

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

City tests preparedness for terrorist attack



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

(Left) Emergency personnel assess the situation of a mock terrorist attack in Santa Monica on Thursday in the command center at the city yards. (Middle) The crime scene of a bus bombing has emergency crews from FBI, fire, police, SWAT and Los Angeles County responding to victims. (Right) A SWAT officer monitors the scene through binoculars atop a roof. The disaster drill was part of a countywide training that lasted all day.

Santa Monica among eight cities countywide conducting drills

BY ANDREW H. FIXMER
Daily Press Staff Writer

Terrorists bombed a crowded Big Blue Bus on Thursday with themselves aboard after they took control of it and negotiations with authorities failed.

That's the scenario used by Santa Monica officials in a massive, all-day

"I don't think it's a surprise to anyone that we're using a terrorist drill."

— JUDY RAMBEAU
City of Santa Monica spokeswoman

drill of the city's preparedness for such an attack, which was held at the fire department's training facility in the city yards.

Los Angeles County along with eight of its cities, including Santa Monica, con-

ducted the drills and exercises to help prepare officials for responding to a coordinated attack by terrorists. They called the series of drills "Operation Critical Response."

Santa Monica has regularly conducted interactive drills like the one held on Thursday, but prior scenarios dealt with the aftermath of earthquakes, fires and other natural disasters. This is the first time authorities used a terrorist plot.

"I don't think it's a surprise to anyone that we're using a terrorist drill," said Judy Rambeau, City of Santa Monica spokeswoman.

"We did a table top exercise last year right after Sept. 11," she said. "But this is the first time we're drilling on this sce-

See DRILL, page 5

Affordable housing given development exemptions

But some residents say it excludes their input on projects

BY ANDREW H. FIXMER
Daily Press Staff Writer

It could be a lot easier to build affordable housing in Santa Monica, now that developers are excused from many of the loopholes other projects face.

The Santa Monica City Council voted Tuesday to lower the square footage of a housing development that

would necessitate a public review process before the city's planning commission. But, the council exempted affordable housing developers from the change.

Now housing developers of projects that are 7,500 square feet or more must undergo public review.

Affordable housing developers proposing projects with less than 50 units are exempted from the higher level of public review. As long as their projects strictly meet the city's zoning and building codes, their developments would be approved through the city's planning department.

Market rate housing developers can qualify for the

same exemptions if they dedicate 10 percent of their project's units for very low-income residents or 20 percent of their units for low-to-moderate income residents.

Those qualifying developers would also be spared from having to prepare costly and time consuming Environmental Impact Reports, which officials say are sometimes used by residents to scuttle a proposed project.

"This community's support for affordable housing is deep-rooted," said Mayor Pro Tem Kevin McKeown. "And this will make it easier to build affordable housing."

See HOUSING, page 7

Authorities raid rap record company in murder investigation

BY CARRI KARUHN
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES — Authorities raided the record label and homes of rap mogul Marion "Suge" Knight on Thursday while arresting three people — including a former sheriff's deputy — on suspicion of conspiracy to commit murder.

Los Angeles County sheriff's deputies

declined to provide details on the alleged conspiracy.

However, Knight and his label, formerly known as Death Row Records, have been at the center of an East Coast-West Coast rap feud that some believe was behind the unsolved killings of Tupac Shakur in 1996 and The Notorious B.I.G. in 1997.

Two other former associates of Knight have been shot to death this year.

Theodore Peter Kelly, 29, was arrested at the offices of Knight's label. Taken into custody elsewhere were Michael Leroy Payne, 25, and Kordell Depree Knox, 37. All were being held without bail.

Knox is a former sheriff's deputy who was fired on Nov. 1 because of his suspected involvement in an assault with a deadly weapon, said Deputy Alba Yates. She could not provide any additional

details. Knox had been an officer with the Compton Police Department and became a sheriff's deputy when the city in 2000 dissolved its police force and contracted its job to the county Sheriff's Department.

Knight's attorney Arthur Barends said his client was being harassed.

