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Santa Monica Daily Press

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

A Philadelphia firefighter was hospitalized in critical condition, and his wife and their three children injured, in Atlantic City in June after an accident at the Steel Pier amusement park. The five were in a ride car on the Big Splash, where after a descent, the car was to slide into the water at a high speed and soak everyone, but apparently the park workers on duty had either forgotten to put water in the basin or had not noticed that it had all drained out.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 242nd day of 2005.
There are 123 days left in the year.

On Aug. 30, 1905, Ty Cobb made his major-league debut as a player for the Detroit Tigers, hitting a double in his first at-bat in a game against the New York Highlanders. (Tigers won, 5-3.)
In 30 B.C. (on Aug. 30, by some estimates), the seventh and most famous queen of ancient Egypt known as "Cleopatra" committed suicide.
In 1963, the "Hot Line" communications link between Washington and Moscow went into operation.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"My son, if sinners entice thee, consent thou not."

PROVERBS 1:10.

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Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

Santa Monica College students await their ride on Monday morning via the new SMC shuttle at Bernard Way adjacent to the beach. Changes made to the college's shuttle system left many students lost on the first day of classes.

Lessons in red tape at SMC

Officials: Shuttle lot confusion to clear soon

BY RYAN HYATT

Daily Press Staff Writer

SANTA MONICA COLLEGE — Nearly 30,000 Santa Monica college students started their fall semester on Monday, some having more trouble than others getting to class.

Santa Monica College officials on Monday said that students who

made it to Beach Parking Lot No. 5 quickly received free parking permits and were bussed to SMC's main campus at 1900 Pico Boulevard to begin their fall classes. Meanwhile, students unaware of recent changes to SMC's shuttling program arrived at the Santa Monica Airport parking lot expecting a ride to the main campus, but were then mired in confusion.

"It was a pretty confusing situation at the airport," said Tom

Donner, SMC's interim president. "Unfortunately, students were overflowing into areas where they shouldn't be parking."

Beach Parking Lot No. 5, located south of Ocean Park Boulevard on Barnard Way, will be open to SMC students from 6:45 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Thursday.

The airport shuttle lot will be open during the day for students enrolled

See **SCHOOL DAZE**, page 7

Shoot-out leaves pair injured

BY RYAN HYATT

Daily Press Staff Writer

11TH STREET — Two people were hospitalized after being shot during an early-morning shoot-out on Monday.

Police claim four individuals were involved.

At 1:58 a.m., the Santa Monica police responded to emergency calls from the area of Pico Boulevard and 11th Street. When officers arrived at the scene, they found the two gunshot victims.

Both were transported to a local hospital, where they are in stable

condition.

Lt. Frank Fabrega, of the Santa Monica Police Department, said that while officers were conducting their investigation, they were contacted by the Los Angeles Police Department.

Representatives from the LAPD told Santa Monica police they had two people in custody, reporting they were involved in an assault in Santa Monica.

So far, no arrests have been made. The case is still under investigation, and police are not

See **SHOOT-OUT**, page 6

STATE

Not so fast: Governor is digging exit exams

By The Associated Press

SACRAMENTO — Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger used his weekly radio address Saturday to throw his support behind the state's high school exit exam, a test that's come under fire for lagging passing rates among disabled and low-income students, and English-language learners.

The governor did not

See **EXIT EXAM**, page 10

SMPD responds to terror threat

BY RYAN HYATT

Daily Press Staff

SANTA MONICA PIER — The suspected targeting of the Santa Monica Pier by Middle Eastern terrorists has prompted a swift response by local authorities, who conducted car searches over the weekend and are patrolling the city's famous tourist destination with more vigilance, in the hopes of deterring any attacks.

The Santa Monica police began utilizing \$2 million in emergency funds to shore up security at the Pier over the weekend, responding to evidence that men with ties to terrorist groups were surveying the site earlier this summer.

As a result of the stepped-up security, drivers entering the Pier via the ramp from Ocean Avenue had to agree to a vehicle inspection, during which officers searched for explosives underneath car carriages with mirrors, sifted through trunks and probed beneath car hoods.

The searches averaged 15 seconds, according to SMPD Lt. Frank Fabrega.

Bus stops had to be temporarily routed to the corner of Ocean Avenue and Broadway, as opposed to Ocean and Colorado avenues, in order to free up room for the inspections, pier visitors said.

In addition to the vehicle bomb searches, visitors could spot police scouting parties on foot, bike and all-terrain vehicles surveying crowded areas on and around the pier. Officers also kept an eye on the bustling tourist activity from ocean-side rooftops, they said.

Fabrega said the extra security will last through the holiday

See **TERROR**, page 6

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PISCES (Feb. 19–March 20)
 ★★★★★ A loved one or a child inspires you. Still, you find that your dream world could easily take over. A boss or authority figure demands your attention. A discussion about funds and some basic issues is key. Tonight: Now let your imagination rock and roll.



Santa Monica Daily Press

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Maya Furukawa maya@smdp.com

LOCAL



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Non-profit hosts 'Special' bowling tourney

By Daily Press staff

A local non-profit organization will be hosting a bowling tournament for mentally retarded children and adults. The Westside Special Olympics will be hosting their first bowling event on Saturday, Aug. 27, from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., at AMF Bayshore Bowl at 234 Pico Blvd. The public is invited to the tourney to cheer participants on. The WSO, an accredited branch of the International Special Olympics Organization, is funded by the City of Santa Monica and private donations.

Second blood: Councilman's son urges teens to give

By Daily Press staff

A Santa Monica city councilman and his son took some time to give blood recently, reminding teens that they too can contribute. Accompanied by his father Councilman Richard Bloom, 17-year-old Zac Bloom donated blood to the American Red Cross of Santa Monica, a move the younger Bloom made to remind those 17 years of age and older that they're eligible to give blood. The younger Bloom, a Santa Monica High School grad headed to Colby College in Maine, just became eligible to give blood this year. Those interested in donating blood are asked to go to 1450 11th Street on the second and fourth Monday of every month. Call 1-800-GIVE-LIFE to schedule an appointment. For Spanish, call 1-800-POR-FAVOR.



Photo courtesy Councilman Richard Bloom (left) and his son, Zac, give blood at the American Red Cross.



SURF REPORT

In SoCal, south-facing breaks are doing best, with waist- to chest-high surf, shoulder high + on the better sets at standouts. West-facing breaks are running waist-high, bigger at times at dual exposure spots. The SW swell will begin to back down today, but still produce some waist- to chest-high sets. Also note that the morning could have some eddy texture and an onshore flow is expected.

Today the water is:
63°

Write us at alex@smdp.com and tell us what the surf is doing today at your local break.

	LOW TIDES				HIGH TIDES			
	Morning	Height	Evening	Height	Morning	Height	Evening	Height
MONDAY	1:42	0.2	12:57	3.1	8:46	3.9	6:53	5.3
TUESDAY	2:21	0.0	1:41	2.8	9:08	4.0	7:38	5.6
WEDNESDAY	2:52	-0.1	2:14	2.4	9:27	4.2	8:14	5.8
THURSDAY	3:18	-0.1	2:45	2.1	9:44	4.3	8:47	5.9
FRIDAY	3:42	0.0	3:15	1.9	10:12	4.0	8:17	5.9

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The Q Line Sponsored by...

According to recently released numbers, Santa Monica's students continue to show improved performance on standardized tests — a trend that has been ongoing ever since such test results started being tracked in the 2000-01 school year. However, officials acknowledge there is still plenty of room for improvement.

So this week, Q-Line wants to know, "What does the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District have to do to ensure this upward achievement trend among students continues?"

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your responses in the weekend edition. Please try to limit your comments to a minute or less. It might help to think first about the wording of your response.

