



The endorsements are in! **SEE PAGE 4**

WEEKEND EDITION



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Santa Monica Daily Press

November 4-5, 2006

A newspaper with issues

Volume 5 Issue 307

DAILY LOTTERY

MEGA MILLIONS
8 10 22 25 55
Meganumber: 22
Jackpot: \$42M

Super LOTTO PLUS
9 10 19 25 43
Meganumber: 12
Jackpot: \$13M

Fantasy 5
2 29 32 33 39

DAILY 3 MIDDAY: 7 8 5
EVENING: 2 0 9

DAILY DERBY
1st: 12 Lucky Charms
2nd: 09 Winning Spirit
3rd: 05 California Classic
RACE TIME: 1:42.67

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

New York filmmaker Andy Deemer, impressed by reports that 40 to 45 new religions emerge every year in America, offered a \$5,000 fee earlier this year for a wannabe messiah to start one and let Deemer chronicle the formation step-by-step, from creation of the philosophy to the soliciting of disciples. Of 300 applicants, Deemer chose 35-year-old musician Joshua Boden, based on Boden's God-optional, feel-good narrative that he called "the Church of Now," based a bit on Buddhism and Taoism (according to an August New York Times profile). Among the prophets that Deemer passed by was Damian Phoenix, whose religion centers around an insect-like creature, "Arkon," and a world of alien parasites that negatively influence people (that is, until Phoenix heals them).

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 308th day of 2006.
There are 57 days left in the year.

1979 The Iranian hostage crisis began as militants stormed the United States Embassy in Tehran, seizing its occupants. For some of the hostages, it was the start of 444 days of captivity.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"If at first you don't succeed, find out if the loser gets anything."

BILL LYON

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SMOKING in Santa Monica FOR DUMMIES

Ban's a drag, but help is here
By Kevin Herrera
Special to the Daily Press

CITYWIDE — So you want to smoke in Santa Monica, huh?

Well, with all the regulations currently on the books, and a new law that goes into effect Nov. 23 that virtually bans the cancer-causing pastime in nearly every public place imaginable, tobacco enthusiasts can use this handy guide, and possibly a trusty tape measure, to avoid being cited by Santa Monica Police officers.

There's really nothing to it. First off, just remember, if a cop approaches you, play dumb. Chances are all you will get is a warning considering City Hall is very aware of the negative effect \$250 fines can have on tourists and other visitors to the city's shopping districts.

Attorneys who drafted the law have said publicly that enforcement will rely heavily on education, with smokers being afforded a chance to snuff 'em out before a ticket is issued.

"There have been a relatively small number of citations handed out, more just warnings giving the folks who aren't around here, or may not know about the laws, a chance to put their cigarettes out," said Adam Radinsky, a deputy city attorney with the consumer protection, fair housing and public rights unit, which drafted the latest smoking ban. "But if you have to be told more than once, and it is clear that you know, but are choosing to violate it, (police) will be giving citations."

See SMOKING FOR DUMMIES, page 17



Connie Sommerville connies@smdp.com

PITCH AND CATCH: City Council candidate Terry O'Day fields a question during 'Squirm Night' at the YMCA in downtown on Thursday night. All 10 candidates were on hand for their final public forum, which included several heated exchanges.

ELECTION 2006

Hopefuls take parting shots

BY MELODY HANATANI

Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN — In the end, 'Squirm Night' lived up to the hype.

With the eclectic mix of personalities running in a highly contentious City Council race, the final candidates forum, held Thursday night at the Santa Monica Family YMCA, proved a memorable political event.

Accusations, angry outbursts and heated debates between the candidates

marked the Daily Press-sponsored forum as candidates were asked a series of intense questions — from a panel, the audience and one another — that caused quite a bit of squirming.

"This is a 'Squirm Night' and I want to see people squirm," said eight-time City Council candidate Jonathan Mann, who chose a casual attire of jeans and a pin-covered vest.

While the format was designed for each candidate to answer questions one at a time, the forum rou-

tinely turned into a debate of sorts, with several candidates interjecting during their opponents turns.

One audience question directed to Councilman Kevin McKeown asked if he regretted his decision to delay installation of security cameras at the Santa Monica Pier.

"No, I don't regret the decision," McKeown said, after he explained that such a complicated issue

See SQUIRM NIGHT, page 14

Nocturnal noshers only

BY MELODY HANATANI

Daily Press Staff Writer

CITYWIDE — The real party starts after the bars and clubs close.

The intermittent restaurants that stay open into the early morning hours are some of the hot-spots in Santa Monica where bar hoppers

and clubbers choose to let off steam after a night of partying hard.

Though hardly the Westside's city that never sleeps, Santa Monica — from Jack in the Box to Swingers to Norms Restaurant — still has its share of late-night dining options.

Izzy's Deli at 1433 Wilshire Blvd. is a senior citizen favorite during the

day, a destination for young professionals at night.

Open 24 hours, the restaurant has been a hot-spot for celebrity sightings during the late night hours with stars like John Travolta, Jason Patrick and the late Chris Penn, said Izzy's Deli Night Manager Jimmy Stats.

"His brother, Sean (Penn) used to come in quite a bit before he moved

See LATE-NIGHT EATS, page 15

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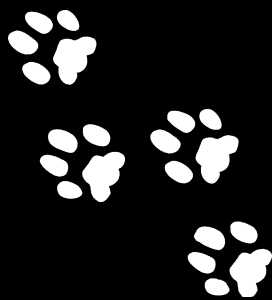
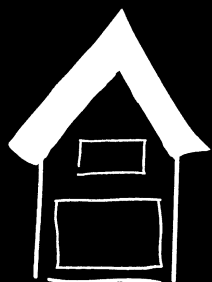
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Horoscopes

2

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Easy works for you, Sag

Santa Monica Daily Press

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

The stars show the kind of day you'll have:

★★★★★ DYNAMIC ★★★★★ POSITIVE ★★★ AVERAGE ★★ SO-SO ★ DIFFICULT



ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★★ Curb a need to be possessive and demanding. You? Yes, you. Seek out another way of handling a situation that might be more effective. Be experimental. Look around and discover different ideas. Tonight: Easy does it.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★★ Walk out the door knowing how much you have to offer. You often undermine yourself or act in a less-than-positive manner. Work with a partner directly. You might need to cater to a family member. Tonight: All smiles.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★ Kick back as the day gets older. Sometimes you think you know what to do. Evaluate and consider the long term. You might need to detach in order to gain a perspective. Ask questions discreetly. Others might test your limits. Tonight: Add a little mystery to your repertoire.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★★ Aim for more of what you want. Think in terms of gaining and growing. A friend listens much more carefully than you realize. You cannot pull the wool over someone's eyes. You know what you are doing. Tonight: Where the crowds are.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★ You handle a personal matter hands-on. Sometimes others find you a bit too present. Trust your ability to handle what others can't. A conflict, though not an unresolvable one, might be brewing. Consider your image. Tonight: A must appearance.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★★ You might want to try something totally different. Your ability to absorb information comes forward. The saying "think before you leap" gains weight and force in your mind. Consider your options. A call is important. Tonight: Off to a movie, play or concert.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★★ Work with individuals rather than a group. The more you understand where people are coming from, the greater sensitivity you can offer. Reach out to someone you care about. Chat up a storm. Someone spills the beans, making a problem resolvable. Tonight: Make together a theme.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★★ You might want to think and understand someone who is close. Others remain active and talkative. It is through this verbal flow that you will understand a lot more. Often, information pops up out of the blue. Tonight: Happy as a cat.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ Read between the lines and make a solid decision. Sometimes you want to mellow out and worry less about life's little anxieties. Do just that when you can. Sometimes others don't understand where you are coming from. You might not be in the mood to explain either. Tonight: Easy works.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ Your creativity stems from socializing. Whether at a football game or getting together for a surprise party, you belong among the crowds. Listen to your inner voice when dealing with a family member. Tonight: Where the fun is.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ Stay close to home. Visit with family and neighbors. You will like what comes up. A long-overdue project might draw your attention. Invite others over for a little get-together. You don't even need to do all the cooking! Tonight: Close to home.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ You will want to think through your plans more thoroughly. Consider your options with care. Make calls, sort through invitations and make plans that suit you. Before you know it, you are in a tizzy. Think positively. Tonight: At a favorite haunt.

BORN TODAY Actress **Loretta Swit** (1937), newscaster **Walter Cronkite** (1916)

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A newspaper with issues

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O.J. snags court win

BY MAYA MEINERT
Special to the Daily Press

SM COURTHOUSE — O.J. Simpson's name and likeness have popped up in court again. This time, his "right of publicity" was on the line. Superior Court Judge Linda K. Lefkowitz rejected Fred Goldman's request earlier this week to have Simpson's right of publicity transferred to him. The father of Ronald Goldman, who was stabbed to death along with Simpson's ex-wife Nicole Brown Simpson 12 years ago, hopes that by having Simpson's right of publicity, he would be able to get some of the money awarded him in a civil wrongful death case.

Simpson was acquitted of the criminal charges against him in 1995, but he lost the civil case and was ordered to pay nearly \$20 million to the Goldman family. Including interest, that amount has grown to somewhere between \$30 and \$40 million, according to Goldman's attorney, Jonathan Polak.

Simpson has not paid any money to the Goldman family, according to Polak.

What the Goldman family wants is to have the right to negotiate compensation when it comes to using Simpson's celebrity for commercial gain. Judge Lefkowitz ruled that Simpson's right to privacy could be violated should she grant Goldman's motion. She also ruled that Simpson's right of publicity would not be available to the Goldman family while Simpson is still alive.

While Lefkowitz ruled that Simpson's right to privacy is tied to his right of publicity, the Goldman camp disagrees.

"We view those rights as two completely different rights," Polak said. "Especially for someone who has already put himself out on the public stage (like Simpson has). He has made himself a public figure in ways designed to make him money."

Simpson has argued that since he is no longer a resident of California — he now lives in Florida, where some of his assets cannot be used to fulfill the civil judgment against him — he is no longer under California courts' jurisdiction. However, the Santa Monica court concluded that once a judgment has been entered against someone, that court can continue to have jurisdiction over that person.

Polak said that the Goldmans will be appealing the decision within the next month. Simpson's attorney could not be reached for comment.



Image Courtesy of Big Blue Bus

UNDER WRAPS: The 'Shopper Shuttles,' all decked out for the holidays, will carry shoppers from city parking structures around town for 50 cents a ride.

This trolley isn't make believe

BY KEVIN HERRERA
Daily Press Staff Writer

DOWNTOWN — Loading up the car with holiday presents should become a thing of the past — at least that's what officials at the Big Blue Bus are hoping.

To alleviate traffic congestion downtown and on Main Street during the busy shopping season, the bus company has unveiled new "Shopper Shuttles" that will take visitors from their cars to some of the city's most popular destinations.

For 50 cents a ride, shoppers can pick up the ultimate gingerbread house kit at Sur La Table on Wilshire Boulevard in downtown, hop on a shuttle and travel to Patagonia on Main Street for some camping gear.

The shuttles, which will run from Nov. 24 to Dec. 24, will hit all of the downtown parking structures, the Main Library and all Farmers' Markets, allowing shoppers to "park once, and shop all day," said Dan Dawson, customer relations manager for the bus company.

The shuttles, which will operate from noon to 8 p.m. on weekdays and noon to 10 p.m. on weekends, at 30 feet will be smaller than regular buses and be wrapped in a "giant, beautiful blue cover with a package on it, each one underwritten by a community sponsor," said Dawson.

"We are trying to create a system of short routes that will allow people who live in Santa Monica to keep their cars in their garages."

DAN DAWSON, CUSTOMER RELATIONS MANAGER
FOR THE BIG BLUE BUS

So far, the Geffen Playhouse has helped wrap two shuttles, Fatburger one and there are discussions ongoing for a fourth sponsor.

In addition to the shuttles, city officials are close to purchasing a used trolley from a city in Rhode Island for roughly \$100,000, Dawson said.

"If the feedback from the community is really positive and everyone likes the trolley as much as we think they will, we will prob-

ably get four or five more," Dawson said.

The new services are part of City Hall's "Mini Blue," a program designed specifically for residents that will feature smaller, alternatively-fueled shuttles that will run on various routes throughout the city, intended to serve those who wish to run to the market or the doctor's office without having to worry about finding a parking place. Mini Blue buses will begin rolling out in mid-2007.

"We are trying to create a system of short routes that will allow people who live in Santa Monica to keep their cars in their garages," Dawson said. "A lot of the input we've received from residents and the City Council is a desire for bus service that serves short trips to the grocery store or other places of business, shopping areas."

How far the bus company goes with Mini Blue depends on whether or not residents get on board.

"If the public likes (the Shopper Shuttles), we may make them permanent, or just bring it back every year for the holidays," Dawson said. "It is just a demonstration project now, but if the public is behind it, it could definitely become part of our normal bus service."

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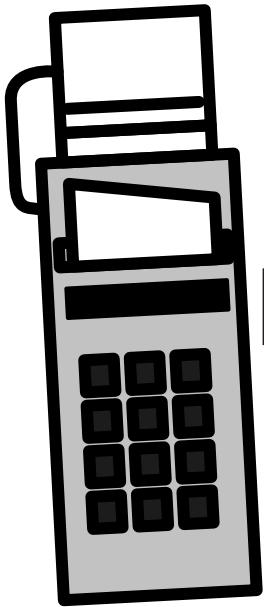
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ENDORSEMENTS

Know when to hold 'em, know when to fold 'em

When voters take to the election booths this Tuesday, they will be asked to decide on more than just a slate of candidates, they will be determining the future of their city, their schools and their quality of life. Months of campaigning, accusations, record defending, pontificating and promising have come down to this. This week, the rhetoric is rendered moot, for the future is in the hands of the voter.

Through the myriad of public forums, interviews, story coverage and reader feed-back, we at the Daily Press newsroom have identified what we feel to be the issues that have a firm grip on the city's collective psyche. In terms of the crowded, often contentious, City Council race, our elected officials will be called upon to deal with the issues of traffic congestion, the lack of work-force housing and fears of overdevelopment — all of which, in the end, come back to traffic via a workforce shut out of the city's continually escalating real estate market.

We need a City Council that will not only maintain a strong grasp of the issues, but one that also brings an injection of innovation to the table. Finding that delicate balance will be the task at hand for the next City Council. With these interests in mind, we at the Daily Press endorse incumbents Bob Holbrook and Kevin McKeown, and newcomer Terry O'Day.

THE ACES

Terry O'Day has gone about ascending to the City Council the right way. Despite his age, the 33-year-old has paid his dues as a member of the planning commission. He has sat through the long meetings, dealt with staff reports and knows what it takes to be successful — something some of the other newcomers in the race appear to be lacking. Intelligent, environmentally active and a small business owner, O'Day seems ideally suited to maintain a fair stance on two issues that often clash into one another on the dais — environment and development.

In addition, O'Day represents a much-needed demographic on the council. He is young, a family man and a homeowner in the Pico Neighborhood, an area of the city sorely lacking in representation. His experience with City Hall as a member of the planning commission will allow the new councilmember to hit the ground running, abridging the typical learning curve, and lend himself to addressing the increasing problems associated with traffic in Santa Monica.

