



FREE

Santa Monica Daily Press

September 10-11, 2005

A newspaper with issues

Volume 4, Issue 260

DAILY LOTTERY

SUPER LOTTO

11 24 25 26 41

Meganumber: 17

Jackpot: \$33 Million

FANTASY 5

3 5 7 32 33

DAILY 3

Daytime: 4 6 9

Evening: 8 3 2

DAILY DERBY

1st: 10 Solid Gold

2nd: 09 Winning Spirit

3rd: 03 Hot Shot

RACE TIME: 1:45.35

Although every effort is made to ensure the accuracy of the winning number information, mistakes can occur. In the event of any discrepancies, California State laws and California Lottery regulations will prevail. Complete game information and prize claiming instructions are available at California Lottery retailers. Visit the California State Lottery web site: <http://www.calottery.com>

NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

Even though India now has 80,000 licensed dentists, nearly 100 "street dentists" continue to operate in dusty, open-air "offices," performing extractions and "fitting" used dentures for, typically, 1 percent to 2 percent of what a licensed dentist would charge. One patient of practitioner Mahender Singh, observed for a June dispatch from Jaipur in The New York Times, was "spitting streams of blood into the gutter" after removal of an incisor that, said Singh, "was not working right" and "kept turning left and right when he ate." Singh uses anesthetic but said some patients still pass out from the pain.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 253rd day of 2005.
There are 112 days left in the year.

Fifty years ago, on Sept. 10, 1955, the long-running TV Western series "Gunsmoke," starring James Arness as Marshal Matt Dillon, premiered on CBS television.

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Every day is training day



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

A firefighter trains at the city yards with the American Flag serving as the backdrop.

LOCAL

Guns, drugs and money found in Pico

Gang-related shoot-out, drug bust keep police on their toes

By Daily Press staff

PICO NEIGHBORHOOD — Police were busy in this neighborhood late Thursday and early Friday as they responded to a gang-related shooting and a SWAT team forced their way into an apartment where they found drugs, guns and cash.

No one was injured in the shooting and two Santa Monica residents were arrested in the drug bust.

On Thursday, at 11:11 p.m., Santa Monica Police responded to the area of 20th Street and Pico Boulevard after someone reported shots being fired. While responding to the call, an officer was

See PICO, page 9

Officials on board with freshman seminar

BY RYAN HYATT

Daily Press Staff Writer

DISTRICT HDQTRS. — Local school officials are optimistic incoming freshmen will be better able to face each other and the future after taking a one-year seminar designed to explore history's struggles.

Santa Monica High School teachers unveiled on Thursday their "Facing History and

Ourselves" curriculum before the district's board of education. All incoming Samohi freshmen are required to take the course starting this fall, in which they will analyze the Holocaust, the American eugenics movement, the 1992 Los Angeles race riots and other case studies in social conflict.

The purpose of the freshman seminar is to develop concepts of

See FRESHMEN, page 9

A piece of the World Trade Center memorialized in SM

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON

Daily Press Staff Writer

PUBLIC SAFETY BLDG. — With the devastating effects still being realized by Hurricane Katrina — the worst disaster in U.S. history — the fourth anniversary of the worst attack on this country's soil

may be forgotten by many Americans this weekend.

But Jim Inge, a Santa Monica Fire Department engineer, hopes a memorial of the Sept. 11 attacks that he helped create will etch into people's minds what thousands of people sacrificed four years ago Sunday.

"People are already starting to forget," he said. "They should never forget this."

A piece of steel from the north tower of the World Trade Center will live on the second floor of the

See MEMORIAL, page 14



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

Santa Monica Fire engineer Jim Inge helped bring a piece of the World Trade Center to Santa Monica that's been turned into a memorial of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Santa Monicans lost in 9-11 attacks will be remembered

By Daily Press staff

Four years ago Sunday thousands of people perished in New York, Washington D.C. and Pennsylvania as a result of the terrorist attacks. Two of those victims were Santa Monicans.

Although there are no scheduled events planned in Santa Monica to remember the victims of the Sept. 11 attacks,

See VICTIMS, page 17

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Enjoy the moment, Cancer

Santa Monica Daily Press

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS The stars show the kind of day you'llHave:
★★★★-Dynamic ★★★★★-Positive ★★★-Average ★★-So-so ★-Difficult





ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ Up roar seems to be the nature of the day. You might see plans change again and again. As a result, you could take off and do your own thing. You might like some time to pursue your favorite pastimes. Detach from others, for now. Tonight: A movie or a concert.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Fortunately, you are OK with one important friend or loved one. Others create uproar, and there is nothing you can do about it. A child or new friend could be cranky and misunderstand you. Tonight: Hang with that one special person.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★ You might feel like a rubber band about to be snapped. A parent or someone key to your life does what you least expected. Grumbling and problems occur around the home. The cat might even be sassy. Tonight: Out where there are people.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ You cannot solidify plans, but you still can have a great time. You have the ability to let go and do something playful or fun. Let the kid in you romp away. Ignore all the chaos around you. Tonight: Enjoy the moment.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ Continue ignoring what is going on around you, and don't allow anyone to talk you into a risk or a purchase. You can have fun without spending money. Put on your in-line skates or hop on a swing. Tonight: Let go of stress.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★ You might feel like you can't do anything right. As a result, you might want to hide out at home. Everyone seems critical or touchy. Listen to your instincts. Others could be strange, at best. Tonight: Be unavailable.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You could be upset or worried about an issue that you don't want to talk about. As a result, you could be much more stressed out than usual. Stop. Find a friend who understands you and will not judge you. Tonight: Laugh with your pals.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Use care with your funds. Friends, loved ones and children have great plans for your money. Learn to say no without wasting any energy. Friends keep changing their minds. A loved one throws a tantrum. Go buy yourself something. Tonight: Whatever you want to do.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★ You might want to continue keeping your own company, as others could be sassy at best and argumentative at worst. You don't want to get into hot situations. Make plans that please you. Worry less about others. Tonight: Your call.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★ Follow the same path as yesterday. You are not getting the whole story about something important. In fact, as a result, plans change and nothing can be settled. Be spontaneous. Make your own plans. Tonight: Not to be found.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Find your friends, but make it clear that you cannot spend a lot of money unless you hit a winning lottery ticket. You just might want to buy one. A partner or someone you have money dealings with is difficult. Tonight: Create a happening wherever you are.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★ You might be fed up with others, but have you perhaps been a player in their attitudes? Be open and honest with yourself. Don't mope around. Go out and do something you really want to do, even if it's by yourself. Tonight: Touch base with an older friend or relative.



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LOCAL



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Calling all book worms

By Daily Press staff

The Abbot Kinney Memorial Library will be hosting its annual used book sale on Saturday, Sept. 24.

The event, which starts at 9 a.m. and lasts until 3 p.m., will feature a wide variety of bargain-priced used books, both hardback and paperback.

The library is located at 501 South Venice Blvd. and the book sale will take place in the Jon David Waldrom Community Room.

For more information, call (310) 821-1769.

A time for giving

By Daily Press staff

Toys “R” Us has partnered with Toys for Tots to collect toys and cash donations for needy children for the upcoming holiday season.

New, unwrapped toys can be dropped off at Toys “R” Us retail stores from Oct. 4 to Dec. 6 and cash donations can be made all season long at Toys “R” Us stores around the country.

Cash donations also can be made online at www.toysfortots.org/home/donate.

The toy store will also be donating \$1,000,000 worth of toys for needy children to Toys for Tots.

Toys for Tots will use the monetary donations raised to purchase toys to benefit needy children in local communities

For more information, call (310) 907-5385.

Low and behold: California heritage on display

By Daily Press staff

Behold — the California coastline will be on display at a local museum.

Titled “Behold,” the artwork display will be presented from Sept. 24 through next February at the California Heritage Museum, 2612 Main St.

The tradition of landscape painting has been shared by American artists. In the early 1800s, during the industrial revolution, a group of landscape painters known as the Hudson River School, focused on reproducing the virgin countryside on canvas. Working “en plein air,” painting outdoors rather than in the studio, they were in awe of the beauty and grandeur of nature and sought to pay homage to what they saw, art history buffs say.

Many aspiring young artists who were schooled abroad in the latter part of the 19th century were introduced to French Impressionism. With the advent of the trans-continental railroad, many of those talented young artists found their way to the shores of California. From the broad beaches of the south to the rocky coves and bays of the north, they began to paint in a more spontaneous manner, seeking to capture more accurately the natural light and atmospheric effects of the California coastline. This period in California painting changed American art in the manner in which artists used color and their adoption of distinct loose brushwork, officials say.

At the end of the 1920s, with the nation enduring the pangs of the great depression, California art made a series of dramatic transformations. A new generation of artists turned to new styles, characterized by a move away from the perceptual towards more conceptual approaches to painting. As much of America’s disposable income vanished, the artist-dealer-patron relationship came to a halt and “plein air” and modernist painters alike joined Works Progress Administration (WPA) programs to find work.

As the economy recovered in the late 1930s, a new California regional style of portraying everyday life, caught on. Subject matter focused less on landscape and more on the genre scene of Californians and their varied and intimate enjoyment of the California coast.

Artists in the show include Franz Bischoff, Louis Betts, William Coulter, Frank Cuprien, Ernest Narjot, Edgar Payne, William Ritschel, Granville Redmond, Arthur Rozaire, Donna Schuster, George Gardner Symons, Marion Kavanaugh Wachtel,

See BRIEFS, page 16



SURF REPORT

South-facing breaks are seeing waist- to chest-high sets. West-facing breaks are running knee- to waist-high.

On Saturday, the last, lagging periods from the SW swell that rolled in Friday arrive, making for surf mostly waist- to chest-high. An increased onshore flow is expected, so winds could get tricky this weekend. Wind swell is expected with size waist high or so.

On Sunday, the SW should back off to waist high and the NW wind swell will likely increase to waist to chest high. It's expected to be a fairly heavy onshore day with a burn off less likely.

