

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

00000

FANTASY 5

35, 19, 27, 23, 29

DAILY 3

Afternoon picks: 7, 0, 2

Evening picks: 8, 7, 2

DAILY DERBY

1st Place: 12, Lucky Charms

2nd Place: 3, Hot Shot

3rd Place: 09, Winning Spirit

Race Time: 1:46.55



NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

Researchers Steven Potter (Georgia Tech) and Guy Ben-Ary (University of Western Australia, Perth) have created a robotic "arm" that makes a painter's rudimentary brush strokes at Ben-Ary's lab, directed over the Internet by its "brain" (composed of 50,000 rat neurons in a petri dish) in Potter's lab, according to a July report from BBC News. According to Potter, the brain is not yet classically "intelligent" but does "adapt" (i.e., experience less chaos) and thus strokes more smoothly over time.



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Everything has been figured out except how to live."

— Jean-Paul Sartre



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Arnold Schwarzenegger volunteer center opens

Protesters march along Fourth Street sidewalk

BY JOHN WOOD

Daily Press Staff Writer

While Arnold Schwarzenegger rallied supporters at the new volunteer headquarters in downtown Santa Monica on Friday, dozens of his critics marched outside with signs carrying harsh slogans.

Schwarzenegger, who owns several

Santa Monica properties, officially opened the headquarters on Fourth Street between Arizona Avenue and Santa Monica Boulevard.

"I wouldn't have anything that I've achieved if it weren't for California," he said to a cheering crowd. "And it's time for me to give back."

Schwarzenegger, a Republican, is one of 135 candidates on the Oct. 7 ballot. They now have one month to convince voters to recall Gov. Davis and vote them into office.

The new volunteer headquarters, located at 1338 4th St. in what was most recently a furniture store, compliments the campaign headquarters, located at 310 Main St., and another center for volunteers in Sacramento.

Statewide, Schwarzenegger said he's attracted 17,000 volunteers.

And more are on the way.

Tod Burnett, leader of the new headquarters and a volunteer, said thousands of people have come to offer their time.

"They come in so fast everyday, I can't even keep track," he said.

The volunteers have come from all over the state and their reasons for joining are as diverse as their backgrounds. Many have never worked on a campaign before. Some only recently became

See SCHWARZENEGGER, page 5



John Wood/Daily Press

(Above) California governor candidate Arnold Schwarzenegger is surrounded by supporters on Friday at his new volunteer headquarters in Santa Monica. (Below) Protesters line up outside the volunteer center on Fourth Street.

Law forbids dumping on beaches

Bill was in response to glass, concrete found at Will Rogers beach

By Daily Press staff

After a contractor last year dumped glass, metal, concrete and broken pipes at Will Rogers State Beach, a new law was passed this week that puts heavy scrutiny on companies who dump sand along the coastline.

Because sand washes away with the normal ebb and flow of the tides, sand must be replenished periodically.

Last October, 20,000 cubic yards of sand was brought from the Westport Beach Club development site in Playa del Rey to be spread on the beach behind Gladstone's restaurant. But the beach became a dumping ground for construction rubble and debris that a contractor allowed to be mixed with the clean sand that should have been used.

That prompted Assemblymember Fran Pavley (D-Agoura Hills) to introduce a bill mandating that no coastal development permit for sand replenishment can be issued without the applicant

providing a plan for on-site monitoring and supervision during the project.

"As a state legislator, I felt an obligation to ensure that this never happens again anywhere along our beautiful California coast," Pavley said. "California's 1,100 miles of magnificent coastline are of enormous recreational and economic value to the state."

Several Pacific Palisades residents first noticed the debris, which included fist-sized boulders, concrete slabs, sheet metal, nails, rusted iron spikes, tile shards and broken glass. They immediately held a press conference to expose the dumping.

"We are grateful to Assemblymember Pavley for carrying this important legislation to address the contamination that took place on one of our local beaches," said Barbara Kohn, president of the Pacific Palisades Residents Association.

A similar situation occurred in San Diego in 1997 when sand from the dredging of a harbor was used to replenish nearby beaches. The sand contained World War II munitions that had been dumped overboard by American ships as they came into port.

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HOROSCOPE

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JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

The stars show the kind of day you'll have:

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Saturday, September 6, 2003:

You have an opportunity to make a difference to many this year. You develop a reputation as a solution-finder. You begin a very special cycle this year. If you know what you want, you're much more likely to be able to create it. Others help pave the way to your desires. If you are single, new doors will open for those who are ready for a relationship of consequence. If you want a lighter bond, that type of tie will also appear. If you are attached, your relationship will bloom as you both become more open and nurturing with each other. AQUARIUS often challenges your style of working.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★★ Though you might have a bundle to do right now, you also enjoy yourself while doing it. Check in with work, if need be. Call a family member you haven't talked to in a long while. Scratch plans to stay home right now. Go out. Take in a change of scenery. Tonight: The later it gets, the more fun it becomes.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★★ Take off on a day trip. If you have felt like visiting with a relative or exploring a new area, do so. Some might decide at the last minute to sign up for a workshop. Open up to new and rewarding experiences. Tonight: Just go with the flow.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ A friend or partner might ask you to do something special with him or her. The only answer is "yes." Bond on a new level. Visit with loved ones. Ultimately, you will appreciate the closeness that you are building. Tonight: Dinner for two.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★★ Others seek you out, providing many different invitations and suggestions. You are in a position to pick and choose. You also might want to do everything. Squeeze in as much as feels comfortable. Don't forget a special loved one. Tonight: Paint the town red.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★ Leo, by nature, is a gregarious sign, but right now a little soul-searching goes a long way. You might want to do something by yourself, or perhaps visit with your best friend. Use extreme caution with someone you meet today. Tonight: Take a breather.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★★ Whether you're at a ballgame or with friends, you're happiest among crowds. Don't allow a friend or relative to feel left out. Take that extra step to help this person feel cared about. Sometimes it is important to get a different point of view. Tonight: Spend time with that special person.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ You might usually understand what others want from you, but there is no better time to clear the air. You find those around you unusually responsive to your feelings and ideas. Extend the same courtesy. You'll like what happens. Tonight: Stoke the fires of a romance.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ Take time with others. Stop and catch up on a neighbor's news. Find out how his or her vacation went. Show interest in what others are doing. Sometimes it is easy to get so wound up in our lives that we forget those on the outside. Tonight: You don't have to go far from home.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Do some fall shopping or get into a project that needs to be completed in the near future. Pull away as much as possible from your daily routine. Someone might drop a heavy question on you. Answer it. Tonight: At a favorite haunt with favorite people.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ Let the world revolve around you today. Someone from a distance might come to visit you. Express how flattered you are. Share more of yourself with others. Your opinions and feedback mean a lot to many. Tonight: Whatever makes the Goat smile.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★ Take a nap or do something that might be unusually important to you right now. How you see another or the perspective you gain just from pulling away could be important later on. A friend or loved one wants to talk. Tonight: Nap, as it could be a long night.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Aim for more of what you want. Something that weighs heavily on your mind needs to be talked about. You cannot keep shoving it under the rug. You might be concerned about possibly upsetting another. Look at what this issue is doing to you! Tonight: Get a good night's sleep.

