

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

Jerry Rubin drops out

Cites poor mental health as reason for quitting campaign

BY ANDREW H. FIXMER

Daily Press Staff Writer

Jerry Rubin renounced his candidacy for the Santa Monica City Council Thursday, citing a recent downturn in his long and sometimes severe battle with depression.

"This was a difficult decision for me to make," he said to a gathering of reporters at his Ocean Park home. "I have to do my best now (to heal) and say 'Thank you very

much, but don't vote for Jerry Rubin.'"

Rubin said he has struggled with depression since childhood, and during his lifetime he has attempted five suicides and has been hospitalized for his condition 18 times.

Recently his condition had worsened to the point that Rubin said it affects him on a daily basis.

"Sometimes it gets bad," he said. "In the most extreme cases, I don't want to get out of bed in the morning and I ask myself 'What's the use?'"

See RUBIN, page 5

City council candidates answer tough questions

BY ANDREW H. FIXMER

Daily Press Staff Writer

For the first time during this year's campaign, city council candidates were allowed to cross examine each other before voters head to the polls on Nov. 5.

At a sparsely attended forum on Wednesday evening dubbed "Squirm Night," which was sponsored by the Daily Press and held at the First United Methodist Church of Santa Monica, seven of the nine candidates sparred for the last time before next Tuesday's election.

But this time candidates were allowed to ask each other one question. Some took the opportunity to attack, such as Chuck Allord and Pro Se, while others chose not to participate or used it to explain their positions.

Allord asked candidate Matteo "Matt" Dinolfo, a newcomer to Santa Monica politics, why he felt qualified to serve on the city council despite not having participated in any neighborhood groups or attending city council meetings.

Dinolfo stood his ground, explaining he had plenty of experience running large hospitals and medical programs with billion dollar budgets. He described his civic participation as taking a quieter tone than Allord, who is known for his fiery speeches before the city council.

"I don't think Chuck understands the concept of citizen politician," Dinolfo said. "Just because you get up and speak at the dais doesn't mean you have anything to say."

See SQUIRM NIGHT, page 4

Autopsy of woman deferred

By Daily Press staff

The cause of death for the woman found below Palisades Park this week won't be known for at least a month.

The Los Angeles County Coroner's Office has deferred the autopsy of the 42-year-old, pending toxicology results, which takes four to eight weeks.

The woman, who was possibly homeless, has been identified. However, authorities aren't releasing her name until her family is notified.

She was found between 20 to 30 feet below the bluffs by a person walking

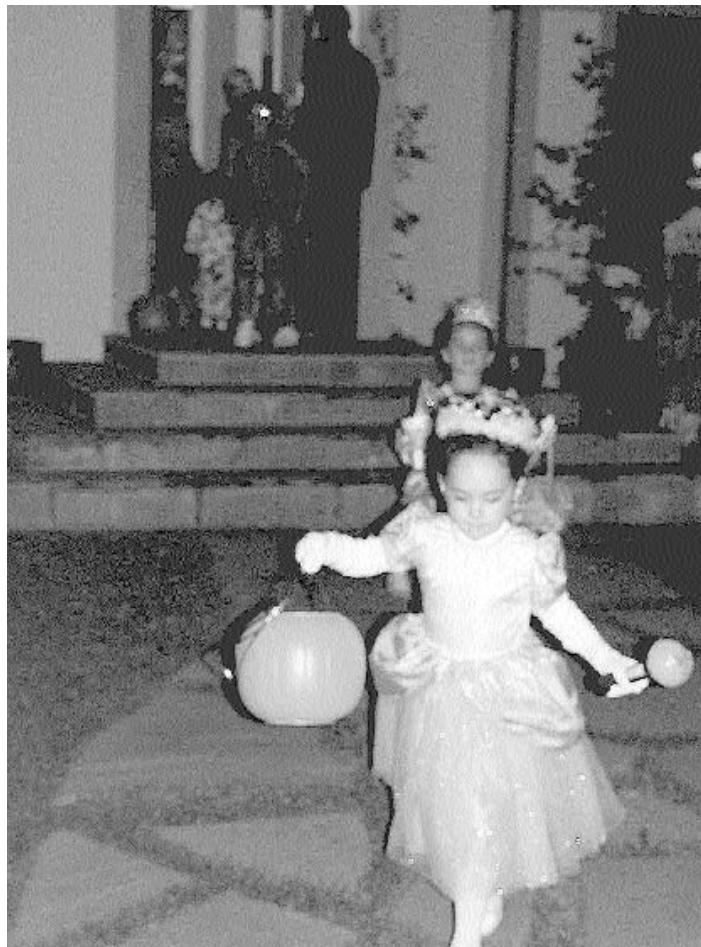
along the path in Palisades Park near Idaho and Ocean avenues at about noon on Tuesday.

Santa Monica firefighters removed the body from the area, which is mostly rugged terrain.

The Santa Monica Police Department is investigating the incident and has not determined how the woman died.

Anyone with information about the woman or the incident should call SMPD's Robbery/Homicide Unit at (310) 458-8451 or the watch commander's office, (310) 458-8426.

A plentiful Halloween



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

Cinderellas Emma Fresco and Ivy Bragin, both 4, skip away from a home north of Montana Avenue after getting a treat from Spiderman's house on Halloween. See photo on page 3

By Daily Press staff

Santa Monica was a city of pure weirdness and trickery Thursday night from one end to the other.

Any kid knows north of Montana is the neighborhood to go for not only the full-size Baby Ruth candy bars but also to admire the ghastly decorated homes. This year was no exception. Hundreds flocked to the upscale neighborhood in search of the ultimate trick or treat.

Neighbors have a friendly rivalry around the holidays, some spending thousands to decorate their manicured front lawns in hopes that they can out do the guy next door.

This year, fog machines, skulls, full-size skeletons, bags of candy dished out in a single serving and even a moonwalk were the highlights.

Just a few miles away, homeless people on the Third Street Promenade scraped up enough change to buy themselves masks for a night of Halloween panhandling.

Those that were feeling more charitable and civic hit the Barker Hanger at the airport on the eastside of town for the Santa Monica Police Activities League. The Halloween Carnival, which is the city's biggest bash, is supported by a host of non-profit and community organizations.

The Daily Press will make its endorsements on Santa Monica's ballot measures and candidates in Monday's paper.

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★★★★★-Dynamic ★★★★★-Positive ★★★★★-Average
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♈ ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★ Don't let negativity or a sense of fatigue mar your day. Continue to clear out as much as possible. Focus on one item at a time. Carefully review a matter that involves a child or a loved one. Defer to others when you're in a jam. Tonight: Take a nap, then decide.

♉ TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Use your imagination, especially when dealing with a money matter. You might need to pull back some in order to gain the results you desire. Your drive pushes others aside. Your creativity pulls you way ahead of the group. Tonight: Out with a co-worker.

♊ GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★ You could be hardest on yourself without realizing it. Take your time making a decision or moving on a project. Do know when to say you've had enough. You might want to leave work early. You need some downtime. Ask a family member for some help. Tonight: Stay close to home.

♋ CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Understand what it takes to get the job done. Do something that will refresh and recharge your energy. You might want to take a brisk walk or visit with an upbeat friend. Leave work early rather than making mistakes. Tonight: Happy to be at home.

♌ LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Deal with your finances. Delay what seems like an important purchase if you feel you must make it. You might feel a bit disappointed, but ultimately you will understand. Later in the day, you'll know and feel that you've made the correct decision. Tonight: Speak your mind.

♍ VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Your smile wins the day when you deal with those you're close to. Don't question yourself quite so much. A boss could be difficult. Don't play "Gone With the Wind" over this issue. Let go of problems. Start planning your weekend. Tonight: Split as fast as possible.

♎ LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Finish any backed-up work. Calls from a distance could be disconcerting. Don't brood; let go of what you cannot change. A more laissez-faire attitude works, ultimately. Think positively about the next few days. Tonight: Let out pent-up steam.

♏ SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ Friends support you even when a partner proves unduly difficult. Someone you consider a friend could let you down at the last minute. Realize more of what is important, and follow through on your needs. Tonight: Go for a weekend escape.

♐ SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Sit back and rethink a decision. If something feels out of sync or a person is acting strangely, don't be surprised. Something is off. Trust your judgment. A meeting adds to your sense of direction. Brainstorm. Be open. Tonight: Find your friends.

♑ CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ You could be a bit off on a decision you make. Consider options more carefully that might help you energize — from vitamins to exercise. First schedule a checkup with your doctor. Gossip might be depleting you as well. Tonight: A must show.

♒ AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ Your sense of humor plays an important role with a partner who might be glum. Help this person pick him- or herself up. Take a long lunch with him or her or make plans for immediately following work. Eye the long term right now. Tonight: Try something different.

♓ PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Others let you know what they want. On the other hand, associates could push you. You might want to rethink a personal matter that is close to your heart. Schedule time in the near future with a special friend or loved one. Tonight: Togetherness works.

CORRECTION — In Mike Tittinger's Oct. 31 column, he inaccurately referred to Councilman Kevin McKeown as the one opposed to the city's legal battle to force banks to stop charging ATM fees. McKeown is actually the person who first inspired the council to ban ATM fees in the city. It is Councilman Herb Katz who believes the effort is a waste of time and money.

In the Oct. 30 edition, school board candidate Shane McLoud's name was spelled wrong. It is Shane, not Sean.

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LOCAL



Buckets of treats



Carloyn Sackariason/Daily Press
Santa Monica kids and their parents enjoy a full night of trick or treating in the north of Montana neighborhood.

The Q-Line

Homeowners need to be protected

Last week, Q-Line asked: "Do you really care about whether or not a homeowner can voluntarily designate his or her home a landmark? Why or why not?"

Here are your responses:

■ "We focus so much on possessions in this world and sometimes so little on people. And each of these 'historic homes' may be someone who needs to enlarge their home so a child can have its own bedroom or a mother or father can move in. Or maybe for a larger kitchen because cooking reduces their stress. Maybe that home is their way of saving for retirement. Maybe 10 people invested in the property hoping that its increase in value will give them the

profit to help them on their own home someday, or pay for a child's education. Not everyone is a rich developer trying to rape the city. A home is most people's largest investment and given they pay their taxes and harm no one they should not have the severe restrictions of a historic district imposed upon them against their will. Maybe not everything newly built is beautiful, but some of it can be. Maybe we should focus more on the aesthetics of the new."

surf report

Information compiled by Jesse Haley

The powerful northwest swell is fading, but there's still enough energy for three to four-foot waves today. The 290-degree swell angle hits best along the South Bay where there's the best western exposure. Expect chest-high surf, with some head-high sets hitting occasionally on the better tides.

Swell continues its downturn Saturday when surf should drop back into the waist- to chest-high range.

Sunday, still nothing new (nothing predicted until late next week). Expect waist- to chest-high waves, better size in the south, and fair conditions at most breaks.