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

**Today the
water is:**

65°

	LOW TIDES				HIGH TIDES			
	Morning	Height	Evening	Height	Morning	Height	Evening	Height
SATURDAY	6:12	2.7	10:19	1.0	3:00	2.9	1:46	5.2
SUNDAY	N/A	N/A	11:41	0.6	N/A	N/A	3:03	5.3
MONDAY	9:49	3.5	N/A	N/A	7:38	3.6	4:42	5.5
TUESDAY	11:48	3.1	N/A	N/A	7:48	3.9	6:00	5.9
WEDNESDAY	1:28	-0.5	12:54	2.5	8:11	4.3	7:00	6.4

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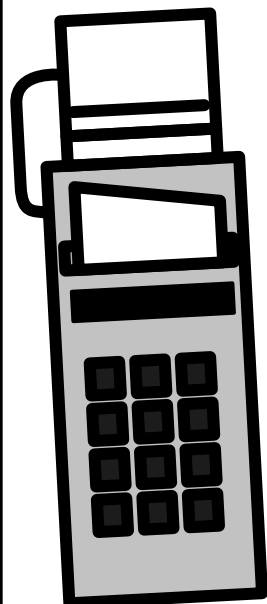
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YOU HAVE THE ANSWERS.
CHECK OUT THIS WEEK'S Q-LINE
RESPONSES ON PAGE 6.**

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No rest for the weary or the weekend warrior



EXERCISE YOUR RIGHT!

BY THADDEUS REICHLEY

Oh the weekend. A time for sleeping in, relaxing at the beach, and enjoying ice-cold drinks by the pool. A time to rest and recuperate after a long week of work. Or, if you are one of the hundreds of people signed up for the LA Triathlon this weekend, it is a time to get up at the crack of dawn, rub- the-sleep-out-of-your-eyes and bust your butt swimming, biking, and running around the greater Los Angeles area for two-plus hours.

As one of those that has decided to forgo the weekend lounge routine in order to partake in this silly event, I have been surprised as of late at the number of people who still don't know what a triathlon is. Or, if they do know what it is, they are very confused about distances, times, and why in the world anyone would want to do a triathlon in the first place when there are any number of other ways you could spend a Sunday afternoon — none of which involve sweating, mass swim starts, or spandex.

A triathlon is basically a race that involves swimming biking and running, in that order. However, that does not mean that all triathlons are the same. Triathlons vary in distance from sprints to ultras, and can take as little as an hour, or can last multiple days. The LA Triathlon is what is known as an "International" or "Olympic" distance triathlon. It is measured in kilometers and consists of a 1.5 K (0.9 miles) swim, a 40 K (24 miles) bike, and a 10 K (6.2 miles) run.

Elite racers will finish this distance in just under two hours, depending on the course. Anything shorter than this distance is known as a "sprint" race, and is usually geared for those just wanting to get their feet wet, so to speak. On the other end of the spectrum is the "Ironman" distance race.

Most people think of Hawaii when they hear Ironman, and though Hawaii is where the Ironman began, the term Ironman now signifies a specific race distance. An Ironman is a 2.4 mile swim, 112 mile bike, and a 26.2 mile run. Nobody knows exactly where these distances came from because the crazy person who came up with them has long since been committed. Elite racers can complete this distance in eight hours or less. Yes, I did say eight. Anything beyond an Ironman distance race is known as an "Ultra" and is considered asinine even by those of us involved in the sport.

Triathlons traditionally begin with a swim, then bike, then run. Though it would seem that anyone doing one of these races has little concern for their own well-being, this really is the safest order. Basically, finishing the race with a run when you are near exhaustion means that you have the smallest distance to fall in the event of a complete system failure,

and you have almost no chance of drowning. In between each event there is a "transition," which is when clothing and gear is randomly thrown about in a mad dash to get from one sport to the next in as little time as possible. Usually this includes shedding wetsuits, changing shoes, and taking in some sort of food. To make this even more interesting, this is the time during the race when all of your friends and family crowd around to yell at you and tell you how well you are doing. Though well intentioned, this often leads to forgetting little details like helmets, sunglasses, or even bikes.

One of the best things about triathlons is the simplicity of the sport. The gun goes off, and the first one to cross the finish line wins. Of course there are rules that must be followed, but that's basically it. It's good that there are few rules because the gear involved in participating in a triathlon can be a little intimidating. The average transition area at a triathlon looks similar to your local neighborhood sporting goods store — minus the hunting section. Shoes, helmet, bike, and sunglasses are the basics of what can easily become a gear junkie's Vegas.

Along with understanding what a triathlon is, it's important to know how to spot a triathlete, should you happen to see one out in the wild this weekend. That way you can point them out to your friends. The first thing that may tip you off is that they are wearing spandex and it's well past noon. Next, you might notice large black numbers on their arms, thighs and calves. This is to keep track of them should one escape. If you see someone who meets both of those criteria, the final thing to look for is a water bottle, a cup of coffee, or both. Triathletes are known to consume large quantities of liquids, and usually require a higher than average amount of caffeine in order to survive. When they are not racing, you can usually spot individuals or herds at local watering holes such as Pete's or Starbucks. However, don't be alarmed should you encounter an individual or a group. They are usually rather harmless, unless challenged.

Chances are that you may spot a few triathletes this weekend. You may even see them in their native habitat while they are racing. If you do have an encounter, it's OK to yell and scream because they are accustomed to this. In fact, they may even appreciate it. And, if you happen to see one when they are not racing, feel free to approach them and ask how their race went. When they start talking about their transition and their bike split you can nod approvingly and think, "Wow, that still sounds really dumb!"

(Thaddeus Reichley is a Santa Monica resident. He teaches middle school, and likes to run and ride his bike in his free time. You may spot him at Pete's this weekend enjoying a cup of coffee and pretending to read his own column. Look for his columns on the weekends, and send questions, comments, or ideas for new columns to thadsthoughts@yahoo.com.)

INTERESTED IN YOUR DAILY FORECAST?
CHECK OUT THE HOROSCOPES ON PAGE 2!

STATE



STATE BRIEFS

Woman sues city after pit bull shooting

By The Associated Press

HEMET — A woman and her son are suing city officials over the fatal shooting of their 2-year-old pit bull during a police chase last year.

In the suit filed Aug. 31 in Riverside County Superior Court, Hilda Mendivil and her son Luis claim officers were negligent and reckless when they shot the dog, Maria, and two other pit bulls during a late-night chase through the family's backyard. The other two dogs survived.

The suit seeks unspecified damages.

Police said at the time of Sept. 10, 2004, incident that the officers were chasing a suspect and that the dogs bit an officer twice and attacked a police dog.

Hemet City Attorney Eric Vail said he has not seen the lawsuit and declined to comment.

Mendivil, 55, said her dogs were gentle and reacted as any dog would if someone surprised it in its yard.

Carpooling on 405 slow going

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — State legislators did not approve a bill to expedite construction of an Interstate 405 car pool lane before they adjourned for the year Thursday, dealing a blow to efforts to ease congestion on the freeway.

Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa had pressured lawmakers to reach a deal to push the \$500 million project forward before they recessed, and the Assembly approved the plan late Thursday, but the Senate adjourned until January without tackling the bill.

"I'm very upset about it. A lot of work went into it" said Assemblywoman Fran Pavley, D-Woodland Hills, one of the bill's authors.

Local representatives are hoping to qualify for \$130 million in federal funds but say they might lose those funds if the project is delayed. Construction must be under way by 2009 and a design plan has yet to be approved.

Criminal wrongdoing investigation launched

By The Associated Press

ANAHEIM — A local school official is calling for an outside investigation into possible criminal wrongdoing that caused a \$49 million shortfall in the district's construction program.

The request by Anaheim Union High School District Superintendent Joseph Farley came Thursday after an independent auditor presented a report blaming the shortfall on a lack of financial management, oversight and reporting standards.

Projects for at least 14 schools may now be put on hold.

Voters approved a \$132 million bond measure to pay for renovation of schools in 2002.

Family grows vineyard in backyard

By The Associated Press

DANA POINT — The Robertsons wanted to do something different with their steep slope of a backyard. It wasn't right for a pool or a deck, so why not a vineyard?

Jack Robertson and wife Gina planted the vineyard five years ago after purchasing their half-acre property and taking a course on small vineyards. Most of their classmates were using about 10 acres, but the Jacksons were undaunted.

"If all else fails, it looks good," Gina Robertson said. "It's beautiful."

They called their micro-winery Jackson Hill and turned a wooden shack that once served as a clubhouse for their sons into the hub of the operation.

Harvest is a community affair, but the vineyard produces only about 10 pounds of grapes per vine, equal to about a gallon of wine. That's not enough to share with all the neighbors.

That's OK, because they're still working on the flavor.

With this year's crop, harvested last month, they started making red wine vinegar so they can use it as vinaigrette.

But taste is not what it's about. The vineyard represents "a sense of family," Gina Robertson said. "Even if the wine tastes terrible, we're doing it together."

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The Q-Line

GAY MARRIAGE: SOME FOR SICKNESS AND SOME FOR HEALTH

This past week, Q-line asked:
Do you support the state's official sanctioning of gay marriages, or do you feel our elected leaders are off track? Why?

Here are your responses:

① "I do not have any quarrel with female lesbians and male homosexuals hooking up and having the same legal rights as any partnership. However, I do not feel it should be referred to as a marriage. I feel this form of relationship should be labeled a 'mating.' Mating is very much the same as marriage, still there is a difference in the composition of the partnership. This approach to labeling would eliminate almost all deception."

② "I certainly do not support such a ludicrous thing as gay marriage. Our lawmakers are way off base, succumbing once again to a certain segment of the population's pressure — a group that over the past few years who have become all too powerful and vocal. They should have stayed in the closet. Now we get homosexuality shoved down our throat at every turn. The legitimizing of this behavior does nothing but demean and dilute the real meaning of marriage and is appalling."

③ "If the gays want to get married, let them get married. Why the hell should we trust politicians? You know they are all corrupt. I mean, look at the mess in New Orleans. Look at the politicians we have sitting on the City Council. My God, put all their brains in a nutshell and they would still rattle. I mean, Christ, life is what it is. People should be allowed to do what they want to do."

