

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

Rallied support



Jason Auslander/Special to the Daily Press
City council candidate Chuck Allord, left, stands alone in a group of Oscar de la Torre supporters Thursday outside of City Hall. De la Torre is running for the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School Board. See story, page 3.

City expands environmental sustainability program

BY ANDREW H. FIXMER

Daily Press Staff Writer

Environmentally-friendly Santa Monica is in the process of expanding its world-famous sustainability program.

For more than a year the city has been working with residents, businesses and environmentalists in expanding the scope and reach of its programs that concentrate on using environmentally conscience products.

Now the city will take the same principles it used to improve its environment and apply them to economic development and social justice.

"We have evolved from understanding sustainability as an environmental issue to understanding it more broadly, and its links in terms of social responsibility and economic development," said Mayor Mike Feinstein.

For example, under the new system the city will pursue policies on housing, open space, land use, community education, civic participation and human dignity that will make it less dependent on outside sources and concentrate on renewable, internal resources.

Part of that process is making sure people who work in Santa Monica can afford to live here, officials said. That way there are fewer people commuting into the city, which takes congestion off the streets and decreases the amount of pollution in the air.

Also, the city hopes to use the new policies to help diversify its economy so that when one industry takes a nose-dive, the whole city's economic climate isn't negatively impacted.

"When one part of the economy goes down, these other parts of the economy keep it going," said Dean Kubani, a senior economic analyst with the city. "We want to support a diverse economy that can continue to support Santa Monica and its residents."

In 1991, officials first put into place a sustainable city plan that shaped operations down to the type of recycled paper the city would buy. Environmentalists were hired to inspect the city's practices, and they found mixed results.

For example, the city was using very harsh chemicals for cleaning public buildings and streets, but it had one of the best

See PROGRAM, page 6

'Takeover' robbers hit First Federal Bank

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON

Daily Press Staff Writer

Two men held up First Federal Bank on Montana Avenue earlier this week, stealing an undisclosed amount of cash.

There were no injuries, but bank employees and customers were shaken up by the incident.

Shortly before 10 a.m. on Monday, two men entered the bank at 17th Street and Montana Avenue and demanded money from the tellers, according to the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Santa Monica police arrived on the scene first and detectives then called Los Angeles' FBI bureau, which handles all bank robberies on the westside.

"It was a takeover robbery," said FBI spokeswoman Laura Bosley. "They told everybody, 'Get the f--- down.'"

No weapon was ever produced, according to witnesses who were interviewed by Santa Monica police and FBI agents.

Sources said the two men held their hands near their sides and inside their pockets, implying they had guns. One source said a teller was knocked to the ground by one of the robbers.

"We always assume robbers are armed and dangerous," Bosley said. "At least orally, they were violent and intimidating."

It is unknown how many people were in the bank during the robbery, but sources said three tellers were behind the counter and the suspects reportedly made off with a few thousand dollars. The FBI couldn't confirm how much money was taken.

When asked about the robbery, Farzaneh Johartchi, vice president and branch manager of First Federal Bank,



Jason Auslander/Special to the Daily Press
First Federal Bank located at 1630 Montana Ave. was robbed by two men this week.

said it's company policy not to comment on robberies. She did say, however, that First Federal had been held up before and it's not uncommon for banks on Montana Avenue to be robbed.

The first suspect is described as a black male, in his early 20s, 5 feet, 6 inches tall, and about 150 pounds. He has a medium complexion, short dark hair, a goatee beard and long sideburns. He was wearing a white dress shirt, dark pants and sunglasses. He carried a white plastic grocery bag to fill up with the stolen cash.

The second suspect is described as a black male, in his early 20s, 5 feet, 5 inches tall and between 130-135 pounds. He has a thin build, medium complexion and short dark hair. He also was wearing sunglasses, a white dress shirt and dark pants.

"They exited through the back door on foot and were not seen after that," Bosley said. "They are at large at this point and are not believed to be connected to any other robberies."

Bruce Paltrow dies in Italy

BY TOM RACHMAN

Associated Press Writer

ROME — Santa Monica resident Bruce Paltrow, the patriarch of a show business family that includes Oscar-winning daughter Gwyneth Paltrow, has died in Italy. He was 58.

Bruce Paltrow, who had been battling throat cancer, was traveling with his daughter, who recently celebrated her 30th birthday. He died from complica-



Bruce Paltrow

tions of pneumonia and a recurrence of cancer, according to his daughter's publicist, Steven Huvane.

Bruce Paltrow, whose

wife was actress Blythe Danner, began in the film business three decades ago. He was an accomplished director and producer.

He started as a writer in the early 1970s, eventually adding producer and director to his job titles, with work on highly acclaimed American TV series "St. Elsewhere" and "Homicide: Life on the Streets."

In recent years, howev-

See PALTROW, page 6

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♈ ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★ You decide to change plans this morning. For whatever reason, you'll probably be happier as a result. Stay even when dealing with associates and co-workers. Pressure might build because of your expectations in this realm. Tonight: Do something just for yourself.

♉ TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ You might be more playful and happier than many. Enjoy what is going on within a key relationship. This person might be a bit sour. Don't allow this situation to get carried away or become a problem. Give an individual space. Tonight: Play the weekend in.

♊ GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★ Tension builds. Somehow, others sense your energy and back off. You might need or want more space right now. Pressure builds to a new peak. Know when to make your load lighter and when to disengage, if possible. Extend yourself to a family member. Tonight: Play it low-key.

♋ CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Speak your mind, but don't be surprised if you get a negative reaction or two. Others' moods might signal that the weekend cannot happen quickly enough. If you can, leave work early. Don't take on someone else's mood. Stay clear of trouble. Tonight: Join your pals.

♌ LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★ Use care with a child or loved one, or when taking a risk. What you might feel to be an excellent risk could backfire. Play it conservatively; don't stick your neck out. Deal with work and try to clear out as much as you can. Stop pushing yourself so hard. Tonight: Browse through a favorite bookstore.

♍ VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Though you might be happy as pie, others could be difficult, especially someone close to home or perhaps a family member. You cannot change this person's mood, but you can make plans that suit you. Don't push others right now. Tonight: Whirl on out the door.

♎ LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★ Step back. You might need some downtime, especially if you notice that you're unusually snappy or difficult. You also discover that others might be disagreeable. Close your door and focus on getting the job done. Tonight: Play ostrich.

♏ SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Friends and associates have many great ideas, though you might find them unusually expensive or emotionally demanding. You know how to say "no" in a politically correct way. Take care of yourself under any circumstance. Tonight: Bring friends together.

♐ SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★ Your mood impacts more than just you. Others back away rather than hitting a conflict. Detach and handle yourself more evenly, especially with those who surround your day-to-day life. Your attitude will be appreciated. Tonight: A must appearance.

♑ CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Read between the lines when dealing with a difficult person on the phone or over the Internet. Learn the art of detachment, especially if you're uncomfortable with your reactions. Realize that you might need a break. Tonight: Thank goodness it's Friday!

♒ AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ Your playful style helps a partner, associate or loved one. You might need to mix a get-together with friends or a key gathering in order to meet an even more important priority. Share more of what you believe to be key. Tonight: With that special someone.

♓ PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★ Reach out to others. Understand more of what might be going on with them. If a boss comes down hard on you, listen and try to ameliorate the situation. Recognize that you're one person and you can only do so much. Tonight: Go along with the gang.



QUOTE of the DAY

"What is comedy? Comedy is the art of making people laugh without making them puke."

— Steve Martin

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LOCAL

Supporters rally behind school board candidate

BY ANDREW H. FIXMER
Daily Press Staff Writer

Calling an effort to derail his school board candidacy "trivial," Oscar de la Torre reiterated his commitment to Santa Monica's youth at a rally Thursday in front of City Hall.

"Today we let everyone know there are issues that are more important to the families of this district than when I registered (to vote)," de la Torre said in a speech before about 50 supporters.

Many of those supporters were young people, who stood behind him in a row holding orange signs with his name on them.

