

FREE

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Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

Santa Monica loses \$1.3 million lawsuit

Man awarded \$1M in damages for pain and suffering

By Daily Press staff

A Santa Monica jury has decided that the city must pay a West Los Angeles couple more than \$1 million because it was responsible for a tree that fell on their car, injuring them both.

Jim and Joan Holiday sued the city for \$40,413 in medical expenses, \$332,531 for lost wages, and asked for \$1.1 million in pain and suffering damages.

The 12-person jury reached a decision Friday at about 2:15 p.m. after they heard closing arguments on Thursday.

The jury was split 9-3 in awarding \$1,008,708.50 to Jim Holiday. The jury was unanimous in awarding Joan Holiday \$33,206.50.

One of the city's mature red-flowering Eucalyptus trees hit the Holidays as they drove down Broadway Avenue in January of 2001. Jim Holiday suffered a compression fracture to a vertebra in his back. Lawyers said the collision also exacerbated existing problems with his lower back and neck.

Lawyers said Holiday, who operated a maintenance company and worked part-time for a homeowners' association, now lives with constant pain and will not work again.

Jurors had to decide if the city was responsible for what the law calls a "dangerous condition of public property."

The city and plaintiffs agreed the tree's roots were decaying but disagreed over whether or not the city should have known about it before the accident.

Holiday's attorney, Robert Wolfe, argued on Thursday that the city should have enlarged the mature Eucalyptus' tree well. Because it didn't, Wolfe argued, the tree was "constricted" by the concrete, limiting the

flow of nutrients and causing roots to decay.

But Deputy City Attorney Norman Hirata told the jury that the city had no way of knowing the condition of the roots, especially since the month the tree toppled over experienced heavy rainfall. He argued that the city can't be blamed for the rain, which saturated the soil and added more weight to a tree already weighing several tons.

Neither Wolfe nor Hirata were available for comment on Friday.

The lawsuit comes amid a statewide debate over the Eucalyptus, sometimes called "The Widow Maker," because it often drops limbs unexpectedly. Several groups are pushing for more aggressive action by cities to remove the non-native species.

The trial, which began Sept. 17, was heard under Superior Court Judge Linda K. Lefkowitz. An earlier trial ended last July in a hung jury.

They're living off the street and celebrating success

They had to admit they needed help to get it

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON
Daily Press Staff Writer

Many of us are only one paycheck or one tragedy away from being homeless.

If you don't think so, ask the hundreds of people who heard stories from two dozen people who recently crawled from the debts of society and are now gainfully employed.

They beat the odds not only because they admitted to themselves that they needed help, but

also because there is a coalition of service organizations that spends millions of dollars every year to help them get off the street and lead productive lives.

The success of the westside's social services programs usually go unnoticed when they are presented through statistics and numbers. But on Friday, the success of the Westside Shelter and Hunger Coalition was shared by a common thread — keeping it human.

The coalition's seventh annual "Celebrating Success: From Homelessness to Self-sufficiency and Healthy Lives" event at the Fairmont Miramar Hotel in Santa

Monica showed that compassion can lead to success for even the worst of human tragedies.

Two dozen people talked about how they suffered from drug addiction, as well as mental and physical disabilities, but then came from being a blight on society to becoming part of it.

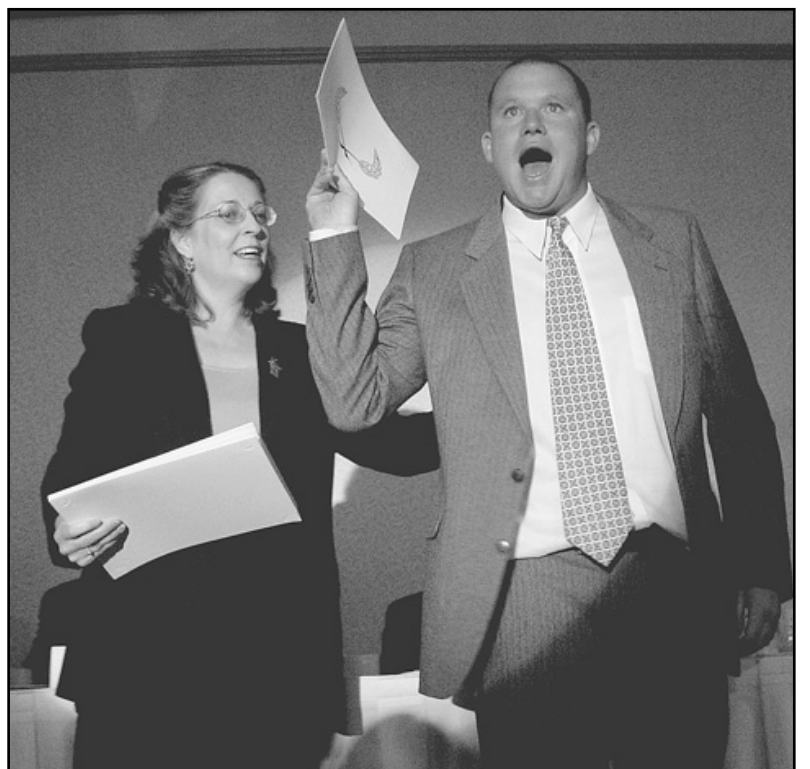
For years they lived on the street but now they have jobs and a place to live. Some even have cars, which for someone who used to sleep under a bridge, is a substantial asset, they said.

The coalition, which is an extensive network of more than 25 local human service, government agencies and faith-based organizations, provides services for homeless and hungry people on the westside of Los Angeles County.

On Friday, more than 300 people gathered to see and hear firsthand the inspirational and life-changing stories of people empowered by the coalition's services. For the past 13 years, the coalition has built a support network that gives those in need everything from emergency services to mental health and money management services to permanent housing.

The coalition has established a continuum of services that enables people in need to rebuild their lives with dignity and self-sufficiency.

A common theme shared by many of those honored Friday is that vulnerability and one life



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

Craig Galey is overwhelmed with excitement as he receives his honor award Friday from Rhonda Meister of the Westside Shelter and Hunger Coalition. Galey, formerly homeless, was recognized as one of 24 success stories that came from the coalition's services this past year. Galey suffered from mental illness and drug addiction, which led him to two years in state prison and a state hospital. But he got help through the Didi Hirsch Community Health Crisis Center. He now lives in Topanga Canyon and works full-time as a telemarketer.

experience was enough to send them over the edge and onto the street — whether it was the loss of a loved one, the loss of a job, or a mental illness or drug addiction that developed later in life.

Mary Phillips, who was honored Friday, said if it wasn't for the coalition she would still be on the street. Because the coalition has a variety of different services,

See SUCCESS, page 5

Local homeowners' group files petition

Ballot measure may be voted on this spring

BY ANDREW H. FIXMER
Daily Press Staff Writer

In Santa Monica, elections may not end in November.

Homeowners for Voluntary Preservation filed a petition with 12,947 signatures with the city clerk Thursday that may qualify them for a special election as early as this spring. The group turned in their petition just hours before a six-month deadline to gather enough signatures was set to expire.

The Homeowners Freedom of Choice Initiative proposes to give homeowners final say over whether the city can bestow their residences with historic preservation status or as structures of merit.

See PETITION, page 5

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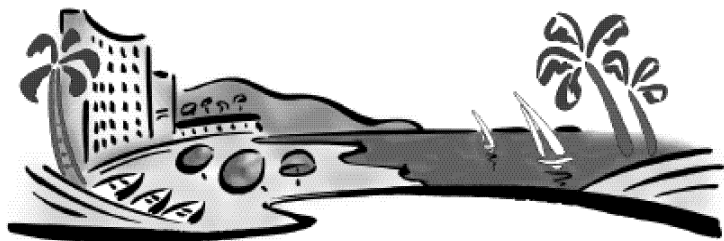
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ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★★ Conversations are animated at best. Think carefully when discussing heartfelt issues. Unexpected developments within a group of friends might encourage a change in what goes on. A serious conversation seems due. Tonight: Talk during dinner.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ Your expenses take a turn if you're not careful. A parent or an authority figure makes unusual demands. Surprises come in left and right. Deal with a family member or handle a personal matter directly. Know when a "no" is absolutely necessary. Tonight: Fun doesn't need to be expensive.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★★ Your personality melts barriers and helps others relax. You find action right around you; you don't have to go far. Reach out for someone at a distance. Review a matter close to your heart and have that very serious talk. Tonight: Others respond to your decisions.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★ Slow down and don't make plans that involve many people. You will be happy, and so will someone else, if you decide to spend a quiet day one-on-one. Sharing might come in the form of just being silent together. Don't push this person away. Tonight: Home is your castle.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ Gather with friends, be it morning, noon or evening. A chat could become a bit heavy. Simply flow with this person and his or her energy. Unexpected developments take you in a new direction. Laugh and play along with others. Tonight: Where your friends are.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ You could make something more confusing than it needs to be. Listen well in a financial discussion, as an associate might not think like you do or how you would like. Friends have great ideas, but they might not conform to your real needs. Tonight: Get into something you enjoy.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ You might not be exactly sure what will work. Consider a positive change. A parent might be unusually demanding. Right now, no matter what you do, nothing seems to turn out OK. Enjoy the humor in the situation. Tonight: Do what you must.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Take an overview of a situation, especially if you cannot do anything correctly. Humor and playfulness mix with someone close. Why not hop in the car and invite a special friend along? The fresh air and enjoying the countryside make all the difference. Tonight: Take in a movie.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★ Even if you indulge a partner, he or she might not be totally happy with the end results. Give freely from the heart without any expectations. You come from a mellow place. The end results will also be much better. Deal with each person individually. Tonight: Togetherness works.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Don't worry. Others seek you out. Your popularity soars. Listen more carefully to suggestions, especially those from a person in a position of authority. Your smile wins friends left and right. Understand what might be energizing others. Tonight: Socialize into the wee hours.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★ Get a head start on a fall project or perhaps some work. You accomplish an unusual amount simply by a stick-to-it attitude. Others might be distracting. You might avoid calls until you want to talk. Turn on your answering machine. Tonight: Follow your own pace.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Allow more affection and caring to flourish. Your imagination takes you to a new Recognize limits within your friendships. You cannot ask for the impossible. Loosen up when dealing with a partner. Right now, coming to an agreement could be hard. Tonight: Keep discussions light.



