

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

LOTTO

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Megamember: 14

Jackpot: \$35M

FANTASY 5

25, 33, 1, 23, 12

DAILY 3

Afternoon picks: 3, 3, 1

Evening picks: 9, 6, 2

DAILY DERBY

1st Place: 12, Lucky Charms

2nd Place: 11, Money Bags

3rd Place: 03, Hot Shot

Race Time: 1:41.68



NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

Latest street price for a child: \$250 (Judith Ann Garland, 20, was convicted in Baltimore in September of offering a 2-year-old boy because she needed \$250 for bail on drug charges.)

Latest cat to inherit an estate: Tinker, a black stray taken in by Margaret Layne, who died in May at age 89 in London, England (inherited a house worth about US\$600,000 and a trust fund worth about US\$175,000).

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Everything has been figured out except how to live."

— Jean-Paul Sartre

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Strike!



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

A strike is thrown during a competitive battle between the 'Sharks' and the 'She Devils' on Sunday at Memorial Park. The girls' fast pitch softball game attracted dozens of spectators, most of whom were of supportive parents.

Main Street merchant duped out of \$1,100

BY JOHN WOOD

Daily Press Staff Writer

A Santa Monica businesswoman was duped out of \$1,100 after she responded to a local newspaper ad that promised her down payment would secure a \$15,000 loan.

The ad, placed by Second Try Home Finance, read, "Not having any luck? Have you been turned down too many times?" It listed a toll-free number and said the company provides personal, small business, mortgage and consolidation loans.

Jennifer Hadley, who owns the gift store Terracotta on Main Street, called the toll-free number in the advertisement earlier this summer and spoke to a person named Ruth Singh, who mailed her a stack of documents so she could apply for a loan with an 8.5 percent interest rate.

Singh claimed to be a financial consultant for Ontario-based American Growth Fund and the papers she sent bore the investment company's logo, Hadley said. AGF is an internationally recognized

firm that controls roughly \$30 billion in assets.

So Hadley, 59, who moved to Santa Monica from London 18 months ago and was borrowing the money to meet her \$3,710 monthly rent for her Main Street store, returned the signed forms, along with copies of her driver's license, and her social security and business cards.

Then, on Sept. 4, Hadley placed a person-to-person \$1,100 cash transfer to a person named Kizzy Reid in Canada.

"You'd just think it's somebody in an office, wouldn't you?" said Hadley, adding that it's difficult for foreigners to get loans in the U.S., no matter how good their credit is. "You don't know."

When the \$15,000 loan didn't show up in her Bank of America account within 48 hours, as promised, Hadley immediately called Singh. But Singh, who had coached Hadley through the entire process over the phone, was suddenly unable to be reached, Hadley said.

So Hadley called the Daily Press, one of two local newspapers the ad ran in, as

See AD, page 5

Doubting America's professed altruistic intentions

BY GEORGE GEDDA

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON

When Saudi Arabia asked the United States earlier this year to dismantle U.S. military bases in that country, the response could be summed up as follows: "OK, when?"

Serious empires don't pack up and leave. They stay until they are toppled.

In a similar circumstance, any self-respecting Roman emperor would have said, "Hey, we're an empire. Get used to us."

In a message to the Iraqi people on April 4, President Bush said: "The government of Iraq, and the future of your country, will soon belong to you."

"We are not imperialistic and we never have been," Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said a few days later.

Such statements are

rarely challenged in this country. Empire building simply is not in the American scheme of things — or so most Americans believe. Foreigners are often less sanguine about American intentions.

And now, almost six months after the Iraqi regime of Saddam Hussein was deposed, unrest about continued American domination of Iraq is widespread internationally and is taking root at home as well.

Words like "empire" and "hegemony" are being used more and more to describe the American role. There is the perception that the United States is exerting its power in Iraq for reasons that go well beyond altruism. The unease even extends to some Iraqis who are members of the governing council chosen in July by the U.S. authorities in Iraq.

Few countries have been more outspoken than France about continued American domination of Iraq.

"France insists on the implementation of a rapid transfer of power ... within several months," Foreign Minister Dominique de

Villepan said.

Secretary of State Colin Powell predicts "total chaos" if political control were to be turned over to Iraqis before they were ready. Embracing the French approach would mean sacrificing President

Bush's vision of a democratic Iraq, he believes.

Since the invasion of Iraq in March, the administration has been relentlessly multi-lateralist in response to troublesome

See EMPIRE, page 11

Montana 'smash and grab' suspects plead not guilty

By Daily Press staff

Three suspected burglars pleaded not guilty last week to prying the counters off a Montana Avenue jewelry store and stealing \$100,000 worth of jewelry.

Manuel Garcia, 58, allegedly distracted the lone worker inside JJ Design at 1307 Montana Ave. on Sept. 25 while Ricardo Ratke, 32, and Nohora Sierra, 46, allegedly took the goods. No one was injured.

They were stopped by police minutes later in a blue minivan at 11th Street and Georgina Avenue, where they were

arrested and the jewelry was recovered, Santa Monica Police Department Lt. Frank Fabrega said.

All three pleaded not guilty at the Airport Courthouse near LAX last week. They are each charged with commercial burglary, grand theft and giving false information to police officers. All of them allegedly used an alias when first arrested.

A preliminary hearing has been set for the alleged robbers later this month. Sierra's bail has been set at \$1 million. The other two are being held without bail because of prior offenses.

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HOROSCOPE

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Monday, October 6, 2003:

Investigate a different approach. Try something totally different. The more open you are to different styles, the happier you will be this year. Work proves to be demanding. Performance does count. You also might decide to train in another field or specialize even further in your chosen field. Use common sense with sports, as you might be more prone to accidents than you are aware of. Staying focused might be primary to your well-being in order to avoid a fall or accident. If you are single, you might be too much into work to have time to develop a relationship to the level you need. If you are attached, you need to share more of your work life with your sweetie. Don't let him or her feel left out. PISCES can drive a hard bargain.



ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★ Though you react in a most fiery manner, you would be well-advised to tame down your response. The long-term view and insight you gain will be worth the self-discipline. A friend reveals something important. Keep it a secret. Tonight: Get a good night's sleep.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★★ A friendship could take you down a new path if you're willing to follow. Not everyone acts in a way that suits you. Overlook pressure, understanding the common goal. Devise shortcuts that work for everyone. Tonight: A must show.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★ When some people back down right now, you can count on others coming to the forefront. Investigate what might be going on around you. Understand what might be at the root of a problem. Your ingenuity comes into play. Tonight: A must show.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★★ Getting an overview could be a lot easier for you than for many. If you want to, or feel the need, investigate different possibilities or answers. Don't accept whatever you hear as a given. Flow with opportunity. A family member bubbles with news. Tonight: Rent a movie.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ A partner comes on so strong that you might need to back off and take a deep breath. You might not exactly be sure what is going on with this person, but the best way to find out would be to kick back and become an observer. Tonight: Give someone the space he or she needs.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ Know and understand that you don't hold the winning cards right now, so take no risks. Others seek you out, and as a result you find out a lot more. Be more playful and express yourself in a lighter tone while you figure out the lay of the land. Tonight: Go along with the program.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ While others flip and flop in different directions, you know what you're about as you cruise into work and get the job done. Express your high energy by clearing out the piles of work. Mercury moves into your sign, bestowing many good ideas on you. Tonight: Keep on smiling.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ You charge in with solutions left and right. You are everyone's hero (or heroine) for the day. Enjoy being in this role for now, because eventually someone, somewhere will find that you have done something wrong. Perfection isn't easy to attain! Tonight: So what if it is Monday?



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★ Cocooning might be the way to go. You discover an approach most workable with a difficult family member. Your sense of direction could be nearly compulsive in its focus. Do what you need to. Tonight: Happy at home.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★ You might want to think through a problem while someone else is bringing it to a head. Understand that some things are unavoidable. Try not to say anything that you cannot take back. Touch base with someone you respect enormously. Tonight: Reach out for a loved one.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★ Your expenses go overboard, forcing extreme measures. You might not be comfortable with what goes down around you. Be more in touch with your needs on an emotional level. Don't act out through spending. Tonight: Pay bills first.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ Your strong personality emerges with others. In fact, you might not realize just how strong you are coming on. Take a break. Let off steam doing something solitary, like taking a walk or getting into a favorite sport. Tonight: Keep on smiling.