"When they heard that people wanted to take my name off the ballot, they said, 'We got your back,'" de la Torre said of his young backers.

He said the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District needs people like him who will be courageous, ask tough questions and be accountable.

De la Torre said he followed proper procedure in registering to vote before announcing his intention to run and that questions to the contrary were politically motivated.

"I think there are some people who are scared of change for whatever reason," he said. "I feel I have a lot to give and to add to the board."

Kim Nishita, a third grade teacher and Santa Monica resident, agreed, saying that de la Torre has "proven commitment" to the youth of the community and especially the Pico neighborhood, which is located on the eastside of Santa Monica. She said she was nervous that votes for de la Torre wouldn't be counted when she first heard about the registration questions. She still isn't positive the votes will be counted.

"It was definitely a political ploy," Nishita said.

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

In a formal letter to the Los Angeles County Registrar and to de la Torre and his attorney Fred Woocher dated Oct. 1, Stewart said a photocopy of a voter registration form had been submitted that "tends to support your claim that you registered in Santa Monica before your nomination papers were issued."

But Stewart goes on to say that the county cannot find the original copy of the

voter registration form in its files, because the form may instead have been sent to the California Secretary of State's Office.

"This office cannot assess whether the documentation submitted establishes, as a matter of law, that Mr. de la Torre meets the (election) requirements," wrote Stewart to county officials. "However the documentation does constitute some evidence that he registered or attempted to register prior to taking out his nomination papers."

"Because such evidence has now been submitted, we are withdrawing our request that Mr. de la Torre's name be removed from the ballot."

"Today we let everyone know there are issues that are more important to the families of this district than when I registered (to vote)."

— OSCAR de la TORRE
School board candidate

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

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 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.

Stewart said the city requires every candidate to attend a seminar explaining the rules and regulations of running for office. The first thing candidates are told

See RALLY, page 7



Information compiled by Jesse Haley

No new swell activity is expected this weekend. The next few days we'll most likely see conditions flatten drastically throughout the county. South Bay spots, where even remnant south swell can't help, promise predominantly knee-high surf.

Northern spots around Malibu and Dume are better, but not by too much, knee to more consistently waist level.

Saturday swell fades further and consistency suffers.

Expect the trend to continue Sunday.

Venice surfers should know there's a "C" beach advisory around the pier, but the Breakwater looks much cleaner.

Today's Tides:			
Low-	2:21 a.m.	-0.42'	
High-	8:42 a.m.	5.33'	
Low-	2:26 p.m.	0.98'	
High-	8:29 p.m.	6.17'	

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

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The Q Line

In a town full of architectural treasures, the City of Santa Monica has for 27 years had a law that protects the city's cultural heritage by designating homes and neighborhoods as historic. The designation means property owners have to get government approval to change the exterior of their homes.

The Homeowners for Voluntary Preservation argue that deeming their property historic or a structure of merit is an intrusion of their personal freedoms. They are calling for a special election hoping citizens will pass their proposed ordinance that gives property owners the final say over their homes, instead of the Landmarks Commission or the city council.

Preservationists, however, argue that Santa Monica's historic homes and cultural identity are in danger of vanishing so it's worthwhile to protect properties that will preserve the city's heritage.

So this week Q-line wants to know: "Should the city be able to oversee historic properties? Or do the homeowners have a right to do whatever they want with their properties?"

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

Iraq thing is merely but a distraction

Editor:

I read with great interest today's column by Ron Scott Smith, who rightly notes that many Americans won't be going to the next Gulf War "party." Fair enough, but Mr. Smith should know that by making his point, he also plays into the hands of those he would oppose. That's because the point is not "the war" but "the distraction."

Does nobody remember "Wag The Dog?" The war buildup is a post-cynical ploy to distract the country from domestic issues during the midterm election cycle. We'll see the song and dance around the Congress for a few more weeks, then a rise in the fighting that's been going on for years in the no-fly zone or wherever (watch for a Big Event over there just before Election Day, maybe pilots trotted out for the cameras, etc.). The bad news is this is a very dangerous game that can get out of hand in a moment; the good news is that war is very, very unlikely.

Why? Because this is about politics. A war could result in heavy battlefield casualties (as opposed to the thousands of post-battlefield casualties of Gulf War I, but that's another story) and body bags are bad TV. And, even worse politically, gas prices could soar and the cold fact is that Americans are willing to Bear Any Burden for their nation, as long as it doesn't involve sacrificing their SUVs or access to relatively cheap gas.

You screw up and create gas lines again, and the next political hammering you'll do will be on one of President Carter's habitat homes.

Here's the move: Military buildup in the Mideast (hey, we needed this anyway, but not just for Iraq), a flurry of activity and words until November elections pass. Watch for some pilots trotted out for CNN and some spoon-fed features on the Special Forces heroes who will take part, complete with new trench coats for the on-air crowd looking to leapfrog into the anchor's chair. Then a gradual backing away from the brink after the election is safely tucked away. This is all too easy — after all, THE lesson of 9/11 is that the threats are real, we just don't know where they might come from next just like our Keystone Kops couldn't make sense of all the warnings leading up to the 9/11 attacks — the fear makes us easy pickings. Also, from a national pride standpoint, it's easy to say we need a war when what we really need is for the Bush family to undergo training from the Canadian Mounties: Can't one of these guys learn to "get their man?" Saddam runs amuck and for all we know Mr. Tall & Evil is sun-bathing at poolside.

So Mr. Smith does well to note the resistance to war, and even better when he gives passing notice to the fate of seniors and others trying to make ends meet. He would do even better to rant and rave about how your local House and Senate races might change those lives, because the game here is distraction and you have to admit it's being well-played.

Thanks for your fine paper, which is, of course, is devoured daily here in the D.C. area, where it is widely considered a welcome beacon of journalism and ancient wisdom.

Curtis Robinson
Arlington, VA



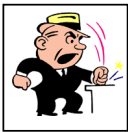
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There is nothing calm about 'traffic calming'



AS I SEE IT

By Bill Bauer

One of the things I dislike most about the City of Santa Monica is the way we mismanage traffic. Proposed "pedestrian" islands the length of Wilshire Boulevard is a sure guarantee of gridlock and inane traffic planning.

Between the Santa Monicans for Renters Rights and the Green Party crowd that runs our city government, there is a lot of energy expended to force you out of your gas-guzzling cars or SUVs and on to environmentally benign city busses or, better yet, bicycles.

Most cities try to keep traffic moving. People drive to get to work, school and shop. But in Santa Monica, politicians love traffic calming or, as I call it, traffic impeding.

Here, slowing traffic isn't limited to synchronizing red lights so that you hit 'em all and have to wait at lightly traveled cross streets with 40-second green cycles. Even the massive air pollution generated

by thousands of vehicles stalled on "traffic calmed" streets is inexplicably ignored by the Greens on city council.

Although traffic increases in Santa Monica at the rate of 2 to 3 percent annually, the city's response is to reduce the number of traffic lanes, narrow them and install curb extensions, roundabouts, circles and speed bumps to slow you down and make it more difficult, frustrating and dangerous to drive.

One of the best places to see the city's traffic calming efforts is Pico Boulevard. Although politicians, staff and hired traffic consultants point to this project with pride, it's still an unattractive and breathtakingly dangerous slalom course for cars and pedestrians alike.

Councilman Kevin McKeown, who is seeking re-election, said at a Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce candidates forum this week that he was proud of his traffic calming advocacy, especially on Montana Avenue.

McKeown supported a plan to narrow the street from two lanes to one lane in each direction, as well as installing a series of curb extensions and flashing pedestrian crosswalks on Montana Avenue. Before the concrete was barely dry on one curb extension, a pedestrian

stepped directly into traffic lane and was seriously injured by an oncoming car. So much for pedestrian safety.

The city council on Tuesday night is poised to award a \$4,650,135 contract to traffic impede most of our major east-west streets. Among the "Phase Two" proposals are landscaped "safety" islands at every unsignalized intersection the length of Wilshire Boulevard. To accommodate this, traffic lanes will be reduced to 10 feet — barely the width of a city bus.