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LOCAL



SMFD to the rescue



John Wood/Daily Press

Santa Monica fire fighters respond to a gas fire in a 24-unit complex at 1801 Ocean Park Blvd., which was reported at 8:37 a.m. Friday. No one was hurt in the fire, but six units were redtagged and the street was closed for about two hours. Fire officials estimate the damage to between \$250,000 and \$300,000.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Food festival to feature 25 restaurants

By Daily Press staff

More than 25 Westside eateries will take to the great outdoors during the Great Tastes of Brentwood on Sunday, Oct. 12 from noon to 5 p.m.

Now in its 16th year, it is reportedly West Los Angeles' favorite food festival, where people can sample tastes from popular restaurants and discover some new favorites.

The food booths and entertainment will line a portion of San Vicente Boulevard, between Bringham and Darlington, which will be closed to traffic.

The afternoon will feature a silent auction for travel and entertainment offerings, children's activities and live entertainment.

There also will be a margarita bar, wine tastings and a champagne "Diamond Drop" with a chance to win a real diamond from Universal Jewelers in Marina del Rey.

The proceeds from the event will benefit local schools within the Palisades Charter Schools Foundation and Brentwood Green, a public park located in the Brentwood Science Magnet School.

Among the participants in this year's event: Baja Fresh, Bel Air Bar & Grill, Brentwood Restaurant, California Pasta, Casa Antigua, Chin Chin, Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf, Coral Tree Café, Daily Grill, El Dorado Cantina, Mr. Cecil's Ribs, Foodies, Hamburger Hamlet, Louise's Trattoria, Luxe Hotel Sunset Boulevard-Bel Air, Maria's Cucina, Tangdong, San Gennaro, Koo Koo Roo and McKesson Water Products.

Tastings range from \$2 to \$6 and admission is free. For more information, call Carole Schiffer at (310) 442-1384 or visit the Web site at www.GreatTastesOfBrentwood.com.



The waves are on. The S will mix with some NW wind swell today, producing some fun, chest-high sets.

OUTLOOK: The S will fade into the weekend but tropical storm Kevin will be bringing us some healthy SE starting Saturday.

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

Today the water is:

63°

Sunrise: 6:41 a.m.
Sunset: 7:10 p.m.



LOW TIDE

HIGH TIDE

	Morning	Height	Evening	Height	Morning	Height	Evening	Height
SATURDAY	1:32	-0.4	12:59	2.7	8:21	4.2	7:02	6.1
SUNDAY	2:16	-0.6	1:50	2.3	8:52	4.5	7:52	6.3
MONDAY	2:54	-0.7	2:33	1.9	9:21	4.7	8:36	6.3
TUESDAY	3:27	-0.6	3:12	1.6	9:48	4.9	9:15	6.2
WEDNESDAY	3:56	-0.3	3:49	1.3	12:13	5.0	9:51	6.0
THURSDAY	4:23	0.0	4:24	1.2	10:37	5.1	10:27	5.6
FRIDAY	4:48	0.5	5:01	1.1	11:01	5.2	11:02	5.1

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Learn how to fight your tax bill

By Daily Press staff

The Los Angeles County is sponsoring a series of free seminars to assist property owners who feel their taxes should be lowered due to a decline in the value of their property.

As the real estate market improves, some homeowners who recently received a "Notice of Assessed Value Change" will have questions regarding their appeal rights.

The meetings are intended to help taxpayers better understand the assessment appeals process, which many people may find confusing.

The seminar will be a value to homeowners who are interested in learning about the assessment appeals process and to those who have already filed an appeal. The seminar will also cover how to prepare for a hearing, what qualifies as admissible evidence, what will happen at the hearing and what to expect after.

The 90-minute seminars will be offered 15 times during October through December at five locations: Cerritos, Culver City, El Monte, Glendale and Van Nuys. Additional meetings will be scheduled throughout the county on a year-round basis.

Persons with disabilities who believe they need reasonable accommodation or help in order to attend a seminar may call (213) 893-2516. Hearing impaired persons may leave a typewritten message by calling (213) 974-1707.

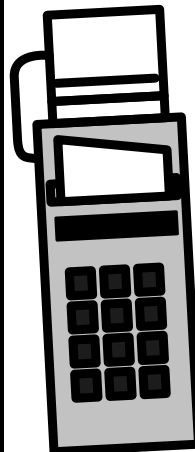
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OPINION

LETTERS

The basics of Medicare

Editor:

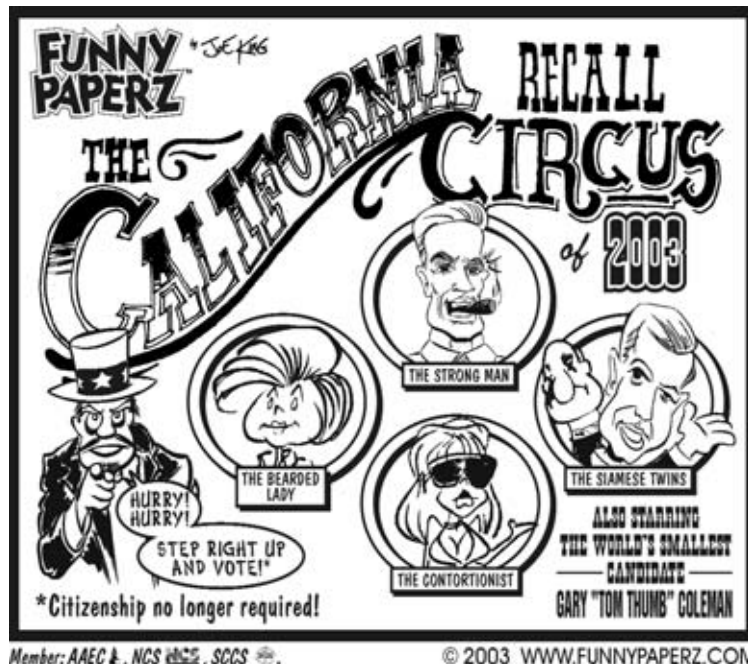
With children, teens and young adults heading back to school, it makes me wonder what us older folks are doing to educate ourselves these days. In the spirit of back-to-school sales, lunchboxes and shiny red apples — the ABCs of Medicare:

A. Medicare Part A is hospital insurance that helps pay for inpatient hospital care, inpatient care in a skilled nursing facility, home healthcare and hospice care. Part A is free and pays for all but \$840 of a hospital stay per benefit period in 2003.

B. Medicare Part B is medical insurance that helps pay for doctor services, some preventive services, outpatient hospital and emergency rooms services, medical equipment and supplies, laboratory services, x-rays, physical therapy, ambulance services, and a number of other medical services and supplies that are not covered by Medicare Part A. Part B is voluntary and costs \$58.70 a month in 2003 and pays 80 percent of these services (after a \$100 deductible).

