

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

THIS WEEK IS NATIONAL FARM ANIMALS AWARENESS WEEK

DAILY LOTTERY



2 19 44 45 56
Meganumber: 43
Jackpot: \$12M



3 22 24 32 39
Meganumber: 22
Jackpot: \$17M



7 12 13 22 31

DAILY 3

MIDDAY: 0 8 4
EVENING: 3 8 2



1st: 08 Gorgeous George
2nd: 11 Money Bags
3rd: 05 California Classic
RACE TIME: 1:44.11

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 at <http://www.calottery.com>

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

The Tokyo Institute of Technology said in July that it is building a database of 96 scents that will be machine-reproducible, with uses ranging from helping online shoppers smell a product before buying, to helping doctors diagnose illnesses by sniffing a patient's bile. Sensors will trigger a library of chemicals to accurately reproduce "almost any odor, from old fish to gasoline," according to one researcher, and that recipe of chemicals would remotely re-create the scent.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 264th day of 2006.
There are 101 days left in the year.

- 1938
- A hurricane struck parts of New York and New England, causing widespread damage and claiming some 700 lives.
- 1897
- The New York Sun ran its famous editorial that declared, "Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus."
- 1937
- "The Hobbit," by J.R.R. Tolkien, was first published.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The very idea that there is another idea is something gained."

RICHARD JEFFERIES

ENGLISH AUTHOR (1848-1887)

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Getting greased

Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

Lorenzo Lamas, (left) Jeff Conaway (middle) and Randal Kleiser (director) of Grease perform a sing-along at the Santa Monica Pier on Tuesday, celebrating the DVD release of the Grease Rockin' Rydell Edition. Some of the original cast of 'Grease' showed up as part of the pier's outdoor movies, shown every Tuesday on the west parking deck.

ELECTION 2006

Debate rages on

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

MAIN LIBRARY —It was lights, camera, action here Tuesday night as supporters and opponents of five local ballot measures squared off in the first video-taped debate of the election season.

The evening of verbal jousting, sponsored by the League of Women Voters and the Center for Governmental Studies, will be broadcast on City TV, channel 16, beginning Monday, Oct. 2. The forums will run nearly every day until Election Day, Nov. 7.

Those who tune in are sure to see lively debates for the most part, as only one measure — one in which would give the City Manager more power to fire top officials — failed to draw any opponents.

Exchanges were heated, with some interrupting each another. However, moderator Sandy Jacobson kept passions from boiling over into anger and verbal attacks, providing

equal time to both sides. The audience was light, with only a handful of spectators attending.

Here is a brief look at some of the measures and the arguments for and against:

SANTA MONICA-MALIBU SCHOOLS SAFETY AND REPAIR MEASURE

Citing the need to repair leaky roofs, improve computer technology and replace deteriorating, 30-year-old school restrooms, the school board Aug. 3 voted to place a \$268 million bond measure on the ballot.

No money would be used to pay salaries or other administrative costs, district officials said.

Measure BB must be approved by 55 percent of voters in Santa Monica and Malibu before any money is issued. If so, property owners can expect to pay an additional \$30 for every \$100,000 of assessed value when their property taxes are due.

The measure comes as school

See **BALLOT MEASURES**, page 8

STATE

California AG sues automakers over vehicle emissions

BY SAMANTHA YOUNG
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO — California's attorney general on Wednesday sued the six largest U.S. and Japanese automakers, including GM, Ford and Toyota, for damages related to greenhouse gas emissions.

The federal lawsuit alleges that emissions from their vehicles have harmed Californians' health, damaged the environment and cost the state millions of dollars to combat their effects.

"It's part of a strategy to address global warming," Attorney General Bill Lockyer told The Associated Press in a telephone interview. "The goal of this one is to hold these automobile manufacturers accountable for the monies taxpayers are spending to address these harms."

The lawsuit is the latest effort

See **GASED**, page 9

City Hall owes \$1M to scofflaws

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL — City officials want to give back nearly \$1 million to those who have mistakenly paid too much for parking tickets.

Beginning Oct. 1, more than 18,000 notices will be sent to motorists who overpaid citations issued during the last three years. Once confirmed, City Hall will send a check within 30 days, said City Manager Lamont Ewell.

City officials estimate that they'll refund up to 400 tickets a month, totaling \$20,000, which would represent approximately 2 percent of the total revenue collected from citations, Ewell said.

The refunds are part of City Hall's new customer service initiative, "We Do the Right Thing Right," and were identified by the Finance Department during a review of how money is collected by City Hall. Once identified, staff immediately devised a proactive refund program, whereas before, refunds were only given to those who made a request, Ewell said.

"Over the last three years, we estimated overpayments in the amount of \$950,000," Ewell said. "We need to give that money back. It's the right thing to do."

The refund initiative is not expected to increase operating costs, Ewell said.

In addition to the refunds, Ewell has been engaged in conversations with the company that manages parking ticket payments — ACS Inc. — to see if customer service can be improved. One of the main complaints that has been brought to City Hall's attention is that ACS Inc. operates on an automated system and doesn't allow for customers to talk to a person who can answer their questions.

There also is talk of extending the

See **TICKETED**, page 10



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Eddie Guerboian



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS CIVIC CENTER PARKING STRUCTURE

RESTAURANT OPPORTUNITY

The City of Santa Monica is requesting proposals from interested and qualified entities for a restaurant/café opportunity in the new Santa Monica Civic Center Parking Structure located at 333 Civic Center Drive. The Civic Center Parking Structure is currently under construction and is scheduled to be completed and opened to the public by December 2006.

The available restaurant opportunity consists of up to 3,594 square foot interior shell plus a 1,766(±) square foot outdoor dining terrace.

Responses are due by 5:00 PM -- October 5, 2006. To request an information package please call (310) 458-8763.



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DON ALEXANDER, OWNER/GM



Horoscopes

2

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 21, 2006

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Did you know?



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Work as a team, Aquarius

Santa Monica Daily Press

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

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

★★★★★ DYNAMIC ★★★★★ POSITIVE ★★★ AVERAGE ★★ SO-SO ★ DIFFICULT



ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★★ Togetherness comes from new beginnings and different situations. Others prove to be instrumental in introducing you to what needs to happen. A gentle feeling or a sense of caring emerges in what appears to be a difficult situation. Tonight: Get errands done first.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★★ Your creativity and dynamic understanding point you in a new direction. Though you might be ready for a swift change, someone else might not be. You cannot change others. Acceptance is the only way. Tonight: Keep smiling.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★ Anchor in, if that is what you feel like doing. You will see what happens when you pull back. Though you might not understand what needs to be done, you will feel the need to act. Be smart — don't. Allow greater flow in your life. Tonight: Stay as close to home as possible.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★★ You might want to try something different. How you deal with others and your approach could be quite off. Relax and understand before you take action. Fast moves could be regrettable. Tonight: Talk up a storm.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ Walk through hassles and face situations head-on. Your strong spirit and caring ways will win someone over more than any other attitude or approach. Know when to act positively. You might not want to defer to others right now. Tonight: Your treat.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★★ You are all smiles. Others count on you far more than you realize. Be ready to establish change or do something differently. You need to take care of yourself first. Understanding grows. Tonight: Enjoy being out and about.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ Kick back, if possible. You might want to rethink a situation or do something differently. Your ability to understand others will grow by leaps and bounds if you remain open and caring. Know what you want first. Tonight: It's not time for action — yet.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ Aim for more of what you want and need from a situation. Others might say nice words, but actions count much more. Take this opportunity to move a project forward. You will be delighted by the end results. Tonight: Where your friends are.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★ You need to move forward despite what is going on. You find out that much of what you thought or believed actually might not be so. You feel pressured by a difficult situation. Let the tension go, and with it the problem will leave. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ You might be overwhelmed by what is occurring around you. Smile, work with others and walk away from preconceived concepts. You could be surprised by what you see. Tonight: Take in another viewpoint.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ You might want to discuss a problem but are having a hard time getting down to the basics. What you see and experience could be very different from someone else's experience. Understanding and compassion correct a misunderstanding. Tonight: Work as a team.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ You might want to rethink your approach to a partnership or to key people. You have a special way of caring and expressing your feelings. This period will allow you to transform your bonds, if you want. Tonight: Head out.

BORN TODAY Writer **H.G. Wells** (1866), actor **Bill Murray** (1950), actress **Maggie Grace** (1983)

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Palisades Park play area under discussion

By Daily Press staff

Sounds of children playing may fill the Palisades Park if a new play area is approved at the Santa Monica's Recreation and Parks Commission meeting today, Sept. 21.

