

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

LOTTO

FANTASY 5

8, 22, 7, 28, 27

DAILY 3

Afternoon picks: 0, 3, 3

Evening picks: 8, 6, 0

DAILY DERBY

1st Place: 12, Lucky Charms

2nd Place: 6, Whirl Win

3rd Place: 1, Gold Rush

Race Time: 1:44.91



NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

A rough summer for weird India: (1) Doctors at Burdwan Medical College and Hospital reported that black ants were crawling out of the left eye of an 11-year-old boy (June). (2) Six members of a family hanged themselves on a hillside near Tirupati, but the bodies were not discovered until the odor wafted into a nearby village (July). (3) After doctors in Angara found 15 students unconscious following a lightning strike, they covered the bodies in cow dung as per a traditional remedy; 13 recovered within a few hours (but not even cow dung could save the other two). (4) Doctors at Burdwan originally diagnosed parasitic flies emerging from the penis of a 13-year-old boy while he urinated, but doctors at SSKM Hospital in Kolkata disputed that (June).

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Victory goes to the player who makes the next-to-last mistake."

— Savielli Grigorievitch Tartakower

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Farmers Market crash investigation nears completion

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON
Daily Press Staff Writer

Experts are zeroing in on answers to last month's Farmers Market tragedy in which an elderly Santa Monica man killed 10 and injured close to 80 people after driving down a crowded street.

Evidence currently being analyzed by investigators may, in turn, determine what charges to bring against Russell Weller, 86, who apparently lost control of his Buick Le Sabre and sped through the crowded Farmers Market off of the Promenade on July 16. According to police, he reportedly hit a Mercedes at the intersection of Fourth Street and Arizona Avenue just before driving through the market.

Authorities said the investigation would take about two months and should conclude in the next two weeks. The case is then expected to be handed over to the District Attorney's Office, which will decide whether to file criminal charges against Weller.

One of Weller's criminal defense attorneys, James Bianco,

said that Weller is extremely distraught and remorseful over the incident. Beyond that, Bianco declined comment until the investigation concludes. Weller, whose license was suspended shortly after the accident, has remained silent since the day of the tragedy.

Criminal charges could be complicated by the fact that Weller didn't intend to hurt anyone.

Without intent, the most serious charge he may face is vehicular manslaughter, lawyers say. Even so, prosecutors would have to show that Weller's behavior was aggravated, reckless or flagrant to prove gross negligence. Without gross negligence, vehicular manslaughter is a misdemeanor and carries a maximum sentence of four years in prison.

In California, a finding of negligence depends on what a "reasonable" person would do.

Some legal experts say that charges against Weller are likely since a judge or jury would still have to agree to get a conviction. It's accepted that Weller may have

See INVESTIGATION, page 8



Russell Weller

Financial privacy bill signed into law by Davis

BY RON HARRIS
Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — Gov. Gray Davis signed some of the nation's most sweeping financial privacy legislation Wednesday, giving California consumers the right to block banks, insurance companies and other institutions from sharing much of their personal information.

The California Financial Information Privacy Act faced consistent opposition from busi-

ness groups and financial firms.

After four years of wrangling, the Legislature approved the bill last week — but only after supporters gathered enough signatures to put an even more restrictive initiative on the March 2004 ballot.

The ceremony at the Pacific Stock Exchange gave Davis the chance to appear productive amid the frenzy of political maneuvering that has characterized the effort to recall him from office on

See LAW, page 8

Check, 1, 2, 3



Del Pastrana/Daily Press

Michael Vosse does some last minute sound adjustments on Thursday while the band 'Russell Gunn' practices in the background. The performance was the last of the Twilight Dance Series at the Santa Monica Pier for the season.

Beach cottage is now history in City Hall

By Daily Press Staff

An early 1900s beach cottage in Ocean Park will remain a historical landmark, despite the owner's request that he be allowed to tear down the building or have it moved to another location.

The City Council on Tuesday upheld a June Planning Commission decision that designated the two-story property, located at 128 Hollister Ave., an historic landmark. Buildings landmarked by City Hall cannot be torn down or moved.

Rosario Perry, the owner's lawyer, asked the council to repeal the finding or give the cottage a designation of "historic significance."

If it were found to be of historic significance, community members would have up to one year to raise money and relocate the structure.

Perry said the owner bought the house with the idea of building a different home there.

"This is not the house that our client wants to live in," Perry said.

"It's old, but old does not equal landmark status."

Perry said it's unfair the owner was targeted by City Hall because no one contacted him until he filed demolition permits.

City staff originally said the house should not be considered historic, but later changed that recommendation based on consultants' reports.

Findings from consultants were presented Tuesday that covered both sides of the issue. In the end, council members chalked up the dispute to a professional difference of opinion.

While some argued the house is a good example of the "American Foursquare" style, others said it had been too greatly modified since it was built in 1905.

Four members of the community spoke against repealing the landmark designation. One was a resident who lives near the house.

The other three speakers were Planning Commissioners who said they agreed City Hall ought to be more proactive in identifying possible landmarks but said the build-

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 ★★-So-so ★-Difficult

HAPPY BIRTHDAY FOR FRIDAY, AUGUST 29, 2003

You discover new ways of expressing your talent and potential. As a result, you could easily gain financially. You will enter a new life cycle in a couple weeks where "luck" is your middle name. This year is one of expansion. Do be careful about a sweet tooth and your blood pressure. Funnel this growth cycle into your work and personal life. If you are single, a relationship will knock on your door. Are you ready? It could happen as soon as fall. If you are attached, schedule as much quality time as possible with your significant other, which will improve your relationship. LIBRA gets down to brass tacks.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
 ★★★★★ The Moon shines on you, easing some of the recent pressure that surrounds an emotional situation. Go within, and you'll discover just how peaceful you are. Use your gentleness and magnetism, and you'll get much more of what you want. Tonight: Beam in what you want.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
 ★★ Know when to take some time to yourself, even in a group or work situation. Create the kind of tranquility needed to focus on your work and complete a key task. After all, the weekend is about to knock on your door! Tonight: Do the Scorpio mysterious act.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
 ★★★★★ You find yourself in a position where others listen, and you feel relieved. Through a meeting or associates, you gain a sense of accomplishment. You might feel you have been fighting an uphill battle. Pat yourself on the back. Tonight: Take off and have a good time as only you can.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
 ★★★★★ Working with others takes you to a new level of understanding right now. Your sense of dedication warms up a difficult situation, and, for the moment, takes the pressure off. Be a little more frivolous with a friend or co-worker. Tonight: Out on the town.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
 ★★★★★ Try walking in someone else's shoes. Your ability to work through a problem adds to your sense of confidence. You know what you're doing, and you do it well. A partner finally does his or her best to let you know how much he or she appreciates you. Tonight: Take off for the weekend.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
 ★★★★★ A partner makes an overture that helps you relax. Let go of recent grievances and simply enjoy him or her for what he or she offers. The more accepting you are right now, the easier this period will be. Let another make the first move. Tonight: Dinner for two.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
 ★★★★★ Others wave to you; be responsive, even if you feel you have been through a war recently. Others, too, have been experiencing their share of ups and downs. Go along with another's wishes; you might gain new understanding. Tonight: Could be a late night.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
 ★★★ Relax with your work, as you might have just emerged from a whirlwind. Pace yourself and get as much work done as possible. A child or loved one makes an overture that you might want to respond to. Tonight: Get a good night's sleep.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
 ★★★★★ Your playfulness marks the office or wherever you are. Your softness emerges when dealing with family or a special friend. Allow more goodness into your life. Check out a potential move or investment. Hold back as long as possible. Tonight: Play the night away.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
 ★★★★★ Stay anchored. Reach out for more information if need be. If you can, spend extra time at home, or work from home. Speak your mind but be willing to seek out facts. Anchor in and think about what you want. Tonight: Make your home your base of operations.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
 ★★★★★ Keep conversations moving. You might want to have a discussion with a partner who hasn't been the epitome of stability. Do a better job of listening. Treat someone as you would like to be treated. Example often is the finest way of teaching. Tonight: Allow yourself to go overboard.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
 ★★★★★ Financial matters come up that you might want to review and think about. Not everything is as you would like, but if you remain positive, others will too. Your ability to move forth could set you back, as well as others. Tonight: Make it your treat.