C. Medicare Part C or Medicare + Choice is Managed Health Care plans like HMOs that cover all Medicare services and extra benefits such as preventative services and prescription drugs. Like HMOs, you must go to a doctor and specialists in your plan and must get referrals to see specialists outside the plan. Managed care plans charge a monthly premium (median \$40-\$60), co-pays and deductibles that vary from plan to plan. You must still pay for Medicare Part B.

Peter Bauer
San Francisco



Is new TV show a conspiracy or just entertainment?



MODERN TIMES

By Lloyd Garver

The CIA has asked Jennifer Garner, the star of the television show, *ALIAS*, to help recruit new CIA agents. They want her to appear in a recruitment video that they'll show at job fairs and college campuses. On *ALIAS*, she plays secret agent, Sydney Bristow, a beauty who helps goodness triumph over evil each week by using her knowledge of martial arts and her ability to speak every language in the world. The fact that the CIA has asked her to help them out makes me want to tell the CIA what we sometimes have to tell little children about television and movies: These are actors! It's just pretend!

Why should Jennifer Garner necessarily be an appropriate person to recruit real spies just because she plays a spy on TV? Is Noah Wylie of *ER* going to make a plea for people to go into medicine? Is NYPD

Blues's Dennis Franz going to recruit police? Is Ray Romano going to try to get more and more people to live across the street from their parents? Shouldn't the "intelligence community" know that these are just roles that actors play?

(MEMO TO CIA: There really isn't a man named Mr. Whipple who gets upset with people who squeeze toilet paper rolls in supermarkets).

Chase Brandon is the CIA's liaison to the entertainment industry and the person who brought up the idea of Jennifer Garner being a spy recruiter. Some questions immediately come to mind: Is Chase Brandon his real name or his code name? Why is there a liaison between the CIA and the entertainment industry? Is there a liaison between the CIA and every industry? How involved are they in the plumbing supply business?

Agent Brandon is not only the entertainment liaison, but he served as a technical adviser for the first season of *ALIAS*. Why is the Central Intelligence Agency involved in the programming of fictional television shows? Next season, are they going to promote a show called,

"Who Wants To Marry A Spy?"

Agent Brandon says that the show is very popular at CIA headquarters in Langley, Va. This seems a little odd to me. *ALIAS* is a fun, entertaining show, but does it really represent what the CIA is like or what the CIA would like to be like? On the show, there are divisions within the agency trying to bring the CIA down and the CIA agents spend more time sabotaging each other than trying to defeat the enemies of our country. Why would the CIA want us to think it's like that any more than we already do?

Jennifer Garner's character has a roommate who is secretly an enemy clone, her mother is a traitor, and she uses her sexiness, her expertise at high kicking, and her immense collection of colorful wigs to defeat the bad guys. And yet, Agent Brandon says "Jennifer and the character of Sydney Bristow both reflect a lot of the qualities we look for in new career field officers." What qualities? Being double jointed and owning lots of pretty outfits?

The part of the statement that seems the strangest is Agent Brandon saying that "Jennifer and her character" both display

positive qualities.

How does the CIA know what Jennifer Garner is really like? Do they actually know everything about all of us as the paranoid conspiracy theorists would have us believe? Or have they just become enamored with a television star and show, and forgotten what is real and what is not?

If this is the case, I feel that once again it is my duty to remind the CIA that the show is "just pretend." We all have to be able to distinguish between screen characters and real people. If not, what's going to happen next? Are people going to think that just because someone plays an incredibly strong force that could destroy anything in his path in the movies, that he should be taken seriously, and, oh, I don't know, be elected Governor of California?

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

Opinions expressed are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff. Guest editorials from residents are encouraged, as are letters to the editor. Letters will be published on a space-available basis. It is our intention to publish all letters we receive, except those that are libelous or are unsigned. Preference will be given to those that are e-mailed to sack@smdp.com. All letters must include the author's name and telephone number for purposes of verification. Letters also may be mailed to our offices located at 1427 Third Street Promenade, Suite 202, Santa Monica, 90401, or faxed to (310) 576-9913. All letters and guest editorials are subject to editing for space and content.

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Schwarzenegger attracts volunteers from all over state

SCHWARZENEGGER, from page 1

interested in politics. A few don't even know Schwarzenegger's stances on key issues.

"It's an election like no other," said Rob Stutzman, a spokesman for the campaign. "Arnold is tapping into a whole class of people who don't vote."

One of those who chose to volunteer is Maxine Nordenstrom, a commercial printer broker from Mar Vista who joined the campaign on Thursday.

Asked why she joined the campaign, Nordenstrom responded, "He's a handsome guy and he's nice. You don't know half the candidates sometimes unless you're heavily into politics."

A seven-man mariachi band warmed the eager crowd for Schwarzenegger, who was introduced by his wife, Maria Shriver. Onlookers chanted "Arnold!" "Arnold!" and pressed towards the stage in anticipation of his appearance.

Schwarzenegger, who was flanked by

about a dozen supporters, including Santa Monica Police Department Chief James T. Butts Jr., vowed to create more jobs, protect education programs and attract more business to California. He said his volunteers deserve much of the credit for his campaign to date and for his continued success.

While Schwarzenegger spoke, a group of about 50 paraded signs up and down the sidewalk protesting the recall and vowing to fight his campaign. Some of the signs referred to Schwarzenegger's alleged Nazi ties, as well as to his supposed womanizing. Other protesters carried signs that poked fun at Schwarzenegger's relationship to President George Bush.

One man inside the headquarters heckled Schwarzenegger during his speech. He was immediately escorted out by volunteers.

John Buehn, who held a sign that read "Arnold" with a swastika in the "o," said he is against the recall and against

Schwarzenegger because of his alleged affiliation with racist groups. Buehn, a manufacturer from the valley, also disagrees with Schwarzenegger's politics and expressed dismay at the following he has attracted.

But those opposing Schwarzenegger at the Friday ribbon cutting were far outnumbered by the volunteers, easily spotted in their white T-shirts with "Join Arnold"

printed across the chest and name-tag stickers reading "I joined Arnold."

One of those was Ocean Park resident and former SMPD officer Eddie Kaiser. Kaiser, who retired last month after 31 years on the force, said he plans to spend two or three days a week at the headquarters.

"I met the guy in 1970 and I liked him," Kaiser said. "So why not help him out a bit?"

Sen. McClintock uses to his advantage Arnold's no-show

RECALL, from page 1

Beach to his aides' explanation that he didn't have enough time to prepare.

Schwarzenegger has been slow to express his viewpoints on a variety of key issues so far. He is fiscally conservative and will only raise taxes in an emergency. He says he won't cut education. He calls himself a moderate on social issues, such as abortion, domestic partnerships and gun control. But he also supported Proposition 187, which attempted to limit state services to illegal immigrants.