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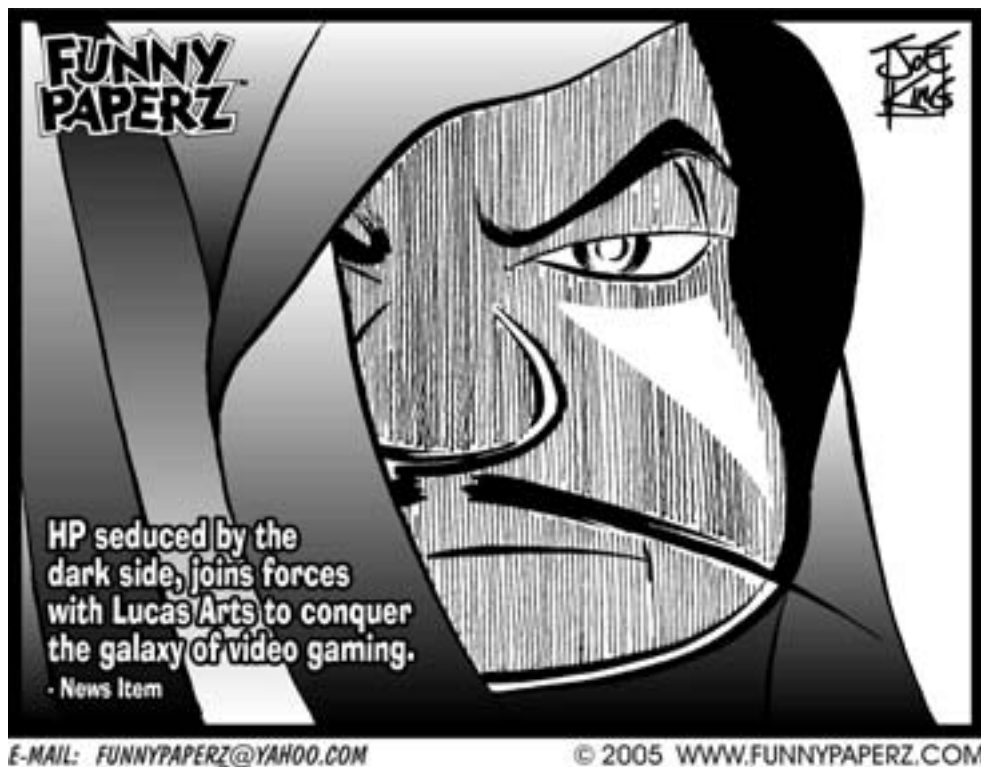
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OPINION



LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Everyone's got an agenda, admit it

Editor:

David Pissarra's latest attack on Christians is that every other group is accepting and tolerant, but only Christians "choose to lecture and try to convert others to their belief system" (SMDP, Aug. 23, page 4).

Let's get one thing straight. Anybody like David, who has a weekly column, is trying to influence people to believe something. Even this letter of mine is an attempt to dissuade people from believing what David believes.

So let's get real and admit we all have an agenda. Certainly anyone who has read more than three of David's articles has seen a clear anti-Christian bias.

Let me give him some other very simple examples of other people-pushing agendas.

Whenever I walk on the Third Street Promenade, I am attacked by the "Clipboard People" who are zealous about the mercury in our water.

Today at the Farmer's Market, someone approached me to sign Rob Reiner's petition for kindergarden. Around Santa Monica, whenever Arnold talks, people gather to protest and shout him down. John Kerry lost the election almost a year ago but every one of his supporters still has their Kerry-Edwards sticker on the back of their car. Turning on the television I find that the largest war chest of the year — tens of millions of dollars — was collected to protest John Roberts nomination to the Supreme Court. The scary part is that people were protesting the nominee before he was even selected. They were not even open minded enough to wait and see who it was.

Then, of course, there is the ACLU. They have removed every small cross in L.A. except the ones on hot-crossed buns... and I'm sure they are next.

Protests and activism can be good. But lets not pretend that we all don't participate.

Eric Cooper
Santa Monica

Get your hands off Social Security

Editor:

After reading Mr. Epstein's commentary on doing away with social security (SMDP, Aug. 17, page 4), I am sure he does not work for \$10 to \$15 per hour. Being a junior fellow at the Ayn Rand Institute, Mr. Epstein's income must place him in the maximum withholding by social security of \$5,580.

If he is an independent contractor for Rand, he must pay his 6.2 percent plus the 6.2 percent that Rand would pay for a total \$11,160.

With this kind of income, it gives him a much better chance to buy a home, provide for retirement by investing in stocks and bonds and enjoy his vital years.

As an hourly employee making \$10 per hour, social security deducts 6.2 percent of your pay and the employer also pays 6.2 percent for you. If they do away with social security, I doubt the employer would give you that 6.2 percent.

Earning \$10 per hour, the gross income is \$20,800, the deduction for state tax \$266, Medicare \$30, federal tax \$2,080 and state disability \$208.

That leaves \$1,500 per month for living expenses, rent, food, car insurance, gasoline and utilities. The 6.2 percent or \$1,289 received to make investments in stocks and bonds would be financially hard to accomplish at this low income.

Staying with Social Security you could look forward to some financial security retirement for the people. The people with lower incomes are not irresponsible as Mr. Epstein suggests. They must use most of their money to live in today's economy leaving very little to save.

I have faith that the government will keep social security funded for future retirees, low and high income, responsible and irresponsible by changing their thinking to what the people of American need and less about political power and the bottom line of corporations.

Kenneth Peach
Santa Monica

Labor Day not solely for the hired hands



WHAT'S THE POINT?

BY DAVID PISSARRA

Time for the annual End-of-Summer festival, a time when hunks of dead animal are charred, students dread the onset of homework and tired parents bless whoever came up with the idea of public school. Yes, it is Labor Day again. This year has flown by, for before we know it, it will soon be Christmas, then resolution time and it all starts over again.

Perhaps, this year has gone faster for me than most. I've got two businesses I'm running — a law practice that keeps me and my partner busy, and a sleep lab, where we test for sleep apnea.

My sleep lab has technicians, marketers and administrative personnel. This has been the year of employee crises. I've had employees leave me in the middle of an FDA study. I've had employees leave me, but say that they are "going to still be around," whatever that means. I've had multiple employees have deaths in their families. I've had employees falsify schedules, and others who let minor situations fester into major problems.

I've always believed that your staff can make or break you. No venture can grow, and remain a one-man band. It's simply not possible. One person cannot be the marketing guru, the finance chief, the HR department, perform all the work and still provide a vision for advancement.

A company must have people. People who care and who take initiative. People who can see beyond the next pay period.

This year has taught me many lessons. The value of a good friend, the value of taking your time in finding the right person. The cost of being impetuous and hiring the person who looks good or who will fill a gap, versus finding the one with the right skills and personality.

I've hired a number of people from distinct ethnic backgrounds. I've had the same problem with all of them — they were unrelated by family, geography or work history. It's not even a major problem, it's a cultural issue. They don't like confrontation, in any form. They want to keep a happy face on everything and that façade cost me a lot of money and a lot of time.

I don't believe that any one of them intentionally set out to do damage to me or the company. They just don't have the skills needed to be in a company that is in the startup phase.

Just as you need to find employees who have certain skill sets, I have learned that it is also important to match the personality of the employee with the phase the company is in, or will soon be in.

When a company is in development or startup, there is one trait that allows it to weather the inevitable crises. Brutal honesty about what is happening — good, bad or indifferent. As an employer, I have to know what is going on. I want to hear about the problems, more than an endless parade of "everything's fine." It's not easy for employees to hear that. They get scared for their jobs. They are afraid that they'll make me angry.

Which is ironic, because I am not an angry person, generally. What does make

me angry is precisely what they are doing — hiding the truth from me, and then letting it become a major problem.

I have fired people for many reasons, but by far the most common is not incompetence, or thievery, but simple inability to confront a situation. The head-in-the-sand mentality works well somewhere, but I don't know where.

As an employer, I'm under attack a lot these days. The government wants me to provide more benefits to my employees; my customers want me to do it cheaper, quicker and with better quality; my employees want more money and better benefits; and no one wants to look at my needs.

The world sees employers in a love/hate fashion. On the one hand, they are crucial to the system, they are the source of income for most people. They are the providers for the many.

On the other hand, many people see employers as the source of the world's sorrows, and wonder why we need them. They fail to see the crucial role that an employer plays in the circle of life. These people want to have goods provided for them and have vacation time. They want health insurance for all, but don't see why people should have to work low paying, unskilled jobs like being an orderly.

Labor Day is about profit. It is profit for the worker and for the employer. If an employer cannot make a profit, he will soon be out of business, and that means the employee will be out of a job. The interests of the employee are linked, in a life-and-death struggle with the employer in this way.

This is a hard concept for many people. They want to limit the profits that a company can earn. They say it is immoral for a company to make vast amounts of money, at the expense of the lives and labor of others. I disagree.

Our employees depend on the checks we write them being negotiable at the bank. The money must be there when they need it. I carry the responsibility of making sure that employees are paid, so that they, in turn, can pay their nanny to provide care for their children.

There are those who would say that the level of profits should be reduced so that more people could have our services. That if more people had our services it would be better for society. Maybe. But these people are not the ones who invested the money, who worked late nights at the copy center getting the presentations ready for the salesmen, who make the company profitable.

I've always found it curious that those who most condemn employers have never actually been one. The people who champion the rights of the worker the loudest, and bemoan the profits of the employer the most, have never actually had it all on the line. They have not spent sleepless nights wondering how they were going to make payroll.

It is important to remember, and honor, labor this coming weekend. But let's remember that the boss, is also part of the equation. You can't have one without the other, and they both make society operate. CEOs have been getting a lot of abuse these days. Sometimes they deserved it. But no good CEO would forget that their employees are the lifeblood of the company.

