



FREE

Santa Monica Daily Press

October 2-3, 2004

A newspaper with issues

Volume 3, Issue 278

DAILY LOTTERY

SUPER LOTTO

22 42 20 46 28

Meganumber: 14

Jackpot: ...

FANTASY 5

8 21 25 29 39

DAILY 3

Daytime: 2 1 2

Evening: 0 4 8

DAILY DERBY

1st: 08 Gorgeous George

2nd: 03 Hot Shot

3rd: 02 Lucky Star

RACE TIME: 1:40.23

NEWS OF THE WEIRD
BY CHUCK SHEPARD

Spain's Catalanian High Court ruled in November that the Barcelona construction company Perez Parellada Promotions had improperly fired a worker who admitted smoking marijuana on the job, finding that he only smoked during meal breaks and did not smoke enough to affect his work.

TODAY IN HISTORY

On Oct. 3, 1863, President Lincoln declared the last Thursday in November Thanksgiving Day.

■ In 1226, St. Francis of Assisi, founder of the Franciscan order, died; he was canonized in 1228.

■ In 1929, the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes formally changed its name to the Kingdom of Yugoslavia.

■ In 1941, Adolf Hitler declared in a speech in Berlin that Russia had been "broken" and would "never rise again."

■ In 1942, President Franklin D. Roosevelt established the Office of Economic Stabilization.

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Student obesity hasn't hindered sales of fast food

BY PAM WIGHT

Special to the Daily Press

SAMOHI — Nationwide concern over the childhood obesity epidemic hasn't been enough to prompt school officials from eliminating fast food outlets from local high school campuses this year.

School district officials this year signed contracts with Taco Bell, Kentucky Fried Chicken, McDonald's and Papa John's. On the fast food menus are Big Macs, double cheeseburgers, quarter pounders, fries, sodas, burritos and pepperoni pizzas, all to help feed the 4,692 students at Santa Monica High School and Malibu High.

"The food is the healthier of the items from those vendors," said Orlando Griego, the district's nutrition director who determines

what vendors come to Samohi and Malibu. "From Taco Bell, we only get 40 bean and cheese burritos. No meat. And from Papa John's, we only get two pizzas — one cheese and one pepperoni."

"Kentucky Fried Chicken only sends us chicken, no sides," he added.

The McDonald's fare is offered through the on-campus Project Echo, an entrepreneurial program run by the students and separate from Griego's budget or control.

The decision to keep fast food in the high schools was not financially motivated since the vendors only make up a small percentage of a nearly \$1.1 million budget, Griego said.

"It is primarily to offer another option for the students," he said.

See FAST FOOD, page 5

The company you keep: 10Fest hands out awards

By Daily Press staff

MAIN STREET — Local residents and business leaders were honored Friday night for their respective contributions in making Santa Monica a sustainable community over the past decade.

The Sustainable Leadership Awards are part of 10Fest, a week-long celebration commemorating the 10-year anniversary of the Sustainable City Plan, a long-range planning policy adopted by the city. The plan is designed to strive for environmental, social and economic sustainability in Santa Monica.

"Sustainability is ensuring that future generations have the same access to resources and opportuni-

ties that we do today," said city spokesperson Michelle Pettit. "It's keeping an eye on what we're using and consuming, and making sure that we're not using more than our fair share."

Many business organizations have been working with Sustainable Works of Santa Monica, a non-profit organization that offers special programs that show individuals and businesses how they can adopt sustainable practices that improve quality of life, reduce impacts on the environment and reduce costs.

Representatives from Sustainable Works did an initial survey of the business and offered ideas for improvements.

See SUSTAINABLE, page 6



Susan Tam/Special to the Daily Press

An organic garden has been set up outside the science quad building at Santa Monica High School. Students grow their own vegetables and then consume them in a district-wide salad bar program.

Salad bar program has others green with envy

PAM WIGHT

Special to the Daily Press

DISTRICT HDQRTS. — Kids in Santa Monica often eat healthier at school than they do in their own homes, thanks to a salad bar program instituted seven years ago.

The program received recognition from City Hall on Friday night as part of 10Fest, a week-long celebration of Santa Monica's sustainability plan. The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District's salad bar program was chosen "Outstanding Institutional Program."

Since 1995, the school district and City Hall have operated the school gardening program. Today, there are organic gardens at all 15 Santa Monica schools and 50 throughout the entire district, according to Donna Richwein, the school district's nutrition educator. The program has been touted by school officials as a great educational tool by virtue of a hands-on, real-world approach.

Working alongside faculty

and staff, students do hands-on work in the organic gardens, learning how to bring a crop to harvest. Once the food has been harvested, it goes directly to the school's salad bar. This year, 10 of the crops already have been harvested, the most recent being lettuce at Santa Monica High School.

In 1997, local parent Bob Gottlieb suggested a salad bar program to then-nutrition director Rodney Taylor. Taylor was hesitant, but gave Gottlieb permission for a pilot program, as long he organized everything, according to a city of Santa Monica Web site.

Gottlieb, a university professor, was able to gather students and write the grant proposal to hire staff to operate the program.

Richwein said the salad bar program is a collaboration between the local Farmers' Market, parents, students and food service staff. Specific orders are placed each week with farmers

See HAIL CAESAR, page 5

GABY SCHKUD

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JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS The stars show the kind of day you'll have:

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



ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★★ You're in weekend mode and feel justified going to extremes. Remember, there could be a price to pay for this indulgence. Get together with others in the afternoon and pursue a favorite hobby. Tonight: Be spontaneous. Respond to others.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★★ You glow in the morning. Others easily respond to you. Just put on what you want. A project gets done with ease, especially if you let others pitch in. Invite your pals for a fall party, bringing their favorite snack. Tonight: Don't make anything complicated.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Mull over a relationship that means a lot to you. You feel as if you might need to make a decision. Realize that that could be your mind-set. Spin out the door in the afternoon, ready, willing and able. The world is your oyster. Tonight: Go clubbing, dance or flirt.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ If you have something important to do, get going early. By the afternoon, you might want to stay close to home. Dig into a fall project, relaxing in your favorite environment. Spruce up for the season. Relax all you want. Tonight: Stay home.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Take care of your responsibilities early in the day so that you can be carefree later. Others seek you out. Check your answering machine. Hook up with friends or instigate a get-together, be it bowling, a party or going to a movie. Tonight: Chat and visit away.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Don't listen to gossip. You need to evaluate an expense, or whether you want to work overtime or get a second job in order to allow more monetary ease. Remember, you could ask for a raise. It might be coming faster than you think. Tonight: A force to be dealt with.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Spend special time with a friend or loved one. If you have time, you might want to check your insurance policies. Later in the day, be carefree and say "yes" to an adventure. You might kick plans to the wind. Tonight: Go for adventure.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ Others clearly want you. Be flattered, but follow your instincts about what you want and need to do. Include that special someone. Make this day special for the two of you. Spending time together helps strengthen your bond. Tonight: Add spice to the mix.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Consider taking off for a drive or adventure this afternoon. Meet a friend or family member halfway — all the better if you haven't seen this person in a while. Wherever you are, you enjoy yourself and meet new people. Tonight: Out and about.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ You might not want to get out of bed and get going this morning — so don't. You don't always have to do what is appropriate. Enjoy yourself. If you're with roommates or family, have a pajama party. You might never surface today, despite calls and invitations. Tonight: Do what is good for you.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ You might take your time getting going, but an enticing invitation or suggestion from a loved one could be too good to say "no" to. Keep your head concerning money, but every other way, let go and work with adventure and spontaneity. Tonight: Be a wild thing.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ A call could delight you, putting a smile on your face. Run errands in the morning, as you might want to snuggle in with a special person later in the day or just make this a lazy day. Do what you desire, not what you should do. Tonight: Share with a special person.

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LOCAL



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Grae matters: 'Arcadia' scribe heads free writer talk

By Daily Press staff

Aspiring and struggling screenwriters should mark their calendars for a free writing lesson by someone who's made it.

David Grae, writer and story editor on the Emmy-winning TV series "Joan of Arcadia," will talk about writing for the small and big screens on Monday, Oct. 4, at 7 p.m. The lecture is the second in the "Mary Pickford Speakers Series," which focuses on "the story" in all of its aspects.

Grae, who is in his second season with "Joan of Arcadia," is a writer for stage, television and film productions. Among his other credits, he wrote the popular play "Moose Mating" and in 2001 directed its film version starring Aisha Tyler and Kevin Crowley.

The talk will be held at the Santa Monica College Academy of Entertainment & Technology in the screening room, 1660 Stewart St. Seating is on a first-arrival basis. Call (310) 434-3777 for more information.

Lofty ambitions: Adlink volunteers pitch in at St. Joe's

By Daily Press staff

Eight employees from Adlink, a TV advertising company in Los Angeles, came to St. Joseph Center's Infant Toddler Development Center and Bread & Roses Café last month to build a learning loft for the children and to serve meals to homeless individuals and families in Venice.

"We are so grateful to the Adlink employees who have been volunteering at the center for various programs for the past four years," said Maria Alderete, St. Joseph Center's coordinator of volunteer services. "Their enthusiasm and willingness to be of service is an inspiration."

St. Joseph Center has 11 programs on eight sites in Venice, Santa Monica and West Los Angeles, providing emergency services, case management, child care, job training, and senior services to homeless and low-income individuals in order to break the chain of poverty, so that they can achieve self-sufficiency.

For more information, call (31) 396-6468, ext. 325 or visit www.stjosephctr.org.

The Other Venice looking for long and short of it

By Daily Press staff

Attention, budding filmmakers and veteran directors: Get your cameras ready.

