posed even more of a challenge was designing and constructing an 180,000-square-foot building in a tight area that abuts a freeway, which left little room for staging equipment.

"It's the challenges in an urban environment," Vancheswaran said. "There was no room to expand, contractors had to bring in their equipment and build on top of it."

After crews dealt with the hazardous material, which ended in the middle of 2000, burying the storm drain before the rainy season was important. It took from August to October of 2000 to reinforce and bury the drain. But when crews began laying the building's foundation in December and January, an unusual amount of rain delayed the project.

"It was another dent in the schedule," Vancheswaran said, adding it took another three months to finish the foundation. Based on the delays, officials estimated the project would be done in June of 2003.

NEW DIGGS

Late by a few months, construction crews and city officials can finally see light at the end of tunnel. Workers have spent the last two weeks putting the final touches on the complex's interior and the police department's employees are getting ready to move next door. The administrative arm of the Santa Monica Fire Department will occupy the building's second floor while the police department will have space on each of the floors for various divisions within the organization.

The building was designed to become a destination spot and a heavily utilized "public space," Vancheswaran said.

The entrance to the building features a waterfall with plenty of places to sit and landscaping surrounds the complex. Inside, the lobby has another art feature that can be seen from the first and second floors. The piece, created by a Southern California artist, features changing light behind a glass wall.

"We wanted to make this a place where people want to be," Vancheswaran said.

Except for the basement, which is where the new Santa Monica Jail is. Slightly smaller than the current jail, the new facility has 96 beds, five temporary holding cells, two detox cells and two padded safety cells for those who exhibit bizarre behavior and are awaiting a transport to a county mental facility.

Also in the basement there are three interview rooms for questioning of suspects



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

Top: Workers seal the bottom of the water fountain in front of the new police and fire facility behind City Hall. The water used will be recycled.

Bottom: Workers lay brick for the sidewalk on the south side of the new Public Safety Building, which will house all of the Santa Monica Police Department's employees and the administration of the Santa Monica Fire Department.

and witnesses. In the police department's current building, the interview room is in the detective bureau, which is on the second floor in the administrative offices.

"There will be less of a chance of the suspect being able to escape or harm employees," said SMPD Lt. Frank Fabrega.

The new facility will allow police personnel some breathing room, which they aren't accustomed to since they are working in a building that was built to accommodate 125 employees, not the current 425 the SMPD now employs.

"Because of the size of this organization, we have a lot of employees housed elsewhere like the office of special enforcement which works on Fifth and Colorado," Fabrega said. "That's one of our biggest problems, it can hamper communications in an emergency or critical situation."

The new facility has a larger area for the forensics unit, where seven employees now work in a small space. There will now be enough desks and offices for the 25 SMPD detectives who currently work in a space that was built for 12 detectives, as well as the dozens of other police personnel who share office space — includ-

ing Fabrega, who shares his office with two people.

GREEN BUILDING

From recycled water for landscaping and plumbing to natural lighting, the entire building was designed around sustainability and energy efficiency, Friedman said.

Not only will the landscaping be watered with recycled water from the city's treatment plant, but that water also will be used for the entire building's restrooms, Friedman said.

The air and heat will be circulated from underneath the floor. Employees will be able to control vents in their work spaces to adjust the temperature, which will use far less energy, Friedman said. When not lit with sunlight, the building's offices use energy efficient lighting that beams up to the ceiling and then down.

An atrium inside the administrative offices allows nearly the entire north side of the building to be lit naturally. And much of the interior materials like the carpet is made with recycled material, Friedman added.

LOCAL



Doubletree manager calls union's request a threat

LETTER, from page 1

declined to identify the infractions, Khoury said they are minor and easily repaired.

"It's not worth discussing even," he said. "They're so irrelevant that they wouldn't even hurt our business (to change)."

Planning department officials said it would take weeks to pull the records indicating whether the Doubletree has ever been cited for violating City Hall restrictions in the past.

Under normal circumstances, there would be no reason for the hotel to report code conformance to a union, assuming it knew of problems.

Union officials are waging an open campaign to organize workers at the Doubletree. Managers at the nearby Four Points Sheraton recently agreed to let their employees decide if they want an election, making it the fourth hotel in Santa Monica with some type of union activity. Two, the Miramar and Viceroy hotels, are already unionized.

Loews Santa Monica Beach Hotel has also agreed to let its workers decide if they want unionization in what's called a "card-check election." Under a card check election, union officials have an extended period of time — two or three years — to gather signatures from employees who want to organize.

Petersen didn't say how many signatures have been gathered or when union officials will "call" the election and count the ballots in its quest for the required majority.

Labor organizers fought for the living wage ordinance on last November's ballot because it put pressure on local hotels to organize. Unionized hotels would have been exempt from paying the proposed living wage under the law.

"If the union or anyone else knows of a CUP that's not being enforced they merely need to tell the city and we'll enforce it."

— BOB HOLBROOK
City Councilman

The living wage would have required businesses downtown and along the coast with revenues of over \$5 million a year to pay their employees from \$10.50 to \$12.25 an hour, depending on whether they also received health benefits. It was narrowly defeated by voters.

Local attorney Tom Larmore, who fought the living wage, said he felt Petersen's letter was a threat to hotel managers.

"It's just a scatter-shot effort to try to gain some kind of leverage over the hotel," Larmore said. "It has nothing whatsoever to do with their labor relations."

Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees Union, Local 11, AFL-CIO
548 South Spring Street, Suite 830, Los Angeles, CA 90013 • (213) 532-3882 • FAX (213) 532-3886

August 1, 2003

Hilton Hotels Corp.
9336 Civic Center Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

Dear _____

I am writing to you about the Doubletree Guest Suites Santa Monica regarding the current status of City of Santa Monica Development Review 305 (DR 305) and Conditional Use Permit 390 (CUP 390), which are attached. Do you know if the Doubletree Guest Suites Santa Monica is in compliance with the conditions of DR 305 and CUP 390? If the hotel is not in compliance with these conditions, do you know if there have been any subsequent actions that would negate or amend these conditions? Enclosed are four documents from the Santa Monica Planning Department: 1) A Statement of Official Action by the Planning Commission dated April 7, 1986, which approved DR 305, CUP 390 and EIA 286 with forty-eight conditions; 2) A Statement of Official Action by the Planning Commission dated July 7, 1986, which approved compliance of three conditions from DR 305 with an additional six conditions; 3) A Statement of Official Action by the Planning Commission dated November 26, 1986, which approved TPM 18134 and CUP 438 with an additional eleven conditions, and; 4) A Statement of Official Action signed by Zoning Administrator, Ann Siracusa, dated January 6, 1987, which approved variances with five additional conditions including, "All conditions of DR 305, CUP 390, TPM 18134 and CUP 438 shall continue to apply to the project." Please respond to us by August 15, 2003. You can reach Albert Lowe, one of our Research Analysts, at (213) 532-3882 x228 to make an appointment.

Sincerely,

Kurt Petersen
Organizing Director

cc. Francois Khoury

Enclosures

A copy of the letter sent by Petersen to Doubletree managers. It was addressed to Khoury as well as an unnamed employee at the Doubletree's parent company, Hilton Hotels Corp., whose name is blacked out above.

