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HOROSCOPE

It's a three star day, Aries

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)
★★★ Defer to others who seem intent on having their way. Don't pout. You're simply postponing what you want. Friends have a way of inspiring you to new levels. Fatigue surrounds your actions midday. Take your time; don't push. Tonight: Where music and friends can be found.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Your happiness becomes contagious. Reach out for someone at a distance. You draw others together. Smile as you choose to do something you love. Those involved also have a great time. Let go of problems for now. Tonight: Top the day off with romance.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★ A current project might be more important than anything else. Unfortunately, you become exhausted and very tired. Take your time making a decision that involves a parent or authority figure. A nap might be exactly what the doctor ordered. You gain a new perspective. Tonight: Surprise — you feel much better!

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★ A close friend might be gloomy. As a result, you adapt your plans, playing the day low-key. Make plans from home base. Don't stress out, and simply enjoy this special person in your life. Take your time. Relax. Do what feels good. Tonight: Have a favorite meal.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Handle something you think is very important in the morning. Get a personal issue off your chest, and the remainder of the day will be close to perfect. Gather the troops (friends or loved ones) for an outing. Tonight: Just be present with the moment.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Though you might find someone rather touchy in the a.m., by lunchtime, the playing field has leveled out. Make a special effort toward a friend or favorite Libra. Helping someone else enjoy life helps you smile. Tonight: Where the party is.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ You drag your feet this morning. Don't make plans if you don't want to. Rather, take your time and do what you want. A family member or roommate decides you have a great idea and joins in. Do only what you want, not necessarily what you think you should. Tonight: Remember that your home is your castle.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Recognize just how important an older person or authority figure is in your life. Stop and do something delightful for someone you care about. Schedule a late lunch and a movie, or perhaps another type of get-together that you both will enjoy. Tonight: All eyes look to you.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ A friend lets you know exactly what might be ailing him or her. Use the morning to catch up on friends' news. In your conversations, you make plans with your pals. Don't worry. Everyone has a good time, no matter where they are. Tonight: Dinner at a favorite spot.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ If a child or loved one is in a bad mood, make your own plans. Take off and go to the nearest resort that you love or plan a daytrip that you find particularly exciting. Your imagination designs an unforgettable time. Music could be involved. Tonight: Try something totally different.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ Your finances could complicate your plans. You might opt to get some overtime in first. In fact, no matter where you are and/or what you do, a good time is had by all. Do an errand or two. Take a walk. You enjoy yourself, no matter where you are. Tonight: Movie time.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Know what is necessary to make you happy. Many of you would like nothing more than a quiet time with a favorite loved one. Design your plans around each other and what you would most like to do. Tonight: Follow another's lead.

QUOTE of the DAY

"Winter is nature's way of saying, 'Up yours.'"
— Robert Byrne

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LOCAL



surf report

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 Point 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-	2:56 a.m.	-0.34'
High-	9:11 a.m.	5.78'
Low-	3:11 p.m.	0.35'
High-	9:17 p.m.	6.09'

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

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Body found in Malibu an apparent suicide, officials say

By The Associated Press

MALIBU — A man whose body was washed ashore on a public-access beach in Malibu may have committed suicide, authorities said Friday.

Suhwan Sin, 37, of the Mission Hills area of Los Angeles, was found Thursday afternoon, Los Angeles County Coroner's spokesman David Campbell said. The area is just south of the private Malibu Colony that is home to many celebrities.

"Sheriff's homicide detectives reported it as a drowning-suicide," he said.

An investigation into the death will continue, Deputy Scott Butler said.

An autopsy will be performed to determine the cause of death.

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

School district looking for volunteer

By Daily Press staff

The Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District is looking for a person to help guide the district's hiring of teachers.

The SMMUSD wants an individual to serve on the Personnel Commission, which is a three-member body that represents the public's interests by providing a personnel system dedicated to hiring and retaining good employees in the classified service of the district.

Applications are now being accepted for the commission vacancy which becomes available on Dec. 1, 2002. The appointment will be a three-year term.

To be eligible for appointment, an individual must meet the following requirements:

■ Be a registered voter and a resident within the school district's boundaries.

■ Be familiar with the merit system and support the concept of employment, continuance in employment, in-service promotional opportunities and other related matters on the basis of merit and fitness.

■ An applicant cannot be a member of the SMMUSD Board of Education, or of the County Board of Education, or an employee of the district.

Applications are available now in the SMMUSD Classified Personnel Office, located at 1651 16th St. and must be filed in that office by Nov. 6, 2002.

Further information may be obtained from the Personnel Commission Office, (310) 450-8338, ext. 277.

Aloha from St. Annes

By Daily Press staff

St. Anne's Church and Shrine at 20th Street and Colorado Avenue in Santa Monica, hosts its annual festival on Sunday, Oct. 6, 2002, from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.

The Hawaii in the Fall theme brings a flavor of the islands with plenty to enjoy during the day. Besides games and rides for the kids, adults can enjoy an array of mouth-watering home-cooked foods and entertainment. The drawings for 29 cash prizes for La Mera Mera lottery also will be held with the grand prize being \$2,500.

For more information call (310) 829-4411.

Comic relief for Aero's struggle

By Daily Press staff

The Aero Theatre teams up with Parlor Performance producer Jeannine Frank on Thursday, Oct. 24, to present "Laughing Matters: An evening of serious satire" with singing satirist Roy Zimmerman and LA's newest resident, comic Marc Maron.

Frank contacted the theater after reading an article in the Los Angeles Times about the Aero's struggles to stay afloat. She hopes to produce a monthly variety show at the theater featuring topical comedians, satirical musicians and monologists like Mort Sahl, Paul Krassner and others.

The Aero Theatre is located at 1328 Montana Avenue.

For more information, call (310) 395-4990, or email to: info@aertheatre.com, or log onto: www.aertheatre.com

Tickets are \$20 and proceeds will benefit the Aero Theatre.

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LETTERS

Think about the use of our parks**Editor:**

This letter is meant to point out some things, irritating and obviously overlooked by many, and perhaps just plain ignored by some. What most offends some is an issue of whether or not a couple of local schools are in violation of the traditional long held separation of church and state. That is, can a parochial school use, without any prior official consent or the possessing of an issued permit, the facilities and grounds of a public park in which to hold official school activities/classes during its regular school hours? It is widely thought not. However, that is the case of what is just now being done on a regular basis at the Christine Emerson Reed Park located at Lincoln and Wilshire Boulevard.

But not a single gym class is doing it, nor a lone recreational sports teacher/coach and class. Rather, more than one such teacher/coach and their multiple classes are doing it, from two different local parochial schools: St. Monica's across the street from the park, and "New Roads" down the street some distance. And, even if the schools were public — it still isn't proper. Where are any minimal safeguards against injuries to the public? Do the schools have adequate insurance to cover an injury to say an elderly bird watcher, picnicker, or such simply resting in the park? Does the park for that matter? So far as the average person knows, permits are required from the park system prior to any use by a private group of any large portions of parkland that impacts the overall use of such a park to the general public.

As innocent as their actions may seem to some, they are not for the following reasons:

A.) The city park is not school property, though anyone not associated with a private interest can freely use the park.

B.) Would the city as well as the school be liable for damages if a private person enjoying the park were injured because of any activity the class engaged in?

C.) How is it in any way acceptable that a teacher/coach from a private school or any of his or her students can order, or tell, or even ask — any private person in a public park to move away from an area so that they can engage in a sports activity at the expense of disturbing another's serenity?

Finally, the classes are large enough to impact the pristine lawns of the park. The football, Frisbee, and soccer classes leave extensive damage to the lawn from their frequent use. Are they going to pay for the repairs and upkeep?

Paula Dryden
Santa Monica

Homeless stereotyping?**Editor:**

How many people, when told about last Saturday morning's murder-suicide on the City Hall lawn thought: "The homeless." I did, too. Just another example of stereotyping?

Hank Rosenfeld
Santa Monica

Feed them in your own city**Editor:**

Good commentary by John Maceri on the "do-gooder" organizations that feed the homeless in our parks but do little else that would truly help the homeless. It brings to mind a conversation I had recently with a high-level, well-respected service provided in Venice. Through her, I understand that some of the "full-service" providers — perhaps even OPCC — have invited some of the out of town do-gooders to conduct their feedings in their parking lot, so that the organization can introduce the homeless recipients to other services. Many of the feeding groups refused, I understand, because the parking lot is ugly and not a pretty place to do their good deeds in.

Apparently dishing out food, while enjoying the sunset in one of the prettiest parks in the county adds to the do-gooder experience ... then they pack up and go back to their home in the Palisades or Manhattan Beach.