During Wednesday's debate, candidates were challenged to elaborate on those issues and defend their answers. Questions from a panel of journalists and citizens put them on the spot about whether to increase car taxes and college tuition and, if not, how to replace that income. They were asked if limits should be imposed on tribal casinos or the number of slot machines they can operate. And they were asked how they planned to ferret out fraud in the state's medical insurance program.

Still, some say that Schwarzenegger's absence from the give-and-take may be a subtlety that most voters overlook.

"I'm not sure the average voter is there yet," said Sherry Bebitch Jeffe, senior political scholar at the University of Southern California. "The media may see in stark relief what his absence means, but I'm not sure that voters will."

Jeffe said that Schwarzenegger made a mistake not attending the debate, mostly because he gave away a platform to the conservative Sen. Tom McClintock, R-Northridge.

"McClintock went a long way last night to solidify himself with the conservative Republican base," she said. "That's a problem for Arnold."

Schwarzenegger rallied supporters Thursday at a voter registration drive in Riverside, 60 miles east of Los Angeles, where he said he was returning a \$2,500 donation from a law enforcement union that ran counter to his earlier pledge not to accept special interest money.

"Before it went into our account we realized that there is a conflict of interest there, that we really don't want to take any money from unions," he said.

The donation from the Association for

Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs was listed on campaign finance records posted Wednesday on the secretary of state's Web site, but Stutzman said the check came unsolicited through a volunteer and was never cashed.

Meanwhile, Davis received unexpected support Thursday from a member of Schwarzenegger's team of economic advisers. F. Warren Hellman, who has supported Davis in the past, contributed \$50,000 to Davis's committee against the recall.

At an event in San Diego, Davis said he will sign a bill this weekend that will allow undocumented immigrants the right to legally drive in California, saying workers deserve the right to drive.

"Most of these folks are already on the road anyway, driving illegally," he said. "Now they will have to be tested. They will have to know the rules of the road."

Schwarzenegger, an immigrant from Austria, has said that he will seek to repeal the bill if he's elected governor.

In an interview with The Associated Press, he cast himself as the only candidate with true credentials on immigration and he suggested that Democrats, such as Lt. Gov. Cruz Bustamante, the grandson of immigrants, have no right to use immigration issues against him.

"I don't need to get a lesson from anyone else about immigration because I've been there. Whereas other candidates are maybe sons of immigrants, but I'm the true immigrant, OK? So let's just make that clear."

Bustamante, who is leading in the latest poll, came under fire for accepting \$2 million in Indian gaming money that circumvented current campaign spending limits by funneling most of the cash to an old campaign account.

Even state Democratic Party Chairman Art Torres said Thursday it didn't "smell good" and it left Bustamante vulnerable.

"I just think he opened himself up to a line of attack that he didn't need to," Torres said, adding that the donation still appeared to be legal. "He didn't need those headaches."

Davis was careful not to criticize Bustamante directly, saying that voters will decide what is right or wrong.

"Certainly Indian tribes have a right to participate in the political process," Davis said. "I have a lot of confidence in the voters. They make good judgments."



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STATE

State politicians defend Chicano student group linked to Bustamante

BY CHELSEA J. CARTER
Associated Press Writer

SANTA ANA — In 1975, a young Cruz Bustamante joined a student group at Fresno State College that advocated bold moves to empower Mexican-Americans.

Nearly 30 years later, with Bustamante a candidate for governor, he has come under fire from critics who say the organization agitated for a separate Chicano homeland in the United States.

State Sen. Tom McClintock, a conservative Republican rival, recently likened the Chicano Student Movement of Aztlan, also known as MEChA, to the Ku Klux Klan.

"It's like saying, 'Oh, I was a moderate member of the Klan,'" McClintock said last month on the San Diego radio station KOGO. "It's incumbent on Cruz Bustamante to clearly and completely renounce the organization and its tactics and its views."

Bustamante, the lieutenant governor, is hardly the first public official to have his youthful politics come back to haunt him. Former President Clinton and President Bush both had to defend themselves against accusations of draft-dodging, and former state Sen. Tom Hayden came under fire for his role in the riots that disrupted the 1968 Democratic National Convention.

Bustamante, 50, has refused to back away from his past.

"The students who are MEChA today are just like the students when I was there," he said. "Pretty much, they are trying to get an education. Most of the friends I went to school with are now either graduates from college or raising families."

Unlike other radical groups of the 1960s, such as the Black Panthers and the American Indian Movement, MEChA was never associated with violence. It supported Cesar Chavez and the farm workers movement, and its founding members received support from then presidential candidate Robert F. Kennedy.

"Right before he was assassinated, he sat down with Chicano students who walked out of classes," said Susan Green, a Mexican-American studies professor and MEChA faculty adviser at California State University, Chico.

But the group also had a revolutionary spirit, embodied in one of its 1960s slogans, "For the race everything. For those outside the race, nothing."

Critics, including immigration officials, have pointed to language in MEChA documents that calls for the liberation of the Southwest. The plan — written at the National Chicano Youth Conference in 1969, a month before MEChA was created — calls for Mexican-Americans to reclaim or liberate

Aztlan, the mythical lands of their birth.

MEChA members say it is an ideological rather than a literal statement.

"When we use the term 'liberation,' we are talking about the liberation of one's mind," said Edward Gomez, a former member who is now a faculty adviser for MEChA at San Bernardino Valley College.

Tom Rivera, an associate professor at California State University, San Bernardino, and MEChA faculty adviser since 1970, said the language was a reflection of the times.

"The students who are MEChA today are just like the students when I was there."

— CRUZ BUSTAMANTE
California Lt. Governor

"I see this as lofty language. It was not meant to be taken literally," he said.

Today, MEChA has about 300 student clubs nationwide and is known more for trying to help poor Hispanics get a college education than for radical politics. Using the motto "Unity creates power," the group promotes tutoring, community outreach and political advocacy, such as mobilizing voters against a 1994 ballot measure that sought to deny services to illegal immigrants.

In recent days, many of California's leading Hispanic elected officials have acknowledged their membership in MEChA or voiced support for the group.

"Most of us attended a meeting or more. Nearly everybody was involved with it some way," said Los Angeles City Councilman Antonio Villaraigosa, a former state Assembly speaker who was a member of MEChA from 1972 to 1975 at the University of California at Los Angeles.

Rep. Loretta Sanchez, D-Calif., said she was never a member but supported the organization. "I can understand why nobody is stepping away," she said. "There's nothing to be ashamed of. To do that would be to deny MEChA is doing a good job."

Among other former members of MEChA are John Lored, the current Arizona House minority leader, and Rep. Joe Baca, D-Calif.

Bustamante joined as a student at Fresno State, now CSU, Fresno, then ran unsuccessfully for student body president.

Hispanics "still lead the state in high school dropout rates, teen pregnancy. We want to stop that," said Fatima Cristerna, 23, a MEChA member at CSU, San Bernardino. "In that sense, we are revolutionary."