Every team needs a cheerleader, and Bob Holbrook is the real deal. The current mayor's love for the community is obvious and the life-long resident's deep roots cannot easily be dismissed. The archetypical small town mayor is an ambassador of the city who promotes his hometown at every opportunity. He may be old school, but he represents this community's beach town roots. He has seen it all, changes on the local level both good and bad. His pragmatic approach to the issues, weighing each side's arguments with an even keel is a valuable resource on a city governing body that oftentimes tries to do too much.

While not the most innovative candidate, in terms of bringing new initiatives to the table, in his role as mayor he has kept the wayward initiators in line and council moving forward. His experience and knowledge of the issues typically leads him to do what he feels in his heart of hearts is best for Santa Monica.

In the truest sense of the words, Kevin McKeown is a potholes kind of candidate,

willing to deal with the day-to-day gripes of residents with an uncanny enthusiasm. In his own words, he's "deliciously retro." His response to the concerns of residents on a daily basis is beyond dispute. While often criticized for taking the city into uncharted waters, exposing it to litigation or outside criticism, his activism and proactive style help make Santa Monica the leader in sustainability that it undoubtedly is.

By all accounts, McKeown is a man who stands by his convictions, though they may be deemed misguided by some. His sense of environmental conscience and tough stances on development serve as a good balance to more business-oriented council members like Holbrook. Here's hoping he will continue to push the envelope for a segment of the population he clearly represents.

WILD CARDS

A close fourth, Gleam Davis could use more seasoning in city politics. While education is of utmost importance to a huge segment of residents, we feel there are several other pressing issues facing the city. Her intelligence undisputed, the Harvard Law School grad has already demonstrated a commitment to Santa Monica through her work with Community for Excellent Public Schools. In the end, she walked into a tough election and might do well to serve on a city commission to prove she is more than just an education candidate.

Despite her wealth of experience, Pam O'Connor has often come across during this campaign season as a tired candidate trying not to lose, rather than win an election. She freely points out all that she has done during her years on council, which is admirable, but at some point, a candidate must shift focus and relay to voters her plans for the future. Too much of her promises of a better Santa Monica future are tied into her position on the MTA board, and her corresponding influence in getting the Expo Line extended to Santa Monica. It smacks of a scare tactic by a politician with little new to offer.

Latching onto homelessness and voters' frustrations with council on the issue has helped propel newcomer Jenna Linnekens into the mix, albeit slightly. Her abrasive style does not seem suited for the City Council, where six other personalities need to be heard and compromises need to be made. She may want to cut her attack dog teeth on a city commission before jumping into the patience test that is the office of City Councilperson.

JOKERS

We admire any candidate for putting themselves out there, spending their time and money (in some cases) to wage a campaign for public office in earnest attempts of giving back to the community. That being said, Linda Armstrong, Mark McLellan, Terence Later and Jonathan Mann failed to raise much interest in their campaigns, humming their way towards election day.

A city council member can't sit back and wait for supporters to come to them, they must be cultivated and earned. If you run for City Council in this town, file papers and no one seems to know who you are, it's time to go back to the drawing board, or in some of their cases, just take the hint and move on.

If a candidate seems disinterested in doing what it takes to get elected — raising awareness, promoting themselves, shaking hands, kissing babies, kissing hands — why would any voters take interest in them?



Clip and save. Take the Daily Press endorsements to the polls!

SANTA MONICA CITY COUNCIL

(select three)

- ☒ **TERRY O' DAY**
Environmental Executive
- ☐ **PAM O'CONNOR**
Councilmember/Urban Planner
- ☒ **BOB HOLBROOK**
Santa Monica Mayor/Pharmacist
- ☐ **GLEAM DAVIS**
Corporate Counsel
- ☐ **MARK C. MCLELLAN**
Real Estate Agent
- ☒ **KEVIN MCKEOWN**
Education Consultant/Councilmember
- ☐ **JONATHAN MANN**
Flight Attendant
- ☐ **JENNA LINNEKENS**
Event Planner
- ☐ **TERENCE LATER**
Entertainment Consultant
- ☐ **LINDA ARMSTRONG**
Data Entry Operator

SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD

(select four)

- ☒ **OSCAR DE LA TORRE**
School Board Member
- ☒ **EMILY BLOOMFIELD**
School Board Member
- ☒ **SHANE MCLOUD**
Public School Teacher
- ☐ **KELLY MCMAHON PYE**
Administrator/Parent
- ☐ **SIDONIE SMITH**
Administrative Educator
- ☒ **BARRY SNEEL**
Certified Public Accountant

SANTA MONICA COLLEGE DISTRICT BOARD

(select four)

- ☒ **NANCY GREENSTEIN**
Trustee, Santa Monica Community College
- ☒ **TOM DONNER**
College Administrator/Professor
- ☒ **LOUISE JAFFE**
Teacher/Coordinator/Supervisor
- ☐ **SUSANNA KIM BRACKE**
Financial Advisor
- ☐ **ANDREW WALZER**
Community College Professor
- ☒ **DAVID FINKEL**
Professor/Mediator/Arbitrator

RENT CONTROL BOARD

(select three)

- ☐ **ZELIA MOLLICA**
Bookkeeper
- ☒ **MARILYN KORADE/WILSON**
Retired Educator
- ☒ **JENNIFER KENNEDY**
Incumbent
- ☒ **ROBERT KRONOVET**
Broker/Property Manager

PROPOSITION "U"

Shall the City Charter be amended to make it current with best governmental management practices by removing City departmental directors from civil service, changing the advisory roles of some City boards and commissions that deal with hiring of departmental directors, making other related changes concerning promotions and hiring, amending certain provisions concerning the office of City Clerk and by amending some other Charter provisions to remove terms that are no longer legally valid?

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO

PROPOSITION "V"

Clean Beaches and Ocean Parcel Tax Act. For the purposes of funding the implementation of a portion of the City of Santa Monica Watershed Management Plan, shall the City of Santa Monica authorize the Clean Beaches and Ocean Parcel Tax, as specifically set forth in the proposed Ordinance that appears in the voter pamphlet, subject to an annual CPI escalator, and subject to audit by a citizen's oversight committee?

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO

PROPOSITION "W"

Shall City Charter Article XXII be amended by replacing restrictions against a person giving, and a City official receiving, any campaign contribution, employment, or valuable gift, after the official votes "yes" on certain matters benefiting the person, with prohibitions against giving or receiving anything valuable in return for an official decision and against using public office to gain employment, and restrictions on gifts from persons doing business with the City and other gifts?

- ☐ YES
- ☒ NO

PROPOSITION "Y"

Shall the Municipal Code be amended to: state that City police shall make law enforcement related to adult, personal use of marijuana the lowest enforcement priority, unless the use occurs on public property or in conjunction with driving under the influence; require the City Council to effectuate the priority through reporting, grievance and oversight procedures; and require the City Clerk to send annual notice of the priority to federal and state representatives?

- ☐ YES
- ☒ NO

PROPOSITION "BB"

To improve health, safety, class instruction by repairing, renovating outdated classrooms, bathrooms, plumbing, leaky roofs, computer technology, fire safety equipment, improving handicapped student accessibility, earthquake-retrofitting classrooms, removing asbestos and mold, upgrading, acquiring, constructing, repairing and equipping classrooms, science labs, local neighborhood schools, sites and facilities, shall Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District issue \$268 million of bonds at legal rates, with guaranteed financial audits, citizen oversight, and no money for administrators' salaries?

- ☒ YES
- ☐ NO

41st STATE ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

(select one)

- ☒ **JULIA BROWNLEY**
Democrat
- ☐ **TONY DOLZ**
Republican

New size fits all: Guaranteed way to lose inches and pounds



**MODERN
TIMES**
BY LLOYD GARVER

I have a new plan for those who want to get rid of extra pounds and inches without dieting or exercise.

We've all heard the discouraging reports that Americans are heavier and fatter than ever before. The average man in the United States weighs 25 pounds more than the average man weighed in 1960, and the average woman is 24 pounds heavier. Despite all the warnings about the dangers of being overweight, as a country, we just keep getting bigger and bigger. Why do so many people ignore the sound advice to eat less and exercise more? One reason is because it's hard work.

I came up with my solution after learning about what's going on in the women's clothing industry. Curiously, as women have become bigger and heavier, they still wear the same dress sizes as they did before -- or even smaller sizes. It's all because of something called "vanity sizing." Because of its success, I think this concept could soon be used to make all of our measurements and weight go down.

Here's how vanity sizing works: When a woman who knows she has put on a few pounds and expanded a few inches lately goes shopping, she may be pleasantly surprised that she still wears the same size she wore when she was in high school. She knows this is impossible, but she still makes her purchases with a smile.

Certain designers and stores have fudged the numbers. What used to be a size 12 is now a size 10 or an 8. They know that shoppers are more likely to buy clothes that don't say, "Wow, you've really gotten fat." And again, even if the consumer knows deep down that these numbers have been played with, she's still happier about buying clothes with a lower number.

I'm sure this will soon spread to men's clothing. Those guys who barely squeeze into an extra-large T-shirt will probably soon be squeezing into T-shirts labeled "medium." And I'll bet they'll buy an extra shirt or two just because the new sizing makes them feel good about themselves.

But what about men's clothing whose sizes are in inches? If a guy used to have a 32-

inch waist, and now he has a 40-inch waist, how are they going to trick him into thinking that he hasn't really gained all that much weight so he'll buy a new pair of pants instead of just walking out of the store and getting something to eat?

That's simple. Vanity sizing for men. Clothing manufacturers will just come up with a new way of measuring. Instead of using traditional inches, maybe they'll use something called "new inches." Let's say the new inch is a percentage of a real inch's length. So, the guy with the 40-inch waist will wear a size 32 in "new" inches. Once this plan is adopted, just watch those pants fly off the racks. And soon the "new" will be dropped, and this measurement will just be called "inches."

Weight can be dealt with in the same way. A "new pound" could weigh four-fifths as much as an old pound. So, if you weigh 200 today, under the new system, you'll be a svelte 160.

With these changes, imagine how much happier people in our country will be. Their self-esteem will grow, their productivity at work will increase, and their personal relationships will improve. Our country will no longer have the shameful label of the "fattest nation in the world." We'll be a happy and proud land once again.

For those of you who think that we will be reluctant to change the way we are weighed and measured, I have some words of encouragement. Some people thought there would be a great resistance to the Euro in countries that had their own currency for years and years. But quicker than anyone thought, the Lira, the Mark and the Franc have become antiquated terms as Europe has embraced the Euro. Similarly, our old pound and old inch will join the ranks of quaint measuring terms like the dram, the digit and the cubit. Just as with the new size 8, we'll throw all logic to the winds and embrace the new inches and pounds because they'll make us feel good.

Changing people's mindset about weight and size, not to mention completely revolutionizing the tape measure industry, may sound like a lot of hard work, but is it really any harder than the alternative -- eating less and exercising more?

Lloyd Garver writes the "Modern Times" column for CBSnews.com's Opinion page and a weekly column for SportsLine.com. He can be reached at smdp@lloydgarvermoderntimes.com.



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Clearing up the details

Editor:
I am writing in response to your article on Nov. 2 (“The hits keep on coming,” page 1). While I found the article to be a good example of fair and balanced reporting, I need to make two clarifications.

1) Santa Monicans For Renters Rights Participation: While I am in no way affiliated with the McKeown campaign, I did contact community groups across the city and asked them to help get the word out regarding last Sunday’s “Open Democracy” demonstration at the Shutters and Casa del Mar hotels. These groups represented the entire political spectrum and included the North of Montana Association, Friends of Sunset Park, PICO Neighborhood Association, Santa Monicans For Renters Rights, Santa Monica Coalition For A Livable City and others. I made it clear to these groups that this was a rally against the hotels’ big money smear campaign and not a McKeown campaign rally. Among the 150 people who attended the demonstration were members of all of these groups, many of whom had made phone calls in support of the effort.

2) Signs at the rally: I and other volunteers made up a batch of signs prior to the event so we had something for people to carry. Many people also brought their own signs, as they had been encouraged to do. As a result, there were many points of view represented during the demonstration.

In closing, I want to thank you for your continuing coverage of local elections. You play a vital role in keeping our community informed and I encourage you to keep up the good work.

John Petz
Santa Monicans For Open Democracy

Time to put end to McKeown era

Editor:
I am dismayed at Kevin McKeown’s response to the criticism of his voting record regarding new development in our city and the homeless. He states that such criticism is from candidates that are “following the money,” and that he is simply “representing what the residents want.”

Well, I am a resident of the city of Santa Monica, and soon, I will operate a business in Santa Monica. On more than one occasion, I have had the homeless barge into my place of business (currently under construction) requesting money, food, and/or alcohol. Councilmember McKeown’s “supposed” efforts to feed and shelter the homeless are apparently ill conceived, because my block itself is currently sheltering and feeding seven members of the homeless community. I do not believe that we should leave the homeless to their own devices, yet intelligent and consistent solutions have not been offered by Kevin McKeown — in fact, he has voted against some solutions that ensure safety from crime and enforce measures against vagrancy.

Furthermore, Councilmember McKeown seems to think that commercial and residential concerns are mutually exclusive — that business development works in contradiction to our living conditions. In my opinion, it is quite the opposite. Businesses suffer due to a lack of parking. That lack of parking suffocates our residential communities as people resort to parking on our blocks and in front of our homes. For Councilmember McKeown to vote against a parking development in downtown Santa Monica is short-sited.

Santa Monica is a place where people want to live, play and visit, yet Councilmember McKeown votes against propositions that increase safety, votes for propositions that encourage vagrancy on the bluffs, votes against propositions that provide ample parking and increased traffic flow, and votes against propositions that encourage business activity (which in turn, would promote a desire to reside in Santa Monica).

I suggest that our community find candidates that understand the balance between these two growing concerns, such as Bob Holbrook and Terry O’Day. I suggest that our community look beyond the “sound bite” advertising and media-spinning that seem to be incredibly pervasive this election season and instead just look at the voting record. The record will set you straight.

Danny Leclair
Santa Monica

Walking a mile in O’Connor’s shoes

Editor:
Money from developers going into City Council campaigns is a legitimate issue and to bring it up is not “nasty” (“Politics take a turn for nasty,” Oct. 31, page 1) That’s why the Santa Monica Coalition for a Livable City co-sponsored the rally this weekend to protest the hundreds of thousands of dollars hotels and developers are pouring into our city to defeat Kevin McKeown, a Council person who shares many residents’ concerns about over-development. It’s also why the SMCLC sent out a flier exposing the money Councilmember O’Connor took from one developer — money she took, not even during an election cycle, and when that developer had business pending before her.

Instead of attacking residents who question her actions, wouldn’t it be refreshing if Ms. O’Connor said something like: “I can see now that taking money from executives of a company who had proposed the largest development in SM history, before I was to vote on their new proposal, was not the right thing to do. At the time, I didn’t think it would have had any effect on my vote. But now I can see that by even presenting the appearance of impropriety, I have let the residents of Santa Monica down. I promise that should voters give me another chance, I will not accept money from large developers with business pending before council.”

If only I was Pam O’Connor. I’d be a much better Pam O’Connor than she is. Unfortunately, the one we have has chosen to attack residents who are trying to protect Santa Monica from over-development. It’s similar to when she attacked Santa Monica parents who came before council asking for funding for neighborhood schools. In that instance, she called them “thugs.”