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LOCAL



Local woman rides to ease the pain of arthritis

By Daily Press staff

A Santa Monica woman felt the pain of millions of people who suffer from arthritis when she recently biked more than 500 miles.

Lynn Rubin participated in the "2003 Amgen California Coast Classic Bike Tour." Benefiting the Southern California Chapter of the Arthritis Foundation, the tour started in San Francisco on Sept. 20 and finished in Los Angeles on Sept. 27, about 520 miles later.

Lynn, a mountain biker who tried road cycling for the tour, road on behalf of her mother, who had rheumatoid arthritis for 40 years before she passed away 10 years ago.

"I watched my mother crawl out of bed when I was a kid because she couldn't walk."

Rubin does not have arthritis, but her brother does.

According to the Center for Disease Control, arthritis affects one in three Americans, more than 70 million people. It is the No. 1 cause of chronic pain and disability that strikes without regard to age, afflicting about 300,000 children each year.



John Dlugolecki/Arthritis Foundation
Lynne Rubin on the third day of a 520-mile bike ride.

surf report

The bay sure looks like it winter and the water temperature proves it. It's time to break out the full suit permanently. There were some fun, glassy waves just south of County Line this past weekend. The NW and the tropics should bring us decent-sized rollers this week, not to mention a few storms headed our way.

Get stoked on an epic sesh? Get burned by a bad report? Write us at wood@smdp.com and tell us what the surf is doing today at your local break.

Today the water is:

62°

Sunrise: 6:45 a.m.
Sunset: 7:01 p.m.

	LOW TIDE				HIGH TIDE			
	Morning	Height	Evening	Height	Morning	Height	Evening	Height
SATURDAY	12:16	-0.1	12:10	2.9	7:21	4.3	5:55	5.4
SUNDAY	1:07	-0.2	1:07	2.3	7:53	4.7	6:56	5.6
MONDAY	1:48	-0.2	1:52	1.8	8:21	4.9	7:44	5.6
TUESDAY	2:22	-0.1	2:30	1.3	8:45	5.2	8:26	5.6
WEDNESDAY	2:50	0.1	3:50	1.0	9:08	5.4	9:03	5.4
THURSDAY	3:16	0.4	3:37	0.7	9:29	5.5	9:39	5.2
FRIDAY	3:38	0.8	4:10	0.5	9:49	5.6	10:14	4.8

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The Q-Line

Last month, a homeless man settled out of court with City Hall for \$275,000 after a tractor accidentally ran over him last summer while he was sleeping on the beach. He sued for more than \$1 million, but City Hall conceded that the city was liable for his injuries and emotional distress because it occurred on property it is responsible for. Attorneys thought about what a jury might award the man and figured settling was probably less expensive.

Thousands of homeless people sleep on public property and dozens of them are

injured in accidents in parking lots, beaches and streets. But some would argue that it's no different than anyone who drives, visits or walks on public property.

So this week, Q-Line wants to know, "If you were on a jury, would you have ruled for or against the man's lawsuit? Why?"

Call (310) 285-8106 with your response 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.

Davis signs environmental education bill

By Daily Press staff

Gov. Gray Davis was in Santa Monica last week to sign a bill that will help elementary and secondary school students better understand the environment.

Davis on Thursday was at the Santa Monica Pier to sign the bill, introduced by Assemblywoman Fran Pavley. Heal the Bay, a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting Santa Monica Bay, supported the bill, as well as actor Pierce Brosnan.

"California has serious air and water degradation that affects our health and our economy," Pavley said. "(The bill) will help students make informed decisions on how to live and work in ways that are positive on our environment. As a teacher, I know that kids care about the environment and lessons about the environment will get them more engaged in the learning process."

The bill directs the Office of Education on the Environment to develop environmental principles and use them to create a model curriculum. It also requires that the Department of Education incorporate these environmental principles into the next purchasing cycle of instructional materials.

National Geographic, a strong supporter of the legislation said in a statement, "AB 1548 does not reinvent the wheel. It refines it for a child of the 21st Century. Environmental education is critical to empower future generations."

The bill also establishes an account to generate funds through public and private donations, and judgments against polluters in state or federal court that will be specifically designated for use for environmental education.



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OPINION

Three good reasons to vote 'yes' on the recall

As a "Main Street Republican," I feel some obligation to put forth the case for the recall of Gray Davis and the election of Arnold Schwarzenegger as clearly and concisely as possible.

Recalling an elected official should not be done casually. So, what are the exceptional circumstances that apply to Gray Davis?

There were three primary conditions that led to the re-election of Gray Davis.

First, he spent more in the Republican primary than either of the two major candidates. He did this to defeat Richard Riordan, who, polls showed, was most supported by the public for the general election.

The purpose of primaries is to enable political parties to select their best candidates for public office so that the public has the best choices. For one political party to prejudice the choices advanced by an opposing political party is a direct attack on the efficacy of democracy itself.

Given the closeness of the last election, it is reasonable to conclude that Gray Davis would not now be in office if he had not used this tactic. The same tactic is now being used to advance the candidacy of Tom McClintock. Hopefully, the Republican Party has learned to deal with it.

The second reason for the re-election of Gray Davis is that he claimed that Bill Simon's analysis of the state budgetary situation was a lie. Davis asked Californians to trust him for his experience and judgment. It turned out that Simon had understated the problem. It is

unimaginable that a person with Gray Davis' experience could not have read the numbers. Davis lied to California voters about the state's budget to get re-elected. It is perfectly reasonable that since his election was based on a lie that he should be recalled when that lie is exposed.

The third reason for the re-election of Gray Davis was his accusations that big business and the Republicans had conspired to generate the energy crisis. It turned out that the Republicans had warned of the impending crisis and fought for legislation to remedy it for years, and the Democrats not only refused to act but also counted on the impending crisis to build public support for more socialist governmental policies.

That the present Democratic Party leadership is this cynical was demonstrated when Jackie Goldberg and the other Democratic state legislative leaders accidentally broadcast their discussions of blocking approval of a state budget because the resulting crisis could be blamed on the Republicans.

Why now Arnold? The first issue to look at is competence regarding the budget. The gross incompetence of Gray Davis in this regard was accented a couple of months ago when he announced that his solution to the budgetary crisis would be his appointing a blue ribbon committee of five past state budgetary

managers to review every aspect of the state budget to make sure this does not happen again, etc.

This solution as too much a reflection of the quality of Davis' years of governmental leadership was quickly and quietly dropped. But, if we want to compare budgetary advisors, we can compare five unnamed past state budgetary bureaucrats to Wilson, Uberroth, Riordan, Schultz and Buffett.

Aside from Arnold's building personal fortune in a wide variety of economic pursuits, (sic) he is also a principal owner of a well respected nation investment firm that manages some \$40 billion of investments, including public employee pension funds. Arnold already has a crew that far out shines anything that Gray Davis, let alone Bustamante, could offer.

When politicians tell you how much they care about "the people" but have no personal friends outside of political allies, there should be some questions. How can a person care about those they do not know when they do not care about those they know?

One of the things we see with Arnold Schwarzenegger is that folks who have known him from many walks of life like and support him.

Even when Arnold has played some pretty tough political games on individuals, he has still been diligent about leaving them better off than when he found

them, and still overwhelmingly carries their support.

It is quite apparent that neither Bustamante nor Davis is personally liked by those who know them. They can barely even talk to each other. Neither would seem to have a potential job in any aspect of the private sector, except perhaps as a "consultant."

Perhaps almost equal to the importance to straightening out the state government will be the impact of the election of Arnold Schwarzenegger on the political dialogue.

The vast majority of people stay out of political life on every level from neighborhoods to national service because they want to avoid the personal attacks. The example of Arnold Schwarzenegger standing up to and laughing off these attacks will be taken to heart by citizens throughout California and around the world.

Anyone familiar with Arnold's movies knows that he does not advocate immorality and that he holds public service in high regard.

