FREE

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2002 Volume 1, Issue 314

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

For Christ's sake



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

Bob Britt, of Rapid City, SD., paints the front of the Archer House, located at 245 Hill St. Britt belongs to NOMADS (Nice Old Methodists Always Doing Something) — a group who spends three weeks volunteering their time to help United Methodists churches maintain their properties. The group will be in Santa Monica until Nov. 15 fixing up the 104-year-old home where Rev. Sandie Richards of the Church at Ocean Park lives.

Cash-strapped city could approve millions in projects

(Editor's note: This is part of an ongoing series that tracks the city's expenditures appearing on Santa Monica City Council consent agendas.)

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON
Daily Press Staff Writer

Millions of dollars will be spent tonight with only one vote required by the Santa Monica City Council.

From building new bathrooms at city parks, to leasing a new building for a temporary library and replacing Main Street's sewer system, the Santa Monica City Council is expected to approve more than $8 million worth of public improvements at its meeting tonight.

Five items on the consent agenda total approximately $9 million, with about half being paid for by the Federal Emergency Management Agency funds stemming from the 1994 Northridge earthquake.

But $4.4 million will come from Santa Monica, which is facing an $18 million budget shortfall next year. All of the expenditures are payments to outside construction and consulting firms.

Consent agenda items are routinely passed by the city council with little or no discussion from elected officials or the public. However, many of the items have been part of public discussion in the past.

The council also is expected to authorize city staff to negotiate the purchase of a 33,700-building at 1751-1753 Cloverfield Boulevard. If the council authorizes the negotiations, the acquisition will be discussed publicly in the future. Although there is no use identified for the building, staff has suggested that it could be used for social services programs.

The largest item scheduled for approval on the consent agenda is for Main Street's sewer rehabilitation and roadway restoration projects, which is set to begin after the holiday season and last through May of 2003.

While the federal government is putting $4.4 million toward the project, the city is paying $2.5 million to line portions of the city with new sewer pipes and repave Main Street. After the Jan. 17, 1994 earthquake, the city accepted $78 million from FEMA to repair damaged sewer systems throughout Santa Monica.

The Ocean Avenue and Main Street projects include lining portions of the system with 30- to 39-inch diameter sewer pipes and rehabilitating maintenance structures on Colorado and Ocean avenues, Pico Boulevard and Main Street, plus the repaving of Main Street from Pico Boulevard to the southern city limit.

The second largest expenditure on tonight's consent agenda involves designing a retrofit construction proj-

See PROJECTS, page 5

Harbor patrol officers become heroes

Fisherman falls off pier, rescued by harbor officers

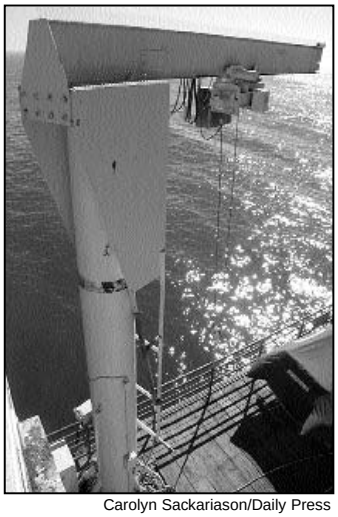
BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON
Daily Press Staff Writer

Two officers of the Santa Monica Harbor Patrol saved a man's life this past weekend after he apparently fell off the pier and into the choppy waters of the Pacific Ocean.

Shortly after 3 a.m. Saturday, an allegedly intoxicated fisherman, fell off the north side fishing deck of the Santa Monica Pier. Two harbor patrol officers, Jaime Morado and Donald Davis, immediately jumped into the ocean and rescued the man, who was being violently thrashed about in high surf, and dangerous and stormy conditions.

The 24-year-old Latino man, whose identity is unknown, attempted to hug one of the pier's pilings, but couldn't because the rough surf made it nearly impossible. Instead, the man was slammed against the piling, slashing his forehead open, according to police reports.

"The first thing people realize is that they can't swim and they try to grab the pilings," said Santa Monica Police Department Sgt. Steve Heineman. "But the pilings are nothing short of razor blades."



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

A hoist on the Santa Monica Pier used what is called a "stokes basket" to carry a man to safety after he fell off the pier and into the Pacific Ocean early Saturday morning.

It's estimated the man was in the approximately 58-degree water for about 15 minutes, but once harbor patrol officers were alerted by a citizen that he had fallen in, they had him out with five minutes.

"If they hadn't been quick he would have died for sure," said harbor officer David Finley. "There was a storm coming in, three to five foot waves, 58 degree water and it's a 20-foot drop."

Complicating matters, the man was drunk and fully clothed, according to police.

Officer Morado located the man just east of the fishing decks. The officers gave the fisherman a rescue tube and led him to the catwalk at the end of the pier. But because the man was apparently inebriated and suffering from hypothermia, he was unable to climb the ladder, police said.

With the assistance of responding officers and lifeguards, a mechanical hoist with a basket attached on the end pulled the man to safety. He was transported to Santa Monica-UCLA hospital, where police said he was treated for a contusion to his forehead and hypothermia.

Restaurateur pays $35K for rare, 2.2-pound mushroom

By staff and wire reports

It's no trifle of a truffle.

A Los Angeles restaurateur made a record purchase Sunday of a mushroom at a Santa Monica restaurant.

Joe Pytka, 64, a restaurateur and director of television commercials, spent $35,000 on an enormous, 2.2-pound white truffle — an exotic mushroom grown in Italy and prized by gourmets around the world.

Pytka made the purchase during the fourth annual charity truffle auction known as Asta Mondial del Tartufo Bianco d'Alba. It was the largest ever paid for

See TRUFFLE, page 5

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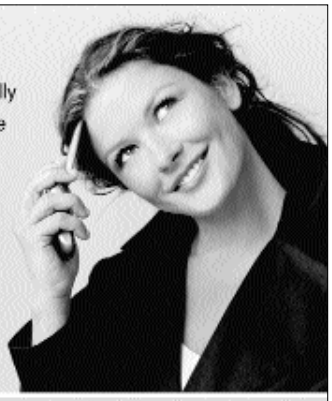
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JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

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

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

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★ Take your time making decisions. You might not always be comfortable with what is going on right now, but commenting on it might be about all you can do. Your softness could be a deal maker. Let others know that you understand. Tonight: Do your thing.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Aim for more of what you want. Do something special for a friend and/or partner. Your ability to touch others deeply needs to come out more often. Help ease others' daily stresses. Use caution with spending right now. Tonight: Lead your friends out the door. No more couch potato!

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ Your even ways help stabilize news or gossip. In a conversation, you toss in yet another perspective, which is akin to dousing cold water on raging feelings. No one will resent your calmness; they actually will welcome it. Assume a leadership role. Tonight: Leader of the gang.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ You'll get a glimpse of others that few do, if you observe more. A child or loved one really does need your attention. Don't allow an associate to put you off or cause you a problem. Use your resourcefulness. Find solutions. Tonight: Rent a movie on the way home.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ An associate thinks he or she has all the answers. The truth is, this person might. Let others run with the ball. Everyone might be a lot happier if they feel more competent. Unexpected developments surround a friend. Tonight: Togetherness works.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ Emphasize work first. Clear out as much as you can, because by midday a stream of friends and associates suddenly seek you out. Juggling everyone and everything could have your hands full. Understand what others really want, not what they are asking for. Tonight: Out and about.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Your imagination takes you in a new direction. How anchored do you think your ideas are? Test them out on someone else who can appreciate your uniqueness. Spending money on a loved one feels right. Start your holiday shopping. Tonight: Get some exercise.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Your charm emerges without you even trying. Note the way others dote on you or take a different approach. Dig into your resourcefulness if you're trying to find a way to let others know what you want. Call a loved one for a work break. Tonight: Play away.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ Talk about ideas. Brainstorm. This morning proves more successful if you lighten up about your dealings. Accept additional work in the afternoon. Your perspective about decisions made in the a.m. could be quite different later on. Tonight: At home.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Deal with money matters first. Others will listen. Renew contact with others in the afternoon. If someone hasn't returned your call, don't take it personally. Make communication happen. Make what you want work. Tonight: At a favorite spot.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Your smile draws many. Don't push too hard to get others to agree with you. Realize your limits when dealing with finances, especially with the holidays coming up. A boss praises your performance. Willingly put in overtime. Tonight: A must appearance.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Use the morning to your benefit. Stop pushing so hard to have things tumble your way. If you do, you could be delighted by the end results. Reach out for others. Touch base with a loved one you care a lot about. Tonight: Where the action is.sculptor Auguste Rodin (1840)

QUOTE of the DAY

"I'm impressed with people in Chicago. Hollywood is hype, New York is talk, Chicago is work."