(David Pissarra can be reached at dpissarra@pissarra.com or 310/664-9969.)

COMMENTARY



Buggin': Sick in LA is being in a bad way

ANY DAY IN LA

BY HEIDI MANTEUFFEL



The weekend came, and instead of taking a walk in the fresh summer air, I was stuck inside with a concentration level the size of a potato bug.

I don't even know what one looks like, but I do know there's nothing worse than being sick on one of the last perfectly summer days.

For with pristine, clear-blue skies and temps in the high 70s, you don't get a much more ideal day of summer in LA.

Should I go to Zuma beach, go hiking in Will Rogers State Park, or sit inside and watch reruns of "Happy Days" as I take shots of Zicam up my nose?

Decisions, decisions.

I can't say it's in the vein of reason, but lately I've been getting upset whenever I come down with yet another ailment. It's as if it was some surprise to me that there are minor bugs you could contract in California, and an even bigger astonishment that I'm capable of catching them.

Every time I'm home with the flu or a mind-fog cold, I shake my head and wonder how it happened.

I'll tell you how it happened, there's this thing called a virus ...

Curses. Foiled again.

I think living in California with attractive temperatures year-round, I feel a sense of entitlement to not get sick.

It's not like in Chicago, where you can catch a cold for walking out of the house with damp hair, or basically just breathing. There I expected it, and even embraced a day or so home from school. With a chronic, cloudy haze and weather so cold you feel your skin cells dying, it's

not like I had anything better to do.

Maury Povich, Judge Judy and Rosie O'Donnell became my good friends as I often suffered from bronchitis, repeats of strep or influenza. But missing 10 days a grading period from these nasty infections nearly cost me to repeat an entire semester.

And repeating school can often be worse than a head cold.

Thankfully, when I moved out to LA, the number of sick incidences went down. They went down even further when I discovered I'd been allergic to milk all my life.

I think the big thing that frustrates me about being sick in California is that you incur such high opportunity costs. Your alternatives of basking in the sun and having a picnic by the beach are greatly compromised for the option of sneezing and compiling a bag of wet tissues in front of the TBS movie "Fried Green Tomatoes."

And how do I know I'm sick? I slept 10 hours the night before, and I'm still closing my eyes at red lights without even realizing it. I'm almost forgetting huge things like, I don't know, my parents' anniversary.

I'm talking and moving at the speed of a three-toed sloth.

But what really clued me in that I was sick is that I had no complaints of partaking in "game night" with some nice, but rather married couples. Apparently, Camarillo is a great place to find inexpensive couches, and you can buy vanilla extract in Mexico for quite cheap.

But as I like to tell myself, there's no use crying over spilled milk, especially if I can't drink it.

Might as well rest, relax and see what's happening on Animal Planet. It is natural to catch the common cold, even in places as sunny as Santa Monica.

(Heidi can be reached at anydayin-la@gmail.com.)

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LOCAL

Chief: Measures vital to thwarting attacks

TERROR, from page 1

weekend. He didn't speculate when security might be scaled back to pre-threat levels, saying that doing so could jeopardize public safety.

Santa Monica Police Chief James T. Butts Jr. informed the public earlier this month that a citizen on July 3 spotted three men, each of Middle Eastern decent, suspiciously videotaping specific areas of the pier, including access roads and the SMPD's police substation.

Based on intelligence from other agencies, the same men had been seen recently videotaping the Vincent Thomas Bridge in Long Beach and the Huntington Beach Pier. Another agency confirmed that the same individuals were seen videotaping at the 2003 Academy Awards.

Butts said he was satisfied with the police department's quick response to the terror probe and believes the steps are essential to prevent an attack on the pier.

"I am confident and comfortable that we are proceeding at an extremely rapid pace to better secure the Pier, while at the same time maintaining its enjoyable aspects for the public," Butts said. "I think it's an absolute necessity and the majority of people we spoke to understood the response and thought it was minimally intrusive and commended the city on its proactive measure to ensure the safety of visitors."

"We received no negative comments from any of the merchants."

BETTER SAFE THAN SORRY?

The Santa Monica police have added four overtime officers and reconfigured their observation posts at the pier. Security has been increased underneath the pier and surrounding the structure's pilings.

Already underway are plans to train and hire additional K-9 officers with bomb-sniffing dogs. Butts anticipates hiring at least two new K-9 officers, but four may be necessary. The dogs themselves cost \$5,000 apiece and the specially-trained officers command about \$100,000 a year in salary.

There also will be increased security on the Third Street Promenade, including the installation of security cameras, which has already begun and will be expanded to include parts of the downtown area and the pier. Signs will be posted throughout the Bayside District indicating that there are cameras rolling.

Butts said he and city officials are cur-

rently working with a consultant about the size and scope of the project. The camera system's installation and equipment will likely be an emergency purchase and won't go out for a public bid. The cost of the surveillance system is estimated at \$1.1 million.

Santa Monica has been placed on a list for grant consideration by the California Office of Homeland Security. The maximum the city could receive under the "buffer zone protection fund" is \$50,000. About \$13 million of that fund is budgeted for 259 cities throughout California, Homeland Security officials said.

"I've been living here for 25 years, and it makes me very sad to see this."

It may be necessary, but it's not OK."

THERESE LEE
Venice resident

And while there are opportunities to receive more grant money from the Department of Homeland Security, city officials plan to move forward with the security enhancements and figure out how to pay for them later.

There were mixed results among Pier visitors on Sunday regarding the bolstered security efforts.

"We would rather be safe and inspected, it only took a minute," said Deb Dechellis, a tourist from Massachusetts who parked on the Pier after her car was searched.

However, Santa Monica resident Erin McFadden felt the police were crossing a fine line of privacy with the vehicular searches.

"This is America, not Israel," McFadden said. "To have to stop your car and be searched for not doing anything wrong is ridiculous."

"My guess is the police must be pretty scared about something bad happening, because they're risking a big lawsuit because of it."

Therese Lee, a Venice resident taking a stroll on Pier, said the security steps were unfortunate.

"I've been living here for 25 years, and it makes me very sad to see this," Lee said. "It may be necessary, but it's not OK."

Police say shootings could have been in self-defense

SHOOT-OUT, from page 1

yet identifying those involved in the incident. The shootings may have been in self-defense, Fabrega said.

One person involved sustained a gunshot wound to his leg, the other a gunshot wound to the torso.

Anyone with information is encouraged to contact the Robbery/Homicide Unit of the Santa Monica Police Department at 310-458-8451 or the Watch Commander's Office at (310) 458-8426. Callers who wish to remain anonymous may also call the WeTip national hotline at 1-800-78-CRIME (27463).

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Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

Hurry up and wait: Santa Monica College students endure long lines to purchase their fall text books on Monday, the first day of classes.

School daze: Semester begins amid confusion

SCHOOL DAZE, from page 1

in classes at the Bundy Campus. The shuttle lot will also be open for shuttling service during the evenings and all day Friday.

City Hall considers SMC's shuttle service at the beach lot a short-term solution for the college as it works to secure its own permanent shuttle lot. The college says it's working diligently to find one.

To notify students of the changes, the college has posted information on its Web site and distributed literature on campus.

Faculty is being asked to be patient with students arriving late to class until they are familiar with schedules and logistics.

METRICULATE AND CALCULATE

Bruce Smith, SMC spokesman, said the college's first-day student enrollment was 29,522, up 1.22 percent from last year at this time, when it was 29,167.

College officials hope to acquire 550 more full time students this year. That would restore \$2 million in funding lost in the past few years due to declining enrollment figures.

After the college reaches this enrollment mark, it will not be seeking any further expansion of its facilities in Santa Monica in order to increase the number of students it serves, Donner said. The col-

lege is also hopeful the state's funding formula will change in coming months so there is not an emphasis on growth.

Officials from City Hall, SMC and West LA met two weeks ago to begin addressing messy traffic and parking issues related to the airport shuttle lot and SMC's nearby Bundy satellite campus. As a result, it was agreed SMC will begin using Beach Parking Lot No. 5 as a temporary solution for parking and shuttle service to and from SMC's main campus. Meanwhile, City Hall continues to restrict students from having vehicular access to the Bundy campus and the airport shuttle lot.

Students who are taking classes at the Bundy satellite campus are allowed to park in the airport shuttle lot and walk across Airport Avenue to get to class. SMC students who are not taking classes at Bundy are prohibited from parking at the airport shuttle lot.

However, City Hall may be making efforts to open up some parking to continue bussing students from the airport to the main campus for the next three weeks, college officials said.

Donner said three weeks is about as much time needed before students adjust their schedules and know the routine they will need to have to persevere this fall.

"They're learning a lot right now," Donner said.