Today's Tides:

Low-	12:15 a.m.	0.05'
High-	6:37 a.m.	5.17'
Low-	12:45 p.m.	1.03'
High-	6:31 p.m.	5.05'

Location	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Water Quality
County Line	3-4'/Fair	3-4'/Fair	2-3'/Fair	A
Zuma	3-4'/Fair	3-4'/Fair	2-3'/Fair	A
Surfrider	2-3'/Fair	2-3'/Fair	1-2'/Fair	A
Topanga	2-4'/Fair	2-3'/Fair	1-2'/Fair	A
Breakwater	3-4'/Fair	2-4'/Fair	2-3'/Fair	B
El Porto	4-5'/Fair	3-4'/Fair	2-3'/Fair	A

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■ "It's critically important, I feel, that homeowners care because this is a city government who doesn't care. And it is an incredibly, increasingly intrusive city government who is dictating how big you can make your house, the kind of garden

you can have by having water fees that are triple the size of other cities; it is a city who has declared signs illegal because someone felt they were obtrusive, and they wanted to put auto repair places out of business because they wanted us to ride buses. This is an increasingly facistic government, and we should care because the city doesn't pay our taxes or our housing payments, but they increasingly want to say what we can do with our property and how we can design it, way beyond normal zoning. So, we should care passionately about the intrusions this city is making into private matters and private industry. Thank you very much."



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LOCAL

Henna may make comeback

SQUIRM NIGHT, from page 1

Councilwoman Pam O'Connor asked Allord why every time the council didn't vote along the lines he advocated — which is often — he accuses council members of not listening to "the people."

"Because every time you make a decision on the council there will be a lot of people who disagree with you," she said. "And if you're up there, they're going to say that you don't listen too."

Allord answered he felt too often council members let their personal politics get in the way of how residents want the council to vote. He agreed that if he were elected, people would likely accuse him of the same thing after voting.

Pro Se used his question to bash Mayor Mike Feinstein, who isn't running for re-election this year, and asked O'Connor why she walked out while he was addressing the city council several months ago.

By walking away, O'Connor broke quorum and forced the meeting to be put on hold while she took a break.

O'Connor said that as an elected official she has tried to be a good listener and return as many calls as possible, but there are some people who she said ask for too much attention and require too much of her time.

"You have to understand that even elected officials ... need a break sometimes," she said, adding she needed a bathroom break.

Jerry Rubin asked council members if they would vote to allow artists practicing Henna, an ancient form of temporary tattoos, to return to the Third Street Promenade.

Last year, the council voted 4-3 to remove Henna as a supported art form that can be practiced on the Promenade after some people complained the dye used by some artists was not temporary and resulted in skin irritations. Feinstein has vowed to bring the issue back before the council after the election.

Incumbents O'Connor and Councilman Bob Holbrook are running for re-election and voted in favor of barring Henna artists from the Promenade. Holbrook and candidate Josefina Santiago Aranda were unable to attend the forum.

Mayor Pro Tem Kevin McKeown voted against the measure and he said at the forum if he is re-elected he will vote to return the art form.

Dinolfo urged any member on the council when the Henna measure is brought forward again to make their decision based on facts and not perceptions, while candidate Abby Arnold said she would try to find a compromise that would allow the artists to return.

"I find we get ourselves into the biggest trouble when we create huge bureaucracies to regulate something," Arnold said. "I would try to find some middle ground for the Henna artists to return."

The candidates also were asked questions prepared by the editorial board of the Daily Press and some that were collected from the audience.

Allord has said he is a law student and a printer, so the forum's moderator Jason Auslander asked where he attends law school and what he prints.

The candidate admitted he is not yet enrolled in any law school, but that he was looking into attending classes at Santa Monica College in preparation for a career in law.

"And I print silk screens," he said. "Mostly T-shirts."

During the Santa Monicans for Renters Rights convention, when the politically powerful organization endorses its candi-

dates, three current council members presented a letter bashing Abby Arnold and asking SMRR members to vote for anyone but her.

Auslander asked Arnold if the letter would cause any problems on the council should she be elected.

"I came out of the SMRR convention with the most votes," she said. "After a primary, I come from the Democratic tradition of putting the past behind you."

O'Connor was asked whether she was running for re-election to keep her influential position on the Metropolitan Transportation Association board, since only elected officials are allowed to serve.

"We have a character that we are in danger of losing as our local businesses are forced to close as national chain retailers move in."

— KEVIN MCKEOWN
Santa Monica City Councilman

She agreed it was a main reason in her decision to seek re-election since it's rare for someone from the westside of Los Angeles County to get elected to the board. O'Connor said she could use her position to advocate for extending the light rail line into Santa Monica.

"It's not a sure thing that I'll remain on the MTA board if re-elected," said O'Connor, saying that she could be replaced as early as next year in an MTA board election. "But I have an opportunity to do some positive things on the MTA board."

Dinolfo has advocated for more city spending on a host of special interests, such as education and programs for the elderly. He was asked how in the city's desperate economic times, he would find the money for those programs.

"We are going to have to make some very difficult decisions," he said. "We are going to have to freeze capital improvements and probably raise parking fees."

"And we need to bring in businesses that can generate sales and bring in sales tax money for the city," he added.

McKeown has said one of the main reasons he first ran for office was that he was disturbed at the rate national chain stores were replacing the local mom and pop shops.

Auslander asked McKeown what he has done to change that trend and how effective he thinks he has been since numerous chains have continued to move into the city.

McKeown said he supported down zoning measures to avoid "monster mansions," helped lower the development threshold downtown that triggers a public review and he has advocated the city continue to support small mom and pop shops.

And he vowed to continue advocating for small business and smart development.

"We're a special city that is a desirable place to live and do business," McKeown said. "We have a character that we are in danger of losing as our local businesses are forced to close as national chain retailers move in."

"I hate to see that part of our community that makes us so unique and feel like a small community disappear," he said.

LOCAL



Rubin says he will not seek elected office again

RUBIN, from page 1

Rubin said this was likely his last foray into electoral politics. He ran for council two years ago and garnered 5,006 votes.

"Politics is a strange thing," he said. "I don't like it."

At the press conference, Rubin thanked his supporters, but he urged them to vote instead for Mayor Pro Tem Kevin McKeown, Councilwoman Pam O'Connor and either Abby Arnold or Josefina Santiago Aranda for the three seats up for election on the city council.

With the election less than four days away, City Clerk Maria Stewart said Rubin's name cannot be removed the ballot and any absentee ballots will count for him.

Throughout the day, Rubin's supporters were sending faxes and e-mails to alert people not to vote for him and instead support candidates with similar views as his.

"In all likelihood it would have been better to withdraw sooner," Rubin said. "If thousands of people vote for me that otherwise might have gone to keep someone with similar views in office, it would only help someone I disagree with win."

Councilman Richard Bloom, who once lost a council bid by less than 100 votes, said with such a tight race, Rubin's withdrawal from the election could swing the results in a number of ways.

"There is every possibility that his pulling out could make a significant impact on someone's race," Bloom said. "Who's race that would be I don't want to predict."

Throughout the day, Rubin called supporters and other candidates to break the news.

McKeown said he was saddened to hear

of Rubin's health condition, and he said when they spoke Thursday morning the conversation focused mainly on his depression.

"I told him great strides have been made in successful treatment, and he and other sufferers from depression can often find relief if they seek it," McKeown said. "I certainly wish Jerry the best. He deserves a life of happiness and serenity and peace."

Bloom heard Rubin was pulling out of the race and also called Thursday morning to check on him.

"Jerry is unpredictable and in a way this is very keeping with his personality," he said. "He's to some degree making a statement, and I think that's what Jerry is all about. He makes statements that are important to him and that he feels should be important to all of us."

Long an advocate for the homeless and those without a voice, Rubin is known locally for the card table he sets up on the Third Street Promenade from which he sells peace-themed bumper stickers and buttons.

He has sued the city more than a half dozen times for what he believes are unjust acts, and on at least one occasion he has been successful in getting an ordinance revoked.

Rubin describes himself as a peace activist, though he recently lost a court battle to force the city to allow him to use what he considers his profession on his official ballot designation.

Despite his depression, Rubin said he will remain committed to his activism.

"I will continue to be the best peace activist I can be for the rest of my life," he said.

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OPINION

LETTERS

So many mailers!

Editor:

Councilman Kevin McKeown politely wrote to me about one of the points I made in my letter printed on October 30. I presumed that the mailer his campaign sent was not made from recycled materials. He informed me that a symbol used on that mailer indicates that it was printed on paper containing recycled materials. That was my mistake for I thought the symbol used meant that the mailer could be recycled and not that it contained at least some recycled content. I thank him for correcting me.

Today, I received another barrage of mailers. Two from Councilman Bob Holbrook, two from the Committee for Excellence in Education — Yes on Measure EE, two from the Santa Monica Police Officers' Association with one combined with the Santa Monica Firefighters' Association, one from the California Democratic Party, one from Santa Monica's Pro-Choice Voters Committee, one from SMRR, one from the Yes on Measure II (SMRPH) campaign, one from the Santa Monica Coalition to Protect the Living Wage, and one from FAIR.

None of the mailers indicated that they were printed on recycled paper or used earth-friendly inks. Even SMRR, a group that states in its platform it is pro-environment, did not indicate whether the materials used were recycled, which means they probably weren't. All of these groups need to be more responsible when sending out mailers. The sum of all these mailers have real consequences and these groups that demand our attention need to be more responsible if they intend to keep it.

Dan Kolhoff
Santa Monica

Some facts on Measure EE

Editor:

Recent letters have stated that the school district has many options to Measure EE to increase revenue. This is just plain false.

School districts cannot pass ad valorem taxes. Section 4 of Proposition 13 (approved in 1978) specifically states that, "cities, counties and special districts, by a 2/3 vote of the qualified electors of such district, may impose special taxes on such district, except as valorem taxes on real property or a transaction tax or sales tax on the sale of real property within such city, county or special district."

Developer fees are already collected to the fullest extent of the law by the school district for maintenance and capital improvement projects. Developer fees raise a few hundred thousand dollars a year, a sum miles away from solving the immanent budget cuts of \$5 million.

Mello-Roos districts rely on new development to pay the taxes, are risky ventures at best and would again not raise anywhere near the funds necessary to maintain our educational successes, let alone allow for expanded programs.

In Davis, homeowners pay a higher percentage of the overall parcel tax revenue than will homeowners in our district.

A Berkeley-style, square-foot-based tax would certainly be court-tested in Santa Monica, and might actually lead to fewer state funds being allocated to the district.

Measure EE works for our schools and community. Measure EE will allow the school district to implement a community-developed and long-range strategic plan that will be carefully planned and reviewed on a regular basis. Measure EE will provide funding to expand programs so that all students in our community will have similar educational opportunities. Measure EE will ensure that there is professional stability, high student achievement and financial accountability in our schools.

These letters also attempt to suggest that a parcel tax will drive people into poverty. This too is false. Ignorance keeps people in poverty. What lifts people out of poverty is education. Knowledge provides strength of character and the ability to succeed.

I want to thank everyone who has supported the campaign for Measure EE and worked so hard for its passage. Those opposing Measure EE are putting at risk the well-being of our community and the future of our youth.

And, finally, I promise that I will be at the first meeting after the passage of Measure EE to request the school district to make the creation of a low-income senior exemption a priority.

Ralph Mechur

Co-chair, Committee for Excellence in Education
Santa Monica

An unfortunate mailer

Editor:

At a time when we've truly learned to appreciate the courage, dedication and lofty community spirit in policemen and firefighters all over the country, here comes a most out of character election mailer.

