

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

'Check's in the mail' — not

City looks for \$1 million check

BY ANDREW H. FIXMER

Daily Press Staff Writer

The Big Blue Bus wants its million bucks back. City officials wonder where the bus system's million dollars disappeared to after someone stole a check out of the mail and cashed it.

But even more than finding the culprit who cashed it, the city's battle is now figuring out who is responsible for paying it — the bank that cashed it or the bank it originated from.

Earlier year, Los Angeles County sent a check to the Big Blue Bus for its share of sales tax revenue. But it was stolen out of the U.S. Postal system and was cashed at a Colorado bank.

The City of Santa Monica and L.A. County have now successfully entered into a Colorado lawsuit between the two banks that handled the check for \$1,075,408.08 and cashed it. A state judge of the Denver District Court last week also

ordered the lawsuit to move forward.

The lawsuit was filed nearly six months ago by First National Bank of Colorado, which cashed the check, against Denver-based Robert W. Baird & Co. and Bank of America — the bank handling L.A. County's account — to determine who is responsible for paying the funds.

Robert W. Baird & Co., a brokerage house used by the check casher, had asked the lawsuit be delayed until U.S. Postal inspectors complete their investigation and find the person who cashed the check. However, the judge felt the result of the investigation would not change the liability of cashing an unendorsed check, according to Deputy City Attorney Jeanette Schachtner.

"Ultimately, from the city and county perspective, we feel we have an ironclad argument why the money belongs to us," Schachtner said. "The bank has warranties and shouldn't be cashing checks that have not been endorsed."

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Spaghetti showdown



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

Above: Santa Monica firefighter Mat Wesner eats the winning plate of pasta at Bucca di Beppo Saturday afternoon during the Second Annual Spaghetti Showdown. Wesner's team, the Santa Monica Fire Department, won first place and \$200 at Bucca di Beppo, located at 1442 Second St. The Art Institute came in a close second and won a year's worth of spaghetti, a \$150 value. The dozen or so contestants had to eat all the spaghetti they could within minutes and were unable to use their hands. The proceeds of the charity event go to the Boys and Girls Club of Santa Monica.

Below: A proud Mat Wesner stands with his company and another plate of pasta, which was only for show.

State plan to pull water from Mojave Desert under fire

BY LAURA WIDES

Associated Press Writer

TWENTYNINE PALMS — The Mojave Desert might not leap to mind as a source of water in California, but until recently a project to pump water from beneath this cracked earth was considered a key to safeguarding the state against future droughts.

Now, as the federal Bureau of Land Management is poised to give approval to the project, the plan is coming under increasing political fire.

The project would store water from the Colorado River in an aquifer near Joshua Tree during wet years then tap that supply during dry years to quench the thirst of Southern California households.

Opponents fear the plan first proposed nearly five years ago by Santa Monica-based Cadiz Inc. would drain local reserves and have a disastrous

impact on the fragile desert ecosystem. Cadiz has repeatedly said it has taken steps to ensure the project won't damage the environment.

Leading the latest charge against the project is California Sen. Dianne Feinstein.

Earlier this month she proposed a Congressional amendment that would prohibit the BLM from approving the project. She followed last week with a letter to the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California urging the agency to scuttle its tentative deal with Cadiz to help build the project and buy the water.

The BLM is the last federal agency that must sign off on the project and has indicated it's likely to do so in the next several weeks after studying an environmental impact report.

After that, the MWD will consider giving its

See PLAN, page 7

Assembly passes bill barring forced arbitration on employees

By The Associated Press

Sacramento — Employers couldn't force employees or prospective employees to agree to take discrimination claims to arbitration instead of court if a bill approved Saturday by the state Assembly becomes law.

The measure by Senate President Pro Tem John Burton, D-San Francisco, would bar employers from forcing employees to agree to

arbitrate discrimination claims instead of filing a complaint with the state or going to court.

Assemblyman John Dutra, D-Fremont, said the measure would prevent employers from "requiring employees to surrender fundamental rights to get or keep a job."

But Assemblyman Bill Campbell, R-Villa Park, said the bill would prevent a quick resolu-

See BILL, page 6

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★★★★-Dynamic ★★★★★-Positive ★★★-Average
★★-So-so ★-Difficult

♈ ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Rethink an issue. You'll get more information if you do. You might not be choosing to look at the whole situation. Discussions reveal yet another perspective, which might be worth understanding. Deal with a problem, and you'll feel like celebrating. Tonight: A smile goes a long way.

♉ TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ An associate starts to grasp a problem that he or she has avoided until now. Work with this person to help him or her realize what might be happening. In the long run, facing facts is the only way to go. Nurture a hurting individual in your life. Tonight: Help someone by being a good listener.

♊ GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ You find associates to be difficult, or at best, changeable. A relationship could be transforming right before your very eyes. Add more creativity and caring to your interactions. Work on understanding rather than testing limits. Tonight: Just be where the crowds are.

♋ CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ Reorganize your work and daily life, allowing greater efficiency to become part of your routine. You easily become distracted, as you stretch yourself between work and home. Discussions might involve a home office or some other improvement. Tonight: Work late.

♌ LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ You will be able to reconstruct a project or relationship that falls apart. What proves to be significant is why the crumbling happened. Rebuild, not feeding into the same mistake. You'll come out with sounder foundations as a result. Tonight: Detach from the immediate. Enjoy a friend.

♍ VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ You might not be thrilled with information that involves your domestic life. What is more important could be how to handle the situation. You might need to discuss finances in a different light, or come to a better understanding as to expectations here. Tonight: Explore your options.

♎ LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Keep talking, even if you want to slam your door on an associate. Try another manner of communicating what you have been saying all along. You might decide that someone close is difficult. You also might not be far from wrong. Tonight: Go along with plans. You'll have a good time.

♏ SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Remember, you don't need to agree with others about your finances, although you might want to come to an agreeable conclusion. If you pull apart the facts, you'll see a problem in a different light. You might not want to share a personal matter just yet. Tonight: Work. And more work.

♐ SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ On some level, in the next few days you experience a reversal. You just might not feel up to snuff. Be direct with a loved one about what you have in mind. Your creativity surges as a result. Lighten up, becoming more playful. Tonight: Follow another's lead.

♑ CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★ Slow down some, especially when making decisions involving the quality of your life. Something you want might be just out of your grasp. Don't give up. Simply make your plans clearer. Given time, your intentions will speak for themselves. Tonight: Mosey on home.

♒ AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ A friend's reversal could be a source of dismay. Work within the present framework. Don't get too upset. Just keep conversations open, not closing anyone off. You'll like the end results. In a while, others will clear and settle. Tonight: Enjoy a special pal.

♓ PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ Bosses prove to be unusually demanding and difficult. Lighten up about potential changes. Your sunny personality illuminates many people's days. Recognize how much you offer in your unique way. Work with others as a team. Tonight: Treat yourself.

QUOTE of the DAY

"Living with a conscience is like driving with the brakes on."
— Budd Schullberg

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Phone: 310.458.PRESS(7737) • Fax: 310.576.9913
1427 Third Street Promenade, Suite #202 • Santa Monica, CA 90401

PUBLISHER

Ross Furukawa ross@smdp.com

EDITOR

Carolyn Sackariason sack@smdp.com

STAFF WRITER

Andrew H. Fixmer andy@smdp.com

NIGHT EDITOR

Patrick McDonald andy@smdp.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Del Pastrana del@smdp.com

CLASSIFIED REPRESENTATIVE

Angela Downen angela@smdp.com

CLASSIFIED REPRESENTATIVE

Paula Christensen paula@smdp.com

MEDIA CONSULTANT

William Pattinosh william@smdp.com

MEDIA CONSULTANT

Freida Woody freida@smdp.com

MEDIA CONSULTANT

Sue Soffe sue@smdp.com

CIRCULATION MANAGER

Kiutzu Cruz kiutzu@smdp.com

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Dave Danforth dave@smdp.com

LOCAL



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Lost senior citizens can be found quicker

By Daily Press staff

The Santa Monica Police Department is offering the community a new service that is aimed to give greater peace of mind to the city's senior citizens, their families and caregivers.

The City of Santa Monica in 2000 received grant funding from the Bureau of Justice Assistance, a division of the U.S. Department of Justice. The Santa Monica City Council has designated a portion of the funds to create an automated personal identification registry. The registry will be strictly confidential and for the exclusive use of Santa Monica police officers to search for characteristics that match those of the lost person. The registry will reduce the time it takes to identify a person and notify the caregiver. The program is entirely voluntary.

"From time to time, our officers are called upon to assist lost senior citizens. Often, these individuals are disoriented and unable to remember their names or where they live," said SMPD Chief James T. Butts Jr. "They sometimes experience a long wait while the officers try to identify and return them to the safety and comfort of their home."

If you one like to be registered someone in this identification program, contact Brenda Sweet, the project coordinator, for the forms, at (310) 458-8451 or e-mail brenda-sweet@santa-monica.org.

Gamble for the Y

By Daily Press staff

Las Vegas-style fun will be the order of the day when the Santa Monica Y's Men Club hosts the Fourth Annual Casino to benefit youth programs at the Santa Monica Family YMCA.

The event will take place Saturday, Sept. 7 from 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. at the Santa Monica Family YMCA, 1332 Sixth St.

The \$25 tax-deductible donation will give attendees casino chips to blackjack, roulette and craps, as well as valuable prizes. The highlight of the evening is a silent auction. Free food and a no-host bar also will be available. This year, for the first time, 10 tickets can be purchased for \$200.

The Santa Monica Evening Y's Men and Santa Monica Breakfast Y's Men will collaborate on the event to further enrich the future of the Santa Monica Family YMCA, primarily in the area of youth programs. This year's proceeds will go to fund camperships for underprivileged youth at the YMCA's Camp Big Bear and funding for the youth fitness center in the YMCA's new 45,000-square-foot addition.

After three years, this year's event returns to the YMCA, which is newly renovated. Celebrating its 101st year of serving the westside, it is dedicated to serving members by providing programs and services that enrich the quality of the physical, mental, spiritual and social lives of individual members, their families and communities.

For more information, call the Santa Monica Family YMCA at (310)393-2721.