We should not expect to be in agreement with any human being on all points of policy. We should be willing to work hard for the policies we believe in. However, there can be little doubt that Arnold Schwarzenegger is a good and principled decision maker. We will be well served to have him as the governor of California.

(Ronn S. Pickard hangs out on Main Street with the other republicans there.)

Guest Commentary

By Ronn S. Pickard

Drugs within the homeless give people on the streets a bad name



As I sit here and wonder what to write about, I read a lot of editorials. The recall is the topic of the day, as is the fact that the federal government has turned over one of their own CIA operatives for her husband blowing the whistle on the current regime's lies about Iraq trying to buy uranium from an African country. And we are still throwing billions of dollars away in Iraq.

These are all topics which I can comment on and have a very adverse effect on the homeless population. But, all of this pales when you compare it to an infestation of highly addictive drugs hitting the streets. Drugs like heroin, methamphetamine, crack and powder cocaine do more damage to the homeless community and surrounding communities than anything I have seen since I have been homeless.

When these drugs come around it usu-

ally spells trouble for those who live out here who do not use these substances. We usually wind up getting ripped off in our sleep. I have lost blankets, a Walkman, money, art supplies, a pager and two cell phones. This leads to a higher cost for the homeless agencies as they have to replace the blankets, sleeping bags and clothing that get stolen. Even though they are donated items, the time involved helping us recover these things could be better spent helping us get off the streets and into jobs and mainstream living.

It also affects the general attitude of the public concerning the homeless population because these types of addicts become overly aggressive and antagonistic towards those whom they panhandle off of when they receive nothing from them. It also leads to the crime rate going up as the addict will steal from anyone, any place, any time. Rapes and assaults occur as well, some of which do not get reported because the person is homeless and cannot avoid the repercussions of going to the police and being labeled a "snitch."

And sometimes the worst happens and someone dies — either from an overdose, a debt owed, committing suicide or, as in the case of a 14-year-old girl a few years

back, someone gets murdered. In that instance, methamphetamine was heavily involved. The ones who committed this heinous act were Satan worshipers who were using meth to entice girls to join them in their worship. When one of them tried to stop the main person from using because she felt she loved him, she was literally sacrificed. I had to meet her parents under those circumstances. I treated her like a daughter and tried to stop her from talking to this guy.

In the case of meth and crack, the person usually stays awake for days at a time "tweaking." So, not only does the person suffer from the drug, causing major chemical imbalances in the brain, this is further aggravated by severe sleep deprivation. One guy I knew had been awake for seven days and had literally picked the tear duct from his eye. He had convinced himself that a flat worm was in there blocking his vision. When I saw this, I told him if he did not go back to the spot and go to sleep I would knock him out and carry him there. Now, this same guy is a responsible husband and dad living in the pacific northwest. He was luckier than most who I have seen on any of these drugs.

Even after these drugs are taken off the

streets, there is still the after effect. The homeless community is looked at in a worse light than normal. And there is the pain of watching some people detoxing on the street. I know someone who I tried to detox off heroin a couple of years ago. She slept by me so I could make sure she did not dehydrate or go into convulsions during her detox. Sadly she is still on heroin and rumor has it she is "working" the streets on skid row. She is only 19 years old.

When these drugs increase in the homeless community, it is not a very pretty picture. And the ones who bring it out here do not care about the people involved, only in the money that they can make. I feel people who take advantage of people in this type of situation — whether it be getting someone to sell for them or getting someone addicted — they have very little self esteem and self worth. These are people who feel the only way to make money is off of the misery of others and, in the karmic cycle of this, have nothing good coming to them.

(Charles Springer is a homeless resident of Santa Monica, and is a freelance writer and artist)

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.

YOUR OPINION MATTERS!

Send your letters to Santa Monica Daily Press Attn. Editor: 1427 Third Street Promenade Suite 202
Santa Monica • 90401 • sack@smdp.com



Suspected ad scam being investigated by police

AD, from page 1

well as local law enforcement officials. Police are now investigating the matter.

Though the telephone number listed in the advertisement is still active, repeated messages over the past week have gone unanswered. According to Daily Press invoices, Second Try Home Finance is based out of a small city in southern Alabama, but mail sent to that address has been returned twice as undeliverable.

When the first piece of mail was

returned, Gary Berten, who paid for the 1-by-2-inch ad with a personal credit card, told Daily Press ad salesman Mitch Troy the address is correct and to mail it again. A search of postal records shows that the address does not exist.

In the meantime, all of the Ontario-based phone numbers provided to Hadley by Singh have since been disconnected. And AGF officials said they have no record of a anybody named Kizzy Reid or Ruth Singh ever working for them.

Pastor Herrera, the director of the L.A.

County Department of Consumer Affairs, said consumers should always research a company fully and do some comparative shopping before sending money or handing over personal information to anyone. He said when an offer sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

"Unfortunately, people are desperate for the money," he said, adding that giving away personal information opens people up to identity theft. "It takes time to establish that credit, but it's just a process that all of us need to go through in this coun-

try."

While law officials continue their investigation, Hadley closed the doors at 2717 Main St. on Friday after being evicted by landlord Bobi Leonard for failing to turn in her rent on time. Hadley said she is looking at another location on Main Street and hopes to reopen very soon.

"I've never been in a situation like this," she said, adding that her ex-husband is a private eye in the U.K. "I'm stupid doing this, but I'm not a stupid person. I just hope it doesn't happen to anyone else."

New owner spurs Calif-Nevada resort to aim for skiing's peak

BY TOM GARDNER

Associated Press Writer

STATELINE, Nev. — Buoyed by a hefty infusion of cash from its new owner, Heavenly Ski Resort wants to climb into the top 10 of the nation's ski areas, becoming a destination resort instead of a day-use facility.

"We know we've got a winner on our hands," Vail Resorts Inc. Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Adam Aron told a gathering at Harrah's Lake Tahoe last week.

"There are 700 ski resorts in North America and 500 in the United States," he said. "All five of ours are in the top 15."

This month's issue of SKI magazine ranks Heavenly 13th, up four spots from last year's list.

Vail Resorts, based in Vail, Colo., bought Heavenly in May 2002 from financially struggling American Skiing Co., now of Park City, Utah.

Vail since has spent more than \$16 million to add and upgrade restaurants, improve snowmaking and build a high-speed detachable quad chairlift. When it bought the resort, Vail said it would spend some \$25 million over five years to improve Heavenly.

"This year, we'll continue improving our food and beverage operations, the on-

mountain infrastructure and our guest service, all of which should help to continue propelling us to a higher level in the eyes of our guests," said Blaise Carrig, Heavenly's chief operating officer.

"We need to work harder on the people side to get where we are going," he said.

Heavenly's partnership with the exclusive Marriott Grand Residence Club time shares in South Lake Tahoe, Calif., and the upscale shops and restaurants in the nearby Heavenly Village were helping solidify its goal of becoming a destination resort, Aron said.

Next on the improvements list is the aging California Lodge, which is scheduled to be replaced with upgraded facilities, possibly in a village concept mirroring the Marriott property.

Eating areas also are targeted for improvement.

"Some of the restaurants were a little bit tired and we're giving three of them a facelift," Aron said.

Heavenly, which straddles the Nevada-California line, is the only bistate ski resort in the country and soars some 3,000 feet above Lake Tahoe.

Heavenly operates 29 lifts and a year-round \$25 million, eight-passenger gondola. It is Vail's first resort outside Colorado. The other are Vail, Beaver Creek, Breckenridge and Keystone.

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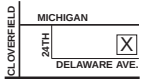
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STATE

More women claim they were groped by Schwarzenegger

Schwarzenegger doesn't recall incidents; apologizes for some

By The Associated Press

SACRAMENTO — As the number of women claiming they were sexually harassed by Arnold Schwarzenegger grew to 15 Sunday, he marched on the state Capitol while Gov. Gray Davis signed a law making California the largest state to require employer-paid health care.

Their campaigning came as the race appeared to tighten, as a Knight Ridder poll published in Sunday's newspapers found support for recalling Democrat Davis at 54 percent in favor while 41 percent were opposed. Republican Schwarzenegger continued to lead among potential replacements in Tuesday's election.