— Michael Douglas

Santa Monica Daily Press

Published Monday through Saturday
Phone: 310.458.PRESS(7737) • Fax: 310.576.9913
1427 Third Street Promenade, Suite #202 • Santa Monica, CA 90401

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Fluoridated water required statewide, despite voter wishes

By staff and wire reports

Santa Monica will not be alone in fluoridating its water supply, as the state will likely mandate such a measure.

While California cities like Redding and Watsonville debated the advantages of fluoridated water in last week's election, state health officials say cities may have no choice in the matter.

State law requires that communities with at least 10,000 water hookups add fluoride to their water systems, although tax money can't be used for it.

But as long as money to buy and install fluoridation equipment is offered, the city must add fluoride, said Dr. David F. Nelson, a fluoridation consultant with the state Department of Health Services.

"The state will ultimately enforce the law," Nelson said.

Plans are underway to design a water treatment system in Santa Monica that will pump fluoride into all of the city's water supply by July of 2003.

The city council in October voted 4-3 to fluoridate the city's water after years of controversy and debate among citizens. Council members Herb Katz, Pam O'Connor, Bob Holbrook and Richard Bloom all voted in favor of the plan. Council member Ken Genser, Mayor Pro Tem Kevin McKeown and Mayor Mike Feinstein voted against it.

Opponents of the plan say fluoride poses significant health risks when ingested and the city government shouldn't force those risks onto the public. They also say fluoride is a toxic compound, presents an increased risk of osteoporosis and causes dental fluorosis.

The council first considered the issue in 2000, but the idea was voted down in November of that year. When the issue was presented again in May of 2001, hundreds of citizens publicly argued for and against such a move. The debate was heated and emotional at times, with people toting along reams of documents to council chambers as evidence supporting the benefits and risks of water fluoridation. Proponents still are trying to fight the city against implementing the plan.

Last week, Redding residents voted to prohibit the city from adding chemicals to its water that aren't approved by the Food and Drug Administration, even though that agency has no jurisdiction over water issues. Redding Citizens for Safe Drinking Water raised questions during the campaign about the safety of fluoride and called fluoridation "mass medication."

"The state will ultimately enforce the law."

— DR. DAVID F. NELSON
Fluoridation consultant

Later that week, the city was offered $1.6 million to fluoridate its water, said Jon Roth, executive director of the California Dental Association Foundation, which funnels grant money from the California Endowment to communities for their fluoridation efforts.

The passage of Redding's Measure A, therefore, is inconsequential, Nelson said. "State law trumps local initiative."

Money for fluoridation has also been offered and accepted by Watsonville residents, who voted on a similar measure last Tuesday.

Fluoride has been used in water systems since 1945 to help prevent dental decay. However, only about one-third of Californians have fluoridated water, compared with nearly two-thirds of all Americans. The state passed its fluoridation law in 1995.

Santa Barbara, Santa Cruz and Modesto also voted down fluoridation but did not receive grant money, so the state won't require them to change over. Meanwhile, cities, including Los Angeles and Sacramento, have accepted grant money and are in the process of fluoridating.

surf report

Information compiled by Jesse Haley

It was great a weekend, and it was a terrible weekend. We had some excellent northwest swell and overhead surf at good breaks, but the rain and wind made the water ruined Friday and Saturday. Hardcore surfers caught some great waves in spite of the sludge in the line-up.

A 72-hour rain advisory is in effect until 8:00 a.m. Wednesday, when water conditions should reach a relatively clean level.

Swell wise, we're seeing the northwest ground swell push father north, increasing the already steep angle to 300 degrees. L.A. County will still see some good surf from the northwester though, especially in the South Bay, where spots like Porto stay in the 3-5 foot range.

The peak of the swell is gone, so size can be expected to gradually decrease.

Tuesday, water conditions will be steadily improving as swell fades further.

Today's Tides:

High-	4:39 a.m.	3.93'
Low-	9:20 a.m.	3.19'
High-	2:25 p.m.	4.29'
Low-	10:11 p.m.	0.33'

Location	Tuesday	Wednesday	Water Quality
County Line	3-4'/Fair	2-3'/Fair	B
Zuma	3-4'/Fair	2-3'/Fair	B
Surfrider	1-2'/Poor	1-2'/Poor	B
Topanga	1-2'/Fair	1-2'/Fair	B
Breakwater	3-4'/Poor	2-3'/Fair	B
El Porto	3-4'/Poor	2-4'/Fair	B

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The Q Line

Last week's election results may have surprised some residents as the majority of the city's voters went status quo by electing three incumbents onto the Santa Monica City Council. Also surprising to many was the living wage law defeat, even though it appeared to have widespread community support.

Some would argue deceptive campaigning affected the outcome of the election. Others will tell you the demographics of the city are changing and there are more conservative homeowners influencing politics here than liberal renters. Election data shows fewer renters went to the polls this year than in recent years.

So this week, Q-Line wants to know:

"Do think Santa Monica's demographics are changing? If so, is it good or bad?"

Call (310) 285-8106 with your response before Thursday at 5 p.m. We'll print them in Friday's paper. Please limit your comments to a minute or less; it might help to think first about the wording of your response.

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LETTERS

Give peace a chance

Editor:

While the threat of weapons of mass destruction in Iraq is formidable, it seems the President and his advisors have not given full thought to the aftermath of military action. Should President Bush choose to attack Iraq it would create a massive humanitarian emergency in that country. Both the people and the economy of Iraq would suffer tremendously with many innocent people getting killed. How would this make us any different than the terrorists we say we are at war with? More attention also needs to be given to developing an exit strategy that will restore law and order in a post-conflict situation before any final decision about whether or not to attack Iraq is made. Should an attack be unavoidable, then an international peacekeeping force should play a central role in reestablishing the rule of law. It seems evident from public opinion not only in the region, but among our allies in Europe, that the ramifications of unilateral action would not serve the purpose of providing this country with more security.

Marguerite R. Spears
Santa Monica

Where are pedestrians safe?

Editor:

A few years ago I complained to the Santa Monica Traffic Division more than once, probably three times. They confirmed my letters saying something would be done about the traffic signals, mainly letting the red light stay in effect longer than 12 or 10 seconds before if changed to green.

That has not happened.

I understand that there are many more motor vehicles than pedestrians, however there are many of us pedestrians that find it an impossibility to cross the street in so few seconds before the light changes in favor of the motorist.

It's especially bad for the elderly people that can no longer run across the street before the signal changes, for the mothers with small children, wheelchair pedestrians, etc.

This situation is very frightening for all of us that have to cross the street.

On the weekends the signals are even less than 10 or 12 seconds. Perhaps, if you inform the Traffic Division again, someone will increase the seconds to 15 before someone is injured or killed. I believe this hazard exists all over the city except the main streets in downtown Santa Monica.

Another hazard for pedestrians are the sidewalk bicycle riders. One does not hear them when they are in back of you, and when in front of you, the pedestrian has to jump out of their way.

By the way, it's against the law to ride a bicycle on the sidewalk, but that law definitely is not enforced. Not enough money in fines I guess. Where is it safe for us pedestrians? Perhaps it would be a good idea to write all this to the LA Times for an editorial, or CBS special assignments and have them put this dangerous situation on the air. We live in a very dangerous world today. Doing something about the traffic lights would make it a little safer.

Jeanette Ross
Santa Monica

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

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LOCAL

Landfill gases may cost Santa Monica millions

PROJECTS, from page 1

ect for parking structure No. 5, located on the west side of Fourth Street between Broadway Avenue and Santa Monica Boulevard.

The council may approve an additional $581,312 onto a contract with a company that's retrofitting two other downtown parking structures. The total contract would be for $1.5 million.

The work may be scheduled to begin in January 2004, shortly after a seismic retrofit construction project on parking structure No. 7 is completed. In that case, construction on parking structure No. 5 will be done by November 2004. However, if design studies show that the work will significantly reduce available parking to 657-space structure, then construction will be scheduled from January 2005 to November 2005, according to the staff report.

Because all of the city's downtown parking structures were damaged by the Northridge earthquake, they all need repairs and seismic retrofitting. Recent cost estimates have shown actual costs will substantially exceed the available funding from FEMA.

Also, city funds totaling $580,076 will be used for improvements to a building at 1324 Fifth Street, which the city has leased for uses as a temporary library. The main library will be closed starting in January so a new one can be built in its place.

City staff has also recommended that $452,755 be spent on building new restrooms at Joslyn Park and remodeling existing ones at Reed Park. The expenditure is part of a city-wide, multi-million dollar project that includes improvements to facilities at eight parks throughout Santa Monica.

A problem with gases generated by a decomposing landfill underneath the city yards and Stewart Street Park, is costing the city $786,310 to pay a consulting firm to operate, maintain and monitor a landfill gas extraction system.

The city has installed and is operating a system to collect and treat landfill gases generated from the former landfill that is now inactive. Because of the complexity and specialized nature of the engineered system, staff believes it needed an experienced consultant provide the services.