Tom Fuller
Santa Monica

All-knowing could learn a few things**Editor:**

The guest commentary by John Maceri (Oct., 2002) was an illuminating and helpful insight into the decades old struggle of people who sincerely work to help homeless human beings. He should always remember the adage that "no good deed shall go unpunished" when he contemplates complaints and criticism from all-knowing people like Jennafer Yellowhorse. Ms. Yellowhorse, I assume, is an advocate for the homeless and her posture maybe much like an advocate I came to know quite well in Washington, D.C., in the early 1980s. Mitch Snyder became the most visible and out-

spoken homeless advocate the issue has ever known. While I admired much of the work of Mitch, he made it abundantly clear that any efforts on his part to help the homeless would be done his way and only his way. His attitude toward most other people attempting to help the homeless was condescending and always critical. He always postured himself as the all-knowing one.

Therefore, not many people could work in any meaningful way to explore ways in which to help the homeless but to also end the problem. Be assured that he played an important role during the early days of the plague that came to be known as homelessness. However, Mitch's approach reminds me of the fact that there are always people around an issue like homelessness who believe they are ordained with the unique ability to work with and resolve the complexities of the homeless. Rather than attempting to undermine others who spend their time trying to help our nation's untouchables, these critics should join in a common effort requiring every possible resource and person willing to help. John seems like a knowledgeable and compassionate person who Ms. Yellowhorse may learn something from.

Jim Hubbard
Venice

What's the agenda?**Editor:**

As I have been observing the homeless situation, and reading the various articles and letters appearing in the Santa Monica Daily Press and other local newspapers related thereto, there has been a feeling throughout it all which I could not shake. There has been an undercurrent which I have been feeling about those who support and back the homeless rights issues. It is a rather frightening sense that there may be support from groups who have their own, less than noble, hidden agendas, and that they are using homeless rights issues as a shield, as well as to incite. It's been intuitive to a very large degree, but, more recently I have read things in print which tend to lend credence to my suspicions and validate my feelings of fear. I wonder if anyone else feels the way I do?

I cannot be more specific because I do not have facts to support what it is that I have been feeling, but, let it suffice to say that there have been published words of rather powerful figures of late that have alarmed me.

And, that along with my instincts give me reason to be concerned.

Julia Reeves
Santa Monica

Why we 'whine and bicker' about the homeless**Editor:**

(This letter was originally addressed to Mr. John Maceri, executive director of the Ocean Park Community Center).

Your guest commentary in the Santa Monica Daily Press on Wednesday, Oct. 2, 2002, failed to address the real reasons why we "whine and bicker" about the homeless in Santa Monica.

Our city has a stated goal of reducing the number of homeless on the street by providing long term solutions. However, for more than a decade, the number of homeless on our streets continues to increase and the city continues to spend more on homeless related programs.

Unfortunately, many organizations like the Ocean Park Community Center (OPCC) do not provide annual independent financial audits so that average citizens can feel confident that our tax dollars are being spent wisely. This opens your organization up to public criticism. Certainly, when I review the 990 tax forms filed by you, I am very concerned by the numbers. GuideStar, a philanthropic research organization more qualified than I to evaluate OPCC, states that total revenues for OPCC (fiscal year ending June 30, 2001) show total revenue of \$6,640,263 with expenditures of just \$4,344,526. That's a GAIN of \$2,295,737 for a single year. OPCC's single year gain is more than the total amount the City of Santa Monica claims to have spent on homeless related programs last year (\$1,826,722 according to the annual report presented to the City Council on Sept. 24).

When GuideStar evaluates OPCC's total assets against total liabilities, the OPCC still has a \$2.3 million surplus!

You are apparently very effective in your administrative and fund raising abilities. Certainly our tax dollars would be better spent elsewhere.

If this is not the case, please open your books. Have a certified independent audit performed annually. Let the taxpayer have an explanation why it was necessary to spend \$152,674 on "special events and mailings," according to the OPCC 2000 Form 990.

It's our money. Each homeless person is our brother. Our community has a right to know why city sponsored programs are not fulfilling city stated goals.

Ed Sharrow
Santa Monica

LOCAL



Local office vacancy rate dropping slowly

MGM, from page 1

Pentecost said.

However, one commercial real estate broker said the situation has been looking up over the last three months and the 18 percent figure is not accurate. Randy Starr pegged the current office vacancy rate at "maybe 10 percent."

"Things are filling up," said Starr, a broker with Tenzer Commercial Brokerage Group. "I've filled 40,000 (square) feet of vacant space in the last two months."

The majority of the newly-rented office space is being occupied by tenants who are already located in Santa Monica and are either taking advantage of cheaper rents or renegotiating current leases, Starr said. However, a few larger companies — those needing 80,000 square feet of space or more — are looking around Santa Monica, he said.

Mark Richter, economic development manager for Santa Monica, said MGM's move is tempered by the fact that much of the space it now occupies has already been leased to a law firm, which will move here from Century City.

The firm will sit in the middle of an area of Santa Monica known as "media row." The eastside of the city was developed as a business park more than a decade ago to attract large companies

such as Epic Records, Sony Music, MTV and Universal, all of which are still here.

"I've filled 40,000 (square) feet of vacant space in the last two months."

— RANDY STARR
Commercial real estate broker

To retain the companies here and lure new ones, Pentecost and others are talking directly to large and small businesses, and working with various area economic development groups like the Los Angeles Economic Development Corp., and the Westside Economic Collaborative.

Santa Monica has never offered incentives to businesses to locate here, Pentecost said, because "for a long time, we haven't needed to." Traditionally, the office vacancy rate has hovered between 4 and 7 percent, she said.

Santa Monica City Councilman Richard Bloom said the idea of offering incentives has not been brought up among council members and he hopes it won't be necessary.

Local movie, television production increases

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Motion picture and television production was up 55 percent in Los Angeles last month, the highest September levels in five years.

The Entertainment Industry Development Corp. said Thursday that there were the equivalent of 2,928 production days in September, the best month so far this year.

"This has been our best September since 1998," agency spokesman Morrie Goldman said. "We've had a really strong summer and we're going to have a really strong fall."

The bright spot was in movie production: the equivalent of 930 days last month, more than double the 426 days in September 2001. Movie production also jumped 158 days from the August figures.

The nonprofit corporation was created by city officials to help combat runaway production by streamlining the permitting process.

EPA steps in to clean up Laguna's polluted beaches

By The Associated Press

LAGUNA BEACH — The Environmental Protection Agency ordered the city to take immediate steps to halt sewage spills that have polluted local beaches.

The EPA said Laguna Beach has one of the worst pollution records in California, yet it praised the city for measures already taken to reduce sewage spills. The agency described Thursday's order as a formality.

The order came less than two months after the EPA awarded the city \$873,000 to help meet the no-spill mandate of the federal Clean Water Act.

"City officials are aware of the problem and have already been taking steps to solve it," EPA regional administrator Wayne Nastri said in a statement. "They have made a bold commitment to ending

sewage discharges, and we applaud them for all they've done and continue to do. Our action simply commits the city to carry out their planned sewer system improvements."

Portions of Laguna Beach's crumbling 95-mile network of pipes and other infrastructure date to the 1930s. Between July 1, 1997, and June 30, 2002, the city reported 64 sewage spills, nearly a third of which flowed into local waterways and closed picturesque beaches.

The order requires the city to complete a sewage spill-reduction action plan by March.

"I think the EPA is doing its job by issuing the order," said Mayor Wayne Baglin. "And I'm very pleased that it reflects much of the proactive actions the city has taken on during just the last couple years."

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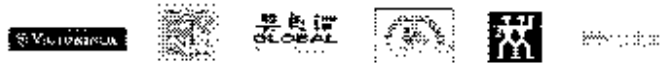
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STATE

Two men convicted in Los Angeles drug ring case

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Two men were convicted of federal narcotics charges for their role in a drug ring that sold large quantities of cocaine and marijuana throughout Los Angeles County, officials said Friday.

Nicolas Lopez Rodriguez, 49, of Compton, and Kedrin Kizzee, 29, of Colton, were convicted of various charges by a federal jury Thursday.

Each faces up to life in federal prison without parole.

U.S. District Judge Gary Allen Feess is scheduled to sentence both defendants on Jan. 27.

During the 10-day trial, prosecutors used wiretapped telephone conversations to show Rodriguez sold more than 60 pounds of cocaine to various midlevel drug dealers throughout Los Angeles County in 2000. Assisting him were his wife, two adult children and a neighbor, all of whom previously pleaded guilty to narcotics trafficking charges, prosecutors said.

Prosecutors said Kizzee, also known as Michael Richard Roberts, purchased more than 40 pounds of cocaine, which he intended to transport to an associate in Baltimore. He also used female couriers to transport marijuana to Baltimore, prosecutors said.

Kizzee testified that he trafficked in marijuana but not cocaine.

After a February 2000 arrest, Kizzee escaped from jail with the help of a corrections officer. Kizzee was captured within a few days, and both men were later convicted of the escape.