④ "Legalizing homosexual marriages is just plain wrong. The homosexuals and their friends are just going to have to accept the fact that most people think they are perverts. What a couple of perverts do, as long as they are both adults, in the privacy of their own home is their business. They can do what they want, they can do it all night if they want, I really don't care. But legalizing it in marriage is going to force employers to start providing health benefits to perverts' boyfriends or their same sex spouses or whatever you want to call them and that's wrong. What if an employer doesn't want to? Then they are going to start saying, 'Oh, I'm not going to hire any homosexuals,' and that's kind of wrong too because they have the same right to work as anybody else. It shouldn't matter they're homosexual if you're going to hire somebody unless you're hiring a prostitute and that's illegal anyway. So why don't they just do what they want in private and stop forcing everybody else to accept it, recognize it, and subsidize it."

⑤ "With all the pressing problems in our state, spending time on this utter nonsense is mind boggling. If people want to indulge in deviant behavior, let them do so. But don't ask us to legalize this craziness to make them feel better about themselves."

⑥ "I absolutely support the state's officials sanctioning of gay marriages. I think we have more to worry about than when people want to commit themselves to marriage."

⑦ "Even though I am not exactly gay, I have been happily married for many years. I am firmly convinced because I had some

friends and one of the grandchildren turned out to be gay and I think it's part of their hormonal development or structure and this person came from a famous family in Carmel. So, I really think even though I don't particularly care for that lifestyle because I have a gorgeous son that has attended school in Santa Monica and I attended UCLA, I am firmly convinced after having taken some courses that it is written in the genetic code."

⑧ "I believe they (the state officials) are off track and I believe that God created Adam and Eve. He didn't create an Adam and Steve. But everybody says, 'Oh, you should be like Jesus, you know Jesus loved everybody, even the woman with adultery who committed sins.' That's my viewpoint, anybody else, I'd like to hear from them too."

⑨ "Here is another attack on American and Christian values by those who hate America. These values have been the backbone of societies for the past 2,000 years. It's all about the money. Gays can get power of attorney to support the estates of their partner. In regards to civil unions, a great number of businesses accept them for insurance purposes to ensure a partner. But if a company doesn't accept that, you know when you go to work for that business. Why would you want to force an owner, who for religious or other reasons does not want to support homosexuality? What about his rights? As for IRS deductions, how about supporting a flat tax? That way everybody pays fairly, not just married people or single or businesses. This argument for gay marriage is made by a now decrepit democratic party to use a minority to further their bankrupt political agenda. These ideas originate from East Coast elites, anti-economic powerhouses, and bastions of political correctness and hate speech states like Rhode Island, Maine, Vermont, Connecticut, and home to that failed lifeguard Senator Ted Kennedy, Massachusetts. The democratic party is duping gays to support ideas that corrode the foundations of America in return for monetary support and forced acceptance of their lifestyle. I don't know what is worse, the 30-year decline of the once great Democratic party or the evident effect on Santa Monica."

⑩ "Marriage should be a private concern between two consenting adults. Why should either gays or straights care if Schwarzenegger or Bush sanction their marriage? Our over-bloated state and federal bureaucracy needs keep their big butts out of peoples' private lives."

⑪ "Yes, I am against same-sex marriage because most states have passed things that are against it. They're not good role models. Proposition 22 here was voted by the public. But of course a lot of these unelected judges go ahead and overturn everything that is done. Anyway, I think that they should not have it. There's enough rights that they already have. So I am opposed to it, Proposition 22 is opposed to it, and many states in the Union are opposed to it. Basically, because they're not good role models."

See Q-LINE, page 7

There are theories and then there are theories



MODERN TIMES

BY LLOYD GARVER

President Bush last month said that it would be a good idea if something called, "intelligent design" were taught along with the theory of evolution. That way, children would be exposed to "different schools of thought." I'm all for kids being exposed to "different schools of thought." In fact, I wonder why President Bush limited it to only two explanations of how the earth and humans got here. There are dozens of different beliefs and explanations for how the world as we know it was created. Of course, some of them — such as intelligent design — don't fall into the category of "science."

Some people believe in a strict interpretation of Genesis. Some even believe that dinosaurs and humans roamed the earth at the same time. Other cultures believed that a giant turtle created the land of Earth. One belief is that a woman who fell from the sky was behind the creation of the Earth. Others believe that a jumbled mass of elements at the beginning of time was in the shape of an egg. Similarly, the ancient Greeks believed that a hatched golden egg gave birth to the sky and the Earth. So, why not teach all of these approaches — along with intelligent design — in the same class? And then call that class, "comparative religions" or "creation myths." Just don't call that class "science."

Those pushing the intelligent design alternative to evolution are taking advantage of the word "theory" having several definitions. The reasoning goes that a theory is not a fact but just conjecture, so alternative conjectures should be taught as well. Unfortunately for those who have embraced intelligent design, there is a very specific definition for a scientific theory such as the theory of evolution, and it's not conjecture.

When you look up "theory" in your dictionary, you'll see several definitions, and the one having to do with science is quite different from the others. If you take a step further, and look at a science book or a science Web site, you'll learn that in science, "A theory is an explanation of a set of related observations or events based upon proven hypotheses and verified multiple times by detached groups of researchers. In general, both a scientific theory and a scientific law are accepted to be true by the scientific community as a

whole." In other words, it's not just a "good guess."

Einstein's theory of relativity, the quantum theory of physics, and the Copernican theory that the earth revolves around the sun are scientific theories. The theory that the line you get into in the supermarket always takes the most time, or that the best way to make it rain is to get your car washed, or that right when you sit down to dinner, the phone will ring, may all fit into one of the definitions of "theory" that you'll find in your dictionary — such as conjecture or supposition. But like "intelligent design," they just don't happen to be scientific theories.

Intelligent design promotes the idea that an unseen force is behind the development of the earth and humanity. Those who embrace intelligent design don't like to say that they believe the "unseen force" was God. I guess they feel it won't sound scientific. To me, trying to make a spiritual idea scientific undermines both the spiritual idea and science. It's sad that religious people should feel afraid to admit that they feel God was responsible for creation.

While I was growing up, religious people seemed to have no problem reconciling evolution with their beliefs. Some did this by interpreting the Bible in a way that would not contradict science. Some just separated science from their faith. It just wasn't an issue. I learned in school that the Scopes trial (the so-called "monkey trial" of 1925) put an end to seeing evolution as heresy just as it put an end to seeing the literal interpretation of the Bible as the only way to make sense of things. All of a sudden, now it seems like some people are trying to turn the clock back a hundred years or so when vast numbers of people scoffed at the idea of evolution — just as they had scoffed at the idea of the earth revolving around the sun 400 years ago.

The only hesitation I have about the theory of evolution is that if we are truly an evolving species, getting wiser and more developed with time, why is there a bunch of people today who actually want to call intelligent design "science?"

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

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Santa Monica Daily Press

OPINION



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The Q Line

Q-LINE, from page 6

① "I support the state's sanctioning of gay marriages and feel that they are right on track."

② "I am not supporting same-sex marriage. I do not agree with the state's decision. This is against God's law, against peoples' law, against our decision in election."

③ "The elective leaders are way off track with proposing that gays and lesbians are able to marry like others. This is not their prerogative according to all dictums of the United States and its heritage. Their prerogative is to have civil unions that would entitle them to the financial benefits that they are ambitiously seeking."

④ "I do support the sanctioning of gay marriages. I believe that this country is not just for Protestant, white males who are straight, but for everybody. Men, women of all colors and countries and gays and straights and everyone should have the right under the law to the same thing. The one judge in California said that it was unconstitutional to deny gays this right and I agree. And also, it's very funny that Governor

Schwarzenegger says he will veto it because he's upholding the peoples' choice when the badly worded Proposition 22 against gay marriages narrowly passed. However, he's not so conscientious about Prop. 98, giving our schools the money is he?"

⑤ "I do not support same-sex marriage."

⑥ "Marriages are sanctioned by God between a man and a woman. Marriages between men and marriages between women who are gay are also wrong and in judgment by God. All the evil is why all the chaos is in the world. The terrorism, all the evil, because people won't listen to God. Listen and obey, trust and obey, it's the only way."

⑦ "I feel that we have a long history of having a marriage between a man and a woman and I think that that should be maintained for the purpose of family. I think other families can join. I believe people of same sex should have the right to have legal contracts so there is no issue about discrimination on that part. But the word marriage, and the rights and benefits between a man and woman for raising children should be reserved and the legislature should not have done what they did."

Elder abuse continues to thrive in silence



GUEST COMMENTARY

BY PAUL SEAVE

Elder abuse is an ugly crime. Its victims are left to suffer in silence and loneliness, often at the hands of the very people charged with their care. And, more often than not, crimes against elders go unreported.

We know that cases of elder and dependent adult abuse are increasing every year. Nearly a quarter million seniors and dependent adults are victimized annually and recent estimates say one of every 20 elders is a victim of physical abuse, financial abuse, psychological abuse or neglect.

And still this crime goes largely unrecognized and unreported.

The California Attorney General's office is currently in the final stages of a three-year statewide public awareness campaign designed to educate the public about the prevalence and seriousness of this problem.

This campaign, entitled "Face It. It's a Crime," has collaborated with local agencies, law enforcement groups and community-based organizations to educate individuals on how to recognize and how to report elder and dependent adult abuse.

In order to make it easier to report suspected abuse, the Attorney General's office established a statewide toll-free hotline for the reporting of abuse. To date, more than 8,000 calls have been received and local adult protective service agencies report a substantial increase in local calls since the beginning of the campaign.

What are these crimes that are robbing our "Greatest Generation" of their well-being, dignity and financial security? Several recent media reports provide insight into just a few of these horrid cases:

■ A 59-year old Fairfield man was charged with elder abuse and manslaughter after his 81-year-old mother's decomposed corpse was discovered on the kitchen floor. She had died on the kitchen floor in 2003, two years earlier.