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 1427 Third Street Promenade, Ste. #202 • Santa Monica, CA 90401 • www.smdp.com

PUBLISHER Ross Furukawa ross@smdp.com EDITOR Carolyn Sackariason sack@smdp.com STAFF WRITER John Wood wood@smdp.com ADVERTISING SALES MANAGER Rob Piubeni rob@smdp.com ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE Steve Averill steve@smdp.com PRODUCTION MANAGER Del Pastrana del@smdp.com PRODUCTION ASSISTANT Alejandro Cantarero alex@smdp.com	ADMINISTRATIVE TRAFFIC MANAGER Elise De Ford elise@smdp.com CLASSIFIED REPRESENTATIVE Mitch Troy mitch@smdp.com CIRCULATION MANAGER Robert Deamicis Rob@smdp.com CIRCULATION Keith Wyatt keith@smdp.com SPECIAL PROJECTS Dave Danforth dave@smdp.com MASCOT Maya Furukawa maya@smdp.com
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LOCAL

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Winter displays in Palisades Park approved

By Daily Press Staff

Despite that they've been a part of the holiday season in Santa Monica for decades, the displays in Palisades Park were formally approved this week.

City Attorney Marsha Moutrie said there were a host of concerns surrounding the legality of the displays that came up regarding the laws that govern park maintenance and events. Some of those laws were only instituted in the last few years.

As part of making the displays legal, the City Council will allow people to put up displays on a first-come, first-serve basis, regardless of what the displays are.

The displays for decades have depicted the birth of Jesus and other Christmas-related Christian scenes.

Under the new ordinance, which was unanimously passed, the unattended displays are only permitted in December. The City Council will indicate exactly where the displays are allowed.

Extra beds approved for YWCA

By Daily Press Staff

The Young Women's Christian Association in Santa Monica will soon be allowed to add beds for women who are released from foster care.

Currently the young women, who are 18 years old, have nowhere to go, officials said.

The YWCA, which is located at 2019 14th Street and has been in Santa Monica for more than 60 years, now has six beds available to women in its program.

Twelve new beds are allowed by the new ordinance through a conditional use permit, which is issued by City Hall and governs building conformance.

Under the plan, the YWCA grounds will not actually increase in size. City Council members unanimously approved the expansion, which was referred to the council with a recommendation to approve by the Planning Commission.

Kiwanis kids makin' magic at Big Bear

By Daily Press Staff

With summer coming to an end and the school year right around the corner, local students for the past week have enjoyed one last hurrah at a camp in Big Bear.

Kids attending the Kiwanis Club of Santa Monica's "Makin' Magik Kamp 2003" at the Santa Monica YMCA's Camp Big Bear at Big Bear Lake will return today.

Makin' Magik Kamp features character building group exercises, leadership and diversity training workshops, an outdoor challenge course to learn how to work as a team, as well as archery, swimming and arts and crafts. Camp Big Bear is the only lakefront camp in Big Bear and participants also enjoy kayaking, canoeing and sailing activities.

The student organization of the Kiwanis Club of Santa Monica and UCLA Circle K, acted as camp counselors. Campers were selected from various local youth serving organizations affiliated with the Kiwanis Club of Santa Monica. These groups include the Police Activities League, YMCA, YWCA, Red Cross of Santa Monica, the Boys and Girls Club of Santa Monica and St. Joseph's Center, which serves the needs of homeless families and children.

The goal of the program is to help Santa Monica teens become more aware of their surroundings and to build and support the healthy development of teens in the community. The development programs will assist participants in building the foundation for becoming community leaders, to gain meaningful group building and communication skills and to build personal character and decision making capabilities.

The Kiwanis Club of Santa Monica was founded in 1922 as a branch of Kiwanis International. The primary objective of the local organization is to serve the community while placing children as its first priority. The Kiwanis Club of Santa Monica meets every Wednesday for lunch at noon. Membership is open to the public. For more information and meeting locations, call (310) 828-1766 or visit kiwanisclubsm.org.



surf report

Attention Malibu surfers, past, present and future: If Malibu Surfrider Beach means anything to you and your friends, and if you or a friend got sick from surfing at Malibu Surfrider Beach during the past 10 years, and you want to clean up the notoriously polluted water once and for all, you are invited to join the protest rally for NO MORE SICKNESS AT MALIBU SURFRIDER today at 10 a.m., by the Malibu Lagoon Lifeguard Tower on the beach. No better way to start Labor Day Weekend than a little protest.

Otherwise, hit the water. Surf is ranging from one to three feet in most Santa Monica Bay locales. Wind is light.

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

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58°

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Sunset: 7:37 p.m.

	LOW TIDE				HIGH TIDE			
	Morning	Height	Evening	Height	Morning	Height	Evening	Height
SATURDAY	2:01	0.3	1:01	2.9	8:51	3.8	7:10	5.6
SUNDAY	2:33	-0.1	1:43	2.6	9:12	4.0	7:50	6.0
MONDAY	3:04	-0.3	2:21	2.3	9:34	4.2	8:28	6.3
TUESDAY	3:33	-0.5	2:58	2.0	9:57	4.4	9:06	6.4
WEDNESDAY	4:02	-0.6	3:37	1.7	10:22	4.7	9:44	6.4
THURSDAY	4:32	-0.5	4:20	1.4	10:50	4.9	10:25	6.2
FRIDAY	5:02	-0.2	5:06	1.2	11:20	5.2	11:09	5.7

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The Q Line

For the responses to this week's question, turn to page 4.

Retired teachers to gather

By Daily Press staff

Retired teachers will gather next week to discuss what lawmakers are doing that affect them.

The Santa Monica Bay Area Chapter of the California Retired Teacher's Association will have a meeting on Sept. 12 at the United Methodist Church, located at 11th Street and Washington Avenue.

The program will be led by president Marty Stiles who will tell attendees about the latest legislation that has been passed in Sacramento pertaining to school retirees.

The social hour begins at 11:30 a.m. with a luncheon served at noon. Each attendant will be charged \$7.50.

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OPINION



The Q-Line

Q-LINE, from page 4

■ "We need to do more, we need to build more housing for the homeless. In the recent New York blackout, they found that the reason nobody rioted was because of the housing system."

■ "I have lived in Santa Monica for 27 years, honestly I do not know if we are doing our fair share. It breaks my heart to see more and more people pushing carts, wearing filthy clothes and looking somewhat dazed and disoriented. I don't know what the answer is and I would be really interested to hear the experts' opinion on this issue."