The Other Venice Film Festival is accepting entries for a community event dedicated to screening full-length, short and animated films that embody the spirit, energy and diversity of Venice. The festival will return for its second season from March 18-20, 2005, with screenings taking place at The Electric Lodge and a second site, to be announced. Additionally, the festival will feature two new competitive sections: Avant Garde experimental cinema and documentary.

Applications for film festival submissions are being accepted now through Dec. 31.

The festival kicked off the season last weekend at the Abbot Kinney Street Festival on Sept. 26, where festival-goers were able to watch screenings of films from the March 2004 debut season, as well as pick up applications, meet the festival founders and sign up to volunteer or receive updates on the festival.

In addition to screening films that embody the creative spirit of Venice, the festival will once again feature panel discussions, workshops and tributes to local filmmakers who have paved the way toward expanding the language of independent cinema.

Some local artists who were present at last year's festival include renowned director, producer and actor Tony Bill; actress Camryn Manheim; actress/artist Karen Landry; Stanley Mitchell, who won the Abbot Award for his short film, "Venice, America;" actor/producer Chris Mulkey, recipient of the "Local Maverick Spotlight Abbot Award;" director/producer Michael Pressman, who took home the Abbot Award for his feature film "Frankie & Johnny Are Married;" and Sean Welch, producer of the critically-acclaimed documentary "Spellbound."

The Other Venice Film Festival bridges the community of Venice and that of greater Los Angeles together in a weekend of movies and mayhem. For more information, go to www.veniceOfilmfest.com.

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SURF REPORT

Expect 2-3 ft., knee- to chest-high sets, occasionally 4 ft., and fair conditions.

On Saturday, the swell mix should back down, although good combo breaks will still see playful waves. Look for smaller surf by the end of the weekend. Modest NW wind swell will pulse up early next week, with some new SSW swell expected for the second half of next week.

Today the water is:

69°

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LOW TIDES

HIGH TIDES

	Morning	Height	Evening	Height	Morning	Height	Evening	Height
SATURDAY	2:00	-0.6	1:52	1.8	8:30	4.9	7:51	6.2
SUNDAY	2:35	-0.5	2:36	1.2	8:57	5.2	8:37	6.1
MONDAY	3:08	-0.3	3:17	0.8	9:24	5.5	9:20	5.9
TUESDAY	3:37	0.1	3:57	0.5	9:50	5.7	10:01	5.5
WEDNESDAY	4:05	0.5	4:36	0.3	10:16	5.8	10:42	5.0
THURSDAY	4:30	1.1	5:16	0.4	10:42	5.8	11:25	4.5
FRIDAY	4:54	1.6	5:59	0.5	11:08	5.7	N/A	N/A

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RESPONSES ON PAGE 4.**



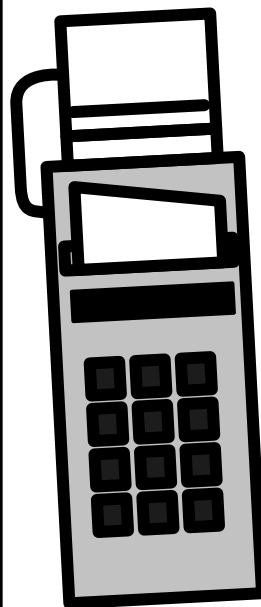
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OPINION

The Q-Line

GREETINGS FROM 'SAMOLICIOUS'

This past week, Q-line asked:
Here are your responses to this week's Q-Line question, "How should Santa Monica be branded and how should the rest of the world know about us?"

Here are your responses:

☉ "Until this city cleans up its streets, benches, doorways, alleys, parks and sidewalks, there is no way to brand it a destination place for anyone seeking a vacation spot or convention venue. It is premature and delusional to think of inviting visitors to this filthy, crime-ridden and unsanitary town until it gets cleaned up. You wouldn't invite guests to your home without cleaning up first, would you? Until the masses of bums and handout-seekers are gotten rid of, there is nothing positive to say or advertise about this city."

☉ "A couple that you could think about would be, 'The Promenade and Pier City,' or 'The Pier and Promenade City,' or the 'World-famous Pier and Promenade.' Others could be 'The Fun in Sun City,' 'The Fun, Sun, and Beach City.' There's a host of them, but I'm sure that if we're spending money on focus groups, which is terrific, I wish I could have been a coordinator for one of the focus groups and gone to New York, Chicago and London. That would have been wonderful. I'm beginning to think that government employees have got the best of all worlds."

☉ "Santa Monica should be branded as a world-class parking lot and home of high-priced stick-in wallboard bungalows. Only God knows how many motor vehicles Santa Monica houses and plays host to on a daily basis, thus creating a quagmire of congestion and pollution that is destined to only get worse when Playa Vista is in full swing."

☉ "I know you don't want any negative, although, all-too-true comments about the city, all the nice things that were and could be again, about Santa Monica, has been negated by the overwhelming bum population. To advertise differently is false advertising. I have sent my family and friends to San Diego or Santa Barbara for vacations rather than endure this awful environment."

☉ "'Santa Monica — where LA meets the sea.'"

☉ "How about 'The Fascist Mini-State of Santa Monica'? Fascism is historically defined as a system of government where there is normal, private ownership of land and business, but government has de-facto ownership as it controls all use. And that sure applies to Santa Monica."

☉ "Since everyone already knows Santa Monica for the bums, go with it. Here's the ad: 'Come to Santa Monica for your complete bum experience. Register on cluelesscitycouncil.com to be assigned your own very personal bum for the duration of your visit. Your bum will show you how to avoid expensive hotel bills by sleeping in parks and doorways and peoples' yards. Your bum will show you how to save on meals by

eating at the free feedings, specify either raving lunatic or half-conscious drunk. Be warned, the removal of bums from Santa Monica city limits is punishable by having to clean up a befouled alley."

☉ "Santa Monica — a town where business tells the residents where to go."

☉ "I think on alternative days it should be known either as 'South Brentwood' or 'Beverly Hills West.'"

☉ "'SMRR-ville.'"

☉ "It'd probably be better if you waited until after the election to see what develops there."

☉ "Of course, we shouldn't call it 'Bumsville by the Sea' or 'Soviet Monica,' but we could call it 'Fat Cat City,' after the idiots that run it."

☉ "This is my moniker for Santa Monica: 'Little Paradise by the Sea.' I've lived in Santa Monica 50 years and I've always called it that."

☉ "Yes, my idea for a new name for Santa Monica: 'Samolicious.'"

☉ "Here's my branded slogan for Santa Monica: 'Jet fuel, included free.'"

☉ "My suggestion is: 'Santa Monica, the beauty and serenity found at the end of Historic Route 66.'"

☉ "My suggestion for the tagline for Santa Monica is: 'Sandals 'n' sea, sunshine 'n' oui.'"

☉ "I've been wracking my brain trying to think of a good name for the city. Unfortunately, I can't think of anything positive. The closest I can come is 'Shelter by the Sea.' Sorry, we just haven't put out an image that's anything but that, try as we may."

"How about 'The City of Islands,' ... cement islands, that is."

"May I suggest that it be known as 'Southern California's Gateway to the Surf, Sand and Sun'?"

"Santa Monica, city of Pacific dreams."

"Savvy by the sea."

"I would like Santa Monica to be known around the world as a place where a law-abiding pedestrian can safely cross the street in the middle of the block without fear of being molested by a government official. I recently crossed Lincoln, just south of California Avenue, and I crossed the path of what must have been a police car, safely, of course. And as it passed behind me, one of the occupants yelled at me, which was rude and uncalled-for."

Quack, quack: Ducking questions kills a debate



MODERN TIMES

BY LLOYD GARVER

Thursday night was the first of the presidential debates — or as they're also known, "Which Candidate Can Duck Tough Questions The Best?"

These things are always more show business than actual debate, but this year, there's a new wrinkle — one that isn't covered by makeup. The candidates decided on the rules, and there are more rules than ever. Having them decide on the rules is a little ridiculous. It would be like players on a World Series team deciding on the rules for the series, or a criminal defendant deciding what evidence may be admitted, or a presidential candidate having his brother as the governor of the state that could swing a contested election. It's too much of an "inside job."

As they negotiated these rules, the big thing the Democrats wanted was to have three debates instead of two. The big thing the Republicans wanted was, understandably, a chance to make their guy look as good as possible. So, the Republicans gave in on the number of debates, and the Democrats gave in on some interesting details. Apparently, the Republicans were afraid that the taller Kerry would make Bush look too short. So, they insisted that the lecterns be a certain height and be farther apart so Kerry wouldn't be looking down on Bush. At the same time, the rules specifically prohibited either candidate from using "any device to make them look taller." What were they afraid of, that Bush was going to come in on stilts?

There is other minutia as well in the 32-page negotiated agreement (if people had put this much energy into negotiating foreign policy, the war in Iraq could probably have been avoided). The debaters could not use any "props." I guess both candidates had to cancel those puppets they ordered. They could use any kind of pen or pencil to take notes, but these writing utensils had to be given to the debate staff before the debate began. That was probably to eliminate them bringing those combination pen-squirt guns.

The audience was able to see the warning lights when the speaker was getting

close to the end of his allotted time. This was considered a concession to the Republicans who hoped it might embarrass the habitually long-winded Kerry. One Democratic strategist found this "undignified," and "like a game show." No kidding. This is a game show.

It's actually more of a "reality" game show, but unlike the actual "reality shows," there aren't any consequences if the players mess up. What would have happened if they broke one of the rules? How would they have punished Kerry if he removed a folded-up map from his pocket? What could they have done to Bush if he wanted to stand on his tiptoes when he spoke?

The rules also were designed to eliminate any chance for spontaneity. Candidates were not allowed to ask each other questions. Too bad. Wouldn't you have liked to see them grill each other?

