

# Santa Monica Daily Press

*A newspaper with issues*

## DAILY LOTTERY

### SUPER LOTTO

30 12 2 44 14  
Meganumber: 17  
Jackpot: 77 Million

### FANTASY 5

21 26 31 34 38

### DAILY 3

Daytime: 3 8 4  
Evening: 4 6 4

### DAILY DERBY

1st: 07 Eureka  
2nd: 12 Lucky Charms  
3rd: 05 California Classic  
RACE TIME: 1:40.73

## NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

CEO Andrew Wiederhorn began his 18-month federal prison sentence in August, but unlike other convicted CEOs, he'll continue to draw his \$1.6 million a year salary while doing hard time. He pleaded guilty to two felonies (including filing a false tax return) while previously the CEO of Wilshire Financial Services Group in Oregon, but his current company, Fog Cutter Capital Group, apparently believes Wiederhorn is a real hot shot worth holding onto. Fog Cutter said it might even give Wiederhorn a bonus, in order to help him pay the restitution he is required to make under his plea agreement.

## TODAY IN HISTORY

On Aug. 26, 1920, the 19th amendment to the U.S. Constitution, guaranteeing American women the right to vote, was declared in effect.

In 55 B.C., Roman forces under Julius Caesar invaded Britain.

In 1883, the island volcano Krakatoa began erupting with increasingly large explosions.

In 1939, the first televised major league baseball games were shown on experimental station W2XBS — a double-header between the Cincinnati Reds and the Brooklyn Dodgers at Ebbets Field. The Reds won the first game, 5-2, the Dodgers the second, 6-1.

In 1957, the Soviet Union announced it had successfully tested an intercontinental ballistic missile.

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## Malibu school split reaches next level

BY JOHN F. MULLER

Special to the Daily Press

**MALIBU** — As a controversial movement to separate schools from Santa Monica heats up here, district officials are pushing to speed up what could be a three-year long process.

Schools superintendent John Deasy will recommend at tonight's school board meeting that the board vote to start an investigation of how feasible it is

to split Santa Monica and Malibu schools from each other.

The creation of a new district for Malibu's five schools and 2,400 students would require county and state approval. It can only be initiated by a unanimous vote of the local school board, or the collection of signatures from 25 percent of Malibu's registered voters.

While Deasy has refrained from taking a position on the possible

See SPLIT, page 5

## Sen. John Kerry to dine in SM today

By Daily Press staff

**WILSHIRE BOULEVARD** — Sen. John Kerry is expected to arrive today at a hotel here, the second visit to Santa Monica from the presidential hopeful in two weeks.

Sen. Kerry will arrive at the Fairmont Miramar Hotel this evening for a fundraising dinner hosted by the Democratic National Committee. About 400 people are expected to attend the

event, which is by invitation only. Tony Bennett is expected to perform at the dinner, which will reportedly raise millions of dollars for Kerry's presidential campaign.

Sen. Kerry will talk to supporters about the choice voters face this November between what he characterizes as the Bush status quo and his plan to build a stronger America at home that is respected

See KERRY, page 5

## Trial delayed in decades-old murder case

BY GENEVA WHITMARSH

Daily Press Staff Writer

**LAX COURTHOUSE** — A former Santa Monica bar owner accused of gunning down a customer and eluding authorities for 19 years has changed legal representation three times since his

arrest — delaying the jury trial indefinitely.

Antonio Pedraza, 57, allegedly shot 26-year-old Javier Garcia 14 times in front of a now-defunct bar on the eastside of Santa Monica. He was arrested in Los Angeles on drug charges in July 2003. He claims he acted in self-defense

during the 1984 shooting.

An alternate public defender will be officially appointed today to Pedraza's case during a pretrial conference. Pedraza has been represented by a private attorney and a public defender in the past.

"This is a very old case, and there really isn't a lot of new dis-

covery," said Los Angeles Deputy District Attorney Larry Droeger. "Basically, the judge will appoint the alternate public defender, and she'll probably ask for an extension to get familiar with the case.

"(Pedraza) is already serving time on the drug charges so it

See CASE, page 6

## Santa Monica law firm sues city of Los Angeles

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON

Daily Press Staff Writer

**100 WILSHIRE BLVD.** — A Santa Monica law firm plans to legally take on the largest public utility company in the United States.

Greene, Broillet, Panish & Wheeler, LLP filed a lawsuit on Wednesday against the city of Los

Angeles on behalf of a Marina Del Rey consulting company, which alleges the Department of Water and Power reneged on a multi-million dollar contract.

Dr. BJ Hawkins, the founder of OFS, also known as The Business Doctors, alleges that as a result of Los Angeles Department of Water and Power's conduct, she and her

company have sustained a loss of business, a loss of labor and capital investment, and loss of business opportunity, among other claims.

Local attorneys Browne Greene and Mark Quigley are representing OFS. The law firm also is representing dozens of victims from

See LAWSUIT, page 6

## Training day



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

Glenn Morton, a dog trainer who lives in Brentwood, takes his Australian shepherds and border collie out for their daily training walk on Wednesday along Wilshire Boulevard. The canines are expected to compete nationally next month.

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Eddie Guerboian

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# Join the gang, Scorpio

**JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS** The stars show the kind of day you'll have:

\*\*\*\*\*-Dynamic    \*\*\*\*\*-Positive    \*\*\*-Average    \*\*-So-so    \*-Difficult





**ARIES (March 21-April 19)**  
\*\*\* Your leadership, though excellent, could be questioned left and right. Others could be sour and difficult. Follow through on what needs to happen in order to accomplish your musts. Tonight: Don't even think about going home early.



**TAURUS (April 20-May 20)**  
\*\*\*\*\* Reach out for information and facts only, please. Others question your answers and knowledge. Be ready to back up what you say. You view someone in your environment as cynical and difficult. "Distance and detach" needs to be your motto. Tonight: Escape the here and now.



**GEMINI (May 21-June 20)**  
\*\*\*\*\* Work with someone who has the funds, knowledge and power to enhance your situation and not take away from it. Sometimes others question your logic. Relax and flow with this situation. Remain confident. Tonight: Time for a special person.



**CANCER (June 21-July 22)**  
\*\*\* Give up testiness and allow others to run with the ball. Right now this is the smart thing to do, as you will not be able to get in your two cents. Refuse to get in a tizzy over the situation. Express yourself to others later on. Tonight: Accept an invitation out.



**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)**  
\*\*\* Don't let negativity float into your workday. Sometimes even you tend to look at life on the negative side. Cast away this attitude. Seek out a different attitude if you can. Plan on a splurge as a present for revamping your attitude. Tonight: Get a good night's sleep.



**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)**  
\*\*\*\*\* Recognize your limits. Your ability to creatively sort through problems and issues that others bring to your attention emerges once more. Sleuth through details and find the obvious solutions. Tonight: Let your imagination soar.



**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)**  
\*\*\* Stay close to home. Others appear to be in the mood to create uproar, which you aren't. Insulate yourself from outside forces as much as possible. The end results will be better in the long run. Others demand, and demand some more. Tonight: Order in.



**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)**  
\*\*\*\*\* Others could contradict and question what you say. You might opt to keep your own counsel. Opinions and conversations work better with a select few like-minded individuals. Express optimism and friendliness. Tonight: Join the gang.



**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)**  
\*\*\* Your finances could become a major issue once more if you're not careful. Others have great ways of spending money. Try to steer clear of any joint investments, even if it is the lottery pool at work. Avoid all risks. Tonight: Indulge in a special treat.



**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)**  
\*\*\*\*\* Claim your power, pulling away from others who might taint your ideas or distort your intentions. Detach and find answers. You might find out that someone you care about really does care about you, too. Tonight: Someone's reactions might involve jealousy.



**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)**  
\*\* Know when to pull up stakes and move out of a difficult situation or series of problems, which do their best to involve you, no matter what your desires are. Work with a trusted loved one or associate, and you'll gain. Tonight: Vanish with a favorite person.



**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)**  
\*\*\*\*\* Go with the group consensus and don't follow what seems like a creative enterprise or idea. A child could be creative and dynamic but quarrelsome right now. Know when to say "enough," for goodness sake. Tonight: Let a partner lead.

