

FREE

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Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

Santa Monica police officers and detectives investigate the scene of a murder-suicide that occurred Saturday morning in front of City Hall.

Murder-suicide in front of Santa Monica City Hall

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON
Daily Press Staff Writer

A domestic dispute turned deadly Saturday after a man fatally stabbed a woman before killing himself in front of City Hall with their 6-year-old son present.

At 9:50 a.m., Santa Monica police officers who were in the parking lot of City Hall heard screams from a woman who was walking with her son and a domestic violence counselor to the police station for a court-ordered visitation with the father.

"As the officer was putting out the call for assistance, he saw that he had stabbed her and then himself," said Santa Monica Police Lt. Frank Fabrega. "We had immediate response."

The woman, who was taken to a local hospital and died shortly

"She got out of the car and this guy freaked out and went ballistic. He took out a knife and started stabbing his old lady."

— ROY LIVINGSTON
Witness

after, had been stabbed in the upper stomach. The man had stabbed himself several times in the upper stomach and died at the scene.

By 11 a.m., SMPD detectives were investigating the scene and interviewing witnesses. The incident reportedly took place in front of hundreds of homeless people who were milling about the lawn in front of City Hall waiting for food — a volunteer group conducts a public feeding program at the location each Saturday.

The food line was moved to the front of lawn of the Santa Monica Courthouse, which is located next to City Hall and the police station. Roy Livingston, who was at City Hall for the food line, said he witnessed the incident.

"She got out of the car and this guy freaked out and went ballistic," he said. "He took out a knife and started stabbing his old lady."

Livingston said he wanted to

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de la Torre clear to run for local school board

But challenges to race may lie ahead

BY ANDREW H. FIXMER
Daily Press Staff Writer

City officials have ruled that Oscar de la Torre is allowed to run for a seat on the school board, but a judge may have to decide if he was ever actually a candidate.

City Clerk Maria Stewart and City Attorney Marsha Moutrie said no official action will be taken to determine whether de la Torre is an eligible candidate.

Instead, if de la Torre wins the election, the results will likely be sorted out in a potential lawsuit brought by whoever lost.

"My experience has been if you ask four different people to interpret election law, you'll get four different opinions," Stewart said. "The ultimate answer will be if you go to a court and have a judge sort it out."

However, Fred Woocher, de la Torre's election lawyer, said there is nothing in Santa Monica's charter that would make his client ineligible. He said any challenge to de la Torre's candidacy would be defeated.

"He's on the ballot," Woocher said.

"He's a qualified candidate, and he is going to continue to run for office. If someone wants to try and convince a judge he is not qualified, that is their burden."

As for de la Torre, he said his campaign has not stopped focusing on the issues. He said his campaign will hold a rally on Thursday in front of City Hall to celebrate that he is still in the race and to rally his supporters.

"We have a major crisis in this community when it comes to education and some so-called community leaders would rather focus on voter registration time-lines than talk about the issues," he said.

"No wonder public education needs stronger leadership."

Stewart challenged de la Torre's candidacy on Sept. 19 for not being a registered Santa Monica voter when he first filed his intention to run for public office on July 17.

But by the time Stewart raised the issue of de la Torre's candidacy, the November ballot for the county had already been sent to be printed. And the city had to send its ballot, with de la Torre's name on it, to be printed Sept. 24.

State election code requires candidates

See CANDIDATE, page 5

Homeless services, programs deal may be struck

Official discussions about how to feed the needy have begun

BY ANDREW H. FIXMER
Daily Press Staff Writer

Food distributors for the homeless and social service providers are hammering out an agreement that would link their programs. Two meetings have taken place between the two

groups, with city officials present.

Representatives of these groups said they hope to talk again before the next city council meeting on Oct. 8, when council members are expected to approve the city's annual homeless services review and enact two ordinances designed to erect barriers to sleeping in private doorways downtown and holding public meal programs in city parks.

"There's a real willingness to exploring and connecting food

services with social services," said Joel Schwartz, the city's homeless service director. "We need to take the next step to see what is possible and what is realistic."

John Maceri, director of the Ocean Park Community Center, said no decisions have been made.

"We wanted to allow them to continue what they do, but also allow people the mechanism to provide services on site," he said, adding OPCC would not make participation in its job

training or counseling services mandatory to those who showed up to receive a free meal.

Food distributors from Helping Other People Eat, or HOPE, and Loyola-Marymount University have been actively participating in the meetings with city officials.

Russell Calleros, the campus minister with Loyola-Marymount, said he would include OPCC pamphlets at his food distribution programs that

detail social services available to the downtrodden.

Calleros is optimistic an agreement can be worked out.

"I think there is a way of working with OPCC," he said. "How we develop that role is still to be determined."

In its annual review of homeless services, city staff asked that the food distribution programs be moved inside and voluntarily

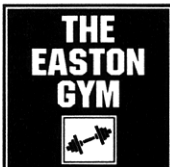
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ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Listen to your instincts. Reach out for a loved one at a distance and have a long discussion. Understand what might be happening within your immediate circle. You get new information that paves the way to insight. Bring others together. Tonight: Talk with family.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Recognize what you want and feel. You're right on top of everything in your immediate life. Carefully consider options that surround your work and finances. Pressure will build in an unprecedented way if you allow someone else to express his or her temper. Tonight: Where your friends are.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Money matters cause a problem with a loved one. Listen carefully to news that comes your way. An associate makes an important effort. Realize what might be happening with a family member. Your judgment might not be as sound as you'd like it to be. Tonight: Stay close to home.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Understand more of what might be going on with an associate or someone close. You think you're hearing everything, but somehow you missed a step. Options surround you if you can recognize the gap. Understand a child or loved one better. Tonight: Others respond to your innuendoes.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★ What you think is a good bet could backfire. Use your intuition more often, not always giving in to whimsy. Others push for more of what they want. You don't actually need to do anything immediately. Focus on your work. You find answers through relaxation. Tonight: Easy does it.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ You energize others in a meeting, and in return, you feel appreciated. Aim for more of what you want, remaining sure of your long-term desires. Your ability to center and follow through distinguishes you from the majority. Tonight: Enjoy your successes.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ Others eye your performance and what is happening with you. Timing helps you express your anger and frustration. Your perspective finally opens doors. Talks encourage a new business idea. You prosper as a result. Consider what you want. Tonight: Step up and be counted.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Knowing when to say what you want can make all the difference, ultimately. Your smile attracts associates. Your drive comes through when others might peter out. Read between the lines. Confirm your thoughts before acting on them. Tonight: Catch up on mail.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Deal with people as individuals. Understand that you don't need to share every detail with others. Learn discrimination, and you'll like the end results. A boss pushes, knowing what you are capable of. Don't be resentful, if possible. Tonight: Spend time with a special friend.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Many people have a lot on their plate. Friends surround you. Reach out for others at a distance. Friendship plays a bigger role than you anticipated in a business arrangement. Open up to travel and higher education. See the possibilities. Tonight: Read between the lines of a request. Make it your pleasure.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ All work and no play could be a bit sobering. Somehow, you turn a business situation into a congenial and social occasion. Review your financial status. Deal with others more directly when figuring out a problem. Tonight: Take a walk in the crisp air.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Your imagination helps you take the lead in the work arena, ready to solve not only the office's problems but also the world's. Open up to a loved one at a distance. Share with this person a question you have been debating. You'll get a caring response. Tonight: So what if it's Monday?

QUOTE of the DAY

“Until a child is one year old
it is incapable of sin.”

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LOCAL

Gavel III Gavel

From the people's court in the Byron Y. Appleton Honorary Courtroom in Santa Monica.

By John Wood

Condominium damage dispute heads to higher court

A small claims lawsuit concerning water damages to a Santa Monica condominium was transferred to Superior Court last week, following two hearings and a failed mediation effort.

Condo owner David Levin earlier this year sued upstairs neighbor Kaitlin Mullin and Carol Ford, president of the building's homeowners' association.

Each suit was for \$5,000 in damages.

In the first case, Levin alleged that Mullin's washing machine malfunctioned, sending water into his apartment that damaged his walls and carpeting.

Levin's complaint against the homeowners' association pertained to a sprinkler he said sprayed into his apartment, damaging another area of the carpet. The damages occurred when his unit was being rented to a tenant.

Both defendants said they tried unsuccessfully to repair the damages to Levin's property, though Ford said the position of the sprinklers made it "improbable" they had caused any damage to his carpet.

The lawsuit first went to trial in July, but Santa Monica Superior Court Judge Pro Tem Ron Papell sent the parties home, saying they seemed like "reasonable people" and asked them to settle the dispute out of court.

Judge Papell also combined the two lawsuits, limiting Levin's total recovery to \$5,000, the maximum allowable amount in small claims court.

When the three parties were unable to reach an agreement by the set date, they returned to court last week, per Judge Papell's instructions.

Levin told Santa Monica Superior Court Judge Pro Tem Denise Parga he was "very unhappy with the lack of respect shown by the other side" and asked that the case be transferred to Superior Court.

Legal representation is not allowed in small claims court, but Levin's attorney had accompanied him to the trial. He eventually stood and approached the bench.

"Excuse me, your honor?" he interrupted. "Not in a representational way or anything, but these people really ought to meet with a mediator."

Judge Parga was agitated by the distraction.

"You do not have a right to speak here," she said.

The parties did later agree to mediate, though they left the courthouse without reaching a resolution.

Santa Monica's limited jurisdiction superior court can award up to \$25,000 in damages. Levin said he now believes his damages may surpass \$10,000.

"Nobody's disputing that he was damaged," Ford said. "But he won't let anybody in the unit to make repairs."

No defense for library

Charges of seditious libel, conspiracy and slander were brought against the Santa Monica Public Library last week by a Venice man, who also treated the court to some unusual testimony.

Plaintiff William Thornton, whose lawsuit had been continued previously to allow him to file requisite paperwork, testified he was hospitalized earlier this year with extensive psychological damage.

"Dude, so you want the story?" Thornton asked Santa Monica Superior Court Judge Pro Tem Robert Shutan. "I walked into the library and an employee told me volatile, sensitive micro-information about a unique religious ritual I perform."

The judge then asked about the ritual, and Thornton laid it all on the line.

See GAVEL TO GAVEL, page 6

surf report

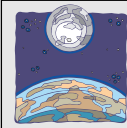
Information compiled by Jesse Haley

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.