■ "I have been a Santa Monica resident for over 36 years and it is very demoralizing to see the homeless situation in the state it is now. I would like to help the homeless if they could show some sort of proof of residency in the city of Santa Monica. I think Santa Monica does more than its share to help its residents. The more attractive we make it here, why wouldn't people leave other cities to come here?"

■ "It's really disappointing that the school system had to ask for more money from the voters and yet they have enough money for homeless and that's not right. We need to realize our priorities, and that is the residents and citizens first and the homeless if we have enough funds left over."

■ "I don't see why Santa Monica residents should be spending their tax money to take care of all of the indigent and homeless and mentally ill people in the county of Los Angeles. The new shelter that was proposed at Michigan and Cloverfield was supposed to service 270 transients and homeless people a day. Anytime that we feed them and shelter them and take care of them, we invite them into our community."

■ "Santa Monica is absolutely making itself a magnet for the homeless and others desiring free social services, just look at the results. If creating funding and supporting these programs worked, we would see less homeless, not more. Yet the more money we provide them, the more homeless we attract. Contrary to popular belief, the agencies receiving funding do not wish to break the cycle and help people get on their feet. It would put them out of a job. The big bucks, like the \$9.2 million spent on the OPCC demonstrates how much money is involved. While there may be a few

tragic circumstances that lead to temporary homelessness, most of the homeless familiar to Santa Monicans are the ones who have made a lifestyle choice to be homeless and continue to be homeless year after year."

■ "Yes, Santa Monica is making itself a magnet for more and more homeless people. What can we do about it? For starters, we can enforce the no smoking law in our public parks. There's a whole mess of homeless people in the park who do nothing but smoke and litter in the park all day long while the rangers just walk right by them and don't do a thing about it. Maybe the rangers can't write tickets, but they are connected to people who can. It's a \$250 fine for violating this law, let's enforce it."

■ "My whole family has been in Santa Monica for 28 years. We see a lot of people lying on the street and we still have people lying in our grass and in our neighbor's grass. We do see a lot of people who are transient or alcoholics or drug addicts. I am really getting tired of it. I wish I had a solution for it."

■ "Yes, Santa Monica has definitely made itself a magnet for attracting more and more indigent and vagrant type people. The situation at present is way out of hand. The city is turning into a slum, the sidewalks are filthy and walking around town smells like walking in a latrine. Spend the money on the taxpaying citizens."

■ "The vagrant population in Santa Monica is so far out of control that I don't think there is any solution. We can thank our city officials for permitting this dreadful situation to come about. We can find millions for the vagrants but can't even find the means to complete a simple renovation project at Reed Park in the restroom area, which began last March some time. Something is wrong here."

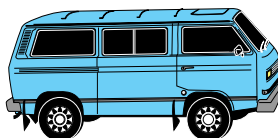
■ "I happen to be a homeless person, I have been homeless for the last year. Yes, Santa Monica does attract the homeless but I am not your typical homeless person. I have worked very, very hard recycling. We have a van now, we are trying to start a handyman service, we have gained a lot of respect from people in the community. I also work for a doctor part time. The services help a lot of people and for people like me, yes it does work. There are a lot of people that make a bad name for those of us who are trying really hard. I really appreciate what Santa Monica has done for us and I hope that they can help other people like us."

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Entertainment

What's playing

BY DAN DUNN

Special to the Daily Press

AMERICAN SPLENDOR

Based on the cult-classic comic book series of the same name, the film is funny, sad, disheveled and most of all, it's us. In his first go as a leading man, Paul Giamatti just flat-out nails it.

STEP INTO LIQUID

Whether you're a SoCal beach bum or a mainlander who doesn't know a point break from a coffee break, you'll likely enjoy this exciting, beautifully crafted love letter to surfing.

THE MEDALLION

The only thing missing from all the new, well-appointed multiplexes are barf bags for use in case of unexpected turbulence or films such as "The Medallion."

OPEN RANGE

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

THE MAGDALENE SISTERS

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

FREDDY VS. JASON

For fans of the series, both of which lost their luster roundabout their sixteenth or seventeenth installment, the film is likely to be the ultimate letdown.

S.W.A.T.

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

FREAKY FRIDAY

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

AMERICAN WEDDING

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

GIGLI

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

SEABISCUIT

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

SPY KIDS 3-D: GAME OVER

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

TOMB RAIDER: THE CRADLE OF LIFE

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

BAD BOYS 2

The good stuff gets blown to bits by the relentless onslaught of

See MOVIES, page 7

Thirteen: One of the most compelling films of the year

Review

BY DAN DUNN

Special to the Daily Press

Turns out that not all the Girls Gone Wild can be found pulling up their shirts on spring break in Cancun. Many of them, like the two Los Angeles teens growing up too fast in "Thirteen," have yet to graduate junior high school. First-time director Catherine Hardwicke's unflinching portrait of adolescence in this cold new millennium takes us to a place where girls play at being women, only the game is all too real and incomprehensibly (at least, for the girls) dangerous. It's an emotionally-charged onslaught of a film that leaves no injurious stone untossed until the glass house in which it all plays out comes crashing down.

Tracy (Evan Rachel Wood in a stunning performance) is a good girl. Smart, outgoing and pretty — at 13, she's every parent's dream. Yet Tracy yearns to be something else: Popular. And in the new "Girl Culture," popularity and overt sexuality shimmy hand in hand. Enter Evie Zamora (Nikki Reed, who co-wrote the script with Hardwicke), the undisputed "hottest chick in school" who wears hip-huggers, smokes cigarettes and generally behaves badly. After a quick wardrobe change, Tracy makes an almost effortless leap from geek to chic, and in the time it takes to toss her Barbie dolls in the trash she and new best pal Evie are stealing, dropping ecstasy and

making it with older boys.

None of this sits very well with Tracy's hard-working single mother, Mel (Holly Hunter). An alcoholic in recovery, Mel's got her hands full trying to stay sober, pay the bills and sort out a relationship with her ex-addict boyfriend, Brady (Jeremy Sisto). Melanie's always been good at being Tracy's buddy, but she's uncomfortable in the role of authority figure. By the time she realizes Tracy is in serious trouble, it may be too late for either of them to pull back from the edge. And when the street-smart, manipulative Evie — who turns out to be just a love-starved child — moves in with designs on becoming part of the family, it only intensifies Mel's struggle to hang onto her daughter.

Shot with hand-held Super 16 cameras by ace cinematographer Elliot Davis ("Out of Sight," "I Am Sam"), "Thirteen" looks and feels as frenzied as the high-octane emotional journeys its characters embark upon. This "commando-style" filmmaking enhances the rhythm of the raw performances, and brings us that much closer to the fire that threatens to devour Tracy, Evie and Mel. For her efforts, Hardwicke nabbed the top director's prize at the 2003 Sundance Film Festival. The former production deserves the accolades, for with "Thirteen" she's orchestrated one of the most compelling films of the year.

(Rated R for drug use, self-destructive violence, language and sexuality - all involving young teens. Running time: 100 minutes)



Photo: Anne Marie Fox

Left to Right: Evan Rachel Wood, Nikki Reed and Holly Hunter in 'Thirteen.'

Hunter learns about love and life in making 'Thirteen'

BY DAN DUNN

Special to the Daily Press

To get Holly Hunter to sign on to play a struggling, hard-working single mother in the film "Thirteen," director Catherine Hardwicke and young Nikki Reed — who was 13 when she co-wrote the screenplay — sent the Academy Award-winning actress a videotaped appeal that featured Reed's own single mother, upon whom the character was based.