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Santa Monica Daily Press

NATIONAL



U.S. companies cut jobs for seventh month

BY LEIGH STROPE
AP Labor Writer

WASHINGTON — U.S. companies slashed payrolls for a seventh straight month in August, raising new worries that a weak jobs market could shackle the budding economic recovery despite a slight improvement in the overall unemployment rate.

Payrolls fell by 92,000 last month after a loss of 49,000 jobs in July, the Labor Department reported from its survey of U.S. businesses. Analysts had expected an improving economy to create 12,000 jobs.

"This suggests that we may be further than we thought from a truly sustainable economic recovery," said Bill Cheney, chief economist at John Hancock Financial Services Inc.

Based on a separate survey of households, the unemployment rate fell in August to 6.1 percent from 6.2 percent. Labor Department analysts said they believe the payroll statistics from the survey of businesses provides a more accurate picture of the economy because the survey the figures were based on a larger sample.

On Wall Street, the disappointing report sent stocks lower. The Dow closed down 84 points, and the Nasdaq fell almost 11 points.

Recent economic data had suggested the economy was perking up: many retailers reported robust August sales, construction spending was up and manufacturers saw demand for their products sharply rise.

Improvements have failed to trickle down to the jobs market, however. Businesses remain extremely cautious about hiring and are holding down costs by doing more with fewer workers. That huge rise in productivity is to blame for some of the job losses.

Also worrisome is that layoffs occurred in a range of industries last month. Hiring was reported in health care and construction, but the gains were too small to offset losses in manufacturing, business services and government.

The longer companies put off hiring, the more the recovery is at risk, economists say. People worried about their jobs stop spending, and consumer spending has been the major driver of the economy.

"I don't think the recent revival in the economy is sustainable unless we see some job growth soon," said Mark Zandi, chief economist at Economy.com. "We need to see those jobs to help pick up the slack when the benefits of tax cuts and interest rates begin to fade early next year."

Continued job losses could spell problems for President Bush as polls show the economy is replacing terrorism and Iraq as the top concern for likely voters. The loss of more than 3 million jobs since Bush took office is giving Democrats ammunition heading into next year's elec-

tion campaign.

"At this rate, there will be only one job left to cut by November 2004: George Bush's," said Sen. Joe Lieberman, D-Conn., one of nine Democrats vying to challenge Bush.

The president, mindful that his father lost re-election in a bad economy, made three separate trips to middle America this week to talk about the economy and defend his tax cuts.

"The economy is growing, but we want to see it grow even faster," White House spokesman Scott McClellan said Friday, noting that job growth often is the last to rebound.

Many economists now believe the lack of new jobs means structural changes are occurring in the economy instead of cyclical ups and downs. The United States is losing market share to global competitors.

In short, a flood of jobs is going overseas and will not be replaced, said Sung Won Sohn, chief economist at Wells Fargo.

"We have simply seen the tip of the iceberg," Sohn said. "I think it will get worse, not better."

Some reports estimate 5 million jobs, many of them high-paying, will be lost to other countries by 2015.

Manufacturing has lost nearly 16 percent of its work force, or 2.7 million jobs, in a record 37 straight months. Another 44,000 jobs were lost last month.

National Association of Manufacturers President Jerry Jasinski called Friday's jobs report lousy, saying it should serve to spur policy-makers into action.

"The economic strength of our country is built upon our manufacturing base, and we are in danger of losing our best people and our productivity," he said. "We cannot maintain strong economic growth without a strong manufacturing base."

Bush announced Monday that a Commerce Department assistant secretary post was being assigned to focus on revitalizing that part of the economy. Treasury Secretary John Snow traveled to Beijing this week to urge officials there to let China's currency trade freely on world markets but got no firm commitments.

Business leaders say China's fixed exchange rate amounts to a protectionist attempt to keep down the prices of China's exports in world markets. The Chinese government says it's simply good financial sense.

With other parts of the economy on the mend, economists still think the Federal Reserve will hold a key short-term interest rate steady at a 45-year low of 1 percent when it meets Sept. 16. If the jobs market doesn't improve, however, analysts don't rule out another Fed rate reduction later.

"Another month like this and rate cuts will definitely be back on the table," Cheney said.

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NATIONAL

White House investigated in water policy development

BY PETE YOST
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The Interior Department inspector general will look into possible political interference by the White House in developing water policy in the Northwest, Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry announced Friday.

The inquiry follows the disclosure that President Bush's top political adviser, Karl Rove, briefed dozens of political appointees at the Interior Department more than a year and a half ago about diverting water from the Klamath River in Oregon to irrigate farms.

Last September, 33,000 chinook salmon died in the Klamath River in Northern California. The California Department of Fish and Game laid much of the blame on low flows controlled by the federal government for creating conditions that allowed a fatal gill rot disease to spread through the fish.

A report on the fish kill by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has not been released.

Kerry asked for the IG investigation after a story about Rove's meeting with the political appointees appeared in The Wall Street Journal.

Rove's briefing of Interior's political appointees took place following a trip by President Bush and Rove to Oregon where they focused on the Klamath water issue. Rove made a second trip to Oregon before the department decided to increase the water flow to farms.

Seeking to help their farm constituencies, Republican leaders in the Northwest wanted to increase the water flow in early 2002.

The inspector general's office said that it will look into whether decision-making on water policy in the Klamath River basin deviated from normal practices, with special attention to any evidence of political interference or suppression of data.

If any evidence of political interference is found, "we have no authority over members of the White House staff and therefore would immediately notify the Department of Justice, Office of Public

Integrity," said the letter from Interior IG Earl Devaney.

Decisions made by the Department of the Interior were based on the best available science from the National Academy of Sciences, said Interior Department spokesman Mark Pfeifle. He said Interior is focused on providing water for people who live and work in the Klamath Basin, including farmers, fishermen and tribes, while also restoring the basin's ecosystem.

Kerry called the probe a positive step, saying he is concerned that political pressure from the White House may have intimidated staff and influenced policy.

Kerry says the Bush administration acted as if agencies like the Interior Department are "a division of the Republican National Committee."

Pfeifle said people on the campaign trail "seem only focused on partisan sniping."

White House spokeswoman Ashley Snee has said it is "entirely appropriate" for members of the president's staff to occasionally provide updates on the president's accomplishments and agenda.

Snee has said the president established a Cabinet-level working group on Klamath which is committed to sustainable agriculture and jobs, improved water quality and stronger fish populations.

Steve Pedery of the conservation group WaterWatch disagreed, saying that the Bush administration's approach is to pick one interest politically favorable to their goals and say, "You get the water." Pedery said the solution should be to try to bring demand back into balance with supply "so everybody can get a fair share."

Pfeifle, who attended Rove's January 2002 meeting at a weekend retreat in West Virginia, has said the Klamath water diversion issue took up "probably 30 seconds to a minute" of a 25-minute presentation to department political appointees.