Play of the day



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

Daily Press first basewoman LJ Hayden does a split in order to catch an errant throw from shortstop Dave Mokus. Hayden corrected Mokus' error by getting Dana Holsome from the Bullsloggers out at Memorial Park on Sunday.

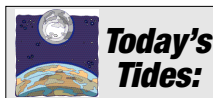


Information compiled by Jesse Haley

Hurricane Fausto produced a steep south east swell that, unfortunately, is going to miss all but the northern tip of L.A. County. County Line and parts of Malibu will pick up the swell for some clean, chest-high surf today.

As Fausto shifts direction, swell will become more southerly and should be picked up better by south exposed spots.

Tropical swell will begin to decline Tuesday, while a truer southwest ground swell arrives, likely later in the day.



Low-	4:17 a.m.	-0.43'
High-	10:33 a.m.	4.31'
Low-	3:47 p.m.	1.90'
High-	9:43 p.m.	5.90'

Location	Monday	Tuesday	Water Quality
County Line	3-4'/Fair	3-4'/Fair	A
Zuma	3-4'/Fair	3-4'/Fair	A
Surfrider	2-3'/Fair	1-3'/Fair	A
Topanga	2-4'/Fair	1-3'/Fair	A
Breakwater	3-4'/Fair	2-4'/Fair	B
El Porto	3-4'/Fair	3-4'/Fair	A

The Q Line

It's election season in Santa Monica and for many that means the games are about to begin. Politics in Santa Monica can be quite a spectator sport, especially for those who are deeply involved in it.

But for the average Joe citizen, politics doesn't mean much. He just wants to make sure his trash is collected and can live in a safe community.

The leading political party, Santa Monicans For Renters Rights, which holds the majority on many city boards, most likely will keep its power.

Its causes are noble and just, but some wonder if basic city issues are lost in bettering society as a whole.

So this week Q-Line wants to know: "What local issues do our elected and appointed officials need to focus on during their campaigns?"

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

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LETTERS

City council failing its constituency

Editor:

I wholeheartedly second the opinion of Mr. Bauer in his column of August 23, 2002. The homeless problem is getting worse not better, and its impact on the hapless citizens is growing too great to be ignored.

I am not nearly as knowledgeable of the policies and practices of our elected officials such as Mr. McKeown and Mr. Feinstein, but it is a truism, here applicable to public feedings of the homeless, that if you provide it, they will come. And again, echoing the opinion of Mr. Bauer, it is also a statistical truism that, even though the ratio of anti-social versus benign members of the homeless population is quite small, the overall number of anti-social and/or substance abusing persons will rise as the overall population of the homeless rises. And this is a threat to our population.

In spite of our elected body's apparent desire to address the homeless situation compassionately, the first duty of a government, be it federal, state or local, is to protect its citizenry. And the government of Santa Monica is coming dangerously close to shirking this fundamental duty. While I have no statistical data to support this, let me offer some of my own family's anecdotes:

Three months ago, while shopping at the Rite Aid on Wilshire Boulevard near 18th Street, a homeless man, who was apparently intoxicated, asked me for money "so I can go get another beer." I told him no, and walked away. He followed me into the store, and this time demanded the money. I again said no, explaining that I was not going to support him with alcohol. I directed him to my local church if he needed substance abuse counseling or food. He took great offense at this, and, in a nutshell, he became verbally and physically threatening, and the store manager had to intervene.

I have been confronted with similar demands on at least two other occasions in the last six months. Now, I am 6'1", 190 pounds and relatively young.

What might be the fate of someone similarly approached who is physically diminutive, disabled, or aged? Read on: My wife is five feet tall and weighs 100 lbs. soaking wet. Just two days ago, a woman she described as being close to six feet tall approached her in broad daylight, on Broadway near Lincoln, stood within one foot of her, and said, "Give me \$5." My wife, being genuinely in fear of harm, gave the woman the money. I think many others would do the same.

Is this where we, as a community, want to go? The question must be asked, what are the legitimate goals of Santa Monica's homeless policy, and what are the human costs to such a policy. It is time that the city council get their priorities straight and understand that the rule of law and protection of its citizenry must not be sacrificed in the name of a progressive social agenda, no matter how noble its goals.

Monte Grix
Santa Monica

Homeless aren't so bad

Editor:

Since you have openly invited anyone who reads your paper to "create some dialog" in response to the opinion "As I see it" by Bill Bauer, I decided to accept the invitation and write to you.

Whether you print this or not remains to be seen, but if you really want to hear another bunch of opposing series of thoughts from someone on the so-called "homeless crisis," then here they are. To begin with, any citizen of this country, regardless of his or her manner of dress, financial station in life or other rudimentary circumstances or qualifiers has both the right to be here as anyone else, and the freedom (as opposed to others without citizenship who do not) to speak as they wish. See the First Amendment to the United States Constitution.

Santa Monica ought to consider itself blessed with the modest population it has of rather tame (in comparison to other areas) homeless people. They are a manageable lot whom consist of mainly unemployed artists, performers and those "fellow Americans down on their luck," as Humphrey Bogart would put it.

They are, so far as anyone knows, easier to live with than some those one might find a mere 10-15 miles further inland, in say Watts, which they happily burned to the ground a mere 10 years or so ago — for the second time, mind you. Or, as openly unmanageable by any of your city, state or federal laws than the enormous dense "out of control" population of illegal aliens from Mexico and other countries in South America whom choose to invade ours, and choose to settle en masse here in the greater L.A. area in the comfort of what were once beautiful communities they overpopulated, and trashed into the "barrios" they can so easily hide in and operate out of. Ask any "coyote" you happen to know.

Bauer said in the second installment of his two-part series (the only part I read or needed) that he believes in the old axiom "if you provide it, they will come." Not really much of an old axiom, but evidence of his mental struggle with himself and the condition we now call homelessness.

Homelessness is directly caused by the impact on a segment of the population by illegal aliens criminally jumping our national and state borders, taking away our desperately needed jobs, affordable housing and severely impacting our available medical and social services, as well as extensively overburdening our school systems. These factors and much more, had you the space to print them all, directly contribute to the increase of legal citizens of this great nation becoming an internal community of what we used to call "D.P.s." (displaced persons) following W.W.II. Now we are called "homeless."

We are your brothers and sisters out here. We deserve better recognition and treatment. When you turn your back on your own fellow citizens in favor of assisting/supporting any illegal alien no matter how little, you are acting in an un-American manner. If you overcome your petty problems with the tame homeless in your mindsets, you would be better off for it.

Thom Trybus
Los Angeles

Identification needed for homeless

Editor:

I have read both installments of the two-part series of Bill Bauer's column appearing in the SMDP. I think that he makes some very good points.

He makes reference to the fact that various municipalities "require 'event' permits that regulate the size and frequency of large gatherings on public property," and that San Diego has a municipal code, which it enforces, requiring a "bond for those handling and distributing food" for health and safety reasons, and, further, that they "also require identification for those who participate in services so they can be monitored."

As it is in Santa Monica now, to the best of my knowledge, there is no identification check or monitoring on a regular basis of those homeless, or otherwise, who are the recipients of public feedings. Personally, I think that some sort of identification and monitoring should be undertaken.

Quite frankly, I think any long-term public feeding of the same individuals does indeed make them dependent on food handouts, and, more importantly, perhaps unwilling to take any steps to improve their status in the community. To me, it would seem to be a far more charitable undertaking to help them to help themselves; to help them to become less dependent on those, perhaps, well-intentioned do-gooders, who, in fact, may be doing more harm than good.

That is not to say that there may very well be some in serious need of help, but then there comes a time when those individuals must be weaned off their dependence on others and begin to take responsibility for themselves. I think that, perhaps, many can become resourceful, productive and even thriving individuals if they somehow get the sense that they have something of value to contribute and are encouraged and helped to discover it and put it into action for their own good, and possibly the good of others. I believe that some, if not all, have the ability to lift themselves up by their boot straps and rise above their current existence.

Julia Reeves
Santa Monica

Bill Bauer reminds writer of a Nazi wannabe

Editor:

Well, once again, my faith in my fellow man's compassion has been shattered by SMDP. Where in the world did you ever find this Nazi wannabe Bill Bauer, and why do you continue to have only a one-sided view of economic discrimination that is repeatedly promoted by your one-sided paper. Are you thinking of a future in politics, by chance?

"As I See It" by Bill Bauer is so full of whining and discrimination against the poor people of this city that he should be ashamed of himself. His rambling whine is so full of just plain hate that he reminds me of Nazi Germany. His research is made up (40 feedings in Palisades Park with up to 1,000 people at any given feeding? Huh?) off the top of his head. He says our mayor just pouted and whined when an unscheduled subject was brought up before a report was due on the homeless issues concerning our city? If anyone is whining, it is Mr. Bauer.

I am tired of his calling this city's poor people scum, degenerates, drug addicts, anti-social, etc. When the white man wanted to subjugate the Indians, what did he do? He attacked their food source. Sounds familiar. African-Americans had to drink out of different fountains and eat at only certain restaurants. They were not allowed in certain areas and were looked down upon for no other reason than the color of their skin.

I am a homeless person in Santa Monica who takes advantage of Samoshell, the homeless center behind the Big Blue Bus station. I am a student at Santa Monica College majoring in computer science. I do not defecate or urinate in public, panhandle or eat at food lines, but yet in Mr. Bauer's eyes I am still considered a degenerate just looking for a free handout because I am too lazy or drunk and just want hang out and beg for free stuff.

If not for the compassionate people and mayor of Santa Monica, none of these things would be possible. There are some great programs to help people here like Samoshell, Turning Point, OPCC, Step Up on Second Street, but all Mr. Bauer can spend his time on are the few who give the rest a bad name.

One last thing concerning panhandling. While I totally agree that aggressive panhandling is way out of control and should not be tolerated, let's be truthful about the subject. Politics is dependent on begging, it is called lobbying. Charities and special events are dependent on begging, it is called fundraising. The airport has plenty of beggars, they are called solicitors. Are you starting to get the picture yet? You can give it many fancy names, but when the truth is told it all means one thing — begging! But fancy names make it OK right?