"Nobody had ever done something like that to woo me into a project before," said Hunter of the unorthodox pitch that convinced her to accept the role of Melanie, a recovering alcoholic torn between the desire to be her daughter's best friend and a need to be an authority figure. "And these things count — originality matters in terms of lassoing an actress into a project. That's my message to all you future moviemakers."

Aspiring filmmakers would be hard-pressed to land anyone better than the versatile Hunter, who has garnered virtually every significant acting award out there, including an Oscar, two Emmys, a British Academy Award and a Golden Globe. In a film career that spans 20 years, she's proven to be equally adept at high comedy and heartbreaking drama in such memorable films as "Raising Arizona," "Broadcast News," "The Piano" and "The Firm." Her performance in "Thirteen" has critics buzzing about a possible fourth Academy Award nomination.

"I read the script and thought it was very fresh, very dynamic, vital



Holly Hunter and Evan Rachel Wood in a scene from 'Thirteen.'

and violent. Melanie, my character, is unusual because she transcends the two-dimensional adult caricature we normally see in movies about kids," said Hunter, in her familiar Southern drawl. "Normally, this movie would be told without adults. Melanie is very much a part of the triangle along with the two girls (Evan Rachel Wood as Mel's daughter Tracy, and Reed as the pubescent femme fatale who seduces her). Without the strength of that triangle, a lot of the conflict would be missing from the story."

On the contrary, "Thirteen" is rife with conflict, as Melanie tries to hold it together while her formerly squeaky-clean teenaged daughter spirals out of control attempting to remake herself into the "hottest chick in school." After she scales

the wall that separates the geeks from the popular kids, Tracy discovers a world of deceit, peer pressure, drug abuse and promiscuity that threatens to destroy her relationship with Melanie, if not her entire life.

"I wouldn't call this film a cautionary tale, I think what it is a real specific examination of a girl's life. And I think it looks at the glamorous image that these girls are exposed to, and how they're affected by it," said Hunter, who spent time with Nikki Reed's mother Cheryl to prepare for the role.

"There's a maliciousness in the privacy of a family that is often not seen. A vicious rage that generally is kept at home. This movie opens the door and let's you peer into what goes on between this girl and this woman. It shows how heartbreaking

it is, and how, in a way, it's a right of passage — a right of passage that can be quite ugly."

Still, Hunter claimed the experience of making "Thirteen" was a surprisingly pleasant one — not at all what you might expect on the set of a film with such somber subject matter. She attributed the good vibrations to the predominantly female cast and crew, especially her young co-stars Wood and Reed.

"I learned a lot working with them. They are so impetuous, you know, and life flows through them without censorship, without an editor. That's youth. It was enchanting to be around them, but it was also exhausting because that energy is boundless."

Looking back on her stellar career, Hunter believes the films she's made have had as much of an impact on her as they have on her legions of fans and admiring peers.

"There have been real watershed moments for me personally, in making movies," she said. "I remember vividly the last shooting days of 'Broadcast News' and 'The Piano.' Those two movies, when I finished them, I knew I'd gone through something that had changed me radically."

As for "Thirteen," Hunter appreciates the message delivered at the film's denouement, which reinforces one of her core ideologies: "Maybe I'm an idealist, but I do believe that love can prevail. Love is the salvation for all of us. That's a belief that I have about my life, not just this movie ... but certainly, it's in this movie."

ENTERTAINMENT



Jeepers Creepers is scary all right, but not in the good way

Review

BY DAN DUNN

Special to the Daily Press

"Jeepers Creepers 2," the follow-up to the 2001 sleeper hit, isn't going to scare the pants off of anyone like, say, "Halloween," "Friday the 13th" or "Gigli" (OK, that's the last potshot I'll take at Ben-Lo's bomb until it's time to compile the "year in review" stuff ... I promise ... sort of). The best that can be said for "Jeepers 2" is that as sequels go, it's not quite as awful as the rehashed reigning box office champ, "Freddy vs. Jason." And I really hated "Freddy vs. Jason." How's that for an endorsement?

Sure, the trailer's pretty darn scary: A sinister scarecrow menacing a young boy in a field. The creepy Creeper swooping in from the sky on an unsuspecting victim. A terror-stricken teen desperately pleading for help into a busted C-B radio. But don't be fooled by this slick preview — instead of offering a fresh take on an overextended genre, writer/director Victor Salva relies on far too many stale clichés. The result is a film that is as lifeless as, well, most of the cast is by film's end.

A bus full of high schoolers returning from a championship basketball game is stranded in the middle of nowhere after a couple of tires go flat. The phones don't work, the highway's deserted and there's corn everywhere (never a good sign). An inspection of the tires reveals the blow-outs weren't accidental, so the adults order everyone back onto the bus while they investigate. Bad idea, adults.



In swoops "The Creeper" (Jonathan Breck) — who looks like a cross between Rob Zombie and Edgar Winter — and away go the meddlesome grown-ups, probably because they're old and boring and decidedly unappealing to the film's target demographic.

The kids on the bus don't have the foggiest idea what the ugly guy with the wings wants with them, or what they need to do to survive. They soon find out, though, because conveniently — way, waaaaaay too conveniently — a pretty cheerleader named Minxie (Nicki Aycox) not only knows how to root for the team, she happens to be clairvoyant. In a vision she learns that for 23 days every 23rd spring, a supernatural eating machine called "The Creeper" gets to feed on people and that she and her friends are the main course on this the final night of his ritual feast. So if they can just survive 'til morning, well, they might make it home in time for the weekend kegger.

"The Creeper" returns and starts picking them off one by one. In between arguing about sexual orientation and racism while a few of their classmates are gruesomely murdered, the leads are able to deduce that "The Creeper" is carefully selecting his victims. But why?

Well, let's go to our clairvoyant, shall we? Minxie informs that "The Creeper" has a taste for certain types of fear, and THAT is how he chooses his prey. Good thing for them he's not hungry for the fear of never working in film again, or they'd all be dead. On second thought, maybe that's NOT such a good thing.

(Rated R for horror violence and language. Running time: 103 minutes)

MOVIES, from page 6

wanton inhumanity, misogynistic indulgences and a profusion of head-scratching, logical inconsistencies.

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

HOW TO DEAL

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

PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN

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

TERMINATOR 3

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

Santa Monica Museum to be brightened with flower exhibit

By Daily Press staff

Bright flowers and stylized patterns fill the room at the Santa Monica Museum of Art as it presents Virgil Marti's exhibit "Grow Room."

Marti covered the walls of the museum's famous Project Room with flower and web patterns printed on reflective Mylar sheets, creating an almost overwhelming and hypnotic effects. The decoration reflects the historical tradition of a Rococo Hall of Mirrors. Meanwhile, the huge cast resin chandelier, which is part antler, part flower, provides a center piece for the room.

Although it's Marti's first exhibition on the West Coast, the Philadelphia-based artist is well known for many works ranging in subject from a beer can collection in his beer can library to a 34-foot velvet couch installed in the lobby of a commuter train station. Marti finds inspiration for the works in textiles, elements of interior design, furniture and even movies such as Stanley

Kubrick's "A Space Odyssey" and Nicholas Roeg's "The Man Who Fell to Earth."