Because landfills generate potentially hazardous gases for years, city staff anticipates the system will need to be operated for 10 to 12 years. However, the $786,310 expenditure is only for a three-year contract because staff currently is unable to develop a comprehensive and cost effective scope of what services are needed in the future.

Truffle to be used in dishes prepared by Alain Giraud

TRUFFLE, from page 1

a single truffle.

Pytka bid at Valentino, a restaurant in Santa Monica located at 3115 Pico Boulevard, where 75 other truffle aficionados gathered. All local proceeds from the sale benefit the Jonsson Cancer Center Foundation at University of California, Los Angeles, and the families of 26 Italian schoolchildren who were killed in a recent earthquake in that country.

Pytka, who recently opened the French restaurant 'Bastide' in West Hollywood, said he will use the truffle in a variety of dishes made by chef Alain Giraud.

The rare mushroom caused a spirited bidding war between Pytka, Tony May, the owner of San Domenico restaurant in New York and a dog named Gunther IV, heir to a large German fortune, whose bids were made by owner Maurizio Dial.

The truffle auction was held simultaneously in three places, linked by closed-circuit satellite television.



Photo courtesy Wayne Reese

A closed-circuit satellite television at Valentino, a Santa Monica restaurant, displays Italian television host Massimo Giletti holding the giant 2.2-pound white truffle auctioned Sunday.

May bid from his New York restaurant, where a boisterous crowd of 120 joined the action. Gunther was at the castle of Grinzane Cavour, just outside Alba, which is home to the enormous white truffle. About 350 people were gathered at the castle to participate in the bidding.

Thirty truffles were auctioned off for a total of $126,000.

The appearance of Pytka's truffle on the TV screen brought loud gasps of appreciation from the crowd at Valentino, the Santa Monica restaurant. Most truffles weigh a few ounces. Daniele Bera of Funghi & Tartufi, a truffle store in Alba, said Pytka's truffle was the biggest he had seen in his 17 years in business.

The truffle will be shipped to Pytka and should arrive Tuesday. Pytka's purchase nearly doubled the record-setting $19,000 that Wolfgang Puck, of Spago notoriety, paid last year for a 1.82-pound truffle.

FIND OUT YOUR FORECAST IN TODAY'S HOROSCOPE'S ... PAGE 2

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STATE

California dominates in science, technology leaders

By The Associated Press

SACRAMENTO — Californians dominated a list released by Scientific American magazine Monday of the year's top 50 science and technology leaders.

The first-ever list included 19 California-based organizations, businesses and individuals, contributing more than any other state. Massachusetts, New Jersey and the Washington, D.C., area followed behind California with only a handful of listings each.

"This new list recognizes what we've known all along — that California is the place where the boundaries of human discovery are broken and the future's invented every day," Gov. Gray Davis said.

Topping the list was Dr. Stephen Goff, who was named research leader of the year for his work in rice genomes, sharing the title with three others in the same field. Goff, a researcher at Syngenta's Torrey Mesa Research Institute in San Diego, worked in developing genome maps that are expected to help scientists breed or engineer rice with greater resistance to disease, drought and pests.

Also listed was Assemblywoman Fran Pavley, D-Agoura Hills, under the category of transportation, for her bill requiring the California Air Resources Board to write regulations by 2005 to "achieve the maximum feasible reduction of greenhouse gases."

"The rules of California have often led to changes that have taken place throughout country, and in this case, we particularly admired the standard that Assemblymember Pavley was (setting)," said John Rennie, editor-in-chief of Scientific American.

The list also included a sprinkling of members of the international science community, including Yang Huanming from the Beijing Genomics Institute, who was named alongside Goff, and United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan, for his work to form the U.N. Global Fund to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria.

While Scientific American's Top 50 is not necessarily a definitive list of the world's best, those chosen really stood out to the magazine's editorial board in their contributions this year, Rennie said.

L.A. delegation heads to N.Y. to meet with money managers

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A delegation of Los Angeles business leaders led by billionaire Eli Broad will head to New York City this week in an effort to convince some of the world's biggest money managers to invest in downtown.

The delegation hopes to change perceptions that Los Angeles lacks the energy of a major metropolis hub.

"The downtown area has heretofore been sort of a depressing place," said New York real estate mogul Donald Trump, who recently bought Ocean Trails Golf Club in Rancho Palos Verdes, about 27 miles from downtown. "It needs people. It needs life."

Los Angeles' emissaries think they can change these viewpoints now that downtown is enjoying a boom with the construction of Staples Center, the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angels, Walt Disney Concert Hall and thousands of housing units.

"Lenders should be more comfortable with our city," said Broad, who has contributed millions of dollars to such downtown cultural institutions as Disney Hall and the Museum of Contemporary Art.

But Manhattan-based lenders and investors often think of the heart of Los Angeles as short on substance and style, and they punish downtown by steering their money to cities such as San Francisco and Chicago, which have more of the street life and culture enjoyed in New York, according to Broad and other civic leaders.

Joining Broad on the trip are Tim Leiweke, president of Anschutz Entertainment Group, which developed Staples Center; John Cushman, chairman of real estate services company Cushman & Wakefield Inc.; Los Angeles City Councilwoman Jan Perry; and Carol Schatz, president and chief executive of the Downtown Center Business Improvement District.

The group will make a two-hour presentation to about 50 financiers at a breakfast meeting Thursday at the Plaza Hotel.

Woman attacks baby with syringe

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A woman accused of approaching a 22-month-old boy on a crowded street and pricking him in the ear with a heroin-stained hypodermic needle was sentenced Friday to one year in jail.

Phyllis Marie Johnson, 45, of Los Angeles, entered a no contest plea to child abuse, said Deputy District Attorney Steve Ipson.

Superior Court Judge Frederick Wapner also sentenced her to five years probation and barred her from having contact with any child under the age of 11 during that period. He also ordered her to enter drug rehabilitation and seek counseling.

Johnson was arrested April 27 on a downtown street after she was accused of injuring the toddler, who was with his mother. Witnesses told police they saw Johnson approach the boy and then walk away. When the boy began rubbing his ear and crying, his mother saw Johnson and notified security bike officers, who contacted police.

As the guards approached, Johnson threw a hypodermic syringe into the street, Ipson said. The syringe later tested positive for heroin residue, but not enough to win a drug conviction, according to the prosecutor. The boy tested negative for infection and is in good health.

Witnesses told police they saw Johnson approach at least three other children with an object concealed in her sleeve, touch them on the side of their heads and then walk away.

STATE

Cargo congestion eases at West Coast ports

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The turnaround time for container ships at the West Coast's largest ports has returned to normal but fewer container ships are showing up, scared away by a shutdown that resulted in a month of congestion and delays.

Nearly 200 vessels were stranded outside West Coast ports during a 10-day lockout, which was ended by a federal injunction Oct. 9. At the time, industry experts estimated it would take at least six weeks to get through the backlog.

But officials in the ports of Los Angeles, Long Beach and Puget Sound, which includes Seattle and Tacoma, said long lines have vanished.

"We're now declaring ourselves at the high end of normal," said Dick McKenna of the Los Angeles-Long Beach Marine Exchange, an industry cooperative that monitors ship movements.

Although the return to normal was welcomed, McKenna said it's only because the number of ships entering the ports are down. Typically the two ports receive about eight container ships a day, but in recent weeks the average has been about 3 1/2, he said.

It's likely the drop is temporary and traffic will return to typical levels in coming weeks as shipping lines resume normal rotations, McKenna said.

The Marine Exchange at Puget Sound, the coast's other major commercial shipping complex, also declared this weekend that "vessel scheduling has returned to normal."

However, some terminal yards remain jammed with containers and are short on equipment and labor, causing delays in the movement of cargo to customers, according to representatives of the International Longshore and Warehouse Union and the trucking industry.

"It's definitely improving," union spokesman Steve Stallone said. "But it will be a couple more weeks before things are really cleared up."

Retailers report little improvement thus far in getting goods onto store shelves, said J. Craig Shearman, spokesman for the National Retail Federation.

"I don't know the exact technical details of what they mean when they say things are clearing up at the ports, but there's the whole rest of the infrastructure that's got to move that product. If we've moved it from the ship to the dock we've got to get it from the dock to the shelf," he said.

"From what we've been hearing from retailers, merchandise is still trickling into the stores very slowly," he said.

The hardest-hit products have been toys, consumer electronics, shoes, clothing and housewares, Shearman said. Ninety to 95 percent of toys and more than 50 percent of electronics sold in the United States are made in Asia, he said, while over 40 percent of shoes sold here are imported from China.

Truck traffic at the ports is still snarled, although Union Pacific reports train traffic continues to steadily improve, in large part because many shippers load train cars right from the docks.

Containers continue to be piled up on the docks while longshoremen spend more time unloading ships than organizing containers and loading them on trucks, according to the California Trucking Association.