■ An 80-year-old woman near Los Angeles was found dead in her bed, lying in her own feces and surrounded by rot-

ting garbage. Police described her body as malnourished, dehydrated and covered in bedsores.

■ A man was recently arrested for bilking seniors out of over \$4.2 million. The victims, most of them elderly women, initially believed they had found a reliable tree trimmer and handyman.

■ A resident of a nursing facility was wheeled outside in the early evening for some fresh air. She was forgotten and not found until the next morning. She died less than one month later.

These horrendous cases made the headlines, these are the ones we read about. But these represent only a small portion of the devastating crimes targeting seniors every day in neighborhoods and facilities throughout California. These crimes happen in every county and every community and it could happen to your mother, your grandfather or your spouse.

California now has the nation's largest senior population, with nearly 4 million individuals 65 or older – a number that is expected to double by 2030. The fastest growing segment of our state's population are individuals over the age of 85. As this population expands, so will the incidents of elder and dependent adult abuse.

Whether it is physical abuse, financial abuse, psychological abuse or neglect, elder abuse is a complex issue that should not remain hidden because of a victim's shame, guilt, mental impairment or isolation. And, although two-thirds of all abusers are family members, elder abuse is not simply a "family matter." It is a crime that thrives on the silence of the abused, the family and the surrounding community.

As this public awareness effort ends, our message will and must continue.

We as a society must become more vigilant. Trust your instincts. You do not have to know or provide proof that elder abuse has occurred to report your suspicions or concerns.

Elder abuse is a tragedy and a crime that can be prevented. Your phone call can save a life.

The toll-free hotline to report suspected cases of elder or dependent adult abuse is: 1-888-436-3600 Please, use it.

(Paul Seave is the California special assistant attorney general.)

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Freshman seminar based on ‘Facing History’ curriculum

FRESHMEN, from page 1

“identities, family, communities, value and informed decision-making,” according to the program’s organizers. Skills which also will be developed through the one-year course include research, debate, presentation, analysis and health awareness, according to the syllabus.

Michael Felix, a Samohi teacher who helped organize the seminar, discussed the curriculum with the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified District School Board on Thursday.

“The goal is to get young people to choose to participate in society,” Felix said. “We have to learn how to package and market history for our youth.”

Felix explained the seminar on a slide show, often taking photos from the Internet to present the themes of the course.

“What we’re trying to avoid is this, when students become robots as opposed to individuals,” Felix said, pointing to a picture of hundreds of Star Wars androids, armed with laser guns, assuming military position on a battlefield.

“Facing History and Ourselves” is a curriculum based on the work of educators with field offices around the nation who show teachers the ins and outs of the course in a workshop setting.

Samohi teachers involved with the freshman seminar took part in a five-day conference in mid-June to learn about the “Facing History and Ourselves” methodology, Felix reported at Thursday’s meeting. The conflict studies related to such topics as the 1992 race riots and Holocaust will be interwoven with broad-

“The positive impact of teachers on students ... I don’t know how much I can underscore the importance of that piece.”

MARIA LEON-VAZQUEZ

Regarding the importance of engaging teachers

er concepts dealing with identity, “we versus they,” conformity, judgment and decision-making.

Those teachers who took part in the June 17 workshop were paid with professional development funds by the district. They also will be taking part in refresher workshops throughout the school year.

The “Facing History and Ourselves” program couldn’t have come at a better time, school officials said. Samohi, considered to be one of the most diverse public schools in the nation, has had its share of challenges recently. On April 15, a lunch-hour brawl caused the school to go on lockdown after students refused to return to class. Local police agencies were called in to secure the campus.

Some officials said the fight, which led to six suspensions, may have been symptomatic of a growing alienation and frustration felt among Samohi’s 3,500 students, especially minority groups. Many students have reported feeling disconnected from their classmates, curriculum and

See FRESHMAN, page 13

Two Santa Monicans arrested for drug possession; others shot at

PICO, from page 1

flagged down at Lincoln and Pico boulevards by the victim. Preliminary information indicated the suspects said something to the victim while in the parking lot at 20th Street and Pico Boulevard and the suspect drove away. The victim said he saw the suspect’s vehicle at 19th Street and Delaware Avenue at which time the suspect yelled a slogan of a local Santa Monica gang, then he heard a shot being fired in his direction, police said. The victim drove southbound on 20th Street being followed by the suspect or suspects. The victims drove southbound 20th Street to Ocean Park Boulevard and then westbound on Ocean Park Boulevard to Lincoln Boulevard. During that time, the suspects were following the victims and they claimed that they heard additional shots.

Police consider the incident gang-related.

The suspect is described as a male, Hispanic, 22 years old, 5 feet, five inches tall, stocky, weighing 160 to 180 pounds, having short black hair, a slight mustache, wearing a black short sleeve shirt unbuttoned with white patches on the chest and right sleeve and a white T-shirt underneath, black baggy pants and black shoes.

The suspect’s vehicle is described as a late 1980s or early 1990s brown, Honda, two-door, possible a Prelude.

At 6:30 a.m. on Friday, the Santa Monica Police Department’s Special Entry Team and narcotics detectives served a search warrant in the 1800 block of 17th Street. Officers made forced entry into the apartment and once inside, they recovered an undisclosed amount of cocaine and marijuana. Also recovered were two loaded rifles and U.S. currency.

Donnie Brown, age not known, and Layhachie Collier, 32, both of Santa Monica, were arrested and taken to Santa Monica Jail. Both suspects were booked for possession of rock cocaine and marijuana for the purposes of sales, possession of a loaded firearm in the presence of narcotics. An additional charge of destruction of evidence was added to Brown because when officers entered the residence, he was flushing contraband down the toilet, police said.

Bail has been set at \$30,000 for each suspect.

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 provide anonymous information may also call the We-Tip national hotline at 1-800-78-CRIME (27463). Callers with information that leads to an arrest and conviction become eligible for a reward of up to \$1,000.

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Mexican immigrants' offspring gaining ground in classroom

BY PAUL CHAVEZ

Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES — The grandchildren of Mexican immigrants are getting more education than their parents or grandparents, but they still lag behind Asians and whites in California when it comes to earning college diplomas, according to a study released Thursday by the Public Policy Institute of California.

The study found that 86 percent of second-generation Mexican-American adults ages 25 to 49 in the state have completed high school, compared to 25 percent for their parents, said Deborah Reed, an author of the study.

Substantial gains in the classroom also were noted between second and third generations of Mexican-Americans.

Despite the advances, Mexican-American educational achievement remains comparatively low. Only 11 percent of third-generation Mexican-Americans graduate from college, compared to 46 percent of Asians and 38 percent of whites.

The findings have serious implications for California, since nearly half of its 36 million residents are either immigrants or the children of immigrants.

"The question of intergenerational progress is, 'Are you doing better than your parents?'" Reed said. "Often when immigrants come, one of the reasons is so that their children will have better lives,

and having a better life in California and the U.S. is often associated with more education."

The lagging educational results among third-generation Mexican-Americans is troublesome because of the growing importance of education in the California labor market, said Hans Johnson, another co-author of the study.

"When we look at California's future we observe a mismatch between the needs of our economy with respect to college graduates and what the state's population is likely to supply," Johnson said.

Mexican-Americans tend to have lower educational attainment than other groups because of the low resources available to their families.

The study reported that only 17 percent of immigrant youths from Mexico have a mother with a high school diploma. In cases where neither parent has a high school diploma, only 5 percent of their children can be expected to graduate from college, Reed said.

The study offered policy solutions that included targeting children whose parents have low education for mentoring, college prep classes and help with college applications.

It also suggested the situation among Hispanics could be improved with continued investments in the community college system. Of Hispanics enrolled in higher education, 80 percent attend a community college, Reed said.

Cooperation having effect in border crime fight, official says

BY BOB CHRISTIE

Associated Press Writer

CHANDLER, Ariz. — A program that lets American law-enforcement officials hand over immigrant smuggling suspects to Mexican authorities for prosecution will be expanded throughout Arizona.

Mexican officials, speaking at a conference of top law enforcement officials here Thursday, said the expansion of Operation Oasis will help increase actual prosecutions of smugglers.

The operation already is up and running as a pilot project in California and the Yuma area.

Mexican authorities will be able to prosecute the so-called "coyotes" because their legal system doesn't require victims to be present at trial. A deposition or sworn complaint is all that is needed.

The decision to expand the program in Arizona, and eventually across the southwestern border states, is a major change in policy by the Mexican government, Arizona Attorney General Terry Goddard said.

"They are recognizing that the coyotes are well organized, highly sophisticated criminals, who are very often kidnapping (immigrants), putting them at incredible risk or even making them into sex slaves," Goddard said. "This Oasis program is the first I've heard as a bi-national effort to strike back at the criminals who facilitate people crossing the border without papers."

High-ranking Mexican government offi-

cials spoke about the expanded program Thursday at a meeting that brought together the top prosecutors of six Mexican states with the attorneys general of New Mexico, Utah and Arizona and representatives of the California and Texas attorneys general.

The law-enforcement officials are trying to improve cooperation in their fight against migrant trafficking and other crimes.

"As you know, the smugglers have stopped being the friend of the immigrant," said Juan Bosco Marti Ascencio, an official with Mexico's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. "We're working to try to attack the smuggling of individuals."

A record 415 people have died trying to cross the border illegally from Mexico in the past 11 months, surpassing the previous high of 383 recorded in fiscal year 2000, according to the U.S. Border Patrol.

Arizona's 228 recorded deaths so far this fiscal year, which ends Sept. 30, were more than in all of fiscal 2004.

Authorities blame the death toll on coyotes who drive the immigrants across the border and then set them off to trek across the desert to a pickup spot.

Cross-border cooperation at all levels is beginning to have some effect in the fight against drug smuggling, organized crime, money laundering and human trafficking, Marti said.

But he added that illegal immigration is a problem that will take much more to solve than any idea the representatives of 10 border states meeting here can come up with.