Wilshire Boulevard is one of our heaviest traveled thoroughfares. This proposal will substantially increase travel time and congestion, which appears to be what our city traffic geniuses want. Think of it as the "transit mall" for 33 blocks. Just imagine what it will be like during construction — scheduled to start AFTER the election.

Curb extensions, "flashing" crosswalks and other similar installations will appear on Santa Monica Boulevard, Broadway, Pearl and Ocean Park boulevards, too.

Also part of the plan is 26th Street. Here, residents just wanted a pedestrian signal light at Washington Avenue so school kids could cross 26th Street safely. A simple request became a \$1 million

traffic mitigation scheme for the entire street — including a "nonstop" traffic roundabout at 26th and Washington.

The roundabout looks to be a boon for local personal injury attorneys because many people believe accidents there will dramatically increase as motorists try to navigate in circles around each other.

Another result of slowing and gridlocking traffic on major arteries is that it encourages motorists looking for short cuts to divert into residential neighborhoods. This increases through-traffic exactly where you don't want it: on quiet residential streets.

If you don't want to spend a lot more time in your vehicle gridlocked in traffic on Wilshire Boulevard, and if you don't want mad-as-hell motorists speeding down your residential street and using it as a short cut, you'll get hold of a city council member before 5:45 p.m. Tuesday night and say, "Stop this madness. Please, don't award that contract."

But then you might like the way our mean, Green and extreme city government handles ever-increasing traffic problems. If you do, you either don't drive, you don't know good from bad or you're Amish.

Bill Bauer is a 25-year Santa Monica resident and a freelance writer.

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

OPINION



Living wage tests the character of our city

I moved to Santa Monica over five years ago largely by accident, not yet aware how lucky I was to have found an affordable apartment in a great location. Today, I never want to leave my city by the sea, the place I genuinely call home.

Since that time, I've seen a lot of challenges confront our city, and met a lot of courageous people that face them each day. One watershed issue for many of us is affordable housing and rent control. In 1998, the state Legislature passed "vacancy decontrol," whereby a rent-controlled unit goes to market rate once a tenant moves out. This policy has invited a whole new era of tenant harassment and gentrification of our neighborhoods. Forget a diverse Santa Monica. Young professionals, seniors and other low-income residents have two choices — they can struggle to rent here, or they can leave.

But I have also learned that it's much, much worse for many people who work in Santa Monica, most of whom could never dream of actually living here. Things are particularly tough for the low-wage tourism workers in Santa Monica's coastal zone, the area most of us know as the pier, Third Street Promenade, Main Street and, most importantly, "hotel row."

Realizing that many tourism workers don't earn enough to support their families, in January 2000 the Santa Monica City Council wisely ordered an economic study of a proposed living wage ordinance. The study found that nearly 2,000 tourism workers required taxpayer assistance despite working full-time, often at two jobs. It further found that a living wage would help lift these workers out of poverty — and off of the public dole — and that the big hotels and wealthier businesses could afford to pay the wage.

It's no surprise to policy watchers that the big hotels can afford to pay their workers more. The city decided some years ago to pour millions of dollars into creating a profitable environment for businesses in the coastal zone. The city bankrolled infrastructure improvements along the pier and beaches. They remodeled and revitalized the Promenade, including constructing the high-rise parking lots to make room for shoppers and restaurant patrons. All told, the hotels and other businesses benefited from over \$180 million in public expenditures.

So, in July 2001, after much deliberation and public input, the city council passed a \$10.50 living wage that would get these hard-working people off public assistance. The ordinance also considered small-business concerns by requir-

ing only companies with \$5 million in gross receipts or more to comply, and including a hardship exemption for businesses that could prove the wage would adversely affect their growth.

But alas, the big hotels that had been given so much hit the streets the very next day to collect signatures to put the issue on the ballot. Supporters of low-wage tourism workers now find themselves working to pass Proposition JJ, a referendum to affirm an ordinance that should already be in place for those putting in the most work to keep our coastal zone a profitable environment.

I became involved in the living wage campaign because I was proud of the fact that I lived in a progressive city that wanted to use its great wealth to help those that work hard, but are still in need. Instead, I once again have to listen to a vocal minority of wealthy business owners who apparently believe that it's acceptable to pay workers so little that they must rely on public assistance to make ends meet. They have contributed nearly \$2 million to stop the living wage — money that would be much better spent on better pay and benefits for their employees.

I want to live in a city whose leaders make innovative, cutting-edge decisions that challenge political orthodoxy. I want to live in a city where business leaders understand that investing in workers lowers absenteeism, builds employee loyalty and reduces training costs. I want to live in a city that gives those who work here at least a shot of being able to afford to live here. I want to live in the kind of city that would pass a living wage ordinance.

On Nov. 5 we have an opportunity to speak loudly and clearly about the kind of city in which we would like to live. Quite frankly, it's "gut check" time. Will we be a city that believes we should vote with conservative ideologues and their baseless, "sky is falling" fear mongering, while the working poor only dream of making ends meet? Or will we be a city that supports a proven method of lifting low-wage workers out of poverty, and off of taxpayer assistance, while minimally affecting the wealthy businesses that employ them?

I hope you will stand with me and thousands of others to vote Yes on Measure JJ, the living wage. It's the kind of city Santa Monica should be.

Todd Flora is state director of the California Clean Money Campaign, and is an active volunteer with Human Rights Watch and Heal the Bay.

Guest Commentary

By Todd Flora

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Santa Monica Daily Press □ Friday, October 4, 2002 □ Page 5

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**LOCAL**

Officials finding ways to be environmentally conscience

PROGRAM, from page 1

recycling programs around at the time.

Government officials, residents and environmentalists then worked together on setting goals and objectives the city and community as a whole would meet when it came to resource management, transportation, pollution prevention public health protection and economic development — Santa Monica began treating run-off water before it emptied into the ocean, it began buying green electricity and buying non-traditional vehicles.

"In many cases, doing the right thing already saves money in the short run," Feinstein said. "And as long as we plan ahead, it saves us in the long run as well."

The effort drew national attention from communities world-wide, and made Santa Monica well-known as an environmentally conscience city.

However, when officials began revisiting the plan 10 years later, they saw many areas needed improvement, and they began adding the social and economic

aspects of being sustainable.

Instead of just looking at the pollution of Santa Monica Bay, the new methods will look at how pollution affects jobs and it will take into account the impacts it could have on the economy as well.

"In many cases, doing the right thing already saves money in the short run."

— MIKE FEINSTEIN
Santa Monica Mayor

"For the first 10 years, we focused on internal metrics like energy and water use, solid waste and recycling," said Mayor Pro Tem Kevin McKeown. "I'm encouraging an approach for the next ten year cycle that weighs our City's whole ecological footprint."

Santa Monica resident and TV producer passes away

PALTROW, from page 1

er, it was his role as father to one of Hollywood's most popular stars that drew most attention.

Bruce Paltrow got a chance to direct his daughter two years ago in his last film, "Duets," a quirky road movie about karaoke fanatics that featured an ensemble cast. Gwyneth Paltrow plays a Las Vegas showgirl who hits the highway with her long-lost dad, a karaoke hustler played by pop singer Huey Lewis.

After making the film, Gwyneth Paltrow gave the director a warm review. "I think he's the smartest person I've ever known in my life," she said at the time.

In the original script, her character did not sing, but her father added it to the story.

"I wrote it in because I felt it was essential for the character to sing," Bruce Paltrow said at the time. "I thought it would be a way for her to connect with her father. And I knew how well Gwyneth could sing. When she and her mother sing together, you just can't believe it."

Born in Brooklyn in 1943, Bruce Paltrow took his first major steps in show business in his late 20s, working in New York as a writer for Screen Gems Pictures. In 1970, he married Danner, who was herself getting started in film and TV work.