Nineteen defendants, including Kizzee and Rodriguez, have been arrested and convicted in a two-year investigation dubbed "Operation Bright Swords," the U.S. Attorney's Office said.

West Coast dock shutdowns inevitable even if ports reopen

BY SIMON AVERY

AP Business Writer

LOS ANGELES — Even if the West Coast dock shutdown ends soon, many U.S. factories may have to shut down anyway because the parts they need will be caught in a huge backlog of cargo, business leaders said Friday.

"It's a foregone conclusion that assembly lines are going to close down," said Robin Lanier, executive director of the West Coast Waterfront Coalition, which represents retailers and transportation companies that rely on the ports.

Even if President Bush immediately invokes the Taft-Hartley Act and declares an 80-day cooling-off period, manufacturers will not be able to avoid interruptions on their assembly lines, she said.

"The challenge is going to be the chaos and bedlam on the water as they try to pull things out," said Michael Damer, spokesman for New United Motor Manufacturing near the port of Oakland, which has been idle since Wednesday, halting the assembly of Toyota and Pontiac cars and trucks.

Household names in American manufacturing may run out of parts and be forced to shut down their assembly lines in the next few days, said Darren McKinney, spokesman for the National Association of Manufacturers.

"They are running up against the wall very quickly," he said.

Nissan and Boeing were among the companies feeling the pinch from the shutdown that began Sunday at the nation's 29 ports West Coast ports in Washington, Oregon and California. The shutdown is costing the U.S. economy an estimated \$2 billion a day.

Almost 200 ships laden with Asian cargo were left waiting along the coast, cutting off supplies for manufacturers and retailers awaiting holiday goods. Meanwhile, grain shipments bound for export are sitting in warehouses, trains

from the Midwest have stopped moving cargo across the country, and growers of perishable goods like apples and citrus worry that their harvests will not reach lucrative Asian markets.

On Friday, dockworkers and management met for a second day with a federal mediator in an effort to reach a new contract.

Business groups pushed for government intervention and planned to meet Friday afternoon with officials at the White House.

"We will make the case abundantly clear that an extended shutdown of the ports will have a catastrophic effect on the economy," McKinney said.

The Pacific Maritime Association, which represents shipping companies and terminal operators, locked out the 10,500-member longshoremen's union, claiming the dockworkers had engaged in a slowdown. The main issue is whether jobs created by new technology will be unionized.

Industries most at risk during the lockout are automotive, clothing, toy manufacturing, food and agriculture and electronics.

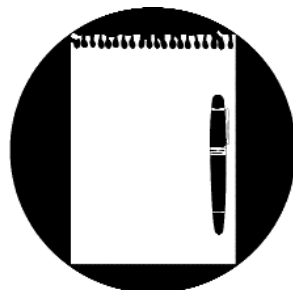
Nissan North America has said it plans to eliminate the Saturday shift at its Smyrna, Tenn., plant that manufactures nearly 500,000 Altimas, Xterra SUVs and Frontier pickups a year.

"We can probably make it to the end of next week, but beyond that we'd probably have to shut the plant down," spokesman Scott Vasin said.

Boeing Co., the world's largest commercial airplane manufacturer, could also see its production pinched as soon as next week.

With fuselage parts sitting in container ships waiting to be unloaded at the ports of Seattle and Tacoma, the company will have to build the jets "out of sequence" from the normal process, adding to costs and delaying production, said Boeing spokesman Peter Conte.

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STATE



Commuters report that they don't miss their cars

TRANSIT, from page 1

systems showed double-digit growth between 1995 and 2000.

It's still a just trickle diverted from the torrent of the morning commute: Los Angeles and San Francisco still rank first and second in the latest national tally of time wasted in traffic jams. Statewide, just 5 percent of people take public transit to work, the Census found, about the national average.

But in the main metro areas, the numbers are noticeable.

Nearly one-third of San Francisco residents take public transit to work. In Alameda, Contra Costa and Marin counties — Bay Area bedroom communities — 10 percent commute by train or bus.

Ten percent of Los Angeles city residents take public transit, the Census found.

By comparison, transit use is 26 percent in Chicago, 33 percent in Washington, D.C., 53 percent in New York City.

"Our love affair with the automobile may not be over, but as record congestion and two-hour commutes become the norm, we're clearly trying to find convenient alternatives," said James Corless, director of a the Surface Transportation Policy Project, based in San Francisco.

Los Angeles may be the nation's car capital, but its growing rail web is symbolic of the state's turn to transit: Metrolink connects with distant suburbs on seven lines; two light rail lines run south to Long Beach and Redondo Beach; there's even a 17-mile subway line under downtown.

Long Beach resident Bruce Norman traded his car six months ago for the Metro Blue Line, a modernistic light rail line. Norman's daily trip to downtown Los Angeles used to take three freeways on what was often a 90-minute drive.

"I was coming in on edge," said the 33-year-old cellular salesman. "I'd just spent an hour and a half getting cut off in traffic. It took me a while to calm down."

Norman cut his commute to 45 minutes. He spends \$41 a month riding the train, which beats parking by \$1 a month. And he fills his tank about twice in 30 days, as opposed to twice a week.

"I'm saving money and helping the community out I guess, since I'm not running my car and putting out the exhaust," he said.

Statewide, trains and buses carry 1.2 billion passengers annually, according to the American Public Transportation Association.

Transit accounts for 38 percent of the trips across the San Francisco Bay Bridge, 30 percent of the trips into central Los Angeles and 18 percent of the trips into downtown San Diego, according to a study by the California Transit Association.

In many communities, express buses are gaining riders. Buses offer communities a cheaper, quicker way to add mass transit.

Until the last decade or so, most transit riders in the state were lower income workers and families who couldn't afford cars, researchers say. But increasingly, middle-class commuters are swelling the ranks of transit travelers, said Christina Egan, executive director of Odyssey, a transportation advocacy group.

Some of that is due to worsening freeway traffic, but mostly, it's because there are now more alternatives, she said.

"Where we have invested in transit, it works and people are using it," Egan said.

Existing rail lines are being adapted to bring relief to some of the millions of Californians who followed cheap housing to the distant suburbs and ended up paying the price with marathon commutes.

The Altamont Commuter Express launched Stockton-to-San Jose service in Oct. 1998, and now takes up to 2,500 cars off crowded Interstate 580 each day.

Tracy resident Scott Guinn frequently boards the ACE at 6 a.m., bound for software job in Pleasanton. Tables and reading lights make the ride a pleasant one, and Bay Area emigrants swap tales of their new lives in the Central Valley at Friday pot-lucks.

Guinn says it's still faster to drive. But on the train, he can read or catch up on work.

"I definitely use the time to my benefit," says Guinn. Another incentive: His employer pays much of the \$8 daily fare.

Transit boosters see many challenges, the biggest being funding. Most transportation money goes to roads, since the vast majority of travel is in cars.

Then there's the problem of coordinating a seamless trip that crosses various government boundaries and requires various connections. "If it is hard to figure out, people are going to stay in their cars," says Kristina Egan, executive director of the transit advocacy group Odyssey in Sacramento.

But California's ceaseless growth and mind-numbing traffic provides the ultimate incentive to take the train.

On the Metro Blue Line, land-use planner Sarah Bryson looks out the window on her way home to suburban El Segundo from her Los Angeles office.

"This is so much better," she says, as the train hums quietly along elevated tracks toward the ocean.

From her seat, she can see the cars backing up on the freeway.

"I don't miss my car at all."

California transit facts

By The Associated Press

Some facts about public transportation in California:

■ Since opening in 1987, Sacramento Light Rail has increased transit trips in the state capitol 192 percent.

■ The Altamont Commuter Express trains connecting Stockton and San Jose showed a 66 percent increase in riders from 1999 to 2000.

■ Ridership on Amtrak's Capitol Corridor from Sacramento to the Bay Area increased 51 percent between 1999 and 2000.

■ Los Angeles' Blue Line, which carries about 73,115 passengers on an average weekday, is the busiest light rail line in the United States.

■ Seven times as many people in California take public transit as fly out of every major commercial airport in the state.

■ Commuters using the state's 29 largest public transportation systems increased by an estimated 5 percent between 1999-2000, while nationwide ridership on public transit grew 3.5 percent.

Source: California Alliance for Transportation Choices.

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STATE

Traffic congestion: A sign of prosperity?

TRAFFIC, from page 1

possibly get worse. It's grown and they're saying the same thing," says Martin Wachs, director of the University of California-Berkeley Institute for Transportation Studies. "I don't expect it to be solved."

BOOMTOWN TRAFFIC

Already, the most unlikely places are growing real rush hours.

"In the last six years here I think traffic has probably doubled," says John Burdette, who commutes into Sacramento from suburban Rocklin.

Burdette tries to leave home by 6 a.m. for Interstate 80 and a job 25 miles away. An early departure means a 40-minute drive. Much later and it stretches to over an hour.