The Commission wants to know if residents support the idea of having a children's play area built somewhere in the north end of the park. The idea was brought to City Hall's attention by parents of young children living near the park. Suggestions will be taken at the Commission's regular meeting. Preliminary research by city staff shows that that area of town has had an increase in births over the last five years, and that it is one of only a few areas in Santa Monica more than mile from a city park play area. Palisades Park is Santa Monica's oldest park, with many historic features and monuments. There is limited space in the linear-shaped park, and a play area would need to be relatively small, low-scale and designed with appropriate materials and perhaps custom features to be compatible with the park's unique setting, city officials said. A specific location in the park has not been identified, but the general area being considered extends from Idaho Avenue northward to the city's and park's border at Inspiration Point.

Community members are encouraged to share thoughts on the concept at the meeting, which begins at 7:30 p.m. at the Ken Edwards Center, 1527 Fourth St. Comments also can be submitted to commservices@smgov.net or faxed to (310) 576-1539. Comments received by Sept. 20 will be presented to the Recreation and Parks Commission for consideration. The Commission's recommendation will be forwarded to the City Council for final consideration. If the community and the City Council support the concept, city staff will proceed with selecting a design team, completing a cost estimate, identifying a specific location in the park and formulating a more detailed concept design for further review.

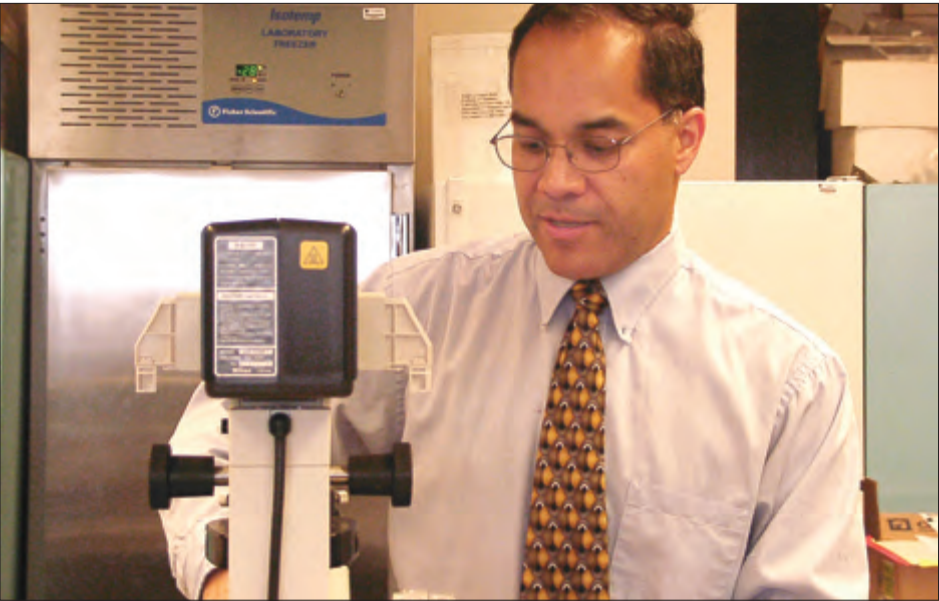


Photo courtesy

Dr. Frank Gomez will be the kickoff speaker Sept. 28 for SMC's fall 'Distinguished Scientists Lecture Series.'

A distinguished look at SMC

By Daily Press staff

Robots, red giants and atoms are just some of the topics that will be discussed during a Santa Monica College lecture series in the upcoming months.

Those interested in today's developing scientific discoveries will be able to attend SMC's 2006 "Distinguished Scientists Lecture Series," running from Sept. 28. to Dec. 5. All lectures are open to the public.

The series kicks off with "Microfluidic Revolution: The Unbearable Lightness of Being

See BRIEFS, page 11

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SURF REPORT

SURF CONDITIONS **WATER TEMP: 64°**

SWELL FORECAST (5-7 FT)
We'll see SW swell from the second of two systems making up our current swell. Size should remain around chest to shoulder high for south facing breaks. The NW energy should peak with chest high + sets for the west facing spots.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS
SOME SW TO LAST INTO WEEKEND...
SOUTHERN HEMI SW 25TH THROUGH 27TH...

TIDE FORECAST FOR TODAY IN SANTA MONICA

The QLine

Tourism and city officials spent last week at the beach racking their brains trying to figure out just what makes Santa Monica so special. As part of creating a "brand," they were asking themselves how they can improve the "beach experience" for visitors. City leaders know that our coastline is one of SM's greatest assets and by not bringing it to its fullest potential, Santa Monica is missing out. So this week, Q-Line wants to know, **"What do you think are the best things about the beach and what can be improved upon?"** Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your responses in the weekend edition. Please try to limit your comments to a minute or less. It might help to think first about the wording of your response.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

A true friend found

Editor:
Kudos to you and your staff for the community profile on Big Dean's legend T.J. Sorady (SMDP, Sept. 18, page 1). Santa Monica is a community and as such, it is based upon friendships foraged both personal and business. I moved to Santa Monica 11 years ago and did not know one person. I can still remember that first afternoon I ventured down to the Santa Monica Pier alone and found Big Dean's. I would come away with a family and in T.J. Sorady a true friend. He showed kindness to a new city resident beyond a mere potential patron and I received a brother I could always count on.

Thank you for your piece on one of this city's finest treasures. Cheers to you T.J.

Todd Work
Santa Monica

A city with issues

Editor:
In response to the Melrose Sprague's follow up letter, (SMDP, Sept. 18, page 4). First of all, Save-On/CVS, both on a local management and regional corporate level, has no interest whatsoever in addressing complaints relating to their store in the 1400 block of Lincoln Boulevard. I e-mailed the corporate offices and like Ms. Sprague, received no response.

The answer to the crime problem at Save-On/CVS is to stay completely away from the store until they clean it up. Ms. Sprague just shouldn't go there anymore. It's as simple as that.

No one that values life or limb should buy anything at that store. Maybe, just maybe, if the manager, Mr. Enoch has to explain a 90 percent or more drop in sales, someone at the corporate office will take notice. Mr. Enoch and regional management must think that the booze and cigarettes that they sell to the bums will keep their doors open. Over time, I think not. Who wants to shop at a store that encourages crime and the beating of grandmothers in front of their grandchildren? Not me.

As for Ms. Sprague being accosted by the same bum that assaulted her previously at the same location, under the guise of a meaningless "Stay Away" order, who is surprised by this? There are never any consequences for the bums who break laws here — that's the way our city leaders want it. Our new homeless court will perpetuate the lawlessness, coddling these lazy, belligerent losers, enabling them to continue injuring law abiding citizens and tourists.

The police have no reason to arrest the criminals when they know that the city attorney won't lift a finger to prosecute them. One could have hoped that Ms. Sprague's assailant would have been detained for some period of time. The truth is that the police probably held the bum just long enough to provide him with a free meal. There's something wrong with a system that feeds and strengthens an assailant, enabling him to return, fed and refreshed, to the scene of the crime, ready to injure the same person again, whose tax dollars bought him lunch. The victim's tax dollars also paid for a useless legal system that did absolutely nothing to punish her attacker.

Who's running this city anyway?

Lori Emerson
Santa Monica



ODDS OF A CHILD BECOMING A PROFESSIONAL ATHLETE:
1 in 16,000

ODDS OF A CHILD BEING DIAGNOSED WITH AUTISM:
1 in 166

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GUEST COMMENTARY BY JOHN W. WHITEHEAD

Rumsfeld's ray gun aimed at us

Air Force Secretary Michael Wynne seems to see nothing wrong with using American citizens as lab rats.

As reported by the Associated Press, in remarks made on Sept. 12, Wynne suggested that the military use non-lethal weapons such as high-power microwave devices on Americans in crowd-control situations before they are used on the battlefield. His reasoning is that domestic use of such new weapons would make it easier to avoid questions in the international community over any possible safety concerns. Wynne added, "If we're not willing to use it here against our fellow citizens, then we should not be willing to use it in a wartime situation."

The weapon Wynne was referring to, dubbed "Rumsfeld's Ray Gun," uses the Active Denial System (ADS), which dispenses brief, high-energy microwaves at a target, resulting in a sensation of severe burning pain. As one reporter explained, the \$51 million crowd-control device "rides atop a Humvee, looks like a TV dish, and shoots energy waves 1/64 of an inch deep into the human skin."