I get the feeling Ms. O’Connor may not like most of Santa Monica’s residents.

Everyone makes mistakes. Character is judged, not by the mistake, but by how one addresses it. Ms. O’Connor has failed that test.

Victor Fresco
Santa Monica

Keep your ‘Stygian smoke’ to yourself

Editor:
As a non-smoker, I applaud the City Council’s new smoking ban.
In law school, we were taught the axiom: “Your rights end where my nose begins.” This pithily highlights the injury limitation on rights — of either the majority or minority. Smoking’s consequences are not confined to the smoker. A smoker’s right to do himself harm is absolute in isolation; that right is limited by harm to others when not in isolation. Thus, where cause and harmful effect are undisputed, society’s rights can properly interfere with the freedom of the individual.

The harm caused by tobacco has been known for over 400 years, as evidenced by King James I of England in his 1604 Counterblast to Tobacco: “A custom loathsome to the eye, hateful to the nose, harmful to the brain, dangerous to the lungs, and in the black, stinking fume thereof, nearest resembling the horrible Stygian smoke of the pit that is bottomless.”

Hopefully, some day some the President will use the bully pulpit to preach to our citizens the dangers of smoking and criticize the television and movie industry for continuing to show smoking in their shows and films. The President should even ask the nation to boycott such shows and films.

Norman G. Axe
Santa Monica

Gorillas in the miss

Editor:
I’m a longtime resident of Santa Monica, and it surprised me to read Bill Bauer’s commentary in the Oct. 30 edition of the Daily Press (“‘Raging gorilla’ is bad for McKeown and city,” page 4) refer to city council candidate Terry O’Day as pro-development. Bill cited O’Day’s voting record on commercial parking requirements as an example of pro-development leanings. To the contrary, building parking in our community actually promotes new development. In fact, extensive parking requirements are also anti-environment. Since O’Day is the only environmental executive in this election, he surely understands this. Bauer should consider the impacts of traffic and parking on the environment before making leaps of logic. The free parking available at the Third Street Promenade is what made it a regional shopping destination in the first place. By labeling pro-environment decisions as negative for our community, Bauer does a disservice to your readers.

Brady Torgeson
Santa Monica

Hotels need not leave the light on for reader

Editor:
The distorted and misleading campaign against Kevin McKeown by the owner of the Shutters and Casa del Mar hotels is appalling, and those businesses are no longer worthy of our patronage.

For what it is worth, I am a homeowner, co-founder and former Chair of the Northeast Neighbors neighborhood association, and am not a member of SMRR. Kevin has been one of the most resident-responsive council members we have, and continues to lead the fight against over-development. Moreover, he was the only council member to vote against placing Prop W on the ballot in the city’s latest attempt to weaken the current prohibition against city officials accepting money, jobs and gifts from those given special benefits and city contracts.

Make no mistake. This is a battle for control of the city by large commercial developers. If the attack on Kevin is successful, other resident-friendly council members will be attacked next, and those with developer-funded war chests will rule.

Bob Seldon
Santa Monica

Faculty president may not be disclosing everything

Editor:
The Oct. 30 letter from Lantz Simpson, President, SMC Faculty Association, clearly reveals the depth of deception and misrepresentation by the faculty union leader. His letter states: “The faculty union has not distributed any mailing critical of Mr. Donner.”

The hit piece mailers were distributed by Friends of Santa Monica College. But who is this committee located in Burbank? A visit to the Santa Monica City Clerk’s web site (www.santa-monica.org/cityclerk/index.html) reveals the truth. If you click on Campaign Disclosure Statement, then the letter “F” we see Friends of Santa Monica College listed. In the report listing disclosure information, it shows the committee spends their money opposing Thomas Donner.

By reading the Campaign Disclosure Statement it becomes clear that Friends of Santa Monica College is a committee 96 percent funded by the SMC Faculty Association. But Mr. Simpson tells us the faculty union has nothing to do with the distribution of the hit pieces. How can anyone trust anything Mr. Simpson says?

There was a time that the leadership of the faculty union was truthful and honest. I know because I was one of the founders of the SMC Faculty Association. I hope that the student-oriented faculty will step forward as role models for the future.

Nancy Cattell
Former SMC Trustee

Big hotels aren’t out for the little guy

Editor:
I read your Oct. 25 article “Attack on the airwaves” and the LA Times Steve Lopez column about the disturbing election tactics in Santa Monica by the Edward Thomas Companies.

As a longtime resident, parent and activist in this community — including the last 7 years as a member of the Santa Monica environmental task force — I know Kevin McKeown is committed to a healthy, vibrant Santa Monica, and I endorse his candidacy wholeheartedly. I agree with Mark Gold’s recent quote saying Kevin is the “environmental conscience” of the SM city council.

Are the owners of Casa del Mar and Shutters out campaigning for more affordable places for their workers, and for the residents of this city to live? Are the owners of the Shutters and Casa del Mar leading the way as green companies? For a city that has prided itself on sustainability policies, unfortunately, I have never once seen either take a leadership role on greening their properties. Based on their recent campaign tactics, I’m led to believe they’d prefer a Santa Monica limited to their high-paying hotel guests and that turns its back on its strong record of environmental progress.

Matt Petersen
Santa Monica

Boy snaps rare shot of California condor

LOS ANGELES — A 5-year-old boy has taken a photograph of what experts say may be the first California condor to fly in Topanga Canyon's skies in more than a century.

Gabriel Gottfried spied the hulking bird outside his home about a month ago after coming home from kindergarten. He dashed to a hallway shelf where he keeps a digital point-and-shoot camera his mother gave him and clicked just as the bird took off.

"I'd never seen that kind of bird before," Gabriel said. "I tried to take it on the tree, but it moved. I followed it by accident and got it in midair. My dad helped me get the picture out of the camera and into the printer."

Wildlife experts say the last condor was probably seen in Topanga's skies around 1898.

They say the bird photographed by Gabriel may have been taking temporary refuge from the Day fire, which roared through parts of the nearby Los Padres National Forest in September and October.

Captive-bred condors have been

released in the forest's Sespe Condor Sanctuary and adjoining Hopper Mountain National Wildlife Refuge in an attempt to reintroduce them to the wilds. Topanga Canyon, which is between Woodland Hills and Malibu, is within soaring range of the condor preserves.

Denise Stockton, a spokeswoman for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, said condors dispersed from the Day fire approached their sanctuary areas, but all have since returned. She studied Gabriel's picture in hopes of identifying the bird, but the image was too dark to show identifying features.

"It's amazing," she said of the photograph, which depicts the bird with its head hunkered down and wings — whose span can reach 10 feet — flexing.

Gabriel's dad, Rick Gottfried, said he was surprised when he downloaded the image.

"I didn't know what it was," Gottfried said. "I've lived in the canyon 20 years and I've never seen a condor here."

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All in the family: Mother, daughters busted for arson

Two sisters and their 78-year-old mother have been arrested in connection with an arson fire that destroyed their landmark home, officials said.

Sheila Phillips, 46, her sister Sharon Phillips, 45, and their mother Mamie Phillips Mitchell were taken into custody this week for investigation of setting fire to the almost century-old two-story Craftsman home in January, fire spokeswoman Lisa Derderian said Thursday.

County prosecutors filed a complaint against the women earlier in the week following a nine-month investigation, officials said.

The felony complaint lists multiple counts, including child abuse, because a 4-year-old relative was home when the fire started, and animal cruelty, since a family dog burned to death, Derderian said.

The Phillips family had lived in the house for 25 years, first as its owners, then — after it went into foreclosure — as renters, Derderian said.

The family was several months behind in rent payments at the time of the fire, she said.

The home lies within a 16-block district known as Bungalow Heaven, which was designated a city Landmark District in 1989.

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As of Early November 2006
average price of
Single Family Homes listed for sale

Santa Monica Canyon	= \$ 3,797,161
North of Montana	= \$ 3,495,889
Between Wilshire & Montana	= \$ 1,903,556
South of Wilshire	= \$ 1,067,333
Sunset Park	= \$ 1,344,510
Ocean Park	= \$ 1,789,000

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As of Early November 2006
average price of
Condos & Town Homes listed for sale

Santa Monica Canyon	= No Listings
North of Montana	= \$ 1,829,286
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Sunset Park	= \$ 643,227
Ocean Park	= \$ 1,117,903

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‘Voting bus,’ innovations bring polls to the people

BY RACHEL KONRAD
Associated Press Writer

SAN LEANDRO, Calif. — Patricia Mae Gamenara clutched her voter registration card and tottered up the steps of the red, white and blue bus outside her assisted living apartment.

Were it not for Alameda County’s “voting bus” — stripped of passenger seats and equipped with electronic voting machines — the 83-year-old Gamenara says the Nov. 7 election might have been the first she’s missed since 1944.

“I would have been really mad if I couldn’t vote,” said Gamenara, whose hands tremble from Parkinson’s Disease. “It’s hard work for people like me to get to the polls. I appreciate that they’re making it more convenient.”

The bus debuted last week and has visited senior centers and government buildings. Alameda County is also setting up temporary voting centers on local college campuses in the days leading up to Tuesday’s election. These are among several bold experiments nationwide that attempt to halt or reverse years of declining turnout.

Critics say such rogue tactics could result in lawsuits if registrars aren’t careful about where they place the alternative polls.

Alameda County has already rejected requests from partisan “get out the vote” advocates, who asked the bus to visit sites with a disproportionate numbers of voters from one party. The registrar also turned down direct requests from candidates.

“You can’t guard against partisan placement,” said Curtis Gans, director of American University’s Center for the Study of the American Electorate. “You just never know how people might react to any big change in the way we vote.”

Registrars experimenting with buses and other alternative voting locations share a common philosophy: Asking people to go to the polls hasn’t increased turnout, so why not bring the polls to the people?

In Clark County, Nev., which includes Las Vegas, voters have been casting ballots since Oct. 21 at 18 nontraditional polling places, including shopping centers, grocery stores, even an outlet mall and a trailer parked outside a gym. By Oct. 31, more than 107,000 residents had voted.

Long lines at the polls in the 2000 elections prompted Larimer County, Colo., to abolish traditional precincts for a system where any county resident can vote at any of several dozen “vote centers.” Twenty other Colorado counties have since adopted simi-

lar systems, with polls at hotels, American Legion posts, university student unions, and even arenas like the Budweiser Events Center in Loveland.

“The idea that we all have to go stand in line at the City Hall or the local church — it’s absurd,” said Scott Doyle, clerk and recorder.

In Larimer County, north of Denver, turnout averaged around 33 percent during the late 1990s. After polling places were consolidated to 30 vote centers in 2003, turnout rose to 43 percent. In the 2004 general election, nationwide turnout was about 60 percent; in Larimer County it was 93.5 percent.

The county safeguards against repeat voters with a countywide, real-time electronic database that crosses off voters names so they can’t vote again elsewhere. The average voter is processed in less than 30 seconds, and the database accommodates last-minute changes for new citizens, and those who moved, died or changed names.

Indiana Secretary of State Todd Rokita will launch a similar program in two counties next year. The nation’s youngest secretary of state when he was elected in 2002 at age 32, Rokita said technological advances have passed voting by.

“The electronic poll book is a nice advance, but frankly even it’s not rocket sci-

ence,” he said in a phone interview. “We don’t have to be afraid of technology or be tied to a piece of paper.”

Americans have voted in fundamentally the same way for more than two centuries, despite technological innovations that changed virtually every other aspect of their lives. Though some now vote on touch-screen computers and others cast paper ballots read by optical scan machines, a majority of voters still go to their local precinct site to cast a ballot.

Nowadays, many commuters are in their office or car for 12 hours or more each day. Consumers shop at mega malls 20 miles from home. Full-time caregivers shuttle kids from school to lessons to play dates across town.

Forcing people to vote in their precinct is a burden for a society that doesn’t spend as much time at home, said Guy Ashley, a spokesman for the registrar of voters in Alameda County.

“In the best possible election, only 65 to 70 percent of our registered voters vote — that’s one-third of people not casting a ballot, and I’ve got to believe it’s a convenience thing,” Ashley said outside the bus, parked in a drop-off zone in front of the senior center. “We have to make it easier for people.”



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- YES** **EMILY BLOOMFIELD** is a proven champion for our children who has worked to successfully improve the achievement of all students.
- YES** **KELLY McMAHON PYE** is an outspoken voice for economically disadvantaged students in the district with a passion to increase parent involvement in our schools.
- YES** **BARRY SNELL** has worked to bridge differences and build consensus in the school community for the benefit of all children.

Santa Monica College Board of Trustees ENDORSEMENTS

- YES** **LOUISE JAFFE** has an extraordinary record of achievement for lifelong learning.
- YES** **NANCY GREENSTEIN** is the current board chair and provides beneficial leadership.
- YES** **TOM DONNER** has a thirty-year record of service to SMC and was twice the interim president.
- YES** **DAVID FINKEL** is a retired judge and a former locally-elected official.

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Santa Monica Daily Press

Bechtel ends Iraq job in mourning

BY MICHAEL LIEDTKE

AP Business Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — Wrapping up more than three years of work that cost the U.S. government \$2.3 billion, Bechtel Corp. is leaving Iraq with a subdued sense of accomplishment after suffering through an unanticipated spree of violence that killed 52 workers.

The departure of the San Francisco-based engineering firm serves as another sobering reminder of how the carnage in Iraq has scrambled the United States' once-grand ambitions to rebuild the devastated country.

The U.S. government hired Bechtel in April 2003, hoping the company behind man-made marvels like the Hoover Dam would be able to bring Iraq into the 21st century as it repaired much of the damage caused by invasion that overthrew Saddam Hussein.

The daunting task required rebuilding roads and bridges, expanding the power grid, cleaning up the water supply and adding more telephone lines.

Although some progress has been made, the efforts of Bechtel and other government contractors have been repeatedly set back by sabotage, corruption and lawlessness that made it difficult to retain workers frightened for their lives.

Bechtel said it completed all but two of the 99 projects on its Iraq to-do list, but at a horrible cost: 52 dead workers and another 49 wounded. At peak times, Bechtel employed more than 40,000 workers — mostly Iraqi subcontractors — on the various projects.

Most of the Bechtel workers were killed while off duty, said company spokesman Jonathan Marshall. It's among the greatest losses of life that Bechtel has suffered during any job in the company's 108-year history, possibly exceeded only by the company's Depression-era work on the Hoover Dam, Marshall said.

Bechtel has completed more than 22,000 projects in 140 countries, including perilous jobs like the Channel Tunnel that connects England to France.

Counting bodies was something that Bechtel never envisioned when the company went to Iraq. "The situation took on characteristics that we certainly didn't expect," Marshall said.

Within a few months of arriving in Iraq, Bechtel had started to evacuate some of its workers from Baghdad to Amman, Jordan for safety reasons.

Despite the adversity, Bechtel said it finished all its jobs except a water treatment plant in a Baghdad neighborhood and a two-story children's hospital in Basra that had been championed by first lady Laura Bush.

The government suspended work on the hospital last summer amid rising security expenses that drove the project's costs well above its original \$50 million cost. Bechtel estimated it would have taken at least \$98 million to finish the hospital.

Before the hospital was abandoned, Bechtel's onsite security manager was murdered, another manager resigned because of death threats and a senior engineer quit after his daughter was kidnapped. Another 23 workers employed by a subcontractor and a concrete supplier were murdered.