GEORGE CHUNG REALTORS

Featured Agent — Jodie Embree



Jodie Embree was raised in Torrance, California before she moved to Massachusetts to pursue a degree from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. She graduated in 2004 with a bachelor's degree in Political Science. Returning to California in 2004, she began working for George Chung Realtors as a member of the staff and then received her license to work as an Associate Realtor shortly after that. She currently specializes in the Mar Vista and Southbay areas and is working closely with the community, particularly the City of Torrance, to establish the first youth lacrosse program. Her eagerness to accomodate the needs of her clients help her keep close relationships with those she works with and her caring nature makes it easy to gain the trust of clients.

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4042 BEETHOVEN- LOS ANGELES

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3718 GLENDON, MAR VISTA

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3745 VETERAN, WESTSIDE VILLAGE

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NRC clears way for nuclear fuel storage

BY JENNIFER TALHELM

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The Nuclear Regulatory Commission on Friday authorized a license for a private company to build a nuclear waste storage site on the Skull Valley Goshute Indian Reservation, rejecting the state of Utah's arguments that the site was too dangerous.

Private Fuel Storage, a group of utilities, wants to store 44,000 tons of spent nuclear fuel at the site about 50 miles southwest of Salt Lake City.

Utah officials had argued the facility would be too close to a major population center and that the risk of a jet fighter from Hill Air Force Base crashing into the storage casks was too great.

But in a meeting that lasted about two minutes, commissioners dismissed the argument. They affirmed an earlier ruling that containers for the waste wouldn't release an unacceptable amount of radiation if a jet fighter crashed into them. Then they voted 3-1 to authorize the NRC staff to issue a license to construct and operate the storage site.

The license will be ready after paperwork is completed, said NRC spokesman Eliot Brenner. The time the license would be issued was not immediately known.

"I'm very happy," said Paul Gaukler, an attorney who for eight years has represented Private Fuel Storage in its quest to build the waste facility. "People can be assured it's a safe facility. The issue has been fully aired and resolved. Thank goodness — finally."

Utah Gov. Jon Huntsman said in a statement that he was "deeply disappointed" in the NRC decision and would continue fighting the storage facility.

Huntsman said the state would challenge the licensing decision in court. State lawmakers also are trying to thwart the Private Fuel Storage plan through federal legislation. One option could be to designate a wilderness area to block construction of a rail spur.

"Although this is certainly a setback, it does not mean that spent nuclear fuel will be shipped to Utah any time soon," Huntsman said. "This is a battle that will take several years to fight to completion, but it is also a battle that I intend to win."

Representatives of the Goshutes band did not immediately respond to a call or e-mail seeking comment.

Private Fuel Storage's facility would be a temporary dump pending the opening of a national nuclear waste repository at Nevada's Yucca Mountain.

Sen. Harry Reid, D-Nev., has proposed storing nuclear waste at the facilities where it is produced — an alternative to both the Private Fuel Storage site and Yucca Mountain.

A nuke breakdown

By The Associated Press

SAFETY ISSUE: The Nuclear Regulatory Commission authorized a license for Private Fuel Storage's proposed above-ground nuclear waste storage facility for 44,000 tons of spent nuclear fuel, saying it would be safe from terrorists and plane crashes and would not pose an environmental threat.

COURT BATTLE?: Utah officials vowed to fight the storage plan in court and through legislation in Congress.

FUTURE HURDLES: Both the Bureau of Indian Affairs and the Bureau of Land Management still must approve parts of Private Fuel Storage's proposal.

On Friday, Reid, the Senate minority leader, said in a statement that he still believes that is the safest option.

"Transporting high-level radioactive waste to Utah is as dangerous as it would be transporting it to Nevada," he said. "Thousands of tons of deadly nuclear material will pass homes, schools, businesses and churches in communities all across the country, and there is simply no way to safely do this."

Utah politicians said Friday that they agree with Reid.

"If nuclear energy is going to expand, we have to have a better solution" than storing waste in Nevada or Utah, Rep. Rob Bishop, R-Utah, said in an interview. "I'm now looking at how I can help him on the House side — even if he is a Democrat."

An impoverished tribe, the Goshutes had been looking for ways to make money and eventually teamed with Private Fuel Storage to propose the station.

Under Private Fuel Storage's proposal, the waste would be kept aboveground in 4,000 steel casks, which can hold up to 10 tons of spent fuel each. The casks would be shielded in an overpack of two steel shells encasing a wall of concrete more than two feet thick.

There are still more regulatory hurdles before construction can begin. The Bureau of Indian Affairs must issue final approval of the lease between the company and the Skull Valley Band of Goshute Indians. And the Bureau of Land Management must approve a way for Private Fuel Storage to build and operate a rail line through federal land to a Union Pacific Railroad main line.

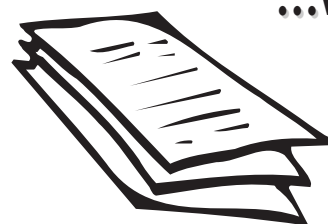
The earliest the site is expected to be in operation is 2008, said Sue Martin, a spokeswoman for Private Fuel Storage. Construction would take about two years.

Summary box: Utah officials vow continued fight against license for nuclear waste facility

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Santa Monica Daily Press

LOCAL



What a lemon



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press
TURNING LEMONS INTO LEMONADE: Shanyssa Malis of Hot dog on a Stick, located on the Santa Monica boardwalk, presses lemons continuously for 20 minutes to make lemonade. 'This job helps keep me in shape, it's a great arm workout,' Malis said.

New curriculum in response to Samohi brawl this past spring

FRESHMEN, from page 9

teachers, officials said.
The district promised to respond to those complaints this year, and the freshman seminar is a good first step in that direction, officials said. By taking the freshman seminar, it's hoped freshmen will gain a better sense of themselves at a crucial time in their personal development, when many of them are met with unprecedented pressures growing into adulthood.
"It gives me tremendous strength knowing we're doing what we said we're going to

be doing," said school board vice president Julia Brownley. "It shows that the reform is in full swing and we're looking ahead."
Praising the work of teachers like Felix, school board member Maria Leon-Vazquez said she is optimistic about the freshman seminar but feels greater steps are needed to engage students.
"Maybe the issue of racial tension was at the forefront of the (April 15 fights), but it was also a scapegoat," Leon-Vazquez said. "The positive impact of teachers on students ... I don't know how much I can underscore the importance of that piece."

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LOCAL

SMFD chief warns public to be prepared

MEMORIAL, from page 1

public safety building behind City Hall with three pictures depicting the bravery and sacrifice made by civilians and rescuers.

On the base of the sculpture, two messages are engraved onto its sides. One side reads: "Evil never prevails, freedom despite its vulnerabilities, will always prevail," — George Pataki, governor of New York. And on other side, the memorial reads: "On Sept. 11th, 2001, the United States of America endured the most vicious, unprovoked attack on innocent civilians on our homeland. Over 3,000 lives from 80 countries perished. Ordinary people emerged as heroes to help others. Brave souls who epitomized the indomitable spirit and courage of a nation forged in freedom."

Inge spearheaded the design and creation of the memorial, which he hoped would be a permanent fixture at the SMFD's newest fire station. But then it was decided that the memorial would be better utilized at the SMFD's administration building and then could be transported to different locations.

This weekend, the memorial is placed in the lobby of the public safety building.

"The memorial has graphics, rightfully so, of police, fire, emergency medical and community members who were impacted so it seemed fitting that it be in a public place," said SMFD Chief Jim Hone.

While there are still football fields

worth of steel and debris still left from the World Trade Center buildings, none of it is being released anymore. So Inge feels particularly fortunate to have been part of a network of rescue workers who were able to give a piece of Ground Zero to Santa Monica.

Art Grenchi, a worker from the New York Port Authority, contacted SMFD to see if anyone was interested in using the piece for a memorial. When no one jumped at the offer, Inge took on the project.

"It was kind of handed to us, but no one took an interest in it so I did because it's something we'd have for the next 50 years," Inge said, adding he built the wood base himself and had it covered in granite and then engraved. The firefighters' union and the SMFD shared the \$2,800 cost.

A committee was formed and helped design the memorial, a project which took about a year from beginning to end. Committee members rifled through about 4,500 photos to select three for the sculpture, which depict port authority officers carrying a woman to safety, rescue workers helping people out of the buildings and the famous image that shows firefighters raising of the American Flag at Ground Zero.

Hone, who helped in the rescue operation in New York directly after the attacks, said the sculpture serves as a reminder of what this country lost, even though the images of devastation and the loss of life

"We need to be prepared, not only emergency services, but the public because you don't know when an emergency will take place."

— JIM HONE
SMFD Chief

will forever be etched into his mind.

"Obviously the tragedy happening in the Gulf Coast right now should be the focus because people are suffering," he said. "But at the same time, people still have some scars from 9-11."

Hone was a member of the Federal Urban Search and Rescue Team, and had been called to six federal disasters since the early 1990s.

Two hours after the attacks, a state official called Hone and told him to get ready to board a military aircraft en route to New York. He was a representative of the California Office of Emergency Services Agency who was assigned to the 70-member Riverside Task Force, a job that involved making sure resources were effectively maintained during rescue operations.

Twenty-two hour work days followed as Hone and his team of 300 men worked to remove an estimated 5,000 to 9,000 tons of twisted wreckage from the southeast side of the debris field, as well as combing through 22 buildings in the

immediate area. The team didn't recover any survivors. The last person pulled from the wreckage alive — a woman who worked on the 13th floor of one of the towers — was found before Hone's team arrived on scene.

He returned to Ground Zero a year after the attacks to pay his respects to many of the friends he lost there — fellow colleagues that Hone had served alongside during previous rescue operations.

Hone said he will return to Ground Zero in October during a trip with his wife to celebrate their anniversary, when he'll also visit friends he worked with during the rescue operation. Hone, who continues to still be involved on a national level with emergency-related matters, said the terrorist attacks and Hurricane Katrina serve as a sharp reminder of how important it is to be prepared for disaster.

"We need to be prepared, not only emergency services, but the public because you don't know when an emergency will take place," he said.