The ADS weapon directs electromagnetic radiation toward its targets at a frequency of 95 GHz. Upon contact with skin, the energy in the waves turns to heat, causing the water molecules in the skin to heat up to around 130 degrees Fahrenheit. When you consider that a standard household microwave oven only uses 2.4 GHz waves, you begin to get a sense of this weapon's power.

While the military has not been overly forthcoming about this weapon and its intended uses, Edward Hammond, director of The Sunshine Project, a Texas-based watchdog group opposed to biological weapons, has proven to be a critical source of information.

In May 2005, Hammond was inadvertently sent classified documents about ADS in response to a Freedom of Information Act request, including a 112-page description of the crowd-control weapon and information on its development by Raytheon Corporation and subsequent military tests.

According to the documents, experiments were conducted on volunteer test subjects in 2003 and 2004 at Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque, N.M. The results indicated that the ADS causes pain within two to three seconds and becomes intolerable within five seconds, the intent being that the pain would be severe enough to cause a person to flee. As a test volunteer explained, "For the first millisecond, it just felt like the skin was warming up. Then it got warmer and warmer and felt like it was on fire ... As soon as you're away from that beam your skin returns to normal and there is no pain."

The Air Force also explored the weapon's ability to control riots and unruly crowds by firing the ADS beam at volunteers acting as rioters or intruders. When the volunteers were zapped by the beam, they held their hands up and were given 15 seconds to cool down before being targeted again. Most of the volunteers experienced severe pain but were otherwise unharmed. It should be noted that volunteers were required to remove their glasses, buttons, zippers and watches for fear that exposure to the beam

could cause "hot spots" or severe burns. However, actual targets — such as average, ordinary American citizens — would certainly not be given the opportunity to remove such objects before being targeted by the beam.

Although the military has been guarded about the radiation weapon's effect on humans, several medical professionals insist that ADS beams could cause severe long-term health problems, including corneal damage, cancer, cataracts and, as Dominique Loye of the International Committee of the Red Cross put it, "new types of injuries we're not aware of and may not be capable of taking care of." And as reporter Kelly Hearn points out, there are more questions than answers right now about how the weapon works, "what it does to the body and how it will be used in the streets of Basra and Baghdad or, one day, Boston."

Which brings us back to Secretary Wynne's remarks about trying out non-lethal weapons on Americans. Reportedly, on orders from the Justice Department, a version of the ADS is being developed by the Raytheon Corporation for use by U.S. police departments. Someday, according to a Raytheon spokesperson, ADS may be "miniaturized down to a hand-held device that could be carried in a purse or pocket and used for personal protection instead of something like mace."

Despite the military's insistence that the ADS will save lives by helping troops battle hostile crowds without the use of lethal weapons like bombs and bullets, experts like Neil Davison, a coordinator of the non-lethal weapons research project at the University of Bradford in England, are skeptical. "How do you ensure that the dose doesn't cross the threshold for permanent damage? What happens if someone in a crowd is unable, for whatever reason, to move away from the beam?"

Obviously, the potential for government abuse of this so-called "non-lethal" weapon is great, especially in the hands of domestic law enforcement. Americans would do well to remember that modern police weaponry was introduced with a government guarantee of safety for the citizens. Police tasers, stun guns and rubber pellet guns were brought into use by police departments across America supposedly because they would be safe. But as we've seen, the "non-lethal" label seems to have caused police to feel justified in using these dangerous instruments more often and with less restraint — with some even causing death.

The real issue is how much Americans trust their government to protect their interests. As one reporter has noted, "For most Americans, zapping Iraqi insurgents in Baghdad with a potentially unsafe weapon is one thing; cooking political protesters in Boston or Biloxi will surely be another."

(Constitutional attorney and author **John W. Whitehead** is founder and president of The Rutherford Institute. He can be contacted at johnw@rutherford.org. Information about The Rutherford Institute is available at www.rutherford.org.)

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

Santa Monica Daily Press

Call us at (310) 458-7737

Hope delivered at Camp Justice for underpaid farm workers



GUEST COLUMN
BY KELLY HAYES-RAITT

Forty years ago, Cesar Chavez and a dedicated troop of organizers changed the way Americans think about food. For the first time since the end of the Ag Age, we were forced to consider the human costs of bringing cheap grapes to our tables. The Grape Boycott may have made history, but it didn't change the economic harvest corporate growers reaped.

Forty years later, the struggle continues. In an homage to Chavez, the United Farm Workers have embarked on an ambitious campaign called "Otra Vez" ("Once Again") to organize farmworkers in California's Central Valley.

I am here at Campo de Justicia (Camp Justice), on the fringes of Delano where the air smells like an earthy mixture of pregnant grapes and cow dung. I join 40 compañeros from throughout California — and the country — in sowing seeds for a new history, one that grows spirits as successfully as pistachios.

Every morning at 5:30, we race the dawn to meet workers in the dusty fields as they tie their scarves around their mouths, don their fruit-stained gloves and prepare for another searing day of picking. We traipse over dry, mud-caked lanes to speak to as many workers as possible before the mayordomo (crew foreman) arrives to officially start the day.

Farmworkers earn between \$7 and \$7.25 an hour, about the cost of a glass of wine in an LA restaurant. Seventy-five percent of workers earn less than \$10,000 a year, according to the federal Department of Labor.

Their backbreaking day begins in the field at 6:30 a.m. and ends at 3:30 p.m., with a legally mandated half-hour lunch and two 15-minute breaks, although some growers skirt the law and push the workers to produce more. Wages have not kept up with either inflation or the cost of gas, and farmworkers' standard of living remains stagnant. In 1965, an historic, bitter, 5-year strike earned farmworkers about \$3 an hour, less than half of what they earn 36 years later.

Some growers deny workers shade. Others deny bathrooms. Others deny sick pay or health benefits. I spoke with a woman who had been bitten by a snake while picking grapes, went to the hospital, missed three days of work, and was denied three crucial days' salary. A man told me he and his coworkers just got a bathroom, after years of requesting one, now that the UFW is organ-

izing at his vineyard.

Our day is simpler. By 7 a.m., we are back at Campo de Justicia, debriefing, eating breakfast and gearing up for our next kamikaze ride through the labyrinth fields to find crews that we haven't yet spoken with. We're like meteorologists seeding clouds for an overdue rain, speaking one-on-one, crawling through grape vines in search of the next worker fed up enough with feeding America, but not his or her own family.

The UFW has been at the forefront of organizing California's farmworkers since the mid-60s. It's a challenge. Growers lease their land to sub-contractors, who become the workers' new employer, or change their corporate entity, evading responsibility for past transgressions. Workers are spread over several miles, moving from day to day and from crew to crew. The window to organize them is as short as the harvest season, a time when there is much pressure to bring in the crops. And the workers themselves are migratory, moving from crop to crop, city to city as the seasons shift.

Legal gains have been made, however. UFW organizers have access to the workers in the field just before and after the workday, and during the floating lunch period, for only 30 days after the union files a request to the state Agricultural Labor Relations Board. Once the union has collected support cards from 50 percent of the workers, they can call for an election.

An election win doesn't always guarantee a contract. Some growers drag their negotiating feet. D'Arrigo Bros., one of California's biggest agribusinesses, has strung along their workers since 1977. This month, the California Supreme Court upheld a lower ruling to force growers to negotiate in good faith or face mandatory mediation.

But our world at Campo de Justicia is focused on reaching new workers. In the afternoons, we literally take our campaign to the streets, creating "block parties" along commuter routes to waylay farmworkers heading home. We hand out bottles of water at stop signs, urging workers to pull over and sign cards showing union support. And they do. My first day, more than 300 workers signed up at the side of the road.

And the numbers grow — as long as there are volunteers to ask them. Each day, each week, each volunteer here at Campo de Justicia adds to the momentum to change the course of history's future. For more information, visit www.UFW.org/CampJustice.

(Kelly Hayes-Raitt, a political communication organizer from Los Angeles. To read more of her political travels, including her trips to Iraq, visit www.CommunityCampaigns.com.)



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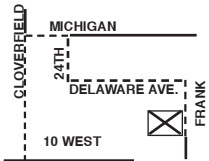


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LOS ANGELES

Muslim criticized then honored

Members of a county human relations panel affirmed a previous decision to honor a Muslim who has promoted interfaith dialogue but has been criticized recently for anti-Israeli sentiment.

Four members of the 14-person Commission on Human Relation voted Monday in favor of granting the John Allen Buggs award for excellence in human relations to Maher Hathout. Five members abstained, and five were absent.