Marti has covered many areas of art, working as a master printer at the Museum of Philadelphia and an instructor in advanced serigraphy at the Tyler School of Art. He also has been honored with several grants and awards, including a Pennsylvania Council on the Arts Fellowship for Sculpture.

Marti received a B.F.A. in painting from Washington University's School of Fine Arts followed by degrees from the Tyler School of Art, Temple University and the Skowhegan School of Painting and Sculpture.

The opening reception for the exhibit will take place Saturday, Sept. 15 at 5 p.m. It will be hosted by Casablanca Restaurant, Crystal Geyser Water Company, El Charro Tequila, Latino Weekly Review and Quantum Rhapsody Blush.

For more information about any exhibits call the Santa Monica Museum of Art at (310) 586-6488.



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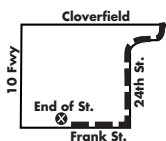
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Experts sifting through Farmers Market evidence

INVESTIGATION, from page 1

committed various "moving violations." More complex is the question of tying the fact that lives were lost to the idea that Weller intended no harm.

"It is hard to imagine the prosecution would have a hard time establishing criminal negligence," said Peter Arnella, a criminal law professor at UCLA.

A special unit of the California Highway Patrol was brought in by Santa Monica Police almost immediately after the incident, which occurred shortly before 2 p.m. just over six weeks ago.

The unit, called the "Multi-disciplinary Accident Investigation Team," or MAIT, specializes in in-depth accident investigations. The team was requested by SMPD and is comprised of experts who analyze every inch of the crime scene and then attempt to recreate the incident. The team then presents its findings to the lead investigating agency, which is the Santa Monica Police Department, said CHP officer Richard Wong, who led the team at the Farmers Market scene.

"When we get called into an incident it has to be major or high profile," Wong said, adding that Los Angeles County's MAIT team investigates about 90 cases a year in Southern California. "We work as a supporting unit and assist when we are needed."

Wong said hundreds of witnesses have been interviewed and hundreds of pieces of evidence are being analyzed. The team's file on the incident is three inches thick and witness statements have been organized into spreadsheets, Wong said.

"A lot of the subjects we were dealing with are already completed," he said, adding that team members will often engage in a heated debate when the investigation reaches the consensus stage. "In the next few weeks, it will be down and dirty."

Once a consensus is reached, the report goes through an extensive peer review before it's sent to the lead agency, Wong said.

Based on the evidence and witness statements, the MAIT team will often reconstruct the incident from the starting point to the end. However, in the case of the Farmers Market, the team worked

backwards because hundreds of emergency personnel set up the triage area where Weller first entered the market.

"We look at it as if someone did something and it may be criminal or it may not," Wong said. "We have to look at all aspects."

"It is hard to imagine the prosecution would have a hard time establishing criminal negligence."

— PETER ARNELLA
Law professor, UCLA

"How was the damaged sustained? How did the driver interact with the car? Did he have a phone ear piece in? Was his radio turned up loud? What was the weather like? Was the sun in the driver's eyes?"

Determining what happened right before the accident is key for the MAIT team. Determining what occurred 200 or 300 feet before the incident usually provides a host of answers for investigators, Wong said.

The MAIT team handles large accident scenes that usually involve between 1,000 and 1,500 feet of roadway. By that standard, the Farmers Market, whose two-plus blocks are on the lower end of that range, was a routine scene for the CHP, Wong said. But there were more witnesses and debris than usual, he added.

"We arrived at 4 p.m. and we were there until 10 p.m. Six hours for a scene like that is pretty good," Wong said. "It was still massive and it was very challenging."

Each team member has an area of expertise, including a mechanical specialist who inspected Weller's car and a roadway engineer who analyzed the street's condition. Also on the team is a forensic specialist, three CHP officers and a sergeant.

Those team members may be called in to court to testify, whether it's in a criminal or civil case, Wong said.

Companies trade names for cash

LAW, from page 1

the Oct. 7 ballot. The privacy legislation has been one of the showpiece acts Davis hopes will resonate with voters who tell pollsters they are not inclined to let him keep his job.

"Most Californians are stunned to learn that financial corporations trade their names for money," Davis said, surrounded by dozens of stockbrokers on the exchange floor. "That is wrong, and when I sign this bill, that practice will stop."

He dismissed the suggestion that his efforts to stay in office drove his support for the bill, saying after a drawn-out legislative process it "is in a little better shape than it was four years ago."

The law, which takes effect July 1, will require permission from a customer before financial institutions share with an unaffiliated company information such as bank balances or spending habits.

The bill, sponsored by Sen. Jackie Speier, D-Daly City, also includes a provision under which consumers could bar a company from sharing information with

an affiliated firm if it was in a different line of business.

Still, concerns persist among some privacy watchdog groups that federal legislation could trump California law. A bill now in Congress would amend the Fair Credit Reporting Act and bar any state from having the authority to prevent banks from sharing private consumer information with affiliates.

"It's good news that California now has the strongest privacy laws in the nation," said Jerry Flanagan, spokesman for the Santa Monica-based Foundation for Taxpayer & Consumer Rights. "Now the fight is in Washington, D.C. because if (President) Bush has his way, Californians' privacy will not be protected and banks will be allowed to override the California law."

Davis acknowledged that federal legislation could undermine California's new standards, but predicted California had started a trend other states would follow.

"I predict it will sweep across America like a prairie wildfire," he said of the protections behind the bill.

STATE



Schwarzenegger lays out opinions on various topics

BY ERICA WERNER
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES — Actor Arnold Schwarzenegger made his clearest statements to date on abortion and other social issues on talk shows Wednesday, after weeks of criticism for not spelling out his views for voters in the California recall.

He said he favors legalizing marijuana for medical purposes and protecting a woman's right to abortion, but is against gay marriage and granting drivers licenses to undocumented immigrants. He said illegal immigrants already in the country should stay here, but he said it was a federal issue and a spokesman said he wasn't proposing an amnesty program.

Schwarzenegger has yet to utter an opinion on affirmative action and refused to rule out a tax increase, which his main GOP opponent has already done and continues to criticize him for.

The former bodybuilder said he opposed offshore drilling and supported an assault-weapons ban and the Brady Bill requiring background checks for gun purchasers.

On his third day on the conservative talk show circuit, the Republican offered his opinions during a call to the syndicated Sean Hannity radio show, which also was broadcast live on Fox Television. He elaborated further on a later call to the Larry Elder Show on KABC radio.

In response to a barrage of questions from Hannity, Schwarzenegger offered his most detailed comments since making his bid to replace Gov. Gray Davis in the Oct. 7 recall election.

The governor, meanwhile, signed a sweeping financial privacy bill that gives California consumers the right to block banks, insurance companies and other financial institutions from sharing much of their personal information.

Asked whether he thought Schwarzenegger would make a good governor, Davis said he met the minimal age and state resident qualifications.

"Sometimes people want a little more," Davis said to chuckles from the traders arrayed around him at the Pacific Stock Exchange in San Francisco. "Like a little experience."

Some of Schwarzenegger's responses, including his opposition to gay marriage and his support of prayer in public schools, could play well with conservatives. Some of them are wary of the action star and support state Sen. Tom McClintock, R-Northridge.

Schwarzenegger's more liberal positions on abortion, immigration, marijuana and guns, however, could undercut some of that support. Schwarzenegger, who is scheduled to tour the state's conservative Central Valley region Thursday, did not give a position on affirmative action or Proposition 54, the initiative that will be on the recall ballot and would ban the state from collecting most racial data.