QUOTE of the DAY

"There's nothing wrong with you
that reincarnation won't cure."

— Jack E. Leonard (1911-1973)
to Ed Sullivan (1902-1974)

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LOCAL

Entertainment

Jennifer Love Hewitt talks about past, present, future

BY SEAN DALY

Special to the Daily Press

Jennifer Love Hewitt knew all eyes were on her. Standing center stage at the Universal Amphitheater during last month's Teen Choice Awards, the 23-year-old Texan sang for the very first time in front of a live audience — while trying her best to avoid noticing stars like Britney Spears and Justin Timberlake seated in the front row.

"I didn't know whether to pee or sing when I saw them," she gushed nervously afterward. "So I just pretended they were not there and I sang to the kids that wouldn't throw things at me."

Turns out the former "Party of Five" actress was all worked up for nothing. Her performance of "Bare Naked" — the title song from her new album, due Oct. 8 — earned a standing ovation ... and props from R&B singer Ashanti: "I thought she was hot. She's showin' versatility. She could be a big music star."

But all of Hewitt's anxieties are not as easily calmed. For one thing, she remains deathly afraid of being submerged under water — a fear she was forced to confront while filming "The Tuxedo," which opened Friday.

In the new comedy, Jackie Chan stars as a hapless cabbie-turned-chauffeur who discovers his million dollar tux has magical powers that allow its wearer to do anything from punch and kick to sing and dance. But it can't help save a rookie government agent (Hewitt) from nearly being drowned by a group of villains.

"There were times when we were shooting that particular scene that she would get out of the water and just break down crying out of fear," recalls director Kevin Donovan. "There was no stunt person and you could see her face as she is being dipped into the water. She finally got up out of the pool, collapsed on the floor and just broke down."

And that was just the beginning. During the three-month shoot, Hewitt also sustained injuries to both knees, pulled a hamstring, and broke both her middle finger, and her ankle.

"I also cracked my head open," she reports. "I was hit in the head with a knight stick."

So much for the two weeks of training she received in basic karate, boxing and



Jennifer Love Hewitt

martial arts before getting final fight-scene instructions directly from Chan.

"Jackie trained me for 15 minutes before each stunt I had to do," she reveals, stretching out in a penthouse hotel suite. "It was scary the first couple of times because I was doing it in front of Jackie Chan. If I was doing it in front of Carrot Top, I probably wouldn't have cared."

Chan was nevertheless impressed.

"Jennifer really surprised me; she's very good," he boasts. "She trained in dance, so she is very flexible ... and she is kind of crazy, like me."

Hewitt, who counts Chan's "Rumble In The Bronx" among her all time favorite movies, couldn't help but notice something completely different about her co-star: "Jackie has a real sexy factor about him," she gushes like a schoolgirl. "He is just dreamy. All of the women on the set were all like, 'OK, who is gonna get to marry Jackie Chan at the end of this movie?'"

In between sips of Classic Coke and handfuls of peanut M&Ms, Hewitt reveals she has had many movie star crushes over the years.

"I've had an obsession with Davey Jones since I was 8 and I saw him take Marsha Brady to the prom," she giggles. "I also loved New Kids On The Block. I used to have their sheets on my bed and I would only sleep on my Joey McIntyre pillow because I thought somehow at night he was kissing me softly while I was sleeping."

These days the 5' 3" brunette no longer has to dream about dating Hollywood's rich and famous bachelors. Her list of exes already includes actor Will Friedle ("Boy Meets World"), Joey Lawrence



A more southerly southwest swell (190-200 degrees) adds to the mix of fading southwest and northwest swell.

North bay spots should see chest to shoulder-high surf with plus head-high plus sets and possible overhead at the best breaks.

South bay locales look smaller, mostly waist level, though good sets show at better exposed southwest spots like Porto.

Swell will build today for consistent, sizable surf over the weekend.

Today's Tides:		
High-	4:20 a.m.	2.88'
Low-	5:24 a.m.	2.87'
High-	1:28 p.m.	4.51'
Low-	10:24 p.m.	1.20'

Location	Saturday	Sunday	Water Quality
County Line	3-4'/Fair	3-4'/Fair	A
Zuma	3-4'/Fair	3-4'/Fair	A
Surfrider	2-3'/Fair	1-3'/Fair	A
Topanga	2-3'/Fair	1-3'/Fair	A
Breakwater	2-3'/Fair	2-4'/Fair	A
El Porto	3-4'/Poor	3-4'/Fair	A

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("Blossom") and LFO singer Rich Cronin. She was the inspiration for the group's 1999 hit "Girl On TV."

Since her high profile break up with MTV heartthrob Carson Daly more than two years ago, Hewitt also has been linked in the press to Alec Baldwin — her co-star in "The Devil and Daniel Webster" — Broadway actor Patrick Wilson of "The Full Monty," and most recently, singer-songwriter John Mayer.

"I find it all very entertaining because it gives me such a better social life than I actually have," she quips. "I would have no time for a career if I was fooling around with as many people as they say I am. In a year's time I will maybe go on five dates."

Hewitt figures the constant speculation about her love life may be one reason why she is currently single.

"They make me out to be this total hoe," she says with a laugh. "I can't imagine a guy going, 'So, you're not busy tonight with the other 75 ... Wanna go out with me?' I think I have to disappear for a while, go to Alaska, let people stop writing about me, then maybe guys will start asking me out again."

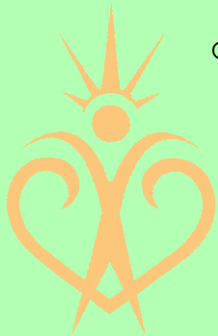
Of course, there is at least one person she probably wouldn't accept a date with — rapper Eminem.

"He's too wordy," she laughs. "Can you imagine? Like I would ever get into a

See LOVE-HEWITT, page 6

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OPINION

LETTERS

Homeless issue rests upon elected leaders

Editor:

The Santa Monica City Council must address the homelessness issue with greater compassion and responsibility. Any individual in need deserves our best effort to provide helpful assistance.

Improving homelessness treatment and services in our community falls into three categories. City supported services must be fiscally effective; the long term needs of those mentally unable to care for themselves must be studied and the average person must be shown greater respect and dignity.

First, services receiving any city funds must be fiscally responsible; they must assist a continually new population and they must provide long term rehabilitative services versus a quick fix.

Each organization receiving funds should be required to submit annual certified independent audits of their entire budgets. Organizations unwilling to comply should not be funded. The audits should then be used to compare the per dollar effectiveness of each organization in achieving their goals compared with similar organizations nationwide.

Each organization should set limitations on the repeated use and/or abuse of their services by specific individuals. Some homeless individuals may never be able to be rehabilitated by the services offered in Santa Monica, yet they may prevent others who can be helped from receiving services. No individual should be allowed to "clog" available services.

Each organization must offer services beyond the "quick fix" of a bag lunch and a pat on the back. Without substantial rehabilitation programs, homeless organizations run the risk of perpetuating the homeless population in our city.

Second, the city must direct the homeless coordinator and city manager to work with county, state and federal officials to develop a written plan to address the needs of the mentally ill. Undoubtedly there are many issues facing proper care of the mentally ill, perhaps funding institutions is an issue, perhaps laws to legally commit the mentally ill is another issue; we won't be able to compassionately address the issue of the mentally ill without officially evaluating the situation.

Third, the city must adopt a policy of respecting the average working taxpaying voter in our community. Santa Monica's average citizen has a right to use public parks without disruption by homeless individuals or exposure to human urine and feces. Even as laws prevent drunk driving in our community, laws can also prevent the long term squatting of homeless individuals on the Third Street Promenade, in our parks and on our streets. The City Council must adopt ordinances on many levels to protect the quality of life for working residents. Laws, like the proposed ordinances governing food distribution and sleeping in public doorways must be enacted. These laws give our police the tools they need to make permanent homelessness undesirable in our community. The City Council must also enact stricter laws regarding the sale of alcoholic beverages in our community.

Santa Monica is a good-hearted and generous community of 85,000 people situated in the midst of an urban sprawl of more than 10 million. We must do our best to provide compassionate services to the needy, but we are currently reaching the limit of appropriate expectations for a community of our size.

The Santa Monica City Council must:

- Require certified independent audits of all supported organizations.
- Enact the food distribution and public sleeping ordinances.
- Direct the homeless coordinator and city manager to write a report on the state of the mentally ill in our community.
- Consider crafting additional ordinances that will protect the average working citizen.

Ed Sharrow
Santa Monica

Columnist's story resonates

Editor:

Response to Michael Beattie's Opinion piece on Sept. 23, 2002

I was moved to tears by Michael Beattie's "Don't Blame the Homeless ..." article on Sept. 23. I agree that many of us who are housed, clothed and well-fed have misperceptions about the homeless, much as we do about Muslims, or Iraqis, or (fill in your own blanks), because the only way we can view them is through the ignorant filters of fear. We could all wind up like Michael, or worse. Look how quickly he went from a "respected" position as an auditor at an upscale hotel where he was also housed, to, in the eyes of the world, nothing but a "street bum." Yes, it could happen to any one of us, particularly to those who live from paycheck to paycheck who have

families to support. Those of us with large support systems (family, friends, health insurance, bank accounts) will probably never know what it is like to dig in a garbage can for a meal. For the rest of us, any major setback could easily lead to having to endure the humiliation of not only long food and shelter lines, but the sheer terror of having our choices removed, and the utter degradation of being stared at, ignored, or blamed by those rich in material goods, but poor in integrity.

We're all capable of violence (wouldn't you kill someone who threatened your children?), we're all a little insane, we're all terrified of losing what we have, of being alone or sick or hungry. And because our fear is so huge, it's difficult to just let ourselves feel the utter despair of what life would be like without our protective shields — unless they are ripped away, as were Michael's, as were others who suffered such great losses from the acts of September 11th. Instead of looking at our own terror, we just knit tighter cloaks around us and continue to skip through our busy lives. But maybe we could all take a few moments to try to imagine what it would be like if we were stripped of our identity. Who would we be then? We'd be homeless, we'd be destitute, and we'd be utterly lost.

So the next time we see someone who's dirty, who's smelly, or maybe just disoriented, perhaps we'll imagine ourselves parked on that Third Street Promenade bench, scratching a body that hasn't been bathed or touched in weeks. We'll see our own hands reaching into a garbage can for leftovers that have been carelessly tossed aside by a shopper on her way to buy yet another pair of shoes.