The panel decided earlier this summer to recognize Hathout, who chairs the Islamic Center of Southern California. The plan caused discord after it was learned that he had made statements supporting Hezbollah as "freedom fighters" and criticizing Israel.

"We will not allow untouchable and sacred cows in the midst of our democracy," Hathout said, referring to Israel.

Hathout has defended his right to free speech. Supporters of his interfaith work have included some Jews.

The Jewish Federation of Greater Los Angeles and other groups expressed regret after Monday's vote by the human relations panel.

"The man has taken positions that are divisive," federation president John R. Fischel said.

LOS ANGELES

The high cost of crime

A city panel gave tentative approval to a \$396.8 million construction bid for a new police headquarters that was originally budgeted at nearly \$100 million less.

The City Council Budget and Finance Committee voted Monday in favor of the additional funding amid assurances by City Administrative Officer Bill Fujioka that he and the mayor's office would provide strong oversight of the project.

The police complex was originally slated to cost \$302.7 million. The amount was later increased to \$340 million. Project managers told committee members the final price tag probably would be close to \$420 million.

Some observers pinned the budget increases on the fact that only one contractor bid on the project.

The Public Works Board and City Council plan to vote in the next week on whether to accept the bid from Tutor-Saliba Corp. or to seek other competitive offers.

Chief Legislative Analyst Gerry Miller said rebidding could result in even higher costs.

LONG BEACH

Security command center at port

Harbor commissioners agreed to build a security command center and a fire station at the port.

The two projects approved Monday by a 3-0 vote were expected to be completed by January 2008.

The \$9 million Security Command and Control Center is slated for groundbreaking within a year.

The building will include a rooftop helicopter landing zone and surveillance equipment. It will house federal, state and local law enforcement agencies.

Work on the \$6 million firehouse is set to begin in January.

Construction had been delayed for several years after soil contamination was discovered on the site amid other permitting and infrastructure difficulties, Chief Harbor Engineer D.A. Thiessen said.

OXNARD

City takes on gang

A judge issued an injunction against the city's second-largest street gang aimed at stopping members from associating with one another within a designated area.

The injunction leveled Monday against the Southside Chiques also prohibits members from wearing certain clothing, staying outside past 10 p.m. or displaying gang hand signs.

Those who violate the civil injunction can be arrested for contempt of court and sent to jail for up to six months, fined as much as \$1,000, or both, officials said.

Superior Court Judge Vincent O'Neill set an Oct. 23 hearing to consider testimony and evidence from Mario DeLucas, who is opposing the injunction.

DeLucas contends the injunction is overly broad and violates civil rights.

Santa Monica Daily Press Official Photo Blog



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The perils of war: Army needs relief

BY ROBERT BURNS

AP Military Writer

WASHINGTON — The dimming outlook for significant U.S. troop cuts in Iraq means the Pentagon may soon face a difficult and politically sensitive decision: either make more frequent call-ups of some National Guard and Reserve troops or expand still further the size of the active-duty Army, defense officials say.

That choice is looming in light of the fact that the simultaneous wars in Iraq and Afghanistan have put the Army under enormous strain. In particular, active-duty soldiers are not getting the desired minimum of two years at home between combat deployments.

Army officials had hoped for some troop relief in Iraq in this election year, but the surge in sectarian violence, the persistence of the insurgency and the slow pace of political progress in Baghdad have snuffed out those hopes.

Gen. John Abizaid, the commander of U.S. forces throughout the Middle East, told reporters in Washington on Tuesday that the military will likely maintain force levels of more than 140,000 troops in Iraq through next spring. The current total is 145,000, up about 20,000 since June.

In an Associated Press interview from Baghdad on Wednesday, Gen. George Casey, the top U.S. commander in Iraq, said it is important to "get people's expectations calibrated" about what can be accomplished in the months ahead.

"Until we see the new government get its legs under it, until we see how the security situation in Baghdad comes out, we need to be thinking along the lines of maintaining about what we have" in terms of troop levels, he said.

Late last year, military leaders had indicated they hoped to reduce troop levels to about 100,000 by the end of this year for an Iraq war that has become widely unpopular at home. But Abizaid said Tuesday that rising sectarian violence and slow political progress made that impossible.

"I think that this level probably will have to be sustained through the spring," he said. "I think that we'll do whatever we have to do to stabilize Iraq and Afghanistan and use the military power of the U.S. to do that."

The U.S. military has about 21,000 troops in Afghanistan, an increase of several thousand over the past year.

Abizaid, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld and Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman Gen. Peter Pace are expected to meet with members of Congress later this week.

President Bush, in New York for U.N. General Assembly meetings on Tuesday, told Iraqi President Jalal Talabani that the U.S. will keep soldiers in Iraq as long as necessary.

"I've told the president of Iraq that America has given her word to help you and we will keep our word. The people of Iraq must know that," Bush said.

The Army has been aiming to reorganize its combat forces in such a way as to increase the number of brigades available for deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan, but thus far it is six brigades short of its goal of 42. That is one reason why the Army was forced in 2004-05 to use more National Guard combat units in Iraq than normal; at one point there were seven Guard combat brigades there, compared with just one now.

Even now, active-duty Army brigades are cycling in and out of Iraq and Afghanistan at a faster pace than the goal of one year deployed for every two years at home. That puts a great deal of stress on the soldiers and their families.

"I don't know how long" that can go on, a senior defense official said in an interview this week. He spoke on condition of anonymity because of the sensitive nature of the problem, which is being discussed behind closed doors.

The official likened the earlier troop-reduction plan for Iraq to the situation facing a soldier traveling down a road with a map that does not match the terrain he's seeing: The soldier has to deal with the terrain as it actually exists.

For the U.S. military, the road in Iraq has gotten rockier rather suddenly. An indication of that was the decision to extend the yearlong tour of duty for the Army's 172nd Stryker Brigade; some of the unit's soldiers had already left Iraq when the decision to extend their tour by four months was announced in late July.

The Army has committed itself to not mobilizing National Guard and Reserve soldiers for war duty more than one year out of five. But in light of the possibility that troop requirements for Iraq and Afghanistan will remain high into 2007 and beyond, officials are already discussing whether in some cases Guard or Reserve soldiers may have to be recalled more frequently.

If it is decided to stick to the once-in-five-years formula for the Guard and Reserve, then it may be necessary to increase the size of the active-duty Army, the official said. The Army already is on a path to grow by 30,000 soldiers, to 512,000. It expects to end this fiscal year Sept. 30 at about 504,000 soldiers.

Michael O'Hanlon, a defense analyst at the Brookings Institution who closely follows developments in Iraq, said Tuesday the Army should have put itself on a course to grow beyond the 512,000 mark at the outset of the war rather than wait until now. Many in Congress pushed for a bigger increase in the Army, but Rumsfeld argued against it, in part because of the enormous long-term costs.

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Election 2006: From pot law to millions worth of school upgrades

BALLOT MEASURES, from page 1

officials complete an extensive community outreach process to develop a facilities master plan, which will drive land use in the district for the next 20 years.

School board members and other supporters believe the money is needed to prepare the district for the future, which could include the construction of new classrooms to ease overcrowding at some of the district's largest schools, including John Adams Middle School and Santa Monica High School.

"I wish we received enough funding from the state, but we don't," said John Petz, a parent of a Samohi sophomore and member of the Committee for School Safety and Repair, which is backing the measure. "There is no knight in shining armor who is going to come in and save us. The responsibility falls with us."

Those opposed point to two parcel taxes — Measures S and Y — already providing

roughly \$10 million a year for district operations, as well as declining enrollment figures as reasons not to support a new tax.

Opponents also believe money generated by the measure would not be distributed equally throughout the district, with Malibu schools receiving less. They also contend school officials have been vague in terms of identifying where the money would be spent.

"Malibu represents one-eighth of the population in the district, but one-fourth of the assessed value," said Wade Major, an activist who opposes the measure. "This creates a disproportionate burden on Malibu to pay for repairs and new classrooms in Santa Monica."

A district-sponsored survey conducted by an independent firm in Santa Monica found that an overwhelming majority of the 500 voters contacted said they would support a bond if the tax level stayed at or below \$30.

AMENDMENTS TO EXISTING CITY CHARTER

Measure U would give the City Manager more power in the hiring and firing of City Hall's top executives by re-classifying department heads as "at-will" employees, stripping them of protections granted under the city's civil service system. Voters also are being asked to give the City Manager sole authority over the hiring of department heads without first seeking the approval of city commissioners and board members.