Today's Tides:

High-	4:23 a.m.	2.88'
Low-	5:27 a.m.	2.87'
High-	1:31 p.m.	4.51'
Low-	10:27 p.m.	1.20'

Location	Monday	Tuesday	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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The Q Line

The city of Santa Monica is considering an ordinance that would protect its cultural heritage by designating homes and neighborhoods as historic.

The Homeowners for Voluntary Preservation, however, believes such a law is an intrusion of their personal freedoms, and they don't like the idea that the city may have more to say about the upkeep of their homes than they do.

Preservationists, on the other hand, argue that Santa Monica's historic homes are in danger of vanishing, and a landmark

ordinance is necessary to protect them.

So this week Q-line wants to know: "Should the City of Santa Monica step in and protect its cultural history? Or do the rights of homeowners supersede a well-meaning law?"

Call (310) 285-8106 with your responses before Thursday at 5 p.m. We'll print them in Friday's paper. Please limit your comments to a minute or less; it might help to think first about the wording of your response.



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OPINION

LETTERS

Senior citizen feeling the pain over EE

Editor:

Fixed income Santa Monica-Malibu senior citizens and renters should see the color RED when they view the many new bond measures asking for an additional \$29 BILLION of new property and parcel tax bond measures on their November ballots. Pass through property taxes to renters are just a small sign of the obliteration of California's wealth, and the Santa Monica-Malibu property taxpayer and renter are paying the price.

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Measure EE is an example of but one of the 10 or so "blank checks" that the property taxpayer and renter are asked to support. Measure EE proponents paint the SMMUSD schools Crimson Red in debt.

In my day ('50s) schools were colored in primitive Italian White, Spartan Gray or Metal Green — not Ink Red. I reminisce that schools contained rows of lockers most of which could be found in gym. In the gym, lockers were lined up against the wall atop chilly, unpainted cement. Lockers were secured with the proverbial combination lock. There was no furniture. A single wooden bench bolted to metal posts sunk in the cement was sufficient. Comfort, let alone warmth, was not listed in the specifications of building locker rooms. In fact, comfort in a locker room was frowned upon as "unmanly." Locker rooms were just plain functional.

There were never enough towels. Often I dried off with a T-shirt, blotted with paper

towels or shared. The shortage of towels was offset by an abundance of carnage dolefully given out by seniors to underclassmen. Mostly, it was pretty harmless hazing. To a senior, drying was a towel's secondary purpose. Its primary use was to raise red welts on bare backsides of underclassmen via snapping. Trying to get from the shower back to one's locker was to run a gauntlet. I certainly have not forgotten the sear of a wet towel sting. Seniors used the locker room to adjustment attitudes of younger schoolmates.

As the years passed, it became readily apparent to all of those who went through this passage of life that while we went to the showers to clean up our bodies, it was the ritual of the locker room that taught us how to clean up our approach to life, to be answerable for our actions.

The SMMUSD and our state government should be answerable for their actions, but they have not been accountable to the voter. Seniors citizens must once again adjust attitudes of our "youthful government." State, county and the local school district who want more money and less answerability, and they expect property taxpayers and renters to pay for it again and again. We must protect ourselves with our votes in November.

And that is all I have to say.

Tom Fakehany
Santa Monica

Half-truths, self-interest at heart of homeless controversy

I want to speak to some unanswered issues that are still being raised by your paper from the homeless perspective in regards to the Brown Bag Ban by Santa Monica.

The City of Santa Monica continues to claim that organizations from outside its borders have no business serving the poor. Not one reporter has asked how many of these volunteers have lived or worked in Santa Monica. One man stood up before council claiming that a Culver City organization provided the meal on the lawn of City Hall during the Sept. 24 protest against the Brown Bag Ban. What people are failing to mention is that Agape Church did, in fact, have its congregation in Santa Monica for many years. The 3,000-member congregation recently moved its church to Culver City because of the high rents for large capacity buildings. This church still has Santa Monica residents in its membership. The Hand to Hand Feeding Project remains in Santa Monica serving the poor it has served for many years. Also, the other participating meal programs like, Children Helping Poor and Homeless People, regardless of where it is based (Venice) has volunteers from Santa Monica schools. Helping Other People Eat has volunteers from Santa Monica and its main organizer is a former resident of Santa Monica. It is still not clear why the City of Santa Monica is not recognizing these organizations as having a base, or even a former base, in Santa Monica. Perhaps they don't want you to know, because it doesn't serve their primary interest of bashing these programs and eliminating the poor. This, in addition to the fact that the argument itself is flawed, because in America you should be able to help another person no matter where you are from, no matter where you are.

Agencies that are funded by the City of Santa Monica claim that they feel that food should be connected to services. Primarily their services, some of which aren't even located in Santa Monica. Rhonda Meister, the executive director of a city funded program, testified these volunteers should go to Venice and work for her program for free. These agencies have, for many years, refused to work with the

outdoor meal distribution programs because they feel that they have an exclusive right to funding from Santa Monica to help the poor. We've tried to work with these agencies before. They take all the city money for the services, which is then ingested into their budget and their salaries, and use us as their free staff. And then one day, the city no longer provides funding for this aspect of the continuum and the meal programs close their doors to the homeless after the public attention is gone. The history speaks for itself.

Most of these agencies are a member of the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce, and also sit on the Chamber's Homeless Task Force. The homeless and the grass roots groups cannot be a member of the task force unless they have \$250 to pay for membership in the chamber. Once excluded, we have no voice in working with the business community to resolve the conflicts between businesses and the homeless. City-funded agencies have historically excluded non-city-funded programs from their list of available programs to help the poor because they don't want you to consider donating to our programs instead of theirs. It takes away from their ability to convince you the public that they are the only service providers qualified to serve the poor. The fact is we provide the same services they do, only we do it without city funding.

It doesn't cost you the taxpayer a dime for our projects, yet it costs you a pretty penny for theirs.

We have asked for agency reform because we believe they are mismanaging your money, and in fact their practices have contributed to ensuring the long-standing homeless problem goes unsolved. If all the homeless people could get help and housing, then you would stop donating to them to solve a problem that can be solved. They don't want to be out of a job, otherwise, they'd have to seek the same low wage jobs they are forcing the unemployable homeless to seek. They too might have to move out of Santa Monica.

Shouldn't someone be asking why we are still funding the same tired old agencies over and over, and are still not getting satisfactory results for the amount of money we are spending? Sounds like an old boys network who doesn't want new, innovative and successful programs competing with their racket.

What came out of the Sept. 24 public hearing was that food was not the major problem that residents were having with the homeless. It is alcohol and drug use in public. City staff and city-funded agencies did not come up with a plan that even comes close to affecting or solving that problem. City staff can only give you biased options that violate poor people's human rights while protecting the interests of those who have money. The city can protect the availability of alcohol and still

control homeless behavior by taking away the availability of food assuming that they can ultimately penalize homeless people and poor housed people who

do not have a drug or alcohol problem into services that simply do not exist for them in Santa Monica.

On Sept. 10 the Santa Monica City Council agreed upon the idea of forming a Westside Council of Governments to speak to other cities about doing more about the homeless problem. The city seems to feel that other cities should be doing more. Yet, on the other hand, the City of Santa Monica receives funding into the social services grant budget by cities like Malibu, Beverly Hills and Culver City to take care of homeless services. So if other cities should be doing more to help the homeless, shouldn't Santa Monica as a first step return their money and tell them to use that money in their own cities?

The Bayside District Corporation has another idea about solving the homeless problem in the downtown area. They feel that you the taxpayer should pay for the Santa Monica Police Department's increased presence and prioritize their businesses for protection, above the rest of the community. Why should the Bayside District have to pay for an

increase in security on the Promenade when you the taxpayer can pay for it? Bayside has convinced some council members that increased police presence is needed to ensure that Santa Monica businesses on the Promenade do not have to foot the bill for providing their own private security. These council members catering to business interests are looking to you to foot the bill for a problem that the Bayside District should be handling themselves. Bayside advertises for more people to come to the Promenade to spend money but feels the city should be responsible for clearing out those who don't have money and wish to be a part of the downtown scene.

Why should businesses have to be there to authorize the removal of sleeping homeless bodies in their doorways that are closed and not being used? I doubt that homeless people are the only ones urinating in public. Many visitors who don't know where to go to use the restroom, do too. If urine, feces and garbage are truly the main issues, couldn't city staff open more restrooms, put out more trash cans and increase funding for public maintenance, and offer more police presence for laws that may be violated after hours? I doubt that a human sleeping in a doorway is causing the problems. When you look at city staff's recommendations to solve these problems, just remember that people on drugs or alcohol usually don't sleep or have an appetite for food.

I believe that the core of the issues outlined in this public debate are resolvable through a mediated community-based process. Legislation should be the last alternative when all other methods of solving the problem have been addressed. Don't let one or two council people who are giving you half-truths, these city staff people who make biased recommendations or these business people parading their self interests fool you into believing that they care about you the resident. They only care about you the resident if you have a pocket full of money. If you find your self with no money to spend in Santa Monica, you will be subject to the same punishments levied on the homeless.

Jennafer Yellowhorse writes for "Making Change," a community human rights newspaper.

Guest Commentary

By Jennafer Yellowhorse

LOCAL

Candidate argues city has authority over local elections

CANDIDATE, from page 1

to be able to vote for the office they intend to become a candidate for, and officials with the Los Angeles County Registrar said de la Torre first registered as a Santa Monica voter on Aug. 5, more than two weeks after he publicly decided to run.

Last week, de la Torre submitted a photocopy of an overseas voter registration form dated July 16. The form was filled out during a "Rock the Vote" registration drive, he said.

The Los Angeles County Registrar does not have a copy of the form on file, but Woocher said he has tracked down Bill Ruiz, the individual who ran the voter registration program.

Ruiz said he mailed out the forms that day, but Woocher said at least three other individuals who did the same thing were never registered by the county. Woocher believes the form either got lost in the mail, or it was sent to the California secretary of state by mistake.

"We're working on tracking down that form," he said.

De la Torre said he made a photocopy of the form because, unlike California voter registration forms, the federal form did not have a receipt proving the document had been filled out.

"I wanted it for my own records," he said. "Usually when you fill out the forms you get a receipt and this form did not have one."

When a letter from the registrar's office did not arrive confirming he had changed his registration, de la Torre re-registered to vote on Aug. 5 to comply with state law

that allow only registered voters to circulate petitions to run for office.

"I wanted to cover myself and make sure I was in fact registered. This is the first time I'm running for office."

— OSCAR DE LA TORRE
School board candidate

"I wanted to cover myself and make sure I was in fact registered," he said. "This is the first time I'm running for office."