Schwarzenegger described himself as "pro-choice" but said he did not support late-stage procedures described as "partial-birth" abortions.

Asked whether he is in favor of parental notification when minors seek abortions, he replied, "I am. But in some cases when there is abuse in the family or problems in the family, then the courts should decide."

Schwarzenegger said he supports domestic partnerships but not gay marriage.

While opposing drivers licenses for illegal immigrants, he said there should be a way of dealing with undocumented immigrants, but that it's a complicated federal issue.

"Should we have them to stay here, which I think is the right way to do," he said. "But how do you then include them in our society, how do you make it official, how do you make it legal, all of those kinds of things?"

He said he would seek to form a coalition with other states with heavy immigrant populations and lobby the federal government to deal with the issue. Spokesman Rob Stutzman said Schwarzenegger was not proposing immigrant amnesty or any other specific program.

Schwarzenegger supported Proposition 187 in 1994, which sought to deny many services to illegal immigrants, but he said Wednesday that the issue was history because courts had largely voided the measure.

Responding to Schwarzenegger's remarks, McClintock said he opposes abortion and supports the rights of gun owners. He also said he got the impression Schwarzenegger was becoming more conservative as the campaign moved along.

"I've been in the public arena for 20 years. Positions I've taken have not changed in 20 years," McClintock said. "I am pro-life; I believe in the right of people to self-defense. It's enshrined in the Second Amendment. And again, these are positions that people can count on."

Candidates will have a number of chances to stake out their opinions in public forums, including a Sept. 30 debate announced Tuesday by CNN and the Los Angeles Times.

Schwarzenegger has not accepted any debate invitations so far, but Rep. David Dreier, an adviser, said he would likely recommend that he only debate Lt. Gov. Cruz Bustamante, his main rival in polls.

Bustamante was not on the campaign trail Wednesday but he picked up the endorsement of the state's 48 Assembly Democrats who support his "no on recall, yes on Bustamante" strategy. Schwarzenegger announced he had won the endorsement of 20 of the state Assembly's 32 Republican lawmakers.

GOP leaders have expressed concerns that Davis could be recalled only to be replaced by Bustamante, a Democrat, if Republicans split their votes. Secretary of state figures released Thursday show Democrats continue to hold an edge among registered voters, 44 percent to Republicans' 35 percent, despite a slight upturn in Republican registrations since last September. Just over 15 percent of voters declined to state a party affiliation.

A recent Los Angeles Times poll showed Schwarzenegger leading fellow Republicans McClintock and former baseball commissioner Peter Ueberroth, but trailing Bustamante.

Schwarzenegger also continued to compare Bustamante to Davis, despite promising at a news conference Aug. 20 that "I will never attack, I will never talk about anyone."

Schwarzenegger pledged that he would not raise taxes unless there was a state emergency. He defended accepting campaign donations after having said when he announced his candidacy that he didn't need to take money from anyone because he had plenty of his own.

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Gunmen fire at British convoy

By The Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Gunmen opened fire with small arms and rocket-propelled grenades on a British convoy trapped between two angry crowds in southern Iraq, killing one soldier and wounding another, the British military said Thursday.

The soldiers were returning from a raid when about 30 people blocked their route in the town of Ali as-Sharqi on Wednesday night, British Lt. Cmdr. Richard Walters said.

The soldiers moved around that crowd, only to be stopped by a second group of people blocking the road near Fort Jennings, he said.

The soldiers got down from their vehicles and fired two warning shots to disperse the crowds when the Iraqis attacked, killing one soldier and wounding the second in the hand, he said.

The British arrested 10 people and withdrew to their base at al-Amarah, 75 miles north of Basra with protection from helicopters and additional rapid reaction troops called to the scene, he said.

Two U.S. soldiers died Wednesday in separate attacks in Baghdad and Fallujah, 30 miles to the west, the U.S. military said. A third soldier reportedly died separately of a non-hostile gunshot wound.

U.S. won't hold talks with North Korea

By The Associated Press

BEIJING — Fresh from a landmark informal meeting with North Korean officials, the United States said Thursday it would hold no formal talks with the communist nation during a six-way summit to resolve a dispute over the North's nuclear program.

"There will not be any separate formal bilateral meetings with the North Koreans," said a U.S. Embassy spokesman in Beijing, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The head of the American delegation, Assistant Secretary of State James Kelly, met Wednesday with his North Korean counterpart, Deputy Foreign Minister Kim Yong Il, after the opening session of the three-day meeting, which also involves China, Russia, South Korea and Japan.

But U.S. officials played down the importance of their informal half-hour meeting. "There are not separate, individual, bilateral discussions going on," White House spokeswoman Claire Buchan said in Washington.

After four months of official silence, Washington and Pyongyang traded the cold shoulder for careful conversation Wednesday when they huddled on the sidelines of the six-nation summit convened to work through a stalemate over the North's nuclear program.

Man kills seven in warehouse

By The Associated Press

CHICAGO — The auto-parts warehouse, with only one entrance, was a maze of crates and 55-gallon drums. So when former employee Salvador Tapia walked in and started shooting, police said he had effectively cornered all seven people inside.

After fatally shooting six, including two brothers who owned Windy City Core Supply Inc., Tapia went outside Wednesday morning and opened fire on police.

A team of officers followed the 36-year-old back inside, where he refused to drop his semiautomatic pistol. Hiding behind a box, Tapia again fired at police before an officer fatally shot him, acting Police Superintendent Phil Cline said.

Tapia was fired six months ago for causing trouble at work and frequently showing up late or not at all, Cline said. He said Tapia had since made threatening calls to the owners.

One employee in the building survived — he was inexplicably tied up by Tapia but escaped and called 911, police said.

Charges filed against former WorldCom CEO

By The Associated Press

OKLAHOMA CITY — Oklahoma prosecutors filed the first criminal charges Wednesday against WorldCom and former CEO Bernard Ebbers in the \$11 billion accounting scandal that plunged the long-distance giant into bankruptcy.

The company, Ebbers and five other former executives were accused of falsifying the books in violation of Oklahoma securities law.

Each executive faces 15 charges, each carrying up to 10 years in prison. The former executives have one week to appear in court in Oklahoma City. WorldCom, which now calls itself MCI, could face millions in fines and restitution.

"By falsifying information, the company looked stronger on paper than it really was," Oklahoma Attorney General Drew Edmondson said. "Investors counted on this information when buying WorldCom securities. The company lied. These employees lied. The law was broken. It's just that simple." He said he would be surprised if other states do not take action against WorldCom.

Ebbers' attorney, Reid Weingarten, said he expects the former chief executive to be exonerated.

Although this marks the first criminal charges against Ebbers and the company itself, other former WorldCom executives have been charged in federal court.

SPORTS

SPORTS IN BRIEF

By The Associated Press

TENNIS

■ **NEW YORK** — Top seed Kim Clijsters beat Laura Granville of Chicago 6-1, 6-1 to get to the third round of the U.S. Open. Women's No. 3 Lindsay Davenport, No. 5 Amelie Mauresmo, and No. 9 Daniela Hantuchova also advanced, while No. 12 Conchita Martinez, No. 18 Patty Schnyder and No. 28 Lisa Raymond lost.