In Los Angeles Sunday, Davis signed a law he predicted will provide health insurance to nearly 1.1 million working Californians currently without job-based coverage. Though it exempts small businesses, the measure requires most employers to pay for their employees' health care.

"Today we take a bold step to reform health care," Davis said before signing the bill at a ceremony attended by the Rev. Jesse Jackson, actor Danny Glover and labor leaders.

Four more women surfaced in a Sunday Los Angeles Times report to accuse Schwarzenegger of groping, spanking or touching them inappropriately.

The latest group included an unidentified 51-year-old woman who said Schwarzenegger pinned her to him and spanked her repeatedly three years ago at a West Los Angeles post-production studio.

Three other women named by the Times said Schwarzenegger fondled them in separate incidents outside a Venice gym in the mid 1980s, at a bar in the late 1970s and on the set of the movie "Predator" in 1986.

Schwarzenegger spokesman Sean Walsh dismissed the accounts of three of the women as untrue. He said the actor had no recollection of the alleged gym incident.

Schwarzenegger did not address the allegations during his march to the Capitol, his only scheduled public appearance Sunday.

Instead, he claimed to have "an unbelievable momentum" from his four-day cross-state bus trip, telling supporters the "people saw there was hope that yes, we can make changes in California."

Davis "has terminated opportunities and now it's time to terminate him," Schwarzenegger said. "Please bring me the broom," he told a Capitol rally crowd of nearly 5,000. "We are here to clean house."

Opponents holding signs reading "No groper for governor" and "Say no to Predators" were countered by Schwarzenegger supporters wielding brooms and signs reading, "Gray groped government" and "Gray groped our assets."

At the bill-signing ceremony, Davis said the latest allegations indicate "serious problems" with Schwarzenegger's behavior and his

ability to govern effectively. He said Schwarzenegger has offered only partial explanations in response to the allegations and voters are faced with one question.

"Are all 15 women and their families lying?" Davis said.

On Thursday, the Times reported that six women claimed Schwarzenegger

groped or sexually harassed them between 1975 and 2000. After that story, five other women made similar allegations; two said the actor harassed them on the set of the 1988 film "Twins." Four more women made their claims Sunday, bringing the total to 15.

During interviews aired on morning television news shows Sunday, Schwarzenegger called the harassment allegations and reports that he praised Nazi leader Adolf Hitler as a young man the desperate, last-minute attacks of a losing Davis campaign.

"This is campaign trickery and it is dirty campaigning," he said on ABC's "This Week." "Like, for instance, I despise anything and everything that Hitler stands for."

Of the Times' "Twins" story, he said, "It's just mean-spirited, and it's just trying to derail my campaign."

While Schwarzenegger didn't dispute all of the women's accounts, he said none of the women told him at the time that, "You went over the line now."

In a separate taped interview with ABC's "This Week," Davis said voters face a choice now between Schwarzenegger and voting against the recall: "If people don't want him to be governor, then the alternative is to allow me to complete the term."

Though the Knight Ridder poll found a majority of voters support recalling Davis, it suggested a shift. The poll was conducted Wednesday through Saturday, with the percentage of people saying they would definitely vote to oust Davis declining among those surveyed Friday and Saturday.

If Davis is removed, the poll showed Schwarzenegger leading among potential replacements with 36 percent support, to 29 percent for Democratic Lt. Gov. Cruz Bustamante. The poll of 1,000 registered voters, conducted by Elway/McGuire Research and published in the San Jose Mercury News and Contra Costa Times, had a margin of error of plus or minus 3.2 percentage points.

The Knight Ridder poll indicates the margin between Schwarzenegger and Bustamante has also tightened. A poll conducted by the Field Research Corp. between Sept. 25 and Oct. 1 gave Schwarzenegger a 10-point lead over Bustamante.

Such polling results led to a new anti-recall ad in which U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein says, "This recall is turning around." The new ad from Californians Against the Costly Recall is set to begin airing in major markets Monday.

Though she names neither Davis nor Schwarzenegger, the popular senator cites the recent "serious allegations" against Schwarzenegger while asserting that, "People are beginning to see how unfair it (the recall) is, and how harmful it is to California's economy and to our people."

But those who gathered for Schwarzenegger's rally at the Capitol called the latest round of accusations a last-minute sideshow aimed at derailing what was a popular movement to clean up Sacramento.

Stephanie Minietti, 55, of Sacramento, a graphic artist and member of the Capital City Motorcycle Club, said Schwarzenegger would bring a change in all-Democratic leadership in California. I think Arnold has the ability to inspire people."

"I could care less," Minietti said of sex allegations. "Everyone I know could care less. It's totally meaningless. If anything, it's probably helping him."

STATE

STATE BRIEFS



Cardinal Mahony: Not enough done to end homelessness

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Cardinal Roger M. Mahony said political, business and religious leaders have failed to deal with homelessness in the city and he urged expanded funding of affordable housing and an end to downtown police sweeps.

"Some see a homeless person and judge them to be a failed human being," Mahony said last week during a breakfast sponsored by the Los Angeles Archdiocese's Commission on Justice and Peace.

"But I see a failure of political will, a failure of our market economy, of our philanthropic and religious institutions, to come to grips with a problem that will not disappear with the next upturn in the business cycle," the cardinal said.

Mahony urged a crack down on slumlords, and he endorsed a proposed ordinance that would offer incentives to developers to set aside low-income units when building market-rate housing projects. The City Council is debating the proposal.

Authorities estimate there are up to 84,000 homeless people in Los Angeles County.

Mahony is a member of a task force of top civic leaders scheduled to meet next month to begin devising a 10-year plan to end homelessness. He also said police sweeps "clogs the jails with homeless people for the crime of being out of work."

Police chief returns from eight months at sea

By The Associated Press

PASADENA — Police Chief Bernard Melekian, a Coast Guard reservist, has returned after eight months of patrolling Pacific rim seaports for the U.S. Coast guard.

Melekian has been discharged from his reserve duty and will officially return to the Police Department on Monday.

"I think we're all looking forward to his return," Acting Chief Wayne Hiltz said. "We all enjoy working for him, he's a great leader."

Melekian became a decorated reservist during his tour of duty with Marine Safety and Security Team 91103, a unit formed to provide port security after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks. Based in San Pedro, Melekian was captain of a 25-foot harbor patrol boat and it's three-person crew.

Fish and Game kills mountain lion

By The Associated Press

SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO — Authorities shot and killed a mountain lion early Sunday that they said was stalking people around an equestrian facility.

State Fish and Game officials left out a roadkill coyote near a trap Friday to bait the mountain lion, and there were signs that it fed off the carcass, said Steve Martarano, spokesman for the department.

A U.S. Department of Agriculture specialist was called in to help find the animal with tracking dogs. The mountain lion was spotted in a tree early Sunday morning and shot.

A necropsy was planned to determine the cause of the 75-pound male's unusually aggressive behavior. Authorities said the mountain lion stared at a small child at one point, and in another instance didn't flee when tracking officers shined a flashlight at it.

"The animal was acting strange, it was abnormal behavior," Martarano said. "A lot of times the reason behind that is disease or other factors."

Martarano said officials believed the mountain lion was the same one shot by authorities 10 days earlier, because it appeared to have an old buckshot wound. There were two schools nearby, and Fish and Game authorities had warned parents not to leave children unattended in the area.

Authorities had believed there were two mountain lions in the area, but they now believe there was only one.

Walkers collect \$50K for alzheimers

By The Associated Press

FAIRFIELD — More than 500 people participated in the fourth annual Alzheimer's Association Solano Memory Walk, and officials said the fund-raiser collected \$50,000.

Bill Hawn, president of the nonprofit group NorthBay Health Advantage, said the walk Saturday helped fight the disease by raising money for research, helping families care for loved ones with Alzheimer's, and raising awareness of the disease.

Elementary school burns

By The Associated Press

SAN LEANDRO — Alameda County fire officials are investigating a two-alarm fire at a San Leandro elementary school early Sunday morning.