"On the way home it takes me an hour and 15 minutes no matter what route I take after 3:30 p.m.," Burdette says.

Demoralizing traffic jams are spreading far outside the cities as Californians seek affordable homes and trail ever-longer commutes along with them.

It's an irony in a state where every new community's unofficial motto is "Not Another Los Angeles."

California already has five of the nation's 20 most congested metro areas, and traffic jams statewide cost \$21 billion a year in lost time and wasted fuel, according to the Texas Transportation Institute.

Angelenos already waste more time in traffic jams than anyone else in the country, according to the institute, and there's much more on the way: The state's official forecast says the number of miles driven on Los Angeles and Orange county roads will swell 40 percent by 2020.

San Francisco is right behind L.A. on the institute's list of congestion-plagued cities, and No. 2 in the nation.

About the only good news is that the City by the Bay is so jam-packed already there's not much room for more cars. The number of miles driven there is forecast to grow a mere 11 percent in 20 years.

As bad as the big cities are, the most dramatic traffic increases will be on the outskirts, in places like Hemet and Temecula on L.A.'s suburban frontier; Fairfield and Hollister in San Francisco's outer orbit, even Manteca and Fresno in the Central Valley's farm belt.

THE EMERGING TROUBLE SPOTS:

■ The San Joaquin Valley, where double-trailer rigs hauling tomatoes or nectarines were once more common than Toyota Camrys on Highway 99. Now 99 is the spine of a long, continuous city forming between Bakersfield and Sacramento and the valley has eight of the state's top 25 counties for traffic growth.

Fresno plumber Charlie Arnold, a regular on Highway 99, says the city's sprawling housing tracts are spilling cars onto the highway, triggering backups never seen before.

"Every week at least there's collisions that occur there because of bottlenecking," Arnold says.

■ The "Inland Empire." In Riverside County, 60 stop-and-go miles out on "The 10" or "The 60" from downtown Los Angeles, Caltrans says the number of miles driven each year will jump 103 percent by 2020. In neighboring San Bernardino County, driving will grow 86

percent, but officials say they can afford just 10 percent more highway capacity.

■ Once-sleepy Sacramento is spinning off suburbs into the surrounding farmland and Sierra foothills at a pace where even \$15 billion in road improvements won't head off a predicted 400 percent increase in congestion over 20 years. The region's new transportation plan finds "neither the funding nor the community will to increase road capacity by 40 percent" — the amount it says is needed.

■ San Diego County is bracing for half a million more cars by 2020. Regional transportation planners have identified \$29 billion in needed improvements — but expect only \$17.9 billion to spend.

■ Bay Area growth patterns also point to gridlock. The urban core has a scant 750 acres available for new housing, so the 1 million new residents expected by 2025 will be shoved to the edges in San Benito, Alameda, Contra Costa, Solano and Sonoma counties and join the line of cars on Highway 101 and I-580.

All this growth creates a snarl of suburb-to-suburb commuting patterns that's hard to untangle with traditional hub-and-spoke highway or rail routes.

In fast-growing Temecula, a former farm town between Riverside and San Diego, Judy Staats has seen an influx of cars stretch her 35-minute drive to work to an hour in just three years. Reaching Corona, another old Riverside County farm town turned nearly overnight into a car-packed suburb, Staats navigates congested city streets to avoid an even more crowded Riverside Freeway.

"It would add another 15 to 20 minutes to go one mile," she says.

SOLUTIONS ELUSIVE

The state is becoming a laboratory for high-tech solutions like sensors in the pavement to monitor and direct the flow of traffic, and on-board sensors that will allow cars and trucks to travel in tightly packed platoons to make better use of existing lanes. But so far, the improvements are incremental.

Californians are parking their cars and climbing aboard commuter trains and buses in record numbers. Ridership on most of the state's 29 largest transit systems showed double-digit growth between 1995 and 2000.

While this trend takes some of the pain out of commuting in the biggest cities, the bottom line is that statewide, just 5.4 percent of the workforce takes public transit. Even fewer — 3.7 percent — telecommute, according to the Census.

Architects, environmentalists and urban planners see the solution in "smart growth" — the notion that new communities should include commerce and industry from the start, that blighted big-city real estate should be improved with "infill" housing, that apartments built over storefronts are both practical and chic.

But the bulk of new homes go up in single-family sprawl, and the cars follow a migration trail of drivers seeking houses they can afford.

"It's at least 100 years of a particular development pattern that just keeps replaying over and over again, except that we keep moving farther and farther out," says Chris Carson, a political science professor who led a two-year study of Los Angeles County transportation problems

Top 10 California counties for miles driven by 2020

By The Associated Press

Estimated number of miles driven per year in California counties

COUNTY	2000 miles	2020 miles	Change (miles)	Percentage
COLUSA	522,798	1,151,985	629,187	120.3
IMPERIAL	1,643,377	3,612,813	1,969,436	119.8
RIVERSIDE	14,104,505	28,669,383	14,564,878	103.3
MADERA	1,320,876	2,652,035	1,331,159	100.8
GLENN	439,231	842,688	403,457	91.9
SAN BERN	17,173,828	31,967,168	14,793,340	86.1
KERN	7,016,383	12,957,786	5,941,403	84.7
SAN BENITO	532,974	959,721	26,747	80.1
PLACER	2,909,746	5,217,938	2,308,192	79.3
STANISLAUS	3,385,592	6,027,422	2,641,830	78.0

Source: California Department of Transportation, California Motor Vehicle Stock, Travel and Fuel Forecast, November 2001.

for the League of Women Voters. "We don't know how you reverse that trend." Who will pay?

All these new regions face turning their two-lane rural roads into highways, their highways into freeways and their train tracks into light rail systems, without the massive state and federal funding that grew California's transportation backbone in the 1950s and 1960s.

That more-is-better approach to freeways, epitomized by Gov. Pat Brown, gave way in the 1970s to forces from both ends of the political spectrum.

Gov. Jerry Brown rejected his father's legacy and declared an era of limits, giving voice to a liberal backlash against giant public works projects like nuclear power plants, dams and highways. From the conservative side came Proposition 13, the tax revolt that slashed government income and required voter approval for new taxes.

Now there are new threats to highway funding.

Experts say the state gasoline tax of 18 cents per gallon — a source of nearly \$5 billion a year — is falling behind because, at a fixed rate, it doesn't match inflation in highway building costs.

Revenue is further eroded by growing use of the gasoline additives MTBE and ethanol, which have federal tax subsidies, or reduce the amount of taxable gasoline going into the tank.

Numerous half-cent county transportation sales taxes that steer nearly \$3 billion a year to local needs are potentially jeopardized as well. These taxes, approved with 50 percent voter majorities during the 1980s and early 1990s, now require more formidable two-thirds majorities for renewal.

In all, a state commission found, California is \$117 billion short of transportation funding needed through 2010.

Gone, too, is the once-awesome power of a centralized state transportation planning system. In the name of local control, California has diffused responsibility — and accountability — for most transportation planning to 46 largely faceless regional agencies.

"There's no cohesive structure for these issues," says Bill Reinert, manager of advanced technology at Torrance-based Toyota Motor Sales USA.

Business advocates worry that traffic could someday damage the economy by hampering the flow of goods and driving away workers and employers, says William Hauck, director of the California Business Roundtable.

Why hasn't traffic chased Californians away? Berkeley's Wachs says it's because congestion is the most visible sign of prosperity, that the attractions of living in the Golden State outweigh the inconvenience.

"I know everyone complains about congestion," he says, "but obviously they must benefit from the social, educational and recreational opportunities."

The commuter's world — facts and feelings

By The Associated Press

THE FEELINGS:

How Californians view their commute:

Too short: 7 percent

Too long: 52 percent

Just right: 41 percent

Optimal perceived travel time: 16 minutes

Source: University of California, Davis, Institute of Transportation Studies

Percent of California adults who rated traffic congestion a "big problem": 53

In San Francisco: 71

In Los Angeles: 64

In Southern California outside L.A.: 51

In the Central Valley: 23

Source: October survey of 2,002 adults by the Public Policy Institute of California; 2 percent error margin

THE FACTS:

Commute length

Under 20 minutes:

50 percent in 1990; 46 percent in 2000.

Over 45 minutes:

12.5 percent in 1990; 14.6 percent in 2000.

Over 60 minutes:

6 percent in 1990; 7 percent in 2000.

Source: U.S. Census.

Number of hours daily in delays caused by congestion: 1,060,598

Gallons of excess fuel burned daily in traffic jams: 1,823,168

Daily cost to commuters for congestion: \$12,790,621

Percent increase in congested miles between 1999 and 2000: 15%

Percent of urban freeway miles considered to be congested:

■ In 1999: 40%

■ In 2000: 46%

Source: California Department of Transportation 2000 Congestion Monitoring Data.