Councilman Richard Bloom and former Mayor Nat Trives said the reforms are necessary because the civil service system is outdated and hinders the swift removal of managers who perform poorly. In some extreme cases it has taken as long as two to three years to fire someone under the system's lengthy disciplinary and review process.

The charter changes — four in all — would create greater accountability on all levels of government, while modernizing the civil service system to bring about more efficiency in operations, Bloom and Trives said.

Those who would be affected by the proposal include all department heads, except the chief of police. City Attorney, council members and the City Manager, all of whom are already considered at-will employees, are not covered by the civil service system.

There was no opposition to the measure.

"When it comes to management, one person needs to have the authority and the responsibility," Trives said. "Like President Harry Truman said, 'The buck stops here.'"

CLEAN BEACHES AND OCEAN PARCEL TAX ACT

To continue protecting the bay from

harmful urban runoff and other pollutants, the City Council is calling on voters to approve a new parcel tax — Measure V — that is expected to raise \$40 million over the next 10 years to fund a watershed management plan.

For each single-family home, the annual maximum tax rate will be set at \$84 for the first year, with annual reviews. Other housing and businesses will pay a tax based on the size of the parcel and the amount of runoff found there, which is based off a complicated formula that tracks water flows.

In addition to reducing urban runoff pollution, supporters of the tax claim it will increase water reuse and conservation, recreational opportunities and open space, not to mention wildlife and marine habitat.

"If you care about Santa Monica Bay, if you care about clean water, then do the right thing and vote for Measure B," said Mark Gold, executive director of Heal the Bay, which supports the measure. "The plan is in place. This provides the needed funding to make it happen."

Don Gray, an opponent of the measure, said approval would be nothing more than "giving government a blank check to do what they want."

Gray said the watershed management plan lacks oversight and does not guarantee that water will be safer once it is implemented. He also said Santa Monica residents should not be solely responsible for cleaning up the bay when other municipalities are just as guilty, if not more, of polluting it.

See BALLOT MEASURES, page 10

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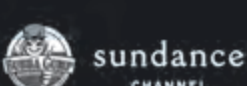
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Suit says gases are a public nuisance

GASED, from page 1

from California to combat the effects of global warming.

Last month, the state Legislature passed a landmark bill designed to regulate emissions of greenhouse gases from industries. Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger is expected to sign the measure into law by the end of the month.

Two years ago, the state enacted similar requirements for auto emissions, prompting carmakers to file suit in federal court.

Lockyer's action comes 48 days before the November election. He is termed out of office this year and is running for state treasurer.

"This is the silly season of elections in the fall, and obviously he thinks this will gain him a few marginal votes," said Sean McAlinden, an economist with the nonprofit Center for Automotive Research in Ann Arbor, Mich. "I don't think it means anything more than it says. It's California politics."

Lockyer said the complaint has nothing to do with election-year politics. His Republican opponent, state Board of Equalization member Claude Parrish, could not immediately be reached for comment.

The lawsuit, filed in U.S. District Court in Oakland, names Chrysler Motors Corp., General Motors Corp., Ford Motor Co., Toyota Motor North America, Honda North America and Nissan North America.

The automakers responded to Lockyer's lawsuit by issuing a statement saying they already are building cleaner and more fuel-efficient vehicles. The Alliance of Automobile Manufacturers did not respond to the substance of Lockyer's lawsuit, saying manufacturers would need time to review the complaint.

Lockyer is suing on the theory that greenhouse gases are a "public nuisance" under both California and federal law, an argument similar to one being pursued in a case before the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in New York. Connecticut and seven other states, including California, have sued five power companies to get them to reduce their greenhouse gas emissions.

The Connecticut lawsuit was dismissed by a district judge who said it attempted to address political questions. In a brief filed in support of the utility companies, the automakers alliance argued that such a suit "opens the door to lawsuits targeting any activity that uses fossil fuel for energy."

Lockyer's is the first that seeks monetary damages from the auto industry for greenhouse gas emissions.

"Industries that release the pollution that is causing global warming have to expect there are going to be more suits of this kind until and unless we have effective national legislation to curb global warming," said David Doniger, an attorney with the Natural Resources Defense Council in Washington, D.C.

The environmental group has joined California in defending the state's auto emission regulations in a separate lawsuit filed by automakers.

That court case relates to rules adopted in 2004 by the state Air Resources Board. They were designed to cut polluting exhaust from cars and light trucks by 25 percent and from sport utility vehicles by 18 percent.

The auto industry challenged the state's ability to set such regulations shortly after the rules took effect. In that case, automakers argue that California is acting outside its jurisdiction because the only way they can meet the more strin-

gent emission standards is to raise fuel efficiency. Setting fuel-efficiency standards is the exclusive responsibility of the federal government.

The state has countered that automakers can meet the tougher tailpipe standards with better technology.

California is attempting to cut the amount of greenhouse gases to 1990 levels by 2020. As part of its strategy, auto emissions from cars and light trucks would account for about a third of the reductions.

The emissions from industries that are targeted by the bill Schwarzenegger is expected to sign next week also are a key part of the state's overall strategy. The Republican governor struck that landmark deal with Democratic leaders in August during the waning days of the legislative session and after weeks of intense negotiations.

Lockyer said he intentionally waited until the Legislature passed that bill before filing his lawsuit against the automakers because he didn't want to jeopardize its chances.



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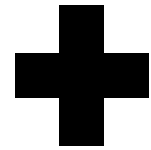
Ordinance Number 2204 (CCS) ("the Ordinance") sets the 2006-07 tax rates for the Main Library General Obligation Bonds at \$.010615 per \$100 of assessed valuation for the 2002 bonds and \$.004164 per \$100 assessed valuation for the 1990 bonds.

Ordinance Number 2204 (CCS) was adopted on September 12, 2006, and shall become effective upon adoption.

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TICKETED, from page 1

time period allowed for payment before a fine is issued. Ewell said City Hall already allows more time for drivers to pay fines than most cities — 35 days. The penalty for non-payment is typically double the original fine.

Overpayments are generally made by those who pay a parking ticket weeks after it is issued, city officials said. That delay causes a notice to be sent to a driver, who may send money again thinking his or her initial payment was not received. A spouse may do the same, thinking his or her significant other was forgetful.

In other cases, the Department of Motor vehicles collects citation payments at the time of vehicle registration, even after an individual has already made a late payment to City Hall. The DMV later remits those payments, city officials said.

City Hall collected \$12.6 million in revenue from parking tickets last year, with \$4.6 million going to pay for operating expenses. That left \$8 million in actual revenue, a very small portion of the \$256 million allocated to the general fund, which pays for essential city services such as public safety, city officials said.

"This is not a revenue source that we rely on," Ewell said of the citations. "The best

outcome for the city would be for people to abide by the law and have (parking) meters turned over for our businesses and their customers to help generate more sales tax revenue ... Our preference is for people to obey the law."

Sometimes driver's don't, even when they're cited. It is estimated that City Hall loses \$2 million annually because many fail or refuse to pay.

"It goes both ways," Ewell said.

Refunding all of the \$950,000 sitting in City Hall's coffers may be impossible given 80 percent of those who overpaid live outside of the city or were driving rental cars at the time. Ewell said every effort will be made to locate all who overpaid, but some may be difficult to find.

Money that is not refunded will remain in the general fund.

The top four cases in which people received citations are parking at a meter where time has expired; parking in a preferential parking zone without a permit; parking in a no parking zone, such as a fire lane; and blocking driveways and exits, city officials said.

Those who believe they may be eligible for a refund are asked to fill out a verification form online at www.smgov.net, or call (800) 214-1526.

Debate swirls over issues

BALLOT MEASURES, from page 8

"The plan is dreadful," Gray said. "It was dropped into our laps right before the deadline. When that happens it's usually bad public policy or a matter of special interests. I think this is a little bit of both."

Gold said several public meetings were held and residents played a critical role in drafting the plan.

"This will improve water quality in a financially responsible way," Gold said.

GOOD GOVERNMENT ACT OF 2006

In an attempt to simplify and clarify a voter-approved initiative prohibiting kickbacks to elected officials in exchange for votes, the City Council chose to place the Good Government Act of 2006 on the ballot.

If approved, Measure W would replace current restrictions on gift giving or campaign contributions in exchange for a "yes" vote in favor of those giving the gift, with prohibitions against any gift giving of over \$50, regardless of the vote. One person could not give gifts totaling more than \$250 a year. City officials also would be prohibited from making decisions on issues in which the party directly involved is negotiating, or has any arrangement concerning current, future, or prospective employment with that official.