"I have yet to see any association

See RAID, page 8

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LOCAL



CrimeWatch

Bad night on Halloween

By Daily Press staff

■ A woman was sexually assaulted by a man she met in a bar on Halloween night. At 12:20 a.m. on Nov. 1, Santa Monica police were called to a local hospital to speak with the victim.

Earlier that night she was at a Halloween party at a bar in the San Fernando Valley. She met a guy, had a few drinks with him and the two returned to her home in Santa Monica.

Once inside her house, the suspect tried to sexually assault the woman. She screamed loudly, and he fled the house.

The woman was treated at a hospital and released that night.

The suspect is a 30-year-old white male, 6 feet 3 inches tall, 210 lbs., with blonde hair and blue eyes. He was dressed as a pirate, wearing a black bandanna, white long-sleeve shirt and black pants.

■ Two men stole \$1,900 worth of perfume from Sears on Halloween.

At 3:30 p.m. on Oct. 31, loss prevention officers at the Sears on 300 Colorado Ave. saw two men at the perfume counter swipe thousands of dollars worth of perfume.

The suspects escaped.

The first suspect is a male Latino between 18 and 27 years old, 5 feet 11 inches tall with a slim build. He was wearing a black jacket and a white striped long-sleeve shirt.

The second suspect is a male Latino between 19 and 27 years old, 5 feet 9 inches tall and 170 lbs. He wore a long-sleeve shirt and blue jeans.

■ Two transients were arrested after robbing their friend.

At 9:42 a.m. on Nov. 2, the victim was sitting near the 2600 block of Lincoln Boulevard drinking booze with two acquaintances. Suddenly, the two acquaintances began hitting the victim and stole his money.

The victim contacted Santa Monica police, who captured the two suspects shortly afterward.

Harold Eugene Ray, a white transient, was booked for strong arm robbery, and his bail was set \$35,000.

Larry Wayne Little, a white transient, was booked on the same charge plus a warrant, and his bail was set at \$35,250.

With any information regarding these crimes please call Santa Monica police Robbery/Homicide at (310) 458-8451.

surf report

Information compiled by Jesse Haley

We should see a trend of moderate surf this weekend, with a west by northwest swell on the decline.

Breaks throughout the county look about waist-high today, mostly with some plus sets in the chest-high range.

Saturday sees the arrival of new swell out of the northwest.

The new swell is expected to improve Sunday, when best northwest exposures could see shoulder high waves.

Most of L.A. will miss the steep angled swell, but South Bay locations pick it up best.

By Sunday there should be consistent chest-high surf at southern spots.

Wind conditions look light, better in the mornings, with some onshores in the afternoon.



Today's Tides:

Low-	12:14 a.m.	0.81'
High-	6:43 a.m.	5.11'
Low-	1:03 p.m.	1.23'
High-	6:47 p.m.	4.19'

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

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The Q-Line

Change seems scary

Last week, Q-line asked:

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

Here are your responses:

■ "Yes, Santa Monica's demographic is changing. For good or bad? We're not sure yet, the vote's not in. Your question does not address the JJ Measure, which is living wage, because one could be a renter, a landowner or whatever and still see JJ as

discrimination. And how that issue needs to be addressed, living wage, is at the state and national level. And if all these do-gooders and people want to do something, go the right route, go to their legislators. Do not try to legislate on a city level like

this and being so discriminating."

■ "Thank you for your question. I think our little town has become the rich versus the poor and those of us in the middle are really dealing with all the new structures that have changed the look of our city. And I think that the new immigrants, so-called, or illegals, there's too many of them and too soon. It's happened far too quickly that we haven't been able to absorb these people, and I think the rich go back to their big houses on the hill with a moat 'round it and they don't have to deal with the cry of the illegal aliens hanging 'round our alleys in our buildings, sleeping in our doorways. And I'm sure a lot of people are very, very nice and law abiding, but we have too many of them and they shouldn't be here and they're

using our resources health, schools, social services and I just think it's really a shame. It's not necessarily their fault but I think big business has taken over, and they're just greedy and they use these people and I've been an immigrant myself, I know how it is. But I've been here 40 years in Santa Monica and it's hurting my heart what's happening here. Nobody is talking about it except your paper, which I think is very courageous and I'd like to thank you very, very much for your paper. I really enjoy it and look forward to it. Thank you so much."