# Santa Monica Daily Press

Published Monday through Saturday  
Phone: 310.458.PRESS(7737) • Fax: 310.576.9913  
1427 Third Street Promenade, Ste. #202 • Santa Monica, CA 90401 • [www.smdp.com](http://www.smdp.com)

|                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                  |                                                                                                     |
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## LOCAL

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

## Kiwanis gives \$50K to YWCA

By Daily Press staff

The Santa Monica chapter of the Kiwanis Club presented a \$50,000 check to the Westside YWCA at the club's meeting Wednesday.

The donation will be used to renovate a building at 14th Street and Pico Boulevard. The building will house the YWCA's family programs beginning Sept. 13.

Sally Young, executive director of the Westside YWCA, said construction workers will begin revamping the structure's roof and hardwood floors, with further renovations continuing into the spring.

The Kiwanis Club also awarded 10 scholarships totaling \$11,500 to students from Santa Monica College at the meeting.

The scholarship recipients are:

Breanne Saenz; Ralph Harding Memorial Scholarship

Francisco Osorio; Colin Petrie Scholarship

Olalade Abafemi; Dr. Cyril Gail Scholarship

Lisa Bellamy; Madeline Petrie Scholarship

Christina Oliva; James Wood Memorial Scholarship

Zoila Garcia; Morgan Leslie Segal Memorial Scholarship

Tasneem Noor; Virgil Kingsley Scholarship

Sarah Perry; Ray Carriere Scholarship

Bahar Yaghoubian; Carl E. Tegner Scholarship

Navid Ghahremani; Kiwanis Achievement Scholarship

## Nonprofit helps others profit

By Daily Press staff

Two local nonprofits are \$10,000 richer thanks to another nonprofit.

The PacifiCare Foundation, a nonprofit organization established by PacifiCare Health Systems, Inc, has contributed \$27,500 to two community-based organizations in Santa Monica.

The Center for the Partially Sighted received a \$10,000 grant to provide stipends for low-income clients with diabetes. The center provides comprehensive low-vision rehabilitation services for severely vision impaired people.

Wise Senior Services received a \$10,000 donation to expand its adult day care service to low-income, non-English speaking Hispanic seniors. Wise Senior Services promotes the well-being, independence and self-esteem of older adults to prevent institutionalization whenever possible.

The PacifiCare Foundation is a nonprofit organization devoted to charitable and educational causes that enhance the health, wellness and welfare of individuals, families and the public at large. The Foundation, which has donated tens of millions of dollars over the past decade, is funded through donations made by PacifiCare Health Systems, PacifiCare subsidiary operations, and its 7,800-plus employees.



## SURF REPORT

New storm activity is starting to brew up in the North Pacific. WNW swell is already hitting Hawaii and a smaller version of it will be hitting California in the next day or two. The tropics are starting to ramp up as well. Hurricane Frank is now slowing down but still sending out some surf.

Expect a steep new, long period NW'er and some steep, intermediate period SSE swell from the tropics will make the surf a bit better than what we've seen.

Winds will be generally light over the next couple of mornings, with building W to WNW flow in the 8-12 knot range in the afternoons. Expect 3-4 foot, waist- to shoulder-high, occasionally 5 feet, and fair conditions.

Write us at [wood@smdp.com](mailto:wood@smdp.com) and tell us what the surf is doing today at your local break.

**Today the water is:**

**69°**



## LOW TIDES

## HIGH TIDES

|           | Morning | Height | Evening | Height | Morning | Height | Evening | Height |
|-----------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|---------|--------|
| SATURDAY  | 6:45    | 1.6    | 8:24    | 1.5    | 12:54   | 4.0    | 1:27    | 5.1    |
| SUNDAY    | 7:18    | 2.1    | 10:03   | 1.2    | 2:13    | 3.4    | 2:19    | 5.2    |
| MONDAY    | 8:06    | 2.7    | 11:38   | 0.7    | 4:31    | 3.0    | 3:28    | 5.4    |
| TUESDAY   | 9:46    | 3.0    | N/A     | N/A    | 6:52    | 3.2    | 4:48    | 5.6    |
| WEDNESDAY | 12:47   | 0.0    | 11:35   | 3.0    | 7:51    | 3.7    | 6:02    | 6.0    |
| THURSDAY  | 1:40    | -0.5   | 12:49   | 2.7    | 8:28    | 4.0    | 7:03    | 6.5    |
| FRIDAY    | 2:24    | -0.9   | 1:46    | 2.3    | 9:01    | 4.4    | 7:56    | 6.8    |

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## The QLine

Election time is drawing near. That means now, more than ever, it is important for citizens to let their elected officials and those running for office know exactly what is on their minds.

It's your chance to sound off, Santa Monica.

So this week, Q-line wants to know, "What's bugging you? What issues

need to be brought to the table during this election season and what do you have to say about them?"

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your response in the weekend edition. 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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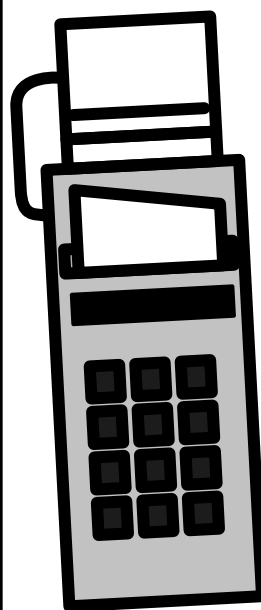
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# OPINION

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Officer Joe will be missed

Editor:

Regarding your article, "Officer Joe Analco: From the streets to the beat" (SMDP, Aug. 23, page 1).

Since the early '70s, officer Joe Analco dedicated his life and soul to the citizens of Santa Monica. On Aug. 4, officer Joe said "good-bye" to his career with the Santa Monica Police Department.

Some of us remember you patrolling the Santa Monica Pier on a SMPD's three-wheel motorcycle, back in the day. Others remember you speaking at our elementary and junior high schools with your little friend "Nacho," making kids laugh and learn at the same time. Many won't forget the memorable years you had at Olympic High School. You taught many to believe in themselves, and you made every effort to keep young folk on the right path. Your words of wisdom and your genuine sense of humor made all the difference.

Joe, know that you have left a positive mark during your tenure with the SMPD and city of Santa Monica. You will be fondly remembered. Your solid work ethic and commitment resonated to those who worked with you, and most importantly you made a positive impact to many of the youth in our community. Rest assure that your work will be carried on by those whom you have touched.

Aside from being a police officer, you were a genuine friend and colleague. You are a positive role model and an inspiration to many.

And finally, I'd like to thank you for always being candid and a "straight shooter!"

With all due respect and admiration.

Jaime S. Cruz  
Santa Monica

## Soldier's American dream is to return home safely

### MODERN TIMES

BY LLOYD GARVER



I'm usually the guy who tries to make you laugh, or at least smile. But there are some things that I just don't find funny, yet still feel the need to write about.

I recently was in the dentist's chair at 8:30 in the morning. It's never a great place to be. But as I was getting my teeth cleaned, I had a fascinating and moving time, listening to my hygienist. She told me that some people she talks to say she is a bad American.

Her stepson is 20 years old and is fighting in Iraq. She and her husband get a phone call from him every few months, and a short e-mail every few weeks. She doesn't mind how brief the e-mail is, because at least it's a demonstration that he still has the use of his hands. So far, he's healthy and doing OK.

His parents, on the other hand, are filled with rage and fear. Fear that something will happen to him, and rage that he's been sent to fight in a war that doesn't make sense to them. Some people tell her that not supporting this administration's policy means she's not supporting the troops. She desperately would love for every soldier to return home safely. What could be more supportive of the troops?

She says she doesn't know if the administration purposely lied to us about weapons of mass destruction and Iraq's imminent threat to America. She thinks it's possible that they were just honestly misinformed by bad intelligence. So, in her view, they were either liars or incompetent. Those are the only two possibilities that this concerned parent can see.

So, she doesn't understand how Bill Clinton could've been impeached for lying about his sexual affairs, but George

Bush may be reelected as president even though he sent men and women off to risk their lives based on false information.

Her stepson's first job over there was to drive a Humvee into clearings to draw enemy fire. That way, our troops could discover the location of snipers. Now, he has a safer job. He's training Coalition forces. A 20-year-old with no experience is training the forces that are supposed to take over.

He doesn't feel he's fighting for an important cause. He doesn't feel like a liberator. He feels he's caught up in something that is "all about oil," that "only politicians and rich guys" understand. This perception may be completely inaccurate. He may have fallen for anti-Bush propaganda. But it's still what's in the heart of at least one our soldiers over there.