"It's better than it was initially, but it's still chaos," association vice president Stephanie Williams said. "It's not back to normal."

> **"It's better than it was initially, but it's still chaos. It's not back to normal."**
>
> — **STEPHANIE WILLIAMS**
> Association vice president

Williams said the Pacific Maritime Association profits more by serving the needs of shippers rather than those of truckers.

While longshoremen work around the clock to unload cargo vessels, they are actually working shorter days to load trucks. As a result, trucks returning empty containers are often turned away after waiting for five hours or more, she said.

The auto industry was never too hard hit by the dispute, because the Big Three auto manufacturers do not rely heavily on parts made in Asia and used air freight to get around the difficulty, said David Healy an auto industry analyst at Burnham Securities Inc.

Healy said production was back to normal, though some importers are short of cars. For example BMW has 1,200 cars stranded in Mexico. Car shoppers would be unlikely to notice anything more than a potential delay in delivery of an imported car.

The union and the Pacific Maritime Association have traded blame for the slow recovery. The Justice Department is weighing evidence submitted by both sides, and might ask a federal court to issue further orders regarding the pace of work.

Meanwhile, a federal mediator has called both sides back to the bargaining table Wednesday after a weeklong break from negotiations. A tentative agreement was reached this month on the issue of technology, but pension, wages and the union's arbitration system remain unsettled.

The union represents 10,500 dockworkers, who handle about $300 billion in merchandise moving through the ports each year.

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NATIONAL

Higher air pollution areas incur increased medical costs

BY LAURA MECKLER
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Older Americans in the most polluted parts of the country are significantly more likely to need medical treatment, particularly for lung ailments, according to a study that suggests reducing pollution could cut medical spending as well.

Earlier studies have established a link between air pollution and early death, but this is the first large-scale look at the impact on medical care itself, said Victor R. Fuchs, a Stanford University economist and lead author of the study being published Tuesday in the journal Health Affairs.

"With medical care spending exceeding $1 trillion per year, even a reduction of only a few percentage points would save society tens of billions of dollars annually," the study concluded. "Use of medical care is significantly higher in areas with more pollution."

The study found air pollution significantly increases Medicare recipients' medical care needs, even after controlling for region, population size, education, income, cigarette use and obesity. Because race plays such a large role in health, the study focused only on whites.

It examined 183 metropolitan areas with more than 100,000 people, using air pollution data from the Environmental Protection Agency, and averaged data from 1989-91.

Overall, it found air pollution was greatest in the West and lowest in Florida and Big Sky country. In general, it found hospital admissions were greatest in the Deep South and in southern states nearby: Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas.

Specifically, the analysis found hospital admissions for respiratory problems were, on average, 19 percent higher in the 37 areas with the highest air pollution compared with the 37 areas with the least amount of pollution.

Similarly, outpatient care was 18 percent higher and hospital admissions were 10 percent higher.

Controlling for demographic and health factors, the researchers found Medicare would have saved an average of $76.70 per person in inpatient care and $100.30 in outpatient care for every drop of 10 micrograms per cubic meter in air pollution.

Economist Randall Lutter, a resident scholar at the conservative American Enterprise Institute, said it's already known that air pollution affects health. He criticized the study, saying it appeared to him to use very crude measurements to get at the differences around the country. He noted, for instance, that stress also can affect health, and stress may be very different in New York City than in Des Moines.

"You can't measure stress very well, and that's kind of a fundamental problem," he said. "It (the study) has some value, but it needs to be taken with a grain of salt."

Enron removes 'tilted-E' signs from outside headquarters

By The Associated Press

HOUSTON — Enron Corp. made its headquarters a little less conspicuous over the weekend.

The bankrupt energy giant's trademark "tilted-E" signs were removed from outside the oval glass 50-story building, as was a wall mounted version of the logo at a lobby reception desk that was visible from the street.

Spokeswoman Karen Denne said Monday the two outside signs were put in storage. The signs, along with other surplus Enron equipment and memorabilia, will be sold at auctions next year intended to raise money for creditors.

The featured vowel at Enron's third auction, Dec. 3-5, should be the rotating black tilted E that once lit up part of the lobby at the company's headquarters, Denne said. That sign was placed in storage two weeks ago.

A similar steel E without the colored lights sold for $44,000 at a two-day auction in September that raised $3.3 million.

Teenage suicide pilot nearly hit Air Force Base tower

BY MITCH STACY
Associated Press Writer

TAMPA, Fla. — A teenage student pilot who committed suicide by crashing into a downtown skyscraper had nearly hit the control tower at an Air Force Base that houses a nerve center for the war in Afghanistan, a government report said.

Charles Bishop, 15, flew his stolen Cessna "just a few feet" over the control tower at MacDill Air Force Base during the Jan. 5 flight, according to the National Transportation Safety Board report released Monday.

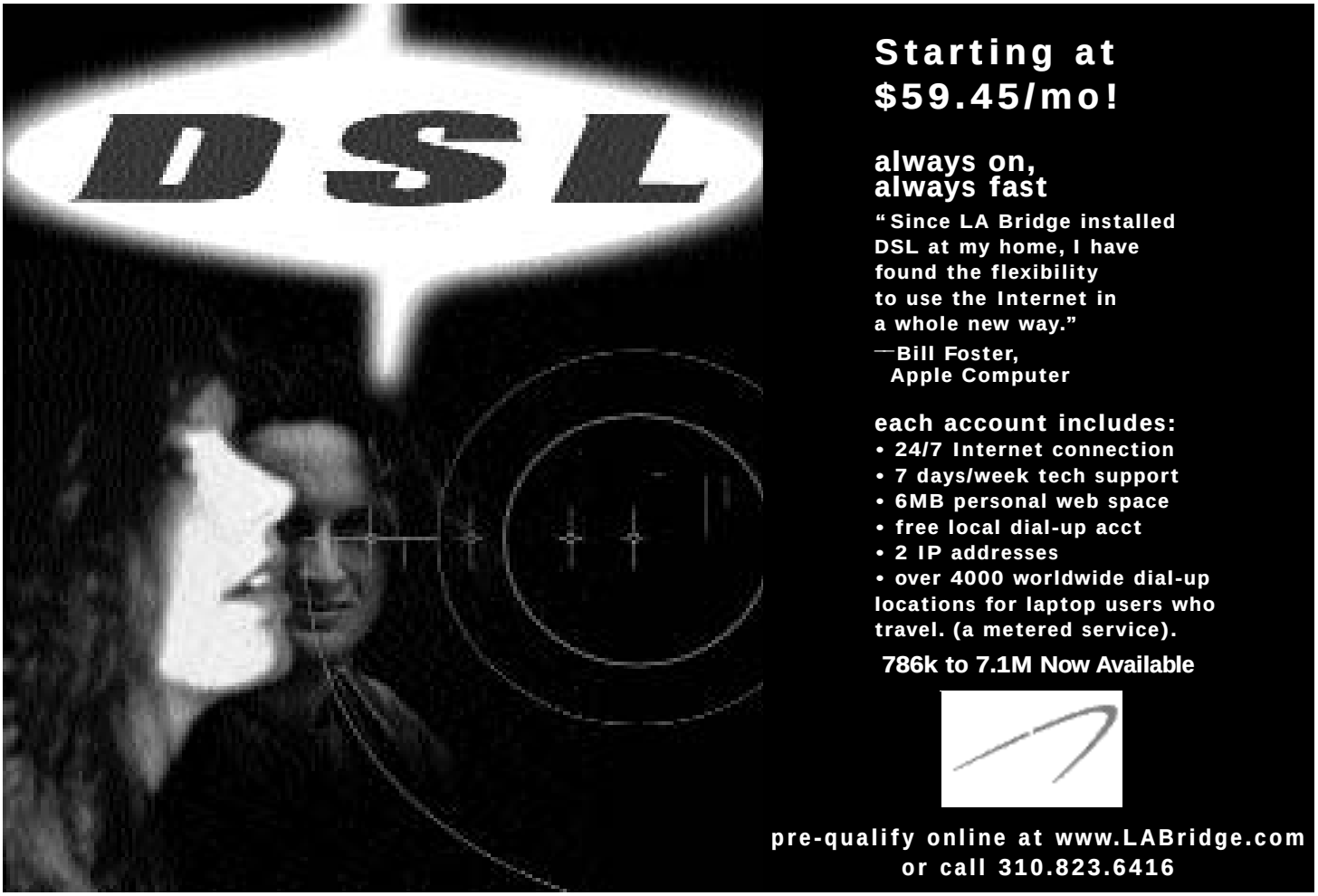
The NTSB did not speculate on whether Bishop, who left a suicide note expressing admiration for Osama bin Laden, had intended the base as his target. The base is home to the U.S. Central Command, which plays a crucial role in directing the war in Afghanistan.