Maybe if we can imagine ourselves living this way, we'll make more caring choices. When we go to a restaurant, we'll take half our dinner, pack it up, and offer the rest to someone who would appreciate it much more than we do. (It's a great way to lose weight!) Or if this makes us too uncomfortable, maybe we'll send a check to one of the many shelters throughout the city, so that they can provide more meals and services to those who don't have a warm bed to crawl into. Or maybe we'll just smile and offer a kind word or a hand on the shoulder to a fellow man who just happens to live in a dark alley.

Thank you, Michael, for a poignant reminder that there's really only one of us here, just dressed in a variety of colors and forms.

Joyce Dvoren

A well-fed, clothed and housed Santa Monica resident

What is POA up to?

Editor:

Reading Bill Bauer's opinion piece, I kept wondering ... why is the Police Officers Association failing to endorse their No. 1 supporter? Dr. Bob Holbrook has been and continues to be the strongest supporter of public safety on the city council.

What are the true intentions of the POA?

Joe Weichman

Santa Monica

Living wage law doesn't make sense

Editor:

Sandie Richards' guest commentary was a poor piece in stating why the people of Santa Monica should support Measure JJ. And that is because JJ is not worth our support.

JJ is not a "living wage" ordinance. It only targets the city and businesses on the coast, mainly hotels. What about all the other people in Santa Monica who do not earn enough money to feed their families? Are they somehow less important than the people who work on the coast? Are they any less deserving? Of course not.

But the proponents of JJ would hope you believe that this measure is about moving all the city's people out of poverty. It really isn't. It is revenge targeted at the big hotels. Most of the people in this city who make less than \$10.25 per hour (with benefits) would not receive an increase in their wages. Maria Mena gets an increase. That is nice. But what about people that work east of Lincoln?

As a city we should be interested in moving all of our people out of poverty. Therefore we should have a real living wage that covers the entire city. This measure is an example of how we as a city are drafting legislation that targets only a small segment of our city leaving the rest of the city out. This is not the right way to enact law.

Please vote no on JJ as it is not a living wage ordinance for the City of Santa Monica.

Note that I am neither a conservative nor affiliated with any business that would be affected by JJ. Rather I am a resident of Santa Monica and an opponent of this measure.

Dan Kolhoff

Santa Monica

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

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Send your letters to Santa Monica Daily Press Attn. Editor:

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LOCAL



Homeowners want final say on properties

PETITION, from page 1

Santa Monica City Clerk Maria Stewart said the group needs 15 percent of registered Santa Monica voters, or roughly 9,300 people, to sign the petition to force a special election, and 10 percent, or about 6,200 signatures, to get the initiative on the November, 2004 ballot.

"We feel pretty good that we have enough signatures for a special election," said Tom Larmore, a local property rights attorney active in Homeowners for Voluntary Preservation.

City Clerk Maria Stewart said the petition and signatures have been sent to the Los Angeles County Registrar's office, which the city contracts with to verify signatures on petitions for initiatives, referendums and candidates.

The county and the city clerk have 30 days to verify the signatures and return the results. The measure must then be taken before city council, which has the option of adopting the measure or scheduling a special election date.

Committee members believe the city's current ordinance imposes restrictions on private property which constitutes an unwarranted intrusion of personal freedoms, they say.

The city allows the landmark's commission to designate single family homes as "landmarks" and "structures of merit," as well as create historical districts in certain areas of Santa Monica without the permission of the property owners. Homeowners are allowed to testify before the landmark's commission and they can appeal any decision the board makes to the city council.

If a homeowner wants to make an alteration to the exterior of their home, they have to go through a rigorous public approval process, committee members say.

Some homeowners of older residences have said they don't believe it makes sense that the government has more rights over their property than they do. Property owners should have the ultimate decision about what can and can't be done to their homes, they say.

The initiative was prompted by a recent survey conducted by the Hollywood-based Historic Resources Group, which was hired by the city to make an inventory of all the single-family homes north of Montana Avenue worthy of preservation.

The study concluded that the north of Montana Avenue area includes some of the oldest and most significant historic resources in Santa Monica. The report said less than 1 percent of the potential historic properties in the area have been designated or preserved.

Consultants who prepared the report characterized Santa Monica as losing its older historical properties and said city officials need to make important decisions about how they want to preserve the remaining buildings before they are demolished or significantly altered.

The consultants looked at the 3,900 homes north of Montana and found about 9 percent, or 358 homes were of historical merit.

The number of homes on the inventory didn't change much from 1986, the last time a similar survey was taken, because many of the homes that were at least 50 years old have been replaced with new ones.

In the last survey it was recommended the city preserve about 158 homes from Palisades Avenue to Georgina Avenue.

Consultants said because those homes were not preserved 20 years ago, nearly two-thirds of those homes have either been demolished or altered enough to render them historically insignificant.

Dreams realized through coalition's support, programs

SUCCESS, from page 1

counselors were able to assess what Phillips' problems were and get her the help she needed. She was honored for overcoming "multiple barriers," which included a crack addiction and mental illness.

Phillips went into a tailspin after her spouse died in an explosion at the refinery where they both worked. To deal with the loss, Phillips, 51, turned to drugs.

"It took multiple programs for me because I was hard core," she said, adding it was years later that she realized she was mentally ill. "I thought I was running on eight cylinders but I only had two."

William Hargroves, 43, was on the top of his game when he was attending the University of Arkansas. He was drafted by the Houston Astros after his junior year and played pro baseball for three years. But then a severe drug addiction brought him to the streets of downtown Los Angeles. He got help through one of the coalition's programs three years ago and is now employed, and has a family.

Others who were honored spoke about the challenges they faced while growing up and how life as they know it has

"It took multiple programs for me because I was hard core. I thought I was running on eight cylinders but I only had two."

— MARY PHILLIPS
Former homeless woman

always been a constant struggle.

Take Archie Domiquez, a man who ran away from home at 15 years old to a life of crime in the gang and drug-ridden neighborhood of Boyle Heights. But through determination, Domiquez sought help and is now employed and continuing his education.

"We are all faced with adversity but some of us have bigger problems," he told the group. "I've had these dreams before but I never thought I was capable of fulfilling them."

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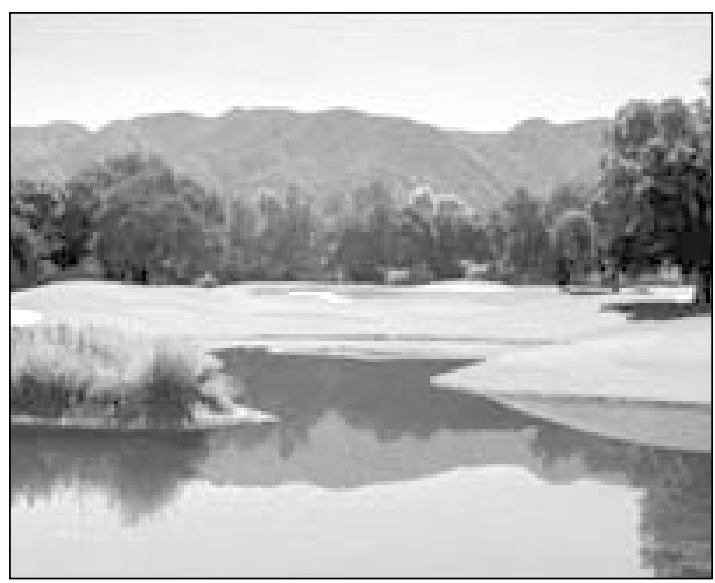
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LOCAL □ STATE

Love-Hewitt needs a date

LOVE-HEWITT, from page 3

fight with that guy! There would be a song called 'She's The Worst Girlfriend Ever — I Wanna Hit Her In The Face!'"

Hewitt does admit she is a huge fan of the Detroit rapper's music. "He's so talented it's sick," she says. "But I will say nothing else about him because I don't want to be picked on."

They probably wouldn't get along too well anyway.

"I'm kind of boring," the actress insists. "I just kind of want to eat pizza and hang out with my mom. I am like an 80 year old."

So much so that Hewitt has dedicated herself to a life free of drugs, alcohol ... even cursing. ("I let my mother do it for me," she says.)

So what's up then with her sexy new image and ever-so revealing outfits?

"I have never seen smaller costumes on such a tiny, beautiful body," recalls Sigourney Weaver, her co-star in last year's comedy "Heartbreakers." But Hewitt, who jokingly refers to her breasts

as "the twins," insists "I think the sex appeal thing is great. I kind of feel like while I am young and I can fit into those dresses and wear those things and look that way, I should probably take advantage of it."

Her mother Pat, a speech pathologist, seems to agree. They are best friends and share a Los Angeles home with Hewitt's slightly overweight Chihuahua, Mia. Her parents divorced when she was six months old, and the actress rarely speaks to her father Dan, a medical technician.

"I'm fine with that," she contends. "My brother has been such a huge strong male influence on me."

What does Todd, 31, think of his baby sister's sexy layout in the current issue of Rolling Stone?

"He tries not to look," she confesses. "He looks once so that I know he is proud of me and then he never looks again. And he defies any man to look at it in front of him."

(Sean Daly is president of Showtime Entertainment and a freelance writer living in Santa Monica.)

'Bumfights' filmmakers say charges are without basis

By The Associated Press

EL CAJON — Four filmmakers mounted a legal challenge Friday against the criminal charges they face for allegedly paying homeless men to hurt themselves and beat each other for a videotape sold over the Internet.

Daniel Jamon Tanner, 21, Zachary Bubeck, 24, and Ryan Edward McPherson, 19, withdrew their innocent pleas Friday in San Diego Superior Court in El Cajon. Michael J. Slyman, 21, declined to enter a plea to the charges at an arraignment.

Attorneys for the makers of the "Bumfights: A Cause for Concern" videotape contend there is no legal basis for the charge of soliciting another to commit assault with deadly force.

On the tape, a homeless man is seen ripping out his front tooth with pliers. Another rams his head into a steel door and others stomp and pummel each other until bloody.

Defense attorneys say the complaint does not name a victim or say when the alleged crime occurred.