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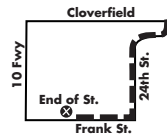
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Entertainment

What's playing

BY DAN DUNN

Special to the Daily Press

OPEN RANGE

Boasts enough eye-popping scenery and well-choreographed gun battles to make it one of the better westerns in recent memory.

THE MAGDALENE SISTERS

Powerful and thought-provoking tale of three young women imprisoned inside a convent in 1960s Ireland.

FREDDY VS. JASON

For fans of the series, both of which lost their luster round-about their 16th or 17th installment, the film is likely to be the ultimate letdown.

S.W.A.T.

With a compelling story, strong characters and a plethora of gritty action sequences, the film is a vast improvement over the mediocre television series that spawned it.

FREAKY FRIDAY

This remake strives to be a little more inventive than the 1977 original, and with the help of Jamie Lee Curtis and Lindsay Lohan succeeds to a large degree.

AMERICAN WEDDING

Doesn't succeed like its predecessors, but it's a serviceable send-off to one of the more likable film franchises of the past decade.

GIGLI

In a year notable for the extraordinary number of truly abominable bombs, "Gigli" may have just chased "Chasing Papi" from the top of the flops list.

SEABISCUIT

A nice film that makes the heart swell with patriotic pride and nostalgia, while the head marvels at the depth and complexity of some truly wonderful performances.

SPY KIDS 3-D: GAME OVER

A muddled special effects spectacle that invites you to play along with the game, and hopes you forget that you actually paid to see a movie.

TOMB RAIDER:

THE CRADLE OF LIFE

An innocuous, high-octane summer romp that, while not great, outperforms the film that spawned it.

BAD BOYS 2

The good stuff gets blown to bits by the relentless onslaught of wanton inhumanity, misogynistic indulgences and a profusion of head-scratching, illogical inconsistencies.

See MOVIES, page 9

'Medallion' wins no medal here

REVIEW BY DAN DUNN

Special to the Daily Press

I took my Uncle Leo, who did two tours of duty in Vietnam along with four tours with the Grateful Dead, to see "The Medallion." Twenty minutes into the picture, a befuddled Uncle Leo leaned over and whispered, "Dude, am I having an acid flashback?" By that point my eyeballs were quivering uncontrollably and I feared they might explode, but I calmly reassured him that he was going to be OK; that what he was experiencing wasn't the residual effect of too many psychotropic drugs ... just filmmaking at its reason-defying worst.

Folks, "The Medallion" is a bad, bad, bad, bad, bad movie — an opinion I simply cannot underscore enough. But I laughed at it. I laughed a lot. Nervous, uncomfortable, laughter at first. Then a series of "Can you believe they made this crap?" giggles. And finally, I roared near the end of the film after Leo joked that the only thing missing from all the new, well-appointed multiplexes were barf bags for use in case of unexpected turbulence or "The Medallion."



Jackie Chan stars in 'The Medallion.'

Jackie Chan is on board as Hong Kong detective Eddie Yang, assigned to rescue a "Golden Child" who possesses a mysterious medallion that holds the key to eternal life. Yang finds the kid easily enough, but things take a turn for the worst when both of them get trapped inside a railroad car and dumped into the sea by the bad guys. Ahh, but the railroad car, you see, happens to be carrying an inflatable castle (I'm not making this up) that the strong-lunged Yang self-inflates in a matter of seconds. In goes the Golden Child, but not before bestowing the medallion to his drowning savior. So Interpol retrieves the railroad car from the

bottom of the ocean, presumably in a matter of minutes, since the kid's alive and well. But, boy, is agent Nicole James (Claire Forlani) ever upset that her old flame Yang is dead. She isn't crying for long, though. At the morgue, Eddie suddenly leaps up from the slab, alive and well, and without so much as a "Hey, how the &\$\$% did he do that?" the gang is back on the trail of the evil Snakehead (Julian Sands), who was able to recapture the Golden Child because — whoops — in all the excitement, Interpol forgot to guard him.

To that end, they enlist a guitar-playing Deadhead genius (sorta like Uncle Leo) who instantly recognizes the medallion as the "Holy Grail of Eastern Mythology" and — having apparently read the operating manual — lays out in detail how the reanimation process works and what can be done to stop Snakehead from using its awesome powers to achieve world domination.

Then there are lots of fights. Martial arts fights, in which leather-clad combatants kick the snot out of each other and run up walls and stuff. Because in case you haven't noticed, everybody in the movies these days is an iron-jawed black belt immune to those boring old laws of gravity ... with an ex-Hells Angel for a stylist.

Pretty trippy, huh?

(Rated PG-13. Running time: 90 minutes)

Leaps of faith, fear: A Q&A with actor Jackie Chan

BY DAN DUNN

Special to the Daily Press

Before Jackie Chan came along, the notion of melding martial arts expertise with slapstick comedy seemed to make about as much sense as, well, laughter following a swift kick to the groin. But in a film career that has spanned 30 years, Chan has repeatedly bucked the old Kung-fu conventions, drawing comparisons to both Buster Keaton and Bruce Lee. Today, he's laughing his way to the bank. Serious, serious bank.

Jackie Chan is, far and away, the biggest non-Hollywood star in the world. The only guy who makes a better living kicking things these days is soccer star David Beckham. And like the oft-injured Becks, Chan has paid a physical price for success. He insists on performing all his own stunts, and in the process has broken his nose three times, an ankle once, most of the fingers in his hand, both cheekbones and his skull. But, at \$20 million a picture plus points on the back end, Chan can no doubt afford the hospital visits.

In his latest picture, "The Medallion," he plays a Hong Kong detective who suffers a fatal accident involving a mysterious medallion and is transformed into an immortal warrior with superhuman powers. And yes, he did injure himself several times during the making of the film ... he says he wouldn't have it any other way. Here's what else he has to say:

QUESTION: What attracted you to "The Medallion?"

JACKIE CHAN: First, I've been doing action comedy for so many years, and suddenly they approached me with the idea for "The Medallion." My character dies

at the very beginning of the movie. That attracted me because I've never died in a movie before and I've also never done this kind of special effects movie before. In the beginning of the film, I can still use my Jackie Chan technique — you know, jumping around. But after my character dies, he comes back as a different sort of person.

Q: What sort of person is that?

JC: All of a sudden, my character has this super power, but it's difficult to control. Sometimes he thinks he can do it, but he doesn't realize his own strength. That's where the comedy comes in.

Q: You're probably the world's only A-list actor who assembles his own stunt teams. How do you go about choosing them?

JC: I've been choosing my own stunt team since '72. All those years, I just kept training. In the old days, I just trained local people from Hong Kong. Later on, I began training with people from Japan, from Korea, from Australia, from all over the world. I'm always looking for the people who can really work with everybody. I use people who are humble and open to learning new things.

Q: Did you do any special training for this film? This is different from most of your other films.

JC: Yeah, totally different. A lot of things I've never done before, flying around from this corner to that corner! We just trust our stunt team and all those years of experience. Also, we do things differently than in Hollywood. We have a lot of wires that are pretty dangerous and we just guess, "Yeah, we can do it."