Of all the twisted political flyers to grace my mailbox this month, the one from the Santa Monica Police Officers' Association is by far the most vile. From the very people we expect to take the high road, from the organization we pride as our finest, comes the most wantonly salacious document of the local political season.

This contemptible mailer comes with a bold-faced, hysterical warning to instill rampant fear in voters. And it comes complete with a blanket accusation for a message — all supporters of VERITAS are thieves! It's all metaphorical hyperbole, of course, and from another ranting political lobby I might not be as offended, but I expect more from the people we know are real heroes.

If the police organization opposes HH, it could have said so in a professional, ethical manner, not with wild defamatory, unsubstantiated accusations. We get enough mailers and TV ads like that.

As a citizen I feel betrayed. As a voter I feel more convinced than ever that we need a jolting change in this city. Vote YES on VERITAS (HH).

Larry Mollin
Santa Monica

City council race: The lesser of all evils



AS I SEE IT

By Bill Bauer

As an acute observer of the political scene, I think it's always good to know what you might be getting over the next four years when electing new council members.

And while you'll be getting public servants, you'll get their warts and all.

Santa Monica voters will elect three city council members next Tuesday. Nine people are running, including all three incumbents — Kevin McKeown and Pam O'Connor (endorsed by Santa Monicans for Renters Rights) and Dr. Bob Holbrook, who is unaffiliated.

McKeown is seeking his second term. McKeown has worked on lowering the public review threshold on commercial development, which gives the public more say on commercial developments. Aside from that, McKeown and I differ on many issues.

McKeown and his SMRR compatriots have consistently supported a city homeless policy that attracts an unsavory lot to our community. To allow this to continue for so long, virtually unabated, is irre-

sponsible. Four more years of McKeown and O'Connor will most likely mean four more years of vagrants and transients over-running our community.

Whatever you call it — traffic calming, pedestrian enhancement or gridlock — it all ties up traffic. McKeown and O'Connor have consistently supported crosswalk enhancement programs that make it harder to drive. This policy will most likely continue if they are re-elected.

McKeown supports parking permits to allow business employees to park in restricted residential parking zones. And, McKeown, who is a member of the Green Party, says he's against big chain stores with corporate logos. His opposition to a Target proposed downtown resulted in a loss of an important shopping resource, a large employer and a generous corporate donor to schools and local charities.

McKeown is a frequent protester alongside of out-of-town labor organizations against local businesses who employ residents and pay city taxes.

Residential parking space is scarce, yet O'Connor opposes requiring more on-site parking in new neighborhood commercial developments. O'Connor told me that restricting on-site parking leads to less traffic. Sorry, but they come to shop, not to park.

Bob Holbrook is the most moderate of

the incumbents. Holbrook's a folksy, common sense sort of guy who — while opposing the city's homeless policies — allowed O'Connor and Councilman Richard Bloom to beat him to the punch when they asked for ways to curtail public feedings and camping in doorways.

Holbrook supports HH (VERITAS), voter reform and opposes the living wage, also known as Measure JJ.

Newcomer Matteo Dinolfo is running on his record of being a good doctor and medical administrator. But he has shown little interest in city affairs until a few months ago.

Dinolfo sought a SMRR endorsement, but reinvented himself as a moderate when they turned him down. Dinolfo seems to contradict himself on many issues.

He says he's for business but supports unionizing hotels and the living wage, which he says is too low.

Dinolfo suggests a number of solutions to problems that all involve lavish outlays of cash, such as more money to the schools and police, funding early childhood development and health care programs for seniors and expanding affordable housing. Dinolfo's wish list could add millions to the city budget. Does he realize the city seems to be heading toward financial hard times?

Abby Arnold predictably supports more affordable housing, homeless services, the living wage, hotel unionization and other planks in the SMRR platform.

Josephina Santiago Aranda, also sought but didn't receive SMRR's endorsement. Aranda does not support the living wage. However, she's a strong voice for a diversified community and affordable housing.

Council candidate Chuck Allord wants more effective code enforcement and fiscal responsibility. He's appeared at hundreds of council and various board and commission meetings over the last six years speaking out on virtually every issue known to man.

Candidate Pro Se worked for years to establish a city disabilities commission is the face of nearly unanimous opposition by our "compassionate" city council. Pro is also a frequent presence at city meetings and speaks for the disabled, seniors and others in our community in need of help. Both Allord and Pro Se are outspokenly opposed to the city's pro-homeless policies.

So there you go. Take your pick and may the best person win.

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

OPINION



LETTERS

Some more 'facts'

Editor:

Call me an optimist, but I truly believe that people, in general, are well-intentioned. So must be the case with all the proponents of JJ. I don't want to single out any one of the supports of Measure JJ (particularly Rev. Jim Conn and the Bishop Gabino Zavala), but I think that they have been misguided by opportunists. There are those that want to use this living/minimum wage measure as a vehicle to advance their own political agenda under the umbrella, "We care about the underprivileged."

Let's look at some hard, true facts:

■ The U.S. economy is in deep trouble, yet the labor union is able to paralyze the Long Beach Port for the cost of \$2 Billion a day.

■ One of the last bastions of true Americana, Wrangler Jeans, is shutting down and moving their manufacturing off-shore, along with that many American jobs. Can we ask why? Yes, because the union wages were at the point that the product was no longer competitive in the open market.

■ Let me just mention that hotels and restaurants that are unable to survive under Measure JJ will or may even declare bankruptcies and put more people out of jobs.

■ According to Rev. Jim Conn, "over 100 economists say 'Yes' to the living (minimum) wage." An extremely impressive almost too impressive list was printed in his article naming all the economists.

Question: Will all those illustrious economists come out of their classrooms and assist all those employees who will lose their jobs? Would they financially assist them? Or simply say, "We were wrong, sorry."

It's been proven over and over that what might work very well in the classroom or in theory does not work in practice in real life scenarios. This is not a lab test; you are playing with people's lives that you do not even know. These people have names, husbands and wives, sons and daughters. Give me your pledge that you all, (whether clergyman or political opportunists) will go to their homes and explain to the laid off employees that your intention was good but just didn't work and SORRY that your restaurant laid you off. Please tell them something because these hotels and restaurants are pledging something everyday and that is called JOBS! And in this economy that is a lot!

Measure JJ also does not make economic sense. Some recent headlines from the Daily Press tell the story better than I can:

■ WE'RE BLEEDING RED, STAFF SAYS: Budget deficit could soar to \$15M in two years;

■ SANTA MONICA'S BUDGET DEFICIT PREDICTED TO SWELL — Gaps between revenues and spending may grow to \$15M;

■ CITY MAY HAVE TO CUT SERVICES TO CONTROL COSTS, Oct. 17;

■ BUDGET CRUNCH FORCES CLOSURE OF COURTROOM, Oct. 19;

■ SALES TAX FIGURES SHOW ECONOMY IN SAD STATE, Oct. 16.

The above reflects our own local economy. However, we could switch over to the WSJ, USA Today, LA Times and the list will on and on.

Dear Santa Monica Voters, come Nov. 5th VOTE with your conscious but more importantly give an educated vote.

Paul J. Hortobagyi
Santa Monica

Living in a fantasy world

Editor:

Lori Klaidman's recent letter takes those of us who oppose Measure JJ to task for three of the many arguments we have used to support our position. Unfortunately, she is wrong about one and misses the point with the others.

First, Ms. Klaidman says that Measure JJ exempts charities. It doesn't. Any non-profit, which, for example, receives funding from the city to carry out social services, is obligated to pay those employees working on the contract the \$12.25 minimum wage.

Second, she complains about our argument that the union exemption permits unionized hotels like the Viceroy to pay wages lower than the law requires of others. The point was not that all businesses should be covered or that the Viceroy contract is unfair to its workers, but only that this is an example of a major flaw in the measure. If non-union hotels are obligated to pay \$10.50 plus benefits, why aren't union hotels? If the Viceroy is essentially receiving credit for providing a generous benefits package, why aren't non-union hotels which provide similar benefits entitled to the same credit?

Third, she suggests that we are disingenuous in our claims concerning the discriminatory aspects of Measure JJ. On the contrary, this is, and has always been, one of our major objections to the law.

What can possibly be sensible about discriminating among employees and employers based upon where the employer is located or whether it happens to be above or below some arbitrary revenue threshold?

The problem is that Measure JJ is an ill-conceived law designed to benefit only the local union, not workers. Businesses have to control costs in order to survive. Increasing the hourly wage, particularly when the major beneficiaries will be tipped workers already earning much higher incomes, will do little more than force employers to reduce hours, demand greater productivity and hire more highly skilled and experienced workers.

Many JJ supporters, perhaps including Ms. Klaidman, live in a fantasy world in which all one needs to do to achieve some social goal is pass a law mandating the desired result. Unfortunately, the market often responds in a way which frustrates those goals leading to the need to adopt yet more laws in a cycle that, at least in this case, is unlikely to end happily for any of us.

Tom Larmore
Santa Monica

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.

The ABCs of Measure JJ: Why educators support the living wage

Last week, dozens of local education officials, teachers, professors and youth leaders joined with us in endorsing Measure JJ. While we have been shaped by different experiences, we share a deep conviction that poverty wages are incompatible with the goal of quality education.

As educators, we see firsthand the relationship between economic and educational opportunity. Here's how Assemblymember Jackie Goldberg, the new chair of the Assembly Education Committee, explains the nexus between wages and education:

"If you want to raise the achievement level of children in California, you have to raise the income levels. Family income is the number one indicator of educational success — not race, location or even language."

Ms. Goldberg speaks with some authority on this subject. A former teacher, she spent many years as a school board member, then as a city council member led the campaign to pass a living wage law in Los Angeles. That law helped spawn a national movement that has resulted in the passage of 85 living wage ordinances.

Community leaders like Ms. Goldberg have seen living wage laws yield tangible benefits for students, parents and educators.

In many cases, it's as simple as parents being able to work fewer hours or drop a second job, leaving more time to spend with their children. Any teacher will tell you that parental supervision and guidance are critical to the educational success of children.

A living wage can also improve educational opportunity by enabling working families to leave impoverished neighborhoods. While every child should have access to quality schools, the reality is that poor neighborhoods typically are saddled with substandard educational facilities, putting children at a disadvantage from an early age.

And what of higher education? So often the first wish expressed by low-income workers is that their kids will go to college one day. A living wage not only allows parents to put away a little money for the future, but also can set a family on a more stable path so that kids stay in school and have an opportunity to pursue higher learning.

The educational benefits of a living wage

are not limited to kids. Poverty wages trap adults in a vicious cycle of long hours and second or third jobs that make it extremely difficult to better one's skills. With a living wage, hard-working people have a chance to obtain the training and education necessary to break out of a dead-end career trajectory.

Sometimes a living wage provides even more basic benefits: Enough money so that families don't have to choose between adequate food, shelter and health care. Tragically, too many face precisely this choice. In Los Angeles County, a staggering 43 percent of families are poor. What's even more astounding is that the vast majority of these families include one or more adults who work full-time.

When children don't have enough to eat, or can't go to the doctor, or have low-quality day care, their education suffers. It's a pernicious cycle of deprivation that as a society we must strive to eradicate.