State's worst traffic cities

By The Associated Press

California cities with the longest rush-hour delays, and the cities' national ranking.

Los Angeles, 1

San Francisco-Oakland, 2

San Jose, 8

San Diego, 15

San Bernardino-Riverside, 19

Source: 2002 U.S. Urban Mobility Study, by Texas Transportation Institute.

NATIONAL



Oregon considers nation's first universal health plan

BY BRAD CAIN
Associated Press Writer

SALEM, Ore. — Every man, woman and child in Oregon would receive health insurance under a measure on the Nov. 5 ballot that would become the nation's first universal health care plan if voters pass it.

But it's unclear whether Oregonians are willing to raise taxes for a health plan so generous that it would pay for alternative treatments like acupuncture and massage therapy.

"What we are proposing is ambitious and audacious, but we believe the health care system now is in a crisis," said Mark Lindgren, spokesman for the Health Care for All Oregon campaign, sponsor of Measure 23.

With the existing system, he said, an estimated 423,000 Oregon residents have no health insurance — about 70,000 of them children. Nationally, that number is about 41 million.

No independent polls have been released on Oregon's measure, but it is facing strong opposition from leading business, insurance and health care industry groups.

Measure 23 is backed by a national advocacy group, the Cleveland-based Universal Health Care Action Network.

Group spokeswoman Rachel DeGolia sees the Oregon effort as picking up where then-first lady Hillary Rodham Clinton left off a decade ago with her unsuccessful push for universal health care.

"It was dead in the water from the beginning" because of opposition from the health care industry, DeGolia said. "That's the reason we think this is going to have to happen at the state level first."

Voter passage of Oregon's measure could energize similar efforts in other states where universal health care legislation has been introduced, she said.

Under the Oregon measure, the universal coverage would be financed by payroll taxes on businesses and by raising personal income tax rates. The top rate would rise from its current 9 percent to as high as 17 percent.

Lindgren said, however, that while many people would pay higher taxes, much of that would be offset because people no longer would have to pay insurance premiums, co-payments, deductibles and other out-of-pocket health costs.

People wouldn't be required to get rid of their private or group insurance, but most likely would choose to do so since they would be paying for the universal system anyway, he said.

Critics of the proposed universal health care plan say it lacks any real cost-containment since it would cover all "medically necessary" treatment as determined by any state-licensed, certified or registered health-care practitioner.

The system would also cover alternative treatments that include massage therapy.

"It's the richest benefits package known to man," said J.L. Wilson, head of the Oregon chapter of the National Federation of Independent Business. "Under this bill, you would have to pay for people to go to a massage therapist four days a week because it's deemed 'medically necessary.'"

Lindgren said the measure doesn't contain any upper-end limits on coverage and, further, doesn't spell out whether

there would be any exclusions for experimental procedures or devices.

"We deliberately left it vague" so that a 15-member state board that would be created to oversee the program could make those decisions later, Lindgren said.

Lindgren disputes the opponents' warnings about the potential for runaway costs.

While offering no dollar amounts, he said the system would achieve savings by eliminating administrative duplication by the 80 insurance companies now doing business in Oregon and shifting to a single-payer plan to cover all residents.

Besides, he said, people who lack health insurance are a drain on the system because they often leave minor conditions untreated that become major problems requiring expensive hospital emergency room treatment.

Still, opponents say Measure 23 could turn out to be a real tax guzzler.

"It would take more to get a hunting license in Oregon than it would take to get access to full health benefits."

— J.L. WILSON
National Federation of Independent Business, head of Oregon chapter

They say the residency requirement in the measure is so loose that uninsured people with serious illnesses who live in other states could obtain full benefits just by moving to Oregon.

"It would take more to get a hunting license in Oregon than it would take to get access to full health benefits," said the NFIB's Wilson.

Lindgren said, though, that similar warnings were issued when Oregon in 1994 launched a new plan that extended insurance to thousands of low-income residents by rationing health care to recipients.

"It didn't happen," he said. "Generally, people move to new places for a job or family reasons. People won't pick up and move to Oregon just for health care."

Lindgren estimates the universal system's costs at about \$19 billion a year. Of that, \$7 billion would come from the new payroll taxes, and \$4.9 billion would be generated by the higher income taxes on individuals. The rest would come from shifting existing state and federal health care dollars to the new universal system.

The campaign spokesman disputed the opponents' arguments that the lack of limits and cost containment in Measure 23 would prompt many people to make unnecessary visits to the doctor.

"People don't go to the doctor lightly," he said. "Going to the doctor is a hassle, and people usually have a darn good reason for going."

But Barney Speight, a former state health administrator who now is working on the campaign against Measure 23, said it's bad medicine.

"It is poorly crafted and unsustainable," Speight said. "It might be able to achieve universal coverage in the short term, but in the long term it could destroy Oregon's economy."

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NATIONAL

U.S. authorities arrest four people on terror charges

BY ANDREW KRAMER

Associated Press Writer

PORTLAND, Ore. — Hailing a “defining day” in the fight against terrorism, Attorney General John Ashcroft announced the arrests of four people in Oregon and Michigan on Friday on charges of conspiring to wage war on the United States and support al-Qaida.

Authorities arrested four people in Oregon and Michigan — including a former U.S. Army reservist. Two other suspects were indicted and were being sought overseas.

Five of the six in the latest indictment are U.S. citizens. According to prosecutors, some of them took weapons training and then tried to travel to Afghanistan to join up with al-Qaida and the Taliban, but could not get into the country.

Ashcroft said one of those arrested, Jeffrey Leon Battle, joined the U.S. Army Reserves to obtain training in U.S. tactics and weapons. Ashcroft said Battle, who was discharged last January while in Bangladesh, intended to use that experience against American soldiers in Afghanistan.

Battle later “caused himself to be discharged” from the Army, Ashcroft said without elaborating.

Court papers identified the six as Battle, 32; Patrice Lumumba Ford, 31; Ahmed Ibrahim Bilal, 24; his brother Muhammad Ibrahim Bilal, 22; Habis Abdullah al Saoub, 37; and October Martinique Lewis, 25, the ex-wife of Battle.

Battle, Lumumba Ford, Ahmed Bilal, Muhammad Bilal and Abdullah al Saoub

set out for Afghanistan in October 2001 and tried to enter the country by way of China but failed, Ashcroft said.

Lewis stayed behind and wired money to Battle eight times “with the knowledge the money would be used to support his attempt to reach Afghanistan” to help al-Qaida and the Taliban, according to the attorney general.

Ahmed Bilal and al Saoub were being sought outside the United States. Battle, Ford and Lewis were arrested in Portland, and Muhammad Bilal was taken into custody in Michigan. He had been living with a sister in the Detroit suburb of Dearborn for about a month but had previously lived in Oregon.

Muhammad Bilal was held without bail after a court appearance in Detroit. Prosecutor Barbara McQuade said that Bilal had recently traveled to Hong Kong, China and Indonesia.

Ashcroft, announcing the arrests at a Washington news conference, called it a “defining day.”

The arrests came on the same day that a tearful John Walker Lindh was sentenced to 20 years for fighting for the Taliban and a laughing Richard Reid pleaded guilty in Boston to trying to blow up a trans-Atlantic flight with explosives hidden in his shoes.

In Alexandria, Va., Lindh asked forgiveness for serving the Taliban rulers who sheltered bin Laden and his terrorist leadership in Afghanistan. Lindh, 21, read a 20-minute statement renouncing terrorism and bin Laden.

Prosecutors in Boston said they would ask for a sentence of 60 years to life in prison

for Reid, 29. Reid, a British subject who converted to Islam like Lindh, was accused of trying to murder the 197 people aboard a Paris-to-Miami flight on Dec. 22 by trying to light a fuse sticking out of his shoes.

Ashcroft, meanwhile, said the FBI is looking into whether other Portland-area residents may have also gone to Afghanistan with the same intention as the six indicted.

The charges against the six included conspiracy to levy war against the United States, conspiracy to provide material

support and resources to al Qaida, conspiracy to contribute services to al-Qaida and the Taliban and possessing firearms in furtherance of crimes of violence.

The indictment said Battle, Ahmed Bilal and al Saoub engaged in weapons training in Washougal, Wash., starting in late September 2001, to prepare to fight with Taliban forces.

Ashcroft said the arrests represent “a textbook example” of cooperation among federal, state and local authorities in the war against terrorism.

Billionaire gives money, advice to Nuclear Threat Initiative

BY BARRY BEDLAN

Associated Press Writer

OMAHA, Neb. — Billionaire investor Warren Buffett, the country’s second wealthiest man, is pledging \$2.5 million to help reduce the risk of nuclear terror on U.S. soil.

Buffett said Friday that he was making the contribution to the Nuclear Threat Initiative, founded by Ted Turner and former Sen. Sam Nunn, because he believes terrorists want to attack America with weapons of mass destruction.