Q: Do you think it's wise at this point in your career to put yourself in harm's way like that?

JACKIE CHAN: Sometimes I like to be in dangerous situations. It

makes you feel like you're doing something for the movie. You're not just cheating, you know.

Q: How was the experience of this film different from the Hollywood films you've done?

JC: With this movie, like I said, we are like a family. I'm not only an actor. I try to mix the American way and my way, the Asian way, together. Then I hope it becomes a good way.

Q: You shot "The Medallion" in a bunch of locations, including Ireland

and Thailand. Was it difficult to acclimate to such diverse settings?

JC: For me, I'm used to it, really. For the last 10 years, I've been making movies everywhere — South Africa, Rotterdam, Ireland, Bangkok, Korea and yet nothing's different, really. With film people, there is only one language — everybody knows. It doesn't matter what nationality you are, when the camera is rolling, everybody knows to be quiet. Everybody knows.

'Step into Liquid' is not just a movie for surfers

REVIEW BY DAN DUNN

Special to the Daily Press

In the words of immortal Ridgmont High surf dude Jeff Spicoli, "All I need are some tasty waves, a cool buzz, and I'm fine." An apropos credo for the men and women featured in director Dana Brown's super chill surf documentary, "Step Into Liquid," except that most of the prominent riders profiled here — big wave surfers such as Laird Hamilton and Dave Kalama, and freestyle champ Kelly Slater — don't project the stoner persona so often associated with the surf lifestyle. These guys might be junkies, but the drug of choice is pure adrenaline.

Whether you're a SoCal beach bum or a mainlander who doesn't know a point break from a coffee break, you'll likely enjoy Brown's beautifully crafted love letter to the sea. Brown, whose father Bruce directed the seminal 1966 surf film "Endless Summer," brings an

unabashed passion for the sport to "Step Into Liquid" that at times tends to leave the non-surfer feeling like an outsider. But what draws us in are the dramatic images, some of the most eye-popping ever recorded. Highlights include stunning, inside-the-pipeline footage of pros surfing 60-plus-foot waves at the Cortes Banks, 100 miles out to sea off San Diego, and the acrobatic Malloy brothers from California tackling high rollers along the coast of Ireland.

Brown also incorporates several feel-good vignettes that include a surfer who's been riding the waves every day for nearly 30 years, a man paralyzed in a surf accident who, with his friends' help, is able to surf lying atop his board, and a group of female surf champs — Layne Beachley, Rochelle Ballard and Keala Kennelly — who've become marketable stars in a sport traditionally dominated by men.

(No MPAA rating. Running time: 88 minutes)

ENTERTAINMENT



'American Splendor' depicts life in real world



Hope Davis and Paul Giamatti in a scene from 'American Splendor.'

REVIEW BY DAN DUNN
Special to the Daily Press

The movie "American Splendor," based on the cult-classic comic book series of the same name, takes us inside the very real life of a curmudgeonly workaday anti-hero from Cleveland named Harvey Pekar. Harvey makes a meager living as a file clerk at a VA hospital. He makes the people around him miserable most of the time. And, despite his mild celebrity (or perhaps because of it), he makes a serious effort to maintain an existence rooted in a state of perpetual discontent.

Oh yeah, and his story makes for a great movie. It's funny and sad and disheveled and, most of all, it's us. At least, it's those of us who are living paycheck to paycheck in the Real World under partly sunny skies.

Directors Shari Springer Berman and Robert Pulcini take lots of chances here, and almost every one yields positive results. They intersperse animated characters with actors and their real-life counterparts, and often interrupt the narrative with testimonials from the eccentric Harvey and his equally oddball pals. But the biggest risk ventured — and the one that pays off most handsomely — was in casting perennial wingman Paul Giamatti as Pekar. In his first go as a leading man, Giamatti just flat-out nails it, imbuing the prickly and obsessive Harvey with a likeability that isn't readily apparent in the original article. You can write him in next to Johnny Depp on the short list of great male lead performances of the year thusfar.

Giamatti's work benefits greatly from the presence of a stellar supporting cast. Though nearly unrecognizable, Hope Davis is captivating as Harvey's long-suffering wife, Joyce. And as avowed geek and Pekar co-worker, Toby Radloff (who some of you may remember from his "Nerd Spring Break" spots on MTV a few years back), Judah

MOVIES, from page 8

THE LEAGUE OF EXTRA-ORDINARY GENTLEMEN

Aspires to be "X-Men," "The Matrix" and "Indiana Jones" all rolled into one slick computer-generated package, and fails mightily.

HOW TO DEAL

What was supposed to be a funny and heart-rending look at teen romance, instead devolves into an unintentionally laughable and maudlin mess.

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN

Without a doubt the best Big Screen adaptation of a theme park ride ever, this film goes a long way toward redeeming Disney for the sin that was "The Country Bears" movie.

TERMINATOR 3

A heck of an enjoyable movie that follows the franchise blueprint to the letter, albeit with a bit more firepower ... seemingly everything that can be blown up in this picture, gets blown up.

LEGALLY BLONDE 2

Nothing — not star Reese Witherspoon's considerable talents or a caseload of cover-up — can mask all the blemishes of an ill-conceived script that is sorely lacking humor and verisimilitude.

ALEX & EMMA

Unremarkable, yet contains most of the essential elements of a bankable chick flick, particularly two very likable stars.

Friedlander delivers a performance that will undoubtedly garner him a few supporting actor nods when award season rolls around.

(Rated R for language.
Running time: 100 minutes)

Variety of arts and culture culminate at Edgemar Center

By Daily Press staff

The Edgemar Center for the Arts taps into every artistic genre this month with its introduction of "Kaleidoscope," a festival of theater, film, music and art.

Visitors to the Santa Monica center will be entertained by a variety of performances all of which will be hosted by Jules Ross, an award winning physical comedian and improvisational mime who studied with Marcel Marceau.

Kaleidoscope offers audiences plays like "The Other Shoe," and "A Perfectly Good Song," vocal performances by Lisa Passero and David Rasche, and musical groups such as the "Cross Roads Jazz Ensemble" and the rock band "Shark."

The newly built Edgemar Center on Main Street enjoys the support of honorary board members, Steven Spielberg, Kate Capshaw and Neil Simon. The self-proclaimed "Santa Monica's first-class home for the arts" hopes

that events such as Kaleidoscope will further its mission of encouraging collaboration between writers, directors, actors, musicians and visual artists.

The Edgemar Center is a non-profit organization dedicated to aiding community involvement in the arts on Los Angeles' Westside. It recently celebrated its birth on July 19 with its first exhibition, a showcase of portraits by "Life and Look" photographer Michael Tighe. Since then, the center has hosted different artistic events, including classes and production which brought together people of various ages and levels of experience to encourage a learning environment.

The center is located at 2437 Main St. in Santa Monica. All Kaleidoscope events begin at 7:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday and at 6:30 p.m. on Sundays. Ticket prices range from \$25 for a single show to ticket packages for \$255. Ticket information can be obtained by calling (310) 392-7327.