He made his breakthrough with the ABC television action-comedy movie called "Shirts/Skins" in 1973, which he wrote and produced.

His first wide recognition came from writing, producing and directing the show "The White Shadow," about a professional basketball player who retires to coach at an inner-city high school. He was co-nominated for best-drama Emmys in 1980 and 1981 for this work.

In the 1980s, his work on the TV show "St. Elsewhere" helped make the hospital saga one of the most popular and captivating shows of the period, featuring odd, frustrated characters and stories that blended comedy and tragedy.

His other credits include the 1982 romantic-comedy film "A Little Sex,"

starring Tim Matheson and Kate Capshaw as a couple dealing with love and infidelity. He also directed for the 1990s police drama "Homicide: Life on the Streets" and the 1995 TV movie "Ed McBain's 87th Precinct: Lightning."

In 1997, he received the first Diversity Award from the Directors Guild of America, and was recognized as a champion of the rights of women and minorities.

The following year, he had the gratification of seeing his daughter's career take off with "Shakespeare in Love," for which she won an Oscar. He also watched his son, Jake, follow him into film directing.

"I think he's the smartest person I've ever known in my life."

— GWYNETH PALTROW
Daughter

Bruce Paltrow came to Italy last week to celebrate his daughter's birthday, and had made several public appearances, including attending the Italian premiere of the film "Minority Report," starring Tom Cruise.

They had been staying in Tuscany when Bruce Paltrow fell ill, local media reported. He was transferred by helicopter to Rome, where he died in a hospital before dawn Thursday, the ANSA news agency said.

Gwyneth Paltrow was staying in Rome, reportedly with Italian friends. Danner, co-star of "Meet the Parents," had been working on her new television drama "Presidio Med" in Los Angeles at the time of the death, but was expected to fly out to Italy.

Gwyneth Paltrow's spokesman said Bruce Paltrow's body would be returned to the United States, although specific funeral plans remained uncertain. He is survived by Danner and children Gwyneth and Jake.



LOCAL □ STATE



County registrar still cannot find voter form

RALLY, from page 3

during the seminars is they must be registered Santa Monica voters when they first make their intention known they may run for an elective office, Stewart said.

She said de la Torre attended a July 17 seminar and then afterward "pulled papers" to run for office. He submitted his petition with 100 signatures on the Aug. 9 filing deadline.

But 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 that filled out a form that day were never registered by the county. Woocher believes the form either got lost in the mail, or he said sometimes national ballots are sent to the secretary of state.

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 docu-

ment had been filled out.

When a letter from the registrar's office did not arrive confirming he had changed his registration, de la Torre said he re-registered to vote on Aug. 5 to comply with state law that only allow registered voters to circulate petitions to run for office.

**"Oscar's all about race.
He's not about what a
quality educator he'd be."**

— CHUCK ALLORD
City council candidate

Chuck Allord, a city council candidate, stood nearby Thursday's rally for de la Torre holding a sign that questioned the candidate's motives. Allord clashed with several of de la Torre's supporters, who called him a "racist" and a "hater."

"Because they disagree with me, they call me a racist and that's not right," he said. "Oscar's all about race. He's not about what a quality educator he'd be."

Backyard birds in Los Angeles County found infected with contagious and fatal virus

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — An outbreak of exotic Newcastle disease, one of the most infectious diseases of poultry in the world, has been found in small flocks of backyard birds in Los Angeles County, including some used in illegal cockfights, government officials said Thursday.

Larry Hawkins, a spokesman with the United States Department of Agriculture, confirmed that more than one case of the disease had been found in the county. He said the department is conducting investigations in Los Angeles, Riverside and San Bernardino counties to determine the source and distribution of the disease.

He declined to say what types of birds were affected, or how many, but noted that none of the cases involved commercial poultry.

The disease was discovered when a bird owner reported a high mortality rate among his flock. A DNA analysis of the birds confirmed the infection of exotic Newcastle disease and the birds, including those used in cockfights, were destroyed, Hawkins said. He would not specify the number of birds that were destroyed.

"Until we're able to fully limit the extent of this infection, people need to

keep their birds at home and closely monitor the people who have contact with their birds," he said. "Our concern is to inform the public and ask them to self-quarantine their birds — don't take your birds to swap meets, don't attend competitions or shows with game birds."

Some strains of exotic Newcastle are found in the United States, and most poultry are immunized against it. The strain found in the latest outbreak is not known to exist in the United States, however.

Past outbreaks of exotic Newcastle disease have severely affected the poultry industry.

In 1971, a major outbreak occurred in Southern California that threatened the entire U.S. poultry and egg supply. In all, 1,341 infected flocks were identified and almost 12 million birds destroyed, according to the California Department of Food and Agriculture.

The eradication program cost taxpayers \$56 million and dramatically increased poultry prices. The disease was first diagnosed in California in 1950 among pheasants imported from Hong Kong.

Signs of the disease in birds include sneezing, coughing, gasping for air, drooping wings, muscular tremors, paralysis and sudden death.

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STATE

Companies about to get into rent-a-DVD-by-mail business

BY MICHAEL LIEDTKE
AP Business Writer

SAN JOSE — With DVD players revolutionizing home entertainment, three retail giants — Blockbuster, Wal-Mart and Columbia House — are exploring getting into the rent-DVDs-by-mail business.

The business was pioneered by an Internet start-up company called Netflix Inc., which proved there is an audience that wants to rent DVDs without having to go to a store or pay late fees.

Some of these competing services could be available nationwide this year or early next year. That could start price wars.

Netflix is a flat-fee service that allows subscribers to keep DVD rentals for as long as they want. Netflix mails the DVDs to subscribers, who return the movies in postage-paid return envelopes. Once Netflix gets a movie back, it mails the next available DVD on each subscriber's online order list.

The concept has emerged as one of the Internet's biggest subscription services.

Bentonville, Ark.-based Wal-Mart is poised to undercut Netflix, which charges a \$19.95 monthly fee for the right to rent up to three DVDs at a time. Wal-Mart documents obtained by The Associated Press indicate the retail giant plans to start a subscription service for \$18.86 per month.

Blockbuster, the world's largest movie rental business, also appears poised to begin mailing DVD rentals to customers through an Arizona online service called DVDrentalcentral.com. Papers filed with the state show that DVDrentalcentral's headquarters and phone number are the same as Blockbuster's.

Blockbuster chief executive John Antioco said Blockbuster and DVDrentalcentral "may be sharing expenses" but declined to elaborate.

DVD rentals by mail are "something interesting to us," Antioco said. Netflix "is on everybody's radar screen. What we don't know is if you can do it in a way where you can make money."

Similarly, Columbia House, the music-and-movie mail order business,

wants to team up with a partner — possibly Netflix — to offer an online DVD-by-mail rental service to Columbia House's 3 million members.

"It's something that is very hot on our minds," said Scott Flanders, chairman and chief executive of Columbia House. "What Netflix has established is impressive. It's an outstanding service that consumers want and need."

"What Netflix has established is impressive. It's an outstanding service that consumers want and need."

— SCOTT FLANDERS
Columbia House, chief executive

There appears to be plenty of room for more growth. With DVD players now in 55.9 million U.S. households — a total that is expected to climb to 97.6 million in 2007 — annual spending on DVD rentals will soar from \$3.2 billion to \$8.4 billion during the next five years, predicts Adams Media Research of Carmel, Calif.

But with well-established retailers getting into the business, "I'm not sure Netflix is going to be the survivor," said entertainment industry analyst Dennis McAlpine.

Netflix chief executive Reed Hastings, the Silicon Valley entrepreneur got the idea for the service as he stewed over the \$40 Blockbuster charged in late fees for his copy of "Apollo 13," said he is confident Netflix's head start will enable it to fend off the competition.

Netflix, launched in 1999, has 742,000 subscribers. Analysts expect Netflix to collect about \$150 million in revenue from its subscribers this year and \$237 million next year. However, Netflix still has not turned a profit and has lost \$98.9 million.