Fire officials say the blaze at Garfield School started between 2 a.m. and 3 a.m. No injuries were reported.

San Leandro fire dispatch supervisor Shelley Lima said officials had no information about the cause of the fire.

FACE-to-FACE with the Women & Children of Iraq



Local resident Kelly Hayes-Raitt just returned from her second trip to Iraq, where she found some of the children and women who touched her so deeply during her first visit in February. She also saw firsthand the impact of the bombings and invasion on innocent people's lives, homes and hearts. The trip revealed much devastation — and much inspiration.

She will be speaking about the people she met — and remet — in Baghdad, Hillah, Babylon, Fallouja, Basra and Umm Qasr.

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Since February, Kelly has addressed over 60 audiences, including religious congregations, state women's conferences, school classes, community clubs, large peace rallies and small neighborhood meetings. If you would like her to address your group, please call (310) 581-4421 or e-mail C2CCampaigns@aol.com.

Photos may be viewed at www.CommunityCampaigns.com/Iraq.



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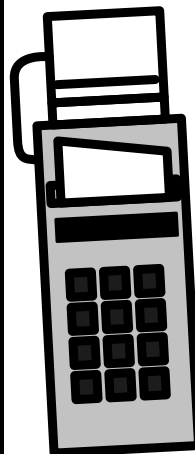


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NATIONAL

A modern-day 'Bonnie and Clyde' tale of loot and love

BY PAULINE ARRILLAGA
AP National Writer

PHOENIX — He sat behind the glass partition in the county jail, his years on the run finished.

Craig Pritchert leaned forward in his black-and-white striped uniform and rubbed his eyes. They were weary and damp with tears, the eyes of a man who could see the end.

The end of a good life, a life of ski resorts and seaside towns and peace on the other side of the world, but a life based on a fake identity and cover story.

Worse, this could be the end of a love. Not one, as police assert, built on lies and lawlessness — but rather sincere affection, he explained.

"We had what most people strive for but can't even touch," said Pritchert, drumming his fingers on the partition for emphasis as he spoke of Nova Guthrie. "It was ... the fairy tale. The only question now is the happily ever after."

But in a fairy tale, the hero isn't a sus-

pected bank robber and his heroine the accused getaway driver — and happily ever after doesn't include the possibility of prison for both.

When their past finally caught up with them late one August night, Pritchert and Guthrie had become Dane and Andi Brown, a fun-loving couple who enjoyed walks on the beach and dancing at the club where she worked near Cape Town, South Africa.

She was the manager of the Bossa Nova, charged with orchestrating big events, negotiating vendor contracts and making bank deposits. Owner Giorgos Karipidis so trusted the woman he considers "like a sister" he had given her keys to the safes.

"Dane" was an Internet trader who spent his days inside their two-bedroom flat glued to a computer, using his downtime to hit the gym or visit "Andi" at work.

"We were happy. We were working," the 42-year-old Pritchert told The Associated Press. "We struggled, but I was done with all the other. We had stopped looking over our shoulders."

"We were just two people starting a

new life," added Guthrie in a telephone interview from jail. "Sometimes I felt like it's not really fair that we get to be this happy. Unfortunately, it got interrupted."

Friends such as Karipidis knew nothing of their real identities, nor the nickname that turned the tale of their alleged escapades into a sensational crime caper worthy of Hollywood.

Back home in the United States, Guthrie and Pritchert had been branded a modern-day Bonnie and Clyde, lovers accused of robbing a half-dozen banks in Colorado, Montana, Texas, New Mexico, Oregon and Washington from 1997 to 1999. Pritchert also is charged with a solo job in Arizona.

The real Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow were products of the Great Depression who blamed their destitution on big business and the government, and struck back to take what they believed was due them.

The motivation of Guthrie and Pritchert isn't so clear.

Why would a woman from a devout Christian family who once considered medical school become the alleged accomplice to an armed bandit? Why, after turning herself in, would she return to him?

Why would a man who once had his own big dreams leave a wife and three kids and begin robbing banks? Why, even after doing prison time, would he go back to stealing?

"He seems like somebody who would rather take a shortcut as opposed to working for something ... who thinks 'the rules are for everybody but me,'" said Don Vogel, an Arizona police investigator who assisted the FBI in its probe.

As for Guthrie, 12 years younger than Pritchert, authorities and her family wonder if she was manipulated. "If she got involved in this it was pressure from someone much older who had the keys to her heart," said her brother, Gerald Guthrie.

But the couple and those who knew them in their final days of freedom weave a much different story with one common thread: The most important thing to them — more important than luxury or loot — was their devotion to each other.

"This is a true love," said Karipidis. "I don't care what the cops say. This was real."

Pritchert grew up in Scottsdale in the 1970s. The oldest of four children in a middle-class family, he started out living what seemed the American dream.

At Coronado High School, the blond-haired, blue-eyed teenager was handsome and popular. He dated one of the prettiest girls in school — Laurie Gill, cheerleader, homecoming queen and, eventually, his wife.

Pritchert played outfield on the baseball team that brought home the state championship in 1979, his senior year, and like other boys with athletic talent he harbored ideas of making it in the major leagues.

"In athletics you have your leaders and followers, and Craig was a leader," said high school friend Steve Bender, who added that "most of his dreams revolved around playing sports."

But Pritchert never got a four-year scholarship that could have led to a professional career. After playing ball at community colleges, he was given a shot as a walk-on at Arizona State University.

The timing was terrible. The outfield was filled that year with promising players, among them a recruit named Barry Bonds. Though Pritchert earned a spot as designated hitter, he played little. By the end of the 1983 season, Pritchert's baseball and college days were over.

Already married with the first of three

children, he started working for his father selling solar heating panels and tried his hand at other odd jobs. But Pritchert suggests pressure was mounting from his wife to bring home a better salary.

"I made good money ... but it never really mattered," he said. "If I was making \$40 (thousand), she could spend \$80."

Laurie said the pressure came from Pritchert's realization that he had a young family and needed to provide. Her current husband, John Pulzato, met Pritchert when he and Laurie were still together and said he "was always scheming something up."

Like the time in high school when Pritchert asked a friend if he could borrow his truck and ended up using both to help him steal tires from a car dealership. They sold them and split the take.

"Craig is a very intelligent man. He can talk to you about sports, religion, politics, stocks," John Pulzato said. "He could've done anything he wanted; he just wasn't patient enough to wait."

While Pritchert traveled, supposedly to work, Laurie was evicted from their home and had her car repossessed. Then one day, after she had begun divorce proceedings, she ran into her husband. "He was driving a Porsche," she said, "and I was practically on welfare."

Only later did Laurie learn her ex-husband had turned to bank robbery.

Pritchert spent five years in prison following two 1990 heists outside Las Vegas. When released to a halfway house in 1996, he owed \$55,000 in restitution and tens of thousands more in child support.

He got a job at a car dealership and did well, until the boss learned he had a record.

"Every job that he had, as soon as they found out the background he was gone," John Pulzato said. "He tried to do the straight road, and it didn't work out for him."

He turned to trading stocks on the Internet but wasn't making enough to cover living expenses and all the money he owed. Those who stand by him say Pritchert feared delinquent payments would land him back in prison.

"You come out having paid your dues, but you can't restart your life because you have a record and a big debt and don't know what to do," Karipidis said. "Any man would be pushed to the limit."

As Pritchert put it: "The odds were seriously stacked against me."

At 10:45 a.m. on Aug. 12, 1997, a man walked into Norwest Bank in Scottsdale wearing a long-sleeve shirt, baseball cap, gloves and a stocking over his face. He approached the teller, pointed a gun to her head and yelled: "Give me all your money!" His backpack was filled with more than \$32,000.

A tracking device slipped in with the money led police to a car at a shopping mall. On the passenger seat was the backpack, \$7,745 still inside. Also found, according to court records, was a wallet containing Craig Pritchert's driver's license.

Pritchert wouldn't be arrested that day. Destiny had something else in store. Soon, he would find himself in Farmington, N.M., having a drink with a woman named Nova.

When they met it was like spontaneous combustion.