When the government first picked Bechtel for the Iraq work, the decision came under fire from some critics who believed the company got the contract because of its deep political connections, particularly to the Republican Party.

Bechtel's leadership at various times has included George Shultz, a former cabinet member in the Nixon and Reagan administrations and Casper Weinberger, the Secretary of Defense in the Reagan administration. Other employees, including Bechtel CEO Riley Bechtel, have connections to the current Bush administration.

The company maintains it won the Iraq business through a competitive bidding process that recognized its vast expertise. The Iraq contracts represented a relatively small portion of Bechtel's revenue, which totaled \$51.8 billion from 2003 through 2005. The privately held company doesn't disclose its profits.

Baseball Giants catching \$6M refund from San Fran

SAN FRANCISCO — City officials will refund the San Francisco Giants \$6 million in property taxes after a ruling established the baseball team's stadium had been overvalued.

San Francisco Assessor Phil Ting announced the settlement Wednesday, explaining that the city's Assessment Appeals Board ruling could have forced the city to reimburse the team up to \$9.6 million for overpaid property taxes.

The team agreed to the smaller amount to avoid further litigation, Ting said.

The stadium opened in 2000. According to the team, it was worth \$200 million from 2001 to 2003, \$180 million in 2004 and \$160 million by 2006.

The city had argued the property was valued at \$331 million in 2001, and increased in worth to \$365 million in 2006.

The settlement placed the ballpark's value at \$275 million in 2001, and down to \$240 million by 2006. That estimation lowered the amount of taxes the Giants should have paid during that period.

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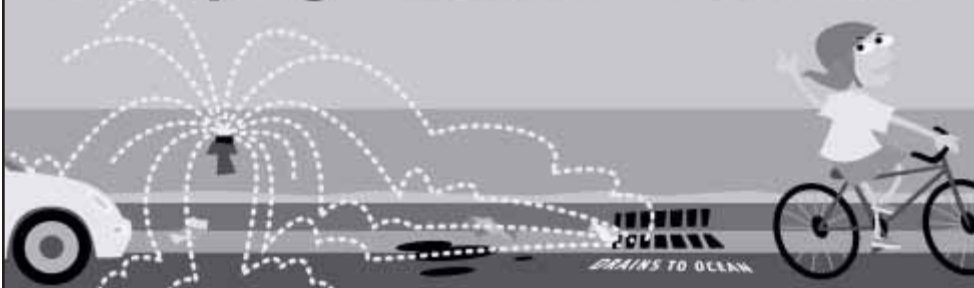
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McCain in Golden State to help Schwarzenegger

BY STEVE LAWRENCE

Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO — Despite big leads in the polls and campaign donations, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger scheduled fundraising events Thursday and Friday with another high-profile Republican.

He had a fundraising luncheon Thursday in San Francisco with U.S. Sen. John McCain and a fundraising reception planned for Friday night in Palm Desert, also with McCain.

Craig Goldman, a McCain spokesman, said the Arizona senator "was asked to attend these events, and he was honored to come help where he could. It's one of the many stops he's making this last week (before the election) all over the nation."

The Arizona senator, who is considering a presidential run in 2008, also was the star attraction at a fundraising dinner in Beverly Hills in March. That event generated an estimated \$2.5 million for the governor and the California Republican Party.

Schwarzenegger has raised more than \$40 million this year for his re-election drive, including \$5.5 million that he contributed out of his own pocket.

He led his Democratic rival, state Treasurer Phil Angelides, by 16 points in a Field Poll released Wednesday.

Angelides has raised more than \$19 million so far this year.

Both candidates had spent about the same amount through Oct. 21, \$39.9 million for Schwarzenegger and \$35.9 million for Angelides, including money raised in previous years.

But most of Angelides' money, \$28 million, was spent during the Democratic primary campaign against state Controller Steve Westly.

Schwarzenegger aides said the governor needed to keep raising money to cover cam-

aign expenses. His campaign had nearly \$1.1 million on hand and \$2 million in unpaid bills on Oct. 21.

McCain is well-known for his efforts to tighten federal campaign finance laws. He advised Schwarzenegger last year to seek campaign-finance reform in California.

The governor hasn't taken McCain's advice, but Goldman said that wouldn't prevent McCain from helping Schwarzenegger raise money.

"We'd rather that all state laws mirror the federal laws," he said. "But we're not going to not campaign for somebody because state laws exist as they are."

Federal candidates face much lower donation limits than California candidates do. They can take up to \$2,000 per election from an individual contributor and up to \$5,000 from a political action committee.

A candidate for governor of California can receive up to \$22,300 per election from most donors.

Angelides criticized Schwarzenegger on Thursday for taking more than \$113 million from donors since he launched his campaign for governor during the 2003 recall election. Most of that money has come from business interests, according to an Associated Press analysis of both candidates' fundraising history.

"Arnold Schwarzenegger said he wouldn't take any special-interest money. He's now raised over \$100 million from the HMOs, the pharmaceutical companies, the drug companies, the oil companies, the tobacco companies. And they've gotten their money's worth," Angelides said during a campaign stop in Monterey Park.

Schwarzenegger has said numerous times that campaign donations do not influence his decisions.

Associated Press Writer Michael R. Blood contributed to this report from Los Angeles.

STATE BRIEFS

ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN BERNARDINO, Calif.

Mental patient arrested in killing

A mental patient at a troubled state hospital has been arrested in the beating death of a 50-year-old man who had lived at the institution for three decades, officials said.

Police arrested William M. Nall, 24, Thursday for investigation into the murder of Steven Jenkins, who was found dead in his bed at Patton State Hospital on Oct. 27, officials said.

Jenkins died of trauma to the head, caused by a fight he had gotten into the night before, police Sgt. Bill Hanley said in a news release.

Jenkins was sent to Patton, which houses severely mentally ill people referred by the criminal courts, in 1976 after being found not guilty by reason of insanity in connection with a schoolhouse arson fire in San Diego, his mother Felicia McCarty said.

Police and hospital officials declined to provide further information about Nall or the fight. The violence comes as state mental hospitals, particularly Patton, face heightened scrutiny.

Federal prosecutors investigating civil rights violations filed a consent decree in federal court in May that called for sweeping reforms under a court-appointed monitor.

Federal investigators also released specific findings about Patton State Hospital, stressing among other problems high rates of patient-on-patient violence.

Last year, there were two homicides at Patton among patients, the first since 1994. Another patient committed suicide in January, the facility's third since 2003.

LOS ANGELES

A race to the finish?

Students at the University of California, Los Angeles, marked the approaching 10-year anniversary of a ballot initiative that stopped admissions staff from considering applicants' race by calling for its repeal.

Small groups of students briefly disrupted classes at the law school Thursday, then joined about 150 protesters in a nearby plaza to urge voters to overturn Proposition 209, which barred public universities and other institutions from considering race or gender in admissions and hiring.

"Today, we are taking an affirmative step toward retaking our campus and Los Angeles," student activist Doug Johnson said.

Students also marked the anniversary with rallies at other UC campuses Thursday, including UC Berkeley, where organizers said persistent rain reduced the turnout.

Renowned coach indicted in steroid flap

BY DAVID KRAVETS AND PAUL ELIAS

Associated Press Writers

SAN FRANCISCO — The steroids investigation that track coach Trevor Graham helped touch off by mailing a syringe of a designer drug to federal agents three years ago landed right back where it started: with him.

Graham was charged Thursday with three counts of making false statements to federal agents in an indictment issued by the grand jury investigating performance-enhancing drugs in professional sports.

Graham, whose star pupils included Marion Jones, Tim Montgomery and Justin Gatlin, faces a maximum penalty of 15 years in prison and a \$750,000 fine if convicted. He was summoned to appear for arraignment Nov. 16 in U.S. District Court.

He operates Raleigh, N.C.-based Sprint Capitol USA, a team of about 10 athletes that includes Gatlin, the 100-meter

co-world record holder who tested positive for testosterone and other steroids in April.

Graham also coached sprinters Jones, who won five medals at the 2000 Sydney Games, and her ex-boyfriend, Montgomery, formerly the world's fastest man. He was suspended from competition for two years, although he never has tested positive for a banned substance.

Three years ago, Graham anonymously mailed a syringe containing "the clear," a previously undetectable steroid to the U.S. Anti-Doping Agency. At the 2004 Athens Olympics, Graham acknowledged mailing the drug, saying: "I was just a coach doing the right thing at the time." He did not say why he turned in the syringe or how he got the material.

According to the indictment, Graham lied to federal investigators in 2004 when he told them he didn't provide his athletes with performance-enhancing drugs.

It said he obtained those drugs from a person identified only as "Source A" and that he "provided them to athletes he

was coaching and also referred athletes he was coaching to Source A to obtain illegal performance-enhancing drugs directly from Source A."

Although the indictment did not identify "Source A," The New York Times reported in July that former Mexican discus thrower Angel Guillermo Heredia, who worked with Graham, told the grand jury he supplied performance-enhancing drugs to the coach and many of his athletes, including Montgomery, Jones and her ex-husband C.J. Hunter, and sprinter Michelle Collins.

Graham was granted immunity for his cooperation but not from prosecution for making false statements, prosecutors said.

"Today's charges demonstrate this office's ongoing commitment to investigate and prosecute not only those involved in the illegal doping of our nation's athletes, but also those who lie to federal agents involved in a criminal investigation," San Francisco U.S. Attorney Kevin Ryan said.

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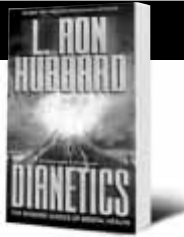
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Murder charges are filed after deadly fire

BY GILLIAN FLACCUS

Associated Press Writer

RIVERSIDE, Calif. — Like the fast-moving flames that spawned it, an intense investigation has quickly produced potential death-penalty charges alleging an auto mechanic intentionally set a huge Southern California wildfire that killed five firefighters and 10 other blazes that had gone unsolved since early summer.

Just a week after the wind-driven fire overran the U.S. Forest Service engine crew defending a mountain home, Riverside County prosecutors filed a wide-ranging arson and murder case against 36-year-old Raymond Lee Oyler and called the unspecified evidence overwhelming.

Oyler and his family were stunned by the sudden development, said defense attorney Mark McDonald.

"They're all completely in shock," McDonald said after Oyler's arraignment.

Oyler, a stocky man with short hair and tattoos from wrists to elbows and on his neck, appeared in court in handcuffs and a jail jumpsuit. He faced away from the gallery as McDonald denied all charges and two special circumstance allegations on his behalf.

Oyler, who said nothing during the brief proceeding before Judge Janice McIntyre, waived his right to a preliminary hearing within 10 days. He remained held without bail. A case conference was set for Dec. 15.

"He adamantly denies involvement in this fire and in any of these fires," McDonald said outside court. "He's very distraught and scared. ... The finger is pointing at him."

Oyler, who has a months-old baby girl and works as an auto mechanic, was being held in the county jail's extra-security ward for high profile inmates, McDonald said. He did not say who was caring for the baby. Oyler's relatives stayed away from the arraignment on the attorney's advice.

"He's almost catatonic," McDonald said. "He's listening to what I tell him and agreeing. He's scared to death."

The case against the Beaumont resident was brought one week after the so-called Esperanza fire was ignited amid fierce Santa Ana winds and became a firestorm that eventually charred more than 60 square miles in the San Jacinto Mountains and adjacent areas in Riverside County, about 90 miles east of Los Angeles.

Oyler was arrested Tuesday for investigation of two June fires. Authorities initially

said he was not a suspect, but a "person of interest" in the Esperanza fire. But Thursday morning he was charged with five counts of first-degree murder, 11 counts of arson, 10 counts of use of an incendiary device and two so-called special circumstances, one alleging murders committed during arson and another alleging multiple murders.

McDonald, who was a Riverside County prosecutor before becoming a defense attorney, told reporters he was concerned about the speed with which the case progressed.

"On it's face, when someone goes from being a 'person of interest' to being formally charged with five murders in 24 hours, it makes eyebrows raise," he said. "I'm very concerned about a rush to judgment."

Authorities are looking at Oyler in connection with at least 40 arson wildfires in the area since May, including the 11 charged, said an official involved in the investigation who requested anonymity because the case is continuing.

Investigators are also looking at a 1998 fire in the San Jacinto Mountains that burned more than 24,000 acres. The Mount Edna Fire had a similar burn pattern as the Esperanza blaze, the source said. The pilot of a firefighting aircraft died in a crash during that blaze.

McDonald said he did not believe his client had been questioned in any arson cases until the Esperanza fire.

Authorities wouldn't say what led them to Oyler, who has a minor criminal record.

District Attorney-elect Rod Pacheco, however, told a press conference that the evidence against Oyler was "overwhelming."

The criminal complaint details 11 counts of arson in Riverside County, including seven fires in June, one in July, one in September and two in October, including the Esperanza fire.

"It is important to note that the charges we are filing today include the possibility that life in prison without the possibility of parole is one possible sentence, as well as death," Pacheco said.

A decision on whether to seek life in prison or the death penalty will be made in the next 60 days, "but only after a careful and sober review of the evidence, the defendant's background, and the particular nature and circumstances of this case," Pacheco said.

The impact of the firefighters' deaths on family and friends will also be considered, he said.

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Candidates made to squirm in final forum

SQUIRM NIGHT, from page 1

deserved consideration at many levels, since the pier is considered historic and would, therefore, need to be reviewed by the Landmarks Commission.

The commission's review delayed camera installation by two weeks.

"In the meantime, a child was shot and murdered," event planner and candidate Jenna Linnekens piped in.

McKeown, the target of a lucrative attack ad campaign on behalf of the owners of two beachfront hotels, was put on the hotseat more than his fellow hopefuls. Mann, who was seated next to McKeown, repeatedly took issue with the incumbent, addressing McKeown a number of times. McKeown, meanwhile, returned the favor by using his allotted question of another candidate to call out Mayor Bob Holbrook for not objecting to the negative ad campaign.

As expected, the recent negative campaigning between candidates on the Santa Monicans for Renters' Rights slate and Santa Monicans for Sensible Priorities came to light.

McKeown, who was blasted in several commercials funded by Beverly Hills-based Edward Thomas Management Company, which owns Shutters on the Beach and Casa del Mar hotels, asked if Holbrook would repudiate the negative campaigning and SMSP's support.

The Edward Thomas Management Company has made close to \$400,000 in donations to SMSP, which has endorsed Holbrook and candidate Terry O'Day. SMRR endorsed McKeown, Gleam Davis and Councilwoman Pam O'Connor.

It's fair to point out someone's voting record, as the commercials do with McKeown's history on addressing homelessness in the city, Holbrook said. After all, the Santa Monica Police Officers Association did so four years ago when it pointed out in advertisements that Holbrook did not vote for an additional 20 police officers, he said.

Holbrook finished answering his question without repudiating the support and said he would do so if the claims in the commercial were false. In response to criticism that he

had avoided an answer to the question, Holbrook turned to McKeown and said, "will you repudiate SMRR?" drawing a cheer from a small portion of the audience.

Candidates also had a chance to put in their own two cents about negative campaigning, as well as stump for whom they would like to serve on the council with among the candidates on the dais.