Measure JJ offers our community an

opportunity to take an important step in that direction. The living wage economic impact study commissioned by the city found that Measure JJ will substantially improve the living standards of 2,000 working people without imposing an undue burden on business. This study was reviewed and affirmed by Harvard University Professor Richard Freeman, one of the leading labor economists in the world, and has been endorsed by 120 economists around the country.

We note with sadness that a narrow minority of business interests not only oppose Measure JJ, but have attempted to sway voters with claims that the living wage law will actually hurt young people and endanger schools and other educational facilities. These claims have no basis in fact, merely reflecting the financial self-interest of those who would deny workers a fair wage.

By ensuring a living wage for 2,000 hard-working men and women, Measure JJ offers the hope of a brighter future. We hope you will join us in voting yes on Nov. 5.

Dr. Patrick Nicholson is chair of the Santa Monica College Board of Trustees. Maria Leon-Vazquez is vice president of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District.

Guest Commentary

Dr. Patrick Nicholson and Maria Leon-Vazquez

BY LINDA DEUTSCH
AP Special Correspondent

BEVERLY HILLS — Winona Ryder's defense attorney aggressively attacked the testimony of a key witness in the actress' shoplifting trial Thursday, accusing the former store security guard of profiting from the case and making up stories.

Witness Colleen Rainey denied the claims by attorney Mark Geragos, who at one point was warned by Superior Court Judge Elden Fox that he risked being in contempt and at another point was cautioned on the relevance of his questioning.

Ryder, 31, is charged with felony grand theft, burglary and vandalism for allegedly stealing more than \$5,500 worth of merchandise from the Beverly Hills Saks Fifth Avenue store on Dec. 12, 2001. She faces up to three years in prison if convicted.

Rainey, a Saks security guard at the time and now a graduate student, testified earlier that she saw Ryder cut sensor tags off merchandise and that, after being detained, Ryder claimed she only shoplifted to prepare for a film role.

During cross-examination, Geragos was displaying documents detailing the finances of Rainey and her husband after Ryder's arrest when the judge interrupted.

"Are you going to tie this into something relevant, or just go into her family background?" the judge asked.

Geragos insisted he would show relevance, but he never succeeded in proving that the couple somehow benefited from her involvement in the Ryder case.

The attorney showed that \$50,000 moved into the couple's business account in the four months after the shoplifting arrest, but Rainey said her husband is a financial consultant and the deposits were his, not hers.

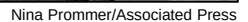
At one point Geragos said he wanted Rainey to carefully study the handwriting on financial documents because "I don't want you to commit any further act of perjury."

The prosecutor objected to the remark and the judge warned Geragos he could be held in contempt.

Rainey is considered a key witness because she testified that she peered through slats in a fitting room door and saw Ryder on the floor using scissors to cut sensor tags off merchandise.

At one point Geragos got down on the floor of the courtroom in a kneeling position and asked if the witness had seen Ryder "sitting like I am and cutting sensor tags?"

Geragos suggested it was odd that



Actress Winona Ryder arrives at her shoplifting trial Thursday. In Beverly Hills, Calif. Ryder, 31, is accused of grand theft, burglary and vandalism for allegedly stealing more than \$5,500 worth of items. She faces up to three years in prison if convicted.

Ryder happened to be in the only spot in the dressing room where she could possibly be observed from the outside.

"No," said the witness.

Rainey said she was able to observe several things by looking at the room's mirror.

Much of Thursday's testimony was a recounting of what Rainey said she saw, what Ryder said after she was detained and Geragos' accusations.

"Have you sold the Winona Ryder story?" he asked.

"No," said Rainey.

"Where did the money come from in your account?" Geragos asked.

"It's from a company my husband works for," she said.

The attorney asked if she bought a new car after the incident.

"I drive a '91 Toyota Supra," she said, but she noted her husband had a new sport utility vehicle.

Geragos also suggested Rainey had thumbed through Ryder's address book and remarked that it had phone numbers for rock singer Bono and actor Keanu Reeves. Rainey denied this.

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The Santa Monica Mountains NRA has more area codes (5) and zip-codes (26), including the notable 90210 zip code for Beverly Hills, than any unit in the National Park System.

STATE



Report warns of poor water quality in California's supply

BY JUSTIN PRITCHARD
Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — Backers of a \$3.4 million water bond on California's ballot say the measure would improve water security and quality in the state, but opponents of the measure say the bond spends too much money buying out developers.

The National Resources Defense Council released a report Wednesday questioning the quality of the state's drinking water. The group said farm and industrial waste, as well as chemical byproducts of chlorination, can threaten the health of children and pregnant women — and risks will only rise if nothing is done.

The environmental group then made the pitch for Proposition 50, which would improve water security and water quality.

"Most Californians take it for granted that their tap water is pure and their water infrastructure is safe," said author Erik Olson. "Our report shows that they shouldn't."

The report is an excerpt of a national review of tap water data from 19 cities. The California results were released early in the run up to the election.

Proposition 50 opponents such as the California Farm Bureau say no one opposes clean water, but the bond spends too much on buying out developers to preserve wetlands and open space.

The measure would cost taxpayers up to \$6.9 billion, including interest, by the time it is paid off over 30 years. Some of the land purchases could be from developers who spent more than \$1 million to get it on Tuesday's ballot.

In its report, the Natural Resources Defense Council didn't find any "confirmed violations of enforceable federal tap water standards" in the four cities it studied — Fresno, Los Angeles, San Diego or San Francisco.

Still, its scientists ticked off concerns with the cities' supplies, saying deteriorating waterworks could expose some tap water drinkers to toxins.

San Francisco and Fresno were rated "poor" for water quality, reflecting the group's analysis that while they didn't break federal standards they had problems with nitrates, pesticides and industrial chemicals. Los Angeles and San Diego received a "fair" grade — tap water there suffers from byproducts of disinfectants that may be carcinogenic, the group said.

Ex-GE boss Welch has almost half a billion dollars in assets

By The Associated Press

BRIDGEPORT, Conn. — Newly released financial statements in Jack Welch's divorce case showed that the former General Electric Co. chairman has nearly a half billion dollars in assets and a monthly income of \$1.4 million.

Financial statements were released Wednesday by Welch and his estranged wife.

Welch's affidavit said he has a total monthly income of \$1,414,528 and expenses of \$366,114. Welch lists assets of \$456 million and liabilities of \$16.7 million.

Welch spends \$51,531 a month to maintain two Fairfield homes valued at more than \$16 million, one in Nantucket valued at \$10 million, a \$3.5 million home in Lost Tree, Fla., a Palm Beach, Fla., home listed at just \$300,000, and a home in Lenox, Mass., valued at \$100,000.

He spends an average of \$8,982 a month on food and drink and \$1,903 on clothes, according to the eight-page document. He also spends over \$52,000 a month on gifts.

Jane Welch, who has a home in Florence, Italy, lists monthly income of \$11,360 and assets of \$8.3 million.

"I would just like to get on with my life in a happy way," Welch said after a Superior Court hearing

Wednesday. "We are not talking life or death here."

The Welches were due back in court Monday for a hearing on Jane Welch's request for temporary alimony.

Welch lawyer Samuel V. Schoonmaker III said Welch's legal team was trying hard to settle the case. Asked if Welch had offered his wife \$15 million to end their marriage, Schoonmaker replied, "he has offered many multiples of that."

Jane Welch has argued that the \$35,000 a month she has been receiving now does not allow her to live in the style to which she was accustomed.

She filed papers last month to increase the support. In those documents, she estimated that during their 13-year marriage the couple's expenses ran more than \$2.5 million annually. Under state law, she can claim up to 50 percent of the equity the couple accrued.

Messages seeking comment were left Thursday with Jane Welch's attorney, William Zabel.

The Welches disclosed their plans to divorce in March, shortly after then-editor of the Harvard Business Review Suzy Wetlaufer revealed she had become romantically involved with Welch while working on a story about him.

Family searches 11 months, finds man's body at hospital morgue

By The Associated Press

HAWTHORNE — A family's desperate 11-month search for missing Armando Chapal Ramirez is over: The 21-year-old's decaying body was found two miles from his home — in the morgue at Robert F. Kennedy Medical Center.

Ramirez, identified as John Doe, died in the hospital's intensive-care unit after paramedics found him wandering near the Century Freeway, apparently high on cocaine. Hospital officials said they could not identify the young man.

Ramirez, however, had his last name tattooed on the back of his neck, his family said.

His father said he took a photograph of his son to the hospital after his son disappeared. No, he was told, your son is not here.

Some 333 days later, Ramirez's body was discovered in the hospital morgue and turned over to the coroner's office. It took investigators five weeks to identify the decomposed body, which had been kept at 40 degrees but not embalmed.

The family was notified of his death on Oct. 24.

The hospital "had him there, the whole time down there. Meanwhile, we were suffering day and night, waiting for the worst," said Ramirez's father, Jesus, 45, a stock clerk in Gardena.

The hospital told the family that the attending physician left on maternity leave around the time Ramirez died. When the doctor returned, she found that his body had never left the morgue.

"We are in the process of investigating," hospital spokeswoman Carla Singleton Turner said.

"It's the height of incompetence and neglect," Ramirez family attorney Douglas Shaffer said.

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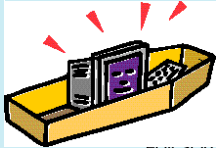
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NATIONAL

Federal Reserve approves major shift in bank loans

BY MARTIN CRUTSINGER
AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON — The Federal Reserve on Thursday adopted a major change in how it lends money to banks. But Fed officials stressed that the move will not affect how they conduct their all-important interest rate policies aimed at supporting sustainable economic growth.

The Fed's seven-member board unanimously approved setting the interest rate charged to banks borrowing directly from the Fed above the central bank's target for the federal funds rate, the interest that commercial banks charge each other for overnight loans.

Currently, the federal funds rate, which is the Fed's major tool for influencing the economy, is at a 41-year low of 1.75 percent. The discount rate is one-half percentage point below that rate at 1.25 percent.

But starting on Jan. 9, the discount rate will be split into two rates, both higher than the federal funds rate.

The primary discount rate for sound banks seeking to borrow from the Fed will be set initially 1 percentage point higher than the funds rate target. There will also be a secondary discount rate, available to troubled banks having problems borrowing from commercial banks, that will be set initially 1.5 percentage points higher than the funds rate.

Fed officials said the change would bring Fed policies more in line with those of other central banks around the world and would streamline the operation of discount borrowing.

"This represents a technical change in the discount window policy only and does not represent any change in the overall stance of monetary policy," Fed board member Edward Gramlich said during the board's discussion of the issue.

Gramlich said the switch would "reduce the stigma" for banks wanting to

borrow directly from the Fed.

Under the current procedures with the discount rate set below the federal funds rate, the Fed has to closely monitor discount window borrowing to guard against banks using the Fed as a source of cheap money.

Analysts said the switch, which the Fed first put forward in May, was unlikely to make much difference on the rates banks charge on consumer and business loans because discount window borrowing only averages about \$100 million daily, a tiny fraction of the \$55 billion to \$60 billion in loans extended among banks in the federal funds market.

Banks borrow at the federal funds rate when they have a short-term need to boost their cash reserves to meet the Fed's reserve requirements, which generally state that big banks must keep an amount of cash available for withdrawals equal to 10 percent of their deposits.

If a bank is short on that amount on a given day, it borrows the money from a bank that has excess reserves. It is through the management of bank reserves that the central bank sets monetary policy, moving short-term interest rates higher to slow economic activity and lower when it wants to stimulate demand.