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DEAR DORIE

Nothing so funny 'bout peace, love and understanding

Dear Readers:
I have heard from many parents, friends and relatives that have concerns about a specific child's development. The most common question about a displayed behavior is, "Is that normal?" Most of these caring individuals are not sure how to investigate their concern. I want to emphasize just how important it is to evaluate and, if necessary, gain access to appropriate intervention in the event your little one has a developmental delay or disorder.
We are fortunate here in Santa Monica to have access to a number of screening and assessment services, free of charge. Our local "Regional Center" is required by law to assist parents with young children, ages birth to three. You may or may not require assistance, but it can't hurt to ask. They may be contacted at 310-258-4000. Ask for the Early Start program.
Comprehensive assessment services are also offered nearby, via the St. John's Health Center Early Childhood Assessment & Treatment Team (ECAT), serving infants and children, ages birth to five years, as well as their caregivers. Call 310-829-8678 for program information.
If you have concerns about a loved one that is already 3 years of age, contact your school district at 310-458-8330. They will guide you through the evaluative process.
Finally, if the ultimate goal of all parenting is to produce a happy and productive adult, we need to view early identification as another way to fully understand your child. A child who is understood stands a better chance of growing up happy. And happy children equal a brighter future, and that means a better world.

Dorie

(Submit your questions to 'Dear Dorie' at meek@smmusd.org or call (310) 452-6132)

Of ease and Zzzs: Getting baby into right sleep pattern

BY BARBARA BISHOP & JULIE WATT
Special to the Daily Press

SANTA MONICA — When babies are new, it seems they sleep all of the time, but they also wake frequently to eat — disrupting their parents' normal sleep patterns. By about 3 months of age, however, most babies will have developed a sleep routine that is manageable to parents.
By age 3 months, most sleep is being accomplished at night. Daytime sleeping has become more predictable, with increasingly longer periods of wakefulness. Naps and bedtimes are beginning to follow a schedule.
As babies mature, they sleep for longer periods at night. By 3 months, most babies can sleep for about five to six hours straight, and by 6 to 9 months, most infants are sleeping about nine hours at night without waking to be fed.

SET A ROUTINE

You can help your infant develop good nighttime sleep patterns by setting a bedtime routine as early as 3 months. The routine can be as simple as singing a nursery rhyme. Later, older children will enjoy being read a story, says Dr. Jeffrey Penso, a pediatrician with Saint John's Health Center in Santa Monica. It is important to have the house quiet during bedtime and to keep the lights low.
Try not to let your baby fall asleep anywhere but the crib. It is important for babies to fall asleep on their own rather than in your arms. Falling asleep on their own teaches independence.

NIGHTTIME WAKING

It is normal for children and adults to wake up briefly during the night for a few minutes, but they should be able to fall back asleep without any trouble. If you hear your baby wake up at night, give them a few minutes to fall back asleep by themselves.
If your baby needs you to help them fall back asleep,

however, go to your baby and pat them gently or sing a song. Keep the lights low and keep the noise down. It may be helpful to keep a nightlight in your child's room. The low light will comfort them when they do wake up, and a nightlight will allow you to see without turning on the overhead lights. Make sure anything you need for a diaper change is easily accessible. It is important not to wake baby any more than necessary.
Most importantly, says Dr. Penso, try to keep your child in their crib. Sit in the room with your baby and give them reassurance, but do not take them out of the crib. You may want to hang a mobile over the crib or place a few safe toys in your baby's crib. Some children like to play for a minute and then go back to sleep.

THE NEED FOR NAPS

When they are new, babies take many naps each day. By 6 months, most babies are fine taking two naps daily. By about 1 year of age, they need only a single nap. Referred to as a "power nap", the single nap is usually two to three hours in duration. At this age, babies are usually sleeping 10 or more hours a night.
Even if it seems your baby won't sleep, don't despair. Children eventually adjust their own sleep needs to the routine you set.
Experts like Dr. Penso at Saint John's Health Center in Santa Monica are on hand to help you learn how to care for your baby. To find a physician, log onto the Saint John's website at www.stjohns.org. Select "Find a Physician" and respond to the computer prompts. Browsers can choose from a wide range of specialists, which are then sorted by location, gender and language. The service instantly refers patients to one of Saint John's experienced and caring physicians.

(To learn more about the Health Center's state-of-the-art birthing suites or to take a tour of the McAlister Women's Health Center and the Maria Shriver Nursery at Saint John's, please call 310-829-8794.)



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SPECIAL EVENTS

ONGOING THROUGH SEPT. 5 at CALIFORNIA SCIENCE CENTER

Open daily 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. Discover the secrets of science at the West Coast's largest hands-on science center. The newest attraction, Robots + Us allows kids to build their own robots, use their bodies to control robotic flowers, and visit Low-Life Labs to see what robot designers are learning from cockroaches and other simple life forms. Kids younger than six will enjoy the Discovery Rooms in Creative World, World of Life, and the adjacent free-admission museum, the Air and Space Gallery. Best times to visit are weekends or after 1:30 p.m. on weekdays.

Exposition Park, 700 State Dr., LA, 323-SCI-ENCE, www.californiasciencecenter.org.

ONGOING THROUGH SEPT. 5 at the NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM

PAVILION of WINGS, 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. daily. Don't miss this live butterfly exhibition with over 7,000 individual butterflies and moths flitting and fluttering by. \$3 adults, \$1 children, 900 Exposition Dr., 213-763-3387

THURSDAY, SEPT. 1 TWILIGHT DANCE SERIES – 7:30 p.m. – LAST NIGHT!

Enjoy the 21st season of this great musical event on the pier presented by LACarGuy.com. Tonight enjoy a Pop-Punk Extravaganza with Shonen Knife and The Knack. Parents with small children – I recommend bringing a picnic to the beach just south of the pier where the kids can run around and you can still enjoy the music. This is truly one of Santa Monica's best events. For more info visit www.twilight-dance.org.

RHYTHM and GREENS CONCERT –5:00 p.m. Enjoy a family-friendly concert. FREE! Crestwood Recreation Center, 1000 Hanley Ave., Brentwood, 472-5233.

SAT. SEPT. 3 BIG! WORLD! FUN! FAMILY SERIES at the FORD – 10:00 a.m.

Today's performance features Reflections in Black presented by the Lula Washington Dance Theatre. Ages 4 -11, \$5. John Anson Ford Theatre, 2580 Cahuenga Blvd., Hollywood, 323-461-3673, www.fordamphitheatre.org A FAERY HUNT – 10:30 a.m. Search for fairies and other enchanted creatures in this interactive show. All ages, \$10 suggested donation. Sooky Goldman Nature Center, parking lot, 2600 Franklin Canyon Dr., Beverly Hills, 858-7272, ext. 131

SUN., SEPT. 4 ARTFUL WEEKENDS at the GETTY – 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Join a drop-in workshop to create your own masterpiece. Offered in English and Spanish. FREE! \$7 parking, 1200 Getty Center Dr., 440-7300.

BACK TO SCHOOL CRAFTS at the ZIMMER – 2:00 & 3:00 p.m.

Kids get to make lunchbox and backpack decorations. \$3 with admission: \$5 adults, \$3 children. Zimmer Children's Museum, 6505 Wilshire Blvd, LA, 323-761-8989.

***SPECIAL NOTE – many of the library story times are on break. Please check the list below carefully and check back for exact starting dates.**

TUESDAY

MOMS Club of Santa Monica Playgroup – 11:00 a.m., for children born 1/04 – 9/04. Call or email Alison at 393-4481/riversalison@hotmail.com for more info. All moms welcome!

Movies for Moms! 11:00 a.m., Loews Cineplex Broadway Theatre, 1441 3rd St. Promenade – for Moms and babies newborn – 1 year old. Today's movie, Aug. 30, is The Brothers Grimm starring Matt Damon, Heath Ledger and Peter Stormare; Fantasy/Adventure, Rated "PG-13." Doors open early for socializing and getting comfortable. Visit www.enjoytheshow.com/reelmoms for details.

Storytelling

Main Library – held at Reed Park, corner of 7th and Wilshire.

Toddler and Preschool Storytime begin Sept. 6. **Fairview Branch Library** – 2101 Ocean Park Blvd – 310-450-0443.

Cuentos Para Pequenos and Lap Time begin Sept. 6.

Twilight Story Time -7pm – an ongoing program for 3-5 year olds.

Montana Avenue Branch Library – 1704 Montana Ave – 310-829-7081.

Family Story Time – 7:00 p.m., all ages.

Ocean Park Branch Library – 2601 Main St. – 310-392-3804.

Toddler Storytime, 10:00 and 10:30. Music, rhymes and stories for 2 to 3 year olds. Next session Sept. 13 – Oct. 18. Registration begins Aug. 31.