Terence Later, an entertainment consultant, said he has been the subject of accusations that his posters around town must have been funded by special interests when they were paid for by him.

Supporting his fellow endorsee in the SMSP slate, Holbrook said he would like to see O'Day, an environmental executive, elected alongside with him. O'Day returned the favor to Holbrook and added O'Connor to his list.

Linda Armstrong, a data entry operator, said she wishes City Council seats would increase and feels all the candidates are qualified to serve.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEBATE

The two-and-half-hour forum was split into five rounds: In round one, each candidate gave their introductions; in round two, the candidates answered questions prepared by the SMDP editorial staff; in round three, candidates answered preselected questions from the audience; round four saw each candidate ask another candidate one specific question; and in round five, candidates gave their closing statements, during which they were asked to choose what candidates they would like to see elected.

The lack of affordable housing for the middle class, an overdeveloped Santa Monica and traffic congestion were three of the most controversial issues discussed.

One way to address the traffic situation is to construct parking structures on the outskirts of town, Later said.

The issue of expensive homes is related to the congestion in the city around 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. said Real Estate Agent Mark McLellan, adding the workforce in Santa Monica is forced to commute to the city because they cannot afford the homes here.

"We're having an erosion of the middle class," McLellan said. Linnekens echoed similar concerns. The city has been so

focused on low-income residents, it has forgotten about the middle class, she said.

"I believe that Santa Monica is working very hard and doing an exceptional job catering to low-income residents," Linnekens said.

The way to preserve the middle class is to create a wide variety of housing. The definition of affordable housing can include people of all income classes, even residents many would consider to be rich, said Davis, a corporate attorney.

Mann, a flight attendant and substitute teacher, suggested there is a City Hall bias towards wealthy residents. It took over a year for Mann, who lives in Ocean Park, to get a building permit, yet homeowners north of Montana Avenue seem to receive permits frequently, he said.

High property values is the main challenge to affordable housing, said McKeown, a longtime renter. Since there are no vacant lots in Santa Monica, a new development means demolishing an old building.

"To take out something in a neighborhood means a real loss," McKeown said.

DOWNTOWN VIBE

In regards to the increase in mixed-use developments in downtown Santa Monica, O'Day called it a sign of a vibrant community. A downtown filled with mixed-use condominiums and apartments creates a sustainable community because it encourages more pedestrian rather than vehicular traffic.

What has taken shape in the city is something Santa Monicans can feel good about, O'Day said.

There are two main problems with the increase in low-income housing development in Santa Monica, Holbrook said. The first problem lies in the review process, in that residents do not have an opportunity to weigh in on proposals.

The second problem is that many low-income housing developments are not mixed use, causing the city to lose out on business tax revenue.

The incumbents were called out on their voting record during their last term.

See SQUIRM NIGHT, page 16

Santa Monica Daily Press

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The likes of Swingers kick it up a notch at night

LATE-NIGHT EATS, from page 1

to Northern California," Stats said.

The restaurant tends to liven up after midnight and die down around 3:30 a.m., when even the late-night diners typically call it a night. Izzy's menu includes numerous entree options, but the most popular items late at night come from the breakfast menu.

For cheap eats, late-night diners like to pay a visit to Tommy's Original World Famous, 1900 Lincoln Blvd., to feast on the famous chilli-topped monster burgers alongside a mountain of chili cheese fries. The burger and fries often appeal to partyers who just spent the lion's share of their night downing spirits.

After the dinner crowds disperses, Swingers at 802 Broadway becomes one of the hippest places to late-night wine in dine in the city. The restaurant attracts a younger crowd — mid- to late-20s — who like the fact the restaurant is open until 3 a.m. during the weekend and 2 a.m. on weekdays.

"I wanted to come and decompress rather than go home."

DAVID MARTELL
SWINGERS CUSTOMERS

"Night and day here are completely different," said Supervisor Katie Kocis.

The restaurant is a favorite for customers who just soaked up the bar and club scene and want to feast at Swinger's, where waffles is a favorite late-night selection.

"They're always a favorite of drunkards at night," Kocis said.

At night, the ambiance of Swingers changes, as the lights dim and the music is turned up.

"The diner has kind of a funky neighborhood cafe feel, but at the same time, has an edgy feel," Kocis said.

When the clock struck 11:30 p.m. on Thursday, 41-year-old David Martell waltzed into one of his favorite late-night

spots, taking a seat at the Swingers counter. Martell had arrived from the Wiltern Theatre, where he saw a concert by Cheap Trick, and decided Swingers was the perfect place to top off a rockin' evening.

The Santa Monica resident frequents Swingers about once a week, chatting up the waitresses and enjoying the local scene.

Martell's favorite waitress, or his "fiancé" as he affectionately calls her, asked him what he would like to order.

"The world is my oyster," he replied with a smile.

Martell opts for some hot chocolate.

"I wanted to come and decompress rather than go home," Martell said.

MELODYH@SMDP.COM

YOUR VOTE FOR PUBLIC SAFETY



Kevin McKeown would like to see crime reduced to zero in Santa Monica. Kevin's strong leadership and support of the Police Department's efforts has helped the City to achieve the current record low crime rate. Mr. McKeown brings global and fresh ideas to the council, which has resulted in more rounded decisions. He is our City's representative to the Westside Cities Council of Governments and he is a strong supporter of our schools, parks, playgrounds, and youth programs. Kevin is an education consultant and a 30-year resident in the City of Santa Monica.



Pam O'Conner Santa Monica needs a strong, experienced person on the City Council and Pam O'Conner is that person. During her 12 years as a Santa Monica City Council Member she has made public safety one of her highest priorities. During her tenure, she fully supported the Police Department's efforts to reduce crime, which has resulted in the lowest crime rate in 40 years. Pam has always voted to enhance public safety and believes in providing the police department with the necessary resources to better serve the Santa Monica Community. Ms. O'Conner is also a strong supporter of our schools and she understands that education is the key to a young person's success.



Bob Holbrook Mayor Holbrook has lived in Santa Monica all of his life and is a product of the Santa Monica School District. Bob has a great deal of historical knowledge on this city and has utilized that wisdom to make crucial decisions that have benefited the city. Mayor Holbrook is a devoted supporter of the Police Department and has made public safety his very highest priority. Bob's strong leadership has contributed to the significant reduction of crime in Santa Monica.

Paid for by: Santa Monica Police Officers' Association for a better Community Treasurer: Mohamed Marhaba, PAC ID 1225785

CAST YOUR VOTE. The most precious right we have as citizens is to participate.
VOTE FOR THE PUBLIC SAFETY CANDIDATES - VOTE ON NOVEMBER 7

VOTE No

No on Measure Y

No ☒

Measure Y will make adult, personal marijuana use the lowest law enforcement priority for the Santa Monica Police Department. Codifying the priority below "barking dog calls", "report calls", and "parking calls" will interfere with the department's ability to guarantee the quality of life that Santa Monica residents have come to expect. Police officers need every tool at their disposal to uphold the law, including marijuana misdemeanors.



VOTE YES

Phil Angelides
for Governor

YES ☒

John Garamendi
for Lieutenant Governor

YES ☒

Jerry Brown
for Attorney General

YES ☒

Julia Brownley
for 41st State Assembly District

YES ☒

Yes on Measure V

YES ☒



This November 2006 ballot measure, which includes exemptions for low-income property owners and renters, provides for a parcel tax which will be used to implement and finance a portion of the city's Watershed Management Plan to protect the health and cleanliness of Santa Monica Bay. Keep Santa Monica Safe and Clean.



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A Dead art form

Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

Dean Schneider (center), 16, shows his artwork to his mother, Laurie Jacoby, at Roberts Art Gallery during the opening reception of the Day of the Dead Exhibit in Santa Monica High School on Thursday. The show — consisting of ceramics, drawings, wire and plaster sculptures — runs through Nov. 17, by appointment only. Roberts Art Gallery, located at the high school, is the oldest gallery in Santa Monica, dating back to 1937.

Candidates on defensive

SQUIRM NIGHT, from page 14

The SMDP editorial staff asked O'Connor why she decided to vote for the citywide smoking ban during the second hearing, when she voted against the measure the first time around.

The vote during the second hearing was basically a confirmation of the sentiments of the rest of City Council, O'Connor said, defending her decision. It was not a philosophical vote, but rather a procedural gesture for other council members who felt strongly about the smoking ban.

Though it is a City Council race, educational issues also managed to creep in.

Armstrong said she would like to see every Samohi student with a B average guaranteed admission to the University of California system. Though power over the University of California is out of the purview of Santa Monica City Council, Armstrong said she would continue to fight for guaranteed public university admission for Samohi students.

Davis defended her run for City Council even though she has made public education a cornerstone of her campaign. The school board has a very limited role in implementing educational issues such as early childhood education and parenting classes, she said.

"I believe City Council is exactly the place for someone who cares for education as passionately as I do," Davis said.

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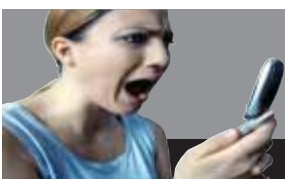
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Santa Monica Mayor Robert Holbrook
Santa Monica Mayor Pro Tempore Bobby Shriver
Santa Monica City Councilwoman Pam O'Connor
Santa Monica City Councilman Kevin McKeown
Santa Monica City Councilman Richard Bloom

Santa Monica City Councilman Ken Genser
Santa Monica City Councilman Herb Katz
Judy Abdo, Former Santa Monica Mayor
James Conn, Former Santa Monica Mayor
Paul Rosenstein, Former Santa Monica Mayor
Nat Trives, Former Santa Monica Mayor
Denny Zane, Former Santa Monica Mayor

For more information on Measure V go to: www.VoteYesOnV.com

Friends of Safe and Clean Santa Monica Beaches / Yes on Measure V ID# 1290628. Yolanda Miranda, Treasurer



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Hangin' five

Max Morgan, 18, a student at Santa Monica College, surfs the web on his MacBook while kicking back on campus this week.

Fabian Lewkowicz fabianl@smdp.com

Breathe easy, friends

SMOKING FOR DUMMIES, from page 1

"The main way it7 will be enforced will not be by the police or park rangers, but by fellow residents reminding smokers of the law, maybe by pointing to a sign or letting (smokers) know about the rules we have here in Santa Monica," Radinsky added. "Staff will be working very hard to get the word out. We want to make this transition to be as smooth as possible."

Besides protecting the public from the deadly effects of second-hand smoke, now labeled a toxic air contaminant by the U.S. Surgeon General, the law was intended to make smoking so difficult and socially unacceptable that people will be forced to kick the habit. In time, supporters of the ban hope smoking will no longer be seen as cool so kids won't get hooked.

If Proposition 86 passes, raising the tax on cigarettes to \$2.60 per pack, smoking may become too expensive for many anyway.

SNUFF SAID

But let's not get ahead of ourselves. Until all that government mumbo-jumbo happens, here are a few tips to keep smokers out of trouble and breathing easy

Before anyone can light up, they must know where they are still allowed to do so. Under current law, smoking is prohibited inside all public buildings, bars and restaurants, public parks, the beach, and portions of the Santa Monica Pier.

Once the ban goes into effect, smoking will no longer be allowed along the Third Street Promenade or at any of the Farmers' Markets. Smoking will also be prohibited in all outdoor dining and services areas — bus stops, ATM lines, information kiosks, theater lines — and within 20 feet of any entrances or windows.

"That's crazy," said Ryan McClain, a resident of Venice, who was drinking coffee and smoking a cigarette outside a Starbucks on Main Street — one of the areas that will pose the greatest challenge for smokers. "How are you going to really know you're 20 feet from an entrance without actually measuring it? It sounds like a trap to ticket people."

The safest bet for those smoking on Main Street, Montana Avenue or other heavily traveled corridors is to look for a

nearby alley or side street where there are private homes with deep setbacks.

The alleys, in particular, are going to be key for smokers. With lighting up no longer allowed along the promenade and within 20 feet of entrances open to the public, smoking on the street in any business district is now almost impossible to do legally. Hitting the alley may prove a partaker's best bet. Luckily, Santa Monica is full of them. Some may stink, however, one can smoke without worry.

While on the promenade, smokers should hit a side street and look for stores with large display windows. As long as they're not open, spark up.

Parking garages are great places to quiet a nicotine fit, as is the Woodlawn Cemetery on Pico Boulevard, and a fountain on the corner of Olympic and Cloverfield boulevards near Ralphs and the Water Gardens — that is if one doesn't mind sharing a smoke or two with a few down-and-out nicotine fiends.

"This is a great spot to just sit and have a cigarette," said a man who would only identify himself as "Tim." "You have the water fountain here that's kind of relaxing, a lot of Palm trees providing shade. You can watch all the traffic go by."

"It's pretty entertaining and no one seems to bother you."

Olympic Boulevard and other streets home to the city's old industrial corridor are still littered with large, warehouse-like buildings that have few entrances, giving a smoker space to puff without perturbation.

The same cannot be said for dense retail pockets on Montana Avenue and other commercial corridors. There, smokers have to be creative.

"I guess I'll just jump in my car and smoke, that way I'll be off the sidewalk and out of the way, not bothering anyone," said Cynthia Slaughter, a 23-year-old who loves browsing the boutiques.

But be warned, window shopping itself could get you busted. Passing through a restricted area will no longer be allowed.

"It's going to be tough," Slaughter said. "I'm sure the first year people are going to be breaking the law all the time, but I think after a while it will just become second nature."

"And if it helps me quit, I guess that's a good thing."

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Endangered lynx’s shooting has wildlife officers seeking clues

By The Associated Press

DENVER — A lynx, a threatened and federally protected species officials are trying to reestablish in Colorado, was found shot to death in the woods of southwestern Colorado.

State wildlife officers found the 9-year-old male lynx near Durango Mountain Resort on Thursday. They began looking for the cat in late October when its radio collar sent a special signal indicating that it was likely dead because it wasn’t moving.

The lynx was caught in Canada in 2000 and released in southwest Colorado as part of the Colorado Division of Wildlife’s efforts to restore the long-haired mountain cat to the state.

“We are hoping that an observant sportsman might have seen something that can help us solve this crime,” said Patt Dorsey, DOW wildlife manager in Durango. “It’s possible that this is a mistake or an accidental kill and there is a regretful person out there who would feel better making this right.”

The lynx is the 10th found shot since the DOW began releasing the animals in 1999. Division spokesman Joe Lewandowski said

 ON THE NET

Colorado Division of Wildlife:
<http://wildlife.state.co.us/>

it’s believed that five more lynx were shot, but officers couldn’t be sure because of the condition of the carcasses.

Lewandowski said the penalties for killing a threatened species included a fine of \$10,000 or more and jail time.

The DOW tries to educate hunters about the differences between lynx and bobcats, which are smaller and have reddish rather than gray fur. Lynx also have distinctive ear tufts.

About 200 lynx are believed to be roaming Colorado’s southern and central mountains. The cats transplanted from Alaska and Canada have had several kittens.

This summer, biologists reported finding kittens born to a Colorado-born lynx, boosting hopes that the lynx will develop a self-sustaining population.

Lynx were wiped out in Colorado by 1973, victims of trapping, poisoning and development.