While banks' direct borrowing from the Fed on normal days is low, it can spike dramatically during times of economic crisis. In the days immediately following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, banks borrowed a record \$46 billion directly from the Fed's discount window.

Private economists applauded the switch to price the discount rate higher than the federal funds rate, saying it should streamline lending processes while having no impact on consumer rates.

Former Newark, N.J., Mayor admits ducking income tax

BY JEFFREY GOLD
Associated Press Writer

NEWARK, N.J. — Former Newark Mayor Kenneth A. Gibson admitted avoiding about \$78,000 in income tax Thursday under a plea bargain that let him avoid a retrial on accusations of business fraud.

Seventeen other charges against Gibson were dismissed, and he was immediately sentenced to three years of probation on the single remaining felony charge.

Gibson, 70, a licensed engineer, was accused of cheating the Irvington school district while managing a school construction project five years after leaving office.

He also entered a guilty plea to mail fraud on behalf of his company, Gibson Associates. U.S. District Judge William G. Bassler ordered the company to repay the district \$349,000 and barred it from having contracts with other public agencies.

Gibson was mayor of New Jersey's largest city from 1970 until 1986 and was the first black to head a Northeastern city.

He was defeated for a fifth term by the current mayor, Sharpe James.

Gibson had reported an income of \$23,000 on his 1993 federal income tax return but acknowledged Thursday that he made more than 10 times that amount. The charge usually carries a prison term of up to three years, but the sentence was reduced because of the plea, as well as Gibson's age and declining health.

The July 2000 indictment stemmed from a \$5 million contract that Gibson Associates got in 1991 to manage the school construction project. Prosecutors charged that double billing and padded expenses cost the district \$1 million.

The judge declared a mistrial in November in the first trial of Gibson, partner Camille Savoca and their employee William Bernowich after a federal jury could not reach unanimous agreement on any counts.

Jury selection in the retrial began Sept. 30 but then was halted, allowing details of the plea bargain to be completed.

Bernowich, 55, pleaded guilty Thursday to a single charge of making false statements.

NATIONAL



Jam Master Jay helped create ground-breaking sound

BY TIM MOLLOY
Associated Press Writer

NEW YORK — Jam Master Jay's sonic experiments with spacious drum breaks and grinding guitar riffs helped make Run-DMC the first hip-hop group to break into mainstream music.

He joined 20 years ago with Joseph "Run" Simmons and Darryl "DMC" McDaniels to form the group that would be more responsible than any other for spreading the idea that one person — a disc jockey — could provide the entire musical backdrop for a song.

"You draw the comparison to when John Lennon was shot," Public Enemy frontman Chuck D said Thursday, hours after the 37-year-old was shot to death at a recording studio near the neighborhood where the group grew up. "It's an enormous loss to the genre."

DJs like Jay, whose real name was Jason Mizell, became adept at scratching vinyl records forward and backward in time with a beat, working one turntable with each hand, to create new sounds the original artists never imagined.

The rise of the technique enabled thousands of people to express themselves musically even if they lacked the instruments or resources to put together a full band.

The number of DJs shot up dramatically in the 1970s, as many New York public schools were cutting music programs and children had less access to musical instruments, Chuck D said. He once rapped, "Run-DMC first said a DJ could be a band."

"We always knew rap was for everyone," Mizell said in a 2001 interview with MTV. "Anyone could rap over all kinds of music."

The three members of Run-DMC grew up middle-class homes in the Hollis neighborhood of New York's Queens borough. Simmons and McDaniels started out rapping at parties, and later invited Mizell to form a group with them.

Simmons' brother, Russell, had formed a small label with producer Rick Rubin and signed early hip-hop stars includ-



Robert Meceal/Associated Press
An Adidas sneaker, with "R.I.P. JMJ" written on it, is part of a makeshift memorial for Jam Master Jay Thursday, as police officers guard the entrance to the studio where the rapper was killed last night in the Queens borough of New York. "My Adidas" was one of the hit songs of the rap group Run DMC of which Jam Master Jay was a founding member.

ing Kurtis Blow. The new group Joseph Simmons had formed with McDaniels and Mizell soon joined the roster.

While many early '80s hip-hop artists rapped over clean dance beats, Run-DMC and Rubin chopped up riffs from classic rock records for a grittier sound. The risk paid off with several rock-influenced hits, including "Rock Box" and "King of Rock."

But the sound finally exploded with audiences when the group remade the Aerosmith hit "Walk This Way," creating hip-hop's biggest crossover success of the time.

Many fans and artists cite the song as the first rap record they ever heard, and rap and rock groups alike continue trying to recapture the song's mix of raw hooks and big beats punctuated by half-shouted lyrics.

Though rap videos were rare on MTV at the time, "Walk This Way," with its elaborate story line of a com-

ical grudge match between rappers and rockers, was a constant fixture on the station for months. The members of the group made an unforgettable impression with their black outfits and hats and white Adidas sneakers.

"Raising Hell," the 1986 record that included "Walk This Way," "My Adidas," and "It's Tricky," sold more than 3 million copies, becoming the first rap album to go multiplatinum. The group's self-titled debut album in 1984 was the first rap album to go gold.

Mizell wasn't the first to manipulate records by scratching them in time under a needle. But he did become one of hip-hop's best known and most respected DJs through his deft scratching and the group's spirited promotion of his skills.

A song called "Jam Master Jay" announced, "We got the master of a disco scratch/there's not a break that he can't catch. ... Behind the turntables is where he stands/Then there is the movement of his hands/So when asked who's the best, y'all should say/Run-DMC and Jam Master Jay."

The group's cheerfully competitive wordplay had always promoted education and clean living, but members were nonetheless linked to gang violence when fighting broke out on several stops of their national tour in support of "Raising Hell."

Critics blamed the group and rap music for inciting fights between members of the Crips and Bloods gangs at California's Long Beach Arena. The trio condemned violence, and in 1986 called for a day of peace between warring Los Angeles street gangs.

"This is the first town where you feel the gangs from the minute you step into town to the time you leave," Mizell said.

The group later went on major tours with the Beastie Boys, Def Jam label mates who would eventually break the sales records they had set for hip-hop, and Public Enemy, which would create another musical revolution with its devastating beats and lyrics promoting black empowerment.



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NATIONAL

Stewart's company reports a 42 percent drop in profits

BY ANNE D'INNOCENZIO

AP Business Writer

NEW YORK — Martha Stewart's multimedia empire reported a sharp drop in quarterly earnings Thursday and its namesake chief executive acknowledged her legal woes are affecting the company.

Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia Inc., which produces magazines, TV shows, and merchandise under Stewart's name, also warned Thursday that fourth-quarter profits will fall well short of Wall Street earnings expectations.

The company faces skittish advertisers, muted merchandising sales and higher corporate expenses related to the federal probe of Stewart's sale of stock in ImClone Systems Inc. last year. The company also acknowledged Martha Stewart Living magazine renewal rates and its signature TV show's ratings are weakening.

In a conference call, Stewart acknowledged that the company has had to "combat a great deal of negative publicity" surrounding her legal woes, which has "overshadowed" the company's business. She

declined to comment on the investigation.

Stewart, who has maintained her innocence, last month was notified by the Securities and Exchange Commission that it plans to recommend civil securities fraud charges against her related to her ImClone sale. The Justice Department is investigating whether to file criminal charges.

Federal investigators are probing whether Stewart had insider knowledge when she sold her shares of the biotech company Dec. 27, the day before the Food and Drug Administration announced that it would deny ImClone's application to market a promising cancer drug.

Stewart is a personal friend of ImClone founder and former CEO Sam Waksal, who pleaded guilty last month to fraud charges and perjury. Waksal did not implicate Stewart.

During the three months ended Sept. 30, Stewart's multimedia empire reported a profit of \$2.76 million, or 6 cents per share, down 42 percent from \$4.77 million, or 10 cents per share, a year earlier.

SEC proposes rules to tighten company disclosures, stock sales

BY MARCY GORDON

AP Business Writer

WASHINGTON — Federal regulators have tentatively approved new rules to tighten companies' financial disclosures and stock sales by executives.

The rules, issued for public review by the Securities and Exchange Commission, were ordered by Congress in response to accounting scandals that rattled public confidence in the stock market and the integrity of corporate America. The rules probably will be adopted formally after a 30-day comment period.

The vote by the five SEC commissioners was unanimous.

By contrast, they were bitterly divided on party lines Friday when the SEC named former FBI and CIA chief William Webster to head a new board to oversee the accounting industry. The two Democratic commissioners dissented because they had supported another candidate widely viewed as advocating tough regulation of the accounting industry.

In a new development, SEC Chairman Harvey Pitt asked for an internal investigation of Webster's selection after the disclosure that Pitt himself had withheld information that Webster headed an audit committee of a company facing fraud charges.

Pitt chose not to tell the other four commissioners who voted on Webster's nomination that day, the Times said, citing unidentified SEC officials. White House officials said they, too, were not informed about the details of Webster's work for the company, the Times reported.

The rules proposed Wednesday would, for example, prohibit a company's officers and directors from buying or selling company stock during blackout periods when employees are unable to sell company stock from their pension accounts.

Top Enron executives as well as directors have been criticized for reaping hundreds of millions of dollars by selling their company stock in 2000 and 2001.

Many ordinary employees lost nearly all their retirement savings as Enron stock fell over a period of several months and they were blocked from selling it for about three weeks in the fall of 2001.

The rules would require companies to include in their periodic financial reports a clearly written discussion of all off-balance-sheet transactions and to file their earnings statements with the SEC within two days after they are announced, to make them available to investors more quickly.

Companies that use "pro forma" reporting — a type of financial reporting designed to play down negative results — would have to ensure that the information was not misleading or false.

"It is a sad commentary on the state of corporate America that the government had to take this action," said Frank Torres, legislative counsel for Consumers Union, which publishes Consumer Reports magazine. "The proposed rules simply require that corporate executives tell the truth and not mislead investors, comply with accounting standards, and make disclosures in plain English."

Torres said the government's response to the wave of corporate scandals "is turning out to be much weaker than consumers were promised" because, among other things, of the SEC's choice of Webster to head the accounting oversight board.

Also Wednesday, the brokerage industry's self-policing group, the National Association of Securities Dealers, announced it had begun a review aimed at increasing the information it makes available to investors and the public.

Pro forma results, especially favored by high-tech companies, are a set of hypothetical numbers supposed to focus on the profits and losses of ongoing operations. They show up in corporate press releases announcing earnings and often paint a much different picture from the official results calculated that are filed later with the SEC.

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NATIONAL



Bush warns U.N. the U.S. will move against Iraq

BY BARRY SCHWEID
AP Diplomatic Writer

WASHINGTON — President Bush, on the campaign trail, said Thursday it is the United Nations' job to force Iraq to disarm and if it refuses to act, "We will lead a coalition of nations and disarm Saddam Hussein."

"You need to do your job," Bush said while stumping for Republican political candidates in South Dakota.

His lecture paralleled his earlier suggestions that the 191-nation world organization would risk irrelevance if the Security Council did not take a strong stand on Iraq.

"If you won't act, and if Saddam Hussein won't disarm, for the sake of peace, for the sake of a future for our chil-

dren, we will lead a coalition of nations and disarm Saddam Hussein," Bush said.