"It's been a real learning experience for me," he added. "That's for sure."

Woocher said Santa Monica's city charter runs local elections, not the state election codes. According to the city's bylaws, Woocher said there is no requirement to be a registered Santa Monica voter when a candidate first pulls nomination papers.

A candidate only needs to be a registered voter and live in the district at the time they are elected to office, he said.

"I don't believe anybody looked to see if the section applied," Woocher said. "Then they said it's not our responsibility, it's the county's, but that's not true because it's a city election."

Food providers want others to help feed homeless in parks

SERVICES, from page 1

link with social services designed to lift the homeless off the streets.

And, by city council order, staff also wrote an ordinance that would require food distributors to receive a permit from the Los Angeles County Department of Health to hold their programs outdoors. The event organizers would also be required to follow city laws, which require a permit for groups of more than 150 people.

The annual review and the ordinances will be debated at a city council meeting in two weeks.

Some homeless activists have said the ordinances would ban the 20 to 30 weekly public meal programs and attempt to usurp state trespassing laws. They believe the ordinances are unconstitutional, and some say if they are enacted, a legal challenge is likely.

However, moving the food distributors indoors, where they can work with social service providers, is not a new idea. The concept was first broached in a 1991 report written by a task force on homelessness.

But when the city adopted an ordinance in 1993 prohibiting the programs in public parks, the law was quickly struck down in court as being vague and violating the meal program administrators' constitutional rights.

While food program administrators agree moving the food lines indoors would be more humane, they say none of the social service providers have enough

room to hold the large numbers of people they serve.

"I'd like to see them join us side by side at the parks," Calleros said. "I think they will get a more positive experience that way than trying to get the homeless to take advantage of services at the site."

"There's a real willingness to exploring and connecting food services with social services."

— JOEL SCHWARTZ
City homeless service director

And others say while the food programs are offered every day, many social service providers close during the weekends and on holidays.

It's a situation that city officials know is a problem.

"Homeless people don't stop eating on Friday at 5 (p.m.) and resume eating on Monday at 9 (a.m.), but unfortunately that's how our service system works," Schwartz said. "There's really not much in the way of entry into the system on the weekend, but we're adding some emergency beds to fill some weekend gaps."

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LOCAL □ STATE

Second murder-suicide incident in two weeks

MURDER, from page 1

help, but the situation appeared too dangerous.

"I didn't want to jump in and get myself killed," he said. "He looked at her and realized what he had done and he started stabbing himself."

Apparently the couple, who were estranged, had set up a meeting at the police station for a child visitation transfer.

The identities of the victim and the suspect haven't been released pending notification of their families. The victim is described as a Hispanic female, 21, of Santa Clarita. The suspect is described as a Hispanic male, 27, of West Los Angeles.

The man's body was removed by the Los Angeles County Coroner's Office before noon. Dozens of passersby noticed that the south side of the City Hall lawn

was taped off and white plastic draped over the man, who was lying in the southwest corner of the lawn. The woman's purse and other belongings were lying on the ground just a few feet away next to the sidewalk that leads to the police station.

The Robbery/Homicide Unit of the Santa Monica Police Department is handling the investigation. Anyone with information regarding this incident is asked to call (310) 458.8451.

This is the second murder-suicide incident in Santa Monica in two weeks. On Sept. 15, a Santa Monica man shot and killed his wife and then fatally shot himself in their apartment at 909 Euclid Ave. Santa Monica police were called to the scene after the daughters of the couple found their parents dead in the living room. Neighbors say the couple fought incessantly.

GAVEL TO GAVEL, from page 3

"It's a ceremony that involves cleaning my genitals," Thornton said. "It's a real sensitive part of my religious practice."

Judge Shutan interrupted Thornton, who was seeking \$2,500 in damages.

"In the library reading room?" he asked.

"No," Thornton quickly replied. "In the privacy of my room."

Thornton expressed dismay over the library employee's seeming familiarity with his unique ritual.

"I have no idea how he got that info," Thornton said. "He knew personal details, even some of the implements that I use. It's like he was watching me at my home."

But Judge Shutan didn't buy it. He ruled in favor of the library without hearing their defense.

"There's no documentation and no witnesses," the judge told Thornton. "I'm afraid I can't help you."

Thornton has filed similar lawsuits against Santa Monica Community College and the Los Angeles Public Library.

"Maybe there's some individual that ties these things together," Thornton said, who thanked the judge for hearing the case. "It's OK. I will take this further, to the federal government. I have people in the federal government."

Use your 'day in court'

Santa Monica Superior Court Judge Pro Tem Robert Shutan refused to re-hear the merits of a lawsuit involving an apartment security deposit because the defendant, real estate company Elly Nesis Co., failed to appear at the original hearing.

After missing the original hearing, Elly Nesis Co. filed a motion to vacate the judgment entered against it, though the company did not appeal the ruling within the 30-day period required by law.

A representative of Elly Nesis pleaded with the judge, explaining that she had been confused because the plaintiff, Jod Soraci, had served her with three different court documents. She added that she had to attend the eviction of a different tenant on the day she was meant to appear in small claims court.

"It was so confusing," she said. "But he trashed the (rental). He doesn't deserve this at all."

The court was not sympathetic to her request.

Santa Monica Superior Court Judge Pro Tem Robert Shutan refused to hear Elly Nesis Co.'s motion to vacate judgment and upheld the previous ruling.

Identity theft suspect arrested

By the Associated Press

YORBA LINDA — A traffic stop led to the arrest of a woman who allegedly stole the identities of more than 20 people throughout Los Angeles and Riverside counties to illicitly gain thousands of dollars.

Monica Dawn Ferguson, 27, was arrested Sept. 22 after she was pulled over in Yorba Linda for having an illegally tinted driver's side window.

She was held in lieu of \$75,000 bail at Orange County Jail in Santa Ana.

Police said Ferguson handed Brea police a fake driver's license, and a background check revealed an outstanding \$25,000 warrant from Riverside County for forgery and drug-related charges.

A search of her car yielded fake identi-

fication cards, checks, and credit card and real estate applications. Officers also found a computer, counterfeiting tools and receipts for goods purchased with fake checks.

She was taken into custody on the outstanding warrant and for investigation of forgery, providing false identification to police, counterfeit checks, and carrying phony identification.

Authorities believe Ferguson and her mother are linked to fraud schemes throughout Southern California.

The women have allegedly produced a paper trail that connects them with identity theft crimes in Riverside, Moreno Valley, Corona, Monrovia and Marina del Rey, Needham said.

STATE



Candidates head into final weeks of governor's race

BY ALEXA H. BLUTH
Associated Press Writer

GARDEN GROVE — California's governor's race is steaming into its final stretch, with Democratic Gov. Gray Davis and GOP challenger Bill Simon sharpening their strategies for the last five weeks of the campaign.

Voters can begin requesting absentee ballots in one week, on Oct. 7, the same day Davis and Simon will face each other in the first of two debates planned before the Nov. 5 election.

Davis, who has until midnight Monday to sign or veto legislation sent to him this year by the Legislature, will be freed up to campaign for re-election.

"He'll be on the road full-time," said Davis' chief campaign adviser Garry South.

Davis must overcome lackluster popularity ratings, which began to dip during last year's energy crisis. He will continue to unleash a stream of ads attacking Simon's socially conservative views and raise questions about his business record.

The governor's campaign plans to spend \$2.5 million to \$3 million each of the remaining weeks — which means Californians could see Davis ads up to 20 times a week, South said.

Meanwhile, Simon enters the final weeks of the campaign with a boost for a weekend gathering of Republican activists and with the help of a get-out-the-vote mailing paid for by the state party.

Despite having raised about 20 percent as much money as Davis, Simon said he plans a "direct and aggressive campaign

for the remaining five weeks." Simon's cash-strapped campaign is expected to launch a new statewide television ad Tuesday after spending much of the summer without a presence on television.

Simon's campaign has outfitted a bus with "Fire Gray Davis" splashed across the back to cart campaign staff and reporters on a statewide tour, and Simon has indicated he will continue to try to direct focus at accusations that Davis has mingled fund-raising with state business.

Both candidates also plan to call on big-name allies to help them win votes. Former President Clinton and New York Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton are to campaign for Davis in the next month and Simon is to be joined by former New York Mayor Rudy Giuliani.

Meanwhile, Republicans gathered in Garden Grove for the past three days for their state party's twice yearly convention also were focused beyond November, laying the groundwork to help win votes in this Democrat-dominated state for President Bush in 2004.

"The whole idea is to build a Bush force here and keep the force together," said Gerald L. Parsky, Bush's top California adviser, at a breakfast meeting to recruit volunteers for the Bush re-election bid.

The party has tried to mend its divisions, which have distracted from the campaigns of Simon and other Republicans. Since 1998, when it won only two statewide races, the party has suffered a series of electoral losses and been riven by divisions among moderates and conservatives.

West Coast ports return to activity as lockout ends

BY JUSTIN PRITCHARD
Associated Press Writer

OAKLAND — Ports along the West Coast rumbled back to life Sunday as shipping lines lifted an employee lockout imposed after contract negotiation with the longshoremen's union fell apart.

While docks in Los Angeles, Seattle, Tacoma, Wash., and Portland, Ore., quietly returned to action, chaos was the rule at the San Francisco Bay ports, where 10 large ships filled with containers waited, untouched since the lockout began Friday night.

In some terminals, cranes began moving containers. In others, not enough dock workers were dispatched from the union hall to start operations.

The lockout began after the association representing shipping lines accused longshoremen of staging slowdowns to gain leverage in contract talks. The International Longshore and Warehouse Union said it simply told its members at 29 major Pacific ports to strictly follow safety and health regulations because the employers were bargaining in bad faith.

Over the 36 hours the docks were closed, about 30 ships had to moor outside berths at ports in Los Angeles, Oakland, Seattle and Tacoma.

In the San Francisco Bay area Sunday, the union told workers who normally report to the same terminal each day to instead begin Sunday at the dispatch hall for random assignment. In some cases,

experienced crane operators were sent to other jobs, leaving less experienced workers to run the cranes, said Richard Mead, president of the San Francisco chapter.

"We had been pretty optimistic that guys were coming back," said Bill Niland, a manager with the Pacific Maritime Association, which represents shipping lines and terminal operators.

He said the way the union was dispatching workers in San Francisco was disconcerting, though.

"It's like a plumber showing up to roof your house. Aside from the production issue, there are certainly safety issues," Niland said.