Nova Guthrie had moved to Farmington after college to sell cleaning equipment with older brother, Gerald. Pritchert, claiming to be a vacationing trader, was introduced to him through a mutual acquaintance. The two men were dining one night when Gerald called and

See CRIMINALS, page 9

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NATIONAL



Couple to live happily ever after incarcerated

CRIMINALS, from page 8

asked his sister to join them.

"I'd never met a woman like her," Pritchert recalled. "She was something else."

On the surface, they were as different as can be.

Guthrie was raised in Boone, Colo., a no-stoplight hamlet surrounded by horse farms and fields. She was the last of eight children born to Ralph and Delores Guthrie, a steelworker and schoolteacher.

They took their children to church every Sunday, sent them to Christian summer camps and tried to instill the values of the Good Book: the Ten Commandments, the golden rule.

Guthrie excelled in school. She was a member of the National Honor Society, the French and math clubs and Christian student fellowship. At Morningside College in Sioux City, Iowa, she was a premed major who was voted president of her sorority.

But beneath the straight-laced exterior was an audacious spirit.

"Nova," said college roommate Tina Laskie, "was definitely not a girlie girl."

Athletically built with brown hair and lively dark eyes, she enjoyed weightlifting, diving off bridges and riding motorcycles with Gerald. On summer breaks from college, she worked with her brother at a steel tank factory and learned to weld.

The day after they met, she took Pritchert water-skiing — and she never looked back. Where other boyfriends were threatened by her intelligence and verve, Guthrie finally met her equal in Pritchert.

"I saw something in him that matched something in me, and that never went away," Guthrie said. "I've never known a more kind or a more gentle man, or anyone who loved me better."

"It was the happiest I'd ever seen her," added Gerald. "She lost some weight and became more feminine. It was almost like she blossomed. It was, in some ways, very beautiful."

At first, Pritchert was closemouthed about his past, although Gerald remembers him telling his sister that his wife and kids had died in an accident. At some point, police say, he told her the truth and gave her the choice to stay or go. Guthrie stood by her new man.

Not long after, on Oct. 31, 1997, a bank was hit in Durango, Colo. Pritchert and another suspect still on the loose are accused of taking \$64,600. Guthrie drove the getaway car, police said.

And so it went. According to investigators, Pritchert bought scanners, two-way radios, gloves, wigs and masks. A handgun was purchased through a newspaper ad. He and Guthrie would then scope out a target.

The pair spent two months in Oregon, a court affidavit alleges, prior to a Feb. 19, 1999, bank holdup in Bend, Ore., that netted \$120,000. They snowboarded at Mount Bachelor, worked out at a local gym.

Pritchert used a similar modus operandi in that robbery as others, authorities say, entering the bank just before closing and ushering employees into the vault, binding their hands and ankles. Guthrie waited in a nearby car, communicating by radio. Afterward, Pritchert burned his disguise and supplies.

"He was the smartest bank robber I've ever chased," said Scottsdale police detective Tom Van Meter, who began hunting Pritchert after the 1997 Scottsdale job. "He did his homework."

In all, authorities suspect the duo made off with more than \$300,000. When not rob-

bing banks, they allegedly lived it up at ski resorts or beaches in such places as Belize.

Investigators' first big break came shortly after the Bend heist. While passing through Phoenix, Pritchert and Guthrie stopped at the home of one of her relatives. The family persuaded her to stay. Soon after, in March 1999, she turned herself in to the FBI in Denver.

Guthrie agreed to cooperate and began providing details about the holdups. But authorities released her and weeks later she reunited with Pritchert, whom she'd told Gerald she couldn't live without.

It was a photograph that led to another photograph that led to their downfall.

Someone in the States from South Africa saw the "Wanted" poster. It showed a woman who looked eerily similar to the manager of the Bossa Nova. Check out the Web site, the tipster told authorities.

There, next to snapshots of birthday cakes and toasting barflies, was a smiling dark-haired beauty posing with her friend and boss, Giorgos Karipidis.

Guthrie ran the club's Web site. How could she make such a slip? Karipidis believes she had convinced herself that the past was truly past, that she and Pritchert had "finally found peace."

South African authorities acknowledge the two appear to have lived a lawful life the three years they were there. They drove a beat-up Volkswagen Beetle — no longer a BMW with a false compartment to hide cash. Their DVD player was a gift from Karipidis.

Pritchert notes they could have stolen from the club at any time, but didn't.

"I wasn't trying to make a lot of money fast," he said. "I was trying to live and be happy. I'd finally figured the secret out ... A good woman."

They were eating Chinese food and watching television when police arrived the night of Aug. 19.

When Karipidis went to visit them in jail, they confided their identities. Guthrie, in particular, seemed embarrassed. But what struck him were the questions they asked over and over.

"How is Nova?" Pritchert asked. "How is Craig?" Guthrie implored.

Later, scanning e-mails Pritchert often sent Guthrie at work, Karipidis found one note written only hours before their arrest. He remembered it saying: "Thank you, princess, for always taking care of me. I don't know what I'd do without you."

Pritchert was extradited to Arizona to be tried in the Scottsdale robbery. He faces a 30-year maximum sentence, though charges are still pending in other states. He has pleaded innocent.

Guthrie was taken home to Colorado and booked on charges stemming from the Durango robbery. She faces up to 20 years, but is also indicted in the Oregon heist. Guthrie also pleaded innocent.

They said their goodbyes in a U.S. marshal's van. As for any future contact, "that would be up to Nova," Pritchert said. "I hope so."

"Definitely, we will see each other again. It's just a matter of time," said Guthrie. "I've got something that every woman would want. You don't walk away from that."

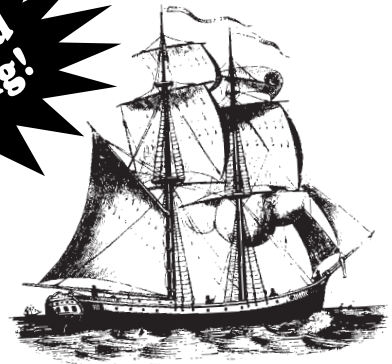
For now, they sit in separate jails in separate states, apart and alone for the first time in years — their happily ever after in the hands of the law.

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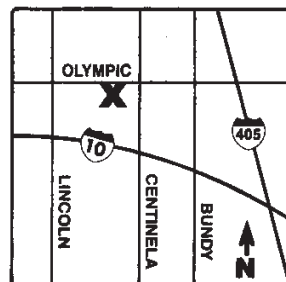
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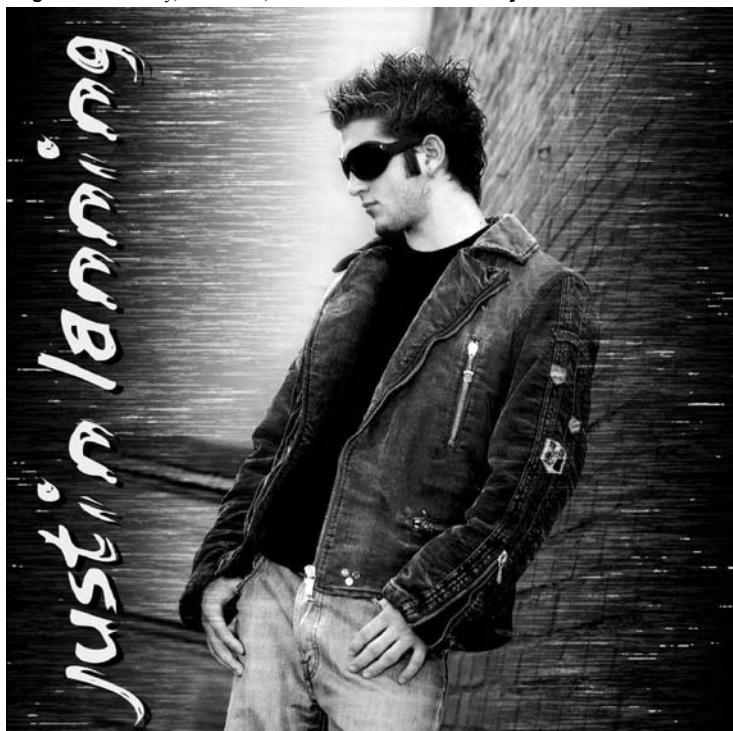
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NATIONAL

Springboard inventor
dives into philanthropyBY JAMES MACPHERSON
Associated Press Writer

STANLEY, N.D. — A stack of mail towers on Ray Rude's kitchen countertop in his sparsely furnished apartment.