Buffett, chairman of the Omaha-based investment firm Berkshire Hathaway and No. 2 behind Microsoft co-founder Bill Gates on Forbes magazine’s list of wealthiest Americans, said that while terrorism cannot be eradicated completely,

its risk can be significantly reduced.

“We have got to move that risk to as close to zero as possible,” he said.

The Nuclear Threat Initiative has been left strapped for cash by a dramatic decline in the stock market. It was founded two years ago with a pledge of stock — worth \$250 million at the time — that Turner held in AOL Time Warner. The shares have since declined by nearly 80 percent.

“Up until now, we have basically been using Ted’s money,” Nunn said. “Having Mr. Buffett sign on is a signal that a lot of people will respect and will pave the way for us to have more meaningful support.”

The group has spent about \$37 million since January 2001 on projects including securing nuclear materials stored in Russia and removing uranium from a poorly secured reactor in Belgrade.

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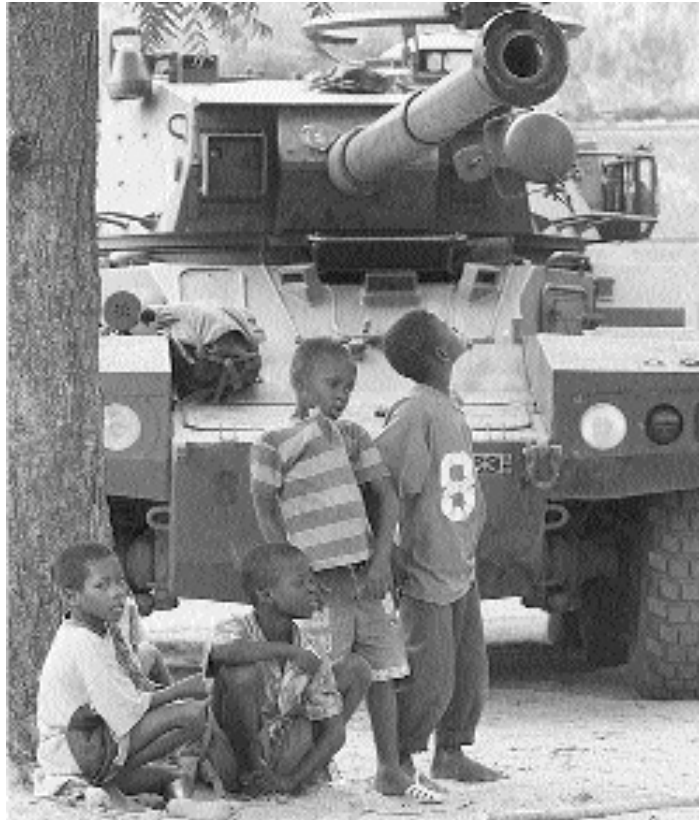


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INTERNATIONAL



Playing in the battle field



Christine Nesbitt/Associated Press

Young boys play near a French military vehicle in the village of Bomizanbo, near the front-line town of Tiebissou, 24 miles north of Yamoussoukro on Friday. Ivory Coast rebels agreed to a cease-fire and were due to sign the agreement Friday, West African mediators announced, saying it is now clear for peace talks.

U.S., Colombia get tough on cocaine producing crops

BY ANDREW SELSKY

Associated Press Writer

BOGOTA, Colombia — A U.S.-funded aid program under which farmers were to have destroyed their own cocaine-producing crops has fallen far short of its goals, U.S. officials said.

The bleak assessment of the results of the initiative to provide coca farmers with an alternative to growing drug crops comes as the United States and the Colombian government embark on an all-out blitz to eradicate coca crops in the southern region.

Tens of thousands of peasant farmers in Putumayo state were to have received development aid under the \$1.3 billion Plan Colombia, an initiative of the Clinton administration that was approved by Congress and is still active under the Bush administration. Colombia was also to have provided funds for the aid.

The government managed to get the aid delivered to only about half the families in Colombia's cocaine heartland, a U.S. official said Thursday at a briefing with journalists.

"I believe the magnitude of the problem was way above their ability to actually get out and meet every family that supposedly signed the ... voluntary eradication pacts," the U.S. official said on condition of anonymity.

Adam Isacson, an analyst with the

Center for International Policy in Washington, put the figure much lower — saying only 20 percent received development aid. He said the failure of the aid plan risks alienating the farmers even more.

"The whole point of Plan Colombia was to strengthen the Colombian government and make it able to actually govern in these conflictive territories," he said. "Part of governing of course is to use force, but part of it is also winning the trust of the people who live in these areas."

The U.S. official indicated the Colombian government and the coca farmers had made hollow promises.

"This is a game that the government and the coca growers in Putumayo have played for over a decade," he said. "Each one of them promises something and neither of them actually complies."

Many coca farmers in Putumayo said they doubted the government really planned to deliver aid and they would destroy their coca plants only when it arrived.

Only about 6,000 of the 26,000 families who signed the so-called voluntary eradication pacts carried through on their promise to destroy their coca plants, according to a Colombian government official involved in the program. Those who did destroyed about 20,000 of the roughly 335,000 acres of coca in Colombia, the official said in a telephone interview.

The official, speaking on condition of

Inspectors won't search for Iraqi weapons until U.N. decides on new resolution

BY EDITH M. LEDERER

Associated Press Writer

UNITED NATIONS — U.N. inspectors indicated Thursday they will not resume their search for Iraq's weapons of mass destruction until the Security Council decides whether to adopt a resolution that could give them broad powers.

Chief U.N. weapons inspector Hans Blix said he hoped council members would make up their minds quickly. If the rules changed while he was in Iraq, he said, "it would be awkward."

In the meantime, Blix is moving ahead with plans to send an advance team to Baghdad in mid-October following an agreement he reached with Iraq earlier this week on logistics for resuming inspections after nearly four years.

"The readiness is there to go. We hope it won't be a long delay. We are ready to go at the earliest practical opportunity," he told reporters after briefing the council.

Mohamed ElBaradei, whose International Atomic Energy Agency is in charge of nuclear inspections, indicated inspections would wait for a decision.

"We need to align our date with the deliberation of the council," ElBaradei said.

Blix and ElBaradei are heading to Washington Friday for meetings with U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell and National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice.

"I hope to hear something of what their planning is, and we'll tell them what our planning is," Blix said with a grin.

The 15-member council is divided over how to proceed on Iraq.

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 are demanding that Blix wait, but Syria and Russia want them to go.

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," saying it reinforced the need for a resolution providing inspectors will new powers.

The five permanent veto-wielding council members — the United States, Britain, Russia, China and France — met with Blix after he briefed the council.

One council diplomat, speaking on

condition of anonymity, called the meeting constructive and said "it's understood that the inspectors are not going anywhere before there's a resolution."

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."

Washington wants one resolution that would include approval for military action if Iraq fails to comply. Russia, China and France 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, who heads the U.N. Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission, said still to be resolved is 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.

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.

Iraqi Ambassador Mohamed al-Douri suggested Thursday that Iraq was flexible on the issue of presidential palaces, saying they "should not be an issue."

"We can overcome that if there is any problem," he told The Associated Press, but he vehemently opposed the U.S. draft proposal, calling it "a declaration of war."

anonymity, insisted that some form of aid had reached 90 percent of those who signed the pacts.

The office of the Colombian presidency said in a report that \$15.8 million in aid has been disbursed to non-governmental organizations, who have delivered 91 percent of the aid to the farmers.

The deadline for the farmers to get rid of their coca fields expired on July 28. Since then, U.S. spray planes protected by U.S.-trained Colombian troops have begun widespread aerial fumigation of the coca crops in Putumayo. The spraying

resumed after an almost yearlong hiatus to give the voluntary eradication pacts a chance to work.

"We began early this calendar year telling people that when the pacts terminated, anybody who had coca would be subject to spraying," the U.S. official said.

The voluntary eradication pacts had been promoted by former President Andres Pastrana's government as the soft-side of Plan Colombia, which is largely a military-style offensive against drug crops that finance leftist rebels and their right-wing paramilitary foes.



SPORTS

Anaheim Angels take flight over New York Yankees

BY JOHN NADEL

AP Sports Writer

ANAHEIM — The New York Yankees just can't put away these Anaheim Angels.

Now, it's the four-time defending AL champions who are one loss from going home in early October.

Darin Erstad hit a tiebreaking double in the eighth inning and Tim Salmon followed with a two-run homer as the Angels again rallied, overcoming a five-run deficit to beat the Yankees 9-6 on Friday night.

Boosted by an outstanding effort from 20-year-old rookie reliever Francisco Rodriguez and its bullpen, Anaheim took a 2-1 lead in the best-of-five AL division series.

The Angels can clinch it when their ace, Jarrod Washburn, faces David Wells in Game 4 Saturday.

The Yankees, however, faced an even more desperate situation last year in the first round against Oakland. After dropping the first two games at home, New York came back to advance.