YOU'RE INVITED TO A GRAND "NIGHT OUT" CELEBRATION

Wednesday, August 27, 2003
5:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Santa Monica Public Safety Facility

Join us for the grand opening and formal dedication of the police and fire departments' new home directly behind City Hall, on 4th Street at Olympic Drive. Santa Monica's own "Night Out Against Crime" includes tours of the building, exhibits and demonstrations, food donated by local vendors, and music and commemorative items for guests. Ceremony scheduled for 6:30 p.m.



Parking for the event is free at the Civic Auditorium, beginning at 6 p.m., and Big Blue Bus lines 1, 5 and 9 stop nearby. This event is wheelchair-accessible. If you require a disability-related accommodation to participate, please call 458-8474.

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PASTAS

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ENTREES

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FACE-to-FACE with the Women & Children of Iraq

Local resident Kelly Hayes-Raitt just returned from her second trip to Iraq, where she found some of the children and women who touched her so deeply during her first visit in February. She also saw firsthand the impact of the bombings and invasion on innocent people's lives, homes and hearts. The trip revealed much devastation — and much inspiration. She will be speaking about the people she met — and remet — in Baghdad, Hillah, Babylon, Fallouja, Basra and Umm Qasr.

Friday, August 22
5:00 pm to 9:00 pm (note earlier start time) Not in Our Name Rally
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Monday, Aug 25 • 7:00 am - 8:00 am • KPFK's "Connect the Dots" with Lila Garrett
90.7 fm callers welcome

Since February, Kelly has addressed over 60 audiences, including religious congregations, state women's conferences, school classes, community clubs, large peace rallies and small neighborhood meetings. If you would like her to address your group, please call (310) 581-4421 or e-mail C2CCampaigns@aol.com. Photos may be viewed at www.CommunityCampaigns.com/Iraq.

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STATE

Wineries looking forward to shipping out-of-state

BY NOEL GALLAGHER
Associated Press Writer

SANTA ROSA — Virginian Matt Brooks is finally going to get his California wine.

His standing order at Joseph Phelps Vineyards in St. Helena is finally moving forward after a Virginia direct shipping ban on wine was overturned as of July 1.

"There's a lot of pent-up demand out there and once the spigot gets opened, it makes our life a lot easier," said Brooks. Until now, he said he had to make special requests with local wine dealers or travel to nearby states to get the exact wines he needed for his roughly 1,350-bottle collection dominated by California wines.

"You have to jump through the hoops to find cult wines," said Brooks, who lives in McLean, Va. "It's part treasure hunting."

Brooks is one of thousands of people who live outside California who have found themselves unable to special order a wine they can't find locally because their state bans direct-to-consumer shipping of wine. Currently, 26 states and the District of Columbia allow direct shipping and 24 states do not.

But demand is so great — and wineries are so confident of upcoming changes in the months and years ahead — that thousands of customers in "no-shipping" states stay in regular contact with local wineries to get information and get on the list for future purchases.

"We know the law is going to change and we want to be prepared," said Tom Shelton, president and chief executive at Joseph Phelps Vineyards. He's particularly interested in New York, where a bill to overturn the state ban on direct shipping has been effectively killed for three years running.

"We have 2,000 people in New York on a waiting list," Shelton said. The Phelps wine club has only 5,000 active members, he said, so getting another 2,000 customers "would be a huge boost to our club."

This year, the wine industry has seen several significant advances in their efforts to overturn direct shipping bans.

In July, a Federal Trade Commission report described the bans as anti-competitive and said they wound up limiting choice and increasing costs for consumers. In June, the 5th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New Orleans over-

turned a Texas law banning direct shipping, and in recent months, FedEx and UPS have expanded the number of states where they will ship wine.

But opponents have successfully fought off legislative efforts and lawsuits aimed at overturning bans in some states. Opponents say the current distribution system, which requires alcohol to be shipped through wholesalers, works. They also say direct shipping would chip into state tax revenue and open the door to making it easier for minors to buy alcohol.

Winery owners say many of the people in "no-ship" states get interested in the issue after visiting a winery on vacation.

"I call them the 'What do you mean?' people," said Bill Nelson, vice president of WineVision, a Washington lobbying group which represents more than 700 wineries in 48 states.

"They walk into a winery, like the wine and ask to have some shipped back home. And when the winery explains that they can't, they say: 'What do you mean?'" Nelson says. "There's been more publicity lately about the laws, but until that happened, most people were babes in the woods saying 'huh?'"

That happens several times an hour at Cakebread Winery in Rutherford, according to sales director Dennis Cakebread.

"It is one of the most common things that we explain," said Cakebread, who occasionally pours the wines in the tasting room and chats with visitors. "It's just stunning — the looks on their faces — when I say we can't ship to them. They say, 'This is America — how can that be?'"

And even though the 85,000-case-a-year Cakebread is distributed to all the states, they still get complaints from fans who can't find the wine locally.

"A winery of our size is going to be in a limited number of stores for a limited amount of time," he said.

He said they had a bit of a waiting list going for customers in Virginia recently; about 50 or 60 people from Virginia called Cakebread after reading the state law was changing.

Brooks said he's looking forward to getting his Phelps order "for a whole lot of summer whites that I desperately need replenished that I can't find here in Virginia retail stores."

Sex offender has criminal record dating back to teenage years

By The Associated Press

FULLERTON — A registered sex offender booked for investigation of murder in the stabbing death of woman in a trailer has a criminal record dating back to his teenage years.

Steven Carl Evans, 55, was arrested Tuesday after the body of a woman was found inside a trailer to which he had access. The woman, whose name wasn't released, had been stabbed several times in the torso and neck, Sgt. Ron Gillette said.

Evans used an outdated Norwalk address when he registered in Los Angeles County under Megan's Law, and his first and middle names were transposed in the database, authorities said.

Los Angeles County sheriff's deputies responded to a 911 call from the La Mirada home of Evans' brother. Evans

had gone there and talked to his sister-in-law about a fight he had just had with a woman, Gillette said.

"As a result of that conversation, she calls the L.A. County sheriff and says, 'My brother-in-law Steve was involved in an altercation with a woman, and she's either dead or hurt pretty bad,'" Gillette said.

Evans was expected to be charged and arraigned by Friday.

Evans has been in and out of custody since he was a juvenile. He spent eight years in a state prison for a rape in San Bernardino more than 20 years ago, with time served concurrently for forgery and other fraud charges, state Corrections Department records showed. He was paroled in 1988 on those cases but sentenced in the late 1990s to six years for grand theft in Los Angeles County. He was released again two years ago.

STATE



CALIFORNIA BRIEFS

Residents raise concerns about development

By The Associated Press

MOORPARK — Residents are concerned the proposed 1,650-home North Park Village development will lead to traffic congestion in the Moorpark College area.

The project includes a 52-acre lake, a 2,100-acre nature preserve and a 29-acre youth sports park. The environmental impact report estimates an additional 8,200 daily vehicle trips after only 500 homes and the sports park are built.

That would increase to 23,000 daily trips when the development is completed.

Mary Roberts, among the 50 residents at a city Planning Commission meeting this week, said traffic congestion around the college was already unbearable. She suggested restricting the number of homes until Newport Beach-based Village Development completes road improvements.