Shipping lines put in orders for more than 300 jobs in the Bay area, but 80 went unfilled, Mead said. Standing outside a terminal in the port of Oakland, he estimated that meant only seven of the 18 cranes that shipping lines wanted in operation were up and running Sunday.

The return to work was orderly at the Port of Tacoma, said port spokesman Mike Wasem. Crews there reported to their job stations per work orders.

"We have kind of a different group here. It's very cooperative longshore labor here and traditionally always has been," Wasem said.

The association has said continued port labor disruptions could cost the U.S. economy \$1 billion a day. West Coast ports handled more than \$300 billion in cargo over the past year.



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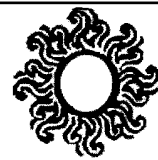
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STATE

Ballot initiatives have become self-serving, critics say

BY DON THOMPSON

Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO — California's initiative process, once hailed as a way for citizens of the nation's most populous state to influence their government, has largely become a self-serving tool for special interests, critics say.

Screen star Arnold Schwarzenegger, for instance, hints that his sponsorship of a statewide initiative is a prelude to a run for public office.

His Proposition 49 would dedicate as much as \$550 million a year to after- and before-school programs for elementary and junior high school students.

Schwarzenegger and A. Jerold Perenchio, chairman of the Spanish-language Univision network, each contributed \$1 million to the \$3.6 million campaign, public records show. The star of "Kindergarten Cop" started the Inner City Games and Arnold's All Stars after-school program years ago, however, and his newest proposal was supported by 58 percent of likely voters in a July Field Poll, and 59 percent in an August Public Policy Institute poll, and 51 percent in a September Field Poll.

Supporters' self-interest has more clearly spurred others among the seven measures voters will consider on the Nov. 5 ballot.

Proposition 51 would take about \$1 billion a year from car sales and devote it to transportation and conservation projects specified by cities, museums, land developers and conservancy groups that paid a combined \$2 million to qualify it for the ballot and expect to spend another \$5 million to pass it.

"Their strategy is to go to each county and say, 'We have a lot of nice projects for you,'" said Lenny Goldberg, director of the California Tax Reform Association.

Gerald Meral, who heads the Planning and Conservation League that wrote the proposition, is open about tailoring the initiative's proposed spending to the interest groups that contribute to its passage. The Legislature tried to make that practice illegal in 1990, but the ban was overturned by an appeals court in 1995.

Three of the seven pending measures would increase borrowing by a combined \$19 billion in a state that already carries the nation's largest bond debt.

Proposition 50 would increase the state's debt by \$3.4

billion to restore coastal wetlands near cities, improve water security and water quality — and buy land from developers who spent more than a million dollars to put the measure on the ballot.

They have created an odd alliance with environmental groups that reason it is better to buy environmentally sensitive land than fight coastal development in court.

It follows \$6.7 billion in park and water bonds approved by voters the last two years, yet much of the opposition is from agriculture and business groups that say they would get too small a share of the new spending. Support slipped to 38 percent in a September Field Poll, down from 52 percent support in July.

"The initiative has evolved from its early days as a grass roots effort to enhance representative democracy into a tool that too often is exploited by special interests."

— NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF STATE LEGISLATURES TASK FORCE

Public housing activists are backing Proposition 46 to increase the state's debt by \$2.1 billion for housing programs.

The measure would provide \$900 million for apartments, nearly \$400 million for emergency shelters and housing for people in danger of becoming homeless, and \$290 million to help first-time home buyers make down payments. Gov. Gray Davis is backing the measure, which includes \$200 million for farm worker homes and state housing programs Davis cut from his budget this year.

The largest borrowing measure of all is asking \$25.8 billion from voters over the next two elections.

Colleges, universities, architects and the construction industry are backing Proposition 47, which would increase state debt by \$13.5 billion to fund new public school and college facilities. The measure, written and approved by the Legislature, is part of a package that will

ask voters for another \$12.3 billion in 2004.

In the last 20 years, voters have approved \$20 billion for schools, including \$9.2 billion four years ago. In those two decades, voters have rejected just one such measure, when a \$1 billion 1994 proposition fell less than half of a percentage point short. The September Field Poll showed 54 percent of likely voters favor this year's proposal, down from 58 percent in July.

Among non-borrowing measures, Proposition 52 would let California residents, like those in six other states, register to vote on Election Day at their polling place. The measure is being financed by high tech venture capitalist Rob McKay, who has promised to spend at least \$1 million on the initiative.

Currently, individuals who are eligible to vote are required to register at least 15 days before the election.

Supporters, including former Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan, say it would help boost turnout. Opponents, including some law enforcement officials, worry it would spark more problems, though the initiative would also hire more election staff and create harsher penalties for voter fraud. The September Field Poll found it was opposed by 42 percent of likely voters, from 54 percent who opposed it in the July poll, but the Public Policy Institute found 52 percent in favor.

The remaining measure, Proposition 48, would delete obsolete references to municipal courts from the state Constitution. There has been no opposition.

California hardly alone in seeing its initiative process perverted, critics say.

"The initiative has evolved from its early days as a grass roots effort to enhance representative democracy into a tool that too often is exploited by special interests," found a National Conference of State Legislatures task force in July.

It has become so bad that task force members concluded "opportunities for abuse of the process outweigh its advantages," recommending that states without an initiative process avoid creating one.

The voter-driven process used in California since 1911 has devolved in the last 25 years into "an alternative method for special interests to advance their causes," said a task force appointed by former Assembly Speaker Robert Hertzberg, D-Van Nuys.

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NATIONAL



Conference examines medical pot research, politics

BY MARTIN GRIFFITH

Associated Press Writer

RENO, Nev. — Marijuana holds promising therapeutic value for a broad range of health patients, but further study is needed to determine what types of sufferers it can benefit, a conference of pain management experts was told Saturday.

At a symposium held in conjunction with the American Academy of Pain Management's annual meeting, scientists discussed their latest research and the obstacles they face trying to develop marijuana for medicinal uses.

Dr. Mark Ware of Montreal's McGill University said a pilot study is under way in Canada to determine marijuana's effectiveness in reducing pain for a broad range of patients, including those with cancer, HIV, multiple sclerosis and arthritis.

"I think the question is: How many patients could be using it that aren't using it?" said Ware, who heads the Canadian Consortium for the Investigation of Cannabinoids. "It's clearly been effective for some people, and we're trying to find out how useful it would be for others."

"It might not be good for everybody. Much more needs to be done to determine who can benefit from it," Ware said.

Dr. Ethan Russo, a Missoula, Mont., neurologist and researcher with faculty appointments at the universities of Montana and Washington, accused the federal government of hampering marijuana research in the United States.

He said he won Federal Drug Administration approval for a study on marijuana's effect on migraine treatment, but the National Institute on Drug Abuse wouldn't supply the marijuana.

"It's the oldest medicine known to humanity, and I don't believe more research is needed on it. We know marijuana works but we're stalling for political reasons."

— **ELVY MUSIKKA**
Marijuana user

"We're way behind other countries in this area and it's because of politics," said Russo, editor of the Journal of Cannabis Therapeutics. "There's been a stigma attached to marijuana in the United States over the last 65 years."

"It's clear that in the area of pain management a lot of

treatments are lacking in efficacy, and marijuana has great promise. With government cooperation, we can do much more marijuana research in the U.S.," Russo said.

Since California became the first state to approve medical marijuana in 1996, six other states have followed suit. But federal law prohibits the sale of marijuana for medical uses.

Despite the law, the federal government has approved 11 marijuana studies now under way in California, said J. Hampton Atkinson of the University of California's Center for Medicinal Cannabis Research.

The studies will examine the effects of marijuana on a broad range of patients, including those with multiple sclerosis and nerve pain, he said, adding final action on four other other proposed studies is pending.

Dr. William Notcutt of Great Britain's Norwich University said his studies to date have shown marijuana can benefit multiple sclerosis and chronic-pain patients with intractable symptoms.

Elvy Musikka, 63, of Orangevale, Calif., a glaucoma patient who has used marijuana for 26 years, criticized the federal government for restricting access to medical marijuana.

"It has worked miraculously for me from the start," she said. "It's the oldest medicine known to humanity, and I don't believe more research is needed on it. We know marijuana works but we're stalling for political reasons."

FBI report reveals little new information about Jimmy Hoffa

By The Associated Press

DETROIT — The FBI shed little light on the 25-year disappearance of Teamsters boss Jimmy Hoffa in a report made public after a decade-long legal battle.

The report the FBI turned over to Oakland County prosecutor David Gorcyca earlier this year told largely the same account that agents pieced together at the time, the Detroit Free Press reported Friday.

The newspaper obtained the report Thursday after seeking access for 10 years. Gorcyca said last month no state criminal charges would be filed and only a death-bed confession or cooperation of a witness would solve the mystery.

At least 91 pages of the 349-page report consisted of transcripts of old media interviews with family friend Chuckie O'Brien. Federal agents have pursued him for years, trying to tie him to the disappearance.

O'Brien's name was stricken from the report, though it's clear certain references are to him, the newspaper said.

The cover sheet of the report, dated May 13, described the case as murder or conspiracy to commit murder.

Hoffa vanished on the afternoon of July 30, 1975. He was on his way to a meeting with Anthony Provenzano, a New Jersey Teamsters boss, and Anthony Giacalone, a Detroit Mafia captain.

Investigators believe Provenzano and Giacalone

had Hoffa killed to prevent him from regaining the union presidency after he served time in federal prison for jury tampering.

Authorities believe the killing was carried out by New Jersey Teamsters close to Provenzano: Thomas Andretta and the Briguglio brothers, Gabriel and Salvatore. Salvatore Briguglio, 45, was shot to death by two hooded gunmen outside a restaurant in New York's Little Italy in 1978. The FBI said Gabriel Briguglio and Andretta are still alive, but their location was unknown.

On the day he disappeared, authorities believe

Hoffa climbed into a Mercury driven by O'Brien, was driven somewhere and killed.

FBI technicians found a single, 3-inch brown head hair similar to Hoffa's in the borrowed 1975 Mercury Marquis Brougham that O'Brien drove on the day of Hoffa's disappearance. DNA tests conducted in 2000 confirmed it was a strand of Hoffa's hair, but investigators couldn't establish how the hair got into the vehicle.

O'Brien claims he was running errands when Hoffa disappeared. He has denied any involvement in the disappearance.

Hoffa's son, Teamsters President James P. Hoffa, wouldn't comment on the report until he had read it. Hoffa's daughter, Barbara Crancer, a circuit judge in suburban St. Louis, said she wasn't surprised Gorcyca had to pass on charging O'Brien or anyone else.