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.

Anaheim blew a 2-0 lead in the 1982 AL championship series against Milwaukee and was one strike away from the World Series in 1986 before losing the last three games to Boston.

Now, the Angels are one win away — again.

Down 6-1 in the third, they began their comeback against Mike Mussina. This was only the third time in Yankees post-

season history that they've blown a five-run lead and lost.

Meanwhile, the Angels' bullpen completely shut down the powerful New York lineup, allowing only one hit in the final six innings.

John Lackey took over for ineffective starter Ramon Ortiz, and Scott Schoeneweis got a key out against Jason Giambi.

Then, Rodriguez struck out four in two perfect innings for his second win of the series — and his major league career.

Troy Percival pitched the ninth — this time, with no drama — for his second save.

Scott Spiezio's RBI single with two outs off losing pitcher Mike Stanton in the seventh tied it at 6.

Adam Kennedy began the Angels' eighth with a blooper that bounced out of right fielder Raul Mondesi's glove for a double. After David Eckstein sacrificed, Erstad lined a double for his first RBI of the series, bringing the red-clad, sellout crowd of 45,072 at Edison Field to its feet.

Steve Karsay relieved Stanton, and Salmon hit the first pitch just inside the left-field foul pole.

It marked the third straight game decided in the eighth inning.

The Yankees won the opener 8-5 by scoring four times in the eighth, while the Angels rallied in Game 2 with three runs in the eighth for an 8-6 victory.

The Angels have battered New York pitching for 41 hits and 22 runs in the three games.

After the Yankees rouged up Ortiz after 2 1/2 innings, Mussina gave the Yankees their third straight ineffective outing by a

starter in this series.

Mussina allowed four runs in four innings before leaving because of tightness in his right groin.

Kennedy's sacrifice fly off Jeff Weaver in the sixth made it 6-5, and the Angels tied it on Spiezio's soft looper barely over the outstretched glove of second baseman Alfonso Soriano.

Derek Jeter came up with a heads-up play for the second straight year in Game 3 of the division series, this time on the bases.

Jeter hit a one-out single in the first and was running on a 3-1 pitch to Giambi that was ruled ball four.

Lots of long balls in playoffs

BY HAL BOCK

AP Sports Writer

Meet baseball's version of Mr. Inside and Mr. Outside — Ray Durham and Scott Hatteberg.

Oakland's first two batters opened Game 3 of the playoffs against Minnesota on Friday with consecutive home runs, Durham's inside the park, Hatteberg's over the wall.

How appropriate for the Long Ball Playoffs.

Small ball — the art of building runs patiently with singles and steals, bunts and bloopers — is old fashioned baseball, out of style in Postseason 2002, where the home run rules.

The division playoffs are a homer haven: 26 were hit in the first eight games. That's a big jump over last year's 15 homers through eight games, and the most for the postseason's start since 28 were hit in 1995.

The barrage has been most dramatic in the series between the Anaheim Angels and New York Yankees. In the first two games, the teams combined for 12 home runs, six per team.

For the Yankees, the longball showdown is no big deal. New York hit 223 home runs during the regular season, the second-highest total in club history, trailing only the 240 hit by the Mickey Mantle-Roger Maris team in 1961.

Anaheim had a more modest regular-

Catcher Bengie Molina threw to second anyway, and the ball trickled a few feet past third baseman Troy Glaus, covering because of the Angels' shift against the left handed-hitting Giambi, and Jeter alertly took off for an uncovered third base and made it.

Jeter helped Mussina and the Yankees preserve a 1-0 lead in the seventh inning at Oakland last year by cutting off a throw up the first-base line — far from his short-stop position — and making a backhanded flip to nip Jeremy Giambi at the plate.

The Yankees went on to win that game and the next two en route to eliminate the A's.

season collection of 152 home runs, tied for 11th in the American League and the fewest of any of the eight playoff teams.

"It's an awful lot of home runs for the Angels, not the Yankees," Fox Sports analyst Tim McCarver said. "And the guys that hit them have been no surprise. If David Eckstein starts hitting them, we've got a story."

Eckstein, Anaheim's leadoff hitter, had just eight homers during the regular season and none so far against the Yankees. The Angels' homers have come from more traditional sources such as Troy Glaus, who connected in consecutive at-bats in Game 1 and leads all hitters with three for the playoffs.

Glaus hit 30 homers and drove in a career-high 111 runs this season. He was low-key about his power show.

"They made a couple mistakes and I haven't missed," he said. "When you're going bad, you miss them. When you're doing all right, you don't miss those."

The playoffs arrived at a most convenient time for Glaus, who was coming off his best power month of the season with eight homers in September.

"As far as the power, we're not trying to match the Yankees home run for home run," said Angels outfielder Garret Anderson, who homered in Game 2 against New York. "They're a good hitting team. We hit hard line drives."

Some of them out of the park.

Pitcher Greg Maddux must prove himself in postseason

BY JANIE MCCAULEY

AP Sports Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — Greg Maddux and Cy Young — yep, THAT Cy Young — are the only pitchers in major league history to win 15 games in 15 straight seasons.

Yet when it comes to the playoffs, Maddux has been downright ordinary. A loss to San Francisco on Saturday, and he would tie teammate Tom Glavine for most career postseason losses. The two shared the record until Glavine lost in Game 1 of the NL division series to the Giants.

To make the plot a little more interesting,

Maddux faces a former teammate he showed the ropes as a rookie — Jason Schmidt.

It will be Maddux the 16-game winner vs. Schmidt the 13-game winner in what stands to be the best pitchers' duel of the series so far, and in pitcher-friendly Pacific Bell Park to boot.

"We are pretty confident," Atlanta's Vinny Castilla said. "We know we have a great ballclub, and are going to San Francisco with great pitching. It's a great feeling to have Greg on the mound in the first game in San Francisco."

Maddux's start was pushed back to Game 3 of the best-of-five series because



Roberto Boreal/Associated Press

Atlanta Braves pitcher Kevin Millwood throws against the San Francisco Giants in the sixth inning during game 2 of the National League East Division Series on Thursday.

of a blister on his pitching hand. The teams split in Atlanta, leaving the series at one game apiece as it resumes in San Francisco with Games 3 and 4 this weekend.

Maddux reached 15 victories for the 15th consecutive season, matching the record set by Young from 1891-1905.

Schmidt considers himself lucky to have pitched with Maddux, a major leaguer by the age of 20 who's won four Cy Young and 12 Gold Glove awards.

"I remember when I first got here, drove up before opening day, he came up to me and said, 'Hey if you don't have a place to stay you're welcome to stay with me,'" Schmidt recalled. "I ended up staying at his house about a week. We were sitting down and watching games when we weren't playing. He'd say, 'See what this hitter's doing? Watch for this and watch for that.' It's the most special experience a player could have, especially a rookie. To do that with a Hall of Fame pitcher."

While Maddux and Schmidt are battling on the mound, all eyes will still be on Barry Bonds. Did the San Francisco slugger's ninth-inning home run at Turner Field on Thursday do enough to finally get him going in the postseason?

Bonds insists his statistics don't matter and that he just wants to reach the World Series for the first time. But it will probably take some big blasts from Bonds to get the Giants there.

Bonds has eight homers off Maddux. But if the past is any indication, Maddux might not give him much to hit Saturday. Maddux has walked Bonds 22 times in 116 career at-bats.

Bonds is hitting just .200 in the postseason for his career, has never been to a World Series and has never even won a playoff series in five trips to the postseason. His homer Thursday was just his second in the playoffs. The other came off Glavine in the 1992 NL championship series when Bonds was with Pittsburgh.

Even Giants manager Dusty Baker has struggled after the regular season — he is 0-for-2 in playoff series as a manager. The Giants are trying to reach the NL championship series for the first time since 1989.

The batter behind Bonds in the order, Benito Santiago, has been San Francisco's best bet so far. The All-Star catcher is hitting .444 (4-of-9) with two RBIs and a run scored through the first two games.