■ "Last week on a KCRW radio program Santa Monica Mayor Michael Feinstein acknowledged that the city has

See Q-LINE, page 7

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OPINION

LETTERS

Blame the white girl

Editor:

THOSE PEOPLE are everywhere in my neighborhood. They come into your store, and you don't want to, but you can't help but notice them. I know what the liberals and do-gooders say — they're just like you and me, that prejudice is born of fear and ignorance — but I can't help it. Those people steal. Those people are drunks and drug addicts. They have sex with just about anyone who asks, and are hyper-sensitive and overly-obsessed with what everyone thinks about them.

I can't stand these freaking, shoplifting, millionaire celebrity white girls.

"See? What did I say about white women?" my wife Melvin Superstar asks me. She is African-American, a five-year, north-of-Wilshire resident of Santa Monica, and, at the moment, hugely, marvelously pregnant. "When I got to Bennington (a private liberal arts college in Vermont), all of those rich white girls used to go into town and go to the Gap on Saturdays. One girl would take all this stuff up to the second floor and open a window up there. Another girl would stand on the street, and the first girl would just drop all that shit out the window to her. They did this every single weekend, going around to all these stores, stealing everything, until finally they got caught — and then they turned it into a cool thing! Parole became this rite of passage they went through; everyone but me, fresh air fund girl! Those girls all drank, did drugs and had sex and I didn't do anything. And then I move to Santa Monica, where every time my black ass walks into a store on Montana Avenue the owner's eyes light up like, I know what people like you do, you steal!"

Her problem is also her blessing: Despite being a working actor in her early thirties, who has the SAG Producer's Plan (full medical benefits), she looks a lot like one

of those mythical, black, 16-year-old teenagers who got pregnant and wants to go on welfare just like the Republicans are always warning Americans about.

A lot of what my wife says sounds paranoid and overly conspiratorial to me. I fit comfortably into the demographics of my neighborhood (white guy, thirties, writer, jogging shoes, khaki shorts). I don't feel all that paranoid and conspiratorial about Santa Monica store owners. When I read about the need to clean up the homeless, and keep them from sleeping and defecating in the storefronts of shop owners, frankly I identify more with the shop owners than the homeless. I used to live in the East Village in New York, next to Tompkins Square Park back in the late '80s, when it was a virtual homeless shantytown. I had to walk through it every night to get back to my Avenue C apartment, and although I prided myself on my urban authenticity living next door to a park that was closer to New Calcutta than New York, I felt even better when they closed the park, kicked out all the homeless people and re-opened a year later, transforming it into a place where parents could take kids again. It was a lot less authentic, but I took care of that — check the wife.

Where was I? Oh, yes, what to do about shiftless, teenage-looking, shoplifting, celebrity white women, who do all the stealing the shop owners of Santa Monica blame on women who look like my geeky, beautiful, pregnant wife.

It's just a thought, but before we blame it all on the homeless, has anyone confirmed it's them defecating in the doorways of those stores? I wouldn't want to start singing the praises of our new, tough anti-homeless laws only to discover it was Nick Nolte, sleeping off a roofie binge while researching a role.

Stephen Hunt
Santa Monica

Homeless & affordable housing: The city's bottomless money pits



AS I SEE IT

By Bill Bauer

Despite dire predictions of annual city budget deficits approaching \$8.9 million this fiscal year and \$17 million in the 2002/2003 fiscal year, our city council is apparently on a spending spree.

One of the items on this week's council agenda was a request to begin negotiations to purchase a 22,000-square-foot former University of California book bindery and warehouse at 1751-1753 Cloverfield Blvd. No purchase price for the property was mentioned in the staff report.

The city has been looking for a place to relocate the Ocean Park Community Center's Daybreak operation now that it's being forced out of Seventh Street and Colorado Avenue by the expanding Big Blue Bus operation. Word has it that 1751-1753 Cloverfield will be the new home of Daybreak and other OPCC "homeless" services.