On the men's side, No. 2 Roger Federer and No. 7 Carlos Moya won their first round matches, while No. 27 Mariano Zabaleta and No. 30 Gaston Gaudio were eliminated.

BASKETBALL

■ **INDIANAPOLIS** — Isiah Thomas was fired as coach of the Indiana Pacers, a surprise move by new boss Larry Bird that came only two months before the start of the season.

Thomas, an NBA Hall of Famer, led the young Pacers into the playoffs in all three of his seasons, but they were knocked out in the first round each year.

Bird, who coached the Pacers from 1997-2000, was named the team's president of basketball operations on July 11.

■ **SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico** — In its sloppiest game of the Olympic qualifying tournament, the U.S. team trailed Mexico at the end of the first quarter, but rallied to win 96-69. The Americans are undefeated in the tournament and have clinched a spot in the semifinals, along with Canada and Puerto Rico. The top three finishers advance to the Olympics in 2004.

■ **MIAMI** — Lamar Odom officially joined the Miami Heat, signing a six-year, \$65 million contract after the Los Angeles Clippers declined to match the offer.

TRACK & FIELD

■ **SAINT-DENIS, France** — American Tom Pappas won the gold medal in the decathlon at the World Championships and, exhausted, celebrated with a slow victory lap with a U.S. flag draped over his shoulders.

In the women's 100-meter hurdles, Canada's Perdita Felicien won the gold, Jamaica's Brigitte Foster was second and American Miesha McKelvey took the bronze.

Morocco's Hicham El Guerrouj won the men's 1,500-meter run and Poland's Robert Korzeniowski won gold in the 50-kilometer walk.

Pan American champion Ana Guevara of Mexico won the women's 400-meters. Svetlana Krivolyova of Russia won the women's shot put.

HOCKEY

■ **DALLAS** — Dallas Stars center Mike Modano signed a one-year contract extension that prevents him from becoming a free agent until the summer of 2005. Modano, the team's career leader in nearly every significant category, will earn \$9 million this season.

■ **TAMPA, Fla.** — Center Brad Richards re-signed with the Tampa Bay Lightning, agreeing to a multiyear contract. Financial terms were not disclosed. Richards set career-highs last season with 74 points and 57 assists in 80 games.

SOCCER

■ **MADRID, Spain** — David Beckham scored in his home debut for Real Madrid, a 3-0 victory over Mallorca in the Spanish Super Cup.

Beckham, acquired in June from Manchester United, got Real Madrid's third goal in the 73rd minute when he headed in a cross from Ronaldo. Real Madrid won the two-leg series on 4-2 aggregate.

■ **HELSINKI, Finland** — Spain and Brazil won semifinal games to reach the final of the FIFA Under-17 World Soccer Championships.

Spain edged Argentina 3-2 and Brazil downed Colombia 2-0 in the first semifinal at Tampere.

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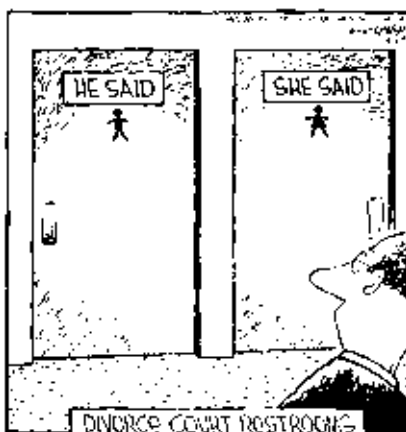
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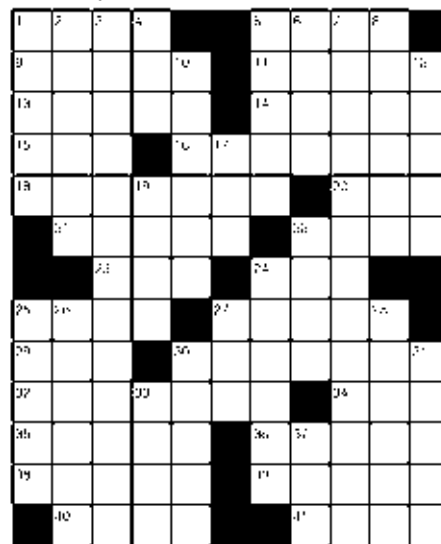
- ACROSS**
- 1 "How droll!"
- 5 Lion player
- 9 Washing-ton neighbor
- 11 Love affair
- 13 Assailed
- 14 Fellow found in kids' books
- 15 Nest item
- 16 Shifted
- 18 Sonnet parts
- 20 Compass dir.
- 21 Fixed look
- 22 Director Preminger
- 23 Harvest goddess
- 24 Binary base
- 25 Pleads
- 27 Iceman's tool
- 29 Lumber-man's tool
- 30 Mortar-board features
- 32 Some shows
- 34 Ball holder
- 35 Hawke of film
- DOWN**
- 36 Lucy's pal
- 38 Handle
- 39 "Super-man" star
- 40 Sketched
- 41 Son of Zeus

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Yesterday's answer

- 1 Takes on
- 2 Saws
- 3 Is consistent
- 4 Inventor's cry
- 5 English composer
- 6 "Walk Like —"
- 7 Stays calm
- 8 Least polite
- 10 Minks' cousins
- 12 Western show
- 17 Hwy.
- 19 Night music
- 22 Possesses
- 24 Salad preparer
- 25 Diamond corners
- 26 Left
- 27 Wee topper
- 28 Jacket part
- 30 So far
- 31 Tennis star
- 33 Blanchett of "The Lord of the Rings"
- 37 Hot drink

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SANTA MONICA SCENE °CALENDAR EDITION

FRIDAY, AUGUST 29, 2003

EVENTS

Kaleidoscope

Tonight's feature is "La Gloconda" written and directed by Randy Schulman. The Collective presents an excerpt from "La Gloconda", a live action silent movie that follows a man's journey from his Italian village to the Paris underworld. Act 2 "Sugar" is written and performed by April Daisy White and directed by Larry Moss. This pertains to the journey of an international call girl. Tickets available at the box office.
The Edgemar Center For the Arts @ 2437 Main Street in Santa Monica (310)392-7327

CULTURE

Dolls

The Santa Monica Playhouse presents Dolls @ 7pm. Dolls is about the remarkable secret life of the dolls we left behind. The show is family friendly and is a Summer Stock Production. Even the theater itself is entertaining, with horseshoes decorating the walls.
1211 Fourth Street Santa Monica, CA 90401

For more information call (310) 394-9779

Angel's Attic

Founded in 1984 this museum of historic dolls offers a great place to take the whole family and experience a little bit of Santa Monica History. The museum reflects the growing popularity of doll and miniature collection in the last 400 years. The house itself was built in 1895 and has been restored to the period, making it one of the few remaining victorian houses in Santa Monica.
516 Colorado Avenue, Santa Monica, CA 90401
(310) 394-8331 Fax: 310-656-6865
Museum is open 12:30-4:30 Thu.-Sun
Adults \$6.50, Children under 12 \$3.50 and Seniors over 65 4.50

ENTERTAINMENT

Magicopolis

This is a club which magic-loving families can enjoy together. It offers everything from card tricks to disappearing acts. Tonight visitors can enjoy a close up magic show with Space Bill and Andrew Goldenhersh. Tickets are \$20 per seat and seating

is limited, so be sure to get your tickets early! This show is sure to entertain.