According to the rules, the camera was supposed to remain on the person speaking, so we wouldn't see the other guy yawning, checking his watch, or making faces at his opponent. But fortunately, the networks ignored this rule. So, we did get to see the Bush Smirk and the Kerry Stare. And those were about the only glimpses of these guys as actual humans.

Then there was the Big Rule — other than the insincere handshake before the debate begins — the candidates were not allowed to touch each other.

Where did that come from? Who was worried that they would touch each other during the debate? Did someone actually fear that one of them would walk over and punch the other guy? If so, how disappointing that they eliminated that possibility. That's something America would watch — even if it were on Pay TV. In fact, instead of having debates, maybe they really should just have a fist fight. Both men are macho, athletic types, so neither would back down. I say, if they want to box each other, let them. After all, they've been wrestling each other in the mud for months.

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

OPINIONS EXPRESSED are those of the writer and do not necessarily reflect those of the Santa Monica Daily Press staff.

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LOCAL



Fast food's run at local schools nearing an end

FAST FOOD, from page 1

"Less than 1 percent of the total budget is spent on these vendors."

However, fast food offerings were about the money for the cash-strapped school district a couple of years ago. The school's former nutrition director, Rodney Taylor, said two years ago that it was a matter of competition for business.

"If we don't provide it, we can't compete," he told the Daily Press in 2002. "If we don't sell it, we would take a financial loss on our meals programs, which would then affect other school programs."

Although there are state guidelines for levels of fat or saturated fat included in school meal programs, some schools allow outside groups like Project Echo to sell food on campus. Some groups do it to raise money for other school functions like sports teams.

"You're talking about a big policy debate," said Phyllis Bramson-Paul, the state director of nutrition services. "Ultimately, is the way we fund worthwhile activities to end up contributing to obesity rates? It's a viscous cycle."

The local school district has been offering fast food at its high schools for a couple of years. One-year contracts with the vendors generate about \$95,000 in revenue for the school district.

"But those vendors are not meant to be a financial gain," Griego said. "Most kids, by far, eat at the cafeteria and the snack bar, which is run by Project Echo."

Griego added that part of the reason the district contracts out some of the food services is that it's impossible to feed that many students in the 40 minutes that's available for lunch.

Children's poor nutrition has become a national issue — record numbers of chil-

dren are acquiring obesity-related illnesses such as diabetes. The American Academy of Pediatrics reports that almost 45 percent of new type-2 diabetes in children are attributed to obesity. With busy families seldom sitting down together at meals, fast food is often a convenient alternative. Also, a more sedentary lifestyle has evolved with the average American family watching seven hours of television per day, according to the Center for Media Literacy.

The obesity problem has been compounded by cuts in physical education to public schools. More kids are unfit than ever before. Out of three grades tested, 25 percent of California school children failed to pass the state's six minimum fitness requirements in 2003. Senate Bill 677 banned the sale of soda in school vending machines in California elementary schools. Beginning in 2005, elemen-

tary schools must remove sugar-filled, carbonated drinks from campus vending machines, replacing them with only juice, milk or water.

Even though high schools are not required to do that, Samohi this week has installed a vending machine that offers only 50 percent carbonated drinks — the rest is milk, water and juice. However, the students have been complaining about the higher prices of the new vending machine products, said Project Echo instructor Anita Kemp.

She added that fast food won't be offered forever at local high schools.

"Plans to wean the students off of the worst of the McDonald's food is in the works," Kemp said. "As the younger kids move into high school, we hope to transition them into healthier food choices and start moving those items off the menu."

Hail Caesar? Salad bar yet to grab high schoolers

HAIL CAESAR, from page 1

at the Farmers' Market on Wednesday and Friday. A school food service staff member picks up and delivers the produce to all of the school cafeterias, where paid staff and volunteer parents set up the salad bar.

The Sustainable City Plan's goal is to preserve California's small farms by encouraging consumption of locally grown produce, said Laura Avery, manager of the Santa Monica Farmers' Market. Ripeness is lost when food is sent through wholesale central channels, and the school gardens have taught students to

notice that difference in taste, she said.

Avery added that kids involved with the school gardens are more likely to ask about their food now rather than just shrugging and eating something.

Use of the salad bars are the highest at the elementary schools, said Orlando Griego, the district's nutrition director, primarily because they are a captive audience. He cited Will Rogers, John Muir, Grant and McKinley elementary schools as having the highest salad bar sales.

On the high school level, Richwein painted a bleaker picture.

"Unfortunately, salad bar sales have not taken off like we would like to see," she said.



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LOCAL

Works program teaches to be in it for long haul

SUSTAINABLE, from page 1

"When they (Sustainable Works) came to us, the timing was good because on our own we've been doing stuff like using separate trash receptacles where employees eat, recycle to lowering electrical needs by using alternative bulbs in the store, watch our water usage," said Todd Roberts of ZJ Boarding House.

"We took very seriously every suggestion."

The award ceremony was staged Friday evening at Patagonia, which cleared out retail space to host the fete. Close to 100 community members were on hand, eager to recognize their peers' substantial and sustainable efforts.

The Sustainable Leadership Award honorees include:

Outstanding Individual: Mark Gold.

As chair of Santa Monica's Task Force on the Environment since its creation in 1991, Gold could be called the father of sustainability in Santa Monica. Under his stewardship, the Task Force was the driving force behind development of the Sustainable City Plan in the early 1990s.

Outstanding Non-Profit Organization: Step Up On Second.

Step Up is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping individuals with severe mental illness reintegrate themselves back into the community. According to CEO Tod Lipka, the organization improved recycling, not only paper, but food waste that goes into compost.

"They helped us set up recycling of food waste since we have an industrial food kitchen that serves about 40,000. They also helped set up a food waste recycling program, provided bins for paper, low energy bulbs and helped move us away from using water to clean the sidewalk.

"We shut down unneeded lights, and printing double-sided wherever we could, on recycled paper, using soy ink."

Outstanding Business Association: Main Street Business Improvement Association.

Main Street is home to the highest concentration of sustainably-managed businesses in Santa Monica. The Main Street Merchants Association, chaired by Library Alehouse owner David Lackman, has sought to improve awareness through environmental-friendly practices.

"We've been working closely with the Sustainable Works department, and we have a lot of businesses on the street that have won their own environmental quality awards in conservation efforts," said Gary Gordon, executive director of the

Merchants Association.

"What we've done is been supportive of the efforts, in trying to get the word out and participate," he said. "It is really the individual businesses that step forward. We think there is a general consciousness on Main Street to do this kind of thing."

Outstanding Institutional Program: SMMUSD Farmers' Market Salad Bar/School Garden Program

In 1995, Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District (SMMUSD) partnered with the city to create an award-winning school gardening program that resulted in the creation of organic vegetable gardens at all of the Santa Monica public schools. In 1997, the program was expanded to create the Farmers' Market Salad Bar program.

Outstanding Green Building: Natural Resources Defense Council Robert Redford Building.

The Robert Redford Building, NRDC's new headquarters at 1314 Second Street, has been called the greenest building in the country. The NRDC took advantage of existing space rather than build a new structure, and redesigned the building to conserve water and energy using environmentally sound materials. The facility includes showers and bike racks, so employees don't have to drive to work.

Other features include: dual-flush toilets that use only as much water as needed, light-colored roofing (including solar panels), shade-bearing plants to keep the amount of heat generated low, reclaimed water from showers and sinks that goes to landscaping and toilets, and an air-conditioning system that uses displacement ventilation.

Receiving sustainable business excellence awards for their leadership for promoting sustainability in the business community were:

American Red Cross, Cleaner By Nature, Co-Opportunity, Duvivier Arch-itects, Hines Lantana, Library Alehouse, New Directions, Patagonia, Sanford-Papermate, Santa Monica UCLA Medical Center, Synthesis, The Real Earth Environmental Company and ZJ Boarding House.

"It was a multi-phased project, said Roberts of ZJ Boarding House, which received a sustainable excellence award.

"We now have motion sensors that light up rooms only when you're in them in the bathrooms, offices, common hallways," he said. "We put stickers to remind customers to turn switches off. We have 'recycling champions' employees that go through the bins to make sure they are correctly sorted.

"I found most of our staff is pretty motivated."

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STATE



Visitors from allied nations face new security checks

BY ROBERT JABLON

Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES — The United States on Thursday began requiring visitors from some of its staunchest allies be fingerprinted and photographed as they arrive in the country to ensure they aren't potential terrorists.

The Homeland Security Department estimated the new requirements would affect 33,000 visitors a day but would add only 15 seconds to the processing time. The fingerprinting is done digitally, sparing travelers from getting their fingers smudged with ink.

Ana Hinojosa, area port director for U.S. Customs and Border Protection at the Los Angeles International Airport, said the additional screenings "will significantly enhance our security posture."

"Terrorists don't necessarily have a particular nationality, or a particular name, age," she said. "It's a moving target and we need to be able to adapt."

The security requirements were already in place for nearly all other nations. As of Thursday, they were expanded to 27 countries whose citizens do not need visas for 90-day visits. Those countries include England, Australia, Italy and Japan.

The program went into effect Thursday at the country's 115 international airports and 14 seaports, and will be expanded to border crossings later.

At the Los Angeles airport, passengers arriving on a Japan Air Lines flight moved quickly through customs.

After showing his passport, Toshikazu Kuki, 74, of Wakayama, Japan, placed his

left index finger and then his right index finger on a glass plate that electronically captured his fingerprint. He also had a digital photograph snapped.

A customs agent then ran the information through a computer to determine if the visitor was listed in databases as a potential criminal or terrorist.