"I've said all along that there wasn't enough information to accuse anybody of anything," she said.

O'Brien's lawyer, William Bufalino II, said he isn't surprised there was little evidence.

"What would surprise me is if they have any evidence to indict," Bufalino said.

The Free Press sought

to obtain the FBI file for more than a decade through the U.S. Freedom of Information Act. The newspaper sued the government twice, arguing the records should be made public because prosecu-

tions in such an old case were unlikely.

The government argued a disclosure would jeopardize any chance of a prosecution but this year agreed to release some information.

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NATIONAL

Protesters challenge IMF, World Bank policies

BY DAVID HO

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Chanting protesters used puppets, homemade signs and music Saturday to drive home their message against trade and economic policies they say hurt the poor and put unmanageable burdens on the Third World. Their goal for the day: surround the financial institutions where officials from around the globe were meeting.

The second day of protests in the nation's capital began without incident. Protesters on the grounds of the Washington Monument listened to music and speeches before heading to the headquarters of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

The rally had a festive atmosphere, as the crowd cheered speaker after speaker addressing a variety of causes, from the Third World debt to AIDS to possible war against Iraq.

"We need this movement more than ever before," said Michele Shocked, who played blues on the stage with her electric guitar. "The global justice movement is moving forward."

By early afternoon, the crowd numbered about 2,000, according to reports to the D.C. police command staff. Scattered among the protesters were a giant inflatable pig adorned with the words "Hog-tied corporate glutton" and an inflatable shark with a globe in its mouth and a sign, "Stop IMF Loan Sharking." A large rolling Trojan horse had a sign that said: "World Bank Aid."

Organizers handed out yellow police

tape and biohazard suits.

"We're just trying to quarantine the World Bank because their policies are infectious to the rest of the world," said Melanie Grumman of Burlington, Vt.

Speaking under a bright blue sky, Njoki Njehu, director of the 50 Years is Enough Network, called for a cancellation of Third World debt. Her organization opposes IMF and World Bank policies.

"The debts must be canceled to make sure there is treatment for HIV/AIDS. The debts must be canceled to make sure that there is money for children to go to school. The debt must be canceled to make sure that those children don't go to bed hungry," Njehu said.

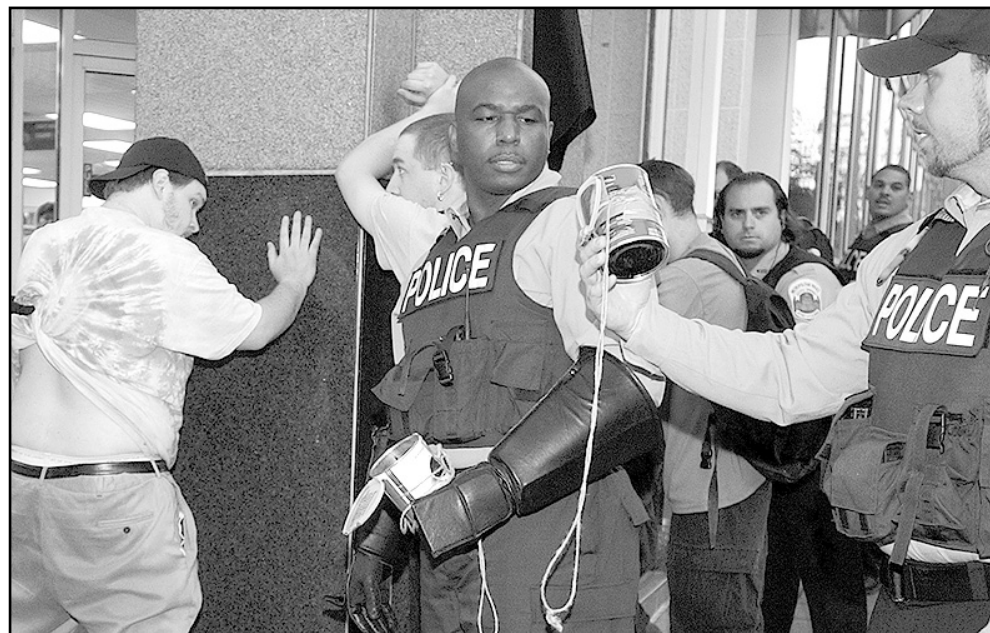
Police ensured that the protesters would not get too close to the financial meetings, which have become a magnet for demonstrations.

The security perimeter was extended for several blocks from the financial institutions and chain link fences and black-suited security officers in full riot gear were protected the grounds — and the finance ministers meeting inside.

At the District of Columbia Courthouse, a much smaller group of demonstrators challenged the treatment of the 649 people arrested Friday. Most of those detained were charged with failing to obey a police officer or parading without a permit; five were charged with destruction of property.

Organizers and legal observers said police did not give protesters a chance to disperse Friday before arresting them.

"They got all the notice they needed to



Ken Lambert/Associated Press

Police officers inspect cans as they arrest protesters Saturday evening in downtown Washington on illegal weapons charges. Two men, shown in background left, and two women, who refused to identify themselves, were arrested Saturday when they were found with an explosive device which the police described as a coffee can filled with nails and an explosive ordnance. The group is part of protests against the policies of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank.

get," Police Chief Charles Ramsey said Saturday. "They knew they had no permit, they knew they had no right to be in the street."

Mark L. Goldstone, an attorney with the National Lawyers Guild, said some of those arrested have complained about the food, water and bathroom facilities while in custody.

Said Ramsey: "It's jail, it's not a resort,

so people can't expect to be treated the same way they would if they checked in at the Hilton."

He said officials were working as quickly as possible to process those arrested.

At midday, D.C. Superior Court Judge Stephanie Duncan-Peters made arrangements for five people to be inside the courtroom to observe the proceedings.

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INTERNATIONAL



United States forces building up around Iraq

BY CHRIS TOMLINSON

Associated Press Writer

KUWAIT CITY, Kuwait — U.S. Marines rode massive green hovercraft last week onto the Kuwaiti shore. But instead of assaulting hostile Iraqi troops, they joined Kuwaiti allies for a three-week exercise in the desert.

Fighter jets from the USS Abraham Lincoln flew overhead, not part of the exercise, but on their way to enforce a "no-fly" zone in southern Iraq.

Engineers in Qatar, meanwhile, are finishing a new forward command post for the U.S. Central Command — the men and women who would lead a war in Iraq. They're expected to arrive in November to direct another exercise from the low-profile buildings camouflaged as sand dunes.

Special operations forces have put up tents at a new base in Djibouti, across the Red Sea from Yemen. In Kuwait, part of an armored infantry brigade from Fort

Benning, Ga., sits within 28 miles of the Iraqi border — a 10-hour drive to Baghdad.

U.S. military spokesmen insist the exercises and deployments are routine, or part of the war against terrorism. But there is little doubt these forces could be used in an invasion of Iraq to remove President Saddam Hussein.

During a visit to Kuwait last week, Central Command's Gen. Tommy Franks said his men "are prepared to do whatever we are asked to do."

While the governments of Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia refuse to discuss military matters, their citizens bear witness daily to the U.S. military presence in the region.

The Kuwaiti government ordered gas masks for all civil servants and authorized their sale to civilians. Troops have rolled out Patriot missile batteries to defend against possible Scud missile attacks.

"From what we're seeing, it looks like

something is going to happen, but it's hard to know exactly what," said Bader al-Otibi, a government worker who was taken prisoner during the Iraqi occupation in 1990. "I'm against war, but I'm also against Saddam."

Along the featureless, rolling desert that is shared by Kuwait and Iraq as a border, unarmed U.N. monitors stand guard in a 10-mile-wide demilitarized zone. An electric fence and anti-tank trenches mark it, but there's little to slow an invading force.

Experts differ on the number of troops needed to invade Iraq — estimates vary from 50,000 to 350,000, depending on the strategy. Deployments already planned would bring the number of troops in the region to near 50,000 by November, which coincides with a U.S.-proposed deadline for Iraq to comply with U.N. resolutions.

U.S. military personnel, with their close-cropped hair, military-issue luggage and incongruous civilian clothes, are already in

hotels in Bahrain, Qatar and Kuwait.

F-16 fighter jets roar over Qatar's capital, Doha, and vans full of troops shuttle between the 5th Fleet's headquarters in Juffair, Bahrain, and the international airport, where the U.S. Navy maintains a special terminal for aircraft that fly to the USS Abraham Lincoln and other regional bases.

The aircraft carrier USS Harry Truman, leading a third battle group, is scheduled to be within striking distance of Iraq in November to replace the USS George Washington battle group, Pentagon officials say, bringing the total U.S. naval forces in the area to more than 20,000 sailors and 255 aircraft.

The Marines, in Kuwait for the "Eager Mace" exercise, make up the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit, an amphibious invasion force of 2,200 troops. A similar force accompanies most carrier battle groups, meaning 6,600 Marines will be in the region in November.

Kostunica wins first round in Serbia's presidential race

BY DANICA KIRKA

Associated Press Writer

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia — Vojislav Kostunica won the first round in Serbia's presidential race Sunday, pulling away from a pro-Western candidate in the first election since the ouster of Slobodan Milosevic, exit polls showed.

The unofficial results released by the Center for Free Elections and Democracy, an independent watchdog group, gave Kostunica the win with 31 percent with 100 percent of the vote counted. Finishing in second with 28 percent was Deputy Prime Minister Miroljub Labus, giving him a spot in a runoff vote.

Ultrationalist Vojislav Seselj, who was backed by Milosevic, finished in third with 22 percent, which was much higher than expected.

Official results are not expected before Monday but exit polls from the CeSID have proven reliable in the past.

"Seselj's showing was the biggest sur-

prise," said Kostunica's top political adviser, Slobodan Samardzic.

Seselj assumed the role of the spoiler early in the race — relishing his role as the candidate who unashamedly embraced the nationalistic views that led Yugoslavia into the Balkan wars.

Seselj's showing is seen as an indication that Serbia has not yet moved fully moved beyond the extreme nationalism that marked Slobodan Milosevic's tenure.

"Serbia is shifting to the right," said Dragoljub Djuricic, a well known local musician and supporter of Labus. "I am not happy to see the route Serbia picked today."

The race came after voters in Serbia showed little interest in Sunday's vote, staying home — and out of the rain — in large numbers after a campaign that generated little enthusiasm.

Turnout was an estimated 55 percent, one of the lowest since the multiparty system was introduced in 1990. Such a turnout favored Seselj, with a committed

core of voters.