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

Gotham Hall

This club has a great dance floor and live music, and there is still room left over for those who just want to shoot some pool. With the menu ranging from "Middle Eastern Hummus" to "Chicken Pot stickers" the food is sure to satisfy everyone. Tonight DJs will spin hip hop at the club. Meanwhile Gotham Hall even has fun with fashion, dictating favorable themes to visitors.
1431 Third Street Promenade. Santa Monica, CA 90401 For more information call: (310)394-8865.

Zanzibar

Created by the people behind Temple Bar this club offers a casual and comfortable atmosphere. It has a modest yet fun dance floor and a stage which is often occupied by local bands.
1301 5th St. Santa Monica CA. 90401
For more information call: (310) 451-2221

MOVIE °GUIDE

LAEMMLE'S MONICA 4-PLEX

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

LANDMARK NU-WILSHIRE

1314 Wilshire Blvd
Le Divorce PG-13 — 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:45
Swimming Pool R — 1:45, 4:30, 7:30, 10:00

LOEWS CINEPLEX BROADWAY CINEMAS

1441 Third Street Promenade
Freddy vs. Jason R — 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:50, 10:35
Grind PG-13 — 11:00, 9:30
Seabiscuit PG-13 — 12:30, 2:30, 3:30, 6:05, 7:00, 10:10
The Medallion PG-13 — 11:30, 2:00, 4:30, 7:20, 10:00.

AMC SANTA MONICA 7

1310 Third Street Promenade
American Wedding R — 1:00, 4:00, 7:10, 9:45
Bad Boys II R — 7:00, 10:20 (both p.m.)
Finding Nemo G — 12:15, 2:40, 5:05, 7:30, 9:55
Freaky Friday PG — 12:30, 3:00, 5:25, 7:50, 10:05
Lara Croft Tomb Raider: The Cradle of Life PG-13 — 1:10, 4:15, 7:45, 10:20
Spy Kids 3D: Game Over PG — 12:25, 2:30, 4:00
Open Range R — 12:20, 3:45, 7:05, 10:20
Step into Liquid NR — 12:50, 3:05, 5:40, 8:00, 10:25

MANN CRITERION 6 THEATERS

1313 Third Street Promenade
The Battle of Shaker Heights — 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:10, 9:40, 11:55
March — 12:00, 2:20, 4:50, 7:30, 9:55
My Boss's Daughter — 11:30, 2:00, 4:30, 7:15, 9:45, 12:05
Pirates of the Caribbean PG-13 — 11:45, 3:15, 6:45, 10:10
S.W.A.T. PG-13 — 10:00, 1:35, 4:15, 7:05, 10, 12:40
Uptown Girls PG-13 — 11:15, 4:20, 7:00, 9:30.



PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Jesse Ventura files restraining order against two critics

By The Associated Press

■ **ST. PAUL, Minn.** — A restraining order to keep two critics away from former Gov. Jesse Ventura will be in effect for one year, not two, as lawyers had anticipated.

The order calls for former Ventura political opponent Bill Dahn and environmental activist Leslie Davis to keep away from Ventura through Aug. 26, 2004.

Ventura's lawyer, David Olsen, said he wasn't disappointed that Ramsey County District Judge Michael Fetsch had only issued a one-year order. Court officials said that was the judge's normal practice.

Another judge had earlier issued a temporary restraining order for two years.

The order, which Ramsey County District Judge Roseanne Nathanson issued earlier this month, prohibits Davis and Dahn from having postal, e-mail, telephone or personal contact with Ventura.

It also prevents them from being near the Twin Cities Public Television studio in downtown St. Paul while Ventura is working there. Ventura has been taping pilot episodes of a planned program on the MSNBC cable network. They had been protesting regularly outside the studio.

■ **LONDON** — Like many tourists in London, magician David Blaine took a spin on the London Eye Ferris wheel.

On Thursday, Blaine, 30, stood atop one of the enclosed pods as it reached the top of its cycle, 450 feet above central London. His foot was strapped to the pod for the ride, filmed for use in a television special to be broadcast next month.

A street magician and performance artist, Blaine specializes in feats of endurance. In the past, he has spent 35 hours standing on top of a 100-foot pole and three days encased in ice.

On Sept. 5, he will enter a plastic box suspended from a crane 40 feet above the River Thames in London. He plans to remain there, consuming only water, for 44 days.

Blaine has said the stunt will give him the chance to search for his "truths."

■ **TOKYO** — The way of the samurai isn't easy — just ask Tom Cruise.

Cruise said his role in "The Last Samurai" was a difficult departure from the characters he's portrayed in the past.

In the film, directed by Edward Zwick, Cruise plays an American hired in the late 1800s to help Japanese warriors in Western war tactics.

"I trained for eight months prior to shooting the film," the 41-year-old actor told a news conference packed by some 700 reporters and cameramen Thursday. "I put on 20 pounds for the character but also for the muscle to carry the swords and wear the armor."

Co-star Ken Watanabe, who has played numerous samurai roles for Japanese audiences, said Cruise was a quick learner.

"I feel like we have been through a battle together," he said.

"The Last Samurai" will be released in the United States on Dec. 5.

■ **LOS ANGELES** — The devil is in the details of "Exorcist IV: The Beginning."

Director Paul Schrader says he's been fired from work on the upcoming thriller, which is a prequel to the acclaimed 1973 original about a demon-possessed little girl.

The filmmaker, whose directing credits include 1997's "Affliction" and last year's "Auto Focus," told The Associated Press Wednesday that he had completed a final edit of the movie, which he described as a psychological thriller.

The rift that led to Schrader's recent dismissal reportedly started when executives at Morgan Creek Productions decided to make the tone of "Exorcist IV" more horrific after shooting had been completed.

Schrader declined to comment on that or say what changes the producers wanted. His name will likely remain

on the film in whatever form the final version takes.

Representatives of Morgan Creek didn't immediately return calls for comment, and Warner Bros., the film's distributor, referred calls to the production company.

In the original "The Exorcist," Max von Sydow played an elderly priest named Father Merrin who drew on a previous battle with the demon to force it to leave the possessed little girl, played by Linda Blair.

The next two sequels, one starring Richard Burton and the other with George C. Scott, followed the evil force as it disrupted the lives of other characters.

In "Exorcist IV," the story goes back to Father Merrin's younger days as a missionary. Now played by Stellan Skarsgard, the priest encounters the demon, known as Pazuzu, for the first time while working in Africa. It is set for release in early 2004.

■ **NEW YORK** — For celebrities, Christmas doesn't just come in December — it comes at many awards shows.

Backstage at the 2003 MTV Video Music Awards, the gifts available at the celebrity "retreat" lounge included custom-fitted Fendi eyewear, Tommy Hilfiger jackets, iRiver portable MP3 players, roundtrip helicopter rides by Blue Star Jets to the Hamptons and Motorola cell phones.

Beyonce Knowles, 50 Cent, Britney Spears, Missy Elliott and others participating in Thursday night's show at Radio City Music Hall were invited to peruse the gifts.

Knowles was particularly impressed by a Tahiti trip at Pearl Resorts. "If I have time, I'll go," the 21-year-old singer said.

Karen Wood, president of Backstage Creations, said Carmen Electra and boyfriend Dave Navarro, and the groups Good Charlotte and Coldplay visited the celebrity lounge Wednesday.

"Carmen liked the Reed Evins shoes," she said. "(And) Good Charlotte was all stoked about the Motorola phones."

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