Thank you for your time, and I hope you print this because most homeless do not have a phone number, which is required to send this so we have absolutely no voice in this community. That, I hope, is the reason that your paper is always so one-sided and only prints pro-economic discriminatory articles and letters.

Maybe you might consider allowing a homeless person a weekly column sometime or is that too much to ask? Probably! We could do point, counter-point to Bill Bauer called "The Way I See It" and "The Way It Really Is." I doubt it, but it was worth a try anyway.

Michael J. Beattie
Samoshell

(Editor's note: We thank Mr. Beattie for sending in his letter. The Daily Press is in the process of finding a weekly columnist that can present the issues of the homeless and continue community dialogue.)

OPINION



Eurotrash: Everyman's guide to crossing the pond, part 2



TWISTED
By Dan Dunn

(Editor's Note: This is the second installment of what's shaping up to be a rather long series. Part 1 ran in last Monday's edition. Part 3 will appear next week. And so on. Get it?)

RISTORANTE DEL CAMBIO, TURIN, ITALY. THURSDAY, JULY 6: Built in 1757 to the design of famed architect Antonio Bellino, Del Cambio is a marvel. Located across from the Palazzo Carignano — home of the first Italian Parliament — this place has long been THE spot for the biggest names in Italian politics ... not that I purport to know the names of many Italian politicians, living or dead.

However, I am familiar with the legend of Count Cavour, who is credited with unifying Italy. They say Cavour spoke Italian, thought in French and dined Piedmontese-style at Del Cambio — his "very favorite restaurant in all the world," according to the head waiter, who never worked for Air France and is thus worthy of trust.

Sitting among a group of very excellent people — Europeans and Americans alike — in a luxuriant dining room that bears the Count's name, directly beneath a bronze plaque with tricolor ribbons commemorating the Count's favorite place to sit, eating food and drinking wine fit for ... well, fit for Count Cavour, it stands to reason I'd be merrier than the bald guy on "Mary Tyler Moore." But I'm not. On the contrary, I'm quite troubled. And today, being fully in touch with my previously latent Franco-enmity, I lay all the blame for my disquietude on the French, a people whose largest air carrier has yet to recover my lost baggage. Hence, the Italian jeans.

If you gave a pair of Italian-made men's jeans a passing glance, you'd likely presume them to be — as I did — much like America's own Levi's or Gap jeans or something from the good rack at K-Mart. Same color. Same feel. Same bloated price tag (except at K-Mart). You might even grab a pair in your usual size off the rack — as I did — and purchase them sans-fitting. This would be a mistake. In the interest of consumer safety, I now present you with ...

TRAVEL TIP #1: Never purchase Italian-made men's jeans without first trying them on. Italian-made men's jeans are made for unusually thin men without hips or testicles. If you have hips and/or testicles, it's advisable to avoid Italian jeans altogether.

However, if you find yourself in a situation where, for instance, an inept French airline has carelessly lost most of your clothing, and a new pair of Italian-made jeans is the only affordable alternative to a pair of fetid sweat pants, I suggest trying on a pair at least three sizes bigger than those you would purchase stateside.

"Aren't those jeans just squeezing the hell out of your balls?" asks the woman sitting next to me — a nice Irish gal who, it turns out, works for Bacardi.

"Huh?" I mumble, shifting uneasily and wondering how it could be so obvious.

"I said, aren't you just having a hell of a ball? I am. I really, really am." She smiles.

I smile back at her. When she turns away I wince — the eggplant ravioli with fresh tomato and wild mushrooms has gone, as women are prone to saying, "straight to my hips," and I fear my Italian-made jeans may explode.

Then the Count arrives. Not the dead one mentioned earlier. An alive one — quite alive, as it turns out. Count Esconsio is a bigwig with Martini & Rossi, which is owned by Bacardi, the company hosting the International Bartenders Competition. The IBC is the reason I'm in Turin. Bacardi invited me to attend, as they are somehow under the impression that I am an important member of the American media. Had they known I'm barely employed and researching my new book "Why Air France Sucks" instead of their latest sparkling wine or the IBC, it's unlikely I'd be in this restaurant wearing these Italian jeans.

Esconsio is a cool cat. Rich. Educated. Dashing. Italian. He has a way of making the guests feel special, while simultaneously treating the help like complete crap.

Dessert is the most beautifully prepared dish I've ever seen. A large yellowish gelatin mold with vibrant red and blue wild berries suspended inside. I stare at my dessert plate, admiring it. I even take a picture of it.

Count Esconsio somehow remains unimpressed. He lifts his plate, eying the quivering gelatin mold suspiciously. After a long while in which he seems to be contemplating some sort of hate crime, the Count snaps his fingers angrily. The headwaiter is quickly at the table. Esconsio is flabbergasted.

"What is this ... trembling cake?" The head waiter bows his head in humiliation. His face is red — the same shade I imagine my poor balls to be.

"Turin is home to some of the finest chocolates in the world," Esconsio growls, "and you give my guests this ... this ... this trembling cake."

A tear rolls down the head waiter's cheek. "TAKE IT AWAY!!!" Esconsio barks. Suddenly, the head waiter collapses under the weight of his shame.

(Next week: We'll be moving on to France ... oh, joy!)



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LOCAL □ STATE

Santa Monica expects to win stolen check lawsuit

CHECK, from page 1

"Litigation will proceed as litigation does," she added. "We are, from our end, hoping to pursue this rather aggressively. We think it's an open and shut case."

L.A. County Attorney Thomas M. Tyrell said the banks have an uphill battle to prove they aren't liable.

"There are extremely complex rules revolving around (cashing checks)," Tyrell said. "Barring something that would point to direct fault on the part of the county or the city, we don't anticipate any impact."

Santa Monica officials first noticed the money was missing when they conducted a routine audit at the end of the 2001 budget, which was done about this time last year.

That audit also shows two other checks totaling \$67,000 from the Metropolitan Transportation Authority are missing and are presumed stolen. The MTA Inspector General is investigating the disappearance of the two checks.

Postal inspector Mike McCarthy, who is part of a team of investigators working on the case, said the theft of the \$1 million check may be the work of an international ring that pays for undorsed checks. A person not connected to the ring steals the check and is given either a percentage of the check's amount or a flat fee, McCarthy said. Then the network of criminals finds a way to cash the check.

"It's the largest that I have heard of here in Los Angeles," McCarthy said. "There could be checks that have been stolen that are higher, but I haven't heard of them."

In the case of Big Blue Bus' check, the thieves did all of their banking electronically. The account set up at Robert W Baird & Co. was in the name of "Big Blue Bus Tours," and the signature card on file is the forged signature of John Catoe, the Big Blue Bus' former director.

"To you and I, it's a huge sum of money, and to the city it's a huge sum of money," Schachtner said. "But to the banking industry, I don't know that a million dollar check gets any more attention than the thousands of other big digit

checks they deal with on a regular basis."

McCarthy said while the postal system is trustworthy, it is not fool proof. He advised that large sums of money should be sent via registered mail. Though it may take a little longer to arrive at its destination, anyone who handles the envelope has to sign for it.

"It's the largest that I have heard of here in Los Angeles. There could be checks that have been stolen that are higher, but I haven't heard of them."

— MIKE MCCARTHY
 U.S. Postal inspector

"It's our safest and most secure (system)," he said. "There's some accountability that way."

In the meantime, county officials will continue to send large sums of money through the mail. They maintain that sending checks through the mail is completely safe. However, they did start depositing large sums electronically with the Big Blue Bus.

"The county board of supervisors over a year ago began promoting systems under which certain of our payments would be able to be paid to some of our contractors and other clients by electronic transfers," Tyrell said. "And that is in place, but the county is a vast enterprise. And a changeover like that is not an easy one to make."

L.A. County collects sales tax revenue earmarked for mass transit systems and divides them among all the bus and rail operators throughout the county. Those checks, which tend to be six and seven figures, are routinely sent first-class mail through the postal system.

Democrats favoring trial lawyers, Republican says

BILL, from page 1

tion of employment discrimination disputes.

"I think some people would be attracted to firms that had this," he said. "For us to outlaw that takes away an opportunity for employers and employees to deal with problems quickly."

Assemblyman John Campbell, R-Irvine, said Democrats were being hypocritical for opposing binding arbitration in this case when most of them supported it to resolve farm labor contract negotiation stalemates.

"This is about rewarding one of your favorite interests, trial lawyers," he said.

But Assemblyman Darrell Steinberg, D-Sacramento, said the farm labor and employee discrimination questions were two different issues.

The discrimination bill, he said, would still allow truly voluntarily arbitration. "This bill would give back choice to employees and say where arbitration is desired by the employer and employee, of course they can take that route," he said.

A 44-27 vote returned the bill to the Senate for a vote on Assembly amendments.

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Santa Monica Daily Press





LOCAL STATE



City company insists water project will work

PLAN, from page 1

final OK. But MWD board member Glenn Brown said Feinstein's letter and other considerations are raising red flags.

"It doesn't look good," he said. "There just isn't as much water as they say there is."

Officials with Cadiz remain optimistic that their private-public partnership with the district will go through. The aqueducts and storage facility could cost \$150 million to build and generate \$1 billion in water sales over the next 50 years.

"I believe this project will happen," said Wendy Mitchell, spokeswoman for the agricultural firm. "We have a crisis coming at the end of the year."

Mitchell was referring to the Dec. 31 federal deadline for California to come up with a plan to reduce its use of water from the overtaxed Colorado River. California currently uses up to 800,000 acre-feet a year more than its allotment from the river. That's the amount consumed each year by 1.6 million households.

If California doesn't meet the deadline, the Department of the Interior could cut off the extra water, forcing the state to tap precious reserves.

The Cadiz project has been touted as a key to resolving the problem. Few dispute the idea that the sand beneath the Mojave Desert is a good place to store water.

The conflict involves just how much local water can be pumped out without damaging the environment.

Environmentalists and Feinstein worry that Cadiz will draw so much water from

the soil that massive dust storms will become common. But the environmental report now under consideration notes that dust storms already occur in the area.

Sand storms are unlikely because the plan calls for drawing water from 200 feet below ground, not from surface moisture that feeds desert plants, said Adan Ortega, a spokesman for the MWD.