The letters are from people trying to pry money from the 87-year-old man who made his fortune inventing the modern diving board.

"You might say I've caught the philanthropy bug," the soft-spoken Rude said. "Unfortunately, publicity has come with it."

Most of the requests for money are from churches. Others are from people who are down on their luck and need a few hundred thousand dollars to get them on their feet again.

One is from a university student asking for money to buy a new Corvette. A red one.

"This kid wants this convertible because he says his love affair with his girlfriend will end without it," said Rude, rolling his eyes.

Those kinds of requests have about as much chance as a bellyflop winning the gold medal in Olympic diving. Rude says he's earned every penny that passed through his hands since he was 5 years old, and he's not one for handouts.

Still, Rude has doled out, by his own rough estimate, around \$10 million in gifts in the past few years to projects he believes are worthwhile.

Most of the money has gone to the small northwestern town of Stanley, where Rude was born. After more than 70 years away, he moved back about two years ago from Nevada.

In his hometown, Rude still drives, and zips around the senior care center on a motorized scooter. He doesn't walk well because of a steel rod in his right leg, the result of a motorcycle accident more than 50 years ago, and he sometimes uses an oxygen tank.

But his eyes sparkle when he talks of his late wife, Ina Mae, and his work.

He's had to change his telephone number several times because of phone calls from people wanting money for such far-out requests as sports cars.

Education is a different matter.

Already this year, Rude has given \$1 million for scholarships and technology at Stanley schools. He donated another \$1.5 million to the University of North Dakota for a new business center. And he spent millions on a new hospital and aquatic center in Stanley.

The university center and aquatic facilities are named for Ina Mae Rude, who died two years ago.

The Rudes were married for 44 years. Ina Mae also was a partner in the diving board business.

Rude also gave \$500,000 to a dairy near Parshall, a gift that will help NorthWestern Dairy double its herd to about 800 cows that will eat North Dakota-produced feed.

North Dakota's rate of population loss was among the highest in the country between 1995 and 2000.

That bothers Rude, who believes young people should not have to leave the state, as he did, to find success.

"Every attempt has to be made to stop the migration of youth," he said.

Rude began doing farm work at age 5, and helped his father with janitorial work at Stanley's only school. He remembers

"This kid wants this convertible because he says his love affair with his girlfriend will end without it."

— RAY RUDE
Philanthropist

raiding the trash of richer kids in town, to fix up their old toys.

Like many who lived during the Depression, Rude is tightfisted with money. He's a little miffed that the rent went up \$15 a month for him and fellow residents at the senior care center.

"A dollar is a dollar," he said.

He remembers that he had only five of them when he left Stanley at age 15, and thumbed his way to California. He drove taxis and pumped gas for pennies an hour. He eventually got a job at Lockheed Aircraft, where he worked his way up from sweeping floors to become a lead tool maker on the P-38 fighter of World War II.

Rude not only found success at Lockheed, he also found his wife, who worked for the company in California.

"I was lucky to find her," Rude said.

He later struck out on his own, working as a tool engineer for aircraft companies out of a shop in Southern California. It was there, in 1948, that he developed the aluminum diving board from a discarded airplane wing panel.

Rude said his diving board business began when he heard a neighbor cursing the rain for preventing the varnish on a wooden springboard from drying in time for a party. Rude bolted the old wing panel to the pool and affixed some non-slip bathtub strips to the surface.

The invention was a springboard for the Duraflex diving board company.

"Serendipity," Rude said, "is the mother of invention."

He knew the wing would work as a diving board, but it almost worked too well because the divers were launched like never before.

"They ended up in the shallow end of the pool," Rude recalled with a chuckle.

Rude soon patented his Duraflex diving board. His Sparks, Nev.-based company has made more than 60,000 of them. They're been used in every Olympics since 1960.

Rude is still president of the company, but has turned over day-to-day operations to his daughter, Janice.

His latest project is developing a noise-hushing baffle system for Stanley's new aquatic center and other indoor swimming pools. He uses an old diving board as a workbench.

"His mind is as good as ever," Janice Rude said. "He has ideas. You can't stop that."

Though clearly heartbroken by the death of his wife, Rude keeps busy in his new shop and hangar at the Stanley airport.

"A lot of people probably think I'm an old bastard trying to buy my way into heaven," Rude said. "Don't believe it. That much money hasn't been printed yet."

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INTERNATIONAL

Inspector cites theories on why WMD's still not found

BY JOHN J. LUMPKIN
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Saddam Hussein may have possessed weapons of mass destruction and hid them, the chief U.S. weapons inspector says. Or the Iraqi dictator may have had the weapons and moved them outside the country just before the war.

Or perhaps Saddam never had them at all, and just bluffed to appear strong.

Weapons inspector David Kay cited those three theories — and a few others — on Friday as possible answers to why his survey team has so far failed to uncover any weapons of mass destruction inside Iraq.

Iraqis interviewed by his team have provided information pointing to each of those theories, Kay said.

One, more unusual, theory also has some backing, although it's shakier: that Saddam's scientists were fooling Saddam himself — and were simply too afraid to tell him he didn't possess any weapons, he said.

"Saddam had become so isolated, so the argument goes, that in the last couple of years they consciously told him they were doing things that they in fact were not doing, just to continue to be rewarded by him," Kay said.

One other theory — that Iraq had arrangements to produce its weapons outside of the country — has little evidence to support it, he said.

"We have about five to six working hypotheses that we routinely — actually every Saturday afternoon — review as to how our data is fitting ... We don't actually have a favorite," Kay told reporters.

His theorizing came as President Bush

"We have about five to six working hypotheses that we routinely — actually every Saturday afternoon — review as to how our data is fitting ... We don't actually have a favorite."

— DAVID KAY
Weapons Inspector

said the U.S.-led war on Iraq was justified despite the failure to find weapons so far. Bush and Secretary of State Colin Powell both contended that a vial of botulinum bacteria Kay's team found in Iraq is one strong piece of evidence of Saddam's weapons intent.

"The report (by Kay's team) states that Saddam Hussein's regime had a clandestine network of biological laboratories, a live strain of deadly agent botulinum, sophisticated concealment efforts and advanced design work on prohibited longer-range missiles," Bush said before starting a daylong trip to Milwaukee.

But Kay said the vial had been stored for safekeeping in an Iraqi scientist's refrigerator since 1993. He offered no evidence it had been used in a weapons program during the last decade.

Kay also said American weapons hunters had found no evidence that Iraq has recently tried to import a semi-refined

form of uranium from the African nation of Niger or anywhere else.

Bush cited that claim in his State of the Union address in January, although administration officials later acknowledged it was based on shaky intelligence and should not have been included.

Kay's search teams did locate documents suggesting another country in Africa — which Kay refused to identify — had offered uranium to Iraq, although it does not appear the deal went through. "We don't have any evidence it moved beyond what was probably an unsolicited offer," Kay said.

He also said many scientists are still afraid to work with the Americans because of security concerns, noting that two scientists working with U.S. officials had been shot — one fatally — by unknown assailants since the war.

"It's true, two who have collaborated with us, one has been assassinated after lit-

erally hours after meeting with one of the ISG (Iraq Survey Group) officers. Another took six bullet wounds and it's amazing to me that he is still alive," Kay said.

Powell, in citing the discovery of the vial of bacteria and signs of long-range missile plans, said he is "more convinced by the Kay report that we did the right thing."

"Do you think vials of botulism should constitute a weapon of mass destruction?" Powell asked reporters. "... They never lost that capability. They never lost that intent."

State Department spokesman Richard Boucher added: "You kill people with botuli. They have no other use."

The Iraqi scientist who had the vial had been given it for safekeeping at his home by another, more senior scientist, in 1993, Kay said. The scientist initially had other samples, most of which he quickly returned because of concerns for his family's safety.