Tiny Tuesday Storytime at Storyopolis For ages infant to 3. 11:00 a.m. 116 North Robertson, Plaza A, LA. 310-358-2500, www.storyopolis.com

Barnes and Noble at the Grove Storytime for ages 2 – 6. 10:00 a.m. 189 Grove Drive, LA, 323-525-0270

Classes

YWCA – A Place for Parents –Toddler & Me Class - 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. – walkers to 3 years, (Mon – Fri); Infant & Me Class – 10:45 – 11:45 a.m. and 1:30 – 2:30 p.m., 0 – 12 months; 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881for details and prices.

YMCA – Attachment Parenting Classes - 2:00 – 3:30 p.m., 1332 Sixth St., 393-2721 (ask for Shelana Philip-Guide or Audrey Meyer). This new class for mothers/dads and babies up to 12 months is presented by Karol Darsa, PsyD, a licensed psychologist with extensive experience working with children and families. Fees: Members – 1 class - \$40, 5 class pass - \$180; Non-members - \$50, 5 class pass - \$200. BREAKTHROUGH PARENTING CLASSES – 7:00 – 9:30 p.m.

An advanced 10-week parent education course. Continuous enrollment. For info call Jayne A. Major, Ph.D., Breakthrough Parenting Services, Inc., 310-823-7846, jm@BPinAction.org.

Yoga & Exercise

Prenatal Aqua Aerobics at the Santa Monica

YMCA

10:00 – 11:00 a.m and 7:30 – 8:30 p.m; Free for members, non-members \$90 for 10 classes. (also Thursday nights 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.) 393-2721. ext. 117 for more info.

Yoga Works – 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150; Pre/postnatal – 12:15 – 1:40 p.m., \$15. Mommy and Me – 1:45 – 3:00 p.m.

Mommy Care – at the Dance Factory, 11606 San Vicente Blvd., Brentwood, 310-394-6711. Combined Pregnancy/Recovery Exercise Group – 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.. (babies welcome, includes baby massage and workout at the end)

Itsy Bitsy Yoga – Baby IBY (6 weeks to pre-crawling) – 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. With Khefri Riley at Ocean Oasis, 1333 Ocean Ave. Register at www.khefri.net or call 323-549-5383.

Stroller Strides Fitness Class – 9:30 a.m. Mon. – Fri., Palisades Park, call 800-795-6708 or visit www.strollerstrides.com for more info.

Breastfeeding Group

The Pump Station, 2415 Wilshire Blvd., 310-998-1981 - no pre-reg required, first class free, \$10 fee thereafter. Moms/babies 0-4 months, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

WEDNESDAY

MOMS Club of Santa Monica Playgroups – 4:30 p.m., separate groups for children born in 2000 and 2001. Call or email Alison at 393-4481/riversalison@hotmail.com for more info. All moms welcome!

Storytelling

The Talking Stick Coffee Lounge – 1630 Ocean Park Blvd., 450-6052

10:30 a.m. Free story time for moms and kids ages 0-4 at this neighborhood coffee shop.

Fairview Branch Library – 2101 Ocean Park Blvd – 310-450-0443.

Toddler and Preschool Story Time begin Sept. 7.

Montana Avenue Branch Library – 1704 Montana Ave – 310-829-7081.

Lap Time - 10:15 & 11:15 a.m., ages 0-2. Next session begins Sept. 7.

Ocean Park Branch Library – 2601 Main St. – 392-3804.

Preschool Twilight Story Time – 7:00 – 7:30 p.m. Parents/children ages 3-5.

Barnes and Noble, Westside Pavilion – 2 pm – ages 2-5 – 310-475-4144

Border's, Westwood – 11am – 310-475-3444.

Classes

Rhythm Child Parent & Me Rhythms, Santa Monica Studios, 3025 Olympic Blvd., 9:30 – 10:15 a.m. Children explore rhythms through drum play. Ages 6 mos. – 3.5 years; \$100 for 8 weeks. Call 204-5466 or visit www.rhythm-child.net for more info and session dates.

YWCA – A Place for Parents –Toddler & Me Class - 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. – walkers to 3 years; (Mon – Fri); 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881for details and prices.

Yoga & Exercise

Yoga Works, 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150 Pre/Postnatal – 12:15 – 1:45pm, \$15 **Fitness for Moms** – Babies Welcome! Step Aerobics, 10:30 a.m. at the YMCA, 393-2721, ext. 117 for more info. Free for members, non-

members pay \$90 for 10 classes. **Stroller Strides Fitness Class** – 9:30 a.m. Mon. – Fri., Palisades Park, call 800-795-6708 or visit www.strollerstrides.com for more info.

Breastfeeding Group

The Pump Station, 2415 Wilshire Blvd., 310-998-1981, no pre-reg required, first class free, \$10 fee thereafter. Moms/babies 0-4 months, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

Other

Puppetolio – 1:00 p.m., 310-656-0483, 1255 2nd St., ages 3 & up, reservations suggested

THURSDAY

MOMS Club of Santa Monica Playgroup – 3:30 p.m., for children born 3/03 – 12/03. Call or email Alison at 393-4481/riversalison@hotmail.com for more info. All moms welcome!

Storytelling

Babystyle, 1324 Montana Avenue, 434-9590 10:30 a.m. Free story time for moms and kids ages 0-4.

Main Library – held at Reed Park, corner of 7th and Wilshire.

Toddler and Preschool Storytime begin Sept. 7. Fairview Branch Library – 2101 Ocean Park Blvd – 310-450-0443.

La Hora Del Cuento – 7:00 p.m. Spanish stories, songs and rhymes for all ages.

Youth Chess Club – 4:00 – 6:00 p.m. All levels welcome.

Montana Avenue Branch Library – 1704 Montana Ave – 310-829-7081.

Toddler Story Time – 10:15 a.m., for 2 year olds, next session begins Sept. 8.

Preschool Story Time – 11:15 a.m.; for 3-5 year olds.

Ocean Park Branch Library – 2601 Main St. – 310-392-3804.

Lap Time – 9:20 & 10:20 a.m. Current session Sept. 1 – Oct. 6.

Classes

YWCA – A Place for Parents –Toddler & Me Class - 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. – walkers to 3 years; (Mon – Fri); 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881for details and prices.

BREAKTHROUGH PARENTING CLASSES – 6:30 – 9:30 p.m.

An advanced 10-week parent education course. Continuous enrollment. For info call Jayne A. Major, Ph.D., Breakthrough Parenting Services, Inc., 310-823-7846, jm@BPinAction.org.

Yoga & Exercise

Prenatal Aqua Aerobics at the Santa Monica YMCA

7:30 – 8:30 p.m; Free for members, non-members \$90 for 10 classes. (also Tuesdays at 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. and 7:30 – 8:30 p.m.) 393-2721. ext. 117 for more info.

Yoga Works – 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150; Pre/postnatal – 12:15 – 1:40 p.m., \$15. Mommy and Me – 1:45 – 3:00 p.m.

Stroller Strides Fitness Class – 9:30 a.m. Mon. – Fri., Palisades Park, call 800-795-6708 or visit www.strollerstrides.com for more info.

Breastfeeding Group

The Pump Station, 2415 Wilshire Blvd., 310-

998-1981 - no pre-reg required, first class free, \$10 fee thereafter. Moms/babies 4-8 months, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.

FRIDAY

MOMS Club of Santa Monica – New Mother Group – for new moms with babies born from 10/04 to present. Meet for conversation, support and playtime. All new Moms welcome! Call or e-mail Alison at 393-4481, riversalison@hotmail.com for more info.

Parent's Night Out at Child's Play, 2299 Westwood Blvd., 6:00 – 11:00 p.m.

Kids get a night of supervised fun with pizza, games and more while parents go out. Ages 3-10, \$9 per hour, \$7 siblings, 3 hour minimum. Reservations required, 470-4997. www.child-splayonline.net

La Leche League of LA/Mar Vista – meets the 2nd Friday of each month at 10:00 a.m. Call 310-390-2529 for info.

Planetarium Show at SMC's John Drescher Planetarium, 7:00 p.m. - Night Sky Show, 8:00 p.m. – featured program. \$5 adults, \$4 children. Pico and 17th St., 434-3000.

Classes

YWCA – A Place for Parents –Toddler & Me Class - 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. – walkers to 3 years; (Mon – Fri); 2019 14th St. Call 452-3881for details and prices.

Yoga & Exercise

Fitness for Moms – Babies Welcome! Indoor Cycling, 10:30 a.m. at the YMCA, 393-2721, ext. 117 for more info. Free for members, non-members pay \$90 for 10 classes.

Yoga Works – 2215 Montana Ave, 310-393-5150; Pre/postnatal – 12:15 – 1:45 p.m., \$15.