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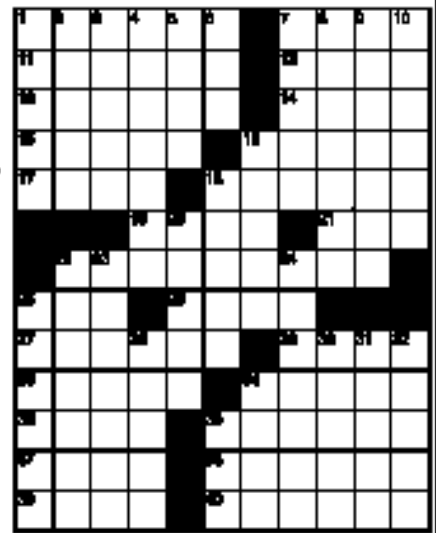
- ACROSS**
- 1 Dangler, e.g.
 - 7 Champagne category
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 - 12 Ready for eating
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 - 15 Old characters
 - 16 Long lunches
 - 17 Put away
 - 18 Elevate
 - 19 Belling
 - 21 Nursery denizen
 - 22 Cause of an outburst, perhaps
 - 25 Contrived
 - 28 Hill
 - 27 Depth
 - 29 Math course, for short
 - 33 Mass meeting
 - 34 Greasy spoon
 - 35 Painter Paul
 - 36 Turn
 - 37 Utah ski resort
 - 38 Friend of D'Artagnan
 - 39 Spontaneous
 - 40 Gift
- DOWN**
- 1 Brandy-making fruit
 - 2 Computer data
 - 3 Note maker
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 - 8 Race rocks
 - 9 Actor
 - 10 Caribou
 - 7 Short
 - 8 1942 Abbott & Costello film
 - 9 So far
 - 10 Serving collection
 - 14 Warming up
 - 26 Free of

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22 Louisiana explorer
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NEWS OF THE WEIRD by Chuck Shepard

Accidental murder by rough sex

- Church youth minister Hartley McWhite, 29, was convicted in August of killing his mistress (despite his defense that she choked to death accidentally during rough sex) (Tampa, Fla.).
- Raymond Rock, 37, was arrested in July and charged with killing a 40-year-old woman he had met in a bar (but said it was an accident after she asked him to choke her during rough sex) (Pittsburgh).
- Jeanette Daniels, 40, was arrested in July and charged with killing a 62-year-old man (but said he accidentally asphyxiated during rough sex) (Chicago).

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ROOMMATE WANTED, Beverly Hills, \$480, utilities included. Quiet and romantic setting suitable for one professional adult, with excellent references and non-smoker. \$2150.00 including utilities. PHONE: (310)573-3705 OR (310)454-2408 - LEAVE MESSAGE for MARGUERITE.

SHARE 2BDRM furnished apt., all utilities paid including cable. 9th & Wilshire. \$750.00 (310)394-1050.

Commercial Lease

COMMERCIAL SPACE can be leased quickly if you market to the right crowd. Reach local business owners by running your listing in the Daily Press. Call (310)458-7737 to place your listing for only a buck a day.

OFFICE SUBLEASE, 1 office available, seconds to 10 and 405, \$625/month, avail. immediately. (310)392-6100.

TREATMENT ROOM with table/sink/desk/privacy in Acupuncturist office. 1/2 \$500. Full week \$1000. (310)820-8001.

VENICE BEACH \$595.00 Small office space with bathroom on ground floor. High Ceiling, large window. Fresh paint. Just off Abbot Kinney. 1 year lease. (310) 396-4443 x102

Elly Nesis Company, Inc.
www.ellynesis.com

Vehicles for sale

93 LEXUS Beautiful condition, service record. 6 CD, leather. \$7900.00 (310)459-5404.

Massage

BACK/NECK PAIN? Try Myoskeletal Alignment. Strictly Therapeutic! Call (310)650-8226.

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

JOURNEY THROUGH your senses, peeling away layers of unwanted tension and stress. Intro: \$29/hour. Viadya@ (310)397-7855

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

CLASSIFIEDS



Massage

STIMULATION THERAPY for geriatric patients who may be bed-ridden, using vibrational massage. \$20 for 1/2hr. Robert (310) 394-1533

THE BEST solution to low cost advertising. Fill your appointment book by running your ad in the Daily Press. Only a buck a day, call (310)458-7737 to place your ad today.

Therapeutic Massage, Swedish, Accupressure, Deep-tissue, Sports Massage, Reflexology. For apt call Tracy at (310)435-0657.

WOULD LIKE to trade deep-tissue and Swedish bodywork with female therapist. Platonis. Paul (310)741-1901.

Announcements

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

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

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

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

Services

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

CRIMINAL DEFENSE in Santa Monica. Paul L. Mills, Esq. (213)595-1716. Trial Attorney. Reasonable Rates.

DOES SOMEBODY owe you money that refuses to pay? Our COLLECTION AGENCY handles judgments, bad checks, and separate collection issues. Call (818)883-1776. Ask for Courtney.(310)709-3251.

Services

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

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

NEPTUNE SOCIETY Caring for your family. Preneed cremation. Guaranteed price. Worldwide protection. Marilyn Dupont (310)450-2667.

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

YOGA: PRIVATE or group w/safe, compassionate certified instructor. Santa Monica/Brentwood area. Call Phil (310)403-2072.

Computer Services

WHATEVER NEEDS to be accomplished Tech Guru. Home and Office Networking, Internet connection sharing, Email servers, Firewalls, Windows, Mac, Linux.. Computer installation and support. Microsoft Certified. Max 310-560-3635 or max@mailunion.net

WORRIED ABOUT Viruses, tired of Spam?!! MAILUTION Email Solutions can cure your headaches. SPAM and Virus filtering for your Exchange Server. Professional business email hosting, and protection. http://www.mailution.net (310)560-3635.

Yard Sales

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

Health/Beauty

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

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

Advertise for a dollar a day!
Santa Monica Daily Press • 310.458.7737

Calendar

Saturday, October 5, 2002

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

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.

Sunday

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.

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.

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.

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

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, 12:15, 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, 11:30, 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.

Calendar items are printed free of charge as a service to our readers. Please submit your items to todayspaper@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
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Woman who escaped from prison camp captured

By The Associated Press

SPOKANE, Wash. — A 71-year-old woman who escaped from a California prison camp four years ago and disguised herself through plastic surgery was arrested Thursday after authorities received a tip.

At the time of her August 1998 escape, Astarte Rice-Davis was serving a 15-year federal sentence for embezzling from her husband's estate.

James Rice disappeared from his Virgin Islands home in 1986. The Contra Costa, Calif., developer's body was never found and he was declared dead in 1988.

Rice-Davis, whose surgery reportedly made her appear to be a woman in her 40s, had been featured on several television shows, including "Unsolved Mysteries," "A Current Affair" and "America's Most Wanted."

A second "Unsolved Mysteries" episode aired about her in September, said Jason Wong, task force coordinator for the U.S. Marshals Service.

On Tuesday, a Spokane informant who recognized Rice-Davis from the episode led authorities to her. She was captured early Thursday as she drove away from her house.

Her fingerprints proved she was the fugitive, Wong said.

Rice-Davis walked away from a Dublin, Calif., prison camp. Prison officials discovered her missing during a routine roll call.

Wong said authorities are still investigating what Rice-Davis did in Spokane, where she apparently held several jobs.

Dave Wiyrick, a spokesman for the Spokane County

Rice-Davis, whose surgery reportedly made her appear to be a woman in her 40s, had been featured on several television shows, including "Unsolved Mysteries," "A Current Affair" and "America's Most Wanted."

Sheriff's Office, declined to say where Rice-Davis was living, except that it was in an affluent part of the South Hill area of Spokane.

Her escape from the prison camp wasn't her first foray

as a fugitive.

According to court records, 24 hours after her husband disappeared, Rice-Davis filed a false deed conveying his St. Croix house and undeveloped lots to her, and significantly lowered the price to quickly raise funds.

The next day, she held a garage sale and sold her husband's pickup, cement mixer, two 40-foot trailers, furniture and construction gear at bargain rates, records show.

After her indictment on the embezzlement charges, she fled house arrest in the Virgin Islands and lived for 18 months under a fake name in Santa Barbara, Calif.

While on the lam, Rice-Davis wrote a 1989 letter to a newspaper denying she had anything to do with her husband's death or any embezzlement scheme.

Mardi Gras doesn't end at baring breasts

By The Associated Press

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Attorneys for a Florida State University student said she has settled her lawsuit against the producers of a "Girls Gone Wild" video in which she exposed her breasts.

Becky Lynn Gritzke, a business major, contended MRA Holdings LLC violated her privacy when it marketed images of her flashing

during Mardi Gras in New Orleans last year.

The video company said Mardi Gras was a newsworthy event and that people who removed their clothes in public during the celebration forfeited their right to privacy.

The case was scheduled for trial next week, but Gritzke's lawyers moved to dismiss it Tuesday when a settlement was reached. U.S. District Judge Robert L. Hinkle issued an

order closing the case Wednesday.

Financial terms of the settlement were confidential, but an attorney for Gritzke said MRA Holdings must stop distributing the video and all advertising containing Gritzke's image.

Gritzke's suit sought damages based on her embarrassment and suffering as well as what it called the unjust enrichment of the video company as the result of the unauthorized use of her image.

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Enjoy a drink and appetizer for \$4.99. (Mon-Fri 4pm-7pm, Sat-Sun 3pm-7pm)



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Choose from any of our delicious bar appetizers. (Mon-Fri 4pm-7pm, Sat-Sun 3pm-7pm)

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Choose from any of our delicious desserts. (Mon-Fri 10am-11pm, Sat-Sun 9am-11pm)



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