This young man is due to come home soon for a two-week leave. But he doesn't want to do it. He's afraid that it will just be too hard for him to come home to family and friends and hamburgers and ice cream and a real bed, just to return to the dangers and the desert of Iraq two weeks later.

Is my friend, the hygienist, demonstrating against the war? No. Is she telling everybody she sees to vote for John Kerry? No. As a matter of fact, she just says she wants everybody to get out there and vote. She wants us all to listen to the candidates, have open minds, and be involved.

She has two big wishes. One is for her kid, and all the kids, to come home unharmed. The other is for us to never go to war again unless it's the last resort and we have all the correct information. She sounds like a pretty good American to me.

*(Lloyd Garver has written for many television shows, ranging from "Sesame Street" to "Family Ties" to "Frasier." He also has read many books, some of them in hardcover. He writes the "Modern Times" column for CBSnews.com's opinion page and can be reached at [smdp@lloydgarvermoderntimes.com](mailto:smdp@lloydgarvermoderntimes.com)).*

GUEST COMMENTARY BY ANDREW BERNSTEIN

## The Olympics represent the best of Western Civilization

The return of the Olympic Games to the country of their birth was an appropriate reminder of their deeper meaning. The Ancient Greeks founded the games because they valued the spectacle of a great athlete striving for victory. But the veneration of athletic achievement is not a quality one finds in all human cultures. Why did the games begin in Ancient Greece as opposed to, say, Ancient Egypt? And why were they revived in 19th Century Europe, rather than, say, Medieval Europe?

The answer lies in a rarely recognized aspect of the Olympics — and of major athletic competitions more broadly: Their moral significance.

Most observers of the XXVIII Olympic Games will long remember a particular achievement they found especially inspirational, such as Michael Phelps winning six gold and two bronze medals, or Mizuki Noguchi winning a grueling 26.2-mile race that started in the historic town of Marathon. But few recognize the cause of that inspiration: The crucial value of the sight of human achievement.

Those of us who, physically, cannot run the 100 meters in 9.85 seconds, high-jump 7.74 feet or even pick up a discus — can still aspire to significant achievements. Watching a great athlete perform remarkable deeds engenders in the best of us the question: What might I accomplish in my field and in my life if I embodied the same degree of dedication? The great athlete is inspiring, because he reminds us how much is possible to a human being. He is living proof that an individual can reach great attainments and that profuse exertion in pursuit of a daunting goal need not be fruitless.

But to derive this sort of value from the sight of human achievement requires that one deem human success and individual achievement important moral values. Classical Greece was the birthplace of the Olympic Games because it was a culture that admired individual human greatness. Greek sculpture, for example, depicted the human form as clean and proud. The Greek gods and goddesses were anthropomorphic beings — they were conceived as powerful, and beautiful men and women. In the Olympics, the athletes competed naked in order to better exhibit the perfection of their bodies. This was a culture of man worship, a culture emphasizing the power of man's mind, and the value of human life and happiness on this earth.

By contrast, the Olympics could not have arisen in a culture focused not on living life, but on preparing for death — a culture dominated by obedience to authority and the enslavement of the individual. Compare the Greek legacy of monuments exalting man's life on earth with the most enduring monument of the

Ancient Egyptians: The pyramids — tombs of tyrants built by the decades-long effort of slaves.

Likewise, medieval Christians were similarly focused on suffering and death. They regarded man as a depraved being riddled with Original Sin, who belonged on his knees begging forgiveness. This world, in their view, was a mere testing ground of one's faith in a supernatural being, where earthly success was proof of vice and suffering was proof of virtue. If there had been some kind of Olympic Games among medieval Christians, of what would it have consisted? A competition to see who could flagellate themselves most brutally, or who could endure the most painful hair shirt? The glorification of man's highest potential and his achievement of this-worldly success would certainly not have been on the program.

The Olympics were then reborn only in the 19th Century, during the full fruition of the Technological and Industrial Revolutions — an era in which man's mind, finally liberated from bondage to Pope and King, succeeded in bringing enormous prosperity and increased life expectancies to millions of human beings. Dominated by a commitment to individual freedom and material prosperity, Western Civilization in the 19th Century, too, was a culture of reason and individualism.

Pierre de Coubertin, the founder of the modern games, selected Athens as the site of their revival in 1896 to highlight the reverence for man's proper stature that his era shared with Ancient Greece. He stated: "The Olympiads have been re-established for the rare and solemn glorification of the individual athlete."

The Olympics were born, and then reborn, in essentially secular, man-worshipping societies. The reverence for the physical accomplishments of superb athletes, and the inspiration such hero worship provides to individuals aspiring to significant achievements in their own lives, rests on a deeper philosophy upholding the value of human life on earth, reason as the means by which men further their lives, and the potential nobility of the individual human spirit. In the face of current Middle Eastern religious fanaticism that hates every virtue embodied by Western Civilization, it is well that the Olympics remind us of the secular values embraced by the cradle of that Civilization — Classical Greece.

*(Andrew Bernstein, Ph.D. in philosophy, is a senior writer for the Ayn Rand Institute (<http://www.aynrand.org/>) in Irvine. The Institute promotes Objectivism, the philosophy of Ayn Rand, author of Atlas Shrugged and The Fountainhead).*

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# LOCAL

## Teachers unsure of Malibu, SM schools split proposal

SPLIT, from page 1

split, he said it was his obligation to initiate the process in light of the support voiced by a group of Malibu residents, who began collecting signatures earlier this month.

Currently, the district allocates roughly \$20 million of its \$102 million budget to Malibu schools. About 10,000 of the district's students live in the Santa Monica portion of the school district.

The newly formed Malibu Unified School Team, LLC, commissioned a study earlier this year that concluded the split was feasible. Team leaders said a separate school district in Malibu would allow the city to have more control over its schools. As it stands now, it's nearly impossible for Malibu residents to successfully elect one of their own on the school board. Malibu has between 9,000 to 11,000 registered votes but it usually takes 13,000 votes to elect a school board candidate.

"We're looking at 20 percent of the school system having no viable means of having an influence on the school board for issues that directly impact their locations," said Tom Sorce, the president of the team. "It's really about having a real say in the local operation and administration of the schools where our children attend. I believe that the more local control you have on schools, the better the education the children will receive."

It remains unclear how Santa Monica would be affected by a split in the school district. If the split occurs, there would have to be elections for two new school boards, representing each of the two districts.

A new Malibu district would take 20 percent of the teachers, buildings and students from the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District. But Santa Monica may stand to profit from the deal financially. About \$6 million in funding from Santa Monica City Hall would be

reserved for local schools. Currently, Malibu receives roughly 20 percent of that funding.

"If it's financially a benefit to both districts, then I think it would be great for the students," said retired teacher Jim Jaffe. Jaffe grew up in Malibu and has remained active throughout the district. "Malibu has grown to be such a community in itself. It has become a city, so it's probably time. But it's all going to boil down to finances."

Some teachers around the district said it wouldn't be that simple. While the teachers' union has not yet taken a stance on the issue, union head Harry Keiley said he was unsure about the split.

"I'm not exactly sure why there's a movement to succeed and break up the district," Keiley said. "At first glance, one would have to be concerned about the potential impact such a move would have not only on our teachers, but on the district as a whole ... You're looking at a district that works and works very well. If it's not broken, why try to fix it?"

Sorce said a split would allow Malibu schools to more effectively raise money from voluntary contributions and develop programs they don't have because the district can't afford to put them in all of the schools.

"Schools should serve the community that they're in," he said. "If the communities they're in have separate agendas, let's let the schools serve those separate agendas."

Sorce said the Malibu team will meet with teachers and administrators this fall — after the financial details of the split have been worked out. He said he didn't expect a lot of opposition from faculty members, but said he would have to brace for a possible political battle if the split receives county and state approvals, and comes back to the local level for a final vote in 2006 or 2007.

"My intuitive understanding is that

teachers prefer local influence and control versus policy being dictated from far away," Sorce said. "I think that if we can improve the input of the principals and teachers and their influence on the local levels, that serves the children and the teachers better."

Anthony Fuller, a teacher at Olympic High School in Santa Monica, said he wasn't sure a split would be better for students in Malibu or Santa Monica. He cautioned that smaller and more homoge-

nized districts in Santa Monica and Malibu could leave students in both cities more ignorant to the ways of the world.

"To me, this seems like a bunch of people who are trying to get away from a city with more real problems," Fuller said. "But diversity has some real things it can offer, and to students especially. It might not be in the best interests of the students of Malibu (to split off) even if it seems that way to the parents."