"I'm real hard pressed to find out what my client had done," said Jan Ronis, an attorney for McPherson, who also is accused of paying \$25,000 to persuade two San Diego area homeless men who appear in the video not to cooperate with authorities.

The men, Rufus Hannah and Donald Brennan, say they agreed to hurt themselves and beat each other for \$5 and \$10 bills. Authorities say they also received liquor, food and motel rooms from the filmmakers.

Prosecutor Curtis Ross said the four defendants will still be held accountable for their actions. He said he planned to file additional charges.

"It is illegal to pay someone to commit a felony," he said. "In this case, they paid homeless men to commit a crime of assault with deadly force."

Trip turns tragic for couple

By The Associated Press

NEEDLES — A man who decided to take an afternoon hike in the desert carrying only a bottle of beer died from heat exposure and dehydration, authorities said.

Victor Flores, 28, and his girlfriend Candance O'Brien drove Saturday into the Chemehuevi Valley, about 15 miles south of Needles.

They were looking for a spot to park so they drove onto a dirt road and then found an old mining road, said Sgt. Glenn Shelhamer of the San Bernardino County Sheriff's department.

The couple was listening to music and "had consumed quite a bit of alcohol," Shelhamer said.

Without taking any water or other supplies, Flores decided to take an afternoon hike. He carried a bottle of beer with him while O'Brien fell asleep in the truck, he said.

But Flores never returned from the hike. Temperatures in the desert soared above 105 degrees.

O'Brien went looking for her boyfriend but could not find him.

She tried to drive out of the area for help but the truck's battery had died because the couple had been listening to music on the radio.

O'Brien walked to the powerline road and put out a "Help" sign.

Then she waited.

Four days later, an employee of PG&E drove on the road and saw the sign. He found O'Brien dehydrated and in need of medical attention, Shelhamer said. Her condition was not immediately known.

Sheriff's deputies and rangers from the Bureau of Land Management began an extensive search of the area. A sheriff's helicopter spotted Flores at about 4:55 p.m. Wednesday a half-mile away from his pickup truck.

STATE



Rolling bike protests that began in SF now a phenomenon

BY RON HARRIS
Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — The idea was born 10 years ago over a couple of gin and tonics: thousands of bicyclists would swarm the streets of the City by the Bay to win respect from motorists who weren't sharing the road.

The event spawned in the minds of Chris Carlsson and Jim Swanson, both of whom rode their bikes to work daily, became known as Critical Mass. They believed bicyclists could announce by taking over the streets that they would no longer be treated like second class roadsters.

"We are not blocking traffic. We are traffic!" was the refrain of the San Francisco riders as they lobbied for additional bike lanes and fewer cars.

When riders hit the streets Friday for the 10th anniversary ride of Critical Mass, they will be part of a phenomenon that has spread to hundreds of other cities across the globe where bicyclists demand the same rights as those behind the wheel.

Rolling demonstrations now begin at the Merkaz HaKarmel parking lot in Haifa, Israel; at Parnell Square in Dublin, Ireland; at Plaza del Castillo in Pamplona, Spain; and QEII Square in Auckland, New Zealand. The demonstrations are held on the last Friday of each month.

Carlsson, 45, and Swanson, 43, came up with Critical Mass as a way to promote cyclists' needs in San Francisco, a city teeming with bike messengers and pedaling commuters eager for more bike lanes and respect from their four-wheel counterparts.

"We were both bicycle commuters, and

the conditions for bike riders were pretty bad," Swanson said. "No room for bicyclists, and generally the car drivers didn't feel that they were traffic. They didn't belong on the road. And there was really no place to go."

The cyclists all pedal anonymously, Swanson said. Because there's no central leadership, Swanson said, "There's no one to point a finger at. There's no one to have insurance permits for."

San Francisco's participants include financial district workers, bike messengers, costumed riders and, often, folks who ride naked. They force cars, buses and other motorized transit to wait several minutes before the streets are clear enough to move again.

The in-your-face demonstrations have increased awareness, but also led to angry confrontations and arrests.

During one ride in Austin, Texas, last year, cyclists surrounded a motorist who screeched to a halt in an intersection. A video clip on a Critical Mass Web site shows the motorist growing impatient and plowing down a cyclist. A fistfight ensued.

Some advocates say the occasional flare-ups hurt the cause. In St. Louis, where riders set off each month from Kiener Plaza, a Web site with links to helmet and road safety information promotes the event as a peaceful, child-friendly environment.

But violence at some recent rides around the nation soured the event's reputation for Caryn Giarratano, the bicycle-pedestrian program coordinator for the Missouri Department of Transportation.

"Critical Mass is a double-edged sword. On one hand it does raise awareness of

bicyclists' needs. On the other hand it portrays bicyclists as law breakers," Giarratano said. "It would be better for these people to spend their time educating children and working with their legislators."

Last month in Portland, Ore., 200 bicycle advocates allegedly kicked cars, spat on police, threw rocks and ran red lights as part of a monthly event called the "Critical Mass Rush Hour Bicycle Ride."

While Critical Mass demonstrators hit the road, mainstream groups like the San Francisco Bicycle Coalition try to improve cycling rights in city halls and statehouses.

San Francisco now has freshly striped

bicycle lanes on major streets, and signs urging drivers to share narrower roadways. Cyclist groups lobbied successfully for a \$50 million lane for bikes and pedestrians on a new span proposed for the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge.

The coalition just secured a \$225,000 state grant to hire more staff and develop a plan to encourage safe cycling in the city, said the group's director, Mary Brown.

Still, it's an uphill ride, and Critical Mass gets a bad rap, she said.

"It's an amazing movement to reclaim public space," Brown said. "There really is in the city a 'car first' mentality."

Attorney general files spam suit against SoCal company

By The Associated Press

SANTA CLARA — California Attorney General Bill Lockyer filed suit against Internet marketer PW Marketing LLC, accusing the company of illegally spamming millions of Californians.

The suit, filed Thursday in Santa Clara County Superior Court, alleges the company's owners, Paul Willis of Northridge and Claudia Griffin of Canyon Country, violated various California consumer protection statutes that prohibit unsolicited commercial e-mails, known as spam.

The suit also alleges the company violated statutes against using false

addresses in advertising, failing to disclose required information, engaging in untrue or deceptive advertising and engaging in unfair business competition.

"Spamming is the scourge of the Information Age," Lockyer said Thursday evening in a written release. "In filing this action, we are sounding a warning that we will track down and prosecute those who send illegal spam."

An afterhours call to the Canyon Country-based company Thursday was not immediately returned. Several Internet advertisements for P.W. Marketing offers lists of e-mail addresses for sale, including a list of 4.5 million California residents and businesses.

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STATE

Illegals who want legal status



North County Times/Bill Wechter

Protesters picket in front of the Motor Vehicle Department in Carlsbad, Calif., Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2002, in support of AB 60 which will allow illegal immigrants in the process of legalizing their status to apply for a drivers license in California.

Herpes drug shown to block transmission of virus

BY DANIEL Q. HANEY

AP Medical Editor

SAN DIEGO — For the first time, a drug widely used to treat genital herpes has been shown to prevent its spread as well, offering a new way of curbing an infection already carried by one in five Americans.

A study released Friday found that a once-daily Valtrex pill cut in half the risk of passing on the infection when taken by people with herpes simplex virus type 2, the primary cause of genital herpes.

Until now, the only advice for avoiding herpes during sex has been to use condoms. While no one knows which is more effective, condoms are clearly not foolproof, since the virus spreads by contact with herpes sores, and condoms may not cover them all.

Dr. Lawrence Corey, the study's director, said the latest research suggests a new use for Valtrex in so-called discordant couples — those in which one partner is infected and one is not. The drug is already widely prescribed to prevent and treat herpes flare-ups.

"If you ask infected people their biggest concern, it's giving this to their loved ones," he said.

Health experts said the study is especially noteworthy because it suggests that other, more serious sexually transmitted ills may also be controlled by treating the carrier.

"It's a very important study, and it opens up the arena of treating discordant couples to prevent sexually transmitted disease," said Dr. Scott Hammer of Columbia University. "This is a nuisance disease, but it lays the groundwork for other, life-threatening diseases, such as HIV."

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that 45 million American teen-agers and adults are infected with the type 2 virus, which is almost always spread during sexual contact. The

other herpes simplex virus, type 1, is much more common and causes cold sores. However, it too can cause genital infections if spread through oral-genital contact.

Usually, the type 2 virus causes only mild symptoms or no obvious sores at all. In fact, 90 percent of infected people do not realize they have it. Nevertheless, an unlucky minority suffers recurring painful genital sores.

In the latest study, doctors tested Valtrex — known generically as valacyclovir — on 1,484 couples in which one partner had recurring flare-ups with type 2 herpes and the other was not infected.

Corey, head of virology at the University of Washington in Seattle, presented the results at a meeting in San Diego of the American Society for Microbiology. The study was sponsored by GlaxoSmithKline, which makes Valtrex.

The volunteers were randomly given either daily Valtrex or dummy pills, offered advice on using condoms and then followed for eight months. Two percent of those taking Valtrex passed on the virus to their partners, compared with 4 percent on dummy pills.

The treatment nearly eliminated herpes symptoms in the partners, even if they caught the virus. Just half of 1 percent of those whose infected partners took Valtrex got herpes sores, compared with 2 percent in the comparison group.

"This is the first drug shown to interrupt the transmission of a sexually transmitted disease," Corey said.

Doctors presume that AIDS drugs also slow the transmission of HIV, although this has not been proven. A study intended to show this is in the planning stages.

Valtrex is a modified version of acyclovir, the first herpes drug. Another herpes drug, Novartis's Famvir, has not been tested for preventing transmission.

NATIONAL



Proposed 10-cent Espresso tax headed for Seattle

By The Associated Press

SEATTLE — A proposed 10-cent espresso tax that some java junkies said would be grounds for revolt won't go to a vote for a year, prompting local beaneries to say "thanks a latte."

With one member absent, Seattle's City Council voted 7 to 1 Thursday to put Initiative 77 on the municipal ballot with statewide primary elections on Sept. 16, 2003. The tax would bolster funding for day care programs.

The dissenter, council president Peter Steinbrueck, said the measure should have been put on the ballot for Nov. 5 "to honor the initiative process."

Jane Lukatah, owner of B&O Espresso, applauded the delay.

"Let's postpone it as long as possible," she said. "I hate it (the proposed tax). ... Just hearing it makes me sort of cringe."