Gone was the euphoria that accompanied the ballot leading to Milosevic's ouster in 2000 — when turnout hit nearly 75 percent. In its place was dismay over the lack of clear improvement in living standards promised by the post-Milosevic government.

Though the national currency, the dinar, has remained stable, buying power has eroded as prices climb and wages fail to keep pace. The cost of feeding a family of four has risen from \$150 to \$400 over the past two years, government figures show. The cost of electricity, heat and water have jumped by as much as nine times.

Among those trickling through to Belgrade's Polling Station 48 was Zagorka Butkovic, who considered it her duty to vote despite the damp day.

"I would have marched through snow if I had to," said the 70-year-old retiree, her lime green coat buttoned tight to her chin. "We are hoping for something better."

Fixing the troubled economy and safeguarding welfare benefits have been the key election issues in this Balkan country

of 10 million. But the campaign was lackluster, dragged down by the absence of sharp differences between the early front-runners, Kostunica and Labus.

Kostunica was the leading figure in the 2000 revolt, a moderate nationalist whose stodgy suits and reputation for honesty appealed to voters exhausted by the political manipulations of the Milosevic years.

The 58-year-old law school professor is losing his present job next year under constitutional changes envisioned to transform Yugoslavia into a loose union of its two republics, Serbia and Montenegro.

Kostunica campaigned on a platform promising less radical economic reforms than those advocated by Labus, his main rival and a former ally. But in his typical low-key style, he demurred when asked if he believed he might pull out a victory without a runoff.

"It would be more rational if everything was completed in one round," he said. "But we are not the most rational people in the world and, besides, there are 11 candidates."

Prostitutes, officials battle over where they can practice trade

BY GEORGE JAHN

Associated Press Writer

BUDAPEST, Hungary — Waiting under a street light for the next curbside client, three scantily clad women while away the time grumbling about politics.

While Mayor Gabor Demszky is popular with most of the capital's residents, few of the city's estimated 7,000 prostitutes are likely to give him their support in the Oct. 20 municipal election.

They've taken his government to court, arguing that Budapest and other cities have broken Hungarian law by not establishing "tolerance zones" for prostitution.

The women, represented in the suit by the Association to Protect the Interests of Hungarian Prostitutes, are seeking observance of a law passed by parliament three years ago committing cities to set aside areas where prostitutes could legally solicit clients.

Prostitutes had hoped the areas would spell an end to police harassment, fines and even imprisonment — and give some dignity to their trade.

Kriszta Schindler, a chubby, 21-year-old

bleached blonde in a tight white tank top and midriff-baring jeans, sneers when asked whether she's had trouble with police.

That's a hefty penalty for a young woman whose services begin at just over \$8. But Schindler says police hassles go beyond that.

The lawsuit filed in June asks Budapest city court to force the officials to set up tolerance zones.

No hearing has been scheduled, but officials say that even if the court rules against the municipality, the law's provisions will never be enacted because they are flawed.

Because the law stipulates that the zones have to be at least 300 yards from schools, churches, main roads and other public areas, the only places that qualify in some cities are rust-belt industrial districts and other ghetto-like sections avoided by all.

Budapest officials also argue that parliament didn't take into account the fierce resistance from local officials and residents opposed to having prostitutes working in their neighborhoods.

Compound in ruins



Nasser Nasser/Associated Press

Two of Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's guards stand inside a damaged building in Arafat's compound in the West Bank town of Ramallah Sunday. Responding to U.S. pressure, Israel withdrew its forces from Arafat's compound, but said it would continue its 11-day siege of wanted Palestinians inside from a distance.



SPORTS

Ryder Cup: A European win from top to bottom

BY DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

SUTTON COLDFIELD, England — Underdog Europe sent out its best players to bring home the Ryder Cup and got even more help from its unknowns for a shocking victory over the Americans.

In a stunning conclusion to a match delayed one year by the terrorist attacks, the Europeans beat the United States at its best game — singles — and reclaimed the Ryder Cup on Sunday when Paul McGinley made an 8-foot par putt.

McGinley earned a halve against Jim Furyk, assuring Europe the 14 1/2 points it needed to win the precious gold trophy.

The European players stormed across the green when it was over. Most of them already did their part by winning early and winning big, giving Europe the lead and momentum that it never surrendered on a thrilling afternoon at The Belfry.

Colin Montgomerie led it off by remaining unbeaten in all five matches, a spectacular performance in which he never trailed in any of the 82 holes he played this week.

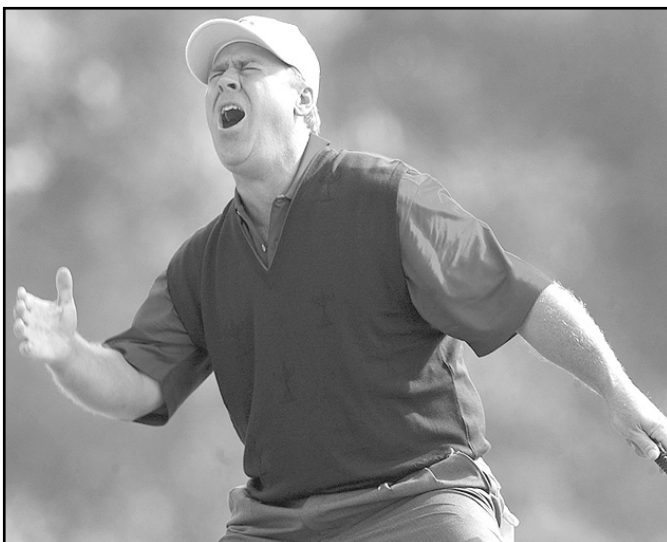
McGinley, the ninth of 12 singles matches, won the clinching point by rallying from 2-down with six holes to play to tie Jim Furyk.

Tiger Woods was useless at the end, the Ryder Cup already decided as he was playing the 17th hole against Jesper Parnevik.

The final score was 15 1/2-12 1/2, the largest margin since Europe scored 16 1/2 points at The Belfry in 1985, the start of its domination in a competition that never looks close on paper.

European captain Sam Torrance bowed his head and smiled. He was the hero in 1985 when he holed the clinching putt, but he called this victory the greatest moment of his life.

"They have all done a great job," Torrance said. "This had nothing to do with me. I led them to the water, and



Laurent Rebours/Associated Press

Hal Sutton of the United States reacts after missing a putt on the 7th green during his match against Europe's Bernhard Langer on the final day of the 34th Ryder Cup at The Belfry, Sutton Coldfield, England Sunday.

they drank copiously."

U.S. captain Curtis Strange will be second-guessed for his decision to keep his best two players at the bottom of the lineup, when it was too late for them to stop the onslaught of European victories.

Not that it would have mattered.

Phil Mickelson, the No. 2 player in the world and second-to-last in the lineup, missed an 18-inch putt early in his match and was blown away by Phillip Price of Wales, ranked 119th.

Woods, suffering from a high fever, never had a chance to contribute. He conceded a par putt to Parnevik for a halve of his match.

Torrance played a huge role for Europe.

He put the precious trophy on the line by sending out

his best seven players — the only Europeans who had won matches over the first two days — just as the Americans did three years ago at Brookline when they staged their great comeback.

The Europeans didn't win them all, but they won enough.

With the matches tied at 8 going into the final day, Europe won four of the first five matches and got a halve in another.

The real surprise came at the end.

Paul Azinger added another chapter to his 18th-hole heroics at The Belfry by holing a bunker shot for birdie that gave him a halve against Ryder Cup rookie Niclas Fasth and left the Americans clinging to the slimmest of hopes.

All that ended after Furyk nearly holed a shot from the same bunker moments later, and McGinley got the final half-point needed.

McGinley's teammates threw him into the lake alongside the 18th green, and he emerged with an Irish flag and a smile he won't lose anytime soon.

The celebration included one bitter incident, although it was hardly comparable to the Americans charging across the 17th green at Brookline when the matches weren't even over.

After McGinley made his putt, Sergio Garcia went running down the 18th fairway while Davis Love III and Pierre Fulke were still playing their match.

Love was upset, and decided to concede the hole. He and Fulke halved.

That summed up the Americans' plight Sunday — one big concession.

Singles play is their strength, but this time they were no match for a European team that made more putts and played with more heart.

Europe won the singles for only the sixth time in the 75-year history of the matches, and now has won the trophy six of the last nine Ryder Cups.

Strange was testy as Europe jumped ahead in the first six matches, already sensing his lineup would come under heavy scrutiny.

Trojans turned defensive against high-scoring Oregon State

BY KEN PETERS

AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES — One game into the Pac-10 schedule, Southern California coach Pete Carroll likes the way the Trojans are playing.

"I'm thinking that we're going to be a good club," Carroll said after USC began conference play with a 22-0 victory over Oregon State, which had been one of the nation's leading offensive teams.

"We know if we can play defense and if we can keep taking care of the ball on offense, we are going to be tough to beat."

The Trojans (3-1, 1-0) remained No. 18 in the national rankings after holding the Beavers to 131 yards. Oregon State came in to the Coliseum on Saturday averaging

499.8 yards and 47.5 points a game during a 4-0 start.

"That was a great day's work," Carroll said of the Trojans' defensive effort. "It didn't really matter much what we called, the guys up front were just tearing it up. When your four guys up front can rush, it's just so much fun because it doesn't matter what coverage you run."

"This is an exciting group."

Nose guard Mike Patterson had four tackles, two of the Trojans' five sacks, and recovered a fumble. Defensive end Omar Nazel had six tackles, three for losses, and linebacker Matt Grootegoed made five tackles, also three for losses.

Nazel said the Trojans wanted to keep the pressure on Oregon State, which they did.

"You can't give them an inch; they'll

take a mile," he said. "When you shut the door, you have to close it, lock it and double-bolt it."

The loss, which knocked Oregon State (4-1, 0-1) from 23rd to out of the national rankings, was only the second shutout ever against a Dennis Erickson-coached team. The other was a 29-0 Fiesta Bowl loss to Arizona in 1994 when Erickson was at Miami. The NFL's Seattle Seahawks were never held scoreless during his four seasons as their coach.

"I've never had an offense that was so inefficient as we were today," Erickson said. "Give their defense credit. It was ugly."

"Offensively, I'm puzzled on how we went from where we were (in the first four games) to what happened today. We were in second-and-long all game."

Going into the game, Oregon State's Derek Anderson was No. 2 nationally in passing efficiency and had thrown for 1,241 yards and 15 touchdowns during the Beavers' relatively soft early schedule. With the Trojans bearing down on him almost every time he dropped back, the sophomore quarterback went 8-of-30 for 80 yards and lost two fumbles.