A Pico neighborhood council-watcher e-mailed Mayor Michael Feinstein pointing out that the area is already impacted by

large numbers of homeless who congregate at a nearby recycling facility and who live at a nearby Caltrans freeway right-of-way.

The e-mail states that residents and neighborhood groups in Pico and Sunset Park are not aware of proposals for 1751-1753 Cloverfield, and have not been consulted about the plan to give the facility to OPCC for use as a drop-in center. There are concerns about the increased numbers of transients this facility would attract to the surrounding neighborhoods if OPCC moves in. Stay tuned.

In other development news, an interim ordinance reducing the public development review thresholds in the downtown area to 7,500 square feet from 30,000 square feet was approved by city council Tuesday night. You're thinking this is good. Well, maybe not. There is a poison pill or two.

The ordinance also exempts all 100 percent affordable housing projects with up to 50 units from public development review and conditional use permits in certain specified zoning districts citywide.

In other words, developers of affordable housing, such as the city-sponsored Community Corporation of Santa Monica, will be able to build up to 50 units without any public input.

Such a development could easily be

four or five floors high and placed in a neighborhood of one- and two-story residences with no public say-so — only administrative approval from behind closed doors. Detractors say the result could be very large, dense developments and even multiple oversized buildings, side by side in residential neighborhoods.

The exemptions also allow any mixed-use building with just a single floor of affordable housing to exceed maximum height limits. Mixed-use buildings with as few as 10 percent affordable units would also be exempt from public review.

Clearly the "bigger, higher and denser" direction is not the way most people in Santa Monica want to go. But this is nothing new for this city council and the planning department.

A similar recommendation inserted into a 200-plus page staff report a couple of years ago would have allowed developers of projects in R2, R3 and R4 multi-family zones to exceed height and density codes as well as provide less parking if they included affordable units in their market rate projects. This "bonus density plan" was vociferously opposed by neighborhood leaders, and the staff recommendation was dropped like a hot potato.

But many members of city council are so enamored with the concept of more and

more affordable housing, they will compromise the very character of the city and community livability to promote their renter voter based housing agenda.

And to what ends do residents benefit by this? More traffic? More parking problems? More congestion and more pollution? And an uglier, more crowded city?

According to Chuck Allord, Chairman of Neighbors for a Safer Santa Monica, the city is spending \$3.5 million to purchase a commercial property in the 1400 block of Broadway for Community Corporation of Santa Monica. Information in the Oct. 4 CCSM board of directors packet confirms that CCSM is negotiating (in escrow) to buy the former Gallegos Bros. tortillera property.

The packet said the city would pony up \$2.7 million for the land, plus another \$700,000 to compensate the present owner for pre-development of the parcel which already has approval for a mixed-use development with apartments and offices. With CCSM in the picture, the property will most likely become yet another affordable housing project.

Will it ever end? It won't, Virginia. There's no end in sight.

Bill Bauer is 25-year resident of Santa Monica and regular columnist.

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



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

(Above) Victims lie dead outside of a car that blew up after a mock bus bombing was carried out as part of a disaster drill at the city yards on Thursday. (Below) Hazmat officials wash down a victim after being exposed to mock chemical agents.

City could fly workers in during emergency

DRILL, from page 1

nario to this extent."

The drill was coordinated by the Santa Monica Fire Department, and tested the readiness of fire, police, public works, transportation and other city departments to respond to the potential terrorist act.

An overturned car and debris made to look like a collapsed building set the stage for a search-and-rescue mission aimed at saving as many survivors of the make-believe attack. City officials said in such a situation they would immediately alert county officials and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, which has offices in West L.A.

Hazardous materials experts secured the scene to ensure terrorists didn't use chemical, biological or radioactive weapons. Once the scene was deemed safe, firefighters and police scoured the scene and removed victims.

Secure zones were set up for emergency medical personnel to treat survivors and emergency responders, and ambulances were at the ready to ship the injured to nearby hospitals.