121: one to one ADN: any day now AFAIK: as far as I know AFK: away from keyboard **A/S/L: age, sex, location**
B4: before B4N: bye for now BAK: back at the keyboard BBIAB: be back in a bit BBL: be back later BBN: bye
bye now BBS: be back soon BEG: big evil grin **BF: boyfriend** BFN: bye for now BG: big grin BL: belly laughing
BMTIPG: brilliant minds think in parallel gutters BRB: be right back BTA: but then again BTW: by the way
BWL: bursting with laughter BWTHDIK: but what the heck do I know C&G: chuckle & grin CID: crying in
disgrace CNP: continued (in my) next post CP: chat post CRBT: crying real big tears CSG: chuckle, snicker,
grin CU: see you CUL: see you later CYO: see you online DBAU: doing business as usual DIKU: do I know
you? DL: dead link DLTBBB: don’t let the bed bugs bite DQMOT: don’t quote me on this EG: evil grin EMFBI:
excuse me for butting in EMSG: email message EOT: end of thread F2F: face to face FC: fingers crossed
FISH: first in, still here FMTYEWTK: far more than you ever wanted to know FOMCL: falling off my chair
laughing FTBOMH: from the bottom of my heart FUD: fear, uncertainty, and doubt FWIW: for what it’s worth
G2G: got to go G: grin GA: go ahead GAL: get a life GD&R: grinning, ducking, and running GF: girlfriend GFN:
gone for now GIWIST: gee, I wish I’d said that GMBD: giggling my butt off GMTA: great minds think alike
GOL: giggling out loud GTRM: going to read mail GTSY: glad to see you H&K: hug and kiss HAGN: have a good
night **HDOP: help delete online predators** HHIS: hanging head in shame HTH: hope this helps HUB: head up
butt IAC: in any case IANAL: I am not a lawyer (but) IC: I see IDK: I don’t know IHA: I hate acronyms IIRC: if I
remember correctly ILU: I love you IM: instant message IMHO: in my humble opinion IMNSHO: in my not
so humble opinion IMO: in my opinion IOW: in other words IPN: I’m posting naked IRL: in real life IWALU: I
will always love you IYSWIM: if you see what I mean JIC: just in case JK: just kidding JMO: just my opinion
JTLYK: just to let you know K: okay KIT: keep in touch KOC: kiss on cheek KOL: kiss on lips KOTC: kiss on the
cheek KWIM: know what I mean? LBR: later LD: later, dude LDR: long distance relationship LLTA: lots and
lots of thunderous applause **LMIRL: let’s meet in real life** LMSO: laughing my socks off LOL: laughing out
loud LSHMBB: laughing so hard my belly is bouncing LTM: laugh to myself LTNS: long time, no see LTR: long-
term relationship LULAB: love you like a brother **LULAS: love you like a sister** LUWAMH: love you with all
my heart LY: love you M/F: male or female MOSS: member of same sex MOTOS: member of the opposite sex
MSG: message MTF: more to follow MUSM: miss you so much NADT: not a darn thing NIFOOC: naked in front
of computer NP: no problem NRN: no reply necessary OIC: oh I see **OLL: online love** OM: old man OTF: off
the floor OTOH: on the other hand OTTOMH: off the top of my head P2P: peer to peer PDA: public display of
affection PBCAK: problem exists between chair and keyboard PLZ: please PM: private message PMFJIB:
pardon me for jumping in but POAHF: put on a happy face **POS: parent over shoulder** PU: that stinks QT:
cutie RL: real life ROTFL: rolling on the floor laughing RPG: role playing games RSN: real soon now S4L:
spam for life SETE: smiling ear to ear SHCOON: shoot hot coffee out of nose SHID: slaps head in disgust SF:
surfer friendly SNERT: snot nosed egotistical rude teenager SO: significant other SOMY: sick of me yet? SOT:
short of time STW: search the web SWAK: sealed with a kiss SWL: screaming with laughter SYS: see you soon
TA: thanks again TCOB: taking care of business TCOY: take care of yourself TIA: thanks in advance TILLI: tell
it like it is TMI: too much information TOY: thinking of you TTYL: talk to you later UW: you’re welcome WB:
welcome back WFM: works for me WIBNI: wouldn’t it be nice if **WTGP: want to go private?**
WTG: way to go WU: what’s up WUF: where are you from? YBS: you’ll be sorry YL: young lady YM: young man

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Jobless rate at 4.4 percent, lowest in five years

BY JEANNINE AVERSA

AP Economics Writer

WASHINGTON — The unemployment rate sank to a five-year low of 4.4 percent and workers' wages grew solidly last month, flashing a picture of a jobs market on firm footing as voters go to the polls.

Figures released Friday by the Labor Department suggested that employers are coping fairly well with a national economy that has lost a lot of momentum due to the housing slump.

Still, pockets of pain were evident. The struggling auto industry slashed jobs. So did companies involved in home building, as well as furniture makers — casualties of the sour housing market. Retailers continued to pink-slip employees.

All told, the economy added 92,000 new jobs in October. Although that fell short of economists' expectations for an

increase of around 125,000, gains in both August and September turned out to have been much stronger.

For those two months combined, the economy generated 139,000 more jobs than previously estimated, and that eased the sting from October.

So did the drop in the unemployment rate, from 4.6 percent in September. It marked the third month in a row that the rate had declined.

Republicans and Democrats looking for help in Friday's report — the last snapshot of the employment scene before next week's elections — clashed about which party would do a better job taking care of the country's broader economic and fiscal health.

"Tax cuts have led to a strong and growing economy, and this morning we got more proof of that," President Bush said at a Republican rally in Springfield, Mo.

House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi of California fired back: "Bush's handling of the economy is not good for America's middle-income families." Democrats argue the Bush's tax cuts mainly helped the wealthy, and they blame his trade policies for the country's bloated trade deficits and the loss of U.S. factory jobs.

How voters view job availability, wage growth and other economic conditions is likely to play a role in the balloting nationwide on Tuesday.

The president's approval rating on the economy is at 40 percent, according to an AP-Ipsos poll. And those surveyed trusted Democrats more than Republicans to handle the economy.

Workers, many of whom have seen their wages whittled by inflation, saw solid gains last month. Their hourly earnings climbed to \$16.91, up 0.4 percent from September. Over the past 12 months, wages have grown by 3.9 percent.

Re-Elect

Mayor Bob Holbrook
Council Member Kevin McKeown
and Council Member Pam O'Connor
to the Santa Monica City Council!



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Bob Holbrook



Council Member
Kevin McKeown



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Ballots to be flown to a battered Maui

WAILUKU, Hawaii — Voters isolated by earthquake and flood damage on Maui will be casting their general election votes Saturday using ballots flown in by helicopter.

The ballots will be sealed in envelopes and counted on Tuesday.

The foundations of Paihi Bridge were ready to collapse following two earthquakes and torrential rains in mid-October. County Civil Defense officials decided to block pedestrians and motorists from using the bridge — cutting the towns of Kipahulu and Kaupo off from the rest of Maui.

There are about 80 voters in the remote area, said Shirley Magarifuji, a county clerk official, though some of them have already voted by mail.

Two staff members with county clerk's office will fly into Kipahulu by private helicopter to assist in the voting.

The county plans to replace the Paihi Bridge with a temporary steel bridge, but it is not yet installed.

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Political system flush with cash hedges bets

BY JIM KUHNHENN

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Wealthy Americans and legions of small donors are helping finance an onslaught of last-minute political advertising and a fierce voter turnout drive over the next three days, closing out a midterm election that is projected to cost more than \$2.6 billion.

Candidates, the national parties and advocacy groups are pumping millions of dollars into a few dozen House and Senate contests that could rearrange the nation's political power structure.

All this money has contributed to one of the greatest saturation of political and issue ads on television. Combined with money spent on ads for governor races and scores of ballot initiatives in the states, the spending on congressional advertising will exceed \$2 billion this year, more than was spent in the 2004 presidential election.

The influx of money has had its share of surprises.

The parties, particularly the Democrats, have adapted remarkably well to a 2002 campaign finance law that many thought would render them irrelevant. Democrats and Republicans have tapped a new vein of small donors, and have taken advantage of higher contribution limits to squeeze more money out of the ultra-rich.

Strikingly, the Democrats have used a late burst of fundraising to close a Republican cash advantage and to expand their hunt for competitive races. The rush of cash has also quieted an internal squabble over money between Democratic National Committee Chairman Howard Dean and the heads of the party's two campaign committees.

At the same time, challengers have raised more money, putting Republican incumbents at risk. And political action commit-

tees set up by labor, business and ideological groups have made a resurgence, raising hundreds of millions of dollars to target specific congressional races.

One thing is for sure. While the 2002 campaign finance law, known as McCain-Feingold, banned unrestricted donations from labor, corporations and the wealthy to the political parties, it did not reduce the amount of money in the political arena.

"The money would have increased no matter what," said Steve Weissman, associate director at the Campaign Finance Institute, which tracks money in politics.

Evan Tracey, chief operating officer at TNSMI/Campaign Media Analysis Group, a company that tracks political advertising, noted that candidates can now solicit twice as much money from individual contributors as they could in 2002.

"Salaries didn't double, rents didn't double, cell phones didn't double, so you have more money to go to the largest campaign item, which is paid media," Tracey said.

The pace of fundraising and spending reflects the closeness of this year's election. Democrats need a net gain of 15 seats to win control of the House and six seats to regain control of the Senate.

As of Oct. 18, the six main committees of the two national parties had raised about \$770 million and House and Senate candidates had raised \$1.14 billion, according to the Federal Election Commission. And they have continued to raise and spend money since.

In 38 House districts deemed competitive, Republican incumbents have raised an average of about \$2.5 million each and their Democratic challengers have raised an average of about \$1.6 million. More surprising is the Democratic advantage in the 14 competitive races for open House seats now held by retiring Republicans.

Tough first day: Former Dow exec met by pickets

BY PEGGY ANDERSEN

Associated Press Writer

SEATTLE — The region's new Environmental Protection Agency administrator — a former Dow Chemical executive — was greeted by about two dozen protesters Monday, her first day on the job.

Activists raised concerns about Elin Miller's 1996-2004 stint at Dow and her subsequent work with Tokyo-based pesticide maker Arysta LifeScience.

"EPA has a responsibility to protect the community and an appointment like this reflects their unwillingness to so," said Jeri Sundvall-Williams, executive director of the Environmental Justice Action Group, in a joint news release from activist groups. It's an example "of the fox guarding the henhouse," she said.

"We know the public and EPA are not always going to agree on everything. We want people to know they're being heard," agency spokesman Mark MacIntyre said of the demonstration.

Miller also served as chief deputy of California's Department of Pesticide Regulation and in 1995 was named to head California's Department of Conservation, which oversees oil and gas production.

Environmentalists are also concerned about some reshuffling in the office of civil rights and environmental justice for the EPA's Region X, which covers Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Alaska. That office traditionally handles such issues as cleanup of an industrial site in a poor neighborhood, where residents are concerned about exposure.

MacIntyre said two of the three people in the office — the two who focused on environmental justice — are being moved to the office of ecosystems, tribal and community affairs.

"That's the best fit for that job. People in that unit are already working on service to communities, working with farmworkers on pesticides and other issues," MacIntyre said. The civil-rights person will remain in the office of management programs, where the three-member unit had been based.

"We understand what people are saying ... but we feel pretty strongly that the way we're going to be organizing the office of environmental justice will make the effort stronger, not weaker," MacIntyre said.

But B.J. Cummings of the Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition in Seattle declared, "They're closing the office and scattering the staff to different programs. ... It's an entirely different level of commitment."

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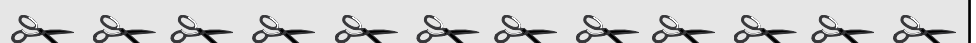


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Scandal is erupting in Nevada campaign

BY SCOTT SONNER

Associated Press Writer

RENO, Nev. — Nevada's race for governor was barely a contest at all until it took a scandalous turn a few weeks ago, when a cocktail waitress accused Rep. Jim Gibbons of trying to sexually assault her in a parking garage after a night of drinking just off the Las Vegas Strip.

The lurid allegations in the closing weeks of the campaign have put the race back in play and put the one-time Republican front-runner on the defensive. Policy issues have taken a back seat to dueling news conferences, a burgeoning criminal investigation and a mystery over what exactly is on the parking garage's surveillance video.

Gibbons, a conservative five-term congressman from Reno and the only member in the House to have served in both the Vietnam and Persian Gulf wars, had held a nine-point lead in September over liberal Democrat Dina Titus, a state lawmaker and political science professor at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas.

In a possible measure of how much damage the scandal has done, President Bush is headed to Nevada for the second time in a month, with a speech scheduled Thursday in Gibbons' solidly Republican congressional district.

"Certainly the race must be tighter than they anticipated because it should have been a cakewalk ... for Gibbons and now we have the president coming to Elko," said Fred Lokken, a Republican and political science professor at Truckee Meadows Community College in Reno.

It was three weeks before Election Day when 32-year-old Chrissy Mazzeo made

three 911 calls after leaving a Las Vegas restaurant where she had been drinking with a friend, the married congressman, his top adviser and others. Alternately breathless and laughing, the single mother who works at the Wynn Las Vegas hotel-casino told police that Gibbons grabbed her arms and tried to force himself on her.

Gibbons told police it "didn't happen." He said he walked Mazzeo toward her truck and helped her catch her balance after she tripped at the garage entrance. At a news conference with his wife at his side, insisted he had behaved like "an officer and a gentleman."

Mazzeo dropped the complaint the day after the alleged incident and told police it was because she did not want to start a media circus and "because of who he is."

But last week, Mazzeo, having retained a lawyer, called a news conference to claim she was threatened, pressured and offered money through an intermediary to change her story. Mazzeo said the intermediary was a friend who told her that her life was in danger and "if you don't drop this, Chrissy, they will kill you, your baby and your family."

Gibbons called the remarks defamatory and outrageous. Gibbons' lawyer, Don Campbell, called her an "exceedingly troubled young lady," and her friend, a Republican who had been part of the group in the bar, said "she needs to strongly consider seeking professional help."

When Mazzeo initially dropped her complaint, police said there was not enough evidence a crime was committed, largely because there were no witnesses and video surveillance cameras were not working.

More than 40 are arrested for running smuggling ring

BY ARTHUR H. ROTSTEIN

Associated Press Writer

TUCSON, Ariz. — Authorities arrested more than 40 people accused of operating a smuggling ring that brought at least hundreds of illegal immigrants into the country and laundered their profits, officials said Monday.

The 44 arrests culminated a two-year investigation into what officials said was a family-run ring operating out of the tiny southern Arizona town of Bowie, east of Tucson.

Officials said a grand jury handed down a 50-page, 728-count indictment earlier this month accusing 55 people of being involved in the scheme. Many of those arrested are American citizens, officials said. Eleven suspects, including at least five Mexican nationals, remained at large Monday.

About 175 agents and law enforcement officers fanned out to 31 locations in Bowie to carry out the arrests and serve search warrants.

The indictment charged that members of the "Juarez Alien Smuggling Organization" were involved in a conspiracy to transport and harbor illegal immigrants and to launder money for profit that they obtained and gained in their criminal enterprise.

The organization "was involved in numerous states and internationally, bringing people into our country unlawfully," said Paul K. Charlton, U.S. attorney for Arizona.