"Their defense was overpowering," he said. "They came after me hard all day. I'm pretty sore."

The defeat was Oregon State's 28th in the last 29 games against the Trojans — the Beavers beat them at Corvallis in 2000 — and the 19th straight loss at the Coliseum dating back to 1960. USC holds an all-time 55-8-4 edge, including 37-4-3 in Los Angeles.

Going 4-0 in the National Football League is hard thing to do

BY DAVE GOLDBERG

AP Football Writer

DETROIT — The theory has held for decades, never more so in this era of parity: If an NFL team isn't good enough to start 4-0, it won't.

Thus the 3-0 New Orleans Saints lost 26-21 to the winless Detroit Lions. The Saints fell behind 20-0 for the second straight week. They rallied to beat the Bears last week, and this time closed to within five points with 3:41 left, but couldn't get over the top.

"There are no bad teams in the NFL these days. They came out strong and we just couldn't get back," Saints coach Jim Haslett said. "You'll have days like that."

The Saints weren't the only 3-0 team to lose Sunday. Carolina, the most surprising of the early unbeaten after last year's 1-15, was the perfect example. The Panthers lost 17-14 in Green Bay when Shayne Graham, signed just two days ago, missed a 24-yard field-goal attempt with 13 seconds left. Unbeaten Miami lost, too, falling 48-30 in Kansas City as Jay Fiedler reverted to his bad old habits

and threw three interceptions in the final 8 minutes.

On the other end, the St. Louis Rams find themselves at 0-4 after losing Kurt Warner early with a broken finger and falling to Dallas, 13-10.

New Orleans came into Detroit with wins over far more impressive teams than the Lions, who were 2-17 over the past two seasons since Marty Mornhinweg took over as head coach. The Saints' three victims were all purported contenders — Chicago and Tampa Bay on the road and Green Bay at home.

But the Saints faltered right from the opening kickoff, which was returned 70 yards by Desmond Howard to set up a field goal for Detroit.

Then, Detroit rookie Kalimba Edwards stripped Aaron Brooks of the ball and James Hall returned it 22 yards for a touchdown.

Overall, Brooks lost that fumble, threw two interceptions and was sacked three times by the Lions, who played their best game by far for Mornhinweg. Most important: they unveiled Joey Harrington, the third overall pick in April's draft, who was 20-of-35 for 267 yards,

including a 38-yard TD strike to Bill Schroeder.

The Saints' problems contributed just as much to the loss.

No one would use the word "letdown." That's a word that's banned in football.

"I wouldn't say that," New Orleans wide receiver Joe Horn said when the word was thrown at him. "But it was clear we made too many mistakes early. I know I think we were ready to play this game. Things just happen. It's the NFL. They got a big kickoff return and a fumble and we're in a hole early."

On the other hand, the Saints, now in the new NFC South, could be the new Rams, their old rival from the NFC West.

The Rams' season is going downhill in large part because of injuries (Warner, cornerback Aeneas Williams and offensive tackle Orlando Pace) and free-agent defections that have left the offensive line shaky and the receiving less than it was.

In fact, St. Louis is making the Saints look good and the New Orleans players know it.

Of course, it would have hurt less if they hadn't started 3-0.

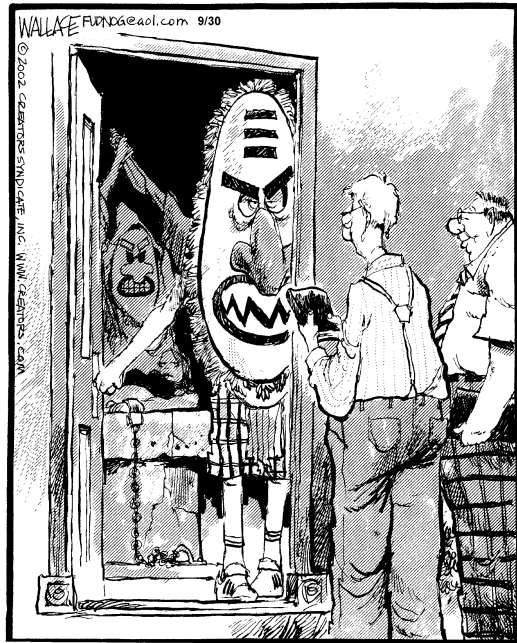
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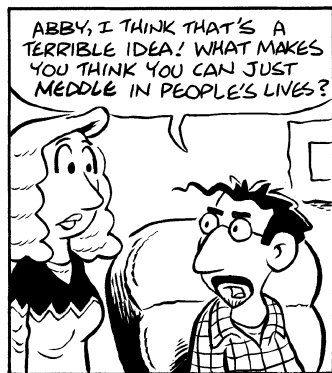
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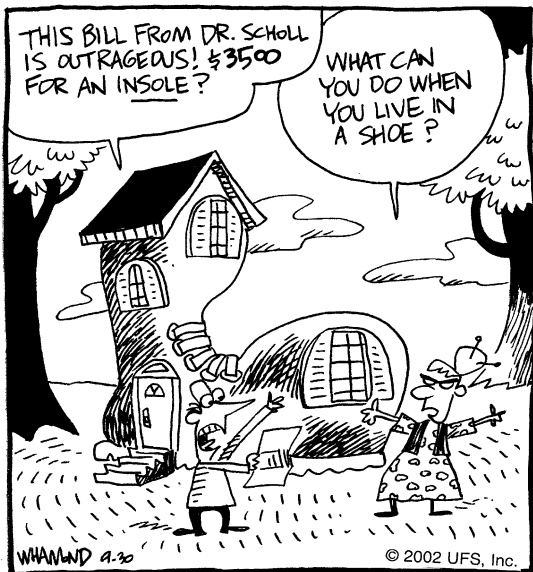
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- 21 Japanese city
- 24 Singer Ethel
- 25 Quarantine
- 26 Baffled
- 27 Quarterbacks, at times
- 29 Actor Kingsley
- 31 Failed to
- 32 Mirror sight
- 33 Spud
- 34 Wield
- 39 Clock numeral
- 41 Actor Chaney

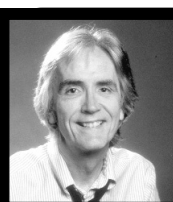
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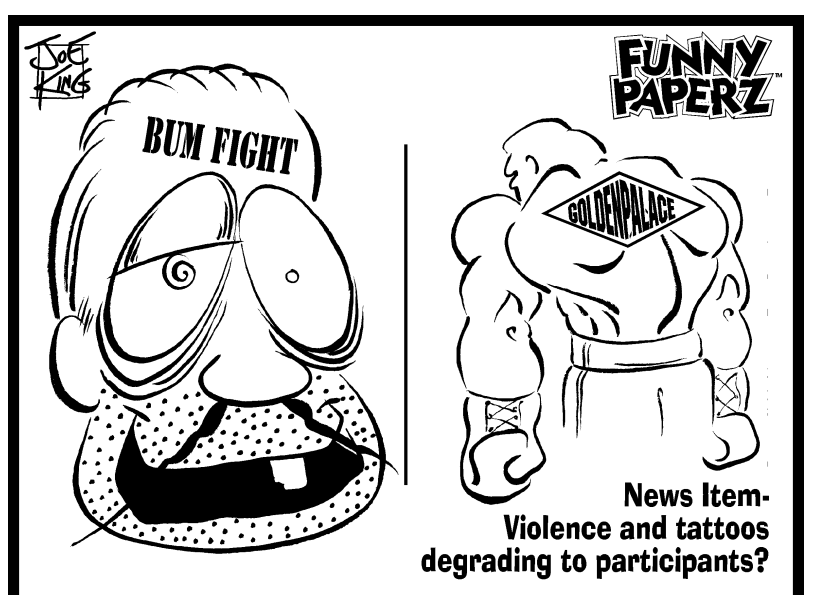


NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

Indian puts curse on city sewer system

Officials in Livermore, Calif., apparently weary of breakdowns in the city's sewer system, made a formal apology in August to American Indian Adam "Fortunate Eagle" Nordwell, who had placed a curse on the system in 1969 after city workers chopped off a portion of the totem pole he had donated for the city's centennial celebration. Some residents have routinely attributed any sewer breakdown over the years to the curse.



News Item- Violence and tattoos degrading to participants?

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WORK AT THE BEACH! Seeking multi-tasked team player, positive attitude, strong work ethic, computer literate. Detailed oriented, professional appearance, strong phone manners. Duties: data entry, general office (file, phone, etc), light customer service. Prefer clerical & some customer service experience. Include salary requirements. Fax Robbie (310)230-0021 or Robbie@OldDebts.com

For Sale

BRAND NEW MATTRESS, Simmons Beauty Rest 'Premium Extra Firm' Bought for \$600.00 Sell for \$150.00. Call (310)453-9196

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For Sale

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FURNISHINGS 100F Hall, 1408-C St. Mon. Mall is moving. For Sale: Wood Office Desks, Refrig., Stand. Pool Table, Assorted Tables, Chairs, Pictures, Comm Cofee Maker, Treadmill, Rowing Mach. And Excer. Bicycle, Beat-up piano, sofa-bed, TV and VCR. M-W-F&Sat., 10am-1pm.

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For Rent

2 BDRM/2 bath duplex. Carpeting, attached 2-car garage, all appliances, approx. 1200 sq. ft., 1 small pet okay. 2920 11th st. Santa Monica. \$2395.00. Avail Nov 1. (310)372-4374

2BR/1.5BA EXCELLENT North of Montana location. Built in stove and oven top. Carpets, shutters, parking, no pets. \$1995 (310)395-8367

BEACHFRONT CONDO \$4250.00 3bdrm/3.5bath in newer luxury building with amazing ocean and mountain views, 2 car gated parking, gourmet kitchen, spa style bathroom and much more. Must see to appreciate. 1 year lease, no pets. (310)466-9778.

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GET YOUR listing of new properties at www.internetweb.net/access2places. 2/2 House, \$1295.00. N. of Wilshire.