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## Kerry heads to San Francisco tonight

KERRY, from page 1

throughout the world.

After tonight's event, Kerry will travel to San Francisco where on Friday, he will unveil his plan to create new consumer protections that will help working families keep the money they have earned and be able to get ahead.

Sen. Kerry stayed at the Miramar on Aug. 12 as part of his "Believe in America" tour, when he and vice president nominee John Edwards visited 22 states in two weeks as part of their presi-

dential campaign. Sen. Kerry didn't speak publicly while he was in Santa Monica, but did visit California State University Dominguez Hills to speak on economic policy.

President Bush held a fundraising dinner at Santa Monica Airport the same day Sen. Kerry visited Santa Monica, generating about \$3 million for his campaign.

Sen. Kerry isn't expected to make any public appearances while in Santa Monica today.

— Carolyn Sackariason

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## LOCAL

# Antonio Pedraza faces 16 years to life if convicted

CASE, from page 1

makes him less likely to be in a rush to get this thing going," he said. "He's going to do a set amount of time anyway."

A judge ruled earlier this year that there is sufficient evidence to try Pedraza for murder. He originally set the jury trial for early next year. That date is expected to be pushed back as Pedraza's lawyer combs through the evidence, including reports,

scientific evidence and witness statements.

Police and witnesses say Pedraza asked Garcia to leave the bar in June 1984 after he reportedly broke a beer bottle over a pool table. Garcia responded by opening fire at Pedraza, who managed to avoid being hit and then fired back.

Garcia was struck by 14 bullets, court documents state. The final three were fired into the back of his head at point-blank range while he lay face-down on the sidewalk.

Prosecutors admit Pedraza acted in self defense at first, but claim there is a possibility Garcia could have survived the first 11 shots. Pedraza eliminated that possibility when he deliberately fired into the victim's head, prosecutors argue.

Pedraza then allegedly fled the country — police found his car abandoned in Santa Monica and believe he fled to Mexico with a large amount of money.

At some point he returned to the United

States and was taken into custody on drug charges, police said. He originally gave officers a false name, but his fingerprints alerted authorities to the outstanding murder warrant.

Lawyers originally appointed to the case had discussed resolving the matter before it reaches trial. If convicted of murder, as charged, Pedraza could face between 16 years to life in state prison.

# Westside company blames LA for financial woes

LAWSUIT, from page 1

the July 16, 2003 Farmers' Market crash that occurred in downtown Santa Monica.

OFS is the creator of a sophisticated e-commerce system to assist companies with their internal operations. On Jan. 9, 2002, the DWP contracted to use OFS' system, and has since realized a cost savings of between 15 percent and 20 percent, which translates into about \$35 million, the lawsuit alleges. The contract is set to expire on Jan. 9, 2005.

In 2004, OFS entered into negotiations to expand the services they provided, and the DWP indicated that it would agree to increase their expenditures to support the additional services, the suit alleges. Dr. Hawkins and OFS invested significant resources into making critical

preparations for the new services, relying on the DWP's representations that they would agree to increase the expenditure limit under their contracts, they claim.

The June 15, 2004 agenda for the DWP's meeting of the Board of Water and Power Commissioners included an amendment to increase the expenditure limit under its contracts by \$2,780,000. That amendment was removed from the agenda before the meeting took place, the suit alleges. OFS is owed at least \$6 million, Hawkins said. The suit is seeking unspecified monetary damages.

"They came up with all kinds of phony excuses of why they wouldn't move forward with the contract," Greene said.

DWP representatives haven't seen the claim and limited their comment by only saying the public utility has met its obligations under the contract.

Dr. Hawkins said she has never gotten an explanation from DWP representatives about why no payments have been made on the contract for nine months. She also said because she put the majority of her company's resources into the work for DWP, OFS is on the brink of financial ruin.

"They put us in an insolvent situation," Hawkins said.

Dr. Hawkins said she believes that the DWP's actions were motivated by a desire to protect itself from exposure to "pay to play" scams, fraud, discrimination and other illegal activity. The DWP began defaulting on many of its required payments to OFS, putting a severe financial strain, Dr. Hawkins alleges.

"I am personally concerned for not only my company but I am concerned about the taxpayers and rate payers, who are the real losers," she said.

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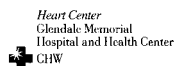
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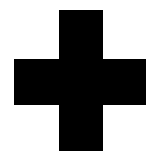
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# Think twice about starting your own business



## MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS

BY COREY K. QUINN, BRETT A. BROWN

Many of us have given at least some thought to starting our own business. For the most part, these thoughts go no further than daydreams that help pass the time in traffic or are used to smooth over the rough edges of a difficult day. Over the past 10 years, however, more and more Americans have taken these dreams and turned them into reality. Whether owned by early retirees, MBAs just out of graduate school or the married couple on the next block, tens of thousands of small businesses are established every year. In fact, it's generally recognized that small businesses account for more than half of the U.S. workforce. Ongoing advances in information technology and telecommunications have helped turn many a former employee into an owner — at least temporarily.

Successful entrepreneurship, however, remains an elusive prospect. Starting your own business is an extremely serious undertaking — especially for people who have become accustomed to the security of working for an established company. Without a doubt, the odds of achieving long-term success are small. It is generally recognized that most new small businesses fail within their first year of operation and that about nine out of 10 last no longer than five years.

Yet, for all that, success can happen. Patience, hard work and careful planning are some of the necessary ingredients. Although a thorough examination of the ins and outs of starting a small business would fill several volumes, the following sections can help give prospective entrepreneurs a rough idea of the challenges ahead.

### KNOW YOURSELF

The prospect of owning your own business may seem attractive, but it isn't for everyone. People unable to thrive in a challenging environment, who are averse to taking risks or who find it difficult to make decisions and accept the resulting responsibility are poor candidates for entrepreneurship. As a small business owner, you have to make a total commitment, since your business will require tremendous amounts of your time and energy.

### PREPARE

As is true of life's other major decisions, such as choosing a college, buying a home or raising a family, starting a business requires considerable planning. Without a comprehensive business plan, your chances of success are greatly reduced. Hopes for outside funding and credit from suppliers depend largely on how favorably banks and other lenders view your plan. In addition, inadequate

planning will make it difficult to manage overall operations, since a good business plan serves as your blueprint for the future. To be effective, your business plan should answer these basic questions:

- What will the business do?
- What are its resources?
- Where is it going?
- How will it get there?
- How will you measure success?

A well-prepared business plan also demonstrates that you've given serious thought to creating your business and that you view the future pragmatically. Professionally prepared plans, should you decide to take that route, will fully describe every major aspect of the proposed venture. These include, but are not limited to:

- Principal owners
- Products and services
- Marketing strategy
- Problems and opportunities
- Realistic sales, market share and profit objectives
- Preliminary budgets

### MANAGING MONEY

Inadequate start-up funding leads to many small business failures. Having too little money in reserve as your business struggles to get off the ground can quickly lead to disaster. Many small business owners overlook the time gap separating the ribbon-cutting ceremony from the first quarterly flow of profits. Having only enough cash on hand for a few months' rent, essential equipment and a basic inventory will leave you vulnerable to unforeseen difficulties.

Operating a business would be considerably easier if enthusiasm, hard work and dedication were the sole requirements for success. But the fate of every enterprise ultimately depends on the numbers. An accurate, easily understood and timely accounting system, therefore, is an absolute must. Otherwise, accurate records will be impossible to keep — one of the worst mistakes a small business owner can make.

### MANAGING PEOPLE

Another leading cause of small business failure is poor management. Unable to rely on subsidiaries or other divisions to help carry the load when profits turn scarce, small business owners must stay in constant touch with the needs of their businesses. This will help prevent small problems from growing larger. Yet, managers

must also be flexible in order to cope successfully with personality differences and changes in economic conditions.

The small business owner must also be capable of gathering and maintaining an effective workforce. Unless you are running a one-person operation, your employees will have a considerable amount of contact with your customers. And their actions will serve as a direct reflection on your company. To help assemble the right people for the right job, take the time to completely spell out all:

- Job descriptions
- Required experience and education levels
- Salaries and benefits
- Training and promotion procedures

Most small business owners take pride in their independence and problem-handling skills. But, even the most skilled entrepreneur may need the assistance of a professional from time to time — often when it can least be afforded. Fortunately,

however, professional business advice need not be expensive. Business and trade associations, chambers of commerce and the local library, just to name a few, are all sources of modestly priced (or even free) expertise. Don't let a misplaced sense of pride prevent you from discovering the correct solutions to your business problems. Determine how much help you need and try to get it as early as possible.