Police secured the crime scene and patrolled the area in bullet-proof vests and armed

See DRILL, page 6

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LOCAL



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press
 (Above) Hazmat from the FBI and local firefighters search for victims in the crime scene of a fake bus bombing in Santa Monica on Thursday.
 (Below) Victims were pulled out of a burning car by firefighters during a disaster drill.

Drill keeps local police, firefighters on their toes

DRILL, from page 5

with assault rifles. Santa Monica's Special Entry Team, a cadre of highly trained officers, set up positions on roofs and at checkpoints to ensure any surviving terrorists could not escape or cause more harm.

The city's chief administrators were taken to the scene to help coordinate any response needed for the scenario. In an emergency, they would help determine whether curfews needed to be put into effect or if the airways of Santa Monica needed to be restricted.

Along with police and fire personnel, they formed the Emergency Operations Center, which acts as the nucleus of decision-making during an emergency.

Since many municipal employees don't live in Santa Monica, if regional roads are impassible, the city would fly in its emergency personnel from nearby airfields to the Santa Monica Airport.

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LOCAL

Officials say affordable housing needs exemption

HOUSING, from page 1

However, more than 20 residents who live near a proposed 44-unit affordable housing development near the intersection of Main and Pacific streets told the city council they believe the exemptions will stifle community input on projects and result in development that harms neighborhoods.

They said even a relatively small 50-unit affordable housing development can stick out in a neighborhood of one and two story buildings, and the added residents can have a substantial impact on traffic congestion.

"I'm concerned this takes public process away for affordable housing developers," said Tricia Halloran. "I'm not sure why it's needed. If anything, affordable housing developers should be held more accountable to the public, not less."

City officials said while there will be less public review of affordable housing projects under the exemptions, proposed developments would still have to go before the city's Architectural Review Board, which tweaks projects to ensure they fit stylistically with the neighborhood.

Deputy City Attorney Barry Rosenbaum said decisions made by the ARB can still be appealed to the city's planning commission. However, that

commission would be forced to only judge projects based on the same criteria used by the ARB. And projects cannot be appealed to the city council under the exemption.

"It would be nice to have equal review, but the state has undermined everything for us."

— MIKE FEINSTEIN
Santa Monica Mayor

Mayor Mike Feinstein said the affordable housing exemption is necessary because the state has made it difficult for the city to retain affordable housing by undoing rent control laws and making it impossible for the city to force market rate housing developers to build on-site affordable housing.

"It would be nice to have equal review," he said, "but the state has undermined everything for us."

and it didn't work. It's this kind of bickering that turns voters off. Feinstein acts like a spoiled child. The fact that his supported candidate didn't make it is water under the bridge. Feinstein should move on and spend his energies on more important issues like improving the smell and noise on the Promenade. Then maybe more residents will shop down there. I walk there every morning between 5 a.m. and 5:30 a.m., and the stench coming from the Promenade is unbelievable. City council should sit up and listen to what the residents are telling them."

The Line

CONT., from page 3

undergone demographic changes. He explained that partly because of the state government changes in our rent control law, families have moved out and high-income professional singles have moved in. And that's bad if you want to pass a living wage law. These folks are probably completely independent or conservative, which means they will not support such a proposal."

■ "The voting demographics in Santa Monica have not changed. The 9,000 conservative voters who showed up at the polls have a great monetary deal to gain. The conversion of every apartment building in Santa Monica would've made billionaires out of millionaires. Still, they lost on every issue except one. That issue aligned the hardest working people in Santa Monica to earn a fair living wage."

■ "If demographics has anything to do with voting results in Santa Monica, we are in trouble. If it's that, that's bad."