In urging the council to act, Bush said he wanted the United Nations to succeed and its resolutions carried out.

In New York, however, the U.S. demand for a strong resolution that threatens Iraq with "serious consequences" if it defies weapons inspectors again continued to encounter stiff resistance.

Russia, France and China, all of whom could sink a joint U.S.-British resolution with a veto, support new inspections but not threats.

In response, State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said "our bottom line has not changed."

"There needs to be a clear statement of Iraq's failure to comply, there has to be a tough inspection regime and there have to

be consequences in the event of new Iraqi violations," Boucher said.

Another U.S. official declined to confirm reports the United States had begun identifying sites in Iraq believed to have hidden caches of chemical and biological weapons.

But the official said the Bush administration was using all its resource to ensure new inspections would be comprehensive.

For seven weeks, American diplomats have been unable to swing France, Russia and China behind the U.S.-British draft of a resolution authorizing force if Iraq fails to disarm.

"We continue to believe that we are narrowing the differences," Boucher said.

Secretary of State Colin Powell spoke to Russian Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov.

But Russia's deputy U.N. ambassador, Gennady Gatilov, said his government still had "quite a lot of problems" with the U.S.-British draft.

German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer cautioned that using force against Iraq would be risky and could produce a catastrophe in the Middle East.

"Our big No. 1 question what will happen the day after" an attack, Fischer said. "Is the United States really ready" to station troops in Baghdad for years, he asked.

"We won't be part of a military action," Fischer said Thursday.

At the same time, he denounced the Iraqi government as "a terrible regime" that must give U.N. inspectors unfettered access to search for weapons of mass destruction.

Judge to issue long-awaited rulings in Microsoft trial

BY TED BRIDIS
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The federal judge overseeing the Microsoft Corp. antitrust trial will deliver her long-awaited rulings in the case on Friday after financial markets close, deciding whether to approve a controversial settlement between the software maker and the Justice Department.

In a brief e-mail sent to reporters covering the trial, the court indicated U.S. District Judge Colleen Kollar-Kotelly will announce her "opinions," suggesting she also will announce whether she endorses harsher penalties against Microsoft sought by nine state attorneys general dissatisfied with the Justice Department's settlement.

The e-mail notice did not indicate what the rulings would say.

Many trial observers — even Microsoft supporters — have said the length of time Kollar-Kotelly took to reach her decision might suggest she was leaning toward rejecting the settlement.

Antitrust experts had predicted the judge would simultaneously announce her decisions on both the U.S. settlement and the effort by the nine states seeking additional remedies against Microsoft.

The company was found to have violated U.S. antitrust laws for illegally maintaining its monopoly over computer software operating systems.

Most of those actions and threats were focused against Netscape, now a part of AOL Time Warner Inc., and Sun Microsystems Inc.

The settlement would prevent Microsoft from participating in exclusive deals that could hurt competitors; man-

date uniform contract terms for computer manufacturers; allow manufacturers and customers to remove icons for some Microsoft features; and require that the company release some technical data so software developers can write programs that work as well as Microsoft products.

Microsoft already had started following some portions of the settlement. The uniform contracts went into effect soon after the deal was struck, although many computer makers complained the contracts were stricter than those written before the settlement.

Under federal antitrust rules, Kollar-Kotelly does not have authority to change the terms of the settlement between Microsoft and the Justice Department. She can approve the deal or reject it, although she can offer suggestions to lawyers to change the proposal in ways that would win her ultimate approval.



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NATIONAL

Defense chief: U.S. needs more anti-missile rockets

BY MATT KELLEY

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The Pentagon needs more anti-missile rockets as it prepares for possible military action against Iraq, the head of the Missile Defense Agency said Thursday.

Lt. Gen. Ronald Kadish said the United States has only about 40 of its most advanced Patriot missiles to defend against short-range ballistic and cruise missiles. Experts suspect Iraq alone has several times that many Scud and other short-range missiles, which could be topped with chemical or biological warheads.

Kadish said he would like to have many more of the advanced Patriots to counter threats from North Korea, Iran and Libya as well as Iraq.

The main contractors on the latest Patriot, known as Patriot Advanced Capability 3, can make two of the rockets per month, Kadish said. The Pentagon hopes to speed up that process, but doing so will take time, he said.

"My recommendation is to buy PAC-3s as fast as we are able to buy them," Kadish told reporters. Outside experts estimate each rocket costs about \$170 million, although that cost drops as the production increases.

Congress has already approved increasing PAC-3 production, adding \$50 million to the \$622 million the Pentagon originally requested for the program for the fiscal year that began Oct. 1. Pentagon officials have notified Congress they plan to shift another \$120 million from other missile defense programs to the PAC-3.

The PAC-3 program was plagued by failures in tests earlier this year. Some missiles would not fire and others missed their targets. Kadish called the problems "extremely annoying" and said they included improper soldering of electronic components.

"I am very confident we have those problems fixed," Kadish said. The PAC-3 missiles already manufactured have been retrofitted to fix the problems, he said.

The PAC-3 missile is designed to shoot down cruise missiles and ballistic missiles with a range of 620 miles or less.

Those include the Scud missiles that Iraq used a decade ago during the Gulf War. The United States believes Saddam Hussein still up to two dozen of them. Iraq also has an unknown number of missiles with ranges of 95 miles or less. Iraq was allowed to continue making them under U.N. sanctions imposed after the Gulf War.

Iraq's shortest-range missiles can easily hit Kuwait, where thousands of U.S. troops are massing in preparation for a possible invasion.

The United States has batteries of Patriot II missiles in Kuwait, Saudi Arabia and other countries in the region, but some Pentagon planners worry there aren't enough Patriots stationed there to shoot down all the missiles Iraq has. The United States has nearly 500 Patriot batteries and thousands of the missiles but they are spread widely around the globe.

Israel, hit by 39 Iraqi Scuds during the

Gulf War, also has Patriot missile batteries, plus stocks of the Arrow anti-missile system developed with the United States. The United States has pledged to help defend Israel against Iraqi missile strikes in case of a war to topple Saddam, possibly including supplying more anti-missile weapons to Israel.

North Korea is one of America's biggest missile threats, Kadish and other U.S. officials say, because it is developing long-range missiles and has been willing to sell its missile technology to virtually any country with the cash to pay for it.

Kadish said the United States is concerned by evidence that North Korea is continuing to develop long-range missiles that could hit U.S. territory.

North Korea said last month it would extend a flight test moratorium on long-range missiles through 2003, but it also has said the moratorium will apply only if talks with the United States move forward.

The bilateral relations were scrambled by North Korea's early October acknowledgment that it had a program aimed at enriching enough uranium to make nuclear weapons. The CIA believes North Korea already has one or two plutonium-based nuclear weapons.

A test of the long-range Taepo Dong 2 missile could increase North Korea's pressure for U.S. concessions, intelligence officials said.

The two-stage Taepo Dong 2 could hit Alaska, Hawaii and possibly the western continental United States. A three-stage version, which would be more difficult to engineer, could hit targets anywhere in the United States, intelligence analysts say.

That's a big reason behind the U.S. drive to build an anti-missile testing facility in Alaska, which within two years will have five prototype interceptors in silos near Fairbanks.

While the prototypes would provide a "residual capability" against North Korean missiles, the United States would not rely on them alone, Kadish said.

"Along the way, if we get threatened by North Korea, I think the American people understand we would not just sit by with five missiles in the hole and do nothing," Kadish said.

North Korea has sold missile expertise and equipment to Iran, Iraq, Pakistan, Libya and Egypt, U.S. intelligence officials say.

Iran's Shahab-3 missile program is believed to be based on North Korean No Dong missile technology. The missile, still in testing, would enable the Iranians to strike Israel and U.S. troops in Saudi Arabia and parts of Turkey.

"Iran continues to test, continues to make progress," Kadish said. "They're moving from the capability of having very good systems in the short range to intermediate and long-range missiles."

Kadish said he also worries about Libya.

"The Libyans have been pretty active in trying to get missile capability, and not just short-range," Kadish said. "They have enough money to buy it. Their indigenous capability is not as good as they thought it was."

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INTERNATIONAL



Italian Rescue



TG5 Mediaset/Associated Press

A carabiniere paramilitary policeman rescues a young girl from the rubble of the collapsed school in San Giuliano di Puglia, near Campobasso, central Italy, Thursday, in this image from television. A strong earthquake rocked central and southern Italy, trapping about 50 children in a nursery school. At least three children and one elderly woman were killed.

EU files civil money laundering action against R.J. Reynolds

BY ROBERT WIELAARD
Associated Press Writer

BRUSSELS, Belgium — The European Union said Thursday it has filed lawsuit in New York against tobacco giant R.J. Reynolds, seeking compensation for alleged money laundering.

The EU executive Commission said in a statement it sought "relief to stop the laundering of proceeds of illegal activities and to seek compensation for losses sustained."

The case — contained in a 156-page document filed with the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of New York — stems from a tax evasion case the EU and 10 EU governments initiated against R.J. Reynolds, Philip Morris and Japan Tobacco Inc.

Officials would not put an amount on the practice, but said it dates back a decade and involves hundreds of millions of dollars. They said their proof came from "shipping papers, witness statements and customs documents."

In a statement, R.J. Reynolds called the lawsuit absurd and said it should be dismissed.

"We operate our businesses in a legal, responsible manner. Any allegations that we were involved in, or aware of, money laundering, conspiracy or any other illegal activities are completely absurd," the

company said in a statement. "We believe this suit should be dismissed."

R.J. Reynolds was part of RJR Nabisco Corp. of the United States until 1999 when Japan Tobacco acquired it.

On Feb. 19, a New York District Court dismissed the tax evasion claim — based on allegations of cigarette smuggling — saying it has no jurisdiction. The EU has appealed.

EU officials said at the time they considered widening the case based on new evidence they claim will prove the tobacco companies conspired to launder their profits.

The EU estimates several billion dollars in taxes are lost every year due to smuggling of cigarettes from Eastern Europe and the Middle East into the 15-nation bloc. It alleges American tobacco companies intentionally oversupply countries in eastern Europe and elsewhere so the surplus would be smuggled into the EU.

The latest case was brought by the European Commission and 10 EU member nations — Italy, Germany, France, Spain, Portugal, Greece, Belgium, the Netherlands, Finland and Luxembourg.

Similar cases accusing tobacco companies of abetting smugglers brought by Canada and Colombia and an earlier case by the EU last year also have been rejected by U.S. courts.

FBI has major but discreet role in war on terrorism

BY ROBERT H. REID
Associated Press Writer

CAIRO, Egypt — As the fighting winds down in Afghanistan, the focus of the war against terrorism is shifting from the battlefield to a shadowy world where wiretaps, informants, surveillance and forensic evidence have replaced bombs and bullets.

With those changes, the FBI is taking a leading role in the war, bringing high-tech investigative techniques to the search for terrorists far from America's shores.

The work can be tedious: sifting through the wreckage of a car bomb in Karachi, screening records of Middle East students at Asian flight schools, persuading local police to follow someone suspected of terrorist links or tracking down leads that don't pay off.

FBI agents in Jordan have also joined the hunt for the killers of American diplomat Laurence Foley, who was gunned down Monday in front of his Amman home. No arrests have been made, but speculation has focused on Islamic extremists.