Radio station employee may face criminal charges for stunt

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A radio station employee may face criminal charges for allegedly soliciting a 17-year-old boy to walk naked in public so he could win concert tickets.

Authorities are trying to determine whether charges should be filed against the teen or anyone at radio station KPWR-FM with conspiracy and soliciting a person to engage in a lewd act in public.

The teen was arrested Tuesday on suspicion of intentional and public exposure of one's private parts, Police Officer Jack Richter said. The boy's name was not released because of his age.

"These stunts should be a matter of common sense and responsibility by the participants and the station itself," Richter said. "In this case, however, the behavior was not only audacious but illegal."

Police said the youth was encouraged by Joe Grande, a street reporter for the Burbank station's morning radio personality "Big Boy." Grande is known for getting people to perform what the station calls a "dare of the day."

Police said Grande was in the San Fernando Valley when he asked people to "do something crazy" to win tickets to a concert by the band P3.

"While at the location, Grande announced on live air that he wanted someone to remove all of their clothes and walk to all four corners of the intersection naked," Richter said.

The teen, who told station workers he was 18, offered to perform the stunt, police said. Police said they got complaints of a man exposing himself to a school bus and to families driving to school.

Station officials could not be immediately reached for comment early Thursday.

Asteroid explosions may seem like nuclear attacks

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NATIONAL

CIA not providing key data on Iraq, senators say

BY KEN GUGGENHEIM
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — In the latest dispute between intelligence agencies and Congress, members of the Senate Intelligence Committee said Thursday the CIA has been withholding information it requested on U.S. military action in Iraq.

The CIA said it is cooperating, and some Republicans on the committee said they are satisfied with the information they have received.

Sen. Bob Graham, D-Fla., who chairs the Senate Intelligence Committee, told reporters Thursday that information provided by CIA officials at a meeting Wednesday was unacceptable at a time that Congress is considering a resolution on the use of military force in Iraq.

"We're trying to carry out a very important responsibility and given the nature of this classified information, we are the only means by which the intelligence community can communicate to the legislative branch of government," he said.

He later had what he called a "frank and candid" meeting with CIA Director George J. Tenet. He said Tenet addressed several of his concerns, but declined to elaborate. CIA officials also said it was an excellent meeting.

Tenet is scheduled to meet with the committee Friday. Mark Mansfield, a spokesman for Tenet, said he believes it is important to keep up good relations with Congress and appreciates the committee's oversight role.

The dispute comes as the committee and its House counterpart are conducting

an inquiry examining intelligence failures before the Sept. 11 attacks. Lawmakers have complained about a lack of cooperation from intelligence agencies; the Bush administration has complained about leaks from Congress.

Inquiry staff have pointed to a series of missed clues which, if agencies had pieced them together, might have pointed to the attacks. CIA officials have suggested those clues were obvious only in hindsight. They said their personnel did the best they could with limited resources.

Last week, Tenet denounced inquiry staff for suggesting in a memorandum that a CIA official would give misleading responses if asked certain questions.

The senators' complaints Thursday involve classified National Intelligence Estimates that Congress wanted. The estimates are prepared, usually over several months, by the National Intelligence Council, a group of analysts who are not part of the CIA, but report directly to Tenet.

Graham said lawmakers had requested an estimate on Iraq in July, but the request was denied.

Late Tuesday, intelligence officials gave lawmakers another estimate, dealing in part with the capabilities of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction. Graham said that estimate was presented too late to allow senators to read it before a Wednesday morning briefing.

Sen. Richard Durbin, D-Ill., accused the CIA of "dragging its feet" on the estimate. He had requested the estimate three weeks ago, saying he was stunned one hadn't already been completed.

Universal Studios Japan head steps down over scandals

By The Associated Press

TOKYO — The president of Universal Studios Japan announced his resignation Thursday over operating problems that have slashed attendance, tarnished the park's image and delivered visitors thrills they hadn't bargained for.

Akira Sakata, president of USJ Co., which operates the park in Osaka, central Japan, promised to step down this month to take responsibility for the scandals as soon as his resignation is approved at a shareholders' meeting.

He will be replaced by Shin Sasaki, a former official at the Osaka city government, the park's largest shareholder owning about a 25 percent stake.

The Hollywood-inspired theme park opened in March last year to rave reviews in this nation known for its fascination with American entertainment.

The park reached its first-year target of 8 million visitors by November, about four months ahead of schedule, and welcomed the 10 millionth visitor by early March.

Universal Studios was plagued by problems off and on from the start.

And its troubles grew even bigger over the summer.

In July, health officials found high levels of bacteria in the water at six drinking fountains. The park had to turn off all 32 water fountains in the park until the problem was finally fixed last month. The park gave out bottled water to visitors.

The water problems followed another

incident in November last year when the park misconnected one water fountain so it mistakenly pumped unfiltered, industrial water generally used for watering plants and filling artificial ponds.

The park also acknowledged that cooks had been routinely using outdated salami sausage, rice crackers, dried ginger and dozens of other ingredients to prepare food at the park's 21 restaurants.

It also admitted it had falsely reported the explosives it had used and stored for four shows. The police raided the park office in August.

Three shows were restarted within a few weeks after proper papers were filed about the explosives, but "Hollywood Magic," a popular fireworks show, could not be brought back until Sept. 13.

Attendance has plunged to 1.26 million in July and August, down by a quarter from the 1.67 million for the same period the previous year.

Universal Studios has promised to be more transparent about its revenue and profits, but it has so far not disclosed such figures. The business is still not profitable and remains about \$1.6 billion in debt from the initial investment.

Universal Studios Japan spokesman Johta Takahashi says all the park's problems are long fixed. Bacteria-filled lakes detected in the fall of last year have been cleaned up, he said.

The shows are back unchanged and an investigation is ongoing on why the false reports about the explosives got filed.

INTERNATIONAL



Chief weapons inspector is ready to return to Iraq

BY EDITH M. LEDERER
Associated Press Writer

UNITED NATIONS — The chief U.N. weapons inspector said Thursday he hoped Security Council members would move quickly on whether to adopt a tough new resolution before his team travels to Iraq to look for weapons of mass destruction.

If the rules changed while he was in Iraq, Blix said, "it would be awkward."

Blix spoke to reporters after briefing the Security Council on the agreement he reached with Iraq earlier this week on logistics for resuming inspections after nearly four years.

The 15-member council is divided over whether to adopt a new resolution. The United States says a new mandate is critical to the disarmament of Saddam Hussein, but Russia says it is not needed and would cause unnecessary delay to a resumption of inspections.

Council members also disagree over whether Blix could go to Baghdad before a decision is made on a new resolution. The United States and Britain, which are pushing a new resolution aimed at improving access for inspectors, are demanding that Blix wait.

Blix said that many issues had been solved during his talks with the Iraqis in Vienna, "but there are some minor matters and some loose ends before we go to Baghdad."

The United States leaped on Blix's reference to "loose ends" to say this reinforced the need for a resolution.

Blix said he recognized the council was debating the issue, but he was going ahead with preparations to go to Iraq "at the earliest possible opportunity."

"It would be awkward if we were doing inspections and a new mandate with new, changed directives arrived," Blix said. "It would be better to have those early."

President Bush, meanwhile, stepped up his pressure on the United Nations to stand with the United States against Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein.

"The choice is up (to) the United Nations to show its resolve. The choice is up to Saddam Hussein to fulfill his word," Bush said. "And if neither of them acts, the United States in deliberate fashion will lead a coalition to take away the world's worst weapons from one of the world's worst leader."

Secretary-General Kofi Annan told reporters it is "up to the council today or in the coming week to determine what the next stage would be."

"Of course, they are discussing a new resolution which may be passed. But Blix, in the meantime, continues his preparations," Annan said.

Washington wants one resolution that would include approval for military action if Iraq fails to comply. Russia, China and France — all veto-wielding members of the council — oppose the U.S. demand that any new resolution authorize the use of force if Iraq fails to comply with inspectors.