Backers, already steamed over an earli-

"The council put children on hold for one year. I'm sure the campaign will continue to build grass-roots support as the need becomes greater."

— JOHN BURBANK

Economic Opportunity Institute executive director

er 5-4 council decision not to put the measure to a vote this year, said the action is in response to pressure from business organizations and would ultimately hinder the city's children.

"Unfortunately, the lesson learned is that the City Council is more responsive to the Chamber of Commerce," said John Burbank, executive director of the Economic Opportunity Institute, a non-profit organization supporting the measure.

"The council put children on hold for one year," Burbank said. "I'm sure the campaign will continue to build grass-roots support as the need becomes greater."

The chamber has lobbied against the initiative and donated funds to an opposition group, Joined to Oppose the Latte Tax, or JOLT. Opponents say the tax unfairly targets one product to pay for an unrelated problem and could cause book-keeping problems.

Both of the city's daily newspapers have

editorialized against the dime-a-cup tax, which would apply only to espresso drinks and not to drip coffee or other beverages.

Backers say it would raise \$7 million to \$10 million a year to boost wages for child care teachers, help low- and middle-income families obtain child care and increase the amount of high-quality care in the city.

The tax would not be imposed at businesses with gross receipts of less than \$50,000 or at nonprofit organizations, such as performing arts groups, that sell espresso drinks.

The measure would have gone on the ballot this fall if the initiative petitions with 30,000 signatures, well over the minimum of 17,228, had been submitted earlier.

Instead, the council had the option of choosing a later election. A judge turned down a lawsuit asking that the panel be ordered to put the measure on the Nov. 5 ballot.

Settlement reached in Ono suit against ex-employee

BY TOM HAYS

Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK — Yoko Ono reached a settlement Friday with a former John Lennon aide over his use of hundreds of private family photos, ending a dispute that had stretched across two decades.

As part of the settlement, former assistant Frederick Seaman issued a public apology to Ono, the late Beatle and their son Sean, lawyers for both sides announced.

"I offer no excuses for my conduct and ask only that you can find it in your heart to forgive me," Seaman said in a statement read in court by Ono's attorney.

Ono had sued over the rights to 374 photos Seaman took of Lennon's family, many in the months before he was shot to death by a deranged fan, and closing argu-

ments in the trail had been expected Friday.

The settlement ended the trial and requires Seaman to surrender all rights to the photos. Seaman must also return any Lennon-related items still in his possession within 10 days. He admitted he had exploited the Lennon legacy for personal profit.

"After more than 20 years, it's time to ask for forgiveness for my actions," Seaman said. "I now realize how much pain and embarrassment I have caused."

In her lawsuit, Ono alleged that Seaman violated the agreement by publishing a memoir titled "The Last Days of John Lennon: A Personal Memoir." She also claimed he profited by stealing Lennon mementos and selling them to collectors.

The suit demanded that Seaman surrender the rights to 374 photos he took of the Lennon family, turn over about

\$75,000 from the sale of the rock icon's papers and pay unspecified damages.

Seaman testified that he took the disputed photos on his own time and with his own camera, making him the rightful owner. However, his defense received a devastating blow on Thursday when the judge ruled there was overwhelming evidence that a confidentiality agreement signed by Seaman when he was hired in 1979 was valid and binding.

In the final day of testimony, Ono laid claim to a touching family photo at the center of the dispute.

The photo of Lennon with their son, Sean, at a Bermuda beach in 1980, showed "that John was a person," Ono told jurors. "He was not just an artist, but a family man and a dad."

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NATIONAL

U.S. would give Saddam Hussein seven days to comply

BY BARRY SCHWEID AND DAFNA LINZER

Associated Press Writers

The United States and Britain are proposing that the United Nations set a seven-day deadline for Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to agree to disarm and open his palaces for searches of hidden weapons, a Bush administration official and U.N. diplomats said Friday. President Bush backed the U.N. effort, saying, "I'm willing to give peace a chance."

The tough demands are coupled with a warning that "all necessary means" would be used against Iraq in the event of defiance, the officials told The Associated Press on condition of anonymity.

Describing the proposed U.N. resolution as tough and detailed, the U.S. official said Iraq would be accused of being in "material breach" of U.N. Security Council resolutions and told it must agree to "full, final and complete destruction" of its weapons of mass destruction. The resolution was being circulated to attract the support of France, Russia and China.

Approval of the resolution is problematic. France, Russia and China each has the power to kill it with a veto, as they are all permanent members of the council. All three prefer giving Iraq another chance to have suspect sites inspected before threats of force are leveled.

Bush called French President Jacques Chirac to try to win his backing. But Chirac resisted, telling Bush he opposed demanding Iraqi compliance and threatening Iraq with military force if it did not.

Chirac, instead, urged Bush to back his own approach of two resolutions: The first would call for weapons inspections, withholding any threats until a second resolution if Iraq balked.

While Secretary of State Colin Powell and other U.S. diplomats strive to gain approval for the resolution, the Bush administration is struggling to persuade Congress to authorize the use of force against Iraq.

Bush said the United Nations should have a chance to force Saddam to give up his weapons of mass destruction before the United States acts on its own against Iraq.

"I'm willing to give peace a chance to work. I want the United Nations to work," Bush said at a Republican fund-raising event in Denver.

But Bush said action must come quickly.



Ron Thomas/Associated Press

Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman Sen. Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., gestures during an address on Iraq Friday, before the Johns Hopkins Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies in Washington.

"Now is the time," he said. "For the sake of your children's future we must make sure this madman never has the capacity to hurt us with a nuclear weapon, or to use the stockpiles of anthrax that we know he has, or VX, the biological weapons which he possesses."

Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, meanwhile, joined other senior Democrats in voicing reservations about putting the nation on a path toward war before a new, tougher round of U.N. inspections is launched.

Kennedy, D-Mass., said unconditional U.N. inspections must be given time to work, and that a largely unilateral American war "could worsen, not lessen, the threat of terrorism" by swelling the ranks of al-Qaida sympathizers in the Muslim world.

"War should be a last resort, not a first response," he said in a speech to the Johns Hopkins School of Advanced International Studies.

Kennedy's speech came as Defense Secretary Donald

H. Rumsfeld began a series of addresses across the country to justify military force as an option to disarm Iraq and drive Saddam from power. The United States will have "a substantial coalition of countries" by its side if it decides to use military force to oust Saddam, Rumsfeld said in Atlanta.

Congress hopes to take up a resolution next week giving the president the authority to use whatever means necessary, including military force, to eradicate the Iraqi threat to America. Negotiations continue on the exact wording of that resolution, with Democrats saying they won't give the president open-ended authority and seeking to put more emphasis on a multilateral approach to the problem.

Senate Minority Leader Trent Lott, R-Miss., said Friday that he and other top leaders — House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., House Minority Leader Dick Gephardt, D-Mo., and Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle, D-S.D. — would meet or talk by Monday afternoon. "We need to get an agreement on the language early next week," Lott said.

Asked about Kennedy's remarks, Lott said the United Nations hasn't enforced its Iraqi resolutions over the past 11 years and Democrats "need to be careful what they call for. They're liable to get it." The United States, he said, "is not going to just stand still, stand mute and allow this issue to continue to fester."

Democratic dissent reflects some uncertainty among Americans about a go-it-alone policy against Iraq. Almost two-thirds in recent polls say they support military action to oust the Iraqi president, but that support drops to one-third when people are asked if they are willing to do it without the backing of allies.

Former President Clinton said Friday he favored going to the United Nations to gather international clout against Saddam. Former Vice President Al Gore said Monday he was concerned that the focus on war against Iraq was undermining the broader war against terrorism.

Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Patrick Leahy, D-Vt., said Thursday that the first way to disarm Iraq was by building an alliance and working through the United Nations, "not through precipitous, unilateral military action." Senate Armed Services Committee Chairman Carl Levin, D-Mich., also said the focus should be on the United Nations giving Saddam a clear ultimatum to disarm or face action by a multinational force.

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INTERNATIONAL



Americans flee homes that are fear-filled prisons

BY CLAR NI CHONGHAILE
Associated Press Writer

YAMOOUSSOUKRO, Ivory Coast — Bundled onto cargo planes or speeding through the lush Ivorian countryside, Americans on Friday abandoned a West African city that had become their home but was now held by a disciplined rebel force and facing government attack.

"We live here. All my children graduated from school here," said Tim Downs, a Kansas missionary, his voice breaking after rebellion and gunfire cut short

his stay in Africa of 15 years. "My house looks like I just went out for bread, and I'll be back in 20 minutes."

Downs spoke Friday outside an overgrown compound at the end of a rutted red-earth road in Yamoussoukro. Capital of this former French colony, Yamoussoukro became staging post for evacuation by convoy and helicopter of Americans and other foreign nationals from the rebel-held city of Bouake, 40 miles farther north.

In just 48 hours, around 260

Americans, including school-children, missionaries and their families, were whisked from Bouake, where food is scarce, the banks are shut and water and electricity have been cut off since the rebels took over Sept. 19 amid Ivory Coast's deadliest uprising.

Nancy and Bill McComb, dorm parents at Bouake's International Christian Academy, related their ordeals to their family in Highlands Ranch, Colo., during the week — telling them of hearing gunshots one day as their

7-year-old son played outside.

"Bill went to the dorm to see if he could spot him and saw him running for his little life through the dorm," mother-in-law Janie Hutton related.

"I wanted them out of there," Hutton said.

On Friday, nine Peace Corps volunteers and four American families, loaded down with rucksacks and blue-and-white plastic bags, boarded a U.S. military C-130 plane and soared over the scrubland surrounding the airstrip in Yamoussoukro.

They headed for Ghana, and away from homes that had become virtual prisons over the past week.

Those fleeing spoke of their sorrow, their fear for those left behind and their amazement that such a thing could happen in a country once renowned as a haven of stability in a region battered by brutal wars.

None of the children from the mission school, operated by Conservative Baptist International of Littleton, Colo., was hurt. But the incident sharpened anxieties, and fostered increasing calls for help, and on Wednesday U.S. troops flew into Yamoussoukro.

"At that point, our chief concern was the children," said Downs of Overland Park, Kan., who helped coordinate the American evacuation. "Once the children were secure, then personal security became a concern and then food and water became a concern."