Pfeifle has said other matters touched on in Rove's presentation included having a Hispanic media coordinator, reaching out to suburbanites on environmental issues, and outreach to segments of organized labor that support oil and gas drilling in Alaska.

Flag honoring 9-11 victims will be allowed on mountain

By The Associated Press

FRISCO, Colo. — Reversing its decision, the Forest Service says it will allow a group to replace an American flag flying on a Colorado peak in memory of the Sept. 11 victims.

Kurt Kizer of Frisco organized a hike last year to place the flag on Peak 1. He paid \$75 for a Forest Service permit and was ready to do the same this year when officials told him they could not allow a permanent structure or memorial on public land.

Though the memorial goes against Forest Service regulations, the agency now is inviting the group to get a permit for the event again this year, said Martha Ketelle, supervisor for the White River National Forest.

"It's not consistent with regulations regarding monuments on national forest land," she said Thursday. "However, considering the event that they're memorializing and that the people in Summit

County feel strongly about their hike to the top, we want to permit it."

The agency's initial decision to deny a permit this year had angered some residents. Becky Johnson of Breckenridge said she was preparing to start a petition to reverse the decision.

"I look at it every day and it's an inspiration to me," Johnson said.

Ketelle said placing flags on national forest land has come up in the past in other parts of the country since the terrorist attacks.

Technically, the permit is for the event only, not to place the flag on the mountain. But Ketelle said the agency will not require the flag to be removed and knows hikers will replace the tattered flag with a new one.

Ketelle said the issue likely will have to be addressed each year.

Frisco resident Katherine Ebert-Flynn said she wants the Forest Service to allow the flag indefinitely, without a permit.

"It is Summit County's only living memorial to those who died," she said.

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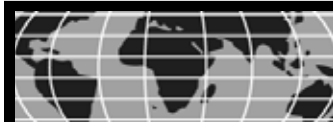
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WORLD BRIEFLY

Hong Kong leader retracts bill

By The Associated Press

HONG KONG — In an embarrassing retreat, Hong Kong's leader scrapped an anti-subversion bill Friday that had drawn huge protests and raised fears China was trying to curb freedoms in the former British colony.

Tung Chee-hwa, who was chosen by Beijing to run Hong Kong, said he will withdraw the bill from parliamentary consideration because of residents' concerns. He also pledged to focus more on reviving the struggling economy.

"I have listened to a lot of opinions, what our citizens care about the most at the moment are the economic matters," Tung said.

Under the terms of its handover to China, Hong Kong is to enjoy Western-style freedoms, and many residents worried the bill would limit those rights. The bill had proposed giving police more powers and imposing life in prison for some offenses, stirring fears that it could lead to mainland China-style controls on journalists, the Falun Gong spiritual group and others.

Tung reiterated that national security laws are constitutionally required in Hong Kong, which reverted to Chinese rule in 1997. He refused to say when new legislation would be introduced but promised to do so only with popular backing.

"We won't begin a new legislative process if we do not have a thorough consultation or extensive support from the public," he said.

Bomb leaves Palestinians homeless

By The Associated Press

NABLUS, West Bank — Israeli commandos killed a Hamas bombmaker in a firefight Friday and pulverized the seven-story apartment building in which he had been hiding, leaving dozens of Palestinians homeless and prompting charges that soldiers meted out collective punishment.

An Israeli soldier was killed and four were wounded in the battle, which took place after soldiers surrounded the 3-year-old building and ordered residents out. The Israelis said they blew up the structure more than six hours after the fighting ended because they believed some militants might be inside.

Hours later, 8-year-old Bakr Sobah searched through the rubble, looking for his books and school bag. "I have

homework in my notebooks. What can I do now?" the boy said. "We had a house here, now we don't."

The Hamas explosives expert who was killed, 26-year-old Mohammed Hanbali, was involved in bombings and shootings that killed at least 36 Israelis and wounded hundreds, the army said. Hanbali also recruited members and trained them in making explosives, according to the military.

Friday's raid in Nablus came as Palestinian Prime Minister Mahmoud Abbas' fight for political survival intensified.

The Palestinian parliament speaker said Friday he has decided to hold a confidence vote on Abbas, who is distrusted by many Palestinians because he has Israel's backing and has been further weakened by a power struggle with veteran leader Yasser Arafat.

Bush 'not satisfied' on economy

By The Associated Press

INDIANAPOLIS — President Bush said Friday that discouraging new jobless figures made clear that "we've got to do something" about an economy that shows signs of recovery but is still shedding jobs.

"There are a lot of Americans looking for work, and we have to do something about that in Washington, D.C.," Bush said at a distribution center here.

He spoke a few hours after a new government report showed that while the civilian unemployment rate dropped from 6.2 percent to 6.1 percent, companies cut payrolls by 93,000, particularly in the manufacturing sector.

Bush said he saw hopeful signs such as rising business orders.

Job creation is often a lagging indicator, he said, "the last thing to arrive on the scene" in a recovery. And productivity is growing faster than job growth, meaning the economy is not expanding rapidly enough to create sufficient hiring, he said.

"Today's report shows we've got more to do and I'm not going to be satisfied 'til every American who's looking for a job can find a job," Bush said.

Intelligence zeroes in on al-Qaida

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The FBI issued a worldwide alert Friday for four men linked to al-Qaida, including a

suspected terror cell leader and an avowed suicide attacker, after new intelligence indicated they might be plotting attacks against the United States.

The bulletin came amid an increase in intelligence chatter that suggested heightened terrorist activity as the second anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks nears. Still, the government has not uncovered a specific threat or plot that would warrant raising the national terror threat level from its current elevated status.

Intelligence corroborated by multiple sources, including foreign governments and law enforcement officials, led the FBI to post on its Web site the names and photographs of two Saudis, a Moroccan and a Tunisian sought for questioning.

Federal law enforcement officials said the FBI is hoping someone in the United States or abroad will recognize one or all the men. Officials have no evidence any are in the United States, but because they all have used false names and travel documents in the past, the possibility cannot be ruled out.

The officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, cautioned that it was unclear if the four men were working together. There was no information they were involved in a specific terrorist operation.

The four being sought are:

■ Adnan G. El Shukrijumah, 28, a Saudi native who lived for a number of years in South Florida. The FBI has been searching for him for months, and officials say he could be a terror cell leader or organizer similar to Mohamed Atta, a top planner of the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks and pilot of one of the hijacked planes.

The FBI bulletin says federal prosecutors in northern Virginia have obtained a warrant to detain El Shukrijumah as a material witness, which normally is kept secret. The FBI says he is of particular interest because of his familiarity with the United States, ability to use fake documents and fluency in English.

■ Abderrauouf Jdey, 38, born in Tunisia, was naturalized a Canadian citizen in 1995 and might have a Canadian passport. Jdey was among five men who left suicide messages on videotapes recovered at the Afghanistan residence of Mohammed Atef, Osama bin Laden's military chief who was killed in a U.S. air strike. Also recovered was a suicide letter in which Jdey promised to die fighting non-Muslim infidels.