France has proposed a middle ground which would strengthen inspections but give Iraq a chance to cooperate before authorizing any military action.

Blix said the U.N. Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission which he heads already has the legal authority to return to Iraq under a series of resolutions adopted since the end of the Gulf War in 1991. The inspection regime was designed to uncover and dismantle

Saddam's arsenal of chemical and biological weapons and his program to develop nuclear arms and ballistic missiles

"The question was whether one should solve every practical arrangement (beforehand)," Blix said. "We solved a good deal in Vienna and went over a good deal, but there are some minor matters and some loose ends before we go to Baghdad."

Those loose ends, he said, included the key issue of whether Saddam's network of presidential palaces would remain off-limits to surprise inspections. Also unresolved were security arrangements for inspectors and flights within Iraq to reach suspected weapons sites.

"We have not purchased the air tickets yet, but we have plans. ... We hope it won't be a long delay," Blix said.

Britain's U.N. Ambassador Jeremy Greenstock said Blix should wait for the council to act.

"We have not purchased the air tickets yet, but we have plans ... We hope it won't be a long delay."

— HANS BLIX
U.N. chief weapons inspector

"It would be practically — and I would say politically — wise for those discussions to finish so that he (Blix) is 100 percent clear across the full range of his business, tight ends and loose ends, what are his rights and what are his powers," Greenstock said.

U.S. deputy ambassador James Cunningham said the existing Security Council resolutions "aren't good enough to get the job done."

Washington wants a complete overhaul of the rules under which the inspections would be carried out, including immediate and unfettered access to the eight presidential complexes which cover about 12 square miles.

British Prime Minister Tony Blair said there was no point sending inspectors without access to Saddam Hussein's palaces.

"It is no good allowing inspectors access to 99 percent of Iraq, if the weapons of mass destruction are actually located and stored and worked on in the remaining 1 percent of Iraq," Blair said at a news conference Thursday after his Labor Party's annual gathering in Blackpool, England.

In its first reaction to the U.S. draft, Russia, which is Iraq's closest council ally, said there was no need to strengthen inspections.

Russian officials had studied the American draft, which "only strengthened our belief in the correctness of our position in favor of the soonest resumption of inspection activities in Iraq," Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Salanov said, according to the Interfax news agency.

White House spokesman Ari Fleischer played down Russia's reaction. "It's not going to surprise anybody that from day to day you're going to see different statements from different leaders."

Before the council meeting, Blix and Mohamed ElBaradei, head of the International Atomic Energy Agency which is in charge of nuclear inspections, met Annan.



Suzanne Plunkett/Associated Press
United Nations chief weapons inspector Hans Blix arrives Thursday at the U.N. headquarters where he will brief the U.N. Security Council on his agreement with Iraq for resuming inspections. Under the agreement reached Tuesday in Vienna, Austria, U.N. weapons inspectors would return after a four-year absence, but under conditions unacceptable to Washington and London.

More suicide attempts reported among detainees being held in Guantanamo

BY PAISLEY DODDS
Associated Press Writer

GUANTANAMO BAY NAVAL BASE, Cuba — More terrorist suspects detained at Guantanamo Bay have tried to kill themselves, following four attempted suicides in July and August, U.S. military officials say.

The attempts occurred since August, but officials declined to say how many more there had been, when they occurred, or whether any detainee has tried to kill himself more than once.

"There have been additional suicide attempts but we will not discuss that," mission spokesman Lt. Col. Joe Hoey said Wednesday, referring all other questions to U.S. Southern Command in Miami.

Southern Command spokesman Sgt. Ray Sarracino also declined to give details, but said guards had "intervened."

The previous attempts involved four men who all tried to hang themselves with "comfort items" in their cells, such as towels or sheets. One of the men also tried to cut his wrist with a plastic utensil, officials said last month.

None of the 598 detainees from 43 countries held on the remote outpost in eastern Cuba have been charged but they are accused of links to the fallen Taliban regime of Afghanistan or al-Qaida terror network. They have not been allowed access to lawyers.

Some launched hunger strikes shortly after they first were brought to Guantanamo in January. Recently, some have sent postcards to their families

describing depression over the uncertainty of their fate and said they will "see them in heaven," according to Najeeb al-Nauimi, a lawyer and former Qatari justice minister who argues the detainees should be returned to their home countries.

Capt. Al Shimkus, in charge of the detention hospital, said between 3 and 5 percent of the detainees suffer from mental illness and many were sick when they arrived in Guantanamo.

"There have been additional suicide attempts but we will not discuss that."

— LT. COL. JOE HOEY
Army spokesman

"None (of the suicide attempts) have been successful," Shimkus said, declining to give details.

A full-time psychiatrist and psychologist and mental health workers are assigned to help the detainees.

About 26 detainees were being given either antidepressants, anti-anxiety drugs or anti-psychotic medication. Last month, 30 detainees were receiving the same types of medications.

Officials refuse to say whether any of those who tried to kill themselves were taking medication.



SPORTS

Scioscia aware Angels haven't accomplished much yet

BY JOHN NADEL

AP Sports Writer

ANAHEIM — One postseason victory is not a big deal to Anaheim Angels manager Mike Scioscia.

Another two certainly will be.

"We have a lot to do," a bleary-eyed Scioscia said Thursday, six hours after the Angels arrived home following an 8-6 victory over the Yankees in New York that evened their AL division series 1-1.

"We aren't raising any pennants saying, 'We're here.' This is a constant effort," Scioscia said. "We know what it's going to take to get to the level we want to get."

The Angels have been one of baseball's least successful teams since they began as an expansion franchise in 1961, appearing in the playoffs only three times before this year and failing to win a postseason series.

The Yankees have won four straight AL pennants and four of the last six World Series, advancing to Game 7 against Arizona last year after falling behind Oakland 0-2 in the best-of-five first round.

The Angels are confident entering Game 3 on Friday night following a franchise-record 99 regular-season wins and a split in the first two playoff games at Yankee Stadium.

"It's going to be crazy in Anaheim," catcher Bengie Molina said.

Mike Mussina (18-10) will pitch for the Yankees against Ramon Ortiz (15-9).

"We have a very good chance, no doubt," Molina said. "I like our chances. We know who we're playing against."

And the Yankees know their opponent, as well.

"We expected every bit of what we've seen," Yankees manager Joe Torre said. "They're playing the way they expect to play, the way Mike Scioscia expects them to play. Our pitching, I don't think, has been God-awful bad. We haven't been able to put them away. You have to give them credit."

The Angels have 29 hits in the two games, including three homers by Troy Glaus and one each by Tim Salmon, Garret Anderson and Scott Spiezio.

"Glaus is as hot as you can get," Torre said.

New York second baseman Alfonso Soriano, hit in the back by a Troy Percival pitch in the eighth inning Wednesday night, was sore but intends to play in Game 3.

"It's bruised a little bit, but it's OK," Soriano said. "I put a lot of ice on it last night and I'm OK."

Yankees shortstop Derek Jeter, who has five hits in the two games to extend his postseason record hit total to 98, expects New York to rebound from Wednesday night's loss.

"You have to forget about what happened the previous night, win or lose," he said. "We've always been good in the past about putting things behind us."

Jeter smiled when asked about playing at Edison Field.

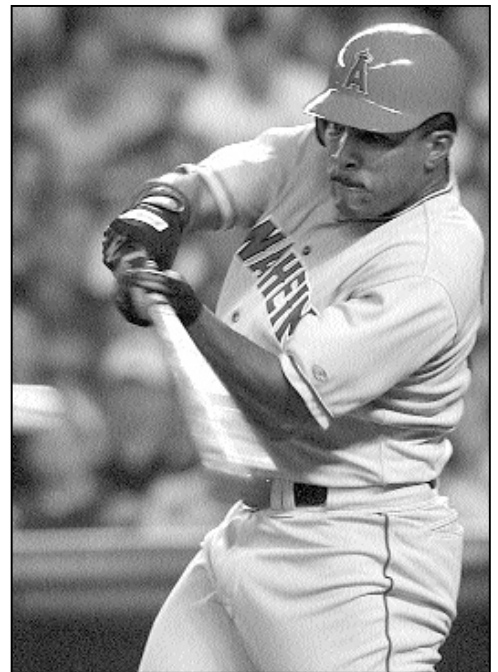
"Talking about that damn monkey, huh? The rally monkey there," he said.