"It cannot be helped," Kuki said. He said that as a former bank loan officer, he was used to being photographed for security reasons. However, he said, "There will be many people who feel most strange about being fingerprinted. They will have negative feelings."

International travelers arriving at several airports across the country expressed understanding, though some were surprised.

Pauline Shepherd of Portsmouth, England, said she was "a bit taken aback" by the security check at Boston's Logan International Airport.

"It seems a bit over the top to me, having your photograph and fingerprint taken. I said 'We're only over here for a fortnight,'" said Shepherd, visiting Boston with a group. "It wasn't a hassle; it was just unexpected."

Jonas Beckeman, a 30-year-old computer technician from Stockholm visiting New York on business, was checked at the Newark, N.J., airport.

"I understand the concerns," he said. "Also, I'm from Sweden, so I'm pretty used to being regulated by the government."

Arriving at O'Hare International Airport in Chicago, 25-year-old Andre

Stolze of Leipzig, Germany noted that "even tourists can be terrorists."

The British Consulate General in Los Angeles said it had not received any immediate complaints from travelers subjected to the new procedures. The Australian embassy in Washington, D.C. planned to closely monitor procedures in Los Angeles, the primary gateway for the approximately 400,000 Australians who enter the United States annually, embassy spokesman Matt Francis said.

"We'll watch very carefully the implementation of the new system, and hopefully it'll be a relatively trouble-free and smooth process," he said.

At the Los Angeles airport, travelers passed one-by-one by dozens of stands. They placed their hands on a red-lighted pad and then had photos digitally snapped by a ball-shaped camera on a flexible stand.

In a few seconds, a computer screen flashed a green bar with the message "No hit found" below the passenger's finger-

prints and photo. Had there been any reason to hold the person or deny entry, the bar would have flashed red.

Signs with graphics of fingers and cameras gave directions for the procedure. Some carried a cheery welcome and directions in five languages. One included the line: "Homeland Security: Keeping America's doors open and our nation secure."

Austrian Frank Herbert, 38, echoed that message after being screened on arrival before his two-week Southern California vacation.

"No problem," he said. "If it's good for security, then it's good for me."

The 27 countries affected by the change are: Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Brunei, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Portugal, San Marino, Singapore, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland and Great Britain.

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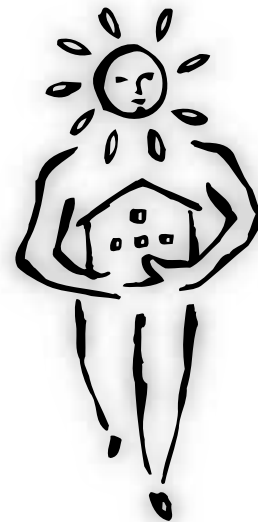
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STATE

Bay city hotels lock out workers in labor dispute

By The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Operators of 10 downtown hotels locked out union employees Friday, the latest move in an increasingly bitter labor feud that threatens the city's slowly rebounding tourism industry.

The move came in reaction to a strike that started Wednesday targeting four other hotels involved in the contract talks.

"A strike against one of our hotels is a strike against all of our hotels," Mark Huntley, president of a group representing the hotels, said in a statement.

The group said it had warned the union that a strike against any of its members would lead to the full lockout. The union had said the strike against the four hotels would last two weeks.

"It is a very unfortunate situation for our employees, our guests and the city of San Francisco, and we hold the union responsible for escalating this situation," Huntley said in the statement.

The hotels were hiring replacement workers and said they expect only minimal disruption for guests.

Union leaders said they expected the lockout and blamed the employers for inflaming the already tense negotiations. Union members expanded their pickets to the 10 other hotels Friday morning.

"We chose only four hotels for two weeks. The employers have chosen to escalate the situation," union spokes-

woman Valerie Lapin said.

The union, Unite Here Local 2, represents about 8,000 workers at 60 San Francisco hotels. Some 4,000 cooks, room cleaners, dishwashers, bellmen, servers and switchboard operators are affected by the strike and lockout involving the 14 hotels.

Hourly wages for most range from \$9 to \$15, up to around \$20 for cooks.

The group representing the hotels took out a full-page ad in Friday's Chronicle, saying the hotels remain open for business and criticizing the union for calling Wednesday's strike.

The group said it believed the two sides could agree on all issues except one, the proposed length of the contract, which expired in August. The hotel seeks a five-year deal, while the union wants a two-year contract that would expire when hotel workers in other major cities are set to renegotiate their labor pacts.

Other issues involve wages, pensions and health care premiums.

The four hotels struck Wednesday are the Argent Hotel, the Crowne Plaza Union Square, the Hilton and the Intercontinental Mark Hopkins.

The 10 hotels locking out union workers are the Fairmont, Four Seasons, Grand Hyatt San Francisco, Holiday Inn Civic Center, Holiday Inn Express & Suites Fisherman's Wharf, Holiday Inn at Fisherman's Wharf, Palace, Hyatt Regency, Omni and Westin St. Francis.

Schwarzenegger vetoes bill to halt foreclosures

BY JIM WASSERMAN

Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO — Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger this week vetoed a bill that would have stopped California's 37,000 homeowner associations from foreclosing on homes for small debts.

The bill was triggered by outrage over the case of a Calaveras County couple whose \$285,000 home was auctioned off to recover a \$120 debt.

It would have stripped away a tough debt-collection tool called nonjudicial foreclosure. Unheard of in traditional neighborhoods, it's used by thousands of private communities in California and elsewhere in the nation to collect overdue homeowner assessments.

Schwarzenegger praised the bill's intent, but his veto message called it "overly broad" and something that could cause higher assessments for residents who pay their bills on time. However, he said he's asked state agencies to refine the foreclosure practice in California.

Sponsors of the bill, which attracted a wide following nationally among the 50 million Americans who live in association-governed communities, immediately criticized Schwarzenegger for "siding with business interests instead of homeowners."

"Basically it means that seniors are going to be vulnerable to the predatory business practices of some homeowner associations which use foreclosure to collect tiny amounts of money," said Marjorie Murray, lobbyist with the California Alliance for Retired Americans.

Industry advocates said limiting foreclosures would have undermined the finances of private communities that govern one in four of California's households and 60 percent of its new housing. Many homeowners would have quit paying dues, they said, forcing other residents to pay higher dues to make up the difference.

"I think he recognized the unintended financial havoc that this legislation could have created," said Tom Skiba, chief executive officer of the Community Associations Institute, a Virginia-based industry group that mounted a major lobbying effort this month with Schwarzenegger.

The legislation would have made associations use small claims court to collect unpaid debts under \$2,500. Debts over \$2,500 could still have been collected through nonjudicial foreclosure. But the new law would have significantly restricted foreclosure practices in associations and given homeowners 90 days to buy back their property.

Efforts by homeowner groups to pass similar legislation in other states — such as Texas, Florida and Arizona, which contain more than half the nation's 260,000 homeowners associations — have also repeatedly failed.

Anita Radcliff, who had her Calaveras County home sold for \$70,000 over a late \$120 assessment, said she was "disappointed, but not surprised" by the veto.

"Money talks," said Radcliff, who remains in her home pending the outcome of a lawsuit.

NATIONAL



Tempered enthusiasm: Tahoe weather tempting

BY TOM GARDNER
Associated Press Writer

STATELINE, Nev. — Smarting from the defection of Northern California gamblers to slot machines on Indian reservations, Lake Tahoe resorts are placing their bets on the nation's hottest casino market.

While Las Vegas spent the past few months roasting in temperatures well over 100 degrees, sweating residents were peppered with television ads promoting Lake Tahoe as an inviting vacation destination less than two hours away — and a whole lot cooler.

"Lake Tahoe. So Close. So Cool," a \$400,000 television, print and billboard campaign sponsored by the casino-backed Tahoe Douglas Visitors Authority, began airing in June.

It features two women lounging at Tahoe deciding where to relax next — on the golf course, at a casino or wakeboarding. Thought bubbles illustrate the choices. Their backs are to the camera, which focuses on the clear blue lake and a snow-capped mountains beyond.

"This is a destination resort area that offers activities for couples, families, outdoor enthusiasts or clubgoers," said Caesars Tahoe President Mark Rittorno. "For residents of the sweltering Southwest, we're just an hour by plane and an easy drive from the airport."

The campaign developed by Lund & Manasse Advertising, Ink of Las Vegas is aimed less at potential visitors to southern Nevada's gambling Mecca than at the people who live there, according to Don Marrandino, senior vice president of Harrah's Northern Nevada.

"I lived there for 15 years, where when you touched your car door, if it wasn't underground parking, you burned your hand. Here's a place to come and chill out," he said.

"We don't see it as tourism poaching," said Erika Yowell, manager of public relations for the Las Vegas Convention and Visitors Authority. "Obviously, the Lake Tahoe region has a lot of things that we don't have in Las Vegas. It's safe to assume the Lake Tahoe product would be a great market for our locals rather than our visitors."

University of Nevada-Las Vegas professor Bill Thompson, who follows the travel industry, said the advertising campaign won't empty the casinos in Las Vegas, though it might siphon off some visitors.

"It will have some curiosity value," he said.

Thompson said tourism in the Reno-Tahoe region is down and needs a boost.

"The state should be promoting Reno," he said.

Overall occupancy levels around Lake

Tahoe are either flat or down slightly from a year ago — including dips in June and July, according to figures provided by the Lake Tahoe Visitors Authority.

But perhaps a reflection of marketing efforts, hotels on both sides of the California-Nevada state line were able to charge higher room rates this summer. Visitors in July paid an average of about \$103 per room night at Nevada hotels, about \$110 in California, up from about \$75 and \$101 respectively in 2003.