Stroller Strides Fitness Class – 9:30 a.m. Mon. – Fri., Palisades Park, call 800-795-6708 or visit www.strollerstrides.com for more info.

Other

Baby Attuned - Fridays, 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m., A new program promoting sensitive parenting and developmental awareness. Eileen Escarce, PhD, MSN. (PSY 18819). Introductory fee: \$15 per screening with feedback. 1137 2nd Ave, Suite 213. By appointment only 310-367-1155.

SATURDAY

Storytelling

Barnes and Noble, 3rd St. Promenade – Kid's Story Time – 10am, 310-260-9110

Barnes and Noble, Westside Pavilion – 10:30am – ages 2-5, 310-475-4144.

Children's Book World, 10580 1/2 Pico Blvd, LA - 10:30 a.m., 310-559-B00K.

Village Books, 1049 SwarthmoreAve, Pacific Palisades – 10:30 a.m., 454-4063.

826LA, 685 Venice Blvd, 2nd Floor, Venice – 10:30 – 11:30 a.m., ages 3-6, RSVP to info @825LA.com or 310-314-8418. (826LA is a non-profit organization dedicated to supporting students with their creative and expository writing skills, and to helping teachers inspire their students to write).

Classes

YWCA – Toddler & Me every other Sat., 9:45 – 10:45 a.m., \$15 per class; Parent Enrichment

once per month , 11:00 a.m. – noon, \$15 per class, \$25 per couple.

Yoga & Exercise

Santa Monica Yoga – Pre- & Post-Natal Yoga, Saturdays – 12:30 – 2:00 p.m.

1640 Ocean Park Blvd, 396-4040, www.santa-monicayoga.com

Mommy Care – at the Dance Factory, 11606 San Vicente Blvd., Brentwood, 310-394-6711. Combined Pregnancy/Recovery Exercise Group – 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.(babies welcome, includes baby massage and workout at the end)

Stroller Strides Fitness Class – 9:00 a.m., Palisades Park, call 800-795-6708 or visit www.strollerstrides.com for more info.

Other

Emerging Artists Family Workshop - 10:00 a.m. – noon.

Program varies, ages 6 and up, \$12. Santa Monica Museum of Art, 2419 Michigan Ave, 586-6488, ext. 32.

Barney Madness at the Santa Monica Playhouse

Saturdays & Sundays at 12:30 & 3:00 p.m, thru Sept. 25; \$12 adults, \$10.50 kids ages 12 & under. 394-9779 ext. 2 for reservations, www.santamonicaplayhouse.com, 1211 4th St.

Puppetolio – 1:00 and 3:00pm, 310-656-0483, 1255 2nd St., ages 3 & up, reservations suggested

Magicopolis – 2 and 8 p.m., 1418 4th St., Admission is \$20 for evening, \$15 for matinee. Call 310-451-2241 for info.

Precious Prints – Ceramic Heirlooms for a Lifetime

Second Saturday every month at The Pump Station, 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Contact Kristan Ritchie at 310-802-8013 or visit www.preciousprintstudios.com for more info.

Lakeshore Learning Stores "Free Crafts for Kids" – Saturdays, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m., 8888 Venice Blvd., 559-9630.

SUNDAY

Main Street Farmer's Market – 9:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m., corner of Main St. and Ocean Park Blvd. Pony rides, live music, lots of vendors and great family socializing.

Puppetolio – 1:00 and 3:00pm, 310-656-0483, 1255 2nd St., ages 3 & up, reservations suggested

Magicopolis – 2 p.m., 1418 4th St., Admission is \$15. Call 310-451-2241 for info.

Barney Madness at the Santa Monica Playhouse

Saturdays & Sundays at 12:30 & 3:00 p.m, thru Sept. 25; \$12 adults, \$10.50 kids ages 12 & under. 394-9779 ext. 2 for reservations, www.santamonicaplayhouse.com, 1211 4th St.

Family Funday at the Will Geer Theatre Botanicum – 11:00 a.m Live music and theatre for all ages. \$8, 1419 N. Topanga Canyon Blvd., Topanga, 455-3723, www.theatricum.com.

Breastfeeding

Working Mother's Support Group

The Pump Station, 2415 Wilshire Blvd. - Call 998-1981 for more info.

MONDAY – HAPPY LABOR DAY!



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Texas showdown: Dueling rallies descend on Crawford

BY ANGELA K. BROWN
Associated Press Writer

CRAWFORD, Texas — Several thousand people descended on President Bush's adopted hometown Saturday, most in a cross-country caravan for a pro-Bush rally and others to support an anti-war demonstration led by grieving mother Cindy Sheehan.

Bush supporters gathered for an event marking the culmination of the "You don't speak for me, Cindy!" tour, which started last week in California. The crowd of about 1,500 chanted, "Cindy, go home!"

"You are giving hope and encouragement to the enemies of America," said former California Assemblyman Howard Kaloogian, a Republican who co-founded the group that coordinated the rally.

Meanwhile, busloads of war protesters gathered several miles away at "Camp Casey," named for Sheehan's 24-year-old son who died in Iraq last year. Several hundred people attended a bell-ringing ceremony honoring soldiers serving in Iraq.

"I know that the Camp Casey movement is going to end the war in Iraq," Sheehan said, adding that no other families should have to suffer the loss of a relative. She led the crowd in chanting "Not one more!"

A few Bush supporters went to the edge of the anti-war camp on Saturday, trying to remove some of the hundreds of white crosses bearing fallen soldiers' names. They had a list from families who did not want their sons' or daughters' names associated with Sheehan's group.

Sheriff's deputies said they could

remove the name tags but not the crosses, so the group removed a few tags and left without incident.

There also were some heated moments at the pro-Bush rally when Bush supporters mistakenly identified two people as war protesters. The two walked in with a sign that read "Say No to War _ Unless a Democrat is President."

Many Bush supporters only saw the top of the sign and believed the men were war protesters, so they began shouting and chasing the pair out. One man tore up their signs.

When Will Marean of Minneapolis kept repeating that he was on the Bush side, one Bush supporter shook his hand and apologized.

Sheehan, of Vacaville, Calif. started camping out off the road leading to Bush's ranch on Aug. 6, soon after the president's Texas vacation began. She vowed to remain unless he talked to her about the war with Iraq that claimed the life of her son Casey and more than 1,870 other U.S. soldiers.

Sheehan said that after the protest ends Wednesday, some of the group will spread its message on a tour, with the first stop probably in the Texas district of House Majority Leader Tom DeLay, a Republican.

Bush has said he appreciates Sheehan's right to protest and understands her anguish but will not change his schedule to meet with her. His vacation is to end Sept. 2.

Sheehan and other grieving families met with Bush about two months after her son died last year, before she became a vocal opponent of the war.

Incoming seniors will be first class put to the test

EXIT EXAMS, from page 1

respond to the criticism directly, but said he believes the test improves instruction. He touted funding increases for tutoring and remediation programs intended to help students pass.

"This is important to me because I'm a big believer in education and the exit exam," Schwarzenegger said. "For too long we have had students graduate without the necessary skills in math and English. Their diploma has no meaning and they leave high school unprepared for college or a career."

This year's incoming seniors are the first to be required to pass the multiple-choice, two-part exam to get a diploma.

Test results released earlier this month drew criticism from some legislators and education advocates, who say the test discriminates against students who attend lower-achieving schools and those for whom English is not their primary language.

Advocates also challenged the data released by the California Department of Education, saying officials inflated the numbers by not factoring in high-school dropouts.

In his address Saturday, Schwarzenegger praised the results.

"And the great news is that 88 percent

of high school seniors have passed the test, up from 75 percent last year. This is fantastic but we won't be satisfied until we reach 100 percent," he said.

According the Department of Education, 88 percent of students have passed the math portion of the exam. The same percentage have passed the English portion. But the percentage of students who have passed both sections will not be released until September.

Those numbers are far lower for special education students.

Only about half the special education students entering their senior year have passed the math portion. About 45 percent have yet to pass the English portion.

As part of a legal settlement announced Friday, Superintendent of Public Instruction Jack O'Connell agreed to propose and support legislation that would exempt special education students from the requirement this year only.

A bill already moving through the Legislature would allow school districts to provide alternate graduation criteria for students who fail to pass the exam.

Schwarzenegger did not mention the bill in his remarks, but said he wanted "every student who is struggling to get the help they need to pass the exam." The budget includes nearly \$70 million for exit exam programs, he said.

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NATIONAL



Hurricane Katrina takes Big Easy by storm

BY ADAM NOSSITER

Associated Press Writer

NEW ORLEANS — Hurricane Katrina plowed into this below-sea-level city Monday with howling, 145-mph winds and blinding rain that flooded some homes to the ceilings and ripped away part of the roof of the Superdome, where thousands of people had taken shelter.