The report does not say how much water could be safely drawn from the aquifer, but it does call for extensive monitoring to spot possible problems well in advance.

Cadiz has agreed to install such a system. "If this project goes through, it will be the best-monitored area in that entire desert," Ortega said.

The debate goes beyond the science. The politics are even more complicated.

A proposal is now making the rounds in the Legislature that calls for a panel to be appointed by Gov. Gray Davis to manage water issues involving the Colorado River.

It was unclear if the proposed board could override a possible MWD decision to cancel its Cadiz contract.

Cadiz Chairman and CEO Keith Brackpool has close ties to Davis.

Brackpool has donated more than \$250,000 to the political campaigns of Davis and is one of the governor's top water advisers.

Both men, through their aides, have said Brackpool's money and access to the governor do not unduly influence water decisions. And at this point, Davis has no direct authority over the project proposed by Cadiz.

Davis to announce tougher corporate reform measures

By The Associated Press

SACRAMENTO — Gov. Gray Davis is expected to announce Friday new measures that will strengthen corporate accountability, including new legislation tightening controls on accounting practices, administration officials said.

The Democratic governor, who is seeking re-election in November, also will disclose that the state Board of Accountancy is seeking to revoke the license of Arthur Andersen, which has been at the center of the nation's corporate scandals. The move would bar the firm from the public accounting business in California.

The board filed the action against Arthur Andersen on Aug. 16, an hour after learning that the state of Texas had pulled the firm's license, administration officials said.

Davis also wants to enhance the penalties for securities law violations and appoint a consumer advocate to the Board of Accountancy, administration officials said.

Scandals involving Enron and WorldCom have shaken the confidence of investors after both companies filed for Chapter 11 bankruptcy.

Davis' expected announcement at a senior assisted-living center in Culver City comes as President Bush visits California to help the campaign of Republican gubernatorial candidate Bill Simon. Davis has launched a series of television ads against his opponent, pointing out a \$78 million civil fraud verdict against Simon's family investment firm.

Among the bills the governor is scheduled to sign are:

■ AB 2873, requiring companies to retain audit documents and records for a minimum of seven years.

■ AB 270, bolstering state accounting laws and ending accounting industry domination of the Board of Accountancy by requiring a public majority.

■ AB 2970, barring accounting firm employees from going to work for a client within 12 months of providing audit services.

Consumer advocates believe that the bills will make California the leader in accountability efforts.

"This package of bills will help restore consumer confidence in the financial practices underpinning our corporate system," said Betsy Imholz, director of the West Coast office of Consumers Union, a national consumers advocacy group. "And we believe restoring the public confidence in corporate accountability is critical at this point."

Davis also wants to increase criminal fines and prison terms for securities law violations. The criminal fine for general securities law convictions will increase from \$1 million to \$5 million; the maximum criminal fine for securities fraud convictions will increase from \$10 million to \$25 million. The prison terms will be lengthened from two to five years to five to 20 years.



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STATE

San Diego executives worked as FBI informants in price-fixing inquiry

By The Associated Press

SAN DIEGO — Local sporting goods executives reportedly worked as undercover FBI informants in an investigation of global price-fixing by makers of carbon fiber, a crucial material in the U.S. defense industry.

Executives at Horizon Sports Technologies said that for nearly two years they wore wires and recorded phone conversations with representatives of the carbon fiber companies, The San Diego Union-Tribune reported Sunday.

The strong, lightweight material is used in satellites, stealth aircraft and a wide range of other military equipment. It's also used in graphite golf club shafts, bicycle frames and race cars.

HST executives' role as informants in the late 1990s was revealed this month in documents filed in their whistle-blower lawsuit in U.S. District Court in San Diego.

HST's lawsuit names seven big players in the carbon fiber industry: Toray Composites, Mitsubishi Rayon, Boeing, Hexcel, BP Amoco Polymers, Cytec-Fiberite and Toho Tenax. The companies recently asked a federal judge to dismiss the suit.

A federal grand jury in Los Angeles began examining the antitrust allegations

in 1999, but the Justice Department has yet to file any criminal charges for price-fixing. The case remains open, a Justice Department spokeswoman said.

In May, Toho Tenax and its U.S. subsidiary pleaded guilty in Los Angeles federal court to a felony charge of obstructing justice. Toho acknowledged that an executive tried to conceal documents that had been subpoenaed in the price-fixing investigation. Sentencing is set for November.

In court documents, HST's chief executive officer, Randall M. Beck, said he and two others began recording phone calls and wearing body wires in January 1998. They ultimately recorded more than 100 conversations with industry suppliers, before ending their undercover work the following year.

In those conversations, Beck said industry executives talked "matter of factly" about fixing prices and charging the U.S. government high prices for carbon fiber used in defense programs. At one point, the general manager of a U.S. company was recorded describing the manufacturers' annual price-fixing session euphemistically as getting together to do the "naked bunny hop."

Beck declined interview requests and HST's lawyer, Kevin McLean, said he would not comment about pending litigation.

Scientists warn that world's coral reefs in serious decline

BY ANDREW BRIDGES
AP Science Writer

LOS ANGELES — Scientists warn the first global survey of the health of the world's coral reefs shows they are in serious decline, with overfishing worsening a crisis situation.

Scientists and volunteers found that overfishing has impacted 95 percent of more than 1,000 coral reefs monitored since 1997. At least four species of reef fish, hunted as food or to adorn aquariums, face extinction, further threatening the biodiversity of the marine ecosystems.

The results of the five-year study are presented in report being released Monday by the Institute of the Environment's Reef Check program at the University of California, Los Angeles. More than 5,000 scientists and volunteers in about 60 countries contributed to the survey, possibly the largest ecological study ever undertaken.

"What we have seen is coral reefs have been damaged more in the last 20 years than they have in the last 1,000. Suddenly, the pressures of overfishing and damaging types of fishing — dynamiting fish and poisoning fish, particularly in Southeast Asia — have taken off," said Gregor Hodgson, a UCLA marine ecologist and founder of Reef Check.

When populations of overfished species, including fish and sea urchins, plummet, the algae they normally keep in check can grow to smother coral and kill an entire reef, Hodgson said.

Coral reefs where fishing has been banned or restricted show signs of recovery. But virtually all the world's reefs

show signs of declining health. The survey turned up just one reef, near Madagascar, of 1,107 surveyed that could be considered pristine, Hodgson said.

Pollution and increased amounts of sediments are also taking their toll. A recent study identified bacteria found in the intestines of humans and other animals as the cause of a disease killing elkhorn corals in the Caribbean Sea.

Scientists organized the first international conference to discuss the global decline in coral reef health in 1993. Since then, they have struggled with how to devise a program to monitor the world's reefs. Reefs make up just .09 percent of the area of the world's oceans and are spread around the globe, making them difficult to study without the help of volunteers.

"The volunteer component is fantastic. How else can you reach so much of the coral reefs?" said Jamie Hawkins, deputy director of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Ocean Service. NOAA underwrote a portion of a cost of the report.

The report's authors said the project is as much about science as it is raising the public's awareness of the coral reef situation. One contributor acknowledged the size of the survey precludes its being as scientifically rigorous as would be a smaller study.

"There's always a trade-off between quantity and precision. They got a lot of quantity and not a lot of precision," said Jeremy Jackson, a professor at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, who wrote the preface to the report.

NOAA intends to issue its own national state-of-the-reefs report next month.

NATIONAL



Technology, TV take forensics investigators into limelight

BY RYAN PEARSON

Associated Press Writer

LAS VEGAS — The macabre curiosity that prompted Rebecca Leonard to scoop squashed frogs from roadways as a youngster had always baffled and disgusted her friends.

"They always thought I was weird, you know. They didn't want to talk about it," Leonard said. "I was always trying to justify it to them."

Today, she doesn't have to; they're brimming with questions.

For the most part, she can credit CBS' surprising hit series "CSI: Crime Scene Investigation," a slick TV show set in Las Vegas that transformed the grisly minutiae of forensics into a who-done-it drama starring handsome scientists and cutting-edge technology.

Like thousands of others once considered "police nerds," the 32-year-old Leonard, a forensic science intern with the Sheriff's Department crime lab in Marin County, Calif., has become an instant celebrity of sorts.

"All of a sudden, it's really cool, what I do. It's like this glamorous thing!" she said. "All my friends are asking all these questions: 'What was the crime scene like? Did you analyze the DNA?'"

Crime scene investigators and police forensic experts have emerged from the proverbial basement laboratory in recent years, propelled by the show, Sept. 11 recovery identification efforts and their own proficiency at solving older crimes through new technology.

Colleges are rushing to cash in, and forensic science education is hotter than any other crime-related field.

More than 1,500 forensic identification scientists from around the nation and 27 countries took time at the start of a recent Las Vegas convention to indulge in their newfound celebrity.

Anthony Zuiker, creator of "CSI" and its fall spin-off set in Miami, peppered his convention keynote speech with references to Hollywood producers and actors. He even previewed his acceptance speech should the show, which consistently tops Nielsen TV ratings, win any of the six Emmys for which it's nominated.

His words were well-received by the distinctly non-Hollywood crowd — a mix of former beat cops in dark business suits, the pale and sometimes disheveled back-room scientists and about 100 students like Leonard.

Those assembled said the best thing about Zuiker's show and Patricia

"All of a sudden, it's really cool, what I do. It's like this glamorous thing! All my friends are asking all these questions: 'What was the crime scene like? Did you analyze the DNA?'"

— REBECCA LEONARD
Forensic science intern

Cornwell's crime novels — including "The Last Precinct" and "Body of Evidence" — is the opportunity it gives them to talk shop without feeling like death-obsessed mad scientists.

"I always felt like such a freak! But now my friends are asking if I've read the latest Cornwell book, and was it true to life," Leonard said.

Interest in forensic science before "CSI" grew through medical examiner fiction and the 1976-83 TV drama "Quincy M.E." Highly publicized court cases, most famously the 1995 O.J. Simpson trial, kept the field in the public eye.

In 1996, the Discovery Channel launched "The New Detectives," a series that re-enacts real forensic science investigations. It is now the second most-watched show on the channel and served as the creative spark for "CSI."