While temperatures have moderated somewhat in Las Vegas, and Tahoe has received its first dusting of snow, Marrandino said the ad campaign is being retooled for winter.

"Cool can be used a lot of different ways," he said.

During his years in Las Vegas as an executive of Wynn Las Vegas, the Hard Rock Hotel & Casino, Station Casinos Inc. and the Rio All-Suite Hotel & Casino before its acquisition by Harrah's, Marrandino worked with Lund & Manasse.

"They were in Vegas, they knew Vegas and they had a great specialty for tapping the Vegas local," said Blaise Carrig, chief operating officer of Heavenly ski resort, which straddles the California-Nevada line.

While there obviously is no skiing in the summertime, Carrig said Heavenly is very much a player in the warm weather tourism market with its \$25 million, eight-passenger gondola that soars 2.4 miles up the mountain and offers a spectacular view of the lake from its 9,123-foot observation deck.

"Everybody who shows up in summer is good for Heavenly, because my guess is they're going to ride that gondola once," he said.

The gondola starts its ascent at Heavenly Village, a European-themed collection of more than 40 upscale shops and restaurants, a theater complex and other businesses.

"It's a happening place," Carrig said. "You almost want to go down there with a cup of coffee and sit on a bench for an hour because it's cool."

While cool is the operative word of the Las Vegas campaign, Carrig said the goal is to appeal to the person with the means to fly to Reno, then rent a car to drive an hour to the lake.

"It doesn't talk a lot about gaming. It talks about all the other stuff you can do here: You don't have to be done golfing by 10 o'clock in the morning or you'll die."

"It's larger than just gaming. It's about the experience. Obviously, they're hoping that they'll game, just like I'm hoping that they'll ride the gondola. It's about the Tahoe experience."



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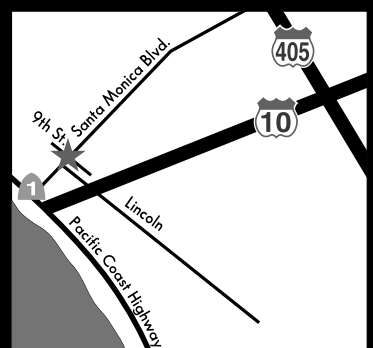
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RESPONSES ON PAGE 4.**





NATIONAL

After quakes, steam eruption at Mount St. Helens

By The Associated Press

MOUNT ST. HELENS, Wash. — Mount St. Helens belched a roiling plume of white steam and ash Friday, more than a week after a flurry of earthquakes first warned an eruption was on the way.

"This is exactly the kind of event we've been predicting," said U.S. Geological Survey scientist Cynthia Gardner.

Steam frequently rises from a lava dome in the crater of the volcano, which erupted with devastating force and killed 57 people on May 18, 1980. But there had been no eruptions in 18 years.

At 12:03 p.m. PDT, there was a small

explosion, followed by the steam and ash cloud that poured from the southern edge of the nearly 1,000-foot-tall lava dome, where a large section of a glacier had fractured and risen as much as 11 yards since Thursday afternoon.

After about 20 minutes, the mountain calmed and the plume quickly dissipated, revealing a 100-foot-wide crater in the 600-foot-deep glacier.

Small earthquakes had been occurring continuously in the crater since Sept. 23. They grew steadily stronger, finally reaching a magnitude of 3.3 Thursday and Friday, but the earthquakes quit after the eruption, said University of Washington seismologist Tony Qamar.

"That makes us think this is the end of the eruption," Qamar said. "All this buildup was leading to that relatively small eruption."

But USGS seismologist Bob Norris said magma could be moving underground and he would not be surprised to see more explosions in the next days or weeks. Tom Pierson, a USGS geologist, added, "The monitoring will definitely continue on a very intense scale until we can determine that the thing has really gone back to sleep."

Mike Fergus, a spokesman with the Federal Aviation Administration in Seattle, said the plume had reached 16,000 feet in altitude, but did not know whether

any planes would need to be rerouted.

Scientists had not expected anything like the mountain's devastating eruption in 1980, which coated much of the Northwest with ash. On Wednesday, they warned that a small or moderate blast from the southwest Washington mountain could spew ash and rock as far as three miles from the crater at the 8,364-foot peak.

Few people live near the mountain, the centerpiece of the Mount St. Helens National Volcanic Monument in the Gifford Pinchot National Forest about 100 miles south of Seattle. The closest structure is the Johnston Ridge Observatory, about five miles from the crater.

Mount St. Helens volcano part of Pacific 'ring of fire'

BY WILLIAM MCCALL

Associated Press Writer

PORTLAND, Ore. — Three or four times every minute, Mount St. Helens shivers. Sometimes the majestic peak even shudders, the trembling beneath reaching a crescendo, a magnitude of 3.3.

The earthquakes that started a week ago Thursday — almost certainly precursors to an eruption — are a reminder that the 8,364-foot sleeping giant is but a part of a volcanic "ring of fire" so vast that it encircles the Pacific Ocean.

Indeed, the other 12 major volcanoes in the Cascade Range of northern California, Oregon and Washington state lie within this geological phenomenon as well.

The entire ring — from the tip of South America up through Alaska, Japan and the Kamchatka Peninsula of Russia, down through the Philippines and Indonesia into New Zealand — includes about three-fourths of the world's active and dormant

volcanoes, scientists say.

Most of the activity is related to shifting in the vast sections of the Earth's surface known as tectonic plates, continent-size chunks of crust that float atop the planet's molten core.

Mount St. Helens and the Cascades lie near the edge of the Juan de Fuca plate, which is diving under the North American plate to create a 700-mile long "subduction zone" along the ocean floor that triggers earthquakes and pushes molten rock upwards.

Called magma underground and lava when it surfaces, the molten rock is forced up through fissures in the crust.

Mount St. Helens lies along a particularly weak area of the crust, causing it to be the most active volcano in the Northwest over the centuries, said Jon Major, a U.S. Geological Survey researcher in Vancouver, Wash. Its most spectacular showing was in May 1980,

with an eruption that blew the top 1,400 feet off the mountain.

"It sits near the St. Helens seismic zone, an area where the crust is pulled apart a little bit," Major said. "That lets magma push up and explains why it's so active and others are not so active."

For example, Mount Adams lies only about 50 miles east of Mount St. Helens but has not erupted in thousands of years, Major said.

Mount Jefferson, which lies between Mount Hood and the Three Sisters in the Oregon stretch of the Cascades, appears to have been dormant since the last Ice Age despite relatively recent eruptions on neighboring peaks, he said.

In the rest of the Cascade Range, which stretches from Canada to Northern California, two of the tallest peaks — Mount Rainier in Washington state and Mount Shasta in California — both have erupted at least once in the past 200 years

and have had several more over the last 2,000 years. Most were considered minor, according to USGS figures.

The Northwest, in turn, has been relatively quiet compared to other areas of the ring, according to Jim Luhr, director of the global volcanism program at the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.

The Aleutian Island chain in Alaska, Central America, Japan and Indonesia have all been more active recently. "The Aleutians are one of the most vigorous volcanic parts of North America," he said.

But he noted that other parts of the world have plenty of dormant volcanoes, including France and Germany.

Luhr recently returned from a trip to Armenia where ancient petroglyphs show evidence of eruptions.

"There are relatively young volcanoes all over Armenia," he said. "None have erupted in the last 4,000 years, but clearly ancient peoples have seen them."

Absurd Person Singular

by Alan Ayckbourne



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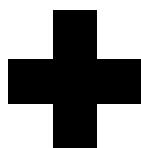
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NATIONAL



Alaskan fishery garners nature-friendly labeling

BY MARY PEMBERTON

Associated Press Writer

ANCHORAGE, Alaska — The largest fishery in the United States received final approval for an eco-label that tells customers the seafood they are buying is environmentally friendly.

The London-based Marine Stewardship Council gave Bering Sea pollock the final OK on Thursday, ending a lengthy review of the \$750 million a year fishery off Alaska's coast.

The certification is good for five years and subject to annual audits.

"We are a certified fishery," At-Sea Processors Association spokesman Jim Gilmore said Friday. "I think the fishery proved itself to be sustainable and well-managed."

The industry group sought the eco-label in January 2001 at the urging of European seafood buyers, Gilmore said. In Europe, consumers are more likely to buy products with eco-labels.

The Bering Sea pollock fishery is the 10th fishery to receive MSC approval. Alaska salmon was the first U.S. fishery to get MSC certification.

The Alaska pollock fishery accounts for approximately one-third of all seafood landings in the United States each year.

Several environmental groups opposed granting an eco-label for pollock. One of their major concerns was the effect the huge fishery is having on Steller sea lions, which eat pollock, among other species of fish. Steller sea lion populations off Alaska's coast have plummeted more than 80 percent in the past 30 years. The reasons for the decline aren't known.

Danny Consenstein, executive director of Trustees for Alaska, one of the groups that opposed the eco-label, said the California certifier and MSC have ignored data that indicate the pollock fishery is harmful to sea lions.

"This decision is a slap in the face to

consumers. It dupes consumers into believing this is a well-managed, sustainable fishery," Consenstein said. "The Bering Sea ecosystem is in trouble."

The decision Thursday by the London-based group ended a lengthy process in which Scientific Certification Systems of Emeryville, Calif., evaluated the fishery. The company conducted the nearly three-year evaluation with a panel looking at 72 performance measures in three areas: stock levels, environmental effects of the fishery and how effectively it is managed.

The panel concluded that the fishery was responsibly managed. It found some deficiencies but none bad enough to deny certification.

Gilmore said any remaining problems are technicalities.

Janis Searles, a lawyer for Oceana, another group that objected to the eco-label, said part of the problem is with the MSC process.