The report said that after Bishop buzzed the control tower, he flew the Cessna 75 to 100 feet over two loaded tanker planes. When a Coast Guard helicopter tried to force Bishop to land, he flew toward Tampa, the report said.

Bishop slammed the four-seat aircraft into the 28th floor of the Bank of America Plaza in downtown Tampa. Nobody else was hurt.

MacDill officials did not immediately return calls Monday.

The crash raised fears of another terrorist attack like Sept. 11, but authorities later said the pilot committed suicide.



NATIONAL

Bush tells veterans Iraqi conflict may be necessary

BY RON FOURNIER
AP White House Correspondent

WASHINGTON — In somber tribute to soldiers of wars past, President Bush said Monday he will commit "the full force and might of the United States military" against Iraq if Saddam Hussein refuses to disarm swiftly.

As the rubber-stamping Iraqi parliament condemned a U.S.-backed United Nations resolution, Bush used two Veterans Day addresses to underscore his impatience.

"The time to confront this threat is before it arrives, not the day after," he told several dozen veterans during an East Room ceremony.

Behind the scenes, Bush has approved tentative Pentagon plans for invading Iraq should a new U.N. arms inspection effort fail to rid the nation of weapons of mass destruction. The strategy calls for a land, sea and air force of 200,000 to 250,000 troops, administration officials said, as they sought to build up pressure on Saddam to relent.

"We have to keep, in a sense, a gun pointed to the head of the Iraqi regime because that's the only way they cooperate," Bush's national security adviser, Condoleezza Rice, told National Public Radio's "The Travis Smiley Show."

The talk of war grew to a crescendo just three days after the U.N. Security Council approved a tough new resolution with an unexpected 15-0 vote. Iraq has until Friday to accept the resolution that would send U.N. inspectors back to Baghdad after an absence of nearly four years with broad new powers to go anywhere at any time backed by the threat of force.

With the clock ticking, Bush traveled across the Potomac River to visit Arlington National Ceremony, lay a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns, praise America's veterans and pledge his resolve against terrorism and Iraq.

"We will not permit a dictator who has used weapons of mass destruction to threaten America with chemical, biological or nuclear weapons," the president said. "This great nation will not live at the mercy of any foreign plot or power."



J. Scott Applewhite/Associated Press

President Bush pays his respects at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Va., during Veterans Day ceremonies Monday.

Standing beneath the marble dome of the cemetery's flag-draped amphitheater, the president drew cheers and whistles of approval when he declared, "The dictator of Iraq will fully disarm or the United States will lead a coalition to disarm him."

In Baghdad, Iraq's parliament condemned the U.N. resolution as full of lies, and a senior lawmaker urged that it be rejected — a prospect that likely would bring on war.

Rice dismissed the response and the parliament itself.

"I don't think anyone believes this is anything but an absolute dictatorship and this decision is up to Saddam Hussein," she told reporters at the White House.

Even if Saddam accepts the resolution, Rice said she will remain skeptical.

"They are obligated to accept, but the U.N. thought it best to ask for return-receipt requested," she said.

Bush himself said Iraq is behind the eight-ball.

"No enemy that threatens our security or endangers our people will escape the patient justice and the overwhelming power of the United States of America," he said in the East Room. "Should military action become necessary for our own security, I will commit the full force and might of the United States military, and we will prevail."

Bush began his day with a pre-dawn visit to the Vietnam War Memorial. As a chilly rain pelted his umbrella, Bush placed an American flag at the base of the black granite wall, where 58,229 names of those killed or missing in the war from 1959 to 1975 are inscribed.

Later, at the East Room reception, Bush said America owes its freedom to the ex-soldiers gathered before him and its greatness to their postwar service. "Our veterans from every era are the finest of citizens," the president said. "We owe them the life we know today."

He carried the theme to the cemetery, where white headstones honor 260,000 American heroes.

New York City Police Commissioner seeks money from federal government

By The Associated Press

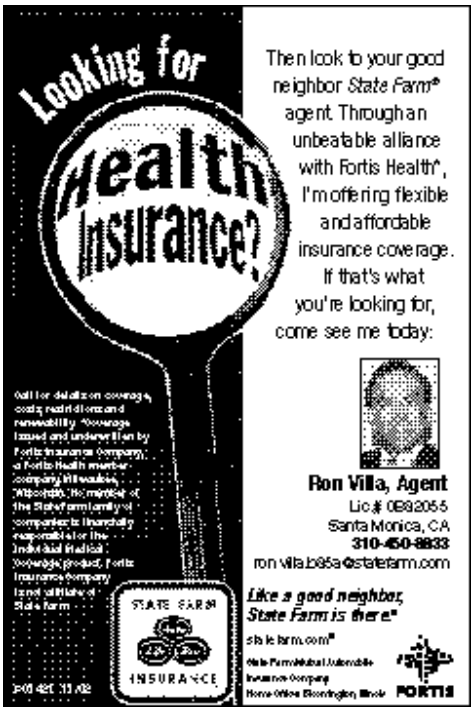
NEW YORK — The city's police commissioner is seeking federal money for the police force, arguing that the department should be compensated for its contributions to national defense.

Police Commissioner Ray Kelly said the department should be entitled to federal aid because it assigned so many officers to counterterrorism duties after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, The New York Times reported Monday.

An aide to Kelly said the commissioner is seeking $261 million from the federal government to cover protection and detection equipment and overtime that the department hopes to use for specialized training.

Kelly has met with federal officials including Attorney General John Ashcroft, House Majority Leader Dick Armey and Homeland Security Chief Tom Ridge.

Kelly's request comes amid a projected city budget deficit of $5 billion to $6 billion. Each city agency, including the police and fire departments, has been asked to submit plans to cut 7.5 percent of its budget during the current fiscal year.







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In mourning



Brennan Linsley/Associated Press

Mourners comfort each other during the burial of slain Israeli man Yitzhak Doritz, inside the Kibbutz Metzer, where he and four other Israelis, including two small children were killed overnight, in a Palestinian shooting attack in Israel, near the West Bank border on Monday. Doritz had been secretary, or director, of the kibbutz. Al Aqsa Martyr's Brigade, which is loosely affiliated with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat's Fatah movement, claimed responsibility for the attack.

Bali bomb, Moscow stand-off renew interest in al-Qaida fight

BY SONYA ROSS
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Using a bomb, a plan and a crowded nightclub in Bali, al-Qaida operatives gave Indonesia and Australia a rude awakening to terrorism. The lesson was much the same for Russia when Chechen separatists brought explosives into a Moscow theater and took the audience hostage.

Yemen, chock-full of suspected al-Qaida and long uncomfortable with terrorism investigations, helped bring about a CIA missile strike that killed six militants, including a top al-Qaida organizer said to be planning new attacks on Western targets in Yemen.

Many countries felt the sting when the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks claimed by al-Qaida killed thousands — including some of their citizens — in the United States.

But it took the recent spate of smaller-scale, deadly attacks for them to see that Osama bin Laden's network is truly a threat in their own back yards.

"Whilst (terrorism) needs to be addressed at source in places such as Afghanistan, we nevertheless have to also attack it where it's been realized," Australian Defense Minister Robert Hill said after talks in Washington last week. "This is, you know, brought home to us in the most stark and terrible way."

Indonesia certainly saw the light. After nearly 200 people, about 90 of them Australians, died in the Bali nightclub, Indonesian officials stopped denying that a significant Islamic terrorist threat existed in their country, and President Megawati Sukarnoputri announced tighter anti-terror measures.

Bruce Hoffman, head of terrorist research at Rand Corp., a private research group, said countries now are more vigilant of tape-recorded threats from al-Qaida's second in command, Ayman al-Zawahri.

In the recording, al-Zawahri warned U.S. allies to get out of the Muslim world and referred specifically to Germany and France, making it clear to other countries that al-Qaida is "perfectly content to enmesh the citizens of other nations in their struggle," Hoffman said.

Germany, which rooted out al-Qaida clusters and, in a rare move, joined an international military campaign by sending soldiers to Afghanistan, stepped up its counter-terror activity after 11 Germans died in the bombing of a Tunisian synagogue last April by a group linked to al-Qaida.

German Foreign Minister Joschka Fischer, in Washington recently to repair a rift over Iraq, discussed cooperation on terrorism as well with his U.S. counterpart, Colin Powell.

"On our agenda, the war against terror is top priority number one," Fischer said. "This is a new totalitarianism, and there is no possibility to negotiate with Osama bin Laden or similar guys."

France, too, has elevated its anti-terror profile after an al-Qaida-linked group blew up a bus in Pakistan in May, killing 11 French citizens, and when a French oil tanker was rammed near a port in Yemen by a boat packed with explosives — an attack similar to the USS Cole bombing pinned on al-Qaida that killed 17 American sailors.