After smuggling fees were received by Western Union wire transfers — picked up by paid third parties to help conceal the transactions — the organization arranged to deliver immigrants across the country, said John Lewis, the FBI special agent in charge in Arizona.

It also recruited young women to smuggle migrants' infants through ports of entry, posing as their mothers, while the parents were being smuggled through the desert separately, Lewis said.

Authorities said those indicted include the alleged ring leader, Pablo Esteban Juarez, 31; his wife, Lori Gutierrez Juarez, 30; ring enforcers, guides who walked people across the border, drivers who transported illegal immigrants and "money runners" who picked up smuggling fees.

There were no telephone listings for Juarez or his wife in Bowie.

Officials said each migrant was charged between \$500 and \$800 to be smuggled from the Mexican community of Agua Prieta to Bowie. They would be charged more — typically around \$2,000, and sometimes even higher — to be moved from a stash or drop house in Bowie to their destination.

"This network organized, housed, fed, guided and transported large numbers of illegal aliens across the border," Charlton said.

Palestinian women help to free gunmen

BY YAKUB RALWAH

Associated Press Writer

BEIT HANOUN, Gaza Strip — Hundreds of Palestinian women in robes and head scarves streamed into a Gaza combat zone Friday to help free gunmen besieged by Israeli troops at a mosque. Two women who came under fire were killed and at least 10 wounded, but some gunmen managed to escape.

The women, many with ties to the Islamic militant group Hamas, left their homes after daybreak in response to appeals on the local Hamas radio station or telephone calls from friends and relatives. By nightfall, they were celebrated as heroes, an unusual role in a deeply conservative society that tends to keep women on the sidelines. Until Friday, battling Israeli troops had been men's business in Gaza.

The mosque standoff came on the third day of Israel's fiercest bid in months to halt Palestinian rocket fire on Israeli border communities. The offensive began Wednesday, when Israeli forces took over the northern Gaza town of Beit Hanoun, close to the border with Israel.

In all, 35 Palestinians have been killed in Gaza since Wednesday, including 17 on Friday. Among those killed Friday were the two women protesters, a 16-year-old boy, two medics and at least 10 militants. Most of the deaths Friday were a result of a series of Israeli air strikes after sundown. In the deadliest hit, five Palestinians were killed in an Israeli strike in the Jebaliya refugee camp.

The army said the strikes targeted militants trying to plant explosives or launch rockets.

The Beit Hanoun sweep is different from previous Israeli incursions into Gaza, a senior Israeli military official said. Rather than staying on the outskirts of populated areas, troops are going house to house in Beit Hanoun, sometimes breaking through inner walls to cut down on exposure to gunmen.

In another new tactic for Gaza, troops have rounded up hundreds of men for questioning, releasing most of them but detaining dozens, the army official said. On Friday evening, for example, soldiers ordered men between the ages of 16 and 46 in Beit Hanoun's Al Masri neighborhood to report to the local agricultural school for questioning.

In the most dramatic episode of the Beit Hanoun incursion, dozens of Palestinian gunmen, many from Hamas, took cover in the town's Al Nasser Mosque on Thursday and were quickly surrounded by Israeli forces. The two sides exchanged fire throughout the night. An army bulldozer knocked down an outer wall of the mosque, causing the ceiling to collapse.

On Friday morning, Al Aqsa Radio, the local Hamas station, broadcast appeals to women to come to the rescue of the trapped gunmen. Hundreds responded, many of them Hamas supporters. The women

marched toward the mosque, coming under Israeli fire at times, and approached armored personnel carriers and bulldozers near the mosque.

Volleys of shots were fired toward them, sending the group rushing toward a nearby wall for cover, according to Associated Press Television News footage. In all, nearly 60 shots were heard on the footage, but it was not clear in every case who fired.

Two women, both age 40, were shot and killed, and at least 10 others were wounded, hospital officials said.

One of the wounded was Tahrir Shahin, a 36-year-old housewife. She said that after hearing the radio appeal, she left her seven children sleeping at home and set out for the mosque, an hour's walk away, with her sister. En route, a bullet hit Shahin's left leg; it had to be amputated above the knee.

Still, she said, she did not regret her choice. "I was so upset about what was happening, so I answered their call," she said from her hospital bed.

Maj. Avital Leibovich said Hamas was exploiting women. "They were using those poor women as human shields," she said. "This is a clear example of use of innocent population for terror."

The army said the gunmen inside the mosque took advantage of the demonstration to escape because there were not enough infantrymen to block the women from approaching the building, and troops did not want to shoot into the crowd.

The army said troops spotted two militants hiding in the crowd of women and opened fire, hitting the two.

As the women rushed away from the scene, at least two men disguised in women's clothes were seen in the crowd. Jubilant bystanders embraced them, celebrating their escape.

Prime Minister Ismail Haniyeh of Hamas "saluted the women of Palestine ... who led the protest to break the siege of Beit Hanoun." Haniyeh urged U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan to witness firsthand "the massacres of the Palestinian people," and appealed to the Arab world to "stop the ongoing bloodshed."

Loudspeakers across Gaza called on people to come to demonstrations after Friday prayers to express solidarity with Beit Hanoun. Tens of thousands representing various Palestinian factions massed in streets throughout the coastal strip.

The army said Beit Hanoun was targeted because it was a major staging ground for rocket attacks. But Israeli officials have said the takeover of the town did not signal the start of a wider-scale military offensive in Gaza.

Militants have been undeterred by the offensive, however, and have continued firing rockets, including four that landed in southern Israel on Friday, slightly wounding two people.

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SURF REPORT



SURF CONDITIONS

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he SW should back off to waist high. The WNW though is expected to build a bit with chest high sets becoming more frequent. Conditions remain questionable as winds will likely continue to trend onshore, picking up quite early in the morning. The tide too is looking like a doosey, pushing nearly 7 feet early on.

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QUICK STATS

Number of sewage spills -- 1

Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0

Number of wet days -- 0

Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 37 / 45

Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 10 / 45

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LOCATION	DRY	WET	LOCATION	DRY	WET
Los Camillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Bel Air Bay Club drain near fence	A+	ns
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Palga Canyon storm drain	A+	ns
El Pescador State Beach, between Locks and Los Aliso creeks	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Teneccal Canyon drain	A+	ns
Enchanted Canyon at El Matador State Beach	A+	ns	Will Rogers State Beach at Santa Monica Canyon drain (Chautauqui)	A	ns
Broad Beach at Torrance Creek mouth	A+	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Montana Ave. drain	D	ns
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth	A+	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Wilshire Blvd. drain	F	ns
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildfire Rd. (private)	A	ns	Santa Monica Municipal Pier	F	ns
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth	A	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Pico/Kanter storm drain	A	ns
Escalanda Creek, just east of Escalanda State Beach	A	ns	Santa Monica Beach at Strand St. (in front of the restaurants)	A+	ns
Ladiga Canyon Creek mouth	A	ns	Green Park Beach at Ashland Ave. drain	A	ns
Selkirk Canyon at San Benito County Beach	A+	ns	Venice City Beach, at the Raze Ave. storm drain	A+	ns
Puerto State Beach at creek mouth	A+	ns	Venice Beach at Brooks Ave. drain	A+	ns
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerto Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	F	ns	Venice Beach at Windward Ave. drain	A	ns
Serfider Beach at Malibu Colony fence	A	ns	Venice Fishing Pier - 50 yards south	A+	ns
Serfider Beach (beach location)- daily	F	ns	Venice Beach- projection of Topaz St.	D	ns
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	A	ns	Marina del Rey, Mothers' Beach - Hesperoid tower	C	ns
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Ballona Creek mouth	A	ns
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zone)	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Culver Blvd. drain	A	ns
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs	D	ns	North Westchester Storm Drain at Dockweiler State Beach	A	ns
Pico Creek at Los Angeles County Beach	A+	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at World Way (south of D&W jetty)	D	ns
Terra Canyon	ns	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Imperial Hwy drain	A	ns
Tapanga State Beach at creek mouth	A	ns	Dockweiler Beach- opposite Hyperion Treatment Plant	A	ns
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	F	ns	Dockweiler State Beach at Grand Ave. drain	A	ns
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	A+	ns			
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain)	A+	ns			

LEGEND

DRY -- each location is graded on an A -- F scale based on bacterial pollution levels present in the surf zone

WET -- grades for days of recorded rainfall and the following 3 days

ns -- no sample taken



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FOOTBALL

Old pals Harris, Carroll in different situations

BY ANNE M. PETERSON

AP Sports Writer

Stanford's Walt Harris and USC's Pete Carroll are about as familiar as two coaches can be without being related.

As an assistant at the University of Pacific in the early 1970s, Harris recruited Carroll, a defensive back. Carroll's father showed Harris home movies of his son during the process.

"Way back then it was a great time, and he was a tremendous player," Harris said.

The two then coached together with the New York Jets from 1992-94, with both being assistants the first two seasons. Carroll was head coach and Harris an assistant the third year.

Harris also coached Carroll's son, Brennan, a tight end, at Pittsburgh.

Now in his second year at Stanford after eight years at Pitt, Harris has had a rocky season. The Cardinal are 0-8, 0-5 in the Pac-10. They join Duke and Florida International as the nation's only winless Division I-A teams.

Stanford has gone winless only three times before, most recently an 0-10 mark in 1960.

Harris hosts old pal Carroll and the Trojans on Saturday. USC will be looking to rebound from its 33-31 loss last weekend to Oregon State.

"We haven't played well as a team yet this season, so that's our focus. We can't worry about Southern California," he said.

The loss snapped USC's 27-game Pac-10 winning streak. The Trojans (6-1, 4-1) had also won 18 straight road games.

USC, ranked No. 3 in The AP poll going into last Saturday's game, dropped to No. 9 on Sunday. In the Bowl Championship Series standings, Southern California dropped from No. 3 to No. 8.

So far, Carroll said, his players aren't hanging their heads.

"Right now the response has been right on the mark and focused," Carroll said.

And he sympathizes with his old friend's situation up on The Farm.

"It can't be any harder," Carroll said.

BASKETBALL

Cuban to Stern: 'I've seen the light. I was so wrong!'

BY JAIME ARON

AP Sports Writer

DALLAS — Mark Cuban is ready to do whatever David Stern wants. Really. Honestly.

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"I'm reborn," the owner of the Dallas Mavericks said Thursday night during his usual pregame workout. "It's no longer Mark Cuban, the benefactor. It's Mark Cuban, David Stern disciple. And I say that with all seriousness. ...

"I used to spend a lot of time trying to really learn the details and the numbers, doing a lot of research, because I was cynical and skeptical. I've lost all that cynicism and skepticism. It's all gone. Sarcasm? There's no sarcasm."

Cuban spoke for nearly 30 minutes before Dallas' 97-91 loss to San Antonio in the season opener, explaining how eager he is to comply with Stern's new guidelines for team owners.

The more he talked, the less sincere he seemed.

"Now I have new aspirations beyond winning the title in the NBA, and that's to fit in and be like everybody else," Cuban said.

"They're smarter, they're better, they're prettier, in better shape, they have nicer teeth."

The latest round of the Cuban-Stern saga started when Cuban learned of Stern's plan to impose a list of dos and don'ts for owners. It's already being calling the Cuban Rule.

Following a meeting he intentionally avoided, Cuban said the league sent an e-mail saying "non-coaches or personnel are not allowed in the huddle or in the proximity of the huddles."

It did not specifically say owners, nor was

he used as an example. Still, there's no doubt he was the target.

Cuban vows following orders will be easy.

"I'll just keep a little diary," he said. "If I get that old urge to yell at the officials, I'll just write it in the diary at the end of the night, just purge all that anxiety because I know that they'll fix it. Everybody's human, everybody makes mistakes. But they'll fix it. They're that good."

Cuban noted his huddle time led to the hiring of Avery Johnson as Dallas' coach. Johnson went from Mavs player to assistant coach to the NBA's coach of the year last season, his first full one in charge, when he also got Dallas to the finals for the first time.

"It's just one of those accidental benefits," Cuban said. "The law of unintended consequences, I guess."

Cuban said he sent Stern an e-mail about it all. He's yet to receive a reply.

"He doesn't have to," Cuban said. "I just know. We've got that bond now."

Cuban has been a thorn to Stern since buying the Mavericks in 2000.

Although he turned one of the league's laughingstocks into a top franchise, the Internet billionaire has been fined at least \$1.2 million for complaining to and about officials and pulling other stunts. Dallas players and coaches fear they suffer from the backlash, with star Dirk Nowitzki saying he'd like Cuban to tone down his act.

Yet Cuban remains the center of attention.

In the last week, he's released a study by physics professors showing problems with the league's new synthetic balls, revealed that plans for a satellite radio show were squashed by NBA people who didn't want him to have such a format and had publicized the threat of a \$6 million lawsuit by former Mavs coach Don Nelson over money promised by the team's previous owners.

But it was questions about the Cuban Rule that unleashed his "Yes, sir, Mr. Stern" shtick.

Cuban said he's ready to learn from other owners.

A real downer ‘Titanic’ starlet admits film was a sad episode

The release of the blockbuster that made her a household name, “Titanic,” should have been a happy time for **Kate Winslet**. Instead, she was mourning the loss of her first love, Stephen Tredre.

“Looking back, I see what I was dealing with when ‘Titanic’ came out,” the 31-year-old actress says in Sunday’s Parade magazine. “I had a lot of pain, and I was confused about

who I was.”

The Britain-born Winslet, who’s married to director Sam Mendes, met Tredre in London when she was 15 and he was 28. “He was the most important person in my life, next to my family,” she says of Tredre, who worked as a TV writer and actor.

“I was very shy,” she says. “I was vulnerable ... Other girls teased me horribly. I was bullied. I’d just put my

head down and get on with it. That was my means of survival. Stephen made me feel secure and embraced.”

Tredre was diagnosed with bone cancer in 1994, and died three years later during the opening week of “Titanic.” The two had ended their relationship but “talked every day,” she says. “This was not somebody I’d turn my back on.”

His death was “unbelievably heartbreaking,” says Winslet, who went on to star in such movies as “Eternal Sunshine of the Spotless Mind” and “Finding Neverland.”

She found love anew with Mendes, 41, whom she wed in 2003. The two have a 2-year-old son, Joe, and Winslet has a 6-year-old daughter, Mia, from her first marriage (to James

Threapleton).

“I believe in fate,” she says. “I know it sounds corny, but it was like Sam and I were from the same tribe. We were meant to meet: Both of us from Reading, both born in the same tiny hospital, Dellwood.

“Then suddenly, years later, this totally gorgeous, sexy, talented man is in my life? That’s fate.”

Associated Press

Burstyn’s blink was big hit

Ellen Burstyn was just as flabbergasted as everyone else when she heard she’d been nominated for an Emmy this year for her blink-and-you-miss-it role in the TV movie “Mrs. Harris.”

In an interview with AP Radio, the 73-year-old Academy Award winner spoke publicly for the first time about her Emmy nod: “When they told me I was nomi-

nated for that I went, ‘What, are you kidding?’”

Burstyn’s cameo in “Mrs. Harris” lasted 14 seconds, with her speaking a total of 38 words.

“I thought it was fabulous,” she said. “My next ambition is to get nominated for seven seconds, and, ultimately, I want to be nominated for a picture in which I don’t

even appear.”