"We think you can't just look at the fishery but have to look at the context in which the fishery takes place," Searles said.

Brendan May, the MSC's outgoing chief executive, defended the council's process in a statement posted on the MSC Web site.

"The Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands pollock fishery has been subject to robust and rigorous scrutiny under the MSC program," he said. "It is hard to find a more thorough certification and auditing process for any commodity in the world than the MSC has developed for fisheries."

Gilmore said he expects the certification process to be completed in the next few weeks.

Scientists estimate there are 11 million tons of Bering Sea pollock. In 2004, fishermen were allowed to harvest a little less than 1.5 million tons, with most of the fish going into fast-food fish sandwiches, fish sticks and imitation crab products.

Lawyers appeal pacifist nuns' sabotage conviction for protest

BY ROBERT WELLER

Associated Press Writer

DENVER — Lawyers for three pacifist nuns sent to prison for causing minor damage at a missile silo told an appeals court Friday the women should not have been convicted of sabotage because they did not impair national defense.

The three-judge panel of the 10th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals asked several questions indicating doubt about whether the damage the nuns caused could have stopped a missile from launching.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Jim Murphy conceded the operation of the missile had not been disrupted but said soldiers had to be diverted from a training exercise to deal with the nuns.

Murphy said the nuns "were entitled to their opinion" but not to damage a missile silo.

Susan Tyburski, representing Carol Gilbert, 55, said there was no evidence the nuns had any intention other than to protest the U.S. nuclear arsenal.

A sabotage conviction requires intent to interfere with national defense, not just damage to property, said Cliff Barnard, representing Jackie Hudson, 68.

Attorney Scott Poland, representing Ardeth Platte, 66, said U.S. District Judge Robert Blackburn erred by refusing to include an instruction to the jury that if the defendants acted in good faith, they could not have intended sabotage.

The appeals court was expected to rule on the appeal in two months.

"They asked some good questions. I am hopeful," said Sister Barbare Huber of the Sisters of Charity, a friend of the nuns.

In a pouring rain outside the courthouse, a group of supporters held a banner reading, "They shalt beat their swords into plowshares. Nations shall learn no more war."

The nuns were convicted by a federal jury in April sabotaging the national defense and damaging government property. The nuns cut a fence and walked onto a Minuteman III silo site in October, swinging hammers and using their blood to paint a cross on the structure.

Platte received three years and five months, Hudson 2 1/2 years and Gilbert two years, nine months. All were given three years of supervised probation.

The nuns, who did not attend the hearing, are in three different county jails.

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NATIONAL

Wine connoisseur con leaves man in Colo. jail

BY JON SARCHE

Associated Press Writer

DENVER — A Colorado man who allegedly bilked rich and famous wine connoisseurs of \$13 million was arrested Thursday and held on a \$1 million bond after a federal grand jury in California issued a 21-count indictment.

Ronald Phillip Wallace, 47, ran Rare LLC, an Internet and mail-order wine business in Basalt, a mountain town near Aspen. He traveled to wine tastings around the country to talk to collectors and advertised in various wine publications, offering access to some of the world's rarest and most expensive wines, the indictment said.

He allegedly accepted money from numerous clients who expected to receive wine or wine futures, which allow consumers to reserve rare wines that are not yet bottled and are otherwise difficult to buy.

Wallace neither owned or had secured the futures of wines for which he had charged customers, and many customers did not receive wine they had bought, according to the indictment issued this week.

The indictment lists some of Wallace's alleged victims including Seattle Mariners pitcher Jamie Moyer, who allegedly gave Wallace \$30,000 for vintage 2001 Bordeaux futures; and movie producer Arthur Sarkissian, who allegedly paid \$11,700 for two cases of wine but received only one.

The indictment accused Wallace of running a Ponzi scheme in which he used clients' money to buy rare wine to give to other customers to induce them to buy more futures. Wallace also is accused of using customers' money to buy and import a BMW from Europe, to pay country club dues, to remodel his house, pay his and employees' salaries and to travel to a wine-tasting event in Beverly Hills, Calif.

The scheme collapsed in spring 2003, when Rare owed its customers more than \$13 million from purchases of wine futures and was forced into bankruptcy, the indictment said. If the wine had been delivered, it would have been worth substantially more than what the customers paid, the indictment said.

Wallace, appearing disheveled and wearing a sweat shirt and shorts after his arrest early Thursday, told U.S. Magistrate Judge O. Edward Schlatter that his attorney

told him earlier in the week that she had been working with the U.S. attorney's office on a plea agreement.

"This was a surprise," Wallace said of his arrest.

"It's always a surprise," Schlatter responded.

Wallace's attorney, Pamela Mackey, was not in the courtroom for the hearing and did not immediately return a call for comment.

Schlatter ordered Wallace held on \$1 million bond and scheduled a hearing Tuesday in which the government will have to prove Wallace's identity before he can be sent to Los Angeles, where the case will be prosecuted. Wallace's company is registered in California.

"Through a series of deceptions that included ads in a wine trade publication, Wallace exploited the trust he developed with his knowledge of the world's best wines," said California U.S. Attorney Debra W. Yang. "While Wallace plied his trade in the rarified world of exclusive tastings and \$1,000 bottles of wine, in the end he turned out to be nothing more than a common fraudster."

The indictment charged Wallace with five counts of mail fraud, 10 counts of wire fraud, four counts of money laundering and one count of making an unlawful monetary transaction. If convicted of all charges, he faces a maximum of 195 years in prison and forfeiture of the money he gained from the scheme.

Garth Ancier, chairman of The WB Television Network, wired nearly \$58,000 to Wallace in 1993 for vintage 2000 Bordeaux futures but never received any wine, he told The Associated Press.

"This is somebody who, obviously, you bought futures from and didn't deliver," he said. "Once that was very clear, all of us in Los Angeles, and there were quite a few of us, realized that was going on and went to the FBI for help."

He said he was gratified to hear of Wallace's arrest. Ancier said the FBI had asked him to restrict his comments to reporters.

Other alleged victims did not immediately return calls.

The indictment also accused Wallace of accepting about \$615,000 from Paul and Maurice Marciano, the co-chairmen and CEOs of clothing retailer Guess? Inc., but never delivering all the wine they ordered.

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NATIONAL



Drug study by Merck sounds a clear warning

BY LINDA A. JOHNSON

AP Business Writer

TRENTON, N.J. — Vioxx was already a big success as an arthritis pain reliever, but Merck & Co. thought it could be an even bigger seller. The drug seemed to have some cancer prevention qualities, so the drug maker began a long-term study to test it for that use.

The strategy backfired for the company, which Thursday pulled Vioxx off the market. The study showed the drug doubled the risk of heart attack and stroke. At the same time, it sounded an alarm for the millions of people who took Vioxx.

A similar case arose with Wyeth's hormone treatment Prempro two years ago. The huge Women's Health Initiative study — launched to show that the drug could protect older women from heart disease — unexpectedly found it did the opposite and more. Not only did it raise the risk of heart attack, it also brought a greater risk of stroke and breast cancer. Sales of Prempro and another Wyeth hormone drug, Premarin, have plunged by nearly half since then.

Earlier this year, Bristol-Myers Squibb Co.'s effort to give its cholesterol drug Pravachol an edge over Pfizer Inc.'s Lipitor, the country's top-selling drug, went awry when a head-to-head study funded by Bristol-Myers showed Pravachol was inferior.

"The only way these studies wind up getting done is if the companies see the gold at the end of the rainbow," complained Dr. Sidney Wolfe, co-founder of Public Citizen's Health Research Group.

He said the Food and Drug Administration needs to push drug companies harder to do long-term safety studies of drugs on the market once concerns develop.

"I think greed may be a part of it," said Dr. John Norris, an internist, speaking of the motives behind drug companies doing more studies after they've already received approval. Norris is acting chief of staff at University Hospital in Newark.

University of Pennsylvania bioethicist Arthur Caplan said the problem is, "We're relying on the fox to tell us about what's wrong inside the chicken coop."

FDA spokeswoman Crystal Rice said the agency's authority is limited by law. The agency can only ask — not order — companies to do further safety studies on drugs already approved.

However, the FDA was able to require makers of antidepressants to study their safety in children under a law meant to increase testing for drugs for kids. Those studies led to findings this year that antidepressants slightly increase suicidal tendencies in children and adolescents.

As a result, FDA advisers now are urging that stringent warnings be added to package inserts for Celexa, Effexor, Luvox, Paxil, Prozac, Remeron, Serzone, Wellbutrin and Zoloft.

In some cases, experts say, such warnings on a drug's official labeling aren't sufficient.

Since 2002, Merck's Vioxx had a warning about increased cardiac risks based on results of its own post-approval study, but disputed its own findings and the drug remained on the market. Merck undertook the latest study because less-rigorous experiments indicated Vioxx could prevent recurrence of potentially cancerous colon polyps, said company spokesman Tony Plohoros.

Dr. Alastair Wood, professor of pharmacology and associate dean at Vanderbilt University School of Medicine, said it should not have taken so long for the heart risks to come to light.

"A helluva lot of people got the drug between 2000 and 2004, and a very quick, very cheap study would have determined that risk" had the FDA taken a tougher stance after the first sign of trouble, Wood said.

Independent health care analyst Hemant Shah of HKS & Co. in Warren, N.J., said if Merck had not done the colon polyps study, Vioxx probably would have been on the market for another year or two. That's how long it would have taken for the results of a study focused on cardiovascular risk. Merck canceled that study after the cancer study findings.

In Wyeth's case, its estrogen-only pill Premarin had been on the market since 1942 and once was one of the world's most-prescribed drugs. Six decades later, the National Institutes of Health decided to do a rigorous study to prove whether earlier, weak studies were correct in indicating Premarin and the estrogen-progesterin pill Prempro protect older women's hearts.