Currently, the plan is to build one-third of the homes before a new \$25 million off-ramp along the nearby Ronald Reagan Freeway is built.

"Five hundred homes is way too many homes for Phase I," Roberts said. "It's up to the city to make sure they can get those cars to the project."

A representative for the developer said that a number of road improvements were planned prior to construction to help ease congestion in the area.

"We can't make everybody happy, but I think we made a significant step," Kim John Kilkenny, a vice president of Village Development, said after the commission's hearing.

Teenage robbery suspect killed

By The Associated Press

PALMDALE — Sheriff's deputies serving an arrest warrant for an 18-year-old robbery suspect shot and killed the teenager after he allegedly pulled a handgun.

The deputies were serving the warrant at the desert home of the youth's parents early Wednesday. Shortly after a sheriff's gang-enforcement team arrived, the teen was spotted peering out a second-floor window holding a gun, Sgt. Paul Patterson said.

"The suspect went to another window on the second floor and leaned out as he displayed a handgun in a threatening manner at the deputies," Patterson said.

Deputies fired several rounds and the teenager, who jumped down to the side yard and ran into the back yard. The man pointed a gun at deputies, who opened fire, Lt. Joe Hartshorne said.

"The deputies believe they were fired on, but we haven't been able to confirm that," Hartshorne said, adding that five deputies fired their weapons.

The youth, whose name wasn't released, was described as a gang member wanted in connection with a July robbery in Lancaster.

City mishandles its real estate

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Auditors found the city mismanages its vast real estate holdings and spends millions of dollars to lease office space while taxpayer-owned properties sit idle.

An audit released Wednesday by Controller Laura Chick concluded city officials do not have a central database of all city-owned property, which was valued at \$3 billion in 1995, and do not plan ahead to avoid costly leases.

"The real estate holdings of the city of Los Angeles are vast, valuable and diversi-

fied," Chick said. "But instead of a clear vision and mandate in overseeing these assets, the city is flying by the seat of its pants."

Some 2,400 properties have been identified as potentially surplus and they may be worth tens of millions of dollars, although many have not been given recent appraisals, officials said.

Before surplus property can be sold, however, officials must follow a 30-step process. As a result, the city is selling only 11 surplus properties a year.

"At the current rate of disposal, the city would be well into the 24th century before most of its surplus property is sold, assuming that no new property is acquired," said the KH Consulting Group audit.

Chick wants a change in the process for identifying and selling surplus property, and she wants an increase in Asset Management Division staff. The division oversees 800 city buildings and hundreds of other properties.

Lawsuit filed by tiger owner dismissed

By The Associated Press

SAN BERNARDINO — A lawsuit filed by the owner of the Tiger Rescue animal sanctuary in Colton challenging the state's authority to remove his animals was dismissed by a judge.

John Weinhart, who faces felony and misdemeanor charges for allegedly failing to properly care for the animals, said he should be allowed to continue caring for more than 40 exotic cats until animal cruelty charges filed against him are resolved.

Weinhart asked the judge to stop the state's removal of the animals, which began last month, arguing that doing so before charges against him are resolved violates his rights. But Superior Court Judge Tara Reilly dismissed the suit on Wednesday.

Deputy Attorney General Kathleen Kenealy said the state Department of Fish and Game must be allowed to act now in order to save the animals and protect the public.

City to pay landslide victims

By The Associated Press

SANTA ANA — Two Yorba Linda couples who blamed faulty storm drain maintenance for a 1998 landslide that destroyed their homes should each get \$900,000 from the city, jurors said.

Superior Court Judge Stephen J. Sundvold had ruled in June that the landslide was caused by improper maintenance of a nearby storm drain. He also ruled proximity to an earthquake fault, which trapped water leaking from the drain, was a contributing factor.

On Wednesday, the jury decided on the damage figure, plaintiffs' attorney William Bollard said.

"The jury awarded the entire value of the properties. Both were a total loss," the lawyer said.

Ron and Dawn Muranaka contended in their lawsuit that the city had ignored findings that the Bryant Ranch development was built on an active fault, violating the state's Alquist-Priolo Act, which prohibits homes within 50 feet of fault branches.

In 1980, about one-fourth of the 3,330-acre development was declared an active quake zone under the act.

The Muranakas' suit, filed with Jack and Martha Raichart, focused on the city's landslide liability.

The suit now moves into a third phase, in which the judge will award lawyers' and experts' fees, which Bollard said could amount to \$1 million.

Attorney Robert Owen, representing the city, said no decision has been made on an appeal.

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NATIONAL

Family running to avoid chemotherapy for son

BY PAUL FOY
Associated Press Writer

SALT LAKE CITY — A 12-year-old boy under a court order to receive chemotherapy for cancer was in remission Thursday, said a spokesman for the parents, who have been charged with kidnapping for taking the boy from Utah to avoid the treatment.

Utah authorities insist the boy still is vulnerable.

Police have put out an all-points bulletin for Daren and Barbara Jensen of the Salt Lake City suburb of Sandy, who have been charged with kidnapping for taking the son, Parker, out of Utah to avoid a Juvenile Court order to give him chemotherapy.

The 38-year-old father, who was released on bail after a weekend arrest in Idaho, was staying Thursday at the home of his wife's parents in Pocatello, said his lawyer. His wife and the boy, however, are still missing.

Daren Jensen is considered a fugitive in every state but Idaho and "is not going anywhere," said the lawyer, Keith Zollinger. Jensen, he said, will show for a Wednesday hearing to fight extradition on the Utah kidnapping charge.

The family insists chemotherapy is unnecessary and will only stunt Parker's growth and leave him sterile. Utah lawyers obtained a court order requiring chemotherapy and a warrant to take him into custody, but his parents took him out of state, drawing a kidnapping charge.

"We are not trying to make the parents criminals. We just want to help the state get this boy into medical treatment," Sandy police Sgt. Michelle Burnette said Thursday.

Daren Jensen and his Utah lawyer, Blake Nakamura, did not return messages from The Associated Press. When the AP called the home of Henry West, a Pocatello chiropractor and the father of Barbara Jensen, a man who refused to identify himself but said he was speaking for the family defended the parents, saying their boy was "alive and well" and testing negative for cancer cells.

Assistant Utah Attorney General Susan Eisenman said a gag order prevents her from talking about the case. Instead, she faxed The Associated Press an 18-page study published in the February edition of The New England Journal of Medicine.

The paper says that chemotherapy is needed to fully eradicate Ewing's sarcoma after surgery and prevent remnant cells too few to be detected from growing into new tumors.

Daren Jensen was arrested Saturday after his 14-year-old son, Garrett, rolled the family's 1994 Chevrolet Suburban on a mile-long driveway. A police report says he wasn't injured, but the truck was wrecked.

Daren Jensen showed up at the accident scene and was arrested by Bannock County sheriff's deputy Clint Brown, who learned he was wanted for kidnapping in Utah.

Jensen was released Monday on \$50,000 bond by Idaho's 6th District Judge David Evans, angering Utah authorities who fear Jensen will disappear again. But Jensen's lawyer and the judge's clerk said Idaho law requires bail for all fugitives except those accused of first-degree murder.