■ Zubayr Al-Rimi, 29, a Saudi native. The only clue given publicly by the FBI is the identity of his wife, a Moroccan named Hanan Raqib.

■ Karim El Mejjati, 35, a Moroccan who holds a French passport. His last recorded entry into the United States was between 1997 and 1999.

Security Council has differing reactions to Iraq resolution

BY EDITH M. LEDERER

Associated Press Writer

UNITED NATIONS — The 15 Security Council nations had widely differing reactions to a new U.N. resolution proposed by the United States to attract more money and troops for Iraq: France, Germany and Syria criticized it while supporters of the Iraq war welcomed it as a positive step.

France and Germany called the U.S. proposal a basis for negotiations, and U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell said he was ready to listen to their suggestions and consider any other "constructive input."

As council members digested the U.S. draft it was clear that the United States faced tough negotiations on several key issues.

The draft, in Powell's words, puts "the Security Council into the game." It doesn't relinquish U.S. political and military control of the country.

France, Germany, Russia and other council members want the U.S.-led coalition to transfer political responsibility to an Iraqi government as quickly as possible. Many council nations are also demanding a much stronger U.N. role. France would like to see the United

Nations replace the United States as Iraq's interim administrator. Syria also wants the United Nations to command the U.N.-authorized multinational force envisioned in the resolution.

The five veto-wielding permanent council members — the United States, France, Britain, Russia and China — met for 1 1/2 hours Thursday afternoon to discuss the draft.

"We are going to negotiate the text," said France's U.N. Ambassador Jean-Marc de La Sabliere. Russia's U.N. Ambassador called the session a "friendly discussion."

Britain hosted an informal meeting of all 15 council ambassadors Friday morning to discuss the U.S. draft and suggested changes.

Powell said Wednesday he would assess where negotiations were early next week "and push it as aggressively as we can."

Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz said the bombing of the U.N. headquarters in Baghdad changed attitudes at the United Nations and was allowing the Bush administration to seek more support.

"I think we had a breakthrough, a sad one, but the bombing of the U.N. headquarters I think changed the atmosphere,"

he said.

The U.S. draft resolution invites the U.S.-appointed Iraqi Governing Council to cooperate with the United Nations and U.S. officials in Baghdad to produce "a timetable and program for the drafting of a new constitution for Iraq and for the holding of democratic elections."

It contains no timeframe of when this should happen and leaves the key decision in the hands of the Governing Council, which took months just to form a Cabinet. The United States believes the Iraqis must remain in charge of this process.

"We are naturally ready to study it in the most positive manner," French President Jacques Chirac said after meeting German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder. "But we are quite far removed from what we believe is the priority objective, which is the transfer of political responsibility to an Iraqi government as quickly as possible."

As for the U.N. role, besides helping with the timeline, the resolution asks the U.N. representative in Iraq to facilitate a "national dialogue and consensus building" to promote the political transition. It doesn't provide for an expanded U.N. role in the security or economic areas, except for reports at least every six months to the

Security Council on the efforts of the multinational force.

"We have always asked for a central role of the United Nations in all fields," Germany's U.N. Ambassador Gunter Pleuger noted. "It's a good working basis but it certainly can be improved."

Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov on Thursday reaffirmed Russia's push for a quick restoration of Iraq's sovereignty and said the U.S. draft "outlines movement toward those principles."

"Preliminarily speaking, I can say that this initiative deserves attention since the content of the proposed resolution reflects those principles which Russia has consistently championed," Ivanov said. "Naturally, very serious work needs to be done so that they are fully reflected" in the final version.

In a strong signal that Moscow was edging closer to Washington than to France and Germany, Defense Minister Sergei Ivanov said Thursday that Russia may send peacekeepers to Iraq as part of an international force.

The U.S.-Russian tilt was bolstered by Security Council diplomats who said Moscow was working closely with Washington on the U.S. draft.

SPORTS



NFL 2003: Niners to stretch it, air it out under Erickson

BY GREG BEACHAM

AP Sports Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — Six months ago, Dennis Erickson moved from a huge home in central Oregon to an apartment in Silicon Valley. In those small quarters, he started thinking big about the San Francisco 49ers.

Erickson went south with a mission. He had a bulging coaching resume and a comfortable job at Oregon State, but he simply couldn't resist the 49ers: the stellar history, the high profile, the talented roster and the chance to win a world championship.

"I thought I could bring a fresh perspective, especially since we've pretty much kept the team intact from last year," Erickson said. "This is a good team, but I think it can be better. We can be more aggressive in every phase. That's the one thing we're searching for this fall."

Aggression comes up almost every day at the 49ers' training complex. It's the ephemeral quality that was found lacking in Steve Mariucci, who was fired by owner John York just three days after the 49ers lost to Tampa Bay in the NFC semifinals last January.

The 49ers were too conservative, the team line goes. With Pro Bowl talent at every skill position and along the offensive line, San Francisco should have won its NFC West title with flair and big-play drama, not with the short passes and steady drives Mariucci loves.

York didn't publicly command Erickson to throw long passes and take big chances, but it's widely understood the new coach's 49ers will be playing a vertical game.

"It's going to be exciting to see what we can really do," quarterback Jeff Garcia said. "Every member of this offense is looking forward to really testing our athletic abilities. I think we'll be more aggressive, more assertive and more fun to watch. These should be the types of games that you can't turn away from for a second."

Erickson, who went 31-33 in four seasons with the Seattle Seahawks, is the first San Francisco coach since 1955 to take the job with a prior NFL head-coaching

credit on his resume. He retained both of Mariucci's coordinators to keep continuity with a roster largely unchanged from last season.

General manager Terry Donahue was criticized for spending less money on new free agents than any team in

"This is a good team, but I think it can be better. We can be more aggressive in every phase. That's the one thing we're searching for this fall."

— DENNIS ERICKSON
San Francisco 49ers coach

the NFL. But he's putting trust in the coaching staff's new angle on the same personnel — and the growing maturity of a young defense featuring a standout line-backing corps and question marks at nearly every other position.

Defensive coordinator Jim Mora replaced starters Chike Okeafor and Dana Stubblefield on his line with rookie Anthony Adams and veteran John Engelberger. But San Francisco returns the same secondary that was shredded by every good passing offense in the second half of last season.

"I know people think we might be the weak link in the defense, but we want to prove them wrong," said starting cornerback Jason Webster, who will miss at least six regular-season games with a knee injury.

"We had a tough time in the playoffs, but that was because of the injuries. If I had been out there and Ahmed (Plummer) hadn't got hurt, I think we could have given

Tampa a real challenge. I don't think we needed to make any big changes."

The offensive personnel also is mostly the same, though tight end Eric Johnson is out for another 10 weeks after breaking his collarbone. Erickson and coordinator Greg Knapp kept the same terminology in their schemes, but Erickson's interpretation of the 49ers' hallowed offense involves more long throws — and ample use of All-Pro Terrell Owens, of course.