The act would replace the Oak's Initiative, or Prop. LL, passed by nearly 60 percent of voters in 2000. City Hall sued the City Clerk's Office to have the Oaks Initiative ruled unconstitutional because it believed the law prevents residents and others from participating in the electoral process, discourages public participation on boards and commissions, and is too burdensome and confusing to be complied with correctly, forcing part-time politicians to

hire expensive, expert treasurers to make sure they aren't violating the law.

Those opposed to the act, including the Santa Monica-based Foundation for Taxpayer and Consumer Rights, claim elected officials are doing away with the law because it limits their ability to raise funds for their re-election campaigns. They say the act proposed would weaken current standards and allow for City Council members and others to receive kickbacks in exchange for their votes.

"This is an insult and a disgrace," said Harvey Rosenfield, president of the Campaign for Consumer Rights, which opposes the measure.

MARIJUANA LOWEST LAW ENFORCEMENT PRIORITY POLICY ORDINANCE

The City Council reluctantly placed Measure Y on the ballot, forced to do so under California elections code because supporters, Santa Monicans For Sensible Marijuana Policy, were successful in gathering the 5,580 signatures needed for it to qualify. That figure represents 10 percent of the 55,801 registered voters living in Santa Monica, according to the City Clerk's Office.

The measure, supported by the National Organization for Marijuana Reform and Law Enforcement Against Prohibition, would make adult marijuana use in someone's private residence the lowest law enforcement priority for the Santa Monica Police Department. Adult applies to anyone who is over 21 years old. The initiative would not legalize marijuana, or allow adults to smoke it in public or while operating a car.

Supporters brought the initiative before the City Council following a survey which showed that 73 percent of voters here "agree



Blast from the past

Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

Sha Na Na rocks out at the Santa Monica Pier Tuesday, having originally appeared together and best known for their performance in 'Grease.'



Reunited

Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

Lorenzo Lamas, (left) Jeff Conaway (middle) and Randal Kleiser (director) of 'Grease' perform a sing-along at the Santa Monica Pier before the classic film was shown on an outdoor screen for hundreds of movie-goers.

that adults that use marijuana but otherwise follow the law should not be criminalized," according to the group's Web site. Supporters believe the war on drugs has failed and that valuable law enforcement resources are being wasted on locking up harmless marijuana users.

"This is a minor adjustment," in the priority given to calls for service, said Bill Zimmerman, a supporter. "This will not affect your ability to fight crime, but in fact provide you with more resources to better deal with more serious offenses."

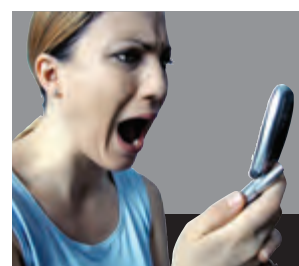
The measure would prohibit the SMPD from working with state or federal agencies to do enforcement work within the lowest priority and from receiving federal funds for such work. The measure also would require oversight by the City Council to ensure compliance, including semi-annual reports on arrests and other statistics. The City Council also would be required to receive complaints from those who believe they were arrested in a manner inconsistent with the measure.

The City Clerk's Office would be forced to send letters every year to federal and state officials, including the President of the United States and the governor of California, requesting that similar laws be enacted elsewhere.

Former SMPD Chief James T. Butts, as well as Greg Smiley, the president of the Police Officer's Association, have come out against the law, charging that it would inhibit officers from uncovering more serious crimes and allows for the smoking of hashish and other cannabis products containing high concentrations of THC, or tetrahydrocannabinol, the psychoactive substance found in marijuana plants.

"I don't think this is the message we want to be sending our children, that marijuana is not a big deal," said SMPD officer Mohamed Marhaba.

The last day to register to vote in the election is Oct. 23. Voters may request absentee ballots Oct. 9 through Oct. 31.



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Santa Monica Daily Press

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COMMUNITY BRIEFS

BRIEFS, from page 3

Small," at 11:15 a.m. on Thursday, Sept. 28 in Science Lecture Hall 145 at 1900 Pico Blvd. The speaker will be Dr. Frank Gomez, chemistry professor and director of the Partnership for Research and Education in Materials at California State University at Los Angeles. He will discuss his research into the use of microfluidics in the analysis of biological problems.

The following lectures will all be held in Science Lecture Hall 145:

■ Tuesday, Oct. 3 at 11:15 a.m.: "Swarm Engineering: Is There a Bot in Your Future?," by Dr. Sansa Kazadi, who will talk about current developments in behavior-based control and the creation of simple robots capable of displaying interesting behaviors.

■ Tuesday, Nov. 21 at 11:15 a.m.: "Going Out in a Blaze of Glory: The Beautiful Legacy of Dying Stars," by Dr. Mark Morris, UCLA physics and astronomy professor. He will discuss red giants — dying stars so luminous they can be seen all the way across the galaxy — and the physical processes responsible for crafting their striking structures.

■ Tuesday, Dec. 5 at 11:15 a.m.: "Nanotechnology at SMC," by SMC chemistry professor Dr. James Murphy, who will talk about student projects to build equipment that are important tools in the emerging field of nanotechnology, which is the study and manipulation of matter on the scale of individual atoms and molecules.

The lecture series is sponsored by the SMC physical science and life science departments and the SMC Associates, a private organization that funds speakers and special events on campus.

For additional information, call (310) 434-4003.



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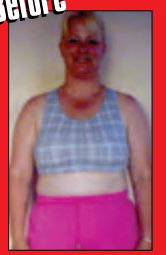
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Teach the kids growing gains

MARKET MATTERS

BY BRIAN HEPP

Two weeks ago we gave you a half dozen ideas to help your kids learn about managing their money. Here we add to that list, rounding it out with another six simple steps you can use to teach your children good personal finance skills.

■ Let children make spending decisions. It's never too early to teach your kids to spend their money wisely and to show them how to be bargain shoppers. Take them to different stores and explain how the same items may cost more or less depending on where you shop and which brand you purchase. Let them learn for themselves the difference between paying a premium for a brand-name item or spending less for a generic by allowing them to make their own decisions.

■ Open a savings account. This may be one of the best ways to teach children the benefits of saving for the long-term. Open a basic savings account for them so they can deposit a portion of their allowance, birthday money or other funds into the account. Go over the monthly statements with them, and help them see how their money earns interest over time. For older children, this also can provide an opportunity to introduce the concept of compounding.

■ Discuss the benefits of using credit wisely. Explain to your children how "borrowing" money comes with consequences. When you use your credit card, remind them that you still need to pay the full amount for your purchases when the bill comes due. Illustrate this point by showing them how much more you will actually pay when interest

charges are added to the bill. You also can set a good example for them by paying your entire bill each month and not carrying a balance that would incur interest.

■ Encourage children to invest in the market. You can introduce your kids to the financial markets by helping them purchase shares of companies they are familiar with in their everyday lives. You should explain to them that the market can fluctuate and review account statements together so they see the up-and-down activity. Kids can even follow their stocks in the paper each day, giving them something to look forward to and helping establish a sense of ownership.

■ Teach children to be charitable. You can assist them in finding a good cause that they can understand. Encourage your children to donate to charitable organizations, and share with them your experiences of giving to charity. This will help them see they can derive great satisfaction from sharing their money with those in need, and also teach them important habits that they will carry with them for the future.

Use resources available in your area. Beyond the lessons you can teach them at home, your kids can participate in valuable learning experiences through various other sources. There are many financial literacy programs available for children; start by checking with your local children's museum or neighborhood schools to find resources to help them learn. You also can look on agedwards.com for more information.

While you've undoubtedly thought of other ideas to teach your children about money, these simple steps can help you get them started. The important thing is to teach them early on, so you can help them establish good habits that will stay with them for the long run.

(This article provided by **Brian Hepp** of A.G. Edwards & Sons, Inc. Member SIPC. Brian Hepp is a financial consultant and can be reached at (310) 453-0077 or at brian.hepp@agedwards.com.)

Off go the college kids along with all of your money

BY NEALE S. GODFREY

Special to the Daily Press

Off to college go the kids. For them, it's the thrill of independence. For parents, it's the thrill of victory — and also the "cha-ching, cha-ching" of money, gobs of it, out the door.