The rally monkey made his debut during the 2000 season during an interleague game against the Giants. Now, he's a popular figure here, being shown on the videoboard to the delight of the fans when the Angels are batting in certain situations.

"It's always been fun here, the fans are great," Jeter said. "There's a lot of Yankee fans here when we played here throughout the years, but I wouldn't really anticipate that the next couple of days."

The Angels, 24-21 against New York since 1998, will be in their first postseason game at Anaheim since Oct. 12, 1986, when the Angels, one out from advancing to the World Series, then blew a three-run, ninth-inning lead against Boston.

The Red Sox won 7-6 in 11 innings to cut the Angels' lead in the AL championship series to 3-2, then swept two games in Boston to win the pennant.



Bill Kastroun/Associated Press

Anaheim Angels' Garret Anderson hits a solo home run in the eighth inning off New York Yankees pitcher Orlando Hernandez during Game 2 of the American League Division Series Wednesday at Yankee Stadium in New York.

Homer Hankies, earsplitting noise await Oakland A's

BY JON KRAWCZYNSKI

Associated Press Writer

MINNEAPOLIS — The Homer Hankies will be back on Friday night.

Baseball owners had hoped to fold the Minnesota Twins. They failed, Minnesota made the playoffs for the first time in 11 years and the Twins will be greeted by 55,000 screaming fans Friday for Game 3 of their AL division series against Oakland.

If it's anything like 1987 and 1991, when the Twins won the World Series, it's going to be very loud.

"You can't hear anything," said Kirby Puckett, who led the Twins to World Series titles in 1987 and 1991.

The Twins are 11-1 at the Metrodome

in postseason games.

"We scared some people in there," Puckett said. "They didn't like to play there in the Dome."

Al Newman was there, too. A utility man on both championship teams, Newman is now the Twins' third base coach.

"I've had a few rookie players ask me how loud it gets," Newman said. "I just tell them, 'Picture this, if I'm talking to you, you wouldn't hear me unless I yell in your ear.'"

"They kind of smile and look forward to it, but you can't ever tell until you get down in between the white lines and feel it for yourself. It almost makes your heart beat faster."

The Twins are built for the fast-playing surface and experienced in tracking fly balls in against the ceiling.

"It's too loud to call the other guy off," Newman said. "You just have to know, 'Hey, he normally catches this ball, and takes this route.'"

Twins manager Ron Gardenhire was a coach on the 1991 team that beat the Atlanta Braves in the World Series.

"Guys keep saying, 'Yeah we've had a lot of people in here, it's been loud.' But they haven't seen what I've seen," Gardenhire said. "It's going to be really loud."

Adam Carr, 23, a fan from Blaine, Minn., was 12 years old when he went to Game 2 of the 1991 Series.

"It was unbelievably loud and intense," Carr said. "Every single person was hanging on every single pitch. My ears were still ringing on the ride home hours after the game."

Oakland outfielder David Justice was an outfielder on the Braves, who lost the first two games at the Dome, swept three at home, then lost thrillers in Game 6 and 7.

"I just remember it being packed and the hankies and being very loud," he said. "But they are not 11-1 because of the noise. They are 11-1 because they know how to play at their stadium. They have speed, they have guys who can chop some baseballs into the turf and get those types of base hits."

Miami Dolphins, New England Patriots clash in AFC East test

BY DAVE GOLDBERG

AP Football Writer

A week ago, the Miami Dolphins and New England Patriots were unbeaten, looking ahead to this week's meeting in Florida.

Now both are 3-1, but the game is still huge in the AFC East, where, with the early demise of the Jets, these two look to battle it out.

The Dolphins are favored by three, the standard award for home-field advantage. But their 17-game home winning streak in August and September is no longer relevant — this is October.

What's relevant is Ricky Williams. The Patriots were superb in their first two games, but then allowed 180 yards rushing to Kansas City's Priest Holmes and 217 more to LaDainian Tomlinson in last Sunday's loss in San Diego.

"We've got to get it fixed," New England linebacker Mike Vrabel says. "We don't have any time to sit around and wait."

The Dolphins had their own defensive problems in the 48-30 loss in Kansas City as Trent Green threw for 328 yards. And Jay Fiedler reverted to his old form for Miami, throwing four interceptions, three in the last eight minutes.

Interesting dilemmas for both teams.

The Dolphins have won the last four meetings in Miami. Strange teams are winning in the NFL this year. Go with the champions.

PATRIOTS, 31-30

■ San Diego (plus 5) Denver

Three factors working for the Broncos:

—Mike Shanahan won't take lightly what transpired Monday night in the lopsided loss to Baltimore.

—Marty Schottenheimer rarely wins in Denver, although he won his only game at the new Mile High with the Redskins last season.

—Law of averages works against the Chargers.

BRONCOS, 30-23

■ Green Bay (plus 1 1/2) at Chicago (Monday night)

The Bears have all kinds of trouble with Brett Favre.

PACKERS, 21-16

■ St. Louis (plus 7) at San Francisco

Without Kurt Warner at quarterback for the Rams, the NFC West is San Francisco's for the taking.

49ERS, 20-14

■ Tampa Bay (plus 1 1/2) at Atlanta

With the Falcons turning things around, this could become quite a rivalry.

BUCS, 17-13

■ Oakland (minus 3) at Buffalo

Four of five Bills games in OT?

BILLS, 45-42 (overtime)

■ Pittsburgh (plus 3) at New Orleans

Tommy Maddox?

We'll take Aaron Brooks.

SAINTS, 20-9

■ Philadelphia (minus 3) at Jacksonville

Are the Jaguars back?

EAGLES, 23-17

■ New York Giants (pick 'em) at Dallas

Odds-on to end 13-10.

GIANTS 13-10

■ Washington (plus 5 1/2) at Tennessee

Something is wrong in both camps.

TITANS, 16-13

■ Arizona (plus 3 1/2) at Carolina

The Cards are having one of their better seasons.

CARDINALS, 22-20

■ Cincinnati (plus 13 1/2) at Indianapolis

Some week, the Bengals will surprise someone.

Not this one.

COLTS, 41-6

■ Kansas City (minus 3 1/2) at New York Jets

The Jets have been outscored 102-13 in their last three games. Chad Pennington starts at quarterback, but the problems are deeper than that.

CHIEFS, 40-28

■ Baltimore (plus 7 1/2) at Cleveland

The Ravens are unbeaten since Ethan Brooks has started at right tackle.