"Given the globalization of crime and terrorism, there is no way for the FBI to be effective without agents on the ground outside the United States," said Alfred Finch, a former FBI special agent who was assigned in Egypt in the 1990s.

The effort has paid off in some of the biggest coups of the anti-terrorism conflict — including the capture last March of al-Qaida's No. 3 official Abu Zubaydah and the arrest six months later of Ramzi Binalshibh, one of the masterminds of the Sept. 11 attacks.

Both were arrested in Pakistan during joint operations by FBI and Pakistani security agents.

FBI operations, most of which take place in secret, have not been entirely seamless. Local authorities sometimes grumble about high-handed tactics and gung-ho attitudes in countries where time moves at a slower pace and where politics often block investigations.

"Some rattle off orders and get disappointed if nobody moves," said a Filipino police official on condition of anonymity. "It takes time for them to learn the culture. Some give us information only on a 'need to know' basis, so we also hold back on ours. Sometimes, it's a problem."

Still, many local authorities acknowledge that the FBI provides a level of technical expertise in areas such as electronic surveillance, computers and forensics that few countries can match.

"They have the edge on us due to their access to the latest technology," said an official of Pakistan's InterServices Intelligence agency, who also refuse to be named. "We have benefited from them."

Recent successes against international terrorism have vindicated the expansion of FBI operations overseas undertaken when Louis Freeh ran the agency. He doubled the number of FBI legal attaches, or "legats," posted in U.S. Embassies abroad. Freeh left the agency last year, but his

successor, Robert Mueller, continued the overseas expansion program. Today, the agency maintains 45 legats, which deal routinely with such issues as crimes against Americans overseas, tracking illegal money movements, tracing fugitives and investigating organized drug and crime networks that maintain operations in the United States.

Freeh's expansion plans ran into bureaucratic resistance from the CIA and the State Department, in part over turf issues and also over how much control ambassadors would exert over FBI operations.

Once the ground rules were established, the program began to pay dividends. FBI agents tracked down Mir Aimal Kasi, a Pakistani who killed two CIA employees in 1993 outside the CIA headquarters in Langley, Va., and arrested him in a Pakistan hotel after a four-year manhunt. Two years ago, FBI agents helped convict an extortionist who bombed two Lowe's hardware stores in North Carolina by tracking payments to him in Europe and Central America.

Some of the biggest payoffs have come in the fight against global terrorism. Evidence gathered by FBI agents in Africa led to the convictions of four men in the 1998 bombings at U.S. Embassies in Kenya and Tanzania that killed 224 people.

FBI agents rushed to Yemen two years ago after the bombing of the USS Cole, which killed 17 sailors. They are still there, hunting for al-Qaida members in Osama bin Laden's ancestral homeland.

After Taliban rule in Afghanistan collapsed last year, the Pakistanis refused to allow American soldiers to pursue al-Qaida and Taliban fighters who fled to sanctuaries in Pakistan.

However, President Pervez Musharraf's government placed no such restriction on the FBI, whose agents work alongside Pakistani troops in search operations in the semiautonomous border area.

Hundreds of other al-Qaida fugitives sought refuge in Pakistan's teeming cities. By monitoring e-mails and satellite and mobile telephone calls, the FBI was able to trace key al-Qaida operatives to specific towns and cities. With that information, Pakistani security agents identified and raided hideouts, arresting Abu Zubaydah in Faisalabad and later Binalshibh in Karachi.

"Initially, we thought their information was incorrect," a senior Pakistani intelligence officer said on condition of anonymity. "But working with the FBI, we tracked down the hideouts. We bugged telephones of suspects and we put them under watch and in time, things started moving in the right direction."

He said that working with the FBI, Pakistani authorities arrested about 100 al-Qaida and Taliban suspects in March and April, most of whom were handed over to American custody.

DID YOU KNOW?: In Cali, Colombia, a woman may only have sex with her husband, and the first time this happens, her mother must be in the room to witness the act.



SPORTS

Patriots meet their old quarterback Bledsoe

BY DAVE GOLDBERG

AP Football Writer

This is supposed to be a grudge game: Drew Bledsoe and the Buffalo Bills against New England, which traded him away after he lost his job to Tom Brady last season.

But it really isn't.

In fact, with the Patriots having lost four straight after starting their post-Super Bowl season with three wins, there are plenty of people in New England who'd like to have Bledsoe back. Even the man who traded him is saying nice things.

"I've always had affection and admiration for Drew," says Patriots owner Robert Kraft. "Except, of course, when he's playing against us."

Kraft might end up admiring Bledsoe anyway when the Bills host the Patriots (3-4). Buffalo is 5-3 after going 3-13 last season, and a victory Sunday might just bury New England in the AFC East. The Bills are favored by 2 1/2 points.

The Bledsoe storyline will be played up right until kickoff, but in the game the quarterback might take a back seat to his running back, Travis Henry. New England is second in the NFL after the pass, but 29th against the run.

Buffalo's defense? The Bills don't play much of that.

Consider this the opposite of the theory about teams with winning streaks. A team that isn't bad enough to lose five straight won't.

PATRIOTS, 27-26

San Francisco (plus 3) at Oakland

Jerry Rice against the team he made famous. The Raiders don't lose four in a row.

RAIDERS, 24-23

Miami (plus 4 1/2) at Green Bay (Monday night)

Brett Favre should play. Jay Fiedler won't.

PACKERS, 24-16

Minnesota (plus 7) at Tampa Bay

The Bucs are the Bucs no matter who's coaching them.

BUCS, 9-7

Baltimore (plus 7 1/2) at Atlanta

Even if Ray Lewis were playing, Michael Vick would run all over the field.

FALCONS, 24-10

Philadelphia (minus 6) at Chicago

The Eagles do better in the NFC East than outside, but the Bears are struggling.

EAGLES, 33-19

Pittsburgh (minus 3) at Cleveland

An all-Pennsylvania Super Bowl?

STEELERS, 22-10

Cincinnati (plus 3) at Houston

This is NOT a guarantee ...

TEXANS, 17-16

St. Louis (minus 3) at Arizona

Rams continue their run at 11 straight.

RAMS, 24-14

Dallas (plus 3) at Detroit

A post-Emmitt-record letdown for Dallas.

LIONS, 13-12

Tennessee (plus 3 1/2) at Indianapolis

Two disappointing teams.

COLTS, 27-25

New York Jets (plus 7 1/2) at San Diego

The Jets are squabbling. The Chargers

aren't.

CHARGERS, 24-7

Jacksonville (plus 3) at New York Giants

Did the Giants leave it all on the funny-looking Philly turf? Probably not.

GIANTS, 15-10

Washington (plus 2 1/2) at Seattle

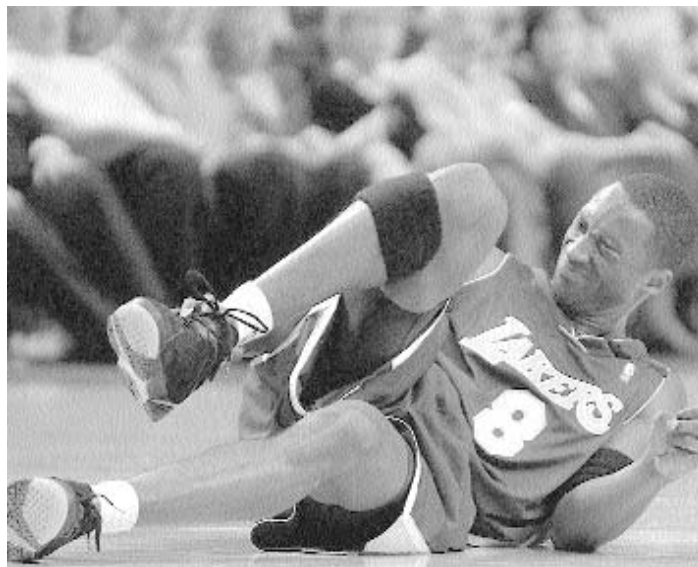
Stephen Davis emulates Emmitt against a bad run defense.

REDSKINS, 19-18

LAST WEEK: 7-7 (spread), 9-5 (straight up)

SEASON: 55-60-1 (spread) 72-44 (straight up)

Kobe's down



Greg Wahl-Stephens/Associated Press

Los Angeles Lakers' Kobe Bryant (8) grabs his right ankle in pain during the first half against the Portland Trail Blazers in Portland, Ore., Wednesday. Bryant returned to the game as the Trail Blazers beat the Lakers 102-90.

Oklahoma seeks to end winless streak against Colorado

BY HAL BOCK

AP Sports Writer

The last time Oklahoma beat Colorado, nobody had heard of the Bowl Championship Series. Games ended in ties, and computer rankings were a thing of the future. College football was simpler in 1988.

Since then, the Buffalos are 8-0-1 against the Sooners in a series that resumes Saturday when the Big 12 division leaders meet in Norman. Oklahoma isn't concerned about all the losses to Colorado, because they were accumulated against previous Sooner teams.

"Our history there for a period of time wasn't real strong against anybody," coach Bob Stoops said, putting it mildly. "I think it's fair to assume that we're a little bit different team right now in the last couple of years than we were through that time."

Two years after winning the national championship, the Sooners (7-0) are ranked No. 2 in the Associated Press poll and are No. 1 in the BCS standings. Against Colorado, their main challenge figures to come from Chris Brown, the nation's leading rusher, who is averaging 163 yards a game and has helped the Buffs to five straight wins after a 1-2 start.

Colorado coach Gary Barnett believes Oklahoma raises its game based on the teams it plays.

"The better the teams they play, the better they play," he said. "They are a team that has the mind of a com-

petitor. We are going to play arguably the best defense in college football, and arguably the fastest defense in college football. They obviously create an extreme challenge for our offense."

The Sooners, who were off last week, are ranked second nationally in total defense, allowing 252.3 yards per game, and second in scoring defense, allowing 13.1 points per game.

In other games involving ranked teams, No. 1 Miami is at Rutgers, No. 3 Virginia Tech plays Pittsburgh, No. 4 Notre Dame faces Boston College, No. 5 Georgia plays Florida, No. 6 Ohio State takes on No. 23 Minnesota, No. 7 Texas is at Nebraska, No. 8 Washington State plays No. 16 Arizona State, No. 9 Iowa goes against Wisconsin, No. 10 North Carolina State takes on Georgia Tech, No. 12 Alabama visits Vanderbilt, No. 14 Kansas State is at Kansas, and No. 15 Michigan plays Michigan State.

Also, No. 18 Florida State is at Wake Forest, No. 19 Oregon faces Stanford, No. 20 Penn State takes on Illinois, No. 21 Bowling Green is at Kent State, No. 22 Iowa State plays Missouri, and No. 25 Tennessee visits South Carolina.

Virginia Tech (8-0), which is No. 3 in The AP poll and No. 6 in the BCS standings, will try to move up by playing Pitt (6-2). This would have been a pushover once, but the Panthers are much-improved. After beating Boston College 19-16 last week, Pitt is 3-0 in the Big East for the

first time in school history, and its two losses are by a combined 10 points.

The Hokies are 8-0 for the third time in the last four years. The first two came with Michael Vick at quarterback, but this season Rod Rutherford is at the position. Rutherford leads the Big East in total offense with 259.9 yards per game.