Couple arrested for bank robberies in U.S. West

BY ELLIOTT SYLVESTER
Associated Press Writer

CAPE TOWN, South Africa — An American couple dubbed the modern-day Bonnie and Clyde for a spate of bank robberies across the Western United States were arrested in South Africa after eight years on the run, authorities said Wednesday.

South African police and the FBI arrested Craig Michael Pritchert, 41, and Nova Ester Guthrie, 28, in Capetown on Tuesday night, South African police spokeswoman Mary Martins Engelbrecht said. The couple, who were on the FBI's most-wanted list, had been living in the country since 2000 under the aliases Andy and Dane Brown.

Pritchert and Guthrie are suspected of armed robberies in Arizona, Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, Texas and Oregon between 1993 and 1996. The couple previously lived in the Durango, Colo., area.

Police believe the two have been in the country since 2000, under the aliases of Andy and Dane Brown. Their fugitive lifestyle included an upmarket apartment, gym membership, and managing a trendy nightclub.

The Colorado-born Guthrie was day manager of the Cape Town nightclub Bossa Nova; Pritchert, born in Illinois, often visited her, authorities said. Engelbrecht said the two would likely be extradited.

The doors of the Bossa Nova Lounge and Club were closed Wednesday. Management of the popular Latin dance club refused to comment on the woman

they knew as Andy, employed as a day manager of the exclusive venue in one of Cape Town's main party strips.

According to friends of the owners who spoke on condition of anonymity, the couple claimed to be Canadian. The owners, they said, were reluctant to speak to reporters because Guthrie did not have a work permit. They were apparently unaware the short, ponytailed Guthrie and the tall, blue-eyed Pritchert were wanted by the FBI and Interpol.

U.S. Embassy spokeswoman Judy Moon said the FBI got information last month that the two were in the Cape Town suburb of Sea Point.

An FBI agent came to Cape Town soon after to coordinate their arrest with local police. The couple were in their trendy apartment overlooking the city's exclusive waterfront area when they were arrested.

During their crime spree, the couple tended to rob banks either early in the morning or at closing time, Moon said.

"Pritchert was always armed with a semiautomatic handgun and used duct tape, cheap handcuffs or plastic ties to bind bank employees," she said.

The FBI has said proceeds from the crimes apparently were used for travel, snowboarding and stock investments. Immediately after leaving the bank, the suspects would destroy all their equipment and head off to vacation spots including ski areas in Colorado and Canada and to Belize.



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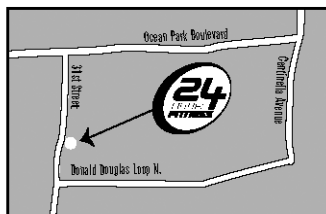
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WORLD BRIEFLY

Argentina drops anti-human rights laws

By The Associated Press

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina — Argentina's Senate voted overwhelmingly Thursday to scrap a pair of amnesty laws dating to the 1980s that had ended trials for human rights abuses committed during the country's military dictatorship.

Human rights activists and relatives of the disappeared present broke into raucous applause when it was announced that Senators had voted 43 to seven with one abstention to scrap the laws. Twenty-one lawmakers were absent. The lower House of Congress had passed the proposal last week.

The final congressional approval marked a victory for human rights groups who are pressing for a national re-examination of the 1976-83 dictatorship.

President Nestor Kirchner, who has given human rights new prominence during his weeks in power, is expected to sign the bill. Observers said, however, that the Supreme Court will likely have the final decision on the laws.

Radical murderer gets parole

By The Associated Press

NEW YORK — The parole of 1960s radical Kathy Boudin — denied twice in the past two years — shocked and surprised family members, friends and colleagues of the three men killed in the armored-car heist she took part in 22 years ago.

"Today's Eddie's birthday. He would have been 55 years old, so it's especially difficult," said Edward O'Grady, a nephew of one of the victims.

Boudin, 60, a one-time member of the Weather Underground described as a model inmate in prison, was denied parole three months ago and two years ago.

"I didn't expect this, since the parole board was very strong in its opinion just three months ago as to keeping her incarcerated," said Detective Lt. Jim Stewart, of the Rockland County district attorney's office.

Thomas Grant, a spokesman for the state Division of Parole, said Boudin would be released from prison by Oct. 1, once her plans for parole supervision are set.

Grant said parole was granted by a two-member hearing panel after an interview with Boudin on Wednesday afternoon at the Bedford Hills state prison in Westchester County, where she has been serving time.

State monument still remains

By The Associated Press

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — The court-ordered deadline for the removal of a Ten Commandments monument from a state judicial building had passed, but the granite marker still stood Thursday, with no sign that it would be taken by force.

The U.S. Supreme Court rejected Alabama Chief Justice Roy Moore's emergency plea for a stay late Wednesday afternoon.

After a lower court's deadline for removing the monument passed Thursday, dozens of supporters remained outside the building.

It remained unclear when or if the monument would be removed.

"It's time for Roy's rock to roll," said Ayesha Khan, an attorney for Americans United for Separation of Church and State, one of the groups that sued to force the

removal of Moore's 5,300-pound, granite monument.

U.S. District Judge Myron Thompson, who set the removal deadline, was not expected to take action before Friday.

Moore said in a statement that he does not consider the case over and that he plans to appeal to the Supreme Court on merits of the case.

Israel pressures Palestinian leadership

By The Associated Press

NABLUS, West Bank — Israel sent troops into the West Bank towns of Nablus and Jenin on Thursday and approved military strikes against militants as it sought to put pressure on the Palestinian leadership in the wake of a suicide bombing.

Elsewhere in the West Bank, Israeli troops killed a 16-year-old Palestinian and wounded five in a gun battle, the military said.

Tanks and armored personnel carriers began rolling into Nablus and Jenin early Thursday, searching for Palestinian militants and bomb-making laboratories, officials said.

The raid came shortly after a tense meeting of Palestinian Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas, Yasser Arafat and other officials. Participants said leaders' voices rose to shouts as they disagreed over how to clamp down on militants following Tuesday's bus bombing that killed 20 people.

Some reports said Abbas threatened to resign if Arafat didn't back him in a crackdown on the militants. The talks ended with a joint statement that included few specifics on concrete steps.

Israel's Security Cabinet, meanwhile, decided in principle to resume the practice of "targeted killings" and approved a series of military strikes against Palestinian militants. Israeli officials said the intensity of those strikes would depend on what action, if any, Palestinian security forces take against Hamas and Islamic Jihad.



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SPORTS



SPORTS IN BRIEF

By The Associated Press

GYMNASTICS

■ **ANAHEIM** — The United States won the gold medal at the World Gymnastics Championships, the first gold in history for the Americans — men or women — at the biggest international event this side of the Olympics.

Romania took the silver medal and Australia took bronze.

Chellsie Memmel, the alternate pressed into service late last week, is now 8-for-8 on routines in the team prelims and finals. Hollie Vise had to compete with her participant number scrawled on a piece of paper in black marker and taped to her leotard.

■ **ANAHEIM** — The Chinese women were docked .2 points, costing them the bronze medal at the World Gymnastics Championships, because an athlete warmed up on the podium before judges cleared her to step onto it.