BROWNS, 17-10

■ LAST WEEK: 4-10 (spread), 7-7 (Straight up)

■ SEASON: 26-33-1 (spread) 35-25 (straight up)

COMICS



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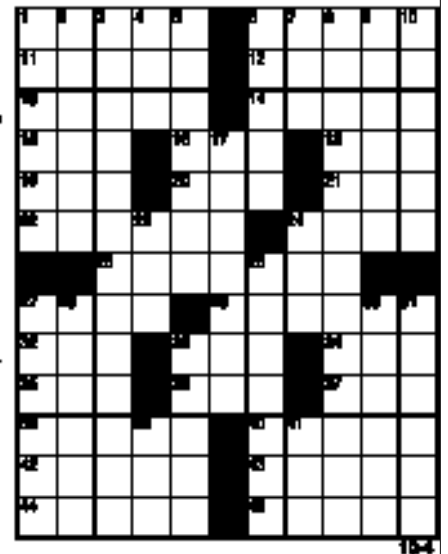
- ACROSS**
- Paris subway
 - Flexible
 - Egypt's social
 - Lucy's chum
 - Machine sound
 - Painter Edward
 - Brit. item
 - Reinforcing retreat
 - Yale player
 - Before now
 - Ball, e.g.
 - Poetic continuation
 - Stark & not
 - Machado's foe
 - Trial
 - Tennis grand
 - Florida's study
 - Gavin's foe
 - Uno doubled
 - Slur
 - Tommy
 - Golf goal
 - Fireman's tool
 - Spoke on TV
 - Love affair
 - The opposition
 - Stop
 - Stanley of 'Big Night'
 - Southern range
- 45 Old anachronic**
- DOWN**
- Turban
 - material
 - Tick off
 - Audrey Hepburn film
 - Campaigned
 - Electra's brother
 - Wallace's 1988 running mate
 - Slender Midori
 - Early Bogart film
 - Doctor
 - Wendell-changing current
 - Part of some addresses
 - Neckline shape
 - Childing sound
 - Raddish
 - Liam's cousin
 - Tara
 - 'Forget It'
 - Private response
 - Challenge
 - Exploit
 - Squirrel's prize

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BOBOX	TORAH
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NEWS	DECKS

Yesterday's answer

- Doctor
- Wendell-changing current
- Part of some addresses
- Neckline shape
- Childing sound
- Raddish
- Liam's cousin
- Tara
- 'Forget It'
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NEWS OF THE WEIRD by Chuck Shepard

Men caught with drugs and a dead body

- **More Creative Smugglers:** Border Patrol officers arrested two Texas men who drove back from Mexico with 11 pounds of marijuana but also with a dead body whose chest cavity had been cut open as if the men had originally tried to plant the drugs inside the cadaver (Falfurrias, Texas, July).
- A Belgian woman, 23, traveling by ferry from Greece to Italy, was detained for trying to smuggle her boyfriend in a large suitcase (Brindisi, Italy, July).
- A 17-year-old woman, whose plane had just landed in England from Dubai, was detained when agents realized that the mock chameleon design on her hat was a live, endangered-species chameleon (Manchester, England, July).

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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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GREAT STUFF, designer clothes, books, jewelry, household items. Saturday 8:30am-2:30pm. 751 18th St.

LOW PRICES!!! Yard Sale Saturday 10/05. 1029 2nd St. between Washington and California 9am-12pm.

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

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

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Call Angela at the Santa Monica Daily Press
310.458.7737 ext.101

Calendar Friday, October 4, 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, 12:45
Down (R) 12:00, 1:15, 2:30, 3:45, 5:00, 6:15, 7:30, 8:45, 10:00.

Mann Criterion
1313 Third St.
Sweet Home Alabama (PG-13) 11:00, 1:30, 1:40, 2:15, 4:30, 5:00, 7:10, 7:50, 10:00, 10:30
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.

AMC Theatre SM 7
1310 3rd Street
Ballistic: Ecks vs. Sever (R) 2:25, 5:25, 7:00, 7:45, 9:15, 9:55
Barbershop (PG-13) 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:35
City by the Sea (R) 2:05, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
Just a Kiss (R) 1:45, 4:40, 7:05, 9:25
Signs (PG-13) 1:55, 4:25, 7:10, 9:40
Swimfan (PG-13) 1:30, 4:15, Trapped (R) 2:05, 4:35, 7:20, 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) 5:30, 7:30, 9:30.

Today

Community

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

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.

Theater / Arts

This Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings Beautiful Soup Productions presents Savage in Limbo, A Play by John Patrick Shanley at The Comedy Underground, 320 Wilshire Blvd. in Santa Monica.

Showtime is at 8:00pm. Tickets are \$10.00 minimum donation. For Reservations call (818)601-9657.

Entertainment

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.

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.

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.

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.

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

Saturday

Community

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

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

Theater / Arts

Santa Monica Children's Theatre Co. presents a newly forming musical theatre company for children. Every Saturday from 10:15 a.m. - 2:15 p.m., Quest Studios, 19th & Broadway in

Santa Monica. Tuition is \$325 per month - covers cost of all classes and productions. Contact Janet Stegman at (310)995-9636.

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

Music / Entertainment

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

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.

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

Search for world's funniest joke finds a winner

BY JILL LAWLESS
Associated Press Writer

LONDON — Drum roll, please — an online search for the world's funniest joke has produced a winner.

In a yearlong experiment called LaughLab, a British psychology professor asked thousands of people around the world to rate the humor value of a list of jokes; they could also add their own favorites.

In December, Richard Wiseman and his associates announced the front-runner, an old gag involving fictional detective Sherlock Holmes and his sidekick, Dr. Watson. But in the final tally of some 2 million votes for 40,000 jokes, announced Thursday, a new joke emerged as a round-the-world rib-tickler:

"A couple of New Jersey hunters are out in the woods when one of them falls to the ground. He doesn't seem to be breathing, his eyes are rolled back in his head.

"The other guy whips out his cell phone and calls the emergency services. He gasps to the operator: 'My friend is dead! What can I do?'"

"The operator, in a calm, soothing voice, says: 'Just take it easy. I can help. First, let's make sure he's dead.'"

"There is a silence, then a shot is heard. The guy's voice comes back on the line. He says: 'OK, now what?'"

"Many of the jokes submitted received higher ratings from certain groups of people, but this one had real universal appeal," said Wiseman, who has published a book based on the experiment.

Wiseman, who teaches at the University of Hertfordshire in southern

"Many of the jokes submitted received higher ratings from certain groups of people, but this one had real universal appeal."

— RICHARD WISEMAN
Professor

England, said the research revealed that different countries preferred different types of jokes. Respondents were asked to rate jokes on a five-point scale from "not very funny" to "very funny."

Germans were the most likely to find all types of jokes funny, while Canadians were the least amused of the 10 top responding nations.

The British, Irish, Australians and New Zealanders favored jokes involving wordplay, while continental Europeans liked jokes with a surreal bent. Americans and Canadians preferred jokes invoking a strong sense of superiority.

Wiseman said jokes work "for lots of different reasons. They sometimes make us feel superior to others, reduce the emotional impact of anxiety-provoking situations or surprise us because of some kind of incongruity."

The winning joke about the hunters, he said, "contained all three elements."

Computer analysis also threw up a number of arcane humor "facts." Not all animal jokes, for example, are created equal — jokes mentioning ducks were rated as funnier than other jokes.

And length matters. Jokes containing

103 words were thought to be especially funny. The winning joke is 102 words long.

The runner-up is considerably longer:

"Sherlock Holmes and Dr. Watson go on a camping trip. After a good dinner and a bottle of wine, they retire for the night, and go to sleep. Some hours later, Holmes wakes up and nudges his faithful friend.

"Watson, look up at the sky and tell

me what you see.

"I see millions and millions of stars, Holmes," replies Watson.

"And what do you deduce from that?"

Watson ponders for a minute.

"Well, astronomically, it tells me that there are millions of galaxies and potentially billions of planets. Astrologically, I observe that Saturn is in Leo. Horologically, I deduce that the time is approximately a quarter past three. Meteorologically, I suspect that we will have a beautiful day tomorrow. Theologically, I can see that God is all powerful, and that we are a small and insignificant part of the universe. What does it tell you, Holmes?"

"Holmes is silent for a moment. 'Watson, you idiot!' he says, 'Someone has stolen our tent!'"

Don't steal the alligators

By The Associated Press

DAYTONA BEACH, Fla. — A tourist who captured a live alligator at a putt-putt golf course was himself nabbed in a hotel parking lot, clutching the alligator and holding its mouth closed.

Derrick Dale Cooper, 22, of North Carolina, was charged with animal poaching and petty theft after using a noose to catch a 3-foot alligator Monday at the Congo River golf park, police said.

The putt-putt course was the scene of a similar incident last year when a pair of tourists were arrested for taking a gator to their hotel pool. Wildlife officials caught the pair as they were watching the animal swim.

Cooper was released Tuesday from the Volusia County Branch Jail after posting \$1,000 bail. It was unclear if he had a lawyer.

The golf park has a permit to keep the alligators, which were raised in captivity.



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