■ "People are sick and tired of being pushed around. It doesn't surprise me that proposition JJ was defeated. This proposition was very discriminatory and only affected those people in certain areas. Also, the majority of the employees did not live in Santa Monica, and therefore probably didn't spend money in Santa Monica. The elected officials need to wake up and pay attention to what goes on around them. Their allegiance seems to be towards the homeless, and the homeless have the attitude that the world owes them a living. As for Santa Monica for Renters Rights candidates not being elected, I only voted for one person, Bob Holbrook. The SMRR was trying to cram their candidates down the voters' throats

■ "Santa Monica's demographics are definitely changing. The change in the rent control regulations in January 1999, which allowed landlords to increase newly vacant units to market rates, was the turning point. I am a good case, having moved into my apartment in November 1999. Prior to the regulation change, it was difficult to get an apartment in Santa Monica. Undervalued rent control units were snapped up, usually by some inside connection, and occasionally I've heard by a little 'grease.' With the regulation change, the playing field was leveled and finally a professional person working in Santa Monica or nearby West L.A. could find a place to live in the city by the sea. By the way, when I moved into my one-bedroom apartment and my rent was doubled out of my neighbors in the exact same units, a three-bedroom apartment in the complex was renting for just a few dollars more than mine. I yelled 'injustice!' at first, but then just settled in and enjoyed where I was living. Now after three years, many people who can actually afford to live near the beach have moved in. I for one would like to see a free market, and, while we're at it, let's hope for the ultimate demise of SMRR and the political parasites who cling to it. Okay. There you go, and thanks a lot."

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Local Sports

SMC Corsairs have lots of experience but no center

BY JESSE HALEY

Special to the Daily Press

The basketball Corsairs, who were second in their conference last year, return eight lettermen to the hardwood for Santa Monica College, among them power forwards Ronald Eskridge, Morgan Smith, a thin Eric Norcross and currently injured point guard Marko Mihailovic.

However, the 2002-03 roster includes no center.

"It's a little different," said head coach John McMullen. "But we'll have more overall depth at that position."

One of the starting forward spots will belong to Ronald Eskridge, the 6'6" sophomore from Palisades High. A D-1 prospect as yet uncommitted, Eskridge is an explosive, natural athlete who can pose a constant offensive threat.

Morgan Smith will occupy the opposite wing. McMullen calls Smith, a sophomore from Jackson Hole, Wyoming, "a key player" — an all-round athlete who can shoot or drive and rebound.

A problem the power forward-stacked Corsairs may face is matching up against teams with less size and more speed, especially at guard.

"We have to find ways to defend small, quick players," said McMullen.

Mihailovic's return in a few weeks may lessen the concern.

At the post, McMullen will start 6'7", 235-pound sophomore Bryan Jolly. While shorter than other junior college centers, McMullen expects Jolly's strength will counterbalance the height advantage of the 6'10" — plus post players he'll match up against in the league.

"Jolly'll give us the muscle to defend those guys," McMullen said.

Egemen Alpay, 6'8", 225-pound freshman and former co-captain of the Turkish Junior National team, will come off the bench to relieve Jolly at center.

An ankle sprain benched starting point guard Mihailovic, who has already committed to play at University of Pacific next year.

Ball-handling duties will fall to Eric Jones, the 5'11" freshman from Los Angeles High School, an all-city player last season.

Sophomore Jun Nakanishi, a quick-footed, 5'10" guard, will also get some minutes at point while Mihailovic tries to get back to full strength.

Forward Eric Norcross is another question mark for SMC. He's suffered health problems recently including a hernia that kept him from training over the summer.

"He's a little weak and out of shape, but he'll put on another 10 or 15 pounds," McMullen said of the currently lean Norcross. "He's been practicing pretty well for a guy who's been out as long as he has."

Norcross is expected to play more as the season progresses.

The Corsair coaching staff said they are also expecting good things this season from two other sophomores, guard Daniel McGaffeny from Mississippi and power forward Justin Ferichs, a local kid from Palisades High.

SMC plays its first home game Thursday night against L.A. Harbor College, before Saturday's doubleheader, when the women's team takes on Compton College at 5:30 p.m. at SMC before the men face Santa Barbara City College at 7 p.m. Both will be conference openers.

Ex-sheriff's deputy arrested

RAID, from page 1

between the people arrested, any items taken and Suge Knight," said Barens. "We heard they were looking for weapons. There are certainly no weapons in his home, offices or anywhere else."

Knight was willing to cooperate with investigators, Barens said.

Knight was not considered a suspect in the investigation, Yates said.

"There is some connection to Tha Row Records," said sheriff's Deputy Darren Harris, referring to Knight's renamed label.