Fan Ye, the last of China's three gymnasts on the balance beam, was waiting for teammate Zhang Nan's score to be posted when she started practicing two jumps from her routine.

A gymnast is allowed to stretch and get loose before an event, but can't practice on the podium.

The .2 points dropped the Chinese to 110.259 points, leaving them .076 behind Australia, which won its first team medal at worlds.

BASEBALL

■ **MILWAUKEE** — A partial power outage at Miller Park delayed the start of the game between the Philadelphia Phillies and Milwaukee Brewers for 19 minutes.

Brewers officials said the utility firm We Energies was working on a power line outside the ballpark when a power surge caused almost half the lights at Miller Park to go out during pregame introductions.

■ **CHICAGO** — World Series MVP Troy Glaus will miss the rest of the Anaheim Angels' season with a shoulder injury that has kept him on the disabled list since July 22.

The third baseman has a partial tear of the right rotator cuff and fraying of the labrum, a condition confirmed by Dr. James Andrews.

Glaus, who has missed 27 games since going on the DL, will need six to eight weeks of physical therapy.

BASKETBALL

■ **SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico** — Tim Duncan shot 8-for-10 from the field, Elton Brand scored 17 points and the United States dominated the second half to beat Brazil 110-76 in their opener at the FIBA-Americas Olympic qualifying tournament.

There were some nervous moments for the Americans in the first half as they were sloppy with the ball, failed to defend the 3-point line and fell behind by as many as 10 points. But the U.S. team closed the half with an 11-5 run, then outscored Brazil 29-8 in the third quarter to turn it into a blowout.

■ **INDIANAPOLIS** — Reggie Miller signed a new contract with the Indiana Pacers, keeping the franchise's all-time leading scorer from leaving the team where he has played his entire NBA career.

The Pacers announced the signing of the unrestricted free agent but did not release terms of the deal.

HOCKEY

■ **DETROIT** — Curtis Joseph underwent ankle surgery, adding another potential obstacle to the Detroit Red Wings' attempt to trade their extra goalie.

A bone chip was removed during an operation on Tuesday.

The Red Wings have been trying to trade Joseph since goalie Dominik Hasek rejoined the team this summer after retiring for one season.

Joseph, 36, has \$16 million and two years left on his contract, which includes a no-trade clause. Hasek has one year and \$8 million remaining on his deal. The Red Wings also have Manny Legace, one of the league's best backups.

COLLEGE FOOTBALL

■ **COLUMBUS, Ohio** — The NCAA has reinstated 10 Ohio State football players ruled ineligible by the university last week for signing autographs at a health care group's convention in May, according to a published report.

The players, who were allowed to practice but could have missed at least one game, were ruled ineligible by the school on the day it disclosed the violations to the NCAA, according to The Columbus Dispatch.

The NCAA reinstated the players after determining that mitigating circumstances contributed to the violations, athletic director Andy Geiger said.

Geiger confirmed that the group included some prominent players, including two-way starter Chris Gamble, but not tailback Maurice Clarett. He declined to list names.

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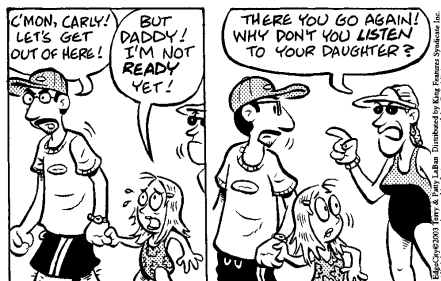
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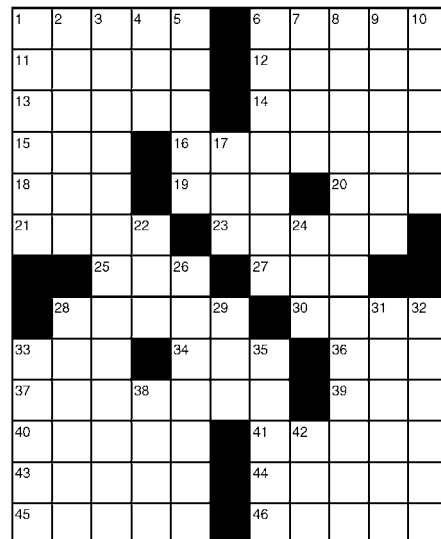
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— Diego Guida

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— Jim Rickwalt, Johnnie's Italian Restaurant

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SANTA MONICA SCENE °CALENDAR EDITION

Compiled by Natalia Aivazova

FRIDAY, AUGUST 22, 2003

EVENTS

Nike's Relay Challenge

Start stretching because you have to be ready by the 24 for this contests of strength and endurance. The Relay Challenge will take place at UCLA's Drake Stadium on Sunday. The 10,000 participants can flex their muscles to the sounds of little known bands. Teams are expected to include competitive companies and rival high schools.

CULTURE

Cinderella, Cinderella!!!

The Santa Monica Playhouse presents their take on the timeless classic Cinderella. The show is family friendly, with light-hearted songs, wacky step-sisters, and of course, a handsome prince. The play's writers, Chris DeCarlo and Evelyn Rudie, incorporate lots of comic elements into the show, making it perfect for kids, and those who are kids at heart. Even the theater itself is entertaining, with horseshoes decorating the walls, 1211 Fourth Street Santa Monica, CA 90401. For more information call (310) 394-9779

Angel's Attic

Founded in 1984 this museum of historic dolls offers a great place to take the whole family and experience a little bit of Santa Monica History. The museum reflects the growing popularity of doll and miniature collection in the last 400 years. The house itself was built in 1895 and has been restored to the period, making it one of the few remaining victorian houses in Santa Monica.

516 Colorado Avenue, Santa Monica, CA 90401
(310) 394-8331 Fax: 310-656-6865
Museum is open 12:30-4:30 Thu.-Sun
Adults \$6.50, Children under 12 \$3.50 and Seniors over 65 4.50

ENTERTAINMENT

Magiopolis

This is a club which magic-loving families can enjoy together. It offers everything from card tricks to disappearing acts. Tonight visitors can enjoy "Escape Reality" a show combining magic, comedy and drama as audiences watch exploding special effects and elaborate escape artistry. Hosted by husband and wife, Steve Spill and Bozena Sparrow,

this show is sure to entertain.

1418 Fourth Street, Santa Monica CA. 90401
For more information call: (310) 451-2241

Gotham Hall

This club has a great dance floor and live music, and there is still room left over for those who just want to shoot some pool. With the menu ranging from "Middle Eastern Hummus" to "Chicken Pot stickers" the food is sure to satisfy everyone. Tonight DJs Parrish, Mark Stylz and Brian Vasquez will spin hip hop at the club. Meanwhile Gotham Hall even has fun with fashion, dictating favorable themes to visitors. Tonight silver is in style.

Zanzibar

Created by the people behind Temple Bar this club offers a casual and comfortable atmosphere. It has a modest yet fun dance floor and a stage which is often occupied by local bands. Tonight the club features Bossa Nova, with spinning electronic beats and modern soul.