After Australia was hit hard by the carnage in Bali, authorities immediately began a door-to-door hunt in Sydney for members of Jemaah Islamiyah, a group also believed to have ties to al-Qaida. The government declared Jemaah Islamiyah a terrorist organization, given its ambitions to create an Islamic superstate across Asia and northern Australia.

"We're learning more about the interrelationship between those networks ... and others out of the region, in particular from the Middle East," Hill said. "And the more that we learn, the more we appreciate the extent of the challenge we face."

The message was driven home for Russia after Chechen rebels took an entire theater audience hostage in Moscow, a siege that ended when Russian forces pumped in knockout gas and seized the building. In the end, 128 hostages and about 41 captors died.

Without offering evidence, the Russian Foreign Ministry said al-Qaida was involved in the theater plot. President Vladimir Putin promised to give the Russian military broad power to act "in all places where the terrorists, the organizers of these crimes or their ideological or financial sponsors are located."

U.S. officials view the new vigilance as a good thing, and hoped it would bode well for the overall fight against al-Qaida.

"Too often in the past, with the fading memories of a terrible terrorist attack, the focus on permanent improvements in cooperation has faded," Francis X. Taylor, counterterrorism coordinator at the State Department, said in a speech to the National Defense University on Oct. 23. "We cannot let that happen again."

China's Communist Party congress offers illusion of openness

BY MARTIN FACKLER
Associated Press Writer

BEIJING — China invited international news organizations, set up a Web site and modern press center, solicited interview requests, even welcomed journalists with a lavish cocktail party. At first blush, it looked like a political media event anywhere else in the world.

But the surface openness at China's Communist Party congress this week in Beijing has, in many ways, proven to be an illusion.

At least one foreign reporter has been detained by police. Overseas television broadcasters have had outgoing stories cut by censors. And the world has been denied any real glimpse into the inner workings of the weeklong meeting, expected to produce the next leaders of the world's most populous country.

While China has adopted some of the glossy trappings of modern public relations, its political system remains as opaque and unwelcoming as ever. It's a contradiction common in today's China, where one of the world's last communist regimes presides over a robust, increasingly free-market economy.

The clumsy mix of friendly talk and intimidation reflects the party's sensitivity to the portrayal of this congress and particularly President Jiang Zemin, 76, expected to retire as party chief this week and be replaced by 59-year-old Vice President Hu Jintao.

"It's clear that what Jiang is concerned about is image. He wants to be celebrated as a great contributor to China's modernization," said Tim Weston, an assistant professor of history at the University of Colorado at Boulder who is writing a book on journalism in China.

The odd mix of carrot and stick may also reflect the discomfort many Chinese officials seem to feel when dealing with journalists who aren't under their direct control — as all mainland reporters are.

Coverage of the congress in China's state-run press has consisted of ceaseless praise for Jiang's accomplishments — even to the point of doctoring quotes from Western journalists to make them sound rosier. The dozens of newspapers in the capital carry the same centrally generated stories, and often the same photos and front-page layouts.

Press restrictions are nothing new during Communist Party congresses, held every five years. But the number of non-mainland journalists has grown as China's economy has opened. There are 759 this year — some 100 more than 1997, according to organizers.

Failure of foreign journalists to toe the government's line has provoked some harsh responses.

At least one photographer was detained and forced to delete digital-camera images after taking photos of police leading off a protester. The photographer was told his pictures were "unauthorized" and his press credentials applied only to official events.

Several protesters, most acting alone, have appeared outside the Great Hall of the People, the huge building facing Tiananmen Square where the congress is being held. They are quickly bundled away, and any pamphlets they try to hurl toward reporters or delegates are aggressively scooped up by police.

News reports on the congress by Canadian, German, Finnish and Hong Kong television agencies, all intended for home audiences, were blocked as they were beamed out of China, reporters said. The footage showed anti-Chinese protests in Tibet, practitioners of the outlawed Falun Gong religious sect and other politically sensitive material.

Foreign television agencies also said their requests for live shots outside the Great Hall had been rejected. Satellite broadcasts by CNN and the BBC visible at hotels and foreign compounds in Beijing have been repeatedly blacked out for brief intervals during reports on sensitive political issues.

The treatment contrasted with the friendly greeting given foreign reporters at the congress' carpeted media center. Smiling attendants offered a coat check, Internet access and stacks of free reference books in several languages.

"Warm welcome to all journalists both at home and abroad for covering the 16th National Congress of the Communist Party of China," said a red banner on one wall. Forms were available to request interviews with party delegates, but requests for top and even midlevel delegates were rejected.

The official Xinhua News Agency carried reports Monday about foreign press coverage of the congress. But they quoted only praise.

Foreign reporters, Xinhua said, "see the 16th Communist Party congress as having significant meaning, and as advancing China on a continuing path toward development."

SPORTS

Oakland raids Denver with 34-10 win over Broncos

BY DAVE GOLDBERG
AP Football Writer

DENVER — The Oakland Raiders turned Monday Night Football's anniversary celebration into a record-setting show for their old folks.

With 36-year-old Rich Gannon completing 21 straight passes and 40-year-old Jerry Rice becoming the first player to score 200 career touchdowns, the Raiders broke a four-game losing streak by beating the Denver Broncos 34-10.

Rod Woodson, 37, extended his own career record of interception returns for touchdowns with a 98-yarder in the first quarter that sent the Raiders on their way.

The win on ABC's celebration of its 500th Monday night telecast brought Oakland (5-4) within a game of the Broncos (6-3) in the AFC West.

Along with scoring two touchdowns for a total of 201, Rice broke Walter Payton's record for total yardage.

Gannon, who had struggled as the Raiders dropped to 4-4 after starting 4-0, completed 29 of his first 30 passes.

His 21 straight completions set a record for one game, breaking the mark of 20 by Ken Anderson of Cincinnati set on Jan. 2, 1983.

Gannon had TD passes of 6 and 34 yards to Rice and 22 to Jerry Porter. On a 96-yard, third-quarter scoring drive, Gannon was 9-of-9 for 94 yards.

Gannon finished 34-of-38 for 352 yards as the Raiders, who had averaged 40.5 points in their four wins and 16 points in their four losses, returned to their September form.

Woodson's return, late in the first quarter, turned the game after Denver, trailing 3-0, had driven to the Oakland 4.

Woodson stepped in front of Clinton Portis, grabbed the ball and outran the fast-closing Rod Smith, extending his own NFL record with his 12th career TD return.

Rice, who holds every major career receiving record got his 200th TD late in the first half on a 6-yard pass from Gannon.

The Raiders, who had lost seven straight games in Denver, took over the game early and led 21-7 at halftime.

The Broncos also lost tight end Shannon Sharpe with a dislocated elbow in the first quarter and defensive end Trevor Pryce with a knee injury in the third.

Sebastian Janikowski's 47-yard field goal gave Oakland a 3-0 lead on the first drive of the game.

The Broncos reciprocated by driving from their own 38 to the Oakland 4. But on second down, Woodson made the interception that turned the game.

Janikowski's 32-yard field goal early in the second quarter made it 13-0 before Denver scored, going 68 yards on 13 plays to score on Portis' 1-yard run.

But Oakland came right back.

Gannon hit Charlie Garner for 49 yards on a scramble and the 80-yard drive was capped by Gannon's fade to Rice over Tyrone Poole in the corner of the end zone. Gannon then hit Porter for a 2-point conversion to make it 21-7. That was Rice's 200th TD.

After Gannon engineered the long drive that made it 27-7, Jason Elam hit a 27-yard field goal 1:36 into the fourth quarter to make it 27-10.

But the Raiders came right back with Gannon hitting Rice for the 34-yard score and TD No. 201.

Mike Anderson fitting into new role

BY JOHN MARSHALL
AP Sports Writer

DENVER — Mike Anderson feels as if he's stuck in fast forward.

As a tailback in college and his first two years with the Denver Broncos, Anderson was able to line up and wait for the play to develop in front of him. That luxury is gone now that he has switched to fullback.

"It's just reacting now. Everything is happening so much quicker, because I'm lined up at 5 yards instead of 7," Anderson said. "At halfback, you can regroup if you make a mistake. At the fullback position, things happen so fast."

It's been a difficult transition, but Anderson's move has provided the Broncos with versatility they haven't had at fullback.

Denver's fullbacks in recent years have primarily been used as blockers, occasionally sneaking out of the backfield to catch passes.

Howard Griffith, Denver's fullback on its two Super Bowl title teams, caught 68 passes in four years but never had more than 17 carries in a season. Tony Carter and Patrick Hape, who shared the fullback spot last year, combined for 26 receptions but just three carries.

As a change of pace to rookie Clinton Portis or the lone back in some sets, Anderson has kept opponents from focusing on one aspect of Denver's offense. The result is more soft spots in the defense downfield and more openings for Anderson to run through.

"It's another threat for us running the ball," running back Olandis Gary said. "They have to defend Mike running the ball at anytime, whereas in the past, I think, Grif used to get two to three carries per year."