"He was actually storing them in his refrigerator," Kay said. "He had small children."

Although tests showed that the one vial of bacteria that the scientist kept was still viable, Kay offered no evidence it had been used in a weapons program during the last decade.

The vial contained a live bacteria that make botulinum toxin — a toxin that can be used as a biological weapon. But experts say there are many, complicated steps between possessing a vial of bacteria and producing enough of the toxin to create a weapon. That would require relatively sophisticated equipment and processing.

The bacteria itself is a common cause of food poisoning.

Iraq is not an empire in the making, administration says

EMPIRE, from page 1

situations elsewhere.

It allowed a group of West African nations to take the lead in bringing about stability in Liberia. It is relying on the United Nation's nuclear watchdog agency to call Iran to account for its nuclear activities. It is seeking a regional approach to resolving the impasse over North Korea's nuclear weapons programs.

The U.S. approach to dealing with Iran and North Korea produced little objection internationally. But there is no sign of relief for the administration on the subject of Iraq.

"Empire never works over the long-term," says Chris Preble, foreign policy director of the libertarian Cato Institute.

And echoing the concerns of some Democrats about the administration's Iraq policy, Preble said empires usually wind up defending client state interests rather than their own people.

The administration, of course, does not see Iraq as an empire-client situation. It is prepared to turn over full political control to Iraq once national elections are held based on a new constitution.

But most of the rest of a world, still smarting over the administration's perceived go-it-alone policy last March at the time of the invasion, is not willing to give Bush the benefit of the doubt. Few countries are willing to provide the United States with more than token troop or reconstruction support.

"The administration bit off a bit more than it could chew in Iraq," says Ivo Daalder of the Brookings Institution, pointing to the \$166 billion price tag over two years and the deployment of a substantial portion of the U.S. military.

He says the United States has the power to get the job done in Iraq but he wonders whether the benefits would outweigh the costs.

At least Bush still has the support of British Prime Minister Tony Blair, who has not gone wobbly on Iraq despite an Iraq-related nose dive in the polls.

Defending his Iraq policies before Labor Party faithful on Tuesday, Blair said: "I do not at all disrespect anyone who disagrees with me. I ask just one thing: Attack my decision, but at least understand why I took it and why I would take the same decision again."

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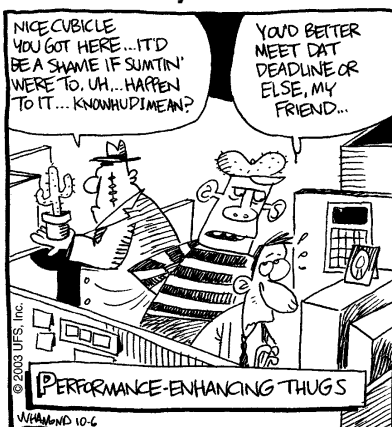
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19 Aunt, in Madrid
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38 Ottawa's nation

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41 Move slowly

DOWN

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7 Building wing

- 8 Pilot
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12 Flower parts
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22 Radio problem
23 Weapons store
24 Trattoria dish
25 Sketch
27 Gizmo
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36 "Far out, dude!"

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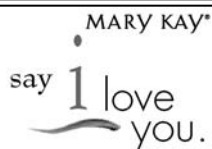
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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Lowe quit 'West Wing' over his role and small paycheck

By The Associated Press

RADNOR, Pa. — Rob Lowe says he quit "The West Wing" because he felt slighted by the show's creator, Aaron Sorkin, over the size of his role and the money he was making.

Lowe was irked when his part as a White House staffer was cut back and he continued to take home \$70,000 an episode, while co-star Martin Sheen, playing the president, got a raise to \$300,000 a show.

"Why didn't (Sorkin) know how much I loved him, how much I loved that show?" the actor told TV Guide for its Oct. 11 issue. "Why didn't he love me like I loved him? It's weird, considering it's another man, but that's as close as I can put it."

Lowe also says the show would not accommodate requests for time off. He recalls a meeting at which producers upbraided him for an attendance record that showed he'd been late a total of 17 hours.

"I was spied on. No other cast member had a meeting like that," Lowe said.

Though his decision to leave was seen as a bad career move, Lowe landed on his feet as star and executive producer of "The Lyon's Den," a new legal drama on NBC.

LOS ANGELES — Jesse Colin Young isn't smiling on his brother.

The singer from the 1960s band The Youngbloods is suing a Minnesota record company he says is distributing his songs without permission.

The group had a smash hit in 1969 with the song "Get Together," which had the chorus: "C'mon people, now, smile on your brother. Everybody get together, try to love one another right now."

The song was also featured in the 1994 film "Forrest Gump."

Young and his business partner, David Bean, sued in federal court, accusing Liquid 8 Records and Entertainment LLC of copyright infringement and breach of contract.

Young contends he terminated his licensing agreement with the company but it kept distributing his songs.

A call to the record company for comment was not

immediately returned Saturday.

The lawsuit, filed Friday, seeks a temporary restraining order, damages to be proven at trial and up to \$150,000 per song for copyright infringement.

LUBBOCK, Texas — Kirstie Chadwick remembers her brother, William C. McCool, walking on crutches in high school after a motorcycle accident, but yelling encouragement to teammates at the athletic track that now bears his name.

"The Willie McCool Track and Field" was officially dedicated at Coronado High School in memory of McCool, who piloted the space shuttle Columbia on its final mission. The orbiter broke apart over Texas on Feb. 1, killing the seven astronauts aboard.

McCool, 41, wanted to teach science after his days of exploring space were over, his mother said at the ceremony Friday.

"He loved working with the children and motivating and getting them interested in the science field," said Audrey McCool. "He was getting a number of years in and approaching retirement."

From Coronado, McCool went to the U.S. Naval Academy, where he graduated second in his class in 1983. He joined NASA in 1996 after being a Navy pilot.

A sign at the high school school track features the logos of Columbia's final mission. Minutes after the sign was unveiled, four U.S. Navy jets flew over the field, with one of the jets veering skyward to create a "missing man" formation.

PECOS, N.M. — Actor Val Kilmer has been talking about New Mexico, and one state lawmaker didn't like what he heard.

Kilmer, who has a ranch in the mountains south of Pecos, was asked about living in rural New Mexico in an interview published in a recent edition of Rolling Stone.

Kilmer told the magazine he carries a gun in his car. "I live in the homicide capital of the Southwest,"

Kilmer said. "Eighty percent of the people in my coun-

ty are drunk. So driving home on the highway, especially with kids, it's (carrying a gun) just a precaution."

Kilmer was also asked how he spends his time. After talking about feeding the animals and going to the watering hole, he put on a hick accent and said: "We shoot the automatic weapons at the trespassers and people a different color than us."

State Sen. Phil Griego, whose district includes Kilmer's ranch and who lives nearby, said Friday that if the actor doesn't like San Miguel County he's welcome to leave.

"He's shooting from the hip and he's espousing stuff he really doesn't know anything about," Griego said.

The lawmaker said the actor lives behind a gate and doesn't know his community.

A call to Kilmer's agent requesting an explanation of the actor's remarks was not returned.

John Hendry of the state tourism department said Kilmer actually loves New Mexico and its people.

"I don't believe for a minute he meant any of it. I know him and I have a feeling that you had to be there" to understand Kilmer's perhaps sardonic intent, Hendry said.

NEW YORK — Jazz violinist Regina Carter made history when she played Niccolò Paganini's famous violin at its home in Genoa, Italy. Now, she'll be able to repeat the feat in the United States.

Carter, the first black, nonclassical musician to play the 18th-century virtuoso's revered instrument, is set to play the violin once again in a special performance at Lincoln Center's Alice Tully Hall next month.

The Guarneri-made violin, known as "the cannon" because of its booming sound, will travel to New York City for the first time in three years for the Nov. 3 concert, it was announced this week.

The violin is usually played only by the winners of the Paganini competition. Although there was strong opposition by some classical purists who thought only a classical musician should play the Paganini violin, Carter performed with it in Genoa in December 2001, then later returned there to record her album "Paganini: After a Dream" (Verve).

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