Katrina weakened overnight to a Category 4 storm and turned slightly eastward before hitting land about 6:10 a.m. CDT east of Grand Isle near the bayou town of Buras, providing some hope that this vulnerable city would be spared the storm's full fury.

But National Hurricane Center Director Max Mayfield warned that New Orleans would be pounded throughout the day and that Katrina's potential 15-foot storm surge, down from a feared 28 feet, was still substantial enough to cause extensive flooding.

"I'm not doing too good right now," Chris Robinson said via cellphone from his home east of the city's downtown. "The water's rising pretty fast. I got a hammer and an ax and a crowbar, but I'm holding off on breaking through the roof until the last minute. Tell someone to come get me please. I want to live."

Along the Gulf Coast, the storm hurled boats onto land in Mississippi, lashed street lamps and flooded roads in Alabama, and swamped highway bridges and knocked out power to 28,000 people in the Florida Panhandle. New Orleans, which was in particular peril because it is so low-lying, was ordered evacuated over the weekend, and an estimated 80 percent of its 480,000 residents complied.

At the Superdome, home to 9,000 storm refugees, wind peeled pieces of metal from the golden roof, leaving two holes that let water drip in. People inside were moved out of the way.

Others stayed and watched as sheets of metal flapped and rumbled loudly. From the floor, looking up more than 19 stories, it appeared to be openings of about six feet long. Outside, one of the 10-foot, concrete clock pylons set up around the Superdome blew over.

"The Superdome is not in any dangerous situation," Gov. Kathleen Blanco said.

Scores of windows were blown out at some of New Orleans' hotels. At the Windsor Court Hotel, guests were told to go into the interior hallways with blankets and pillows and to keep the doors closed to the rooms to avoid flying glass.

At 10 a.m. EDT, Katrina was centered about 30 miles southeast of New Orleans. That put the western eye wall with some of the fiercest weather over New Orleans. The storm's winds dropped to 135 mph as it pushed inland, threatening the Gulf Coast and the Tennessee Valley with as much as 15 inches of rain over the next couple of days and up to 8 inches in the drought-stricken Ohio Valley and eastern Great Lakes.

Katrina was a terrifying, 175-mph Category 5 behemoth — the most powerful category on the scale — before weakening.

Mayfield said at midmorning the worst flooding from storm surge was on the Mississippi coast, east of the eye, with the highest storm surge recorded so far at 22 feet in Bay St. Louis.

Along U.S. 90 in Mississippi, the major coastal route that is home to the state's casinos, sailboats were washed onto the four-lane highway.

"This is a devastating hit — we've got boats that have gone into buildings," Gulfport Fire Chief Pat Sullivan said as he maneuvered around downed trees in the city. "What you're looking at is Camille II."

In 1969, Hurricane Camille, a Category 5 storm, killed 256 people in Mississippi and Louisiana. Storm surges were measured at 24 feet in some places.

In Gulf Shores, Ala., which nearly a year ago was Ground Zero for Hurricane Ivan's destruction, waves crashed over the seawalls and street lights danced in the howling winds.

About 370,000 customers in southeastern Louisiana were without power, said Chenel Lagarde, spokesman for Entergy Corp., the main energy power company in the region.

In New Orleans' French Quarter, where the power went out at 6:35 a.m., hotel residents huddled inside in the midmorning darkness as winds howled, a horizontal rain pinged against the windows, and slate roof tiles tore off.

At the hotel Le Richelieu, the winds blew open sets of balcony french doors shortly after dawn. Seventy-three-year-old Josephine Elow of New Orleans pressed her weight against the broken doors as a hotel employee tried to secure them.

"It's not life-threatening," Mrs. Elow said as rain water dripped from her face. "God's got our back."

Elow's daughter, Darcel Elow, was awakened before dawn by a high-pitched howling that sounded like a trumpeting elephant.

"I thought it was the horn to tell everybody to leave out the hotel," she said as she walked the hall in her nightgown.

For years, forecasters have warned of the nightmare scenario a big storm could bring to New Orleans, a bowl of a city that is up to 10 feet below sea level in spots and relies on a network of levees, canals and pumps to keep dry from the Mississippi River on one side, Lake Pontchartrain on the other.

The fear was that flooding could overrun the levees and turn New Orleans into a toxic lake filled with chemicals and petroleum from refineries, as well as waste from ruined septic systems.

In the uptown area of New Orleans on the south shore of Lake Pontchartrain, floodwaters by 8 a.m. had already intruded on the first stories of some houses and some roads were impassable.

The National Weather Service reported that a levee broke on the Industrial Canal near the St. Bernard-Orleans parish line, and 3 to 8 feet of flooding was possible. The Industrial Canal is a 5.5-mile waterway that connects the

Mississippi River to the Intracoastal Waterway.

Crude oil futures spiked to more than \$70 a barrel in Singapore for the first time Monday as Katrina targeted an area crucial to the country's energy infrastructure, but the price had slipped back to \$68.95 by midday in Europe. The storm already forced the shutdown of an estimated 1 million barrels of refining capacity.

Terry Ebbert, New Orleans director of homeland security, said more than 4,000 National Guardsmen were mobilizing in Memphis and would help police New Orleans streets.

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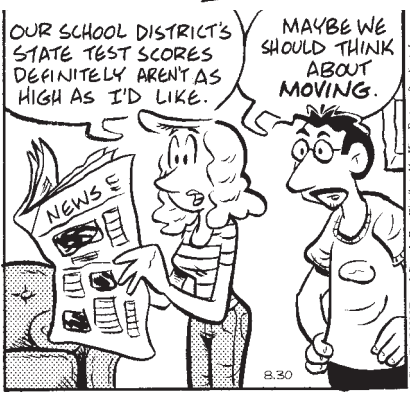


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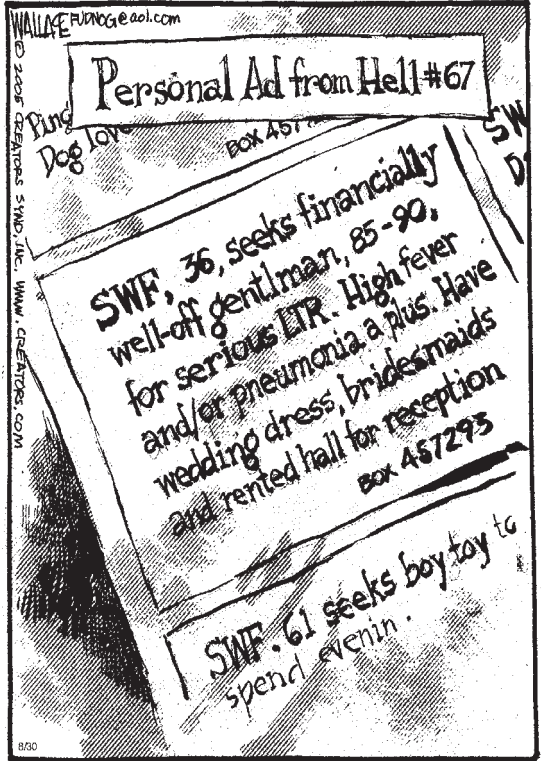


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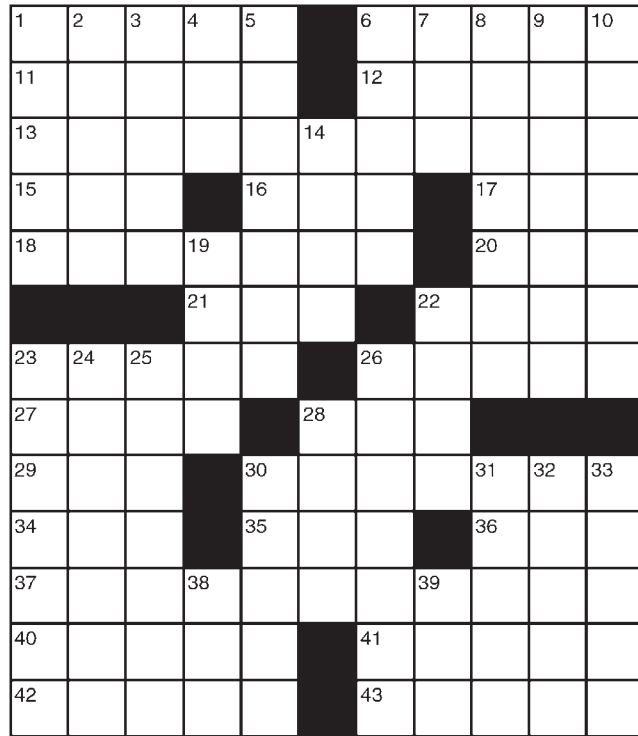
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- 41 Pound part