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SANTA MONICA \$1250.00 Spacious 2 bdrms, stove, crpts, lrg clsts, Indry, close to beach, pkgng. Westside Rentals 395-RENT

SANTA MONICA \$1975.00 4-6 lease, negotiable. Completely furnished, updated, security gate. Laundry, on-site manager, two blocks to beach, pool, satellite television, parking. No pets or smoking. Available October 15. (310)399-3246

SANTA MONICA \$650.00 Cozy Bach Pad, CAT OK, crpts, Indry, pkgng. Westside Rentals 395-RENT

SANTA MONICA \$700.00 Nice studio, r/s, crpts, Indry, pkgng. Westside Rentals 395-RENT

SANTA MONICA \$950.00 Furn. 1 bdrm, r/s, crpts, patio, lrg clsts, Indry, pkgng, close to SMC. Westside Rentals 395-RENT

SANTA MONICA \$975.00 Cute 1 bdrm, stove, crpts, Indry, pkgng. Westside Rentals 395-RENT

SANTA MONICA: Luxury 2bdrm/2ba, floor to ceiling, the best ocean views, remodeled, spectacular ocean tower, full service, spa/pool. 24 hour doorman. Switch board and two phone numbers. \$4000.00 (310)575-4001 or (760)413-4187.

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VENICE BEACH \$2500.00 Duplex, upper unit w/yard. Recently remodded w/pergo floors, new kitchen and bathroom. 1 car garage, 2 blocks from beach, will consider dog/cat w/extra deposit. 1 year lease. (310)396-4443 ext. 102.

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VENICE BEACH 1 bedroom (\$1495) and 2 bedroom (\$1795) apartments available. Totally renovated with lots of charm. Everything is new, hardwood floors, dishwasher, washer dryer in unit. Private garages are available. 1 year lease. No pets. (310)396-4443, ext. 102.

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Houses For Rent

FOR LEASE: AVAILABLE NOW! Rare Santa Monica Canyon Guest House: Furnished upscale 1-bdrm w/separate-street entrance, private garden and patios. French plaster, slate floors, beam ceilings with skylights, kitchen w/dishwasher, bath w/clawfoot tub/shower. Quiet and romantic setting suitable for one professional adult, with excellent references and non-smoker. \$2150.00 including utilities. PHONE: (310)573-3705 OR (310)454-2408 - LEAVE MESSAGE for MARGUERITE.

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SANTA MONICA \$1125.00 Bright Cottage, r/s, crpts, across from beach, pkgng. Westside Rentals 395-RENT

SANTA MONICA \$1350.00 Lovely Dplx, r/s, crpts, patio, pkgng, a must see! Westside Rentals 395-RENT

SANTA MONICA \$1450.00 Dplx, r/s, hrdwd flrs, patio, lrg clsts, Indry, pkgng. Westside Rentals 395-RENT

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

SANTA MONICA House 2bdrm/2ba, large yard, pet ok. \$2000.00 Open Sat/Sun 2-4pm. (310)450-2800

SM 1115 Berkeley. 3bdrm/1ba, dining room, hardwood floors, new bathroom/kitchen, stainless steel appliances. \$3800.00 (310)454-1015.

Houses For Rent

SANTA MONICA house w/yard. \$2650.00 Completely renovated, Pergo floors, large kitchen, old fashion bathroom. Close to beach and shopping, next to new park. 1 year lease, no pets. (310)396-4443 ext. 102

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ROOMMATE WANTED, Beverly Hills, \$480, utilities included. Own room, one/two female, excellent location. (310)489-8199.

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VENICE \$695.00 250 sq. ft. office space with bathroom. High ceiling. Large window. Fresh paint. Just off Abbot Kinney. 1 year lease. (310)396-4443

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1994 DODGE Intrepid, one owner car, good condition, clean. \$3500.00 Call Bill at (310)207-5060/ext.201. pgr.(310) 224-3425.

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15 MINUTES... can change the mood of your office. Want happy productive employees? Bring chair massage to them today. Liam (310) 399-2860

BLISSFUL RELAXATION! Heal your body, mind, spirit. Therapeutic Swedish, deep-tissue. Non-sexual. Introductory specials from \$45.00/1hr. In/out. Lynda, lmt.;(310)749-0621

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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!

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CLASSIFIEDS



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Calendar

Monday, September 30, 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

Toddler Time, 10 a.m. Barnes & Noble at the Promenade and Wilshire. (310)260-9110.

Senior Suppers - Discounted meals for people AGE 55 or older are served daily, from 3:30 p.m. To 7 p.m., in the cafeteria at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center, 1250 16th Street in Santa Monica. \$3.69 Info only: (310)319-4837.

Santa Monica Strutters, a FREE program sponsored by UCLA Healthcare's 50-Plus Program! Walking programs for adults 50 or older looking for safe, low-impact exercise in a comfortable environment. The Santa Monica Strutters meet Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, from 8 a.m. To 10 a.m., at Santa Monica Place, Fourth St. and Broadway Ave. in Santa Monica.

Music/ Entertainment

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.

Open Discussion/ Political Debate. UnUrban Coffeehouse. 3301 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica, (310)315-0056.

Anastasia's Asylum, 1028 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica. Board games, cushiony sofas, a full veggie menu, juices, teas, and coffee that grows hair on your chest. No cover. (310)394-7113.

Patrick Ney makes with the ha-has, at Flint's. 3321 Pico Blvd., Santa Monica. FREE! 9 p.m. (310)453-1331.

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.

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.

Tuesday

Community

The Westside Walkers, a FREE program

sponsored by UCLA Healthcare's 50-Plus Program! Walking programs for adults 50 or older looking for safe, low-impact exercise in a comfortable environment. The Westside Walkers meet Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 8 a.m. To 10 a.m., at Westside Pavilion, Pico Blvd. Between Overland Ave. and Westwood Blvd. In West LA. For more information about the program, call (800)516-5323.

The Santa Monica Moose Lodge #702 proudly presents: OKTOBERFEST! on Saturday October 5th beginning at 5pm. There will be traditional German Cuisine and Draft Beer, Chicken Bingo, Games, Music and more! This membership Drive is open to the public. \$10.00 for dinner and beer. For more information call (310)452-3702

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUPS AT SMC'S EMERITUS COLLEGE. Santa Monica College offers free bereavement support groups in the summer session through it's Emeritus College, a widely praised program designed for older adults. Two support groups will meet Tuesdays on an ongoing basis. One group will meet from noon to 1:50 p.m. and the other from 7 p.m. to 8:50 p.m. For information and registration, call Emeritus College at (310) 434-4306.

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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

Fear mixes in small town where bank robbers killed five

BY DAVID A. LIEB
Associated Press Writer

NORFOLK, Neb. — The annual fall parade marched down Norfolk Avenue as planned Saturday. The usual garage sales opened for business, and at the Hy-Vee, a grocery store that doubles as a restaurant, neighbors sat down to their daily breakfast gatherings.

But outside the banks, security guards patrolled, with the memory of five people gunned down in a bank robbery two days earlier fresh in their minds.

Day care centers have also started locking their doors as fear has intruded on the familiar in Norfolk, a city of 25,000 that until Thursday's deadly robbery was best known as the hometown of comedian Johnny Carson.

Mary Ann Herian, 59, now fears returning to the US Bank branch two blocks from her home.

She was about to head there Thursday to withdraw some cash for a garage sale when she heard about the shootings over the radio. She knew three of the bank tellers by name.

"It's going to be very hard going in. I will see those three people standing at the (teller) windows for the rest of my life," said Herian, as a customer picked out candles and potpourri from her garage sale. Crying, she said softly: "I could have been there at the bank."

When the three gunmen burst into the bank shortly after it opened Thursday, they began firing within seconds, police said.

The first person killed was Evonne Tuttle, 37, a single mother of three who had stopped there on her way to visit her oldest daughter at college in Lincoln.

Also killed were four longtime employees: assistant manager Lola Elwood, 43, described by a neighbor as an outgoing soccer mom whose family loved camping and fishing; teller coordinator Samuel Sun, 50, who immigrated from Hong Kong 30 years ago and whose oldest son was to be deployed to Germany in October as a military reservist; teller Jo Mausbach, 42, a mother of two who drove 50 miles to work from the family farm; and

personal banker Lisa Bryant, 29, a mother who had remarried Aug. 10 and just returned from a honeymoon cruise.

To Herian, they weren't just bank workers — they were neighbors, friends. She planned to go to their funerals.

Like Herian, Steve Garder and Bill Rusk felt a sudden rush of fear when they heard about the shootings. Garder, 36, was doing a routine oil check and inspection on one of the city's three ambulances. Deputy Sheriff Bill Rusk, 28, was taking a shower at his home just three blocks from the bank.

**"It's going to be very hard going in.
I will see those three people
standing at the (teller) windows for
the rest of my life."**

— MARY ANN HERIAN
US Bank customer

Garder cut short the ambulance inspection and — with lights flashing and the siren blaring — drove as fast as he could from the maintenance shed to fire station, where paramedics jumped into the ambulance while it was still on the street.

"I was shaking like a dog," the city mechanic told co-workers the next day.

The shootings led to the suicide Friday of State Trooper Mark Zach. He apparently was distraught

because he had ticketed one of the suspects a week earlier for carrying a concealed weapon but goofed up a serial number check and failed to realize the gun was stolen.

The gun was confiscated at the time. But Zach, 35, thought the shootings might have been avoided if he had arrested the suspect on a more serious stolen weapons charge, said patrol superintendent, Col. Tom Nesbitt.

Three of the suspects were arrested Thursday in a stolen car. A fourth — allegedly a scout who entered the bank first, then told the others where the employees were sitting — was arrested later that day.

Jose Sandoval, 23, Jorge Galindo, 21, Erick Fernando Vela, 21, and Gabriel Rodriguez, 26, each face five murder charges.

All could face the death penalty.

And all are Hispanic — a touchy subject in Norfolk, a late 1800s German settlement that rapidly grew more diverse in the 1990s as Hispanics came to work in meat-packing plants, opened small businesses and started Spanish-speaking churches. About 9 percent of Madison County is now Hispanic, according to the 2000 census.

The night after the shootings, about 100 people crammed into the small sanctuary of Nueva Vida Centro Christiano, a Spanish-speaking Assembly of God church a few blocks from the bank. During the "healing" service, the songs, prayers and sermons were spoken in both Spanish and English — sometimes simultaneously.

Pastor Abraham Montalvo urged unity and condemned the crimes, then addressed the visiting white worshippers through a translator: "We are concerned that you would judge us all just because we are Hispanics."

The church, surrounded by modest white wooden houses, sits in a racially mixed neighborhood with several banks, gas stations and at least a half-dozen fast-food restaurants on U.S. 81, one of two main routes through the city.

It had been 21 years since so many people were killed in one day in Norfolk. In September 1981, a man at a party shot three people to death, fatally stabbed another and then committed suicide.

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