When Denver coach Mike Shanahan approached Anderson about the switch during the offseason, he wasn't too excited. And it was hard to blame him, given the success he had as a tailback.

Of course, he never has had much of a problem making adjustments.

After being taken in the sixth round by Denver in the 2000 draft, Anderson hoped to just make the Broncos' roster. Instead, he rushed for a team rookie-record 1,487 yards and 15 touchdowns in place of injured starter Terrell Davis, and was named the NFL Offensive Rookie of the Year.

Barry Bonds unanimous pick for fifth MVP award

BY RONALD BLUM
AP Sports Writer

NEW YORK — Barry Bonds is winning Most Valuable Player awards so fast and so often, he doesn't know what to do with them.

"All my trophies are in storage. I don't have a house big enough," Bonds said Monday after winning the National League MVP for a record fifth time. "I happen to have a little house in San Francisco. I've been living out of storage for the last eight, nine years now."

Bonds, the only baseball player with more than three MVP awards, won it unanimously for the first time. The San Francisco Giants outfielder received all 32 first-place votes and 448 points in balloting by the Baseball Writers' Association of America.

"I'd rather win the World Series, but this is great. I'm very happy about it, very excited," Bonds said Tuesday in Japan, where he is on the major league all-star tour. "I'm trying to figure out why a 38-year-old player is still playing like this.

"Forget the historical part about MVPs. I'm overjoyed, very happy, very pleased, especially coming off the 73-home-run year, to be able to pretty much stay consistent," he said.

Bonds hit .370 to win his first NL batting title, and set records with 198 walks, 68 intentional walks and a .582 on-base percentage. He had a .799 slugging percentage, down from his record .863 last year but still good enough to lead the major leagues.

St. Louis outfielder Albert Pujols was second with 26 second-place votes and 276 points, followed by Houston outfielder Lance Berkman (181) and Montreal outfielder Vladimir Guerrero (168).

Bonds also won the MVP award for Pittsburgh in 1990 and 1992 and for the Giants in 1993 and 2001, and is the first player to twice win the honor in consecutive seasons. No other player has won an MVP award more than three times, and only 10 others have won it in consecutive seasons.

In other sports, only the NHL's Wayne Gretzky (nine), and NBA's Kareem Abdul-Jabbar (six) and Bill Russell and Michael Jordan (five each) have won as many or more MVP awards as Bonds has.

Bonds became the 14th unanimous winner, and just the fifth in the NL, joining Orlando Cepeda (1967), Mike Schmidt (1980), Jeff Bagwell (1994) and Ken Caminiti (1996).

Bonds hit 46 homers, down from a record 73 the previous year, and had a team-high 110 RBIs as San Francisco won its first NL pennant since 1989 and he made it the World Series for the first time. But Bonds and the Giants lost to Anaheim in seven games after being just six outs from the title in Game 6.

Voting for MVP was conducted before the postseason, when Bonds hit .356 with eight homers, 16 RBIs and 27 walks.

He gets a $500,000 bonus added to his $13 million salary. Pujols, who hit .314 with 34 homers and 127 RBIs, didn't have a bonus clause. Berkman gets $25,000 for finishing third, and Los Angeles outfielder Shawn Green gets $50,000 for finishing fifth.

Bonds is going to take a month off, then start preparing for next season. He has shot up to fourth on the career homer list with 613, trailing only his godfather, Willie Mays (660), Babe Ruth (714) and Hank Aaron (755).

Bye, bye, birdie!



R.Perales/Associated Press

Germany's Bernhard Langer celebrates a birdie putt on the 17th hole of the Volvo Masters. He shared first place with Scotland's Colin Montgomerie after two playoff holes with play called by darkness at the Valderrama golf course in Sotogrande, southern Spain, on Sunday.

List of Unanimous Most Valuable Players

By The Associated Press

AMERICAN LEAGUE

1997 — Ken Griffey, Jr., Seattle
1993 — Frank Thomas, Chicago
1988 — Jose Canseco, Oakland
1973 — Reggie Jackson, Oakland
1968 — Denny McLain, Detroit
1966 — Frank Robinson, Baltimore
1956 — Mickey Mantle, New York
1953 — Al Rosen, Cleveland
1935 — Hank Greenberg, Detroit

NATIONAL LEAGUE

2002 — Barry Bonds, San Francisco
1996 — Ken Caminiti, San Diego
1994 — Jeff Bagwell, Houston
1980 — Mike Schmidt, Philadelphia
1967 — Orlando Cepeda, St. Louis

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By THOMAS JOSEPH

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7 Clothes line
11 Experience anew
12 Buffalo's lake
13 Pay phone option
15 Computer key
16 Parental warning
18 Invigorates
21 School book
22 Abstain
24 Hens, to Henri
25 Pea holder
26 Polite address
27 Mel Gibson role
29 Map dot
30 Go ahead
31 Appointment
32 Neighbor of Egypt
34 Applause may lead to one
40 Tennis great Arthur
41 Sound system
42 Nearly
43 Halfback's headgear

DOWN

1 Circle piece
2 Old auto
3 Suffering
4 Quiet
5 Bit of history
6 Church group
7 Classified
8 Long time
9 Suffer
10 Brooks of film
14 Lukewarm
19 Model art
17 Rust, for example
19 Suggest
20 Hotel offering
21 Singer McGraw
22 Boston Red —
23 Attempt
25 Italian city
28 Overcome
29 Annul
31 Inferno describer
33 Reception aid
34 Upper limit
35 Gl-entertaining grp.
36 Greek letter
37 Uma's place
38 Director Spike
39 Parking place

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Yesterday's answer

11-12

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

Man sentenced for killing his dog

In a decision hailed by animal-rights activists, District of Columbia judge Frederick Weisberg in July sentenced John Hardy, 49, to prison for assaults he committed during a domestic altercation, which broke out when Hardy and his wife were scuffling and ended when Hardy's pit bull became excited, provoking Hardy to fatally stab him. Weisberg sentenced Hardy to three months for assaulting his wife and 24 months for the attack on the dog.



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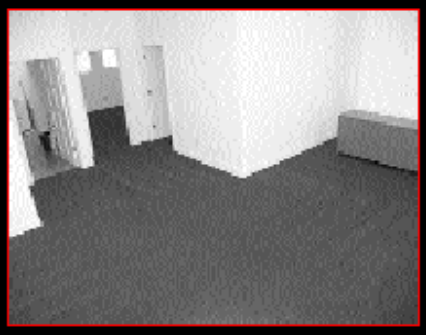
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Calendar

Tuesday, November 12, 2002

movies

Loews Broadway Cinema
1441 Third St. at Broadway
Comedian (R) 12:45, 3:05, 5:25, 7:45, 10:25. Femme Fatale (R) 11:15, 1:55, 4:35, 7:15, 10:10. Jackass: The Movie (R) 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:55. The Truth About Charlie (PG-13) 1:10, 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40.

Mann Criterion
1313 Third St.
The Ring (PG-13) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00. Sweet Home Alabama (PG-13) 11:30, 2:10, 5:05, 7:55, 10:35. Ghost Ship(R) 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:10. My Big Fat Greek Wedding (PG) 11:20, 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:05. Punch-Drunk Love (R) 11:15, 1:45, 4:20, 7:10, 9:45. The Transporter (PG-13) 11:45, 2:15, 4:45, 7:40, 10:15.

AMC Theatre SM 7
1310 3rd Street

Red Dragon (R) 1:15, 4:25, 7:35, 10:30. 8 Mile (R) 12:15, 1:00, 3:15, 4:00, 6:15, 7:00, 9:15, 10:00. Santa Clause 2 (G) 11:45, 1:35, 2:30, 4:10, 5:10, 7:45, 10:10. White Oleander (PG-13) 7:25, 9:55. I Spy (PG-13) 11:55, 12:30, 2:20, 3:00, 4:45, 5:30, 7:15, 7:50, 9:45, 10:05.

Landmark Nu-Wilshire
1314 Wilshire Blvd.
Bowling for Columbine (R) 1:30, 4:15, 7:15, 10:00. Far From Heaven (PG-13) 11:30, 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30.

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

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
Rules of Attraction 5:00, 7:30, 10:00.

Today

Community

Ongoing support groups for people 55 and older. Current openings in, So, What Are You Going to Do With the Rest of your Life? Tuesdays, 10:00 to 11:30am. Center for Healthy Aging, 2125 Arizona Avenue. Sliding scale fee. Not drop-in groups. Phone interview required. Call Information and Referral. (310)576-2550.

California Retired Teacher's Association (SM Bay Area Chapter) will meet at the United Methodist Church, 1008 Eleventh Street, SM. State Assembly woman Fran M. Pauley will speak about educational legislation. Social hour begins at 11:30am. Lunch served at 12 noon. Cost is $7.50. Reservations are appreciated by calling (310)828-2674.

BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUPS AT SMC'S EMERITUS COLLEGE. Santa Monica College offers free bereavement support groups in the summer session through it's Emeritus College, a widely praised program designed for older adults. Two support groups will meet Tuesdays on an ongoing basis. One group will meet from noon to 1:50 p.m. and the other from 7 p.m. to 8:50 p.m. For information and registration, call Emeritus College at (310) 434-4306.

Crossroads Schools in Santa Monica invites local musicians (grades 3-7) to join orchestra rehearsals. Rehearsals are ongoing and are held each Tuesday of the school year, from 3:15 to 4:15. Students may join at anytime. Cost is free, students must bring their own instruments. 1714 21st Street, SM. For more information please call (310)829-7391

Senior Suppers - Discounted meals for people AGE 55 or older are served daily, from 3:30 p.m. To 7 p.m., in the cafeteria at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center, 1250 16th Street in Santa Monica. $3.69 Info only: (310)319-4837.

Unurban Coffee House presents Stitch 'n' Bitch every Tuesday evening. Chicks, yarn, coffee & chat. 7:30pm to 9:30pm. 3301 Pico Blvd. (310)315-0056

Wednesday

Community

Farmer's Market every Wednesday and Saturday. 9am to 2pm, Arizona between Second and Fourth Streets. Come and enjoy one of the largest and best farmer's markets in California!

Y Canned Fitness Week! November 4 thru 19. Just bring in ten cans of food per visit and you can participate in any one of our fitness classes, fitness center & lap swim for FREE! SM Family YMCA is located at 1332 Sixth Street. For more information please call (310)393-2721 ext. 118.

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

Santa Monica Public Library presents Preschool Story Time, every Wednesday at 11:15am, 1343 Sixth Street. Stories for children between the ages of three and five who are ready to participate on their own. (310)458-8600

Comedy Underground presents Ted's Night! A stand-up comedy routine. Admission is $7.00, show starts at 9pm. 320 Wilshire Blvd. For information please call (310)451-1800.

Ongoing support groups for people 55 and older. Current openings in Parents of Adult Children. Wednesdays 2:00 to 3:30. Center for Healthy Aging, 2125 Arizona Avenue. Sliding scale fee. Not drop-in groups. Phone interview required. Call Information and Referral. (310)576-2550.

Risky Discussion - "Compulsive Gambling: You Bet It's a Program" will be the title of a FREE community health talk given by UCLA psychiatrist Timothy Fong. Cafeteria Conference Room at Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center, 1250 16th St. in Santa Monica, from 7pm to 8:30pm. Call (800) 516-5323 for reservations.

Unurban Coffee House presents Poetry and Spoken Word every Wednesday evening. Hosted by Tony Perez. 8pm, 3301 Pico Blvd. (310)315-0056

Calendar items are printed free of charge as a service to our readers. Please submit your items to todayspaper@smdp.com for consideration. Calendar events are limited by space, and will be run at the discretion of the Calendar Editor.

KEEP YOUR DATE STRAIGHT

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

BACK PAGE

THE REAL WORLD

Never too late to graduate

By The Associated Press

FORT MYERS, Fla. — Decades after being asked to interrupt their studies and defend their country, 40 veterans of World War II and the Korean War are finally receiving high school diplomas.

"I feel wonderful," said Frank Curcio, who joined the Air Force one month shy of his high school graduation in 1944 and now volunteers at a local hospital. "I can't wait."

After a career working for UPS, Curcio, an 80-year-old Bronx native, recently tried to volunteer with the sheriff's department, but was rejected because he lacked a diploma.

That will change Monday in a ceremony at Dunbar High School, replete with caps, gowns and marching to "Pomp and Circumstance."

The school is honoring men from 13 states who now live in Lee County. All but one is expected to attend; Nelson Clark, a native of Elma, N.Y., is deceased and will be represented by his daughter, Pamela, school district officials said.

The Florida Legislature recently authorized school districts to award high school diplomas to honorably discharged veterans who were inducted into the armed forces before they could finish school.

"It's been personally the most rewarding experience I've had since I've been coordinating recognitions," said Ruth Moon, a secretary in the Lee County superintendent's office. "I think it's long overdue, and I just imagine what these men could have done if they had completed their high school diploma."

Reindeer games cut

By The Associated Press

BRIDGEPORT, Conn. — There won't be any reindeer games this year at the Beardsley Zoo.

Concerns about chronic wasting disease will keep Rudolph's relatives at home out West, marking the end of five straight years of Christmastime visits from the animals.

Zoo director Gregg Dancho was quick to add that children should not be worried about presents not being delivered this year.

"These were not Santa's reindeer," Dancho said. "These were out-of-town relatives."

Officials from the state Agriculture and Environmental Protection departments banned the visit from the reindeer because of the chance that they may carry chronic wasting disease, a fatal brain disease of deer and elk.

The disease, which is related to mad cow disease, has invaded 10 states in the Midwest and West. Zoo officials said there have been no cases of the disease reported in the Northeast, but authorities want to keep it at bay.

'Chip Chompin' Cherry Nutter' wins

By The Associated Press

GLENDALE — It sounds like a recipe only Elvis could love: a peanut butter sandwich with chocolate chips, crispy rice cereal, powdered sugar and dried cherries.

But the "Chip Chompin' Cherry Nutter" won 7-year-old Emily McComas the grand prize in a "Got Milk?" recipe contest.

"This was a very creative and very good-tasting sandwich — it won hands down," said Jeff Manning, executive director of the California Milk Processor Board.

Emily and her family won a trip to New York City, where her sandwich was unveiled at Peanut Butter and Co., a Greenwich Village deli that specializes in peanut butter sandwiches.

Emily's recipe licked more than 100 other entries, including one by her brother. Among the contenders were "Rainbow in the Clouds," which included marshmallow fluff, bananas and M&Ms, and "Caribbean Nut Butter Sandwich," made with banana, shredded coconut and pineapple.

But Emily told the Daily News of Los Angeles that her creation wasn't her favorite way to eat peanut butter.

"My dad is the one that really likes the sandwich," she said. "Everyone is talking about my sandwich, and I'm kind of getting bored with it."

Ornery turkey haunts neighborhood

By The Associated Press

OBERLIN, Ohio — This is one tough turkey.

A 15-pound wild turkey has been pestering residents of this northeast Ohio community and eluding trappers who want to capture it.

The bird has chased after schoolchildren and pets, trapped people in cars and left its droppings on porches.

"Most people think it's a poor, cute little wild turkey," animal trapper Dave Thorn said. "People begin feeding the wild animals, which is the wrong thing to do because, basically, this turkey has taken over this territory."

Thorn said the bird may be roosting in the chimney of Prospect Elementary School, where it has been swooping on the playground. Principal Linda Dawson said the turkey has gotten bolder with children, raising fears about attacks.

Lorain County wildlife officer Dave Shinko said he has gotten 20 complaints about the bird. He said it will be killed once it is caught and could be donated to a food bank.

"But who knows if it's even any good," Shinko said. "I mean, we're not talking Butterball here."

3 NEW Ways
To Live, Love, Eat!

Weekend Breakfast
every Saturday and Sunday from 8am to 11am. All of your favorites, Wolfgang style!

Happy Hour
Monday through Friday from 4pm to 7pm. Selected Wines, Beers and Appetizers only $2.95 each!

Jazz Night Every Tuesday
From 8 until closing, the swinging Gregory Alper Jazz Quartet plays LIVE. No Cover.

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1 One FREE Breakfast Entree
with the purchase of another breakfast, entree or lunch entree. One coupon per guest. Not valid with any other offer. Offer does not include tax or tip. Only valid at Wolfgang Puck Cafe - Montana Avenue location. Expires 12/31/02

2 One FREE Bar Appetizer
with the purchase of any beverage during Happy Hour, Monday-Friday. One coupon per guest. Not valid with any other offer. Offer does not include tax or tip. Only valid at Wolfgang Puck Cafe - Montana Avenue location. Expires 12/31/02

3 One FREE Dessert on Jazz Night
during Tuesday Jazz Night hours. No purchase necessary. One coupon per guest. Not valid with any other offer. Offer does not include tax or tip. Only valid at Wolfgang Puck Cafe - Montana Avenue location. Expires 12/31/02

1313 Montana Avenue, Santa Monica (310) 393-0290

First Federal Bank of California
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Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Monica

Dinner, Auction & Raffle

Friday, November 22, 2002
Loews Santa Monica Beach Hotel
1700 Ocean Avenue

Cocktails, Hors d'oeuvres and Silent Auction, 5:30 pm
Dinner, Voice Auction and Raffle, 7:00 pm

Join the community of Santa Monica in this fun and exciting evening of auction and entertainment to support our local youth.

Over 500 items in Voice and Silent Auction including Travel Packages, Electronics, Sports Memorobilia and much more! Seats are limited, please respond quickly!

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