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STATE

# Celebrities shine in political ads, but will it help Dems?

BY BETH FOUHY  
AP Political Writer

**SAN FRANCISCO** — Long convinced that voters are fed up with traditional political ads, the Internet group MoveOn.org has enlisted some of Hollywood’s A-list directors, actors and writers in a new ad campaign tweaking President Bush and his policies.

While many of the new ads are creative and visually arresting, the question remains whether they will sway voters — the standard gauge for measuring a political ad’s effectiveness.

“As long as the creativity of the spot contributes to moving of votes, then it’s good,” said longtime Democratic media consultant David Doak. “That’s the difference between product advertising and political advertising — what’s important is the subtlety of the message, the part that resonates best with the public.”

MoveOn released the ten new ads Tuesday with great fanfare, planning to roll out a new one each week to coincide with the final 10 weeks of the presidential campaign. But chances are that many will remain on the Internet, circling among activists rather than appearing on television.

The first ad MoveOn will release was produced by Benny Boom, a leading hip hop video director who is new to political activism. The group has committed to airing Boom’s ad next week on cable channels that target black and urban voters.

Others ads were made by Hollywood film directors John Sayles, Rob Reiner and Doug Liman, featuring actors including Matt Damon, Scarlett Johansson and Kevin Bacon.

MoveOn representatives say that while they have committed to a multimillion dollar ad campaign throughout the fall, they will market test the new ads and only commit to airing those that have a discernible impact on voters.

“Our theory is that people hate political ads because they’re designed by committees based on polls,” said MoveOn’s political director Eli Pariser. “We let creative people be creative, then throw it at testing and see what sticks.”

With a throbbing bass line and the wailing of sirens in the background,

Boom’s ad depicts a group of young black people walking through city streets to a polling place, only to be blocked by a menacing white policeman.

“Whoa, whoa, whoa. What’s the problem?” the officer asks.

“No problem — we’re here to vote,” a young man says, as the group hoists their voting cards overhead.

Boom, who has directed videos for hip hop artists like P. Diddy and LL Cool J, said he believed his credibility as a music video director would persuade his audience to vote in November.

“We’ve got to get George W. Bush out of office, and it’s very important that kids understand what a serious condition the world is in with this madman,” Boom said.

Other ads including a playful animated spot, voiced by Bacon, Johansson and Ed Asner, showing businessmen in suits being dropped from an airplane into a war-torn Iraq.

“How’s the reconstruction going?” asks one man. “Great! I mean, profitable, very profitable,” says the other.

“Gentlemen, we’re here. Have fun!” says Johansson, the voice of a flight attendant who straps parachutes on the men’s backs and pushes them out of the plane.

“What if the same men who profited from the war had to fight it?” Bacon asks.

Yet another ad, which reteams Damon with his “Bourne Identity” director Doug Liman, shows various working people — doctors, fire fighters, auto factory workers and teachers — disappearing as they do their jobs.

“Since George W. Bush has been in power, he has lost over 1 million jobs,” Damon says. “George Bush — it’s his job, or yours,” Damon says.

Chad Griffin, Rob Reiner’s political adviser, said that while celebrity participation in any ad campaign may not automatically change voters’ minds about a candidate, the new ads allowed celebrities to use their professional talents in a way that the public will at least take notice.

“These ads involve people who are very passionate. Some will help, and some will have no impact,” Griffin said. “The press like celebrities, and the public likes to see celebrities. So they can bring attention to a cause.”

## CALIFORNIA BRIEFS

### Smoking outlawed on South Bay beaches

By The Associated Press

**NEWPORT BEACH** — Smoking is now banned on city beaches and piers.

The City Council voted 5-2 on Tuesday night to snuff out coastal smokers, joining the Orange County cities of San Clemente and Huntington Beach in banning beach smoking.

High school students who picked up 13,000 cigarette butts on Newport Beach sands in April carted them to Tuesday’s meeting.

“I feel all that hard work has finally paid off,” said Elle Erpenbeck, a Newport Harbor High School student.

The beach smoking ban movement began last year when Solana Beach in San Diego County became the first city on the West Coast to ban smoking on a public beach. Several other Southern California communities followed the lead, including Santa Monica, Malibu and Los Angeles city and county.

### Brentwood residents lose bid for privacy

By The Associated Press

**LOS ANGELES** — Residents lost their bid to gate off a hilltop enclave in Brentwood.

City Attorney Rocky Delgadillo’s office refused to allow residents of the 71-home Crown community to complete a gate across Canyonback Road at Mountaingate Drive. Homeowners wanted to improve security and control nuisance traffic.

“As of now, having the road open is our top priority,” Delgadillo spokesman Frank Mateljan said Tuesday.

After hikers, bicyclists and runners complained to City Councilwoman Cindy Miscikowski and the Delgadillo, construction was halted as the Crown Homeowners Association prepared to hang metal gates across the quarter-mile-long street.

“No further improvements and no further action regarding the gates will be permitted at this time,” Deputy City Attorney Christy Numano-Hiura told an attorney for the gate opponents in an Aug. 23 letter.

The homeowners’ plan to erect electronically controlled gates would limit public access to Santa Monica Mountains parkland, part of a 20,000-acre area known as the Big Wild, opponents said.

### Government responds to West Nile

By The Associated Press

**VENTURA** — County health officials concerned over the spread of the West Nile virus in California have established a mosquito complaint hot line.

Ventura County residents can call (805) 658-4310 to report potential breeding areas created from improperly maintained swimming pools, fountains, ponds and other sources on private property, said Randy Smith of the county’s Environmental Health Division.

Last week, it was disclosed a 32-year-old man had become the first person in the county to contract the mosquito-borne disease. He is expected to recover. Coupled with up to 40 inquiries daily to the environmental health office, the hot line was established, Smith said.

Once a hot line complaint is found to be valid, an inspector will oversee treatment of the site and talk to the property owner about corrective measures, he said. Those who fail a follow-up inspection could face fines or other sanctions, Smith said.

At least nine Californians have died this year from West Nile virus, which is contracted from mosquitoes that have bitten infected birds. About one in 150 people infected develops encephalitis or meningitis, and less than 1 percent of those infected die from the illness.

### Bus system too crowded

By The Associated Press

**LOS ANGELES** — A bus riders advocacy group claiming Metropolitan Transportation Authority buses are still overcrowded has asked a federal court to find the agency in contempt of an 8-year-old court order to improve bus service.

In a motion filed Aug. 20, the Bus Riders Union asked court-appointed mediator Donald T. Bliss to levy a \$100 fine on the first day he finds the MTA in contempt and double the fine each day thereafter. The Bus Riders Union announced filing of the motion Tuesday.

“Since the signing of this consent decree, we knew that this was going to be an uphill battle,” said Bus Riders Union spokesman Manuel Criollo. “It always seems like a broken record on noncompliance.”

The dispute began 10 years ago, when the Bus Riders Union accused the agency in court of favoring rail projects in wealthier areas over bus service in poorer ones.

As both sides were preparing for trial in 1996, the parties signed a consent decree in which the MTA agreed to limit fares, reduce overcrowding and add new bus service to areas with concentrations of schools, hospitals and jobs.

The MTA said it believes it is fully complying with the most recent order Bliss issued in January that called for 145 new buses, 381 replacement buses and 290,000 hours of expanded service.

“I’d be shocked if he issues a contempt citation,” MTA legal chief Steven Carnevale said. “At best, what we’ve got here is a difference of opinion about what the order means.”

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## STATE

# Crews race to cut dead trees in tinder-dry SoCal

BY BEN FOX

Associated Press Writer

**BIG BEAR LAKE, Calif.** — In the mountains of Southern California, it's the new sound of summer: the whine of a chain saw followed by the whoosh and thud of a falling tree.

Logging crews are moving through neighborhoods and across densely forested hillsides, racing to cut as many dead and dying trees as they can before the area erupts in flames.

It's a battle no one expects to win this year — and perhaps not anytime soon.

"We have an extremely hazardous situation out there even though we've made a lot of progress," said San Bernardino County Fire Chief Peter Hills.

Drought and infestations of bark beetles have killed millions of trees in the forests of San Bernardino, Riverside and San Diego counties, posing a major threat in what has been called an extremely dangerous fire season.

Last year, the same conditions fueled the most destructive wildfires in state history. Throughout Southern California, 15 blazes killed 24 people while scorching 750,000 acres and destroying 3,673 homes and businesses.