1301 5th St. Santa Monica CA. 90401
For more information call: (310) 451-2221

MOVIE °GUIDE

LAEMMLE'S MONICA 4-PLEX

1332 2nd Street
Thirteen PG-13 — 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
The Magdalene Sisters — 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00
American Splendor — 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15
The Secret Lives of Dentists — 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45
Les Diaboliques — Sat&Sun only 11:00 a.m.
Petit Freres — Sat&Sun only 11:00 a.m.

LANDMARK NU-WILSHIRE

1314 Wilshire Blvd
Le Divorce PG-13 — 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45
Swimming Pool R — 1:45, 4:30, 7:30, 10:00
LOEWS CINEPLEX BROADWAY CINEMAS
1441 Third Street Promenade
Freddy vs. Jason R — 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:50, 10:35
Grind PG-13 — 11:00, 9:30
Seabiscuit PG-13 — 12:30, 2:30, 3:30, 6:05, 7:00, 10:10
The Medallion PG-13 — 11:30, 2:00, 4:30, 7:20, 10:00,

AMC SANTA MONICA 7

1310 Third Street Promenade
American Wedding R — 1:00, 4:00, 7:10, 9:45
Bad Boys II R — 7:00, 10:20 (both p.m.)
Finding Nemo G — 12:15, 2:40, 5:05, 7:30, 9:55
Freaky Friday PG — 12:30, 3:00, 5:25, 7:50, 10:05
Lara Croft Tomb Raider: The Cradle of Life PG-13 — 1:10, 4:15, 7:45, 10:20
Spy Kids 3D: Game Over PG — 12:25, 2:30, 4:00, Open Range R — 12:20, 3:45, 7:05, 10:20
Step into Liquid NR — 12:50, 3:05, 5:40, 8:00, 10:25
MANN CRITERION 6 THEATERS
1313 Third Street Promenade
The Battle of Shaker Heights — 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:10, 9:40, 11:55
MarcX — 12:00, 2:20, 4:50, 7:30, 9:55
My Boss's Daughter — 11:30, 2:00, 4:30, 7:15, 9:45, 12:05
Pirates of the Caribbean PG-13 — 11:45, 3:15, 6:45, 10:10
S.W.A.T. PG-13 — 10:00, 1:35, 4:15, 7:05, 10, 12:40
Uptown Girls PG-13 — 11:15, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30,

If you know of an upcoming event which may be included in the calendar please send the information to calendar@smdp.com or fax it to (310) 576 9913



PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Garrett may return to 'Everybody Loves Raymond'

By The Associate Press

■ **LOS ANGELES** — "Everybody Loves Raymond" star Ray Romano said holdout co-star Brad Garrett will likely return to the CBS sitcom.

Work on the new season began this week without Garrett, who's asking for a bigger paycheck. He was written out of the first episode.

"You know we want him back as soon as he can get back. And, you know, we want everything back to normal and I'm sure it will be," Romano told the syndicated program "Entertainment Tonight."

Asked whether Garrett's absence this week is having an impact, Romano said: "No. I mean, they were just in the middle of negotiation and we had a show that didn't involve him, and so they could work out their differences. We're hoping to see him soon."

But is Garrett, who plays Romano's brother, coming back? "We're a family. Everybody is coming back. We need Brad there," Romano told the TV news magazine.

The series' other co-stars, Doris Roberts, Peter Boyle and Patricia Heaton, had briefly failed to show up for work. Roberts and Heaton cited health issues.

But Daily Variety reported Wednesday that the return of the three actors to the set indicates "back-channel talks" may be taking place to address their salary concerns.

Garrett's representatives at Raw Talent have criticized CBS' refusal to discuss a new deal for him, comparing his salary to Romano's — reportedly about \$1.8 million an episode.

■ **OAKLAND** — Rap mogul Irv Gotti and his attorney failed to appear in court for Gotti's arraignment on a misdemeanor charge of possession of a controlled substance, authorities said.

Prosecutors were unable to contact Gotti's attorney, Dennis Roberts, who'd said he was going to appear on his client's behalf because Gotti lives in New York.

The CEO of Murder Inc. Records, whose given name

is Irving Lorenzo, was arrested Aug. 15 at a concert at the Oakland Arena for allegedly carrying a single dose of Ecstasy. Gotti posted \$20,000 bail and was told to appear Tuesday in Alameda County Superior Court.

Before passing through a metal detector at the Oakland Arena, Gotti took some items from his pants pocket and put them into a basket.

An Oakland police officer noticed a small clear plastic bag containing some pills. Gotti tried to put the bag back in his pocket before the officer stopped him. The package turned out to contain one Ecstasy pill and Viagra, police said.

Authorities said Gotti has no prior criminal record.

■ **NEW YORK** — Plastic surgery isn't necessarily the answer for women who want to change their looks, says Jamie Lee Curtis.

The actress, who most recently starred in a remake of "Freaky Friday," won't say specifically what surgery she's had, but says, "I did all of it in attempting to stave off (aging)."

The result: "It made me look worse and feel worse. What they say works doesn't," Curtis says in the Sept. 1 issue of People magazine, in which stars including Roseanne Barr, Sharon Osbourne and Dolly Parton discuss the work they've had done.

To help women accept their shapes, Curtis posed in her underwear last year in More magazine without makeup or retouching.

"I wanted to say to women, 'Hello? I look like this. Relax, we all look like this.' I'm 44 and weigh 150."

■ **NEW YORK** — Mayor Michael Bloomberg announced a new high school named in memory of "Queen of Salsa" Celia Cruz.

The DeWitt Clinton High School-Lehman College Celia Cruz Bronx High School of Music is scheduled to open in September. The 90 students enrolled this year will

take academic classes at DeWitt and their music classes at Lehman College, where the music school will be located.

"It is a great honor to her and a way to remember the contribution she made to the community and gives all those who hold her in their hearts the feeling that she lives on and that she's a part of us," Bloomberg said Wednesday.

The Cuban-born Cruz died last month from a brain tumor. She was 77.

More than 700 Bronx students applied to the high school, with 90 incoming freshmen accepted. Additional grades will be added in the coming years.

The principal of the school, William Rodriguez, used to play with Cruz.

Bloomberg also announced the inaugural Latin New York Festival and dedicated it to Cruz. The festival, which is to take place later this month, includes musical performances and dancing.

■ **ATLANTA** — Former NBA coach Doug Collins leads TNT's list of broadcast teams for the upcoming NBA season.

Collins, the former Washington Wizards and Chicago Bulls coach, will be an analyst and team up with play-by-play announcer Kevin Harlan and sideline reporter Cheryl Miller, it was announced recently.

Also, former San Antonio Spurs guard Steve Kerr will work as an analyst this season, joining the team of Marv Albert, Mike Fratello and sideline reporter Craig Sager.

Collins, the former Washington Wizards and Chicago Bulls coach, signed a five-year deal with the network last week.

Former Georgetown coach John Thompson will work selected games as an analyst during the regular season before joining the network's full playoff schedule. When doing games, Thompson will be paired with play-by-play veteran Dick Stockton, Albert or Harlan.

Ernie Johnson, Charles Barkley, Kenny Smith and Magic Johnson return as TNT's studio team.

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