Some of the children and school staff headed to Abidjan on Thursday, traveling in buses and private cars across rolling green hills, planted with bananas and palm trees.

The convoy of 22 vehicles arrived in the commercial capital Thursday afternoon, and the children were received at the

Through a child's eyes



A child looks at Israeli soldiers from a razor-wire barrier at Kalandiya checkpoint between Jerusalem and the West Bank town of Ramallah Friday, as Arab and Israeli peace activists gathered to protest the ongoing siege of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's compound.

Associated Press

"At that point, our chief concern was the children. Once the children were secure, then personal security became a concern and then food and water became a concern."

— TIM DOWNS
Kansas missionary

Schwarzenegger wants group to scrap plans for 'Terminator' statue

By The Associated Press

GRAZ, Austria — Arnold Schwarzenegger wants to terminate a plan to build a giant "Terminator" statue in his hometown.

The Forum Stadtpark wants to build a 25-meter (82-foot) metal statue in a park in central Graz, a city in southern Austria.

The statue, which would hold a giant globe above its head, would tower over the park's trees and more traditional statues.

The project would cost about 5 million euro (\$4.9 million) — money that has yet to be raised.

Angelika Reitzer, manager for the forum, said Friday that a letter from the 55-year-old actor, who lives in California, said "he was flattered but that he thought it would be better to spend the money on social projects and the Special Olympics."

Schwarzenegger's third "Terminator" film, "Terminator 3: Rise of the Machines," is scheduled for release next year.

Forum Stadtpark hasn't abandoned its plans, but the group faces several obstacles. Besides raising the money, which would likely come from tourist ventures and other private sponsors, Reitzer said, the group doesn't yet have the necessary city permits to build the statue.

"At the moment, city officials aren't enthusiastic," she said.

Ivory Coast was plunged into chaos after a failed coup attempt last week that involved a core group of 750 soldiers who were being purged from the military for suspected disloyalty.

Insurgents were quelled in Abidjan but took over Bouake, and Korhogo, the northern opposition stronghold. At least 270 people died in the first days after the failed coup.

On Thursday, the government said Bouake and Korhogo had become war zones and warned that an attack on Bouake was imminent.

Mormon missionary Howard Hatch fled Bouake with his wife after heavily armed French soldiers secured the main road out of Bouake on Thursday.

"We were told to get in our cars and leave," Hatch said at the Yamoussoukro airport, where a processing center for uprooted residents had been set up. "We hated to leave," he said.

The first U.S. evacuees — children from the Christian academy — flew to Ghana Thursday and away from a nightmare that climaxed when rebels broke into the school's compound, shooting automatic weapons as the children were crossing the campus after supper.

International Community School of Abidjan, a large grassy compound with white-washed buildings in the lagoon-side commercial capital.

They were matched with host families, and then went home for dinner.

"It was a very happy time for many, many people who hadn't been able to see loved ones and didn't know what was going on," school director Rob Mockrish said on Friday.

The next big job is to sort out tickets and reunite the children with their families. Some will be returning to the United States and others will go to other West African countries.

Mockrish said the children would be spending the next few days "being kids."

Not all the evacuated Americans were planning to leave Ivory Coast. Hatch said he would stay and continue his mission in Abidjan.

Downs, who already lost everything he owned during chaos in Congo, formerly Zaire, said he was heading home to Kansas on Tuesday, for the birth of a new grandchild. "If I hadn't planned the trip. I wouldn't be leaving. I would have stayed in Bouake," he said.

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SPORTS

Celtics sold to investor group for \$360 million

BY HOWARD ULMAN
Associated Press Writer

WALTHAM, Mass. — The Boston Celtics, one of the NBA's original and most storied franchises, will be sold to an investment group for \$360 million in a surprise deal announced Friday.

Under the agreement, which still requires league approval, the team will be passed into the hands of a group led by Boston-area venture capitalists Stephen Paglicua and Wycliffe Grousbeck, as well as Grousbeck's father, H. Irving Grousbeck, the founder of Continental Cablevision and now a Stanford Business School professor.

The group planned to buy out current owner Paul Gaston as well as the 48 percent stake in the team owned by a publicly traded limited partnership, which will continue to exist but essentially sell the new owners its stake in the team, Celtics executive Richard Pond said.

The team began selling public shares in 1986, when it won its third NBA championship in five years. Shareholders, many of whom are fans who own just a handful of shares to hang on their wall as souvenirs, have no voting rights.

Boston has won 16 NBA championships, more than any other team, and Forbes Magazine recently estimated the value of the franchise at \$218 million, 13th in the NBA, and well behind the first-place Los Angeles Lakers at \$403 million.

But veteran Boston sports observer Larry Moulter, former president of the Boston Garden, said the \$360 million price was fair considering the new owners would get a lease on the FleetCenter and not have to pay rent.

"It's a brand name that doesn't come on the market often," Moulter said. "It's a legacy brand name."

The team is the second Boston sports franchise to change hands this year. The Red Sox were bought by a group led by Florida financier John Henry earlier this year for \$700 million, including debt.

The new owners said they were well aware of the weight of Celtics tradition and fan expectations. The Celtics made the playoffs last year for the first time since 1995 and unexpectedly reached the Eastern Conference finals before losing to the New Jersey Nets.

"It's a tremendous honor to be here," Wycliffe Grousbeck, known as Wyc, said at a news conference at the Celtics training facility. "As we all know, this is the greatest team in NBA history and one of the greatest teams in sports history."

Still, the ownership group did not have its heart set on buying the Celtics. Robert Caporale, a financial adviser to the group, said Wyc Grousbeck was interested in buying a Boston team but didn't think the Celtics would be available. Six months ago the group began general inquiries into buying a basketball, baseball or hockey franchise.

Gaston, chairman of the team's parent company, initially rebuffed the group's advances, but in September decided to sell the team.

There had been no inkling a sale was imminent.

"I wasn't sure if we could keep a secret, but we pulled it off," Wyc Grousbeck said.

Gaston will depart from the team just as it appeared to return to its former greatness after more than a decade of struggles that included the deaths of top draft pick Len Bias in 1986, and star player Reggie Lewis in 1993, as well as the turbulent and fruitless tenure of coach Rick Pitino.

"I wish them well," Gaston said. "My family's had a tremendous 19-year-plus run. It's become very dear to us, almost one of the children, but things change in life and it's time to move on."

Irving Grousbeck, who founded Cablevision in Boston in 1963, made inquiries into buying the San Francisco Giants in the early 1990s when the team was threatening to leave the city, but decided not to pursue the team. The family was also involved in early discussions about joining an investment group to make a bid for the Boston Red Sox, who were sold earlier this year.

Wyc Grousbeck said he would be involved in day-to-day management while his partners would serve a more advisory role. The group said it planned to add to its investor group and had a long list of potential partners.

"As longtime community residents and Celtics fans, our goal is to build on the success that has already been achieved by the team's strong management, coaching staff and players," Wyc Grousbeck said. "We look forward to years of involvement with the greatest sports team ever."

Gaston and then-fellow owners Paul Dupee Jr. and Alan Cohen sold 40 percent of the team for \$18.50 per share in 1986, but the novelty of owning a part of the team wore off. And as the team faded into mediocrity on the court in the early 1990s, so did its shares. They closed Friday up 20 cents at \$10.60, though that price does not account for splits.

Europeans take opening day



Laurent Rebours/Associated Press

United States Ryder Cup team player Mark Calcavecchia plays from a bunker on the 14th hole during his match with partner Tiger Woods against Europe's Lee Westwood and Sergio Garcia on the opening day of the 34th Ryder Cup at The Belfry, Sutton Coldfield, England Friday. The European team won the match.

Eagles, McNabb agree to deal worth up to \$115M

BY ROB MAADDI
AP Sports Writer

PHILADELPHIA — Donovan McNabb and the Philadelphia Eagles agreed to a new 12-year contract Friday that could be worth up to a record \$115 million.

The total potential value would be the highest in NFL history, topping the 10-year, \$103 million contract Drew Bledsoe signed with the New England Patriots in March 2001.

McNabb's deal runs through 2013, and includes a \$20.5 million signing bonus, said his agent, Fletcher Smith.

The two-time Pro Bowl selection was in the fourth year of a seven-year contract under which he received a signing bonus of \$11.3 million, the highest ever given by the Eagles.

McNabb, the No. 2 overall pick in the 1999 draft, is in his third full season as a starter for the Eagles. He's off to the best start of his career, completing 61.3 percent of his passes for 791 yards, eight

touchdowns and only two interceptions. He also leads the Eagles (2-1) with 118 yards rushing and two TDs.

Philadelphia is 27-13 in games that McNabb started, and his touchdown-to-interception ratio of 62-34 ranks fourth in league history, behind those of Steve Young, Jeff Garcia and Joe Montana.

McNabb emerged as one of the league's top players in just his second season, leading the Eagles to an 11-5 record in 2000 and into the second round of the playoffs. He finished second to St. Louis Rams running back Marshall Faulk in NFL MVP voting that season.

McNabb again led the Eagles to 11 wins last season, and helped them reach the NFC championship game.

He's a strong-armed passer with exceptional scrambling ability, the increasingly preferred style for pro quarterbacks.

"That style of quarterbacking is the future of the NFL," former Redskins cornerback Deion Sanders said after McNabb ran for 125 yards in a victory over Washington in 2000.

UCLA's football forward ineligible for fall quarter

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — UCLA forward Andre Patterson is academically ineligible for the fall quarter.

Patterson, who lettered as a true freshman last season, now is enrolled at Santa Monica Community College. His academic progress will be reviewed after the semester ends Dec. 17.

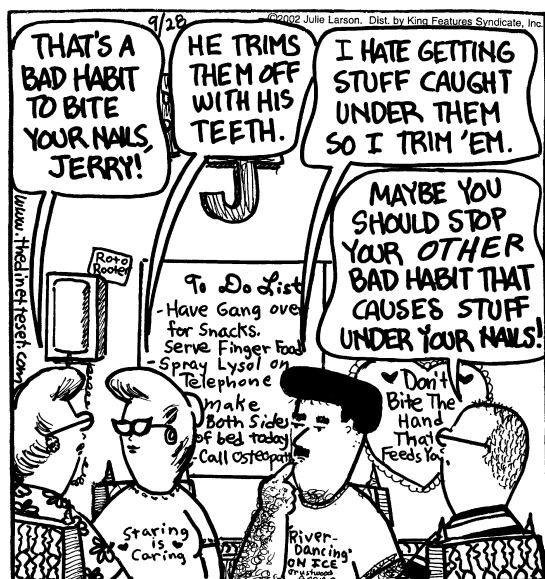
The winter quarter at UCLA begins Jan. 6, but Patterson could play before then if he meets academic requirements.