Then came Sept. 11, shifting the focus for the public and the police from crime to recovery. The same techniques used by crime scene investigators to find clues were put to work identifying victims of the terrorist attacks.

Crime scene investigator John Cantone of the New York Police Department said it was one of the first times his team had focused only on identifying victims.

"We already knew what happened," Cantone said. "We just needed to identify. And we quickly got really good at it."

While their new high profile is flattering, some forensic analysts claim it also has made their jobs more difficult in the community and courtroom.

Ron Smith, retired as regional director of the Mississippi Crime Lab, said jurors

inundated with crime-scene TV fiction and movies expect more from expert testimony.

"It's caused us to be better at articulating that information to people that really don't know what we do, but think they do," the forensics consultant and trainer said, laughing. "It's become much more challenging to be an expert witness."

Cantone said the increased use of lasers, DNA testing and fiber analysis — and their coverage on TV — has placed unrealistic expectations on forensic scientists.

"We go out into the community and they think that things can be done very quickly," he said. "They'll sometimes put pressure on us."

Vendors at the Las Vegas convention tempted budget-crunched scientists with products ranging from high-tech LED forensic light systems to classic brown paper evidence bags.

In between the latest face-recognition software and a portable automated fingerprint scanner, a Swedish scientist hawked a prototype black liquid designed specifically to lift fingerprints from the sticky side of tape.

While most crime scene investigators make do with limited budgets and only several select "toys," the use of technology has been key to their heightened productivity — and status — in recent years.

The latest software can link whorls, loops, and peaks on two fingerprints with only a small portion of the print detected. Fingerprint analysis director Glen Calhoun of the Miami-Dade Police Department said such technology has helped solve about 300 "cold cases" there

over the past two years.

The technology and analytical problem-solving involved in such efforts is what attracted 28-year-old Irma Hernandez and a growing number of other young people to the field.

"I like the mystery of it," said Hernandez, whose crime scene classes at Southwestern College in Chula Vista, Calif., went from half-full to standing room within months after "CSI" made its debut.

While many crime scene investigators had little formal training in sciences, college degrees have become the norm for young investigators, said Diane Do, director of the San Diego County Sheriff's forensics internship program. And they're getting competitive.

"I just beat the crowd," said 24-year-old Katie Lassiter, who interns for Do after recently graduating from Grossmont College in San Diego with a certificate in forensic technology.

Nearly 2000 people graduated from colleges in 2000 with bachelor's or master's degrees in forensic studies, up from 79 in 1995, according to the National Center for Education Statistics. Such numbers seem tiny, but forensic studies is among the fastest-growing academic fields, easily outpacing other "protective services" degrees.

Applications for 20 slots in the forensic science master's program at Michigan State University jumped from 97 in 2001 to 147 this year. Similar numbers are found at other colleges, and smaller colleges are rushing to cash in, said Max Houck of West Virginia University.

"These programs are springing up so fast that any community college that has a couple of biology and chemistry classes suddenly decides they have a forensic science program," said Houck, projects director for his university's forensic science program.

In response, a group of academic, science, and law enforcement experts developed a set of guidelines over the past year that will become national standards in accreditation of forensic science programs.

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NATIONAL

Evidence of space rock smashing Earth found

BY PAUL RECER

AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON — A huge asteroid slammed into the Earth nearly 3.5 billion years ago, when the planet was just a billion years old, and created a global blizzard of glass droplets and giant waves that raced around the world, researchers say.

Samples collected from ancient deposits in South Africa and Australia give evidence that a space rock about 12 miles wide smashed into the Earth's crust. The impact threw into the atmosphere millions of tons of dust and vaporized water and rock, researchers from Stanford University and Louisiana State University say in a study appearing Friday in the journal *Science*.

The rock samples have been age-dated at 3.47 billion years old and are the oldest known evidence of an asteroid impact on the Earth, said Donald R. Lowe, a researcher at Stanford University and a senior author of the study.

Lowe said that although evidence of the impact was found in both Australia and South Africa, the movement of the Earth's crust in the billions of years since has wiped out any crater created by the asteroid. It did leave a concentrated layer of iridium around the world — also since disturbed in many areas. Iridium is a chemical common in space rocks but rare on Earth.

"This is the oldest record of an asteroid impact ever found on Earth," said Gary R. Byerly, a professor of geology at Louisiana State University and co-author of the study.

He said the primitive Earth was heavily

ly bombarded earlier in its history, but evidence of those events have been erased by geologic changes.

Steven Stanley, a Johns Hopkins University expert on the early history of Earth, said it is known from other studies that the early solar system was filled with rock and dust left over from the formation of planets and that during the first few hundred million years, this debris often slammed into the Earth and the other planets.

"We know there were a lot of material that hit the Earth back then," said Stanley. "What is interesting about this work is that they were able to find evidence from an impact that far back."

Lowe said the asteroid that hit the young Earth 3.47 billion years ago was about twice the size of the 6-mile-wide space rock that struck 65 million years ago and killed off the dinosaurs. When the earlier impact occurred, bacteria were the only forms of life on the planet, he said.

And it is a good thing: Lowe said anything larger than microbes would almost certainly have been wiped out.

Lowe said that as the huge asteroid sped toward the Earth, it would have punched a hole through the atmosphere, leaving in its wake a brief vacuum.

"When the meteor hits the surface, it instantaneously melts and vaporizes rock and that rock vapor is sucked right back up the hole into the atmosphere," he said. The vaporized rock probably spread around the globe, condensed and then showered the planet with glass droplets.

Since the continents were only beginning to form at the time, most of the Earth was covered with water.

Women make big strides in state-level politics

BY ROBERT TANNER

AP National Writer

At least 18 women from the major parties are running for governor this year — many of them experienced candidates with a real chance to become one of a record number of female governors.

The strong showing follows big strides for women in state-level politics in recent years, and comes in a year with a remarkably large number of open gubernatorial seats.

Political scientists say there have been more candidates before — some 34 women filed as major-party gubernatorial candidates in 1994 — but this year there are more experienced candidates with better odds. Many other women are running as independents or third-party candidates.

"We've come of age," said New Hampshire state Sen. Bev Hollingworth, a candidate for the Democratic nomination and a longtime legislative leader.

Still, the governor's office remains an elusive one for women, with only five currently serving as state chief executives. Three of the five aren't seeking re-election.

"Everyone's raised with certain images of women. It takes a long time to rewrite the script," says Michigan Attorney General Jennifer Granholm, who defeated two well-known male politicians for the state's Democratic nomination.

So far this year, women have won major-party nominations in Arkansas, Kansas and Michigan, and strong candi-

dates are running in Alaska, Arizona, Maryland and more. In Hawaii, both parties' front-runners are women.

Two candidates already have national names — Janet Reno, seeking the Democratic nomination to challenge Florida Gov. Jeb Bush; and Kathleen Kennedy Townsend, Maryland's lieutenant governor.

Advocates hope to see the number of women governors rise from five now to as many as 10 in this year's election.

"It's important to remember that for all of these women, it didn't happen in a year," said Deborah Walsh, director of the Center for the American Woman and Politics at Rutgers University. "It took 30 years of running and winning and losing to get to this point."

Also, Walsh points out, with 36 governors' seats up for election — 17 of them open — if a large number of women didn't run it would be a real blow as women make progress in gaining other state offices.

In 1971, for instance, 324 of the nation's state legislators, or 4.5 percent, were women. Last year, women held 1,680 seats, or 22.6 percent.

Some women's activists hope that winning more gubernatorial races will lead to the return of a woman on a national ticket; it's been 18 years since Geraldine Ferraro's historic run for the vice presidency.

But Walsh says there's still a long way to go.

INTERNATIONAL



Money bedevils U.N. summit; U.S. wants focus on action

BY PAUL GEITNER
Associated Press Writer

JOHANNESBURG, South Africa — Negotiators are struggling to bring rich and poor nations together on the most contentious element facing Monday's opening of the world development summit: money.

Developing nations want promises from the West to increase aid and give greater access to its markets, while the United States and other western nations are resisting any new aid targets in the summit's final plan. They say they want to discuss concrete projects.

The outstanding issues are the most difficult to resolve, said Nitin Desai, secretary-general of the World Summit on Sustainable Development.

"You have differences precisely because you are talking about very important things," he said.

Although the summit doesn't begin until Monday, negotiators began working over the weekend, hoping to reach agreement before world leaders arrive Sept. 2.

A draft plan calls for increased efforts

to give the world's poor greater access to water, sanitation, energy and health care, while preserving the environment and conserving natural resources.

Environmental and anti-globalization activists criticized the latest proposals on trade and finance policy as "status quo."

The head of the U.S. delegation said he was "feeling positive" about recent progress. But he also played down the importance of the summit's final documents.

Assistant Secretary of State John Turner said any text should be secondary to the "really historic opportunity" the summit offers to launch "results-oriented" projects.

"We don't see a need for new targets," he told journalists. "We feel action on the ground ... should be the test."

Past targets have not always been met. Developed countries agreed at the Rio Earth Summit in 1992 to increase aid to 0.7 percent of gross national product, but instead it has declined to 0.22 percent from 0.33 percent.

During the same period, private investment in developing countries rose more than five times to \$185 billion. But U.N. figures show 80 percent of that went to

only 10 countries, with the poorest attracting only 2.5 percent.

But some negotiators held out hope. "The atmosphere is very constructive," said Danish State Secretary Carsten Staur, representing the European Union.

He also praised a new text on money issues prepared by Ambassador John Ashe of Antigua as a much-improved basis for negotiations. Neither he nor Turner would elaborate on the details.

Ashe said his latest draft did not contain any deadlines or timetables. "Some found it largely acceptable, others want to make a few changes," he said.

The Group of 77 developing countries also met behind closed doors Sunday to discuss a common position, delegates said.

Some poorer nations were pushing for new commitments by Western countries to improve market access for their products, cut agricultural subsidies that make it harder for poor farmers to compete, and boost aid levels even more.

The United States and Europe resist revisiting those issues, which were dealt with at the World Trade Organization talks in 2001 and at the Monterrey,

Mexico, summit earlier this year.