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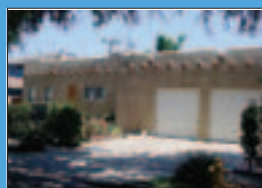


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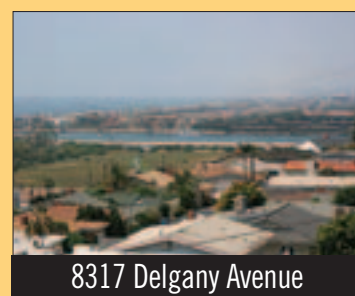
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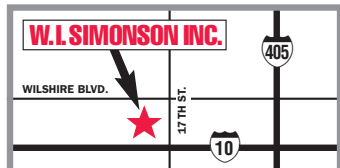
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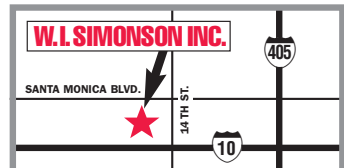
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LOCAL

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

BRIEFS, from page 3

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The California Heritage Museum is located in an 1894 historic landmark house. Hours are Wednesday through Sunday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Admission is \$5 general; \$3 students and seniors; children 12 and under free. Parking is free and handicapped facilities are available. On Sundays, the museum hosts a Farmer's Market in its parking lot. Visitors to the museum can find parking in adjacent quarter metered parking lots.



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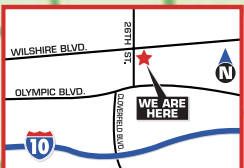
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LOCAL



Santa Monica women leave behind families

VICTIMS, from page 1

many Santa Monicans will spend the day in their own way remembering Dora Menchaca, 45, and Carolyn Beug, 48, who were aboard airplanes that were hijacked and flown into the Pentagon and the north tower of the World Trade Center.

Menchaca was on American Airlines flight 77, from Dulles International Airport in Virginia. Beug was aboard American Airlines flight 11 that originated in Boston.

Menchaca wasn't supposed to be on flight 77. She boarded the plane as a standby passenger so she could get back early to her Sunset Park home to be with her family — husband Earl Dorsey, then-teenaged daughter Imani Dorsey and son Jaryd Dorsey.

Menchaca was supposed to testify in Washington D.C. in front of the Federal Drug Administration about a new drug being released by Thousand-Oaks-based Amgen Inc., where she worked in the clinical development department. But the meeting had been canceled.

Beug was flying home with her mother, Mary Wahlstrom, after a week of helping her twin daughters settle into their new college at the Rhode Island School of Design.

Beug, who lived north of Montana Avenue, is survived by her husband, John Beug, her daughters, Lindsey and Lauren Mayer-Beug and her son, Nicky.

The former Walt Disney Records executive was known for her unwavering support for the girl's cross-country track team at Santa Monica High School, where her daughters attended before graduating in 2001. At the team's track meets, Beug would bring food for the entire team. When her daughters were freshmen, she bought all 250 track team members uniforms because the high school was short on money.

Beug, who was working on a children's book when she died, was an acclaimed writer and filmmaker. She had been honored for her work on Van Halen's "Right Now" music video.

Menchaca led Amgen's team that took potential new medications through the clinical trial stage, when they are administered to humans for the first time. She was often called to Washington D.C. to testify before the FDA about the effects of the drugs.



File Photos

Santa Monicans Dora Menchaca (above) and Carolyn Beug (bottom) perished on Sept. 11, 2001.

Menchaca had just watched her daughter, Imani, play in a soccer tournament in Raleigh, N.C., the day before she died. Imani was a star player at Harvard-Westlake before joining the soccer team at the University of Portland as a starting middle forward. Menchaca and her husband were known for not missing any of their daughter's games, even after she moved to Portland.



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NATIONAL

Libraries offer more Spanish-oriented material

BY ERIN GARTNER

Associated Press Writer

DENVER — On a rainy Saturday, Mireya Gomez quietly thumbed through a book titled "Los Colores" as her two young sons carried comic books to their father in the children's section of the Central Public Library on the outskirts of downtown Denver.

"They really enjoy it here," Gomez said as her husband read a Spider-man comic to 3-year-old Israel, listening intently as he hugged his father's knee. "We come here mostly for the kids, for books and movies — educational and entertainment — in Spanish and English."

Dozens of states have seen soaring growth in Spanish-speaking populations in recent years and hundreds of libraries have tried to keep pace by stocking up on books, magazines and movies.

But the growth has been controversial in some places, with critics saying taxpayer money shouldn't be spent on a population that can include illegal immigrants or on proposals that promote languages other than English.

In Denver, where the foreign-born population tripled between 1990 and 2000 largely because of Mexican immigrants, the public library system is considering reorganizing some of its branches to emphasize bilingual services and material.

Similar efforts have been taken by libraries across the country, from the Queens Borough library in New York, whose Web site is offered in English, Spanish, Chinese, French, Russian and Korean, to the large Chinese-language collection at the San Francisco library.

Interest in foreign-language material is also expanding inland.

"The interest is in rural areas and cities that aren't the usual Spanish areas, like New York or Miami, but in North Carolina, Illinois and the Midwest," said Carmen Ospina, editor of Critica, a magazine for librarians that highlights Spanish-language material.

She said questions about how to start Spanish-language collections have come from librarians in Belton, Mo., Nashville, Ga., and towns she had never heard of.

"It's definitely a growing trend," said Carol Brey-Casiano, former president of the American Library Association. "It's definitely something we're seeing more and more, because the Hispanic population is growing in our country."

The plan being considered by the Denver Public Library system — the largest in Colorado — has come under scrutiny.

Rep. Tom Tancredo, R-Colo., sent a public letter to Denver Mayor John Hickenlooper this summer asking whether the library was considering Spanish-only branches or converting to Spanish-language material at the expense of English material. Tancredo, an outspoken critic of U.S. immigration policies, said he had been contacted by concerned librarians and patrons.

"When you have a strong cultural identity and there aren't set incentives to become American, it creates a lot of tension and divides the community," said Tancredo's spokesman, Will Adams.

Those concerns were echoed by Michael Corbin, a radio talk show host who helped organize a protest outside Denver's central library after sexually

graphic content was found in some Spanish-language adult comic books that have since been removed.

"The library issue kind of borders on multiculturalism, and I don't think we should be catering to any particular group," Corbin said.

Added Bob Copley Sr., co-founder of the Colorado Minutemen: "Here we're being asked to bring another culture in, but it's coming in largely illegally."

Denver library officials say they're not considering Spanish-only branches, but are simply looking to accommodate a city where 35 percent of residents are Hispanic, as are more than half of the students attending Denver public schools.

**Dozens of states
have seen soaring growth
in Spanish-speaking
populations in recent
years and hundreds of
libraries have tried to
keep pace**

About 40 percent of the material borrowed from Denver libraries is for children and the use of adult books is decreasing. Meanwhile, about 48 percent of Hispanic households in Denver are families with children, while only 15 percent of white households are families with children, according to figures compiled by the library.

The Denver library's plan suggests organizing branches in four "service styles."

Some would be contemporary libraries resembling book stores with coffee and comfortable seating that emphasize adult material. Family libraries would focus on children's and adult material, while children's libraries might include activity stations. Learning and language libraries would have more bilingual material and offer evening classes to learn English or computer programs.

Under the plan, all branches would still offer popular fiction and children's summer reading events, said Diane Lapierre, director of strategic initiatives for the Denver Public Library.

"This is very specific to Denver and in response to our own community," Lapierre said. "In 1913, we had a branch library with Dutch and English. If anything, this is just a more coordinated effort — we're looking at a system as a whole instead of tweaking one branch at a time."

Libraries elsewhere in Colorado also carry material in Spanish.

"We don't have bilingual branches, but we do have bilingual collections that I would say are used just as much by students studying a second language as by people who speak Spanish," said Terry Pickens, director of the Mesa County Library in Grand Junction.

"We provide material to meet the needs of the people in the area, whether that be in English or Spanish or another language," said Janet Cox, adult services supervisor at the Pueblo Library District. "That's important. That's what libraries do."

NATIONAL



Sin City provides needed reprieve for N.O. firefighters

BY CHRISTINA ALMEIDA
Associated Press Writer

LAS VEGAS — Leaving hell behind in Louisiana, New Orleans paramedic Keeley Williams has five days to lose herself amid the welcoming drone of the city's slot machines.

The 39-year-old, who lost everything to Hurricane Katrina, is one of a few dozen first responders granted a moment's reprieve in Las Vegas this week, all expenses paid, with help from local businesses and the Red Cross.

Stepping off an airplane into the desert heat, Williams could relax for the first time in more than a week.

"It's like taking a big, deep breath and being able to exhale," she said.

Surrounded by devastation back home, the stress has become too much for those on the front lines. At least two New Orleans police officers have committed suicide. Hundreds of others are unaccounted for, with some simply abandoning their posts.

Hoping to help the city's exhausted emergency workers, New Orleans Mayor Ray Nagin called the mayors of cities with large numbers of hotel rooms, including Las Vegas and Atlanta, and asked for help. The first group of firefighters and paramedics arrived in Las Vegas late Tuesday.

"We're just relieved to be away and have a sense of normalcy for a few days," said Chris Keller, another paramedic with New Orleans EMS.

Nothing has been routine for these men and women since Aug. 29, when Katrina hit the Gulf Coast, followed by flooding that destroyed a large swath of New Orleans.

Williams' entire family, with the exception of an uncle, fled the city. The uncle, who survived by clinging to the roof of his house, later swam by Williams' home in St. Bernard Parish. He told her it was destroyed.

"The material stuff doesn't matter," said Williams, still wearing her New Orleans EMS shirt on Wednesday. "The family is safe."

But little things, those easily taken for granted like sturdy shoes, can be hard to come by.

"These aren't working," said Williams, showing off a pair of flip-flops she picked up at an Old Navy in Baton Rouge, short-

ly before getting on the plane to Las Vegas. Her water-soaked boots had to be thrown away.

Riding out the storm assigned to a commercial building in east New Orleans, Williams was soon confronted by waters that rose 20 feet and the sound of gunfire erupting outside. She did what she could and joined a group of firefighters who commandeered a boat to help a woman in labor.