One fire in the 670,000-acre San Bernardino National Forest charred 91,000 acres and destroyed 993 homes. Big Bear Lake, a resort city of 6,000 people east of Los Angeles, was evacuated.

"It was pretty scary," recalled Joe Carcerano, 69, a restaurant owner. "It was like a ghost town."

Despite the devastation, plenty of fuel is still available. Vast areas of dead trees are visible as rust-colored streaks amid the pine-covered mountains.

If they aren't removed, the trees "will go up like fireworks on the Fourth of July," said Thomas Meixner, an assistant professor in the environmental sciences department of the University of California, Riverside.

"It's going to burn eventually. All you can do is reduce the risk," he said.

The effort to clear the trees is part of a broader wild-fire strategy that includes stationing of additional firefighters in the tinder-dry forest region and increased training, Hills said.

**Drought and infestations of bark beetles have killed millions of trees in the forests of San Bernardino, Riverside and San Diego counties, posing a major threat in what has been called an extremely dangerous fire season.**

Forest thinning has sparked bitter battles in the Sierra Nevada and other parts of the West. Environmentalists argue that such projects are often a backdoor to wholesale logging in sensitive areas or increase fire danger by spreading debris and destroying fire-resistant large trees.

No one, however, disputes that the drought and bark beetles, which kill trees by cutting off their flow of water and nutrients, have created a huge problem in Southern California.

Environmental groups such as the Sierra Club endorse dead tree removal from around mountain communities in San Bernardino, Riverside, San Diego and Los Angeles counties as a way to reduce the danger to the public and firefighters.

"It is a race against time ... to create defensible space around homes," said Bill Corcoran, a Sierra Club regional representative.

Carcerano is also an enthusiastic supporter of the tree clearing.

"I'm glad they're knocking them down," he said last week as a logging crew disturbed the morning calm on his street.

There are so many dead trees that the task of removing them falls to various federal, state and local agencies.

In May, the U.S. Natural Resources Conservation Service began hiring contractors for what is projected to be a three-year effort to remove hundreds of thousands of dead and dying trees from land in San Bernardino, Riverside and San Diego counties.

The effort, which has so far received \$120 million in funding, is about 20 percent complete and will need more

money, said Bill Ward, the project coordinator for the service.

Separately, local crews have cleared dead trees that could fall and block evacuation routes throughout the region; energy utility Southern California Edison has cut more than 80,000 trees in the past year that could tumble onto power lines; and the San Bernardino National Forest alone has thinned 6,000 acres, public affairs officer Ruth Wenstrom said.

The work is complicated by the rugged terrain and the fact that Southern California, which has not been a traditional source of timber, has no lumber mills. Trees that are suitable for milling must be hauled more than 200 miles to the Central Valley community of Terra Bella.

Trees unsuitable for lumber are ground into wood chips, burned for energy in biomass plants or cut up for low-grade uses like firewood or to build pallets.

But the larger problem is the sheer number of trees that must be removed.

In many places, there are 10 times as many trees as the ecosystem can sustain — a result of fire protection efforts over the past century as people flocked to the area to escape urban Southern California.

The overcrowding forces trees to compete for scarce water, making them more vulnerable to infestations like the bark beetle.

A more comprehensive project of general thinning in the San Bernardino National Forest alone would take 10 to 20 years, Wenstrom said.

"We've spent 100 years getting our forests to this point. The problem is not going to go away overnight," she said. "We can't just expect to throw money at it for a few years."



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# NATIONAL

# As gridlock grows, scientists look at lanes in the sky

BY ALLISON LINN

AP Business Writer

**SEATTLE** — It's any frustrated commuter's escapist fantasy: literally lifting your car out of a clogged highway and soaring through the skies, landing just in time to motor into your driveway.

Researchers stress that the ultimate dream — an affordable, easy-to-use vehicle that could allow regular people to just as easily fly 200 miles to a meeting as drive 15 miles to the mall — is still probably decades away.

But engineers at NASA, Boeing Co. and elsewhere say the basis for a flying car is there. In fact, people have been building, or trying to build, such vehicles for decades.

The problem is, those ideas have generally required both a lot of money and the skills of a trained pilot. And melding cars and planes hasn't always been so successful.

"When you try to combine them you get the worst of both worlds: a very heavy, slow, expensive vehicle that's hard to use," said Mark Moore, who heads up the personal air vehicle division of the vehicle systems program at NASA's Langley Research Center in Hampton, Va.

Moore and others are trying to solve that Catch-22 by creating the building blocks that could one day make flying cars a reality.

The goal isn't just to create a neat gizmo: so-called personal air vehicles also

will become more and more appealing — and necessary — as highways and airport hubs grow more clogged, and commutes more distant.

At NASA, the first goal is to transform small airplane travel. Right now, really small airplanes are generally costly, uncomfortable and loud. Plus, it takes months of training and lots of money to operate them, making flying to work impractical for most people.

Within five years, NASA researchers hope to develop technology for a small airplane that can fly out of regional airports, costs less than \$100,000, and is as quiet as a motorcycle and as simple to operate as a car.

Although it wouldn't have any road-driving capabilities, it would at least give regular people the ability to fly short distances.

To make flying simpler, NASA is working on a variety of technologies, including gadgets that could recreate your surroundings by mixing global positioning with computer databases. Researchers also hope to automate more pilot's functions.

In 10 years, NASA hopes to have created technology for going door-to-door. These still wouldn't be full-fledged flying cars — instead, they'd be small planes that can drive very short distances on side streets, after landing at a nearby airport.

In 15 years, they hope to have the technology for larger vehicles, seating as many as four passengers, and the ability to make vertical takeoffs.

It will probably take years after these technologies are developed before such vehicles are actually on the market.

And Moore says it will take about 25 years to get to anything "remotely 'Jetsons'-like," a reference to the futuristic cartoon that fueled many flying car fantasies.

Researchers at Boeing in Seattle are already thinking that far ahead: they've created a miniature model of a sporty red helicopter/car hybrid that is helping the aerospace giant understand what making flying cars a reality would take.

Lynne Wenberg, senior manager on the project, said the goal is to make a flying car that costs the same as a luxury vehicle, is quiet and fuel-efficient, and is easy to fly and maintain.

But Boeing is especially interested in the broader problem of figuring out how to police the airways — and prevent total pandemonium — if thousands of flying cars suddenly enter the skies. No one wants to be cut off, tailgated or buzzed a little too closely by a student driver at 1,000 feet.

"The neat, gee-whiz part (is) thinking about what would the vehicle itself look like, but we're trying to think through all the ramifications of what would it take to deploy a fleet of these," said Dick Paul, a vice president with Phantom Works, Boeing's research arm.

Smaller companies are working on flying car technology as well. Davis, Calif.-based Moller International has already built a prototype of its Skycar. The

streamlined vehicle — think sports car meets that hovercraft Luke Skywalker drove in Star Wars — is designed to make vertical takeoffs, fly around 700 miles and drive short distances.

Jack Allison, who retired as a vice president at Moller but still works there regularly, said Skycars are expected to start at around \$1 million and require pilot's training. It's not yet clear when they'll be available, but Allison says demand is already there: more than 100 people have put down a \$5,000 deposit.

While researchers are already working on some level of automation to make flying small planes easier, the ultimate goal would be to have a vehicle that is considerably smarter than what's available today.

Ken Goodrich, a senior research engineer also at NASA, said one concept they are discussing is personal air vehicle technology that runs in "h" mode, which stands for "horse." The idea is that a horse, unlike a car, is more likely to try to avoid other objects and may even know how to find its way home.

Although Goodrich works on personal air vehicle technology, he says he's not sure that the fantasy of the flying car ever would — or should — become a reality. He worries having flying/driving vehicles popping up in driveways throughout the country may end up being too noisy, disruptive and impractical.

"You'd have to look at all aspects of it, how it would integrate in greater society and affect our quality of life," he said.

# Report blasts national ski industry's efforts on the environment

By The Associated Press

**DENVER** — The U.S. ski industry's efforts to improve its environmental image and follow strict principles that value land, water and air are largely hollow and little more than a marketing ploy, according to a new study.

Professors Jorge Rivera of George Washington University and Peter de Leon of the University of Colorado at Denver say the National Ski Areas Association's 4-year-old Sustainable Slopes Program is ineffective.