The EU also wants a "clear political message" on the need to make globalization more sustainable for all, Staur said. But that was also proving problematic. "They have not even defined the word 'globalization,'" a U.N. official said on condition of anonymity.

Boosted by Washington, the summit is expected to focus on promoting public-private partnerships to help provide clean water, sanitation and energy to the millions lacking such basic services.

The Bush administration is proposing to spend up to \$970 million over three years for water projects, which it says will "mobilize" more than \$1.6 billion globally.

It also is proposing \$53 million for forest conservation in the Congo River basin, with businesses contributing more.

Turner said such partnerships would leverage government aid and provide a more reliable, long-term source of financing.

"Goals are important, but we want ... goals combined with commitment," he said. "We need now to come together as partners and start a process of committing resources."

China issues new regulations to export missile technology

BY CHRISTOPHER BODEEN
Associated Press Writer

BEIJING — China said Sunday it issued new regulations controlling the export of missile technology, taking steps to ease U.S. concerns about transferring sensitive equipment to Middle East nations, particularly Iran.

However, the new rules apparently do not ban outright the transfer of specific items — something Washington long has urged Beijing to do.

The new rules set out a licensing system for exporting missile technology, requiring exporters to be registered and transfers to be approved by government regulatory bodies, the official Xinhua News Agency said.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Kong Quan was quoted by Xinhua as saying the new regulations demonstrate that China "stands against the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems."

The rules were signed into law by Premier Zhu Rongji on Thursday and took effect the same day, Xinhua said.

The White House praised the new export safeguards Sunday, but made clear that many other weapons-related issues remain on the table between the two nations.

"We have a broad nonproliferation agenda with China," White House spokesman Michael Anton said. "But this

is a good sign and we welcome it."

The Chinese announcement came as U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage arrived in Beijing. He is expected to discuss a planned visit to the United States in October by Chinese President Jiang Zemin.

Before the Xinhua announcement, Armitage said he expected to discuss a "full range of issues with our Chinese friends."

"I'm here in advance of the visit by President Jiang Zemin to President Bush at Crawford (Texas) in October," Armitage said.

He said he also expected to brief Chinese leaders on his recent visits to Sri Lanka, India and Pakistan. Armitage will meet Chinese leaders Monday and departs Tuesday for Japan, the last stop on his five-nation sweep through Asia.

Chinese missile exports long have been a sticking point in relations with the United States.

China promised in November 2000 to tighten export controls, but Washington imposed sanctions for China's allegedly supplying missile and nuclear arms technology to Pakistan. Washington has long urged Beijing to publish a list of banned technologies and clarify its rules on exports of other items.

The U.S. State Department said in July that the United States would impose sanctions against nine Chinese companies for transferring sensitive equipment to the

Flood in China



Greg Baker/Associated Press

A man steers a boat past submerged houses in Chenglingji, where the Yangtze River meets Dongting Lake, in China's central Hunan province Saturday. Water levels on the lake climbed far past the danger mark, as weather forecasters predicted heavy storms in coming days which could raise levels further and increase pressure on dikes protecting six cities and dozens of villages around the lake.

Middle East, principally to Iran.

In return for its cooperation on proliferation, Beijing wants an end to such penalties as a ban on launching U.S. commercial satellites on Chinese rockets. China also may be trying to undercut U.S. support for weapons sales to Taiwan, the island republic China considers its own.

The White House on Sunday praised the new export safeguards, but made clear that many other weapons-related issues remain on the table between the two nations.

"We have a broad non-proliferation agenda with China," a White House spokesman, Michael Anton, said. "But this is a good sign and we welcome it."

Guitar music fans mime it out in Finnish summer night

BY MATTI HUUHTANEN
Associated Press Writer

OULU, Finland — As the red sun set behind the dark fir trees, Zac Monro's guitar solo hit a fever pitch. He rolled on his back on the outdoor stage and thrashed madly with his hands.

All without striking a chord. The performance was enough for him to retain the Air Guitar World Champion title for a second straight year.

Monro, a 32-year-old architect from London also known by his stage name of "Mr. Magnet," was one of 12 finalists in the three-day contest with competitors from as far afield as Australia, New Zealand, the United States,

Norway and Austria.

Some 3,500 spectators cheered, clapped and whistled in the balmy Friday night on the outskirts of this Baltic port city, 370 miles north of the capital, Helsinki, egging on the long-haired artists in masks, bright skintight trousers, headbands and scarves.

The contestants each mimed an excerpt from a rock song of their choosing, followed by a performance of this year's mandatory piece: "Last Night," by The Strokes, a New York rock group.

The seventh Air Guitar World Championship is one of several events the Finns arrange in the summer, which include a cell phone throwing contest, boot throwing,

wife carrying and mosquito swatting.

Pieces chosen by competitors were mostly heavy rock numbers by Kiss, Motley Crue, Motorhead and Lenny Kravitz, but organizers kept the mandatory song a close secret until the last round of the competition began late Friday.

The beer flowed freely in Oulu and people partied into the early morning in a seaside concert park on the island.

Not a single guitar string was seen on stage from start to finish, when Monro was named the winner of the first prize and was handed a handmade guitar known as a "Flying Finn" worth about \$2,000.

He said he could now think about forming a group. "I understand that a band needs two guitars, a lead and a rhythm, so I now have half a band."



SPORTS

Parry played like a world champion at NEC invitational

BY DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

SAMMAMISH, Wash. — Winless in 235 previous starts on the PGA Tour, Craig Parry played like a world champion Sunday to win the NEC Invitational.

The stocky Australian birdied three straight holes early in the final round at Sahalee Country Club and never gave Tiger Woods, Robert Allenby or anyone else a chance in closing with a 6-under 65 for a four-stroke victory.

"I'm just very lucky at the moment," Parry said. "Hopefully, I'll have a little more confidence with my golf game, knowing I can finish the job off."

Parry finished at 16-under 268, four strokes ahead of Allenby (69) and Fred Funk (68), and became the only player besides Woods to capture the NEC Invitational.

Woods was trying to become the first player in 75 years to win the same tournament four years in a row. Starting the final round two strokes behind, he couldn't keep pace with the Australian and closed with a 68 to finish fourth.

Woods ended a three-week stretch with a victory at the Buick Open, a second-place finish in the PGA Championship and fourth at Sahalee.

"Any time you win one, and you put yourself in contention to win two others, you're doing all right," Woods said.

It wasn't enough to stop Rich Beem at Hazeltine, or Parry, another unlikely winner.

The 5-foot-6 Australian with powerful forearms — one of his nicknames is "Popeye" — Parry became the second player this year to win his first PGA Tour event at one of the \$5 million World Golf Championships.

Kevin Sutherland won his first tour event at the Match Play Championship in February with a 1-up victory at La Costa.

Only this final round wasn't even close.



John Gless/Associated Press

Tiger Woods watches his drive on the first hole during the final round of the NEC Invitational at the Sahalee Country Club in Sammamish, Wash., Sunday.

Parry, a 19-time winner overseas, made sure of that with birdies on three straight holes, starting at No. 2, that quickly gave him a three-stroke advantage. He made two crucial par saves before rolling in a bending, 20-footer for birdie on No. 9.

Parry was so dominant that he didn't make a bogey after the sixth hole of his second round Friday, playing the final 48 holes at Sahalee with pars or better.

Despite playing in the final group, with the pressure of a \$1 million prize and finally proving he can win against the best, Parry matched the best score of the day. David Duval also had a 65.

Twelve players were separated by four strokes going into the final round, and Allenby said it would take a round of 5 under to win. He also figured Woods might be among those poised to make a charge.

Instead, the best play came from the top.

Parry effectively ended the tournament with an 18-foot birdie putt on No. 14, and the only other time he had to scramble was when he hit into the bunker on No. 17. He blasted out to 6 feet and holed the par putt, as a smile crept over his face.

Parry first showed his promise 10 years ago when he took a one-stroke lead over Fred Couples into the final round of the Masters. He shot 78 on Sunday and tied for 13th. He had another good chance at the '95 Colonial, but Tom Lehman birdied the last two holes.

There was no stopping him Sunday on a gray, cool afternoon at Sahalee, an Indian word that means, "High, Heavenly Ground."

Parry was walking on clouds when he ripped a 3-wood into the green on the par-5 18th and tapped in for a birdie.

Allenby tried to stay with him, but made bogey on the 10th from the rough and took a double bogey on No. 14 when he hit into the trees. Allenby finished with four straight birdies, but they were of little consolation.

Justin Rose, the 22-year-old from England, closed with a 68 to finish fifth.

The irony of Parry's victory is that Woods was responsible for him even getting into the NEC Invitational.

The field was expanded this year to include more than just Presidents Cup and Ryder Cup players, adding the top 50 in the world and select tournaments around the globe that had a minimum number of world ranking points.

Parry won the New Zealand Open, which became a qualifying event for the NEC Invitational only because of Woods' presence as the No. 1 player in the world.

Woods, meanwhile, gets one more chance to win the same tournament four straight years at the Bay Hill Invitational in March.

Walter Hagen won the PGA Championship in 1924-27 when it was match play.

New season, new stars for early college football start

BY RICHARD ROSENBLATT

AP Football Writer

So what if the college football season started earlier than ever. It's never too soon to get a look at the next class of stars.

From Cecil Sapp to Seneca Wallace — and many more — there were several players who distinguished themselves with fantastic performances during the season's first three days, which amounted to only six games.

Wallace nearly passed and ran Iowa State to a huge upset over third-ranked Florida State on Saturday night in Kansas City. But the Seminoles held on for a 38-31 win when Wallace was tackled a yard short of the end zone on the final play of the game.

Wallace, a 5-foot-10, 193-pound senior, threw for 313 yards and two TDs and ran for another score. He rallied the Cyclones from a 24-0 deficit and dazzled a defense that annually ranks among the best in the country.

"Seneca Wallace is everything we thought he would be," Florida State quarterback Chris Rix said. "He gave us a lot of trouble."

So much trouble that Florida State coach Bobby Bowden said, "I feel like we lost this game."

Bowden, by the way, moved into second place on the all-time Division I-A victory list with No. 324 — one ahead of Bear Bryant and three behind Joe Paterno.