Her nomination drew the ire of those who felt she hadn’t logged enough screen time to deserve it. Last August, Burstyn wound up losing the Emmy to her “Mrs Harris” co-star, Cloris Leachman.

“The brouhaha around it, you know, they tried to reach me for a statement,” she recalled. “I said,

‘This doesn’t have anything to do with me. I don’t even want to know about this. You people work it out yourself.’”

Burstyn, who has starred in such as movies “The Exorcist” and “The Last Picture Show,” won a best actress Oscar for her role in 1974’s “Alice Doesn’t Live Here Anymore.”

AP

Simmons is drawn to kids

Hip-hop mogul **Russell Simmons** wants to get children and their parents animated about voting, so he’s appearing in a short cartoon to make his case.

The film, produced by the

educational company BrainPOP, explains the basics of voting and encourages children to push their parents to the polls next Tuesday. In one scene, Simmons, 49, shows up at the

home of a family that includes a robot named Moby and helps wake up the parents to tell them to vote.

“Just remind them of all the taxes they pay every April,”

Simmons tells Moby.

The cartoon, which lasts about five minutes, will be shown in schools throughout the country.

AP

Busta busted for rapping

Trouble has found **Busta Rhymes** again.

The rapper, who’s had other run-ins with the law, was caught talking on his cell phone while driving past a Manhattan police station, police said Friday.

Rhymes, whose legal name is Trevor Smith, was cruising past a police station about 7 p.m. Thursday when police allegedly

spotted him on the cell phone.

He was pulled over and issued a summons for the moving violation. His management office declined to comment Friday.

Last month, the best-selling rap star appeared in court on an assault charge for allegedly attacking a man who spit on his car in August. He is due back in court in that case on Dec. 11.

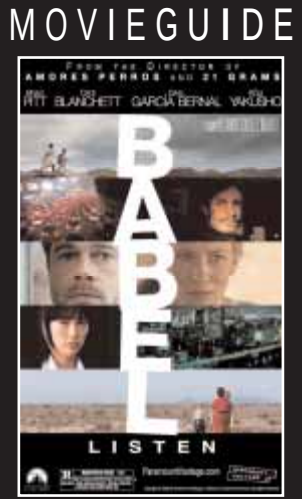
In another case involving the unsolved shooting death of his bodyguard Israel Ramirez in February, Rhymes has refused to be questioned by police as a potential witness. Police say Rhymes, 34, has made no effort to help identify the killer. The shooting occurred outside a music video taping in Brooklyn.

AP

The rapper’s most recent album was the “The Big Bang,” released earlier this year, featuring the hit “Touch It.” Rhymes has had a stream of hits throughout his career, which spans more than a decade, including “Put Your Hands Where My Eyes Could See” and “Dangerous.” He’s also been in films, including 2000’s “Shaft.”

AP

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DIRECTOR: Alejandro González Iñárritu
STARRING: Brad Pitt, Cate Blanchett, Gael Garcia Bernal, Koji Yakusho, Elle Fanning
GENRE: Drama
RATING: R for violence, some graphic nudity, sexual content, language and some drug use.
RUNTIME: 143 minutes

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Babel (R)
5:30, 6:30, 7:30, 8:45, 9:45, 10:45
Saw III (R)
5:40, 8:10, 10:50

AMC 7 SANTA MONICA
1310 3rd Street
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The Departed (R)
5:25, 8:00, 9:00
Flags of Our Fathers (R)
5:15, 8:10, 11:00
Flushed Away (PG)
5:45, 8:20, 10:30
Marie Antoinette (PG-13)
5:20, 8:15, 10:55
The Santa Clause 3: The Escape Clause (G)
5:30, 7:55, 10:20
Saw III (R)
5:35, 6:30, 9:20, 11:10

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Catch a Fire (PG-13)
7:15, 10:00
The Last King of Scotland (R)
7:10, 9:55

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Little Children (R)
7:20
Little Miss Sunshine (R)
7:50
The Queen (PG-13)
7:15, 8:15

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Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan (R)
5:30, 7:00, 7:50, 9:20, 10:10, 11:30, 12:30am
Man of the Year (PG-13)
7:10, 10:00
The Prestige (PG-13)
7:20, 10:30
Running With Scissors (R)
7:30, 10:20
Tim Burton's The Nightmare Before Christmas in Disney Digital 3D (PG)
6:50, 9:00, 11:20

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Difficulty
BRONZE

				2	9	4		
1	2				3			5
	9					1		
				9		6	4	7
		7	4		6	3		
9	4	6		5				
		9					1	
3			9				7	8
		2	5	1				

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GETTING STARTED

There are many strategies to solving Sudoku. One way to begin is to examine each 3x3 grid and figure out which numbers are missing. Then, based on the other numbers in the row and column of each blank cell, find which of the missing numbers will work. Eliminating numbers will eventually lead you to the answer.

SOLUTIONS TO LAST PUZZLE

4	5	2	9	7	8	3	6	1
8	3	6	2	4	1	7	9	5
1	7	9	6	3	5	2	4	8
6	2	5	7	1	4	8	3	9
3	1	4	8	5	9	6	2	7
7	9	8	3	2	6	1	5	4
9	6	1	4	8	2	5	7	3
5	4	3	1	6	7	9	8	2
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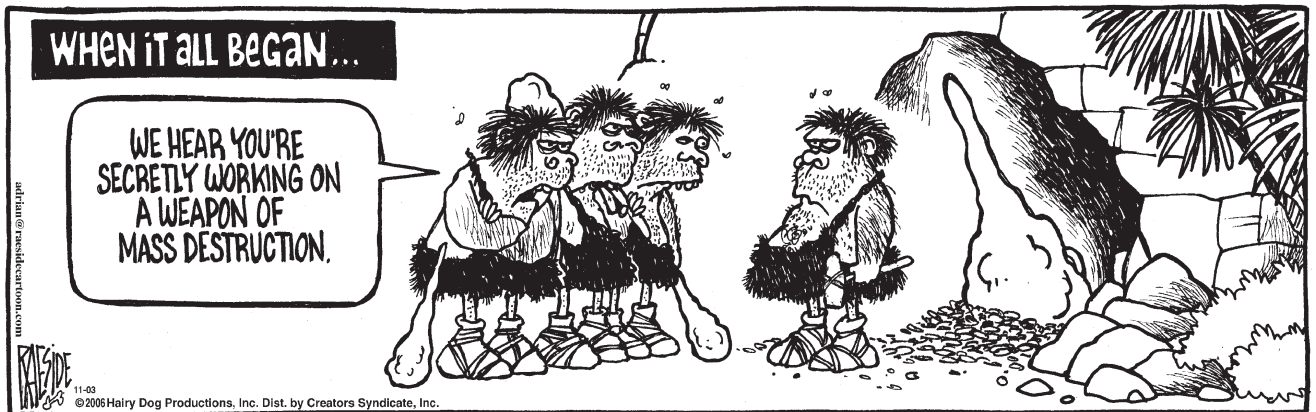
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



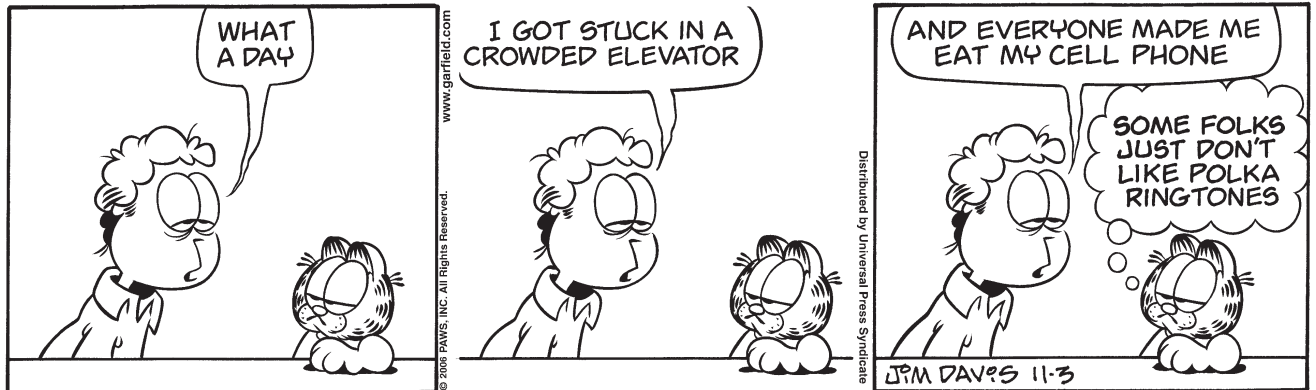
The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside



Garfield

By Jim Davis



Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson



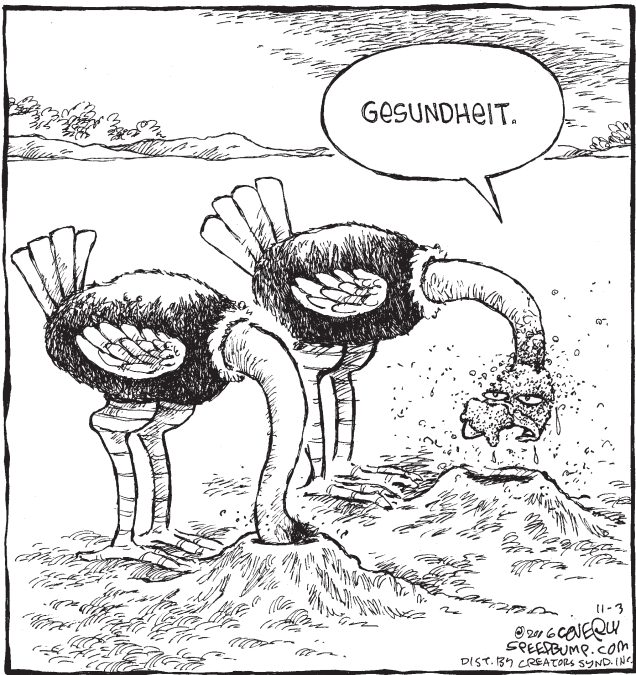
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 - 15 Slug
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 - 18 Castle circler
 - 20 Personnel head, at times
 - 22 Mom's command
 - 23 Indone-sian island
 - 26 Hawke of film
 - 28 Garden pest
 - 29 2000 Super Bowl champs
 - 31 Wrap up
 - 32 Leslie Caron film
 - 33 Meringue base
 - 34 Taj Mahal site
 - 36 Active one
 - 38 Yorkshire city
 - 40 Provinces
 - 43 Designer Geoffrey

- 44 Pageant topper
- 45 Crooked
- 46 Fight

- DOWN
- 1 Nogoodnik
 - 2 Brewery output
 - 3 Anthony Quinn movie
 - 4 Dawn
 - 5 Stagger
 - 6 Slop slurper
 - 7 Piled up
 - 8 Joe E. Brown movie
 - 9 Hindu hero
 - 10 Police vest initials
 - 16 Greek T
 - 18 Come together
 - 19 Promise
 - 21 Yule, in ads
 - 23 Unex-pected problem
 - 24 Call up
 - 25 Says further
 - 27 Daughter of Minos
 - 30 Central
 - 33 Spine-tingling
 - 34 Jessica of "Sin City"
 - 35 Turns right
 - 37 Stable diet
 - 39 Put in stitches
 - 41 Cunning
 - 42 — Paulo

A	R	E	A		M	A	C	R	O	N
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11						12				
13						14				
		15			16		17			
18	19				20	21				
22				23					24	25
26			27			28				
29					30			31		
		32					33			
34	35				36	37				
38				39		40			41	42
43						44				
45						46				

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NEEDS SPACE with electric hook-up for 22 ft. camper \$300/exchange for P.A. duties/landscaping. (310)404-9145

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SANTA MONICA \$1825/mo 2bdrms/1.5bath french-style chateau courtyard apartment, parking, laundry-on-site, controlled access building (310)395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

SANTA MONICA \$2550/mo 3bdrm/2bath Hardwood Floors, dishwasher, balcony, central heat, large private patio (310)395-RENT www.westsiderentals.com

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6 MO./6 MO. ARM	5%
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Notices

NOTICE OF PETITION TO ADMINISTER ESTATE OF JOHN WILLIS FINCH

Case No. BP101254

To all heirs, beneficiaries, creditors, contingent creditors, and persons who may otherwise be interested in the will or estate, or both, of JOHN WILLIS FINCH

A PETITION FOR PROBATE has been filed by U.S. Bank, N.A. (successor-in-interest to Santa Monica Bank) in the Superior Court of California, County of LOS ANGELES.

THE PETITION FOR PROBATE requests that U.S. Bank, N.A. be appointed as personal representative to administer the estate of the decedent.

THE PETITION requests the decedent's will and codicils, if any, be admitted to probate. The will and any codicils are available for examination in the file kept by the court.

THE PETITION requests authority to administer the estate under the Independent Administration of Estates Act. (This authority will allow the personal representative to take many actions without obtaining court approval. Before taking certain very important actions, however, the personal representative will be required to give notice to interested persons unless they have waived notice or consented to the proposed action.) The independent administration authority will be granted unless an interested person files an objection to the petition and shows good cause why the court should not grant the authority.

A HEARING on the petition will be held on Nov. 28, 2006 at 8:30 AM in Dept. No. 11 located at 111 N. Hill St., Los Angeles, CA 90012.

IF YOU OBJECT to the grant-ing of the petition, you should appear at the hearing and state your objections or file written objections with the court before the hearing. Your appearance may be in person or by your attorney.

IF YOU ARE A CREDITOR or a contingent creditor of the deceased, you must file your claim with the court and mail a copy to the personal representative appointed by the court within four months from the date of first issuance of letters as provided in Probate Code section 9100. The time for filing claims will not expire before four months from the hearing date noticed above.

YOU MAY EXAMINE the file kept by the court. If you are a person interested in the estate, you may file with the court a Request for Special Notice (form DE-154) of the filing of an inventory and appraisal.

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Notices

of estate assets or of any petition or account as provided in Probate Code section 1250. A Request for Special Notice form is available from the court clerk.

Attorney for petitioner:
GEORGE E STEPHENS JR ESQ
SBN 33663
PAUL HASTINGS JANOFSKY & WALKER LLP
515 S FLOWER ST 25TH FL
LOS ANGELES CA 90071
Santa Monica Daily Press
CN763275 17554 Nov 3,4,10, 2006

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'04 Acura RSX 2DR Hatchback-Red \$17,988
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Vehicles for sale



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Stock #: P609
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'04 Hyundai Santa Fe LX 24,759 Mi, Champagne, Pristine (759782)
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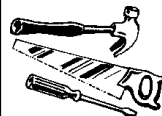
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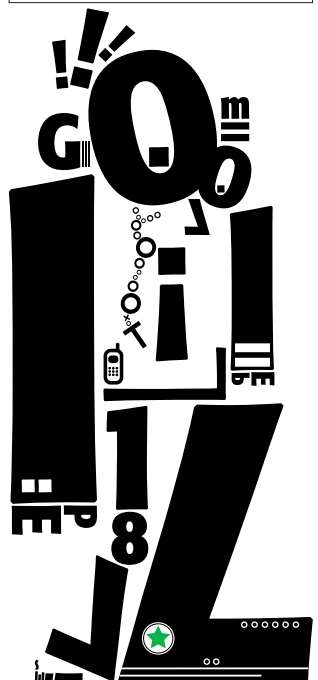
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