The two say the program lacks outside oversight and does not require its 175 ski resort operators to follow any specific environmental policies. They concluded resorts that follow the program actually have worse environmental records than resorts that don't participate.

"This finding suggests that SSP members appear to be displaying free-riding behavior expecting to improve their 'green' reputation without actually implementing it," Rivera and de Leon wrote in the study, published in the August issue of Policy Studies Journal.

The ski areas association launched the program in 2000 as a voluntary charter outlining environmental principles and guidelines ski resorts could use to save energy and natural resources, protect wildlife and habitat and educate guests on environmental stewardship.

Geraldine Link, public policy director for the National Ski Areas Association,

said the organization considers the program a success.

"Regulations only help you avoid the worst, and a voluntary program like this can only bring out the best in terms of environmental compliance," she told The Denver Post. She said 25 resorts in the program are purchasing "green" energy at an additional cost "because it's the right thing to do."

The study says specific environmental standards would gauge success. It also called for third-party oversight and sanctions for poor performance.

"It's kind of like telling teenage boys: 'OK, you have to be home by 11, but we won't be checking,'" said de Leon, a professor of public policy.

The professors also say publicly traded companies that own the resorts are beholden to stockholders more concerned with short-term gains than environmental stewardship. And they said support from the Forest Service and Environmental Protection Agency lends unwarranted legitimacy to the program.

Auden Schendler, environmental affairs director for the privately owned Aspen Skiing Co., said there is a lack of incentives for the ski industry to elevate environmental stewardship.

"Voluntary initiatives really don't work," Schendler said. "Federal regulations work. When this program came out, we said, 'Let's at least give this the benefit of the doubt.'"



## NATIONAL



# Bush's dad foresaw 'incalculable' costs of war

BY GEORGE GEDDA

Associated Press Writer

**WASHINGTON** — Not many people foresaw the postwar difficulties the administration has endured in Iraq. Of the few who did, two stand out, both lions of the Republican Party.

One was President George H.W. Bush. The other was his secretary of state, James A. Baker.

"Incalculable human and political costs" would have been the result, the senior Bush has said, if his administration had pushed all the way to Baghdad and sought to overthrow Saddam Hussein after the U.S.-led coalition ousted the Iraqi army from Kuwait during the Persian Gulf war in 1991.

"We would have been forced to occupy Baghdad and, in effect rule Iraq," Bush wrote. "The coalition would have instantly collapsed. ... Going in and thus unilaterally exceeding the United Nations mandate would have destroyed the precedent of international response to aggression we hoped to establish.

"Had we gone the invasion route, the United States could conceivably still be an occupying power in a bitterly hostile land. It would have been a dramatically different — and perhaps barren — outcome."

The senior Bush's thoughts are outlined in "A World Transformed," published well before his son became president. After Desert Storm, the nation was deeply split over whether Bush was right to bring the troops home while leaving Saddam's regime intact.

Although the political context of the region at the time was different from what the incumbent President Bush

faced in 2003, the father's predictions about a post-Iraq war situation were eerily prescient.

Baker had a similar view on the perils of a regime change policy in Iraq after Desert Storm.

In a September 1996 opinion piece, he said, "Iraqi soldiers and civilians could be expected to resist an enemy seizure of their own country with a ferocity not previously demonstrated on the battlefield in Kuwait.

"Even if Hussein were captured and his regime toppled, U.S. forces would still have been confronted with the specter of a military occupation of indefinite duration to pacify the country and sustain a new government in power.

"Removing him from power might well have plunged Iraq into civil war, sucking U.S. forces in to preserve order. Had we elected to march on Baghdad, our forces might still be there."

Seven years after Baker wrote those words, in 2003, the political situation in the region had changed dramatically. As the incumbent administration saw it, Saddam had systematically ignored for 12 years U.N. Security Council demands that he eliminate his weapons of mass destruction.

Also, the administration believed, perhaps wrongly, that Saddam had reconstituted weapons programs that had been uncovered and destroyed since 1991.

So the Iraq war that former President Bush chose not to fight in 1991 was carried out by his son in 2003, and cast by the current President Bush as part of the global war on terrorism that had begun with the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks 18 months earlier.

Saddam was perceived — at least by the current President Bush — as a far greater menace in 2003 than he

had been in 1991 when the senior Bush was content with liberating Kuwait and foregoing regime change in Baghdad.

The current President Bush undoubtedly was warned about the possibility of heavy U.S. troop casualties in the 2003 war. But one wonders whether those warnings were as clear-sighted as those of Baker when he wrote about the perils of ousting Saddam militarily.

If that had been the policy in 1991, Baker said, it "would certainly have resulted in substantially greater casualties to American forces than (Desert Storm) itself. For this reason, our military and the president's senior advisers were properly dead-set against it."

Defense Department figures show that, as of Tuesday, 109 U.S. soldiers died during the 2003 Iraq war as a result of hostile action, compared with 611 since Bush declared an end to major combat actions in Iraq on May 1, 2003.

# Records show Enron profited from emergency NW power

BY ELIZABETH M. GILLESPIE

Associated Press Writer

**SEATTLE** — Newly released audio tapes and financial records show that Enron Corp. profited from emergency Northwest hydropower sent to California during the summer of 2000 by selling some of the energy to the Southwest.

At a news conference Wednesday, U.S. Sen. Maria Cantwell, D-Wash., played a tape of an Enron trader and Enron executive talking about the company's export of "fish kill power" — energy from dams that otherwise would have spilled water to save endangered salmon — out of California to Southwestern markets, where prices were higher.

The Aug. 4, 2000, conversation between Enron trader Tim Belden and Rick Shapiro, an Enron executive, began with Belden chuckling as he noted it was hot in California "and they don't have enough power. And they kill fish in the Northwest so that people in California can go enjoy themselves at a baseball game."

"And then what are we doing? Are we exporting some of the 'fish kill power' out of California?" Shapiro asked.

"We are exporting some power from California to the Southwest," said Belden, former head of trading in Enron's Portland, Ore., office.

On previously released tapes, Enron traders joked about how their market schemes were ripping off "those poor grandmothers" in California.

In October 2002, Belden became the first Enron executive to plead guilty to taking part in what federal officials have described as a conspiracy to squeeze California as state officials desperately sought power to stave off the rolling blackouts.

Financial documents made public as part of the government's criminal investigation of Enron's energy-trading practices show that Enron made \$70 million in profits during 11 energy emergency days in California in August 2004, Cantwell said.

Out of 19,584 megawatt-hours the Bonneville Power Administration sent to California on Aug. 3-4, 2000, records Cantwell released Wednesday show Enron sold 6,731 megawatt-hours to Southwestern markets, primarily in Nevada.

"We know for a fact that that gaming was going on during the days when Washington state was forced to sell power," Cantwell said. "We want the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission to recognize how the Northwest

was hurt by that and grant immediate relief."

Enron spokeswoman Jennifer Lowney declined to comment on the records, but said the company is fully cooperating with all investigations.

Cantwell accused FERC of falling short on its duty to investigate the economic blow Enron's market manipulation dealt to Northwest utilities and their customers.

"They are the policemen on the beat and the Northwest has been mugged, and they're not doing anything about it," Cantwell said.

FERC spokesman Bryan Lee countered that the commission is "doing everything it can within its limited statutory authority to address the problems that occurred in the Western energy markets in 2000 and 2001."

"It's certainly understandable, given the impacts on Western electricity customers, that folks should want us to take Enron out and hang them from the nearest tree," Lee said. "But the commission is a quasi-judicial body, and we are required by law to conduct due process, and due process takes time."

In the fiscal year after BPA shipped emergency power to California, it had to buy \$400 million worth of power at a time when prices had skyrocketed. That was \$350 million more in power purchases than the Portland-based power marketer had projected it would have to buy that year.

"The Northwest was sacrificing salmon to keep the lights on in California, while Enron worked as hard as it could to manipulate the markets by lying, cheating and stealing," said Steve Johnson, executive director of the Washington Public Utility Districts Association.

"It's as if Enron came to Florida immediately after Hurricane Charley and bought up the disaster supplies, diverted shipments of humanitarian aid sent by a neighboring state, and then turned around and sold these supplies at inflated prices."

Cantwell and the Snohomish County Public Utility District have been analyzing Enron records in response to a \$122 million lawsuit filed by Enron, accusing the PUD of illegally breaking its contract with the company. The utility has claimed the contract was void because Enron engaged in fraud.

By reviewing previously released documents, the Snohomish PUD determined that Enron's manipulation of energy markets gouged Western customers for at least \$1.1 billion.