Patterson averaged 2.3 points in 29 games for UCLA last season.

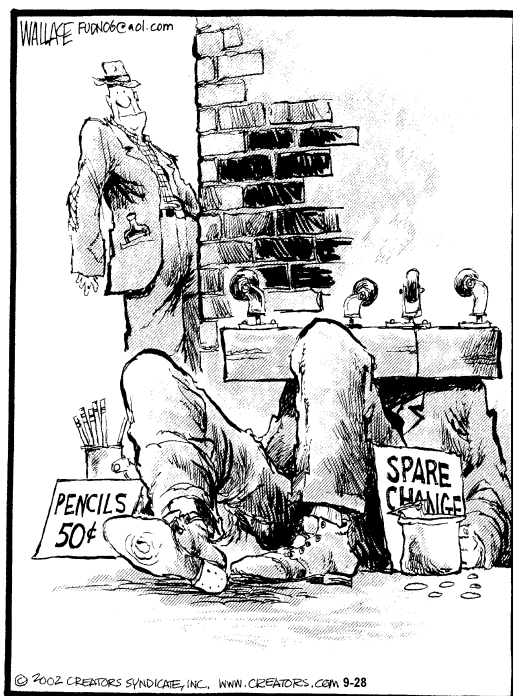
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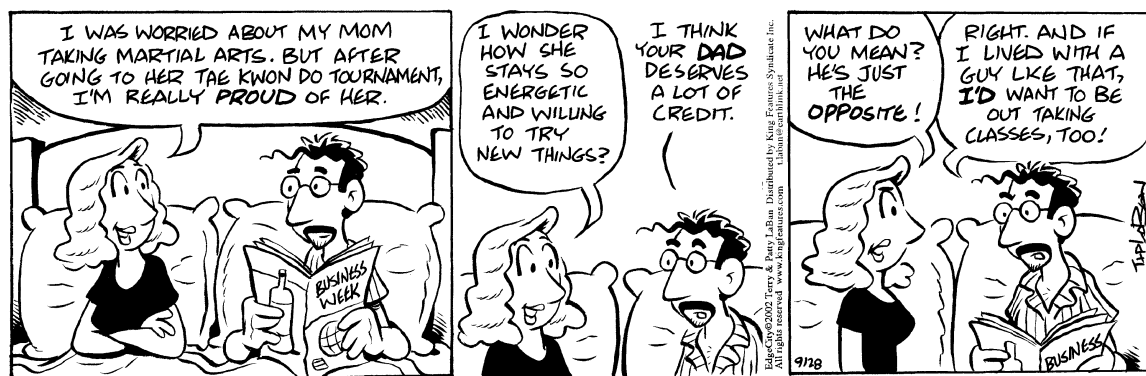
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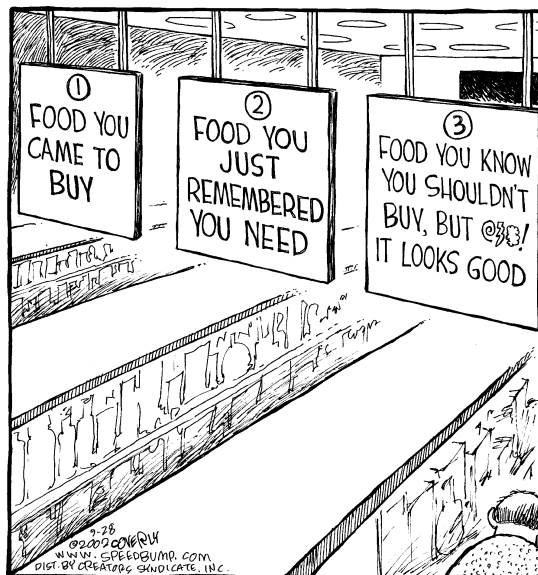
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ACROSS

- 1 Con
- 5 Keen
- 9 Range
- 10 Perch
- 12 Not live
- 13 — lunch
- 14 Cure-alls
- 16 Outlaw
- 17 Born, in France
- 18 Cheap
- 20 Severe trial
- 22 March time
- 23 Like a sentry
- 25 Writer Oz
- 28 Close tightly
- 32 New England resort
- 34 Blunder
- 35 Dudgeon
- 36 Before the audience
- 38 Greasy spoon
- 40 Currents
- 41 The Evil One
- 42 Church replies
- 43 Desire, after "the"
- 44 Budget amount

DOWN

- 1 Climber
- 2 Parroted
- 3 Pinnacle
- 4 Insurance category
- 5 Crop killer
- 6 Debtor's letters
- 7 Reply to "How're you doing?"
- 8 Fancy home
- 9 Dictator's aide
- 11 Color qualities
- 15 Decides
- 19 Poet Dove
- 21 Simplicity
- 24 Low-temperature sun
- 25 Lab liquids
- 26 Singer Carey
- 27 Willing to consider
- 29 Sluggish
- 30 Memo stamp
- 31 Iron
- 33 Woes for toes
- 37 Occasion
- 39 Mom's order

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Yesterday's answer

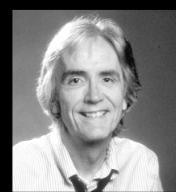
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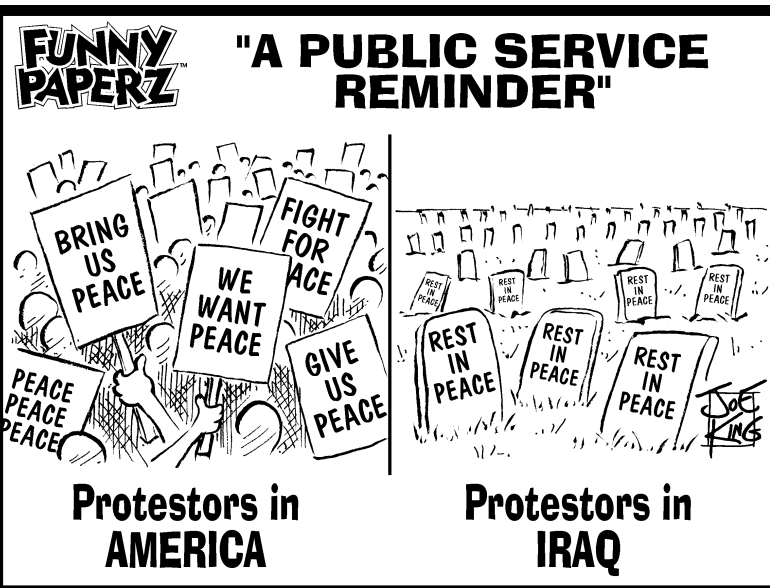


NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

Religious sect manages secret sex abuse database

Former Jehovah's Witness elder Bill Bowen charged in June that the sect manages a secret database of 23,720 members who have been accused of sexual abuse but that little if anything happens to those named unless a witness comes forward (a stipulation supposedly commanded by Deuteronomy 19:15, requiring witnesses to prove a sin). When Bowen complained, he was expelled from the sect for "causing divisions." Furthermore, Bowen charged, even confessed abusers are "punished" only by being kept from proselytizing door-to-door unless accompanied by another Witness.





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SANTA MONICA \$950.00 Trplx, r/s, crpts, patio, a/c. Indry, pkgng. Westside Rentals 395-RENT

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GET YOUR message out! For only a buck a day, call (310)458-7737 to run your announcement to over 15,000 interested readers daily.

OKTOBERFEST!!! SAT. Oct 5th, 5pm. Presented by The Santa Monica Moose Lodge #702. Traditional German Cuisine and Draft Beer, Chicken Bingo, Music.Membership Drive, Open to the Public. \$10.00 For Info Call (310)-452-3702

PRO SE of Neighborhood Project needs volunteers for events that honor our heroes. (310) 899-3888 pro.se@adelphia.net.

VOTE FOR Pro Se Santa Monica City Council! Our Residents, Businesses, Schools must come first!

Services

GENERAL HOUSE Cleaning available Thursday's & Friday's. Good references, 10 years experience. Have own transportation. Maritza (323)232-7668

QUICK AND Dirty (if the newsprint rubs off on your hands). Market your small business in our services section for a buck a day. Call (310)458-7737.

Services

PIANO LESSONS Private, professional in my Santa Monica home. Children and adults welcome. All styles. Mary Harper (310)315-5693.

HOUSE CLEANING - Available 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. Windows, laundry, general house cleaning. References available. Responsible. Reasonable prices. Call Lalo (310) 313-0848.

Services

BEAUTIFUL PHOTOS of your wedding, pregnancy and family. www.belindawaymouthphotography.com

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GOT STUFF? Reorganize w/cabinets in just 2 weeks! Garage, office, closets. Warranty. Mary (562)985-0939.

GOT COURAGE? Support for entrepreneurs, public speaking, and individual counseling. www.solsuccess.com (310)581-2655.

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Business Opps

PROFITABLE RETAIL Kiosk driven business located 3 blocks from beach. Established, high traffic lease. Great opportunity for entrepreneur. Affordable buyout. Huge upside! \$26,000. (714)745-1423

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EXPERIENCED MAKE-UP ARTIST! Weddings & Special Events. Local references available. (310)702-8778 / (323)559-9033. Nina & Alex.

HAWAIIAN INSTANT anti-aging facial moisturizer. 1oz \$8.50. Happy or MBG. Ralph Sahara, P.O. Box 62174, Honolulu, HI 96839. Free catalog. 5 free samples.

Yard Sales

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28. 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. John Adams Middle School, 2425 16th St., Santa Monica. ALL Proceeds benefit the JAMS Science Magnet. Come and find old and new treasures!

PROP STORAGE Sale. Antiques, clothing, treasures. Sept 28-29, 9am. 6308 Vista Del Mar, Playa Del Rey.