In April, Alton McDonald, 37, a former Death Row Records production manager, was killed as he pumped gas at a Los Angeles service station. Last month, 33-year-old Henry Smith, who designed the electric chair logo for the label, was killed as he sat in his parked SUV.

A SWAT team descended on the label's headquarters near Beverly Hills at about 5 a.m., stalking the roof with drawn weapons, smashing a glass door and hauling off computer equipment and a dozen cardboard boxes.

Deputies also searched luxury vehicles in the company's lot, including a 2002 Mercedes-Benz SUV and a 2002 Cadillac SUV that are registered to Knight.

Two other people were arrested on drug charges. A handgun was seized from another location. A total of 16 search war-

rants were served at homes and businesses connected to Knight along with other unspecified locations in the Los Angeles and Las Vegas areas.

Knight's \$1 million former home in a gated community southeast of Las Vegas was searched. However, that had "nothing to do with the Tupac Shakur slaying," Las Vegas police Sgt. Kevin Manning said.

Knight was released from prison in August after serving five years for violating probation by getting into a fight in a Las Vegas hotel. The 1996 altercation occurred just hours before rap star Shakur was killed in a drive-by shooting as he rode with Knight in the promoter's limousine.

Christopher "The Notorious B.I.G." Wallace, 24, was killed in March 1997 while sitting in his car outside a party celebrating the Soul Train Music Awards in Los Angeles.

Once close friends, Tupac and Wallace had been feuding for more than a year and had exchanged insults in recordings, at concerts and awards shows.

Knight's record label offices were searched by police in 1999 in connection with Wallace's killing but no charges were filed.

That hasn't stopped conspiracy theorists and rap fans from offering a bewildering number of scenarios linking the killings.

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Santa Monica Daily Press

STATE



Military boots 6 gay Arabic linguists despite shortage

BY MARGIE MASON
Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — Nine gay linguists, including six trained to speak Arabic, have been discharged from a U.S. Army language institute despite the threat of war in the Middle East and a critical shortage of language specialists in the military and intelligence agencies.

Seven of the specialists had revealed their sexual orientation at The Defense Language Institute in Monterey, and two others were caught together after curfew, said Steve Ralls, spokesman for the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, an advocacy group that defends gays in the military.

Six were specializing in Arabic, which requires months of intensive training, two were studying Korean and one was learning Mandarin Chinese.

"We face a drastic shortage of linguists, and the direct impact of Arabic speakers is a particular problem," said Donald R. Hamilton, who documented the need for more linguists in a report to Congress as part of the National Commission on Terrorism.

The federal government has aggressively recruited Arabic speakers since Sept. 11, when security agencies found themselves unable to quickly translate and analyze the huge volume of terrorist communications intercepted before and after the attacks.

At the Monterey institute, the military's primary language training center, 516 linguists enrolled in the Arabic course this year and 365 graduated, said Harvey Perritt, spokesman for the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command at Ft. Monroe in Tidewater, Va.

Perritt confirmed the nine discharges occurred between October 2001 and September 2002, but declined to comment further about the cases.

After Sept. 11, the Pentagon suspended some administrative discharges, but not the ban on serving as an openly gay member of the armed forces.

"They all left because they felt the policy created an environment they couldn't work in. None of them left to say, 'I'm tired of being in the military. I want to leave now.'"

— STEVE RALLS
Servicemembers Legal Defense Network spokesman

Supporters of the "don't ask, don't tell" policy, drafted by the Clinton administration and passed by Congress, say allowing gays to serve openly would undercut morale and unit cohesion. The policy allows gays to serve provided they keep quiet about their sexual orientation. Supervisors are not supposed to ask about their sex lives.

Two of the linguists, Alastair "Jack" Gamble and Robert Hicks of Beltsville, Md., were discovered in Gamble's room during a surprise inspection in April. Because Hicks was breaking curfew, a routine search followed, turning up incriminating letters and other evidence of their sexual orientation, Gamble said.