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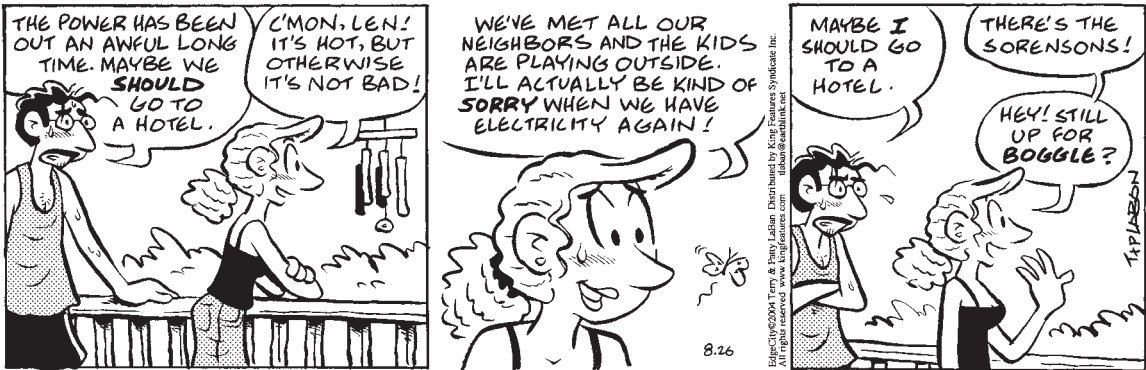


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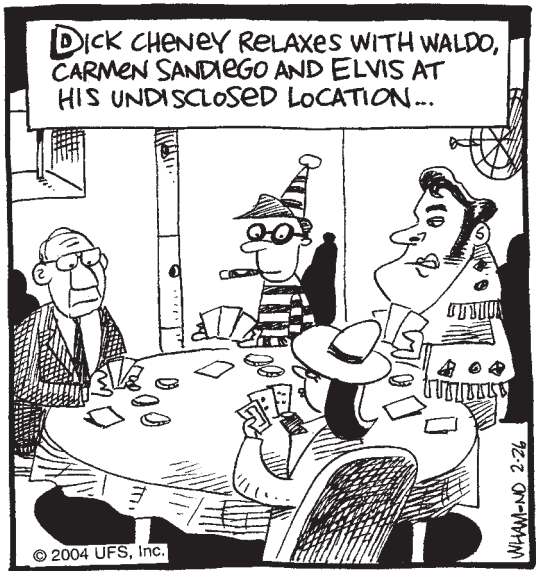
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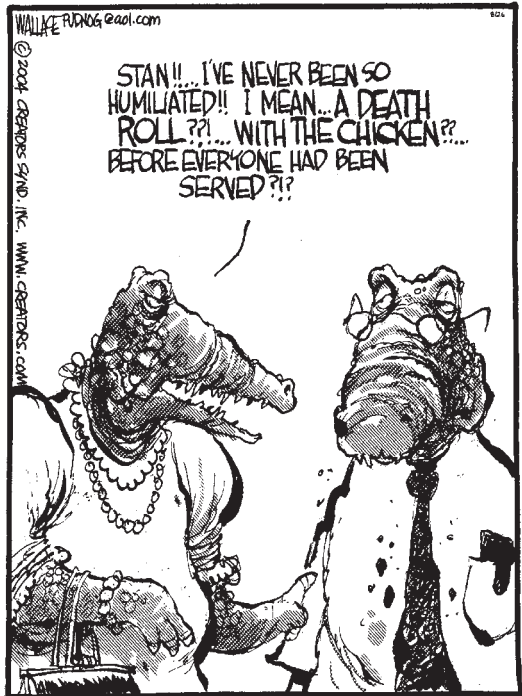
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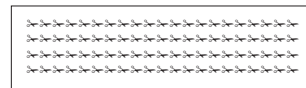
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## PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

# Niagara Falls plunger returns to the scene of the crime

By The Associated Press

**CANTON TOWNSHIP, Mich.** — The only person known to have survived an unprotected plunge over Niagara Falls has returned to the scene of his stunt.

Kirk Jones, 40, went over the 167-foot Horse Shoe Falls on Oct. 20, 2003.

Earlier this month, the native of the Detroit suburb of Canton Township took a bus to the New York side of the falls. The owner of the Falls Side Cafe & Souvenirs shop, Louie Antonacci, hired him to sit at the store's entrance and tell his story.

At the time of the plunge, Jones recently had lost his sales job when his parents shut down the family business, which made measuring tools for auto parts manufacturers.

"I think I left a lot of my problems on the bottom of the gorge that day," Jones said.

Jones said he was depressed but denied it was a suicide attempt. A Canadian court fined him and barred him from the country for one year.

He said the court's punishment was a small penalty for what followed. Jones met boyhood idol Alice Cooper, talked with ABC's Diane Sawyer and signed a \$100,000 contract to join a circus.

"I never imagined anyone would ever be interested in me," Jones told the Detroit Free Press for a story Tuesday.

A few days after the plunge, circus promoter Phil Dolci offered him \$100,000 to hit the road and tell his story. During downtime, Jones had to groom elephants, break down tents and sleep in the back of a semitrailer.

"The animals were great," he said. "But I didn't enjoy the gypsy life."

**TOKYO** — Yuuya Yagira, the youngest person ever to receive the best actor award at the Cannes Film Festival, has received an award from the Japanese government for his performance in "Nobody Knows."

Takeo Kawamura, the minister of education, culture, sports, science and technology, awarded Yagira, 14, with a commendation certificate at a ceremony Wednesday at the ministry.

"He won the Cannes prize for his superb acting, realizing the director's ideas. The Cannes award was also epoch-making in the sense that the quality of Japanese movies today was commended," the ministry said in a statement.

"Nobody Knows" was Yagira's first movie. He played the eldest of four siblings who must take charge of the family when their mother abandons them. The film opened in Japan last month, where it has earned critical acclaim.

**PITTSBURGH** — A mother and daughter were indicted on mail fraud charges for allegedly swindling a Pittsburgh TV station by doctoring winning sweepstakes entry forms.

Sonya Rosenberger bilked Pittsburgh station WTAE-TV out of \$95,500 by using her computer to make bogus entry forms for the station's "Watch 4 Win More" contest after winning contest numbers were broadcast, according to Tuesday's indictment.

Rosenberger, 27, created the bogus winning forms for herself, her friends and relatives from April 2002 until May, when station officials discovered the scam, authorities said. Rosenberger did not return a telephone message left at her home Tuesday evening.

Also charged in the scam was Rosenberger's mother, Alanna Ridenour, 45, who allegedly used the bogus winning forms to get about \$12,000 from the station.

It was unclear if either woman had a lawyer.

"I applaud station employees for detecting suspicious activities and bringing them to the attention of the authorities. The station will continue to cooperate with the investigation and subsequent prosecution of this case," said WTAE-TV President and General Manager Rick Henry.

**NEW YORK** — Anne Heche will join the cast of "Everwood," the WB drama about a Manhattan brain surgeon who relocates in a Colorado mountain town.

The actress, who has starred in the movies "Wag the Dog" and "Six Days, Seven Nights," will play the role of Amanda Carver, the Patron Saint of the town of Everwood, the WB announced. The show's main character, played by Treat Williams, becomes involved with Heche's character while helping her cope with her husband's paralysis.

Also joining the third season of "Everwood," which premieres 9 p.m. EDT Sept. 13, will be Scott Wolf, best known for his role on "Party of Five."

"Anne Heche is a phenomenal actress and, along with the addition of Scott Wolf, brings a great new sense of excitement to what is already an outstanding show," said David Janollari, the WB's president of entertainment.

**BRATISLAVA, Slovakia** — An eastern Slovak town that houses the Warhol Family Museum of Modern Art plans to use a European Union grant to help change its image and become "Warhol city."

Medzilaborce, a town of 6,500, has received a \$54,625 grant for tourism development, town hall official Adrian Kalinak said Tuesday in a telephone interview.

"The purpose of this project is to start to change the look of the town to symbolize pop art and Andy Warhol," Kalinak said.

He said the money will be used to renovate facades of nine houses in the town's center and decorate four bus stops in the style made famous by Warhol, whose parents grew up in the nearby village of Mikova before marrying and emigrating to the United States.

Although Warhol, who died in 1987, never visited the land of his parents, some 10,000 visitors a year come to the museum to see his works and memorabilia.

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