There's the inevitable tuition and room and board, of course — expenses typically paid up-front, before the semester starts. But for another category of costs, everything from cell phone bills to laptop purchases to good old-fashioned pocket money, the students may need to be in the driver's seat. Which raises some important questions: How much should you give your college kids as spending money? How much is too much? And how do you know they'll spend it the way you want them to?

Zogby International, a leading polling firm, asked parents whether they suspected their children were spending the money they sent for college expenses on other things. Surprisingly, 79 percent said "No." This is a touching show of faith. But as trustworthy as your kids may be, a little schooling from you in the financial basics will protect them — and you — from trouble down the line.

Let's start at the beginning, which is always a budget.

Simply, a budget is a description of "money in" and "money out." As a parent, you have some control over the "money in," especially if you're supplying it. But in some cases, your child will control the "money out." That's why it's important to sit down with your college-bound child and figure out a budget together.

The budget should include such things as books, cell phone costs, Internet access, snacks beyond the meal plan, entertainment, transportation, travel and personal items. Make sure to divide the expenses into one-time costs (such as books, often bought once a semester) and regular expenses, for which you'll need a weekly or monthly estimate.

Figuring out how much you'll need for each category will be a negotiation process. Your new student may feel that designer coffees and shakes are a staple at \$10 a day, which adds up to \$70 a week and more than \$1,000 a semester. You may disagree; show them the savings they can reap from a coffee maker and a can of ground beans.

The budgeting process also is a chance to teach your child valuable lessons in bargain-hunting. With book expenses in particular, a little research can make a big difference. A 2005 study by State Public Interest Research Groups estimated that students spend an average of \$900 per year for books. But many colleges offer used books, and there are also online sites, including www.bigwords.com and www.campusbook-swap.com, where your kids can search for textbook bargains. When buying used textbooks, make sure your child has the exact title, author, ISBN number and edition of the text the professor requires. An old edition may not meet the requirements. Students also can recoup some textbook costs by selling their used texts at year's end.

A couple of "don'ts" for the budgeting process: First, don't hand your child credit cards. Unless you prearrange with the credit provider, your child will have access to your credit limit, and for many students, the card is nothing more than magic plastic, no strings attached. Second, don't give your student the entire amount for the semester in a lump sum, or even put it all in a checking account up front. Consider this the "training wheels" part of the budget: Until you're sure your child has the hang of the budgeting process, put just one month's sum in the checking account at a time. Or, better yet, get him or her a cash card, which you "pre-load" and "re-load" at your discretion.

As a college student, the adjustment from a world of entitlement to the real world of finite resources can be very shocking. Your overall goal is to make money management a life skill. If you haven't started money lessons yet, it's never too late to begin.

(Financial expert Neale S. Godfrey has written 14 books, including "Money Doesn't Grow On Trees," and "Money Still Doesn't Grow On Trees: A Parent's Guide To Raising Financially Responsible Teens and Young Adults." Her show, "Your Money, Your Children, Your Life," has aired on public television stations.)

Qwest: No decision yet on dividend or buyback

BY SANDY SHORE

AP Business Writer

DENVER — The Qwest Communications board has yet to decide the best way to reward shareholders for staying loyal during some difficult years, preferring to take its time to ensure the process is completed accurately, the company's chief said Wednesday.

Chief Executive Officer Richard Notebaert also reiterated that Qwest only has a couple of ways to accomplish the goal. Previously, he has said it likely would be a dividend or share buyback program or a combination of the two options.

"We're all very cognizant of good governance these days," he said. "I think they need to work through it at their pace. But I don't think we should second-guess the board; the board should make its decision and it is in the process."

Notebaert made the comments during an analyst presentation at the Goldman Sachs Communacopia XV conference in New York.

Qwest Communications International Inc. announced plans Aug. 1 to return capital to shareholders after posting a second consecutive profitable quarter. The six-month period marked the first profit since mid-2000 without gains from asset sales.

Banc of America Securities analyst David Barden, who

heard a presentation Tuesday from Qwest Chief Financial Officer Oren Shaffer, speculated that the board will opt for a combination of a dividend and stock repurchase designed to maintain flexibility.

He predicted a decision would be made in the near future. "The key timing issue appears to be the gradual procedural issues surrounding the nuances of board members preparing to assume personal responsibility for such an impactful strategic decision," he wrote in a research note Tuesday.

Qwest, the primary local phone service provider in 14 Midwestern and Western states, has credited higher sales of bundled products — telephone, Internet and satellite television — as well as cost reductions for its success.

Notebaert also said the company has no plans to reinvest in a wireless asset of its own, preferring its arrangement to resell Sprint Corp. wireless service. He recalled that Qwest spent hundreds of millions of dollars on capital expenditures when it had its own wireless business.

"We don't have to own every asset. What we have to do is have a business model and an execution that allows us to optimize, whether it's DirecTV or the resale of somebody else's asset," he said.

Qwest's stock rose 15 cents to close at \$8.80 on the New York Stock Exchange. In the past year, it has traded between \$3.73 a share and \$9.22 a share.

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Ashanti's glad it's over

ASHANTI and her first producer, **GENARD PARKER**, dropped all litigation Tuesday in a contract dispute, ending a trial that began a day earlier.

If any money changed hands, their lawyers refused to talk about it, saying only that everyone was pleased that the bitter battle was over.

Outside court, Alan Kaminsky, a lawyer for Ashanti,

called the decision by both sides to drop all litigation "an excellent result."

"I'm very pleased the plaintiff has voluntarily dismissed the case against us," Ashanti said outside court, where she had been scheduled to continue her testimony.

The lawsuits were time-consuming, the 25-year-old singer said, and "I'd rather be in the studio writing."

Parker, the producer who had helped Ashanti record some demo tapes of several songs at his apartment when she was 16, said outside court that he was "happy it's over."

Last year, another jury concluded that Ashanti had broken a contract with Parker and owed him \$630,000. U.S. District Judge Jed Rakoff rejected all but \$50,000 of the award on the grounds that the jurors did

not have adequate facts to determine damages so they were left to speculate.

The judge's decision led to the new trial, where Parker had been seeking \$2.3 million.

On Monday, Kaminsky told the jury that Ashanti should not have to pay Parker anything because he had no role in her career after he released her from his contract so she could

sign with another company.

Although the release called for Parker to receive money from the company for her first three albums, the company eventually rejected Ashanti and no records were made.

Later, she met Irv Gotti and worked with Murder Inc. to produce music for three records that sold 6 million copies, Ashanti testified.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bizarro Dr. Phil set to hit airwaves

Is there room for a kinder, gentler version of Dr. Phil on television?

DR. KEITH ABLOW hopes so. The author and television personality launched a syndicated show this month that will tread some of the same emotional territory of "Dr. Phil,"

but from a different perspective.

"I would like to think that a style of communication, an empathetic style of communication that we model with the show, would become contagious with the people at home," Ablow told The Associated Press recently.

Ablow said he'll try, with the

cameras rolling, to get at the often hidden roots of bad behavior — the role of parents in unwittingly fueling eating disorders among their children or the way bullies project emotional violence they have suffered onto others.

"The Dr. Keith Ablow Show"

airs primarily on Fox stations nationwide.

The therapist Ablow has written a series of crime novels and next year will publish his first self-help book, "Pain to Power: The Journey to Truth, Love and the Rest of Your Life."

AP

Cousteau didn't see eye to eye with Steve

Marine explorer **JEAN-MICHEL COUSTEAU** said Tuesday that while he mourns the recent death of "The Crocodile Hunter," Steve Irwin, he disagrees with Irwin's hands-on approach to nature television.

While promoting his new two-part TV special, "Jean-Michel

Cousteau: Ocean Adventures — America's Underwater Treasures," Cousteau called Irwin's death "very, very unfortunate."

He had "a lot of respect" for Irwin, who he didn't know personally, and his "environmental message," Cousteau said.

But, he added, Irwin would

"interfere with nature, jump on animals, grab them, hold them, and have this very, very spectacular, dramatic way of presenting things. Of course, it goes very well on television. It sells, it appeals to a lot of people, but I think it's very misleading. You don't touch nature, you just look at it. And that's why I'm still

alive. I've been diving over 61 years — a lot many more years that he's been alive — and I don't mess with nature."

Irwin died Sept. 4 when a stingray's barb pierced his chest while he was filming an underwater sequence at the Great Barrier Reef. Irwin was 44.