"The running game is going to make this offense go, but of course we're going to get the ball in No. 81's hands as often as possible," fullback Fred Beasley said. "You're going to see more balls thrown down the field, and we've got the guys that can go down and get it. We're just going to loosen up this West Coast offense a bit."

The 49ers face a difficult schedule in their quest to repeat as division champions, with four long road trips in the season's final six weeks. Erickson is hoping improved chemistry, built during everything from last season's playoffs to a recent team bowling outing, will help to traverse the rough patches.

The 49ers went 3-1 in the preseason. Kick returner Arland Bruce, rookie receiver Brandon Lloyd and third-string quarterback Ken Dorsey were among the most impressive players. Most of the regulars got plenty of rest — including Owens, who is more healthy than he's been in years.

Starting receivers Owens and Tai Streets both will be free agents after the season, which puts added pressure on both players. That's just fine with them: Streets can't wait for the four-receiver sets he has been promised.

Even Beasley, the sturdy blocking linchpin of the 49ers' sixth-ranked rushing offense last season, is excited by the prospect of longer drives, higher point totals and greater team success under Erickson's grand design.

"We've always had this capability, but with Mooch being conservative, we didn't use it as much," Beasley said. "It's a different system, and we've got the players to

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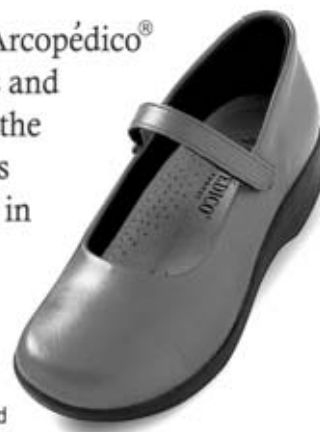
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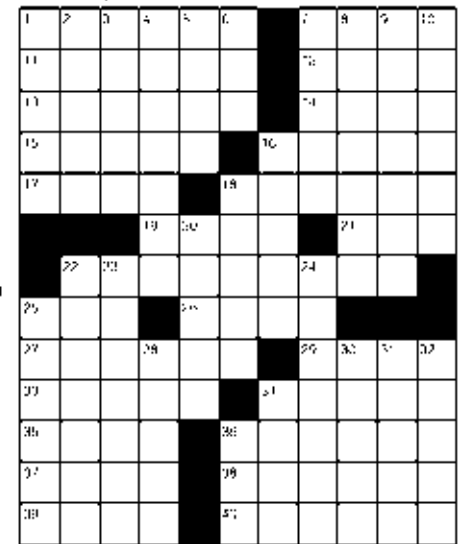


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— Jim Rickwalt, Johnnie's Italian Restaurant



PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Dave Matthews has no desire to enter political arena

By The Associated Press

■ NEW YORK — Dave Matthews as a politician?

The idea was tossed around Thursday night during the filming of an MTV2 special to promote Matthews' new solo album, "Some Devil," due out Sept. 23.

Matthews sang tunes from the upcoming album and, at one point, answered questions from the audience of about 200 at MTV's midtown studios.

One fan asked if the 36-year-old singer-musician would ever consider a career in politics.

"What a god-awful job that would be. I have far too much in my past," Matthews joked.

"Some Devil" marks his first solo outing apart from the Dave Matthews Band. The album came about while the band was on break, Matthews said, and contained material that didn't fit with the group's vibe.

"I think a sabbatical is good," he said. "It certainly does not mean I'm not dying to get with my band all the time ... because I miss them!"

"MTV2 Presents: Dave Matthews" will air Sept. 19.

■ PARIS — Harrison Ford said recent tensions

between the United States and France could have a positive effect, and feels no concern about appearing at the 2003 Deauville film festival, where he's the star guest.

"I think the Americans can profit from recognizing other points of view in the world," Ford told a news conference ahead of Friday's opening of the 10-day festival in the Normandy resort town.

Roman Polanski is presiding over the jury at the annual festival honoring American films.

"It's good to have a certain amount of tension so that one can test (his) ideas against other people's ideas," the

61-year-old actor said.

Paris opposed the U.S.-led Iraq war, prompting some Americans to refuse spending money on French products or trips here.

Ford is in Europe to promote "Hollywood Homicide," an action comedy by Ron Shelton about two police officers on the Hollywood beat.

He plays the older cop, "the bumbling old fool who is out of breath," Ford said, to his young partner, played by Josh Hartnett.

His next challenge, the actor said, will probably be another "Indiana Jones" film with Steven Spielberg, "starting to shoot at the end of the summer next year."

■ SANTA BARBARA — It's no joke: Bob

Newhart is letting go of his radio station.

Station KZBN 1290-AM, also known as "KBOB," is being sold by the actor-comedian to Wendy McCaw, the owner of the Santa Barbara News-Press.

"I've owned KZBN since 1995 and I'm proud that we're one of the most popular nostalgia stations in the country," Newhart said in a statement Wednesday. "I have enjoyed making it possible for KZBN to share the best music and community-focused programming with our loyal audience."

Newhart, 74, said he had rejected offers from would-be buyers outside the Santa Barbara area and was pleased a local resident will "continue to operate the station in the best interests of our community."

The station is well-known for playing Sinatra-era tunes and for the fast-talking disc jockey known as "The Baron" Ron Herron.

KZBN will be bought by Ampersand Broadcasting LLC, an affiliate of Ampersand Publishing LLC, which

owns the News-Press paper.

McCaw and Ampersand President Joe Cole said they will retain KZBN's staff and evaluate its content. They said they plan to start live community programming.

"We're still early in the process, but I anticipate providing Santa Barbara with strong local news coverage," McCaw said in a statement. "I commend Mr. Newhart for keeping the station in the community."

The sale of KZBN is subject to federal approval. Terms of the deal weren't immediately announced.

■ NEW YORK — Floetry, Cody Chestnutt and the

Yeah Yeah Yeahs are among the acts vying for this year's Shortlist Music Prize, which honors the best non-mainstream artists in the music world.

Other finalists include Icelandic band Sigur Ros, Bright Eyes, Black Keys, Interpol, Damien Rice, Cat Power and British rapper The Streets.

Nominees were announced this week. Winners will be selected by a committee that includes Dave Matthews, Mos Def, Erykah Badu, Tori Amos, Perry Farrell, the Neptunes and director Spike Jonze.

Music industry veterans Greg Spotts and Tom Sarig created the prize in 2001 to honor the year's most creative and adventurous albums that haven't sold more than 500,000 copies.

Previous winners are N.E.R.D., the band created by The Neptunes, and Sigur Ros.

The winner is selected after a Shortlist concert. This year's concert, to be held Oct. 5 at the Wilmett Theater in Los Angeles, will be aired as part of an hour-long special on MTV2 later that month. Performers include Bright Eyes and Damien Rice.

Tickets go on sale Saturday.

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