- 42 Visionaries
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- 1 Walks nervously
- 2 Make amends
- 3 Merchandise
- 4 Moose's cousin
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- 6 Stinging insects
- 7 Bat wood
- 8 Make angry
- 9 Reason for overtime
- 10 Came in
- 14 Chow
- 19 One of the Jacksons
- 22 Dandies
- 23 Formidable rivals
- 24 Paradigm
- 25 Spend extravagantly
- 26 Weak fellow
- 28 Did garden work
- 30 Learns about
- 31 Prom attendees
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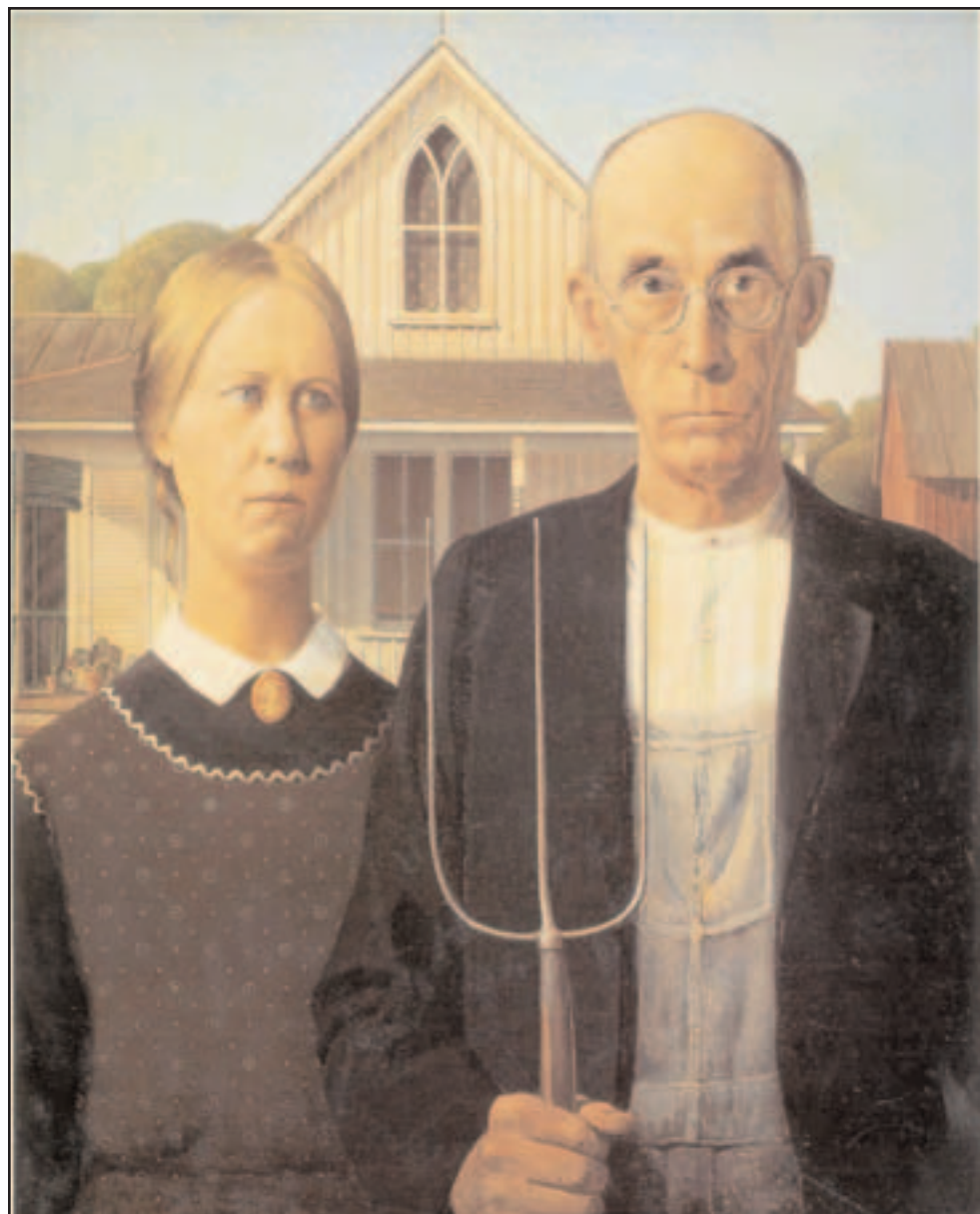
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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

‘Iron Man’s’ wife pulls the plug on Iron Maiden

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Sharon Osbourne says she cut Iron Maiden’s power during a concert on this summer’s Ozzfest tour.

The wife of rock icon Ozzy Osbourne has accused the heavy metal group’s singer Bruce Dickinson of bad-mouthing her husband on stage.

“Dickinson got what he deserved,” Osbourne wrote in a letter to the group’s manager. “Was Dickinson so naive to think that I was going to let him get away with talking ... about my family night after night?”

During the same show in Devore earlier this month, Iron Maiden’s members were pelted with eggs and debris from the crowd.

The group’s manager, Rod Smallwood, said the band deserved an apology “from a number of people, and you know who you are.”

“In 30 years in this business and after attending hundreds of gigs, I have never seen anything anywhere near as disgusting and unprofessional as what went on that night,” Smallwood wrote in a statement on Iron Maiden’s Web site.

LANSING, Mich. — A county judge should have allowed a jury to hear evidence of a recorded telephone conversation in an assault trial involving rap star Diddy’s entourage, but the Michigan Court of Appeals has ruled the error was harmless.

The appellate court issued an unanimous opinion Friday affirming a judgment in favor of Sean Combs’ record label and bodyguard. The hip-hop mogul was known as P. Diddy until recently and also has gone by Puff Daddy and Puffy.

TV talk-show host Roger Mills sued the rapper, his label Bad Boy Entertainment, bodyguard Ron Gilyard and Detroit radio station WCHB-FM in 2001, alleging

he was attacked after a 1999 interview with Combs.

Mills said Combs abruptly ended the interview when asked to comment about allegations that he contributed to the 1997 shooting death of fellow rapper Notorious B.I.G. The case remains unsolved. Combs’ album “No Way Out” featured a Grammy-winning tribute to Wallace, entitled “I’ll Be Missing You.”

Mills said members of Combs’ entourage roughed him up and stole the tape of the interview, breaking a camera in the process.

A jury ruled in favor of Combs and others in 2004, finding no assault and battery occurred. Mills appealed.

The appeals court said a recorded telephone conversation between Gilyard and Mills — in which the bodyguard said Combs directed him to “get the tape” — should have been allowed as evidence.

But the court ruled the error was harmless, saying the tape didn’t establish the rapper gave any instruction to the bodyguard nor did it show Combs authorized an assault.

BEIJING — The television finale of an “American Idol”-type pop star contest in China has broken ratings records, according to state media.

Millions of people tuned in Friday to Hunan Satellite Television for the live, three-hour finale of “Super Girls,” the official China Daily newspaper said.

Li Yuchun, 21, was named champion of the “Super Girls 2005” contest after garnering 3.5 million votes from fans all over China, according to the Beijing Youth Daily newspaper.

Votes were accepted by mobile phone text message and each phone number was allowed 15 votes.

Li just topped 20-year-old Zhou Bichang, who got 3.2 million votes.

For weeks, fans have been turning up at malls around China shouting and carrying posters of their favorite “Super Girls” contestants in a bid to rally votes in their

favor.

Security guards were called in last week at two local malls after “Super Girls” fans became unruly while lobbying shoppers to vote for their aspiring star, the local newspaper Shanghai Daily reported.

LONDON — Best-selling American crime writer Patricia Cornwell has taken out a full-page newspaper ad to defend her investigation into solving a 19th century killing spree.

The ads in two British national newspapers on Saturday came days after one of the papers accused her of having an “obsession” with the Jack the Ripper case.

“My ongoing investigation is far from an obsession, but an excellent opportunity to provide a platform for applying modern science to a very old, highly visible case in the hope that we might learn something that could help solve modern crimes,” Cornwell wrote in the ads, published in The Independent and The Guardian.

In a 2002 book, Cornwell claimed to have solved the mystery of the Ripper, who murdered and mutilated at least five prostitutes in London’s filthy, foggy East End in 1888. The killer was never caught and his identity has been a subject of speculation ever since.

“Portrait of a Killer: Jack the Ripper — Case Closed” pointed the finger at Walter Sickert, an Impressionist painter and printmaker.

The theory was greeted with skepticism by Jack the Ripper experts, many of whom have their own theories about the killer’s identity.

In the advertisement, Cornwell said she still believed Sickert was the killer, but acknowledged that “the case is far from closed.”

She said a new edition of her book, incorporating fresh evidence, would be published next year. Cornwell has spent millions of dollars on the Ripper investigation, including the purchase of dozens of Sickert’s paintings.

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