Sapp might have been the most eager player to get going. Colorado State's 6-foot-1, 225-pound running back missed last season after surgery to remove a benign tumor on his left heel. In 2000, he led the Mountain West Conference in rushing.

Playing in 97-degree heat, Sapp carried 25 times for 184 yards and two touchdowns in the Rams' 35-29 win at Virginia on Thursday night. His highlight-film play was a 72-yard TD run in the second quarter, when he was stacked up at the line of scrimmage, backed up and then dashed down the sideline.

"I was worried about him wearing down, but he was as strong in the second half as he was in the first," Rams coach Sonny Lubick said. "I didn't think I was going to go the whole game with one tailback."

There were other fresh faces who came through:

Maurice Claret, the first true freshman to start at tailback for Ohio State, ran for 175 yards and three TDs in the 13th-ranked Buckeyes' 45-21 victory over Texas Tech on Saturday. After a 45-yard TD run in the third quarter,

the Ohio Stadium crowd of 100,037 chanted, "Mau-ricel! Mau-ricel!"

"I'm just kind of soaking it in," the 6-foot, 230-pound Claret said. "It's only one game. If I'm successful all season, I guess then I can call myself a success."

Jim Leonhard, a sophomore walk-on at Wisconsin, intercepted two passes and broke up another in the final minute to preserve the 25th-ranked Badgers' 23-21 win over Fresno State on Friday night. Wisconsin's star running back Anthony Davis ran for 184 yards, but folks in Madison are talking about their 5-7, 179-pound strong safety.

"Jim Leonhard is a beast," teammate Scott Starks said. "I love the guy. He makes plays. Everything he did in the game, he does every day in practice."

Marques Hagans, Virginia's freshman quarterback, nearly guided the Cavaliers to a last-second win over Colorado State. The 5-10, 198-pounder, who made his first appearance in the second quarter, drove the Cavs 81 yards in the closing minutes but fumbled at the Rams' 1-yard line with 10 seconds left in the 35-29 loss.

"I was pretty sure we would get in," Hagans said. "I'm not really disappointed. You can't win them all, but I thought we were going to win this one."

Came Home upsets rowdy War Emblem in Pacific Classic

BY BETH HARRIS

AP Sports Writer

DEL MAR — War Emblem didn't go to the lead, and he didn't get a victory in the \$1 million Pacific Classic.

The Kentucky Derby and Preakness winner got rambunctious in the starting gate Sunday at Del Mar. When it sprang open, he wasn't ready.

Unable to take his favorite spot at the front of the pack, 3-year-old War Emblem wound up sixth in his first race against older horses.

Came Home, who was sixth to War Emblem in the Kentucky Derby, defeated Momentum by three-quarters of a length. The winner covered 1 miles in 2:01 4-5 and paid \$23, \$9.60 and \$5.80 at 10-1 odds.

War Emblem's problems Sunday

brought back memories of the Belmont Stakes in June, when he stumbled badly at the start and nearly tossed jockey Victor Espinoza. War Emblem finished eighth, spoiling his chance to become racing's first Triple Crown winner in 24 years.

Trainer Bob Baffert knew War Emblem was in trouble right away.

"I'm surprised he didn't stumble," Baffert said. "He's a free-running horse and I told Victor, 'You have to have the lead. No matter what, put him on the lead.'"

Starter Gary Brinson said War Emblem was rearing up and pawing at the gate, causing workers to back him out. The colt was reloaded, but did the same thing, so he was taken out again.

War Emblem finally went into the gate last, after the 13 other horses were loaded.

"As soon as he was set, we took it (the

break)," Brinson said. "The way he was acting if he was in the gate much longer there was going to be a serious problem."

Baffert said Brinson overcompensated.

"I understand the starter was trying to help, but I don't need that kind of help," he said. "That was one of the worst things, for the gate to open at that time when he was still walking. I kind of think he caught him up in the air."

Espinoza settled War Emblem into third most of the way around the seaside track. The colt briefly put his head in front at the top of the stretch, but quickly got passed.

Espinoza said the back door to the starting gate wasn't closed on War Emblem when the front one opened.

"He wasn't ready to break and we came away a little too slow," he said. "I didn't want to rush him to try to make the lead."

When War Emblem has gotten the lead in the past, he's won going away, in such races as the Illinois and Kentucky derbies and the Haskell Invitational earlier this month.

"No doubt I would have been on the lead if I had broken clean," Espinoza said. "Turning for home I felt he might go, but it wasn't there at the end."

Momentum returned \$5.80 and \$3.80, while Milwaukee Brew was another 1 lengths back in third and paid \$3.20 to show.

As 3-year-olds, Came Home and War Emblem each carried 117 pounds, getting a seven-pound weight break over their older rivals in the 14-horse field, the largest in the race's 12-year history.

After Came Home's sixth-place finish in the 1-mile Kentucky Derby, few believed he could compete at the distance.

COMICS



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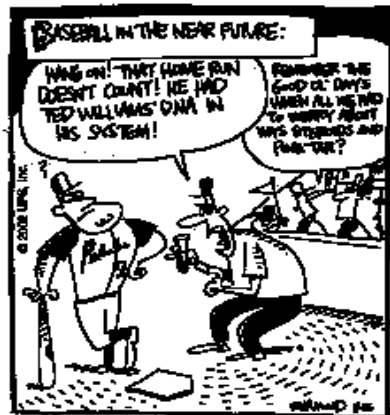


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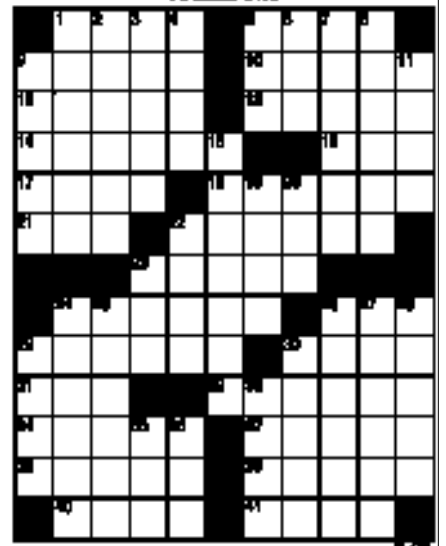
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NEWS OF THE WEIRD by Chuck Shepard

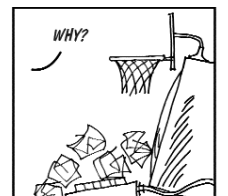
Ex-employees thoughts owned by company

Update: In July, a Texas district judge ruled that any professional thoughts that software engineer Evan Brown had in his head during his 10 years with DSC Communications (now Alcatel USA Inc.) belonged to the company even though they may never have been expressed in any tangible form. (News of the Weird reported DSC's filing of this lawsuit in 1997.) Brown had signed a contract agreeing that DSC owned any "invention" or anything "conceived" on the job but said he actually began thinking about his high-level source code solution 12 years before he started work at DSC.

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100% ITALIAN Leather set w/couch and loveseat. Brand new, still in crate. List \$2495.00. Sacrifice, \$895.00. Can deliver! (310)350-3814.

BLACK/BEIGE 3 seat sofa. 4 years old. Good condition. \$60.00 OBO. (310)476-4079

BRAND NEW Italian leather sofa. Beautiful! Still in bubble wrap. Must move! Cost \$995.00. Sacrifice \$495.00. Can deliver! (310)350-3814

DOLLY 2 years old, rarely used was \$110.00 will sell \$60.00 OBO. (310)476-4079

KING DOUBLE Pillowtop Mattress Set. Brand new in original wrapper. List \$895.00. Sacrifice \$295.00. Must sell! (310)350-3814.

QUEEN CHERRY Sleigh Bed. Solid Wood. New in box. Worth \$750. Sacrifice \$295 (310)350-3814.

QUEEN DOUBLE Pillowtop Mattress Set. Brand name, still in plastic with Warranty. List \$595.00. Sacrifice \$135.00. (310)350-3814.

TABLES, BED, desk, chairs, and housewares. Moving, must sell! Good prices and great quality. (310)260-0028.

Jewelry

INSTANT CASH FOR OLD JEWELRY AND OTHER UNUSUAL OLD INTERESTING THINGS. (310)393-1111

Wanted

DRIVER/CHAPERONE/SITTER FOR SamoHi Freshman. Car required, female preferred, M-Th 4-7 pm. Call Deborah (310)781-8114 X.102

For Rent

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

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

OCEAN & San Vicente \$1750 to \$2500 Deluxe one and two bedroom apartments. Newly remodeled; granite counter tops; tile and carpet; new dishwasher, refrigerator & stove; balcony; security garage; pool; laundry. (310)395-0450 or (310)704-7711.

OPEN HOUSE 2+2, 3bldks from Beach, hrdwd flrs, balcony with view. Prices slashed. A must see! (310)399-1273

PRIME LOCATION W. LA

- 1 Bedroom \$1195.00
- 2 Bedroom \$1250.00
- 3 Bedroom \$2250.00
- 3+3 \$2300.00 and up

Brand new modern building! Call (310)474-1111

For Rent

SANTA MONICA \$1795.00 2+2, very light and airy, front unit, private, new crpt/appliances. (310)383-7080

SANTA MONICA \$1850.00 2bdrm/2ba, wood floors, french doors, N. of Wilshire, parking available, on-site laundry. (310)451-2178

SANTA MONICA 1890.00 301 Ocean Ave., upper 1 1, ocean vu, hrdwd flrs, totally remodeled. (310)-394-7085 ext.142

Santa Monica Available now! 2 Apts. \$1250.00 and \$1120.00. 1 bedrooms, new building, parking, microwave, dishwasher, refrigerator, carpet. (310)899-9977, (310)795-7616.

SM \$1700.00 Spacious 2-bdrm, 1.5 Bath 2-story Townhouse Apt. with 2-car closed garage. 18th Street near SM Blvd. Security building, ample closets, private patio, 2-oven gas stove, dishwasher, gas log fireplace, wet bar. Info (310)828-4481 or Page (310)775-1511 after 6pm.

SM \$2,300.00 2bdrm top floor, bright. Ocean front, across from beach. Totally remodeled. (310)392-0122.