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Classified Advertising Conditions :DOLLAR-A-DAY NON COMMERCIAL: Ad must run a minimum of 12 consecutive days. Ads over 15 words add 20¢ per word per day. **REGULAR RATE:** \$2.50 a day. Ads over 15 words add 20¢ per word per day. Ad must run a minimum of twelve consecutive days. **PREMIUMS:** First two words caps no charge. Bold words, italics, centered lines, etc. cost extra. Please call for rates. **TYPOS:** Check your ad the first day of publication. Sorry, we do not issue credit after an ad has run more than once. **DEADLINES:** 4:00 p.m. prior the day of publication except for Monday's paper when the deadline is Friday at 4:00 p.m. **PAYMENT:** All private party ads must be pre-paid. We accept checks, credit cards, and of course cash. **CORRESPONDENCE:** To place your ad call our offices 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, (310)458-7737; send a check or money order with ad copy to The Santa Monica Daily Press, P.O. Box 1380, Santa Monica, CA 90406 or stop in at our office located at 1427 Third Street Promenade, Ste. 202. **OTHER RATES:** For information about the professional services directory or classified display ads, please call our office at (310)458-7737.

Calendar

Saturday, September 28, 2002

movies

Loews Broadway Cinema
1441 Third St. at Broadway
The Tuxedo (PG-13) 12:15, 1:30, 2:45, 4:00, 5:15, 6:30, 7:45, 9:00, 10:15, 11:30. Igby Goes Down (R) 12:00, 1:15, 2:30, 3:45, 5:00, 6:15, 7:30, 8:45, 10:00, 11:15.

Mann Criterion
1313 Third St.
Sweet Home Alabama (PG-13) 11:00, 11:30, 1:40, 2:15, 4:30, 5:00, 7:10, 7:50, 10:00, 10:30, 12:15. The Banger Sisters (R) 11:10, 12:00, 1:50, 2:40, 4:40, 5:10, 7:15, 7:45, 9:50, 10:20. The Four Feathers (PG-13) 12:15, 3:30, 7:00, 10:15. My Big Fat Greek Wedding (PG) 11:40, 2:10, 4:50, 7:20, 9:45, 12:15.

AMC Theatre SM 7
1310 3rd Street
Ballistic: Ecks vs. Sever (R) 12:50, 3:10, 5:30, 7:00, 8:00, 9:30, 10:20. Barbershop (PG-13) 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:40, 10:15. City by the Sea (R) 1:55, 4:45, 7:30, 9:55. Just a Kiss (R) 1:30m 3:40, 5:55, 8:10, 10:30. Signs (PG-13) 1:00, 4:30, 7:15, 9:50. Swimfan (PG-13) 1:45, 4:15. Trapped (R) 1:15, 4:00, 7:10, 9:45.

Landmark Nu-Wilshire
1314 Wilshire Blvd.
Moonlight Mile (PG-13) 10:30, 1:15, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00. Mostly Martha (PG) 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:30.

Laemmle Monica
1332 2nd St.
The Good Girl (R) 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:50, 10:10. The Man from Elysian Fields (R) 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:40, 10:10. Secretary (R) 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:35, 10:05. Spirited Away (PG) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00.

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
The Kid Stays in the Picture (R) 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30.

Today

Community

Weekly Storytime, 11:00 a.m. Come to Barnes & Noble for Saturday readings with the kids! Call 310-260-9110 for more information.

Theatre/Arts

Santa Monica Children's Theatre Co. presents a newly forming musical theatre company for children. Every Saturday from 10:15 a.m. - 2:15 p.m., Quest Studios, 19th & Broadway in Santa Monica. Tuition is \$325 per month - covers cost of all classes and productions. Contact Janet Stegman at (310)995-9636.

The Empty State Theater at 2372 Veteran Ave. in W. Los Angeles proudly presents: "The Fortune Room Lounge Show" A musical improv show featuring the "Stella Ray Trio" and "The Lucky Players". Every Saturday night at 10:00 p.m. Admission is \$10.00, drinks included w/admission. Lots of parking! For information or reservations please call (310)470-3560.

This Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings Beautiful Soup Productions presents Savage in Limbo, A Play by John Patrick Shanley at The Comedy Underground, 320 Wilshire Blvd. in Santa Monica. Showtime is at 8:00pm. Tickets are \$10.00 minimum donation. For Reservations

call (818)601-9657.

Music/ Entertainment

14 Below, 1348 14th St., Santa Monica. If the band stinks, take advantage of commodious booths, pool tables, and fireplace. Full Bar. Over 21. (310)451-5040.

The Joint, 8771 W. Pico Blvd., W. LA. One of the most exotic rooms in the local rock-facility pantheon. Pizza. Cover \$10 - \$5. Full bar. Over 21. (310)275-2619.

Music Showcase. UnUrban Coffeehouse. 3301 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica, (310)315-0056.

Sunday

Music/ Entertainment

Almost Vaudville. 2 pm and 5 pm. UnUrban Coffeehouse. 3301 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica, (310)315-0056.

LUSH 2020 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica. Three bars, plenty of booths, sofas, leopard-print carpet and a sunken dance floor. Mexican grill serves dinner after 5 p.m. Full bar. Over 21. Cover \$5 - Free. (310)829-1933.

Rusty's Surf Ranch, 256 Santa Monica Pier. Walls and ceilings are lined with one of the area's largest collections of pre-1970's surfboards. Cover varies. Full bar. All ages. (310)393-7386.

Calendar items are printed free of charge as a service to our readers. Please submit your items to todaypaper@smdp.com for consideration. Calendar events are limited by space, and will be run at the discretion of the Calendar Editor. The Daily Press cannot be held responsible for errors.

KEEP YOUR DATE STRAIGHT

Promote your event in the Santa Monica Daily Press Calendar section. Fax all information to our Calendar Editor:
Attention Angela @ 310.576.9913



BACK PAGE



\$7.9M for 18 minutes of work

By The Associated Press

DETROIT — A Detroit public school teacher's pay was enough to make Bill Gates or Donald Trump envious.

Thanks to a computer glitch, the teacher was paid \$7.9 million before taxes for 18 minutes of work. The teacher, who wasn't identified, received \$4,015,624.80 after taxes.

Someone alerted the school district earlier this month, and the money was returned after six days, chief financial officer Ken Forrest said in Thursday's Detroit News.

The error occurred when a clerk entered an employee number in the hourly wage field for the teacher's wage adjustment check. The district's payroll software didn't catch the mistake.

"One of the things that came with (the software) is a fail-safe that prevents that. It doesn't work," Forrest said.

The district has since installed a program to flag any paycheck exceeding \$10,000, he said.

Ex-mayor brings back KFC's colonel

By The Associated Press

LAWRENCEBURG, Ky. — Former Lawrenceburg Mayor Bob Thompson has found a new job: imitating Colonel Harland Sanders.

The 73-year-old retiree has portrayed KFC's late founder at events marking the 50th birthday of the restaurant franchise.

With his white suit, black cane, white wavy hair and neatly trimmed goatee, Thompson has taken first place at several Colonel-lookalike contests held in London, near Corbin, where Sanders first served his famous original recipe chicken.

Sanders died at age 90 in 1980, but his folksy image is so enduring and popular that many people don't seem to know that.

"They ask me 'Are you the real Colonel? I tell 'em I just got out of Cave Hill Cemetery,'" he said, referring to Sanders' burial place in Louisville.

Thompson, who was mayor of Lawrenceburg from 1994 through 1998, is one of two lookalikes KFC calls on. The other lives in Alabama.

Thompson's wife of 52 years, Volita, said being married to a lookalike can be frustrating.

"Sometimes when you go in a restaurant, you don't get to eat because people will say 'Let me run to the car and get my camera,'" Volita Thompson said. "And all the waitresses, they've got to have a picture made with him. I don't know. Sometimes it gets aggravating."

'Psst' works in Scrabble

By The Associated Press

SAGINAW, Mich. — Psst! There's a word in the English language that doesn't contain a vowel, and Tyler Mayle found it.

The fifth-grader at Chester Miller Elementary School here answered a challenge posed by reading teacher Brenda Bell: find a word consisting only of consonants.

Tyler and his stepfather, Gregory Westphal, began their quest by consulting the Yahoo! search engine. That led them to the online version of the Oxford English Dictionary, which defines "Psst" as an interjection "expressing a hiss, often to attract attention."

Tyler also won the \$50 prize Bell has offered for about 15 years to the first student to come up with an all-consonant word. Foreign words and abbreviations don't qualify.

"I've been trying to teach the children that you can't

write a word without a vowel," Bell told The Saginaw News this week. "All these years, they couldn't find one. I issued the challenge every year because I knew it didn't exist — until now."

Bell and her student didn't see eye-to-eye on the cash prize.

"I told him that I'm a poor schoolteacher," said Bell, who has made the first of 25 weekly payments of \$2 to Tyler. "It's enough for Slurpee money for every week."

Tyler was nonchalant: "I wanted the \$50, but it's not a lot of money. Three hundred dollars is a lot of money."

Bernie gets a cool off at stadium

By The Associated Press

MILWAUKEE — Bernie Brewer, the bigheaded mascot of the Milwaukee Brewers, can forget about getting his own cooling-off spot when things get hot and steamy at Miller Park. A committee of the baseball district board that oversees operations at the two-year-old stadium decided Thursday that giving Bernie a \$35,000 air-conditioned enclosure next to "Bernie's Dugout" would be too much.

The spot would have been a place to remove that big head and cool off out of sight of the fans.

But it could have made residents of five counties hot under the collar — their sales taxes help pay the costs of the retractable-roof stadium.

"I have a problem with keeping Bernie cool," said John Knuteson, a district board member from Racine County.

"If the mascot is up there and he wants to take a break where he can't be seen, he can go into the Brewers' offices," he said.

Last year, the Brewers asked the board to approve spending \$60,000 to rebuild Bernie's Dugout and add an air-conditioned area.

After the board said no, the Brewers came back with the modified, cheaper plan.

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with the purchase of any beverage during Happy Hour, Monday-Friday. One coupon per guest. Not valid with any other offer. Offer does not include tax or tip. Only valid at Wolfgang Puck Cafe - Montana Avenue location. Expires 10/31/02

3

One FREE Dessert on Jazz Night

during Tuesday Jazz Night hours. No purchase necessary. One coupon per guest. Not valid with any other offer. Offer does not include tax or tip. Only valid at Wolfgang Puck Cafe - Montana Avenue location. Expires 10/29/02

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