Wyeth provided all the pills used in the huge study, according to spokeswoman Natalie de Vane.

"Would we have wanted it to come out all different? Absolutely," she said.

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY CONSOLIDATED ANNUAL PERFORMANCE AND EVALUATION REPORT FOR 2003 PROGRAM YEAR



Notice is hereby given that the City of Santa Monica has developed the Consolidated Annual Performance and Evaluation Report (CAPER) for the 2003 Program Year. The CAPER provides a status report on how the City is meeting its overall housing and community development needs as specified in the Consolidated Plan (FY 2000-05) adopted by City Council and submitted to HUD in June 2000. The City is seeking community comments on this report.

Copies of this report are now available to the public for a 15-day community review period ending October 13, 2004. To obtain a copy of the report, please contact the Human Services Division, located at 1685 Main Street, Room 212, Santa Monica, CA 90401, at (310) 458-8701. Please send your written comments to Gigi Decavalles-Hughes at the above address by October 13, 2004.

In accordance with Americans with Disabilities Act, this publication is available in alternate formats by calling the Human Services Division at 458-8701 (TTY 458-8696).

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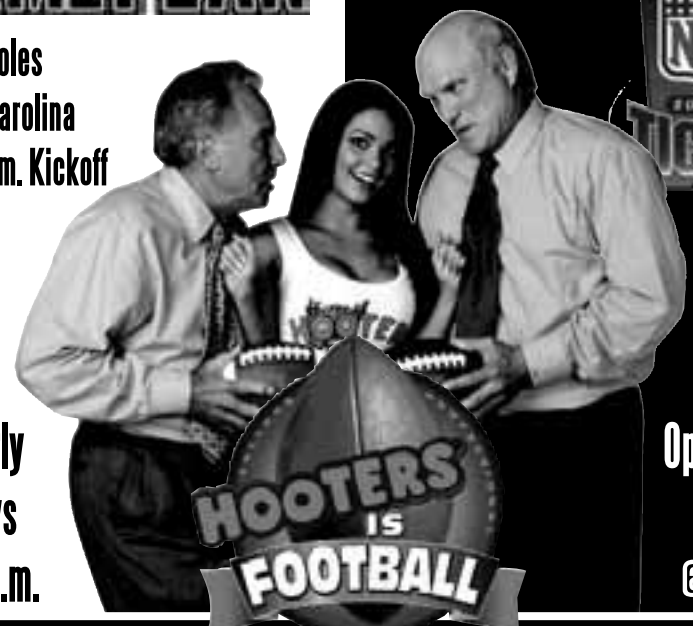
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NATIONAL

Plutonium reactor for Nagasaki bomb turns 60

BY SHANNON DININNY
Associated Press Writer

RICHLAND, Wash. — Roger Rohrbacher gazed at the desert landscape of Eastern Washington and wondered what he’d gotten himself into.

The year was 1944, and Rohrbacher had joined thousands of young men who descended on the sagebrush-dotted desert to participate in a top-secret government project.

More than a year later, workers finally learned the significance of their work. U.S. forces dropped the Fat Man bomb on Nagasaki, Japan, on Aug. 9, 1945.

Today, those same workers and many others will celebrate the 60th anniversary of their achievement: construction of the Hanford nuclear site’s B Reactor, the world’s first full-scale plutonium production nuclear reactor, which produced the plutonium for that bomb.

“We always like to look at Hanford as it ended World War II sooner than otherwise,” Rohrbacher said. “We didn’t know until the bomb was dropped. We knew it was part of the war effort. We knew it was big, different. We just didn’t know how big.”

With the start of World War II, several nations were battling the clock to be the first to develop nuclear weapons. In the United States, the top-secret Manhattan Project was created to build an atomic bomb.

Government officials searched across the West for a proper site for the first reactor. They settled on Eastern Washington, where the Columbia River provided the water needed to cool the reactor.

The dry desert also was sparsely populated, which was crucial in the event of an accident, and offered three railroad lines.

Construction began June 7, 1943, just six months after physicist Enrico Fermi turned the theory of nuclear power into the reality of the Atomic Age.

Government officials scoured the nation for workers. Some recruits got off the train in nearby Pasco during a dust storm, only to ask when the next train left.

Rohrbacher, who had grown up in the Midwest, didn’t shy away when his company offered him a new job in the Northwest. He just didn’t know what the job was, and he wasn’t alone.

Construction workers reviewed blueprints for just their part of the project. They had no idea what they were building.

Rumors abounded. One child boasted in school that workers were making toilet paper, which was in short supply during the war years, because his father brought two rolls home in his lunch pail each day, Rohrbacher said with a laugh.

He had wondered about the job after the FBI conducted a background check on him. Over time, he learned the project would play a significant role in the war effort — heartening news because his brother was away battling the Germans in Europe.

Rohrbacher watched as the number of employees grew to nearly 50,000 during the next 15 months. From July 1943 to October 1944, workers consumed 4 million box lunches.

Finally, on Sept. 26, 1944, B Reactor started up for the first time, just yards

from the Columbia River.

“They knew that if things got away, it’d be a disaster,” said Dee McCullough, 90, who helped to install the safety system.

Roughly three months later, plutonium from the B Reactor was delivered to Los Alamos, N.M. On July 16, 1945, that plutonium was used in the world’s first nuclear explosion at the Trinity test site in Alamogordo, N.M.

On Aug. 6, 1945, U.S. forces dropped the first atomic bomb, known as Little Boy, on Hiroshima, Japan. Its core was uranium produced in Oak Ridge, Tenn. Three days later, Hanford’s plutonium Fat Man bomb was dropped on Nagasaki and Japan surrendered, unconditionally. World War II was over.

B Reactor was shut down in 1968 and decommissioned. While some parts of the reactor are sealed off because they are radioactive, the control room and the face of the reactor, where fuel rods were inserted, can today be viewed safely.

The reactor has been open for limited historic tours since the mid-1980s, but those were slowed by the 2001 terrorist attacks. The Energy Department, which manages cleanup at the Hanford site, still allows tours for groups interested in historic preservation.

Rohrbacher ended up working at the site for more than 30 years before being laid off in 1971. Hanford’s nine reactors had been shut down, and Rohrbacher left to find work elsewhere.

He retired to the Richland area several years later. Now 84, he marvels at the accomplishment of the thousands of

workers who descended on Eastern Washington more than 60 years ago.

“Ingenious,” he said.

The reactor has been placed on the National Register of Historic Places, but its future has remained in doubt as cleanup progresses at the site.

The other eight Hanford reactors are expected to be cocooned, which involves removing extra buildings around the reactors, demolishing all but the shield walls surrounding the reactor cores, then sealing them in concrete.

The same fate could befall the B Reactor unless it is saved as a museum, something retired workers at the site and others have been seeking for more than a decade.

Del Ballard, president of the B Reactor Museum Association, calls the reactor the most advanced technological development this country ever had.

Said Ballard, “Our primary objective is to see that this reactor is preserved for history.”

Inside the B Reactor building, handwritten labels adorn reactor parts and pieces on tables, while photographs of the construction work and the early town settlement line exhibits.

On one side of the room sit awards from the American Nuclear Society and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. In 1976, the latter noted, “The research work, engineering and planning required to make the reactor operate should be included in history as one of man’s most brilliant scientific and advanced engineering achievements.”



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NATIONAL



Striking up the band is typical for candidates and their rallies

BY DEB RIECHMANN

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — President Bush misses a lot at his campaign rallies.

Pastors pray for him. Guitarists rev up the crowd. Ladies in purple shirts sing. Announcers announce, with gravity, over the loud speaker, "Ladies and gentleman, the president of the United States."

All before he gets there, just part of the warmup.

Candidates reach huge audiences through television, but there's still room for the kind of homespun political rally where supporters wave red-white-and-blue pom-poms, applaud their favorite and gleefully boo his opponent.

As Bush dashes on stage, his supporters cheer him as enthusiastically as a game-winning touchdown. "Thank you for comin'," he says as he grabs a microphone and rolls up his sleeves.

It's much the same for John Kerry, his Democratic rival. The pep talks, the banners and balloons, the stage in a parking lot where cars are usually pulling in for a ball game.

Kerry doesn't have the backdrop of Air Force One landing at the local airport. He does have big-name stars, though.

Along with local bands, his recent warmup acts have included actors Leonardo DiCaprio, Ben Affleck and Sean Astin and singers Sheryl Crow, Jon Bon Jovi, Carole King and Tony Bennett.

By the time Bush arrives at a recent rally in an airplane hangar in Muskegon, Mich., his supporters have endured long lines at metal detectors, watched entertainment picked to please a president who won't see it and heard long-winded praise from politicians.

"Bush is a man who walks his talk," declares Gary Granger, west Michigan regional chairman of the Bush-Cheney campaign. But Bush isn't walking in or talking just yet.

A singer sings the national anthem, everybody recites the Pledge of Allegiance and the Rev. Tim Ciccone, pastor of student ministries at Forest Park Covenant Church, prays — for Bush, for the troops, for Congress, for the weather.

"We pray that you will bless President Bush and keep him safe as he's on his way," Ciccone says. The crowd responds, "Amen."

Four women, dressed alike in shirts printed with large purple flowers, sing a patriotic medley that opens with: "I'm proud to be an American, where at least I know I'm free. And I won't forget the men who died who gave that right to me. ..."

Next up is Michigan Rep. Peter Hoekstra. Trying to keep things local, he speaks of how he and his colleagues on Capitol Hill have encouraged the Agriculture Department to buy Michigan commodities.