Finally evacuated by helicopter Wednesday, Williams had her first opportunity to see what had happened to her city.

SEE RELATED STORY on page 20

"That's really when we saw the destruction," she said. "Everyone started to cry. It was just unreal."

Las Vegas Mayor Oscar Goodman says he hopes the free vacation will allow first responders and their families time to recharge and prepare for the return home.

"They just need to be able to recover so they can go back and do what the Lord has entrusted them to do," Goodman said.

Similar trips were offered to New York firefighters and police officers following the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks.

In Atlanta, police there have been escorting New Orleans officers from the airport and trying to keep them out of the media spotlight.

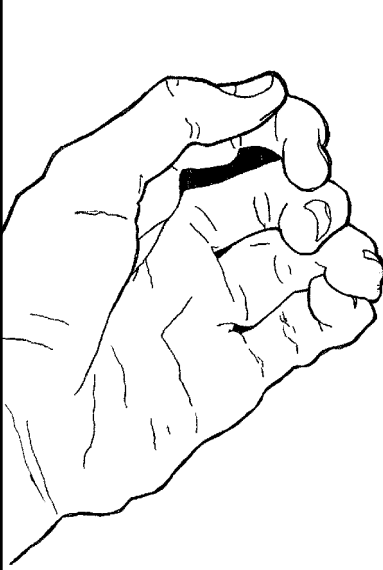
"We're doing what we can to facilitate their rest and relaxation," said Sylvia Abernathy, spokeswoman for the Atlanta Police Department. "These officers are going back into the trenches in less than a week so we want to leave them alone."

In Las Vegas, the 44 firefighters, paramedics and family members are only the first of several hundred New Orleans first responders and family expected to arrive in the next few weeks. Hotels have promised rooms. Barry Manilow and the Las Vegas Hilton have donated show tickets. The Red Cross has provided spending cash.

"We're here to have some fun, drink a bit and party a bit," Williams said.

But the future looms. Williams is already steeling herself for the return home and the horrors that await her and her colleagues.

"I'm trying to prepare myself for the smell," she said.



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In first sweep, authorities in New Orleans find far fewer bodies than expected

BY DON BABWIN
Associated Press Writer

NEW ORLEANS — Authorities said Friday that their first systematic sweep of the city found far fewer bodies than expected, suggesting that Hurricane Katrina’s death toll may not be the catastrophic 10,000 feared.

“I think there’s some encouragement in what we’ve found in the initial sweeps that some of the catastrophic deaths that some people predicted may not have occurred,” said Terry Ebbert, New Orleans’ homeland security chief.

Ebbert declined to give a new estimate of the dead.

Authorities shifted their attention to counting and removing the dead in a grid-by-grid search after spending days persuading and cajoling the living into leaving the shattered city because of the danger of fires and disease from the filthy, corpse-laden floodwaters.

The sweep was carried out by the Police Department, the Army’s 82nd Airborne Division and the National Guard, and covered every part of the city reachable by land, boat or air, Ebbert said.

“Numbers so far are relatively minor as compared to the dire projections of 10,000,” Ebbert said.

Mayor Ray Nagin had suggested over the weekend that the death toll could climb that high, and authorities ordered 25,000 body bags as they started gathering up the dead across a landscape awash in corpses.

Maj. Gen. Bill Caldwell, commanding general of 82nd Airborne Division, said the last of the bodies at the convention center would be taken out on Friday. Thousands took shelter there for days with little or no food or water, in what became an increasingly chaotic and violent situation, and several people were found dead.

Authorities said the New Orleans airport will reopen to commercial flights on Sept. 19. Caldwell said water and power are functioning at the airport.

Authorities continued trying to clear the city of holdouts, and also confiscated guns from homeowners. Police and soldiers feared deadly confrontations with jittery residents who have armed themselves against looters.

“Walking up and down these streets, you don’t want to think about the stuff that you’re going to have to do, if somebody pops out around a corner,” said National Guardsman Chris Montgomery.

As many as 10,000 people were believed to be stubbornly staying put in the city, despite orders from the mayor earlier this week to leave or be removed by force. By midmorning, though, there were no reports of anyone being taken out forcibly, police said.

Police are “not going to do that until we absolutely have to. We really don’t want to do that at all,” Deputy Chief Warren Riley said.

Some residents who had previously refused to leave are now changing their minds and asking to be rescued, police said.

“They realize they’re not going to this awful situation like the Superdome or the Convention Center,” Riley said. “As days go by, it seems less and less likely that we’ll have to force anyone.”

He added: “I don’t know of any incidents where people are being belligerent.”

“They were all insisting that I had to leave my home,” said Shelia Dalferes, who said she had 15 minutes to pack before she and her husband were evacuated. “The implication was there with their plastic handcuffs on their belt. Who wants to go out like that?”

Coast Guard Chief Petty Officer Jason Rule said his crew pulled 18 people from their homes Thursday. He said some of the holdouts did not want to leave unless they could take their pets.

“It’s getting to the point where they’re delirious,” Rule said. “A couple of them don’t know who they were. They think the water will go down in a few days.”

On Thursday, in the city’s well-to-do Lower Garden District, a neighborhood with many antebellum mansions, members of the Oklahoma National Guard seized weapons from the inhabitants of one home. Those who were armed were handcuffed and briefly detained before being let go.

“No one will be able to be armed. We are going to take all the weapons,” Riley said.

See NEW ORLEANS, page 22

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NATIONAL



\$5 billion in small business loans taken from Sept. 11 recovery aid

BY FRANK BASS

Associated Press Writer

The government promised banks a hands-off approach in overseeing nearly \$5 billion in Sept. 11 recovery aid to small businesses. What it got in return was numerous loans to companies that didn't need terror relief — or even know they were getting it, The Associated Press found.

"Had we known it was 9/11 money, we would not have borrowed it," said John Adams, a vice president of Brankle Brokerage and Leasing in Marion, Ind., who didn't know until informed by AP that his company's \$1.33 million loan had been drawn by his bank from a program created by Congress to help economic victims of the 2001 terror attacks.

"We would have chosen some other avenue. That money surely could have been used by people who needed it more than we did," Adams said.

His company wasn't alone. From Dunkin' Donuts shops and florists to motorcycle dealers and chiropractors, businesses nationwide said they were unaware their banks had lent them money from the low-interest, government-guaranteed Sept. 11 loan program.

The records obtained under the Freedom of Information Act also show that many other loan recipients who made cases they were injured by Sept. 11 were far removed from the direct devastation of New York City and Washington, like a South Dakota country radio station, a Virgin Islands perfume shop and a Utah dog boutique.

The pattern of lending left many at New York's Ground Zero seething, especially those who had trouble getting government assistance.

"You have to take it back and give it to us. Even now, I could use it," fumed Mike Yagudayev, who said the government offered him only \$20,000 of the \$70,000 loan he requested to rebuild the hair salon flattened by the collapse of the World Trade Center's twin towers.

The Small Business Administration, which oversaw the two Sept. 11 loan programs, said it first learned of the problems through AP's review and was weighing whether an investigation was needed. But officials also acknowledged they intended to target the post-Sept. 11 aid broadly because of the enormous impact the attacks had on the U.S. economy.

"We started seeing business in areas you wouldn't think of — tourism, crop dusting, trade and transportation. ... So there were a lot of examples you wouldn't think of, at first blush," SBA Administrator Hector Barreto said.

SBA officials declined comment on documents showing one of their top officials promised banks back in 2002 that there would be a no-questions-asked approach to Sept. 11 relief loans.

"We want you to understand that we do not intend to play gotcha," Jane Butler, the agency's chief of financial assistance at the time, told a gathering of California lenders in June 2002.

Under one of the programs, SBA directly lent money to companies that provided detailed arguments on how they were hurt. The other provided incentives — and guaranteed loans from default — so banks could lend money to companies they determined were hurt by the

post-Sept. 11 economic downturn.

Most loans were well below market rates — as low as 4 percent, documents show.

In all, the government provided, approved or guaranteed nearly \$4.9 billion in loans, and took credit for saving 20,000 jobs. That would put the average cost of saving a job at about a quarter million dollars each.

SBA officials acknowledged they gave little oversight to the second program, called Supplementary Terrorism Activity Relief, leaving banks to determine who should get loans.

Banks were required to write justification for each company but did not have to submit it to the SBA even though Congress originally required that the loans go only to companies that could demonstrate they suffered direct or indirect harm from the terror attacks.

The pattern of lending left many at New York's Ground Zero seething, especially those who had trouble getting government assistance.

SBA documents obtained by AP show banks had a strong incentive to approve as many loans as possible from the terror program. The banks profited from the interest while the government guaranteed between 75 percent and 85 percent of each loan total, leaving banks with little risk.

And the annual fee the lenders paid to SBA to get the government guarantee on borrowed money was slashed from 0.5 percent to 0.25 percent, meaning lenders saved an additional \$5,000 a year for every \$2 million they lent under the STAR program.

While SBA officials expressed surprise at AP's findings, several banking officials said the agency encouraged the industry to use the post-Sept. 11 programs liberally, especially when its main guaranteed lending program was hit hard by budget cuts in 2002.

"They had personnel at our conference stand up and say if you cannot find a reason to move the loan over to the STAR program, contact us and we'll help you find a reason to move it over, because they had insufficient funding," recalled Tony Wilkinson, president of the National Association of Government Guaranteed Lenders.

Major lenders like Wachovia and Wells Fargo declined to say how many loans they shifted into the terror relief program, saying only that they followed the law.

Wells Fargo, the nation's second largest SBA lender, said the STAR program enabled lenders "to provide funds to new and mature businesses impacted by 9/11" and the company "continues to strictly adhere to SBA operational standards for all SBA loan originations."

Many loans went to local outlets of some of America's most famous and lucrative companies. For instance, more than 100 Dunkin' Donuts, Subway and Quiznos franchises across the country got loans. So did 14 Dairy Queens.