SM \$2050.00 3+2.5 (by apts.) 2 floors, 2 car garage. Near SMC. No pets. (310)452-3375

SM \$2700.00 On the beach, bright, fantastic! 2bdrm/2ba. Pet OK. Owner. Available now. (818)789-3399

SM \$2995.00 2+den/3ba. Townhouse, option to buy. 2 car garage, patio, carpet, A/C, fireplace. Laundry in unit. Steps to Montana. 822 19th #A. (310)392-0544.

SM \$3200.00/NEGOTIABLE 3bdrm/2.5ba townhouse, N. Montana, 2 enclosed car garage, AC, fireplace, no pets. (310)393-8971

For Rent

SM BEACH NEAR \$1999.00 2bdrm/2ba, hardwood floors, balcony, oceanview. Available Aug. 20th. Call now!!! (310)399-1273

VENICE BEACH \$850.00 Studio with partial ocean view in tudor style building. Great location 1/2 block to the beach. 1 year lease, no pets. (310)396-4443.

Elly Nesis Company, Inc
www.ellynesis.com

Houses For Rent

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

PLAYA DEL Rey \$2400.00 Unique 2bdrm/1.5ba, fireplace, large kitchen, some marble, lots of glass. On hill. Views. Double garage, brick patio. Totally remodeled! (310)827-9033

SM OCEAN Park \$3800.00 4bdrm/3bath house. Spa, lovely yard. Available Sept. 1. Pets ok. (310)452-6121.

Commercial Lease

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

SANTA MONICA \$1995.00 950 square feet. Janitorial, utilities and parking included. Garden-style courtyard. Charming! (310)395-4670

Massage

Combining techniques for ultimate results & relaxation. I make you feel new. In/Out call. Pamper Parties/and other events! AI (323)564-5114.

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

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

Announcements

CALIFORNIA KING Bed. 4 years old. Good condition. \$50.00 OBO. (310)476-4079

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

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

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

Services

ZyLink

Web Hosting E-commerce
As low as \$1.25 per month
We can get you online today!
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or e-mail us at zylink@zylink.com
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Are you Piano Teacher, Landscaper or French Tutor? Let people know in our Service Classifieds for \$1 per day.

Santa Monica Daily Press

up to 15 words, 20 cents each additional word
call 310-458-7737 and promote your service to over 15,000 interested, local clients



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Call Angela at the Santa Monica Daily Press
310.458.7737 ext.101

CLASSIFIEDS



Services

SM - Della Robbia. Floral design classes. Call for schedule & information. Now forming. (310)395-3337

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

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Experience the EXTRA ORDINARY!

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ADVANCED ELEMMENTS TECHNOLOGIES
SKIN THERAPIST - 34 YRS. OF EXPERIENCE - TRAINED IN FRANCE
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Agency will collect your receivables, debts, judgements and individual issues. No recovery, no fee. (310)709-3251.

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

Services

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

SECRETARIAL ORGANIZATIONAL SERVICES: Word processing, mailings, bookkeeping, file systems, set-up offices, projects. Helene (310)940-5165 hipwinkler@yahoo.com

Wealth & Success

Wealth & Success Seminar upcoming Sept. 13-15. Hilton Hotel, LAX. Discover and permanently release the causes of inconsistent performance in your career, relationships, health, and finances using the hybrid science of neuro linguistic programming. 100% satisfaction guaranteed! Call now for your free audio tape and to reserve your seat. (888)877-8550

Personals

MATCH MAKER for marriage minded singles. Are you celibate? Are you still a virgin? (Primary or secondary?) Your body is the holy temple of the lord where god lives. Get to know your partner as a best friend first. Abstain from sex before marriage. When you trust god, then yourself, it's very easy to trust your future partner completely with god's blessing. It's also easy to be disciplined in other areas of your life. If you have tried everything else, and couldn't keep a partner - Try to align your body with your soul and holy spirit. Dorothy (310)201-5553.

Personals

PLATONIC SOCIAL/SPIRITUAL companion to religious occasions, weddings, dance clubs, dining, movie theaters, singing, shopping malls, comedy shows, galleries, museums, sports events, conventions, weekend getaways, boat cruises, chopper rides, sight seeing, limousine rides, horseback riding, parks, walks on the beach, concerts, visiting family and friends, company parties, thanksgiving, ceremonies, anniversaries, etc. Where would you like to go? What would you like to do? Leave your worries and troubles behind. Come to fun public places and create happy memories. Rent me! The girl next door type. Casual or business attire are acceptable. Female bodyguard and driver with four door car or limousine wanted. Dorothy (310)201-5553.

Got Junk in the Trunk? Advertise for \$1 a day

Santa Monica Daily Press Classifieds

310.458.7737 ext.101 Ask for Angela

We've Moved to the Promenade!

Our new location is at 1427 Third Street Promenade, Ste. #202. Santa Monica 90401

Classified Advertising Conditions :**DOLLAR-A-DAY NON COMMERCIAL**: Ad must run a minimum of 12 consecutive days. Ads over 15 words add 20¢ per word per day. **REGULAR RATE**: \$2.50 a day. Ads over 15 words add 20¢ per word per day. Ad must run a minimum of twelve consecutive days. **PREMIUMS**: First two words caps no charge. Bold words, italics, centered lines, etc. cost extra. Please call for rates. **TYPOS**: Check your ad the first day of publication. Sorry, we do not issue credit after an ad has run more than once. **DEADLINES**: 4:00 p.m. prior the day of publication except for Monday's paper when the deadline is Friday at 4:00 p.m. **PAYMENT**: All private party ads must be pre-paid. We accept checks, credit cards, and of course cash. **CORRESPONDENCE**: To place your ad call our offices 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, (310)458-7737; send a check or money order with ad copy to The Santa Monica Daily Press, P.O. Box 1380, Santa Monica, CA 90406 or stop in at our office located at 1427 Third Street Promenade, Ste. 202. **OTHER RATES**: For information about the professional services directory or classified display ads, please call our office at (310)458-7737.

Calendar

Monday, August 26 2002

movies

Loews Broadway Cinema
1441 Third St. at Broadway
Blue Crush (PG-13) 11:15, 1:00, 2:20, 3:45, 4:45, 6:30, 7:30, 9:15, 10:15, Blood Work (R) 11:00, 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00, Simone (PG-13) 10:45, 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45.

Mann Criterion
1313 Third St.
The Adventures of Pluto Nash (PG-13) 8:15, 10:30, Minority Report (PG-13) 11:50, 3:15, 7:10, 10:20, Austin Powers in International Man of Mystery (PG-13) 11:30, 2:00, 4:40, 7:15, 9:45, My Big Fat Greek Wedding (PG-13) 11:40, 2:10, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50, XXX (PG-13) 12:00, 12:30, 3:30, 4:00, 7:00, 7:30, 10:00, 10:35, Little Secrets (PG) 12:15, 3:00, 6:00.

AMC Theatre SM 7
1310 3rd Street
The Bourne Identity (PG-13) 4:55, 9:35, Signs (PG-13) 1:30, 3:15, 4:15, 5:45, 7:05, 8:15, 9:40, The Master of Disguise (PG) 2:00, 7:30, Road to Perdition (R) 1:20, 4:25, 7:10, 9:55, K-11: The Widowmaker (PG-13) 7:00, 10:00, Spy Kids 2: The Island of Lost Dreams (PG) 1:55, 4:35, 7:00, 9:25, Serving Sara (PG-13) 1:45, 4:45, 7:20, 9:50, Stuart Little 2 (PG) 1:00, Undisputed (R) 1:05, 3:20, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00.

Landmark Nu-Wilshire
1314 Wilshire Blvd.
The Kid Stays in the Picture (R) 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30, Mostly Martha (PG) 11:00, 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45.

Laemmle Monica
1332 2nd St.
Tadpole (PG-13) 1:45, 3:45, 5:45, 7:45, 9:55, The Good Girl (R) 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:55, Possession (PG-13) 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:45, 10:15, 24 Hour Party People (R) 1:30, 4:15, 7:10, 10:05.

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
Lovely and Amazing (R) 5:30, 7:30, 9:30.

Today

Community

Toddler Time, 10 a.m. Barnes & Noble at the Promenade and Wilshire. (310)260-9110.

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

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

Music / Entertainment

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

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Rusty's Surf Ranch, 256 Santa Monica Pier. Walls and ceilings are lined with one of the area's largest collections of pre-1970's surfboards. Cover varies. Full bar. All ages. (310)393-7386.

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

The Joint, 8771 W. Pico Blvd., W. LA. One of the most exotic rooms in the local rock-facility pantheon. Pizza. Cover \$10 - \$5. Full bar. Over 21. (310)275-2619.

14 Below, 1348 14th St., Santa Monica. If the band stinks, take advantage of commodious booths, pool tables, and fireplace. Full Bar. Over 21. (310)451-5040.

Open Discussion/ Political Debate. UnUrban Coffeehouse. 3301 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica, (310)315-0056.

Patrick Ney makes with the ha-has, at Flint's. 3321 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica. FREE! 9 p.m. (310)453-1331.

Tuesday

Community

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

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

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

KEEP YOUR DATE STRAIGHT

Promote your event in the Santa Monica Daily Press Calendar section.

Fax all information to our Calendar Editor: Attention Angela @ 310.576.9913

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*Fill any Prescription at our pharmacy and receive a free 8oz. coffee (gourmet or regular) or a single scoop of ice cream while you wait!



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While supplies last.



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Sorry, no rainchecks.

While supplies last.



50% OFF
All Banana Boat Sunscreen

Coupon required.
Sorry, no rainchecks.

While supplies last.



SHASTA
12 pack, 12 Oz. cans
99¢ + crv

Sorry, no rainchecks. While supplies last.

50% OFF

All Summer Shoes

Coupon required. Sorry, no rainchecks.
While supplies last.

Longs Drugs

**3202 Wilshire Blvd.
Santa Monica**

*Offer valid at Longs Santa Monica only.

STORE HOURS:

7am to 11pm
7 days

PHARMACY HOURS:

Mon.- Fri. 7am to 10pm
Sat. 9am to 7pm
Sun. 10am to 6pm

STORE PHONE:

310-829-5513

PHARMACY PHONE:

310-829-5523