"The asparagus farmers are happy," Hoekstra says. "Some of the kids who are part of the school lunch program aren't."

The praying. The singing. The asparagus. It's time for Bush.

The crowd erupts as the blue-and-white presidential aircraft comes to a stop right outside the hangar. Bush bounds down the steps and strides on stage.

His reception wouldn't have been so friendly at a recent Kerry rally in Philadelphia.

Nita Martin, who has two sons in the military, warms up the crowd by announcing, "I'm a registered Republican." She pauses for effect, and a couple of Kerry supporters in the audience boo. "And I'm voting for John Kerry!" she cries.

The crowd cheers.

Next up is Pennsylvania Gov. Ed Rendell, who urges University of Pennsylvania students from out of state to register locally and provide crucial votes in the swing state.

"I want to see the greatest surge of registration between now and Oct. 4 here in the 27th ward where you Penn students live! I want to add three-, four-thousand votes to the rolls of the 27th ward!"

Sometimes it's tough for the politicians to connect.

In Lee's Summit, Mo., just outside Kansas City, Republican Sen. Kit Bond's material is a bit weighty for 8:30 a.m.

Bond recounts Senate votes on the war in Iraq and says President Clinton had challenged terrorists by firing "a few million-dollar missiles at \$10 mud huts" in Afghanistan in 1998.

The senator finishes his talk with a call for "four more years," pausing after each word in hopes of getting the crowd to chant with him. The audience is slow to follow but comes to life when the theme song from the movie "Air Force One" blares from the sound system and Bush makes his entrance into the high school stadium.

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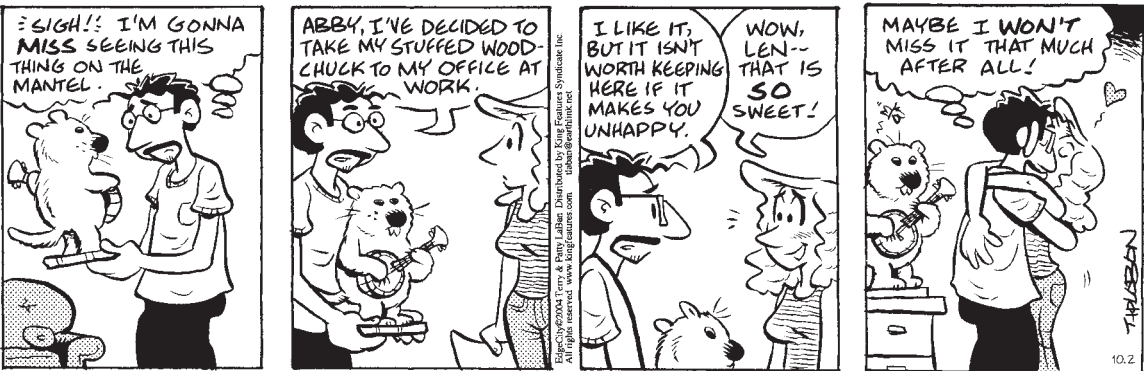


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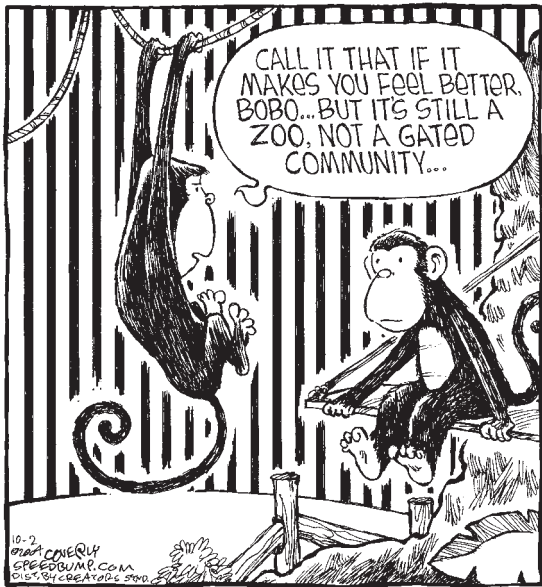
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ACROSS

- 1 Calgary team
- 7 Snaps
- 11 Michael's sister
- 12 Troop group
- 13 Wore away
- 14 Pro —
- 15 Hurricane of 1972
- 16 Fragrant wood
- 17 Spots
- 18 March
- 19 Catch
- 21 Liverpool letter
- 22 Choose not to spin
- 25 Napkin spot
- 26 Gambling game
- 27 Spoke
- 29 Soothing stuff
- 33 Did something
- 34 Mis-represent
- 35 Links cry
- 36 South American capital
- 37 First place

DOWN

- 38 One with pressing business
- 39 Roger of "Cheers"
- 40 Groups of species
- 1 Boxer's bane
- 2 Hefty
- 3 Make amends
- 4 Blow-hard's lack
- 5 Looks over
- 6 Blue
- 7 Less adulterated
- 8 Stunned
- 9 Fortress
- 10 Was rude, in a way
- 16 Poultry buy
- 18 Like most roads
- 20 Did yard work
- 22 Scanning target
- 23 Cornered
- 24 Lake of radio
- 25 Slip-on shoe
- 28 Prom goes
- 30 Without help
- 31 Soda buy
- 32 Stiller's wife
- 34 Drill
- 36 Hefty

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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Fool me once ... 'Punk'd' to air three more years

By The Associated Press

NEW YORK — A warning to celebrities: you're not in the clear just yet.

"Punk'd," hosted by Ashton Kutcher, will continue for three more seasons, MTV spokesman David French confirmed Wednesday.

Kutcher and company will film 24 new episodes of the hidden-camera prank show, the first of which will air sometime next year.

In the past, Kutcher has been secretive and contradictory about the future of "Punk'd," perhaps with the idea of keeping celebrities unsuspecting. (Nick Lachey thought his wife, Jessica Simpson, had allowed her hill-billy relatives to move their trailer onto his mansion estate, and Justin Timberlake was moved to panic when he thought all his belongings had been seized because he owed \$900,000 in back taxes.)

In January, Kutcher told The Associated Press, "Let's put it this way. I'm getting ready to start shooting two movies, I'm still working on 'That '70s Show,' I'm producing two other shows for MTV and creating a one-hour drama pilot for Fox ... I don't have the time."

Three months later, "Punk'd" returned to MTV for its third season.

LONDON — Urban music star Jamelia was crowned queen of the ninth annual MOBO Awards when she scooped three prizes.

The 23-year-old won best single for "Thank You" and best video for "See It in a Boy's Eyes." She shared the U.K. act of the year award with rapper Dizzee Rascal.

The ceremony for MOBO, which stands for music of black origin, was held Thursday at London's Royal Albert Hall. Supporters of two Jamaican reggae artists protested outside the venue because the artists had been dropped from MOBO's nomination list because of their

songs' anti-gay lyrics.

Reggae stars Elephant Man and Vybz Kartel were removed from the shortlist following a protest by gay rights group OutRage!

As stars including Janet Jackson, Brandy and Lemar arrived on the red carpet, they were booed by the group of about 30 protesters, who waved placards reading: "Defend reggae music" and "Enraged by OutRage!"

Inside the theater, Jackson presented the lifetime achievement award to Anita Baker, and was herself inducted into the MOBO Hall of Fame.

The award for best R&B act went to an absent Usher, best jazz act to Jamie Cullum and best world music act to Bebel Gilberto.

LOS ANGELES — Dancehall reggae star Capleton is facing increasing protests over some of his songs that encourage violence against gays.

Los Angeles-based House of Blues on Thursday canceled a performance by Capleton at its New Orleans venue, scheduled for Oct. 11 — National Coming Out Day. A day earlier, the company canceled his show set for Monday at its nightclub on the Sunset Strip in West Hollywood.

Capleton's San Francisco concert, scheduled for Sunday, was also canceled. Instead, Capleton planned to head to Santa Cruz for a concert at the popular nightclub Catalyst.

Gay activists there vowed to protest the concert of the Jamaican native, whose lyrics have suggested gays be hanged, drowned, burned or shot.

Among his songs is one with the Jamaican-dialect lyrics, "Bun Out Di Chi Chi," which translates to "burn out the gay man."

Capleton said he is not advocating violence against homosexuals but told the Santa Cruz Sentinel in a telephone interview that homosexuality is "against humanity. It's against your mother, it's against your father, it's

against yourself."

He said when he sings of fire, he is referring to a spiritual fire.

Eddy Dees, a house manager at Catalyst, said the club had no plan to cancel the concert.

Earlier this week, the L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center wrote a letter to the House of Blues urging the company to cancel Monday's concert in West Hollywood, which has a large gay population.

The club tried to create a forum in which the center, city leaders and Capleton could "resolve the interpretation of certain song lyrics," House of Blues spokesman Jack Gannon said in a statement. Capleton, who is on tour, was unable to attend, Gannon said, and the concert was canceled "out of respect for the community."

RALEIGH, N.C. — Ralphie May says NBC's jokefest "Last Comic Standing" is a joke itself.

The plus-sized comedian, who finished second during the first season and was voted off season three's competition Tuesday, says the talent contest hosted and produced by comedian Jay Mohr is past its prime.

"The whole show is a joke," he told The Associated Press recently. "The viewership's gone down the hill, and the show has jumped the shark."

May performs stand-up that's a boisterous brand of hip-hop flavored, not politically correct humor. His career received a boost from his success on the show, including a USO tour, performing for troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

But he doesn't think much of "Last Comic Standing" anymore.

Season three has featured comics from the first two seasons, and May says "the only one on there that's doing real comedy is Alonzo Bodden."

May says comedy isn't always about getting the laughs, it's about pushing the boundaries and moving stand-up forward.

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