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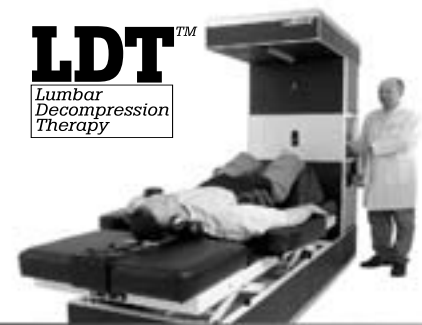
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NATIONAL

Hundreds of thousands still without power

NEW ORLEANS, from page 20

The floodwaters are slowly receding, but the task of gathering rotting corpses and clearing debris is certain to take months. At two collection sites, federal mortuary teams gathered information that might help identify the bodies, such as where they were found. Personal effects were also being logged. At a temporary morgue set up in nearby St. Gabriel, where 67 bodies had been collected by Thursday, the remains were being photographed and forensic workers hoped to use dental X-rays, fingerprints and DNA to identify them. Dr. Bryan Patucci, coroner of St. Bernard Parish, said it may be impossible to identify all the victims until

authorities compile a final list of missing people. Decaying corpses in the floodwaters could pose problems for engineers who are desperately trying to pump the city dry. While 37 of the 174 pumps in the New Orleans area were working and 17 portable pumps were in place Thursday, officials said the mammoth undertaking could be complicated by corpses getting clogged in the pumps. "It's got a huge focus of our attention right now," said John Rickey of the Army Corps of Engineers. "Those remains are people's loved ones." Some 400,000 homes in the city were still without power, with no immediate prospect of getting it back. And fires continued to be a problem. At least 11 blazes burned across the city Thursday. Three buildings were destroyed at historically black Dillard University. Also Thursday, Congress rushed through an addition-

al \$51.8 billion for Katrina relief, and President Bush pledged to make it "easy and simple as possible" for uprooted storm victims to collect food stamps and other government benefits. To counter criticism of the slow federal response to the disaster, Vice President Dick Cheney toured parts of the ravaged Gulf Coast, claiming significant progress but acknowledging immense obstacles remained to a full recovery. Democrats threatened to boycott the naming of a panel that Republican leaders are proposing to investigate the administration's readiness and response to the storm. Senate Democratic leader Harry Reid said it was like a baseball pitcher calling "his own balls and strikes." Democrats have urged the appointment of an independent panel like the Sept. 11 commission.

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Proposal would speed up grasslands oil drilling

BY DALE WETZEL
Associated Press Writer

BISMARCK, N.D. — The U.S. Forest Service will seek to shorten environmental reviews of smaller oil-drilling projects in national grasslands, a top Agriculture Department official says. Undersecretary Mark Rey, who oversees the Forest Service, outlined the proposal Friday at a news conference with Gov. John Hoeven, who said he has been encouraging the changes for two years. The Forest Service is part of the Agriculture Department. "This has been a big thing for industry, and it comes at the right time," the governor said. "It comes at a time where we recognize we need to increase domestic (oil) supply." Rey said the proposed regulations will be published in the Federal Register in a few weeks. That will mark the

beginning of a 60-day period during which the Forest Service will take public comment. Normally, an environmental review is required to get permission to drill in grasslands areas where exploration is allowed. It takes a minimum of six months. Rey said some small projects will be eligible for a shorter review, which will take about two months. The projects cannot include more than a mile of new or rebuilt road, more than three miles of pipeline, or more than four drilling rigs, he said. Lynn Helms, director of the state Industrial Commission's oil and gas division, said the change will allow western North Dakota projects to get underway more quickly. At present, delays are causing some promising areas to go unexplored, Helms said. He said the changes could encourage drilling of 20 or more new oil wells annually in western North Dakota.

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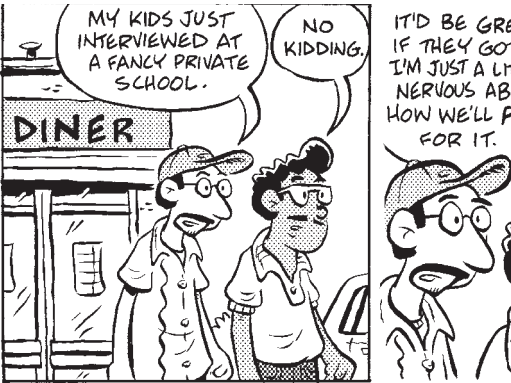
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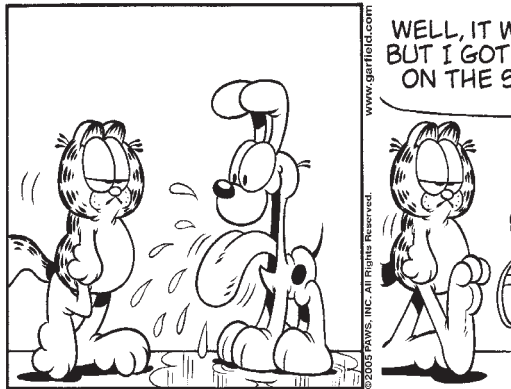
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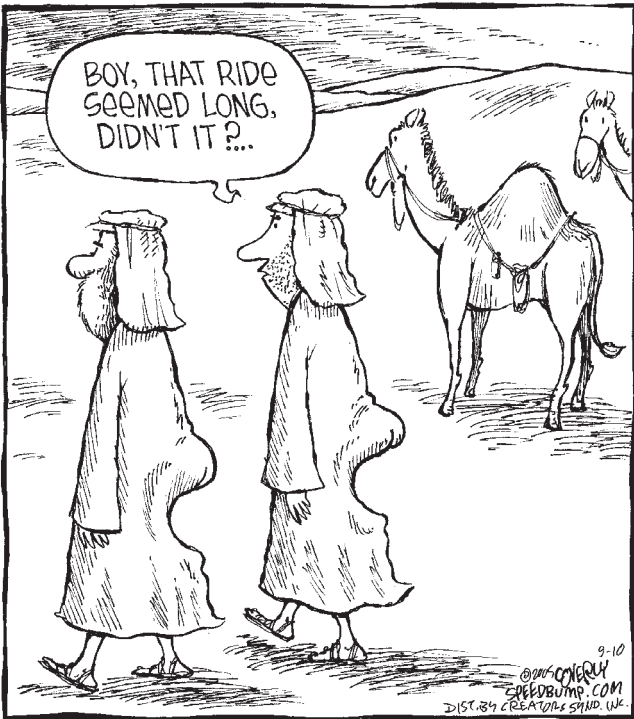
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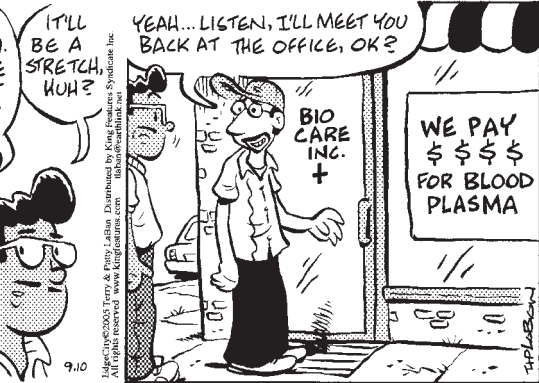
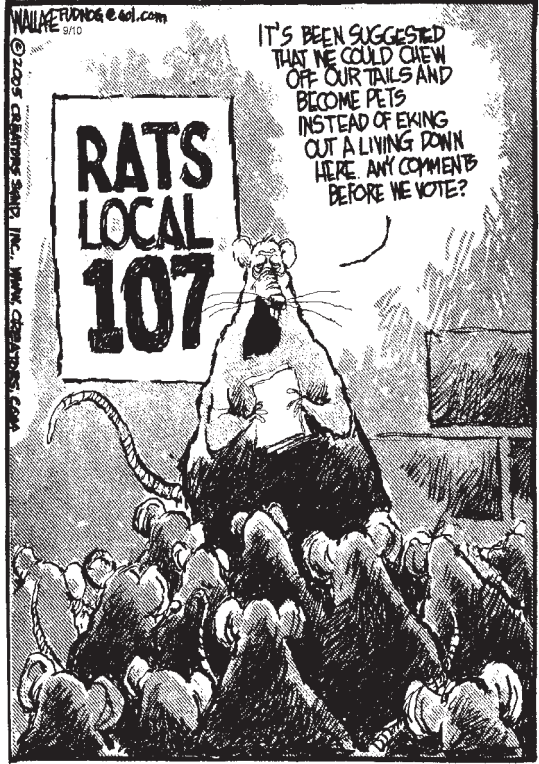


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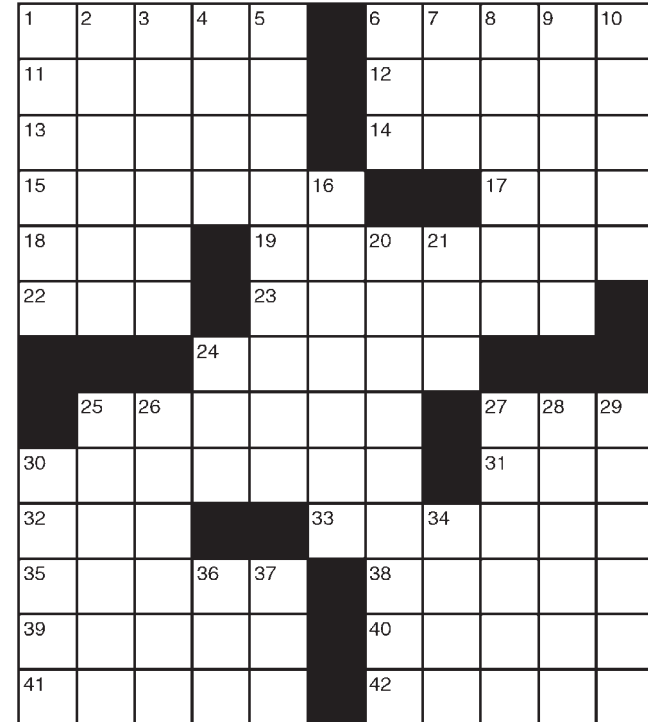
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