Notre Dame (8-0) is one of seven undefeated teams crowding the Top 10, which complicates things for the BCS computers. The Fighting Irish are No. 4 in The AP poll and No. 3 in the BCS standings and off to their best start since 1993. Notre Dame has started 8-0 in 18 seasons, and it went on to go undefeated 11 times, with nine national titles.

The Irish, with the nation's seventh-best rushing defense (81.8 yards per game) must stop Derrick Knight, who has five 100-yard games and is averaging 105.1 yards per game rushing for B.C. (4-3).

Georgia (8-0), No. 5 in The AP poll and No. 4 in the BCS, has lost 11 of its last 12 meetings with Florida and given up 30 or more points in nine of the last 12. But that was when Steve Spurrier was coaching the Gators. Things have been more difficult for successor Ron Zook, whose team is 5-3.

The Bulldogs are the SEC's last undefeated team and can clinch a spot in the conference championship game with a victory.

DID YOU KNOW?: If you have a tapeworm in your stomach it will come up when you are asleep to lick the salt off your lips!

COMICS

The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



Natural Selection® By Russ Wallace



CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Casual exes
 - 5 Up to now
 - 11 Glory
 - 12 Not obvious
 - 13 Austrian poet
 - 14 Pinocchio scores
 - 15 Building add-on
 - 16 Debate side
 - 18 Island souvenir
 - 19 Will Smith film
 - 20 Reunion shenanigans
 - 21 Tavern
 - 22 Highway to Heaven star
 - 24 Kitchen pots
 - 26 Trip
 - 27 Turnion
 - 28 Garbage canister
 - 29 Not afireco
 - 32 Skate
 - 33 Blasting stuff
 - 34 EW word
 - 36 Surfing
 - 38 Wisdom bringer
 - 37 H looks like
 - 38 Platform piece
 - 40 Sportscast feature
 - 42 Game host
- DOWN**
- 1 Breakfast choice
 - 2 Underarm
 - 3 Fit together
 - 4 Moose's cousin
 - 5 David Cassidy, to Shirley Jones
 - 6 Aegean Island
 - 7 Have debts
 - 8 Delerious
 - 9 Peaslonole
 - 10 Lacquer ingredients
 - 17 Detective
 - 23 Crow's cousin
 - 24 Linking word
 - 26 Intestinal
 - 27 Hidden shooter
 - 28 Anthe Franklin song
 - 39 Power problem
 - 31 Death personified
 - 33 Confidante
 - 39 Homer's neighbor
 - 41 Cowie Phelps



Yesterday's answers

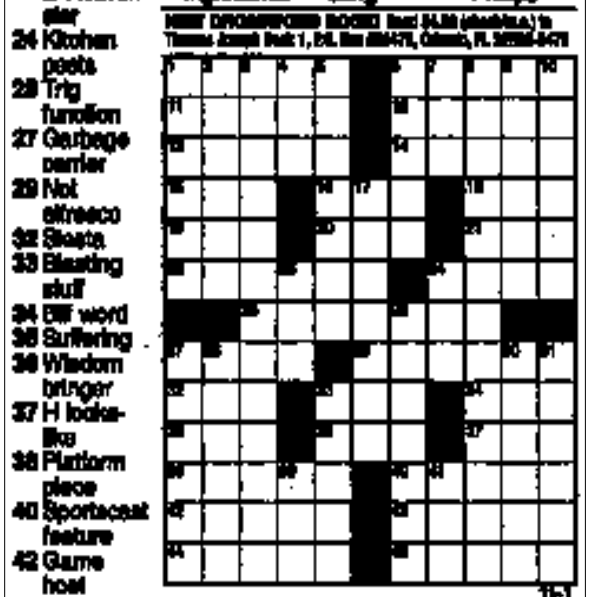
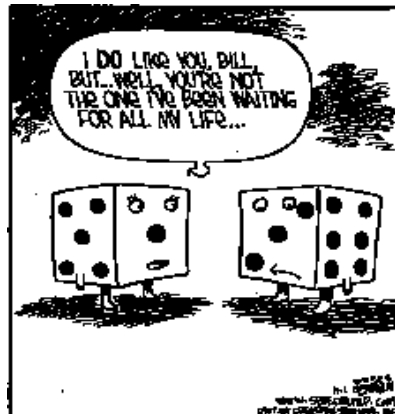
edge city by TERRY & PATTY LEBAN



Reality Check® By Dave Whammond



Speed Bump® By Dave Coverly



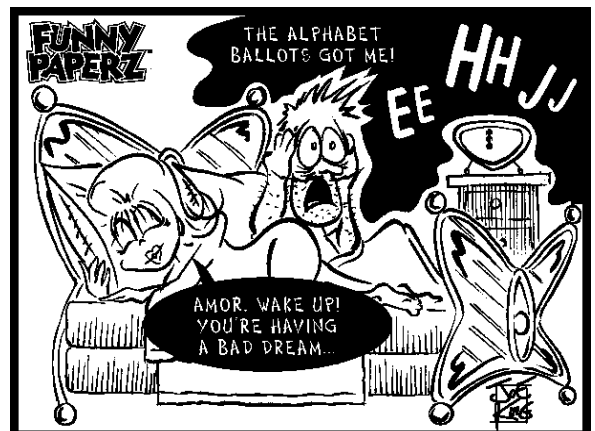
STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-328-3900. \$6.99 per minute, touch-tone only. A long distance service, NY, NY.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD by Chuck Shepard

Naked dances performed to battle dry spells

To battle dry spells in Nepal and neighboring northern India in July and August, dozens of farmer's wives gathered in the fields to perform naked dances at midnight in order to appease Indra, the Hindu god of rain; the women of Uttar Pradesh state in India were less successful, but the 200 Nepalese women who began dancing in mid-August were rewarded with the start of the monsoon season, which soon created floods and landslides. And in Lambertville, N.J., in August, a nude Douglas B. Carroll, 24, was arrested at 3 a.m. and told police he thought running across a bridge naked, really fast, would bring rain; the next night, it rained.



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Santa Monica Daily Press

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Announcements

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YOU ARE invited to celebrate with the Santa Monica Church of the Nazarene their 75th Anniversary in this community. It will feature a gospel music concert with the Revised Standard Version Quartet on Saturday, Nov. 2, 7:00p.m. Santa Monica Church of the Nazarene, 1001 18th St, Santa Monica. (2 blocks north of Wilshire Blvd.) Ph. (310)453-4445 Public is welcome.

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Calendar

Friday, November 1, 2002

movies

Loews Broadway Cinema
1441 Third St. at Broadway
Jackass: The Movie (R) 12:00,
1:00, 2:15, 3:15, 4:30, 5:30,
6:45, 7:45, 9:00, 10:00. The
Truth About Charlie (PG-13)
11:30, 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15.
The Tuxedo (PG-13) 11:00,
1:30, 9:15.

Mann Criterion
1313 Third St.
The Ring (PG-13) 1:00, 4:00,
7:00, 10:00. Sweet Home
Alabama (PG-13) 11:30, 2:10,
5:05, 7:55, 10:35. My Big Fat
Greek Wedding (PG) 11:20,
2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:05. Punch-
Drunk Love (R) 11:15, 1:45,
4:20, 7:10, 9:45. The
Transporter (PG-13) 11:45,
2:15, 4:45, 7:40, 10:15.

AMC Theatre SM 7
1310 3rd Street
Red Dragon (R) 1:45, 4:30,
7:20, 10:00. Tuck Everlasting
(PG) 2:15, 4:45, 7:30. White
Oleander (PG-13) 2:00, 4:40,
7:25, 9:55. Abandon (PG-13)
1:50, 4:15, 7:00, 9:30. Brown
Sugar (PG-13) 2:25, 9:40.
Formula 51 (R) 5:00, 7:45,
10:00.

Landmark Mo-Wilshire
1314 Wilshire Blvd.
Bowling for Columbine (R)
1:30, 2:30, 4:15, 5:15, 7:00,
8:00, 9:45, 10:30.

Laemmle Monica
1332 2nd St.
Auto Focus (R) 12:00, 2:30,
5:05, 7:45, 10:20. Real Women
Have Curves (PG-13) 12:15,
2:30, 4:50, 7:25, 9:45.
Secretary (R) 1:45, 4:30, 7:15,
9:50. Spirited Away (PG) 1:00,
4:00, 7:00, 10:00.

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
Addams Family Values
5:30, 7:30, 9:30.

Friday

Community

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

MAGICOPOLIS presents HOCUS POCUS! (Fish Bones Choke Us). The stage explodes with a colorful mix of Magic, Special Effects, Sleight of Hand, Comedy and Music that's sure to delight audiences of all ages. At MAGICOPOLIS, 1418 Fourth Street, Santa Monica. Fridays & Saturdays at 8pm, \$20. Saturday & Sundays at 2pm, \$15. For tickets call 310-451-2241.

Senior Suppers - Discounted meals for people AGE 55 or older are served daily, from 3:30 p.m. to 7 p.m., in the cafeteria at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center,

1250 16th Street in Santa Monica. \$3.69 Info only: (310)319-4837.

Unurban Coffee House presents Annie Higgins, 7pm. Music Open Mike, 8pm. Signup at 7:30pm. Hosted by Terry Gardner. 3301 Pico Blvd. (310)315-0056

Comedy Underground presents the following improv groups: Addle Essence, show starts at 8pm, tickets are \$5.00. Off The Wall, show starts at 9pm, tickets are \$5.00. Unusual Suspects, show starts at 10pm, tickets are \$5.00. 320 Wilshire Blvd., Santa Monica. For more information please call (310)451-1800.

Saturday

Community

The Santa Monica Church of the Nazarene invites you to celebrate their 75th Anniversary in this community. It will feature a gospel music concert with the Revised Standard Version Quartet on Saturday, Nov. 2, 7:00p.m. Santa Monica Church of the Nazarene, 1001 18th Street, Santa Monica. (2 blocks north of Wilshire Blvd.) Ph. (310)453-4445. Public is welcome.

Psychic Faire & Spiritual Healing Festival - 1pm to 4pm, 1721 21st Street, between Michigan and Olympic. Readings \$8.00 contribution or 3 for \$20.00. Admission and healing are FREE. For information or directions call (310)587-3536.

Rescue Me Pet Foundation invites you to adopt a beautiful healthy cat or kitten. Visit our show 11/2-3, Sat & Sun 12-4pm, at Centinella Feed, 1448 Lincoln Blvd, Santa Monica. Adoption donation covers shots, spay/neuter, worm & flea treatment. 310 452-9568. Readings

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

Theatre/ Arts

Puppetolio! presented by the Santa Monica Puppet & Magic Center. All ages, 3 and up. This musical revue features marionettes, ventriloquism, magic and more. Shows are always followed by a demonstration, Q & A, and a tour of the Puppet workshop and

Museum. Saturdays and Sundays at 1pm and 3pm. Wednesdays and Holidays at 1pm. Seats are \$6.50. 1255 2nd Street in Santa Monica. Reservations/Information (310)656-0483. www.puppetmag-ic.com

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.

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KEEP YOUR DATE STRAIGHT

Promote your event in the Santa Monica Daily Press Calendar section. Fax all information to our Calendar Editor: Attention Angela @ 310.576.9913

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