AP



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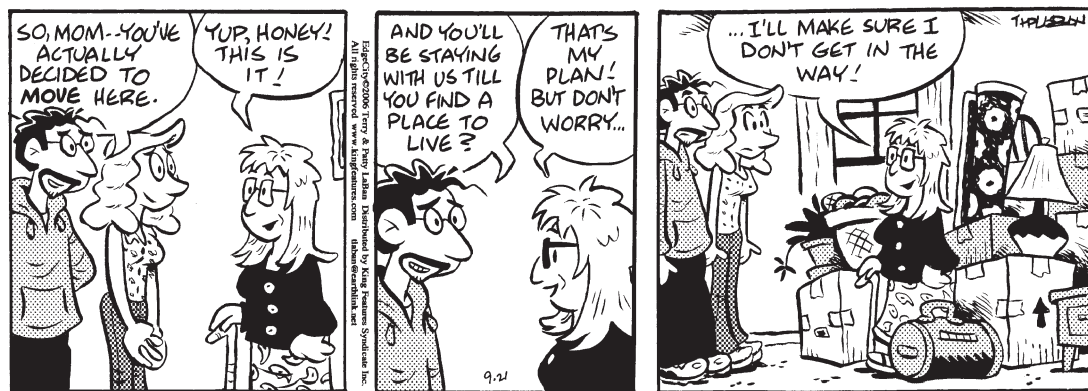
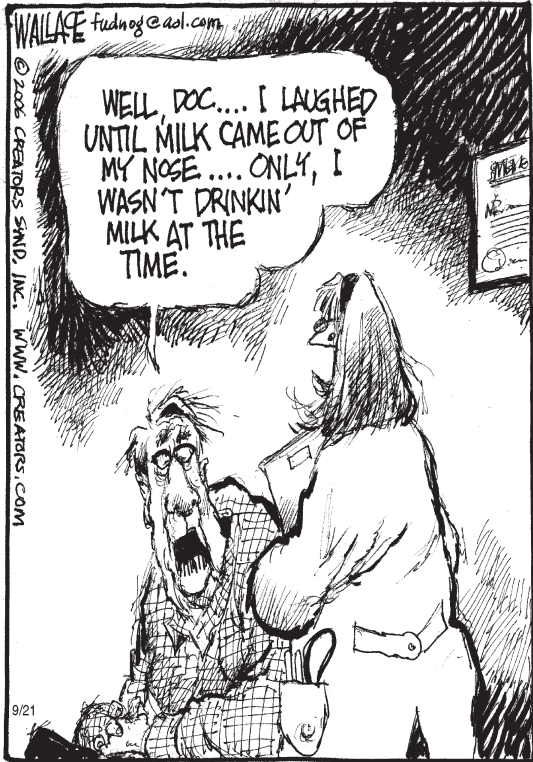
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1441 3rd Street (310) 458-6232	
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1310 3rd Street (310) 289-4262	
The Covenant (PG-13) 2:40, 5:10, 7:30, 10:10 Everyone's Hero (G) 2:20, 4:40, 7:20, 9:30 Gridiron Gang (PG-13) 1:00, 2:00, 4:00, 5:00, 7:00, 7:50, 9:50, 10:30 Invincible (PG) 1:50, 4:30, 7:10, 10:00 The Last Kiss (R) 2:10, 4:50, 7:50, 10:20 The Protector (R) 1:40, 3:45, 5:40, 7:40, 9:45	
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Factotum (R) 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:00 The Illusionist (PG-13) 1:40, 4:30, 7:15, 9:50	
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1332 2nd Street (310) 394-9741	
Half Nelson (R) 11:30am, 2:05, 4:40, 7:20, 9:55 Little Miss Sunshine (R) 12:00, 2:30, 5:05, 7:40, 10:10 Quinceanera (R) 1:55, 7:10 Sherrybaby (NR) 11:30am, 4:30, 9:30 The U.S. vs. John Lennon (PG-13) 11:45am, 2:15, 4:50, 7:30, 10:00	
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Notices

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF ARTHUR R. EMMONS, III
 Case No. BP100551

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of ARTHUR R. EMMONS, III

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by Nelson R. Emmons in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that Nelson R. Emmons be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on Nov. 6, 2006 at 8:30 AM in Dept. No. 11 located at 111 N. Hill St., Los Angeles, CA 90012.

IF YOU OBJECT to the grant-ing of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDI-

Notices

TOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for petitioner:
AVERY M COOPER ESQ
COOPER-GORDON LLP
 2530 WILSHIRE BLVD
 3RD FLOOR
 SANTA MONICA CA 90403-4643
 Santa Monica Daily Press
 CN761575 EMMONS Sep 20,21,27, 2006

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF:
ARAM J. DERVY AKA MAX DERVY
CASE NO. BP100477

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the WILL or estate, or both of ARAM J. DERVY AKA MAX DERVY. A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by JERRY AVAKIAN in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that JERRY AVAKIAN be appointed as Special Administrator with general powers to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act with limited authority. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority. A HEARING on the petition will be held on 10/17/06 at 8:30AM in Dept. 11 located at 111 N. HILL ST., LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

IF YOU OBJECT to the granting of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code Section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for Petitioner
 DEIDRA L. STAUFF, ESQ.
 LAW OFFICES OF DEIDRA L. STAUFF, PROF. CORP.
 2800 28TH ST., #315
 SANTA MONICA, CA 90405
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 '04 4Runner SR5 \$21,995 CERTIFIED, IMMAC. White, Auto, A/C, Alloys, CD Vin #: 40014705 Toyota Santa Monica (800) 579-6047	 '96 Lexus LS 400 – Sedan Mileage: 102,464 Exterior Color: Grey Stock #: PL15599 Price: \$12,995 Lexus Santa Monica Pre-Owned (800) 406-7782	 1999 GMC Suburban – 4dr SUV Mileage: 72,887 Exterior Color: Pewter Stock #: L15403 Price: \$9,995 Lexus Santa Monica Pre-Owned (800) 406-7782	 '03 Harley Davidson F150 Certified BLACK / SILVER \$29,988 Stock #: R541 (310) 451-1588 Santa Monica Ford	 '05 Mitsubishi Galant \$19,995 Like New! Black! 500 miles!! Hyundai of Santa Monica (866) 309-6705	 2001 XG300 L Priced to sell, Fully Loaded (PH1290) \$9,995 Hyundai of Santa Monica (866) 309-6705
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 '99 Beetle \$9,995 BEEEEAUTIFUL, Auto, AC, Lo, Lo, Lo Miles Vin #: (AXM45469) Toyota Santa Monica (800) 579-6047	 '04 Land Rover Range Rover – 4dr SUV Mileage: 31,630 Exterior Color: Jade Green Stock #: L15518 Price: \$47,995 Lexus Santa Monica Pre-Owned (800) 406-7782	 '02 Mitsu Lancer 0Z \$10,988 Stock #: 55643A (310) 451-1588 Santa Monica Ford	 '05 Mustang Saleen Certified Must See Stock #: R573 (310) 451-1588 Santa Monica Ford	 '02 JETTA GLS \$12,495 Sedan, 4DR, Auto, Air, Pwr Steering (M035074) Hyundai of Santa Monica (866) 309-6705	
 '04 Beetle \$18,995 Convertible, Loaded! Auto, Leather, Lo Miles. Stock #: PT4849 Toyota Santa Monica (800) 579-6047	 '02 Honda Civic – Sedan Mileage: 35, 135 Exterior Color: Green Stock #: L15514 Price: \$13, 495 Lexus Santa Monica Pre-Owned (800) 406-7782	 '02 Ranger Super Cab Certified \$13,988 Stock #: R565 (310) 451-1588 Santa Monica Ford	 '03 Chrysler 300 M SILVER \$17,988 Stock #: P587 (310) 451-1588 Santa Monica Ford	 '03 ECLIPSE GTS \$15,995 Coupe, Auto, Low Miles, Loaded (E165370) Hyundai of Santa Monica (866) 309-6705	
 '99 Nissan Altima – Sedan Mileage: 59,254 Exterior Color: Black Stock #: L15560 Price: \$7,995 Lexus Santa Monica Pre-Owned (800) 406-7782		 '04 Scion XB Wagon \$11,988 Stock #: P501A (310) 451-1588 Santa Monica Ford	 '05 Crown Vic Ford Certified \$18,988 Stock #: R588 (310) 451-1588 Santa Monica Ford	 '05 SPORTAGE EX \$19,995 Sport Utility, 4DR, Auto, V6, Kml (041210) Hyundai of Santa Monica (866) 309-6705	

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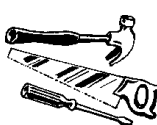
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