"My personal situation was upturned, and the rest of world doesn't have to care about that," Gamble said. "What they should care about is that they as taxpayers paid a lot of money to train me, and I wanted to use those skills for the good of the country and the country said no thank you."

Gamble, 24, and Hicks, 28, were aware of the "don't ask, don't tell" policy for gays in the military. Gamble said it was the first time they tried to spend the night together in their eight-month relationship.

After their discharges, Gamble and Hicks applied for other federal jobs where they could use their language skills in the war on terrorism, but neither was hired, Gamble said.

Northwestern University sociology professor and military expert Charles Moskos, who helped write the "don't ask, don't tell" policy, said Gamble and Hicks brought their punishment on themselves, and the others should have remained silent.

But Ralls said it's unfair to discharge anyone from the military for being gay — regardless of whether they came forward or were discovered.

"They all left because they felt the policy created an environment they couldn't work in," he said. "None of them left to say, 'I'm tired of being in the military. I want to leave now.'"

Air Force monitors flight performance of Scud in rare test

By The Associated Press

VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE — The Air Force launched a Scud over the Pacific Ocean on Thursday in a rare test designed to glean information on how the widely proliferated missiles fly.

The 33-foot unarmed Scud, which was acquired from an unidentified foreign source, was launched at 11:25 a.m. "It just went off and everything was fine," Senior Airman Brian Hill said.

Fuel to the missile was cut off 59 seconds into the flight, shortly before the Scud reached its maximum altitude of 150,000 feet, said Lt. Col. Rick Lehner, a spokesman for the Missile Defense Agency. The missile then coasted to an impact in the ocean, after traveling between 115 and 120 miles, he said.

The Air Force hoped sensors on the Scud, as well as tracking data, would give them details of the missile's velocity, flight profile and how its fuel system worked, Lehner added.

"Hopefully, we got all the data we were looking to get," he said.

By studying how the Scud flies, the Air Force hopes to improve the ability of its next-generation Patriot missiles to shoot them out of the sky.

During the 1991 Gulf War, Iraq fired about 90 modified Scuds, with 43 landing in Saudi Arabia and 39 in Israel. Four of them were downed by Patriot missiles, according to a congressional report.

The Scud currently is part of the arsenals of at least 25 nations. Iraq is believed to have about two dozen of the tactical ballistic missiles.

In two 1997 tests near the Kwajalein Missile Range in the central Pacific Ocean, the Pentagon used Patriot missiles to shoot down two Scuds.

A second Scud is scheduled to be launched and tracked later this year from Vandenberg Air Force Base, on California's Central Coast. The test program began in 2000 and is not tied to current tensions with Iraq, defense officials said.

The Scud is a Russian derivative of the World War II-era German V-2 rocket. Like the V-2, the Scud flies under power for only a short duration and then coasts to its intended target.

The missiles have a range of about 180 miles.

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NATIONAL

If Pentagon can't catch bin Laden, is it winning the war?

BY PAULINE JELINEK
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Now that Osama bin Laden is thought to be alive and threatening more attacks, the Senate's top Democrat said Thursday the administration's inability to catch the al-Qaida leader raises questions about "whether or not we are winning the war on terror."

"We can't find bin Laden. We haven't made real progress" in finding key elements of al-Qaida, Daschle said. "They continue to be as great a threat today as they were one and a half years ago. So by what measure can we claim to be successful so far?"

Asked about it at the Pentagon, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld ducked the question of whether the United States was winning the war. He also refused to speculate on whether bin Laden was dead or alive in light of the release this week of a threatening audiotape thought to have come from the al-Qaida leader.

"The answer is yes, he is alive or dead," Rumsfeld said.

The failure to catch the world's No. 1 terror suspect and other key figures has dogged the Bush administration, other arrests and successes around the world notwithstanding.

Is the United States winning the war against terrorism? "No, I don't think so," said foreign policy analyst Ivan Eland of the Cato Institute.

But, like the administration, Loren Thompson of the Lexington Institute, another think tank, said, "We are definitely making progress."

Not in catching up to bin Laden.

Over the past 14 months, U.S.-led forces have been unable to find him despite their billion-dollar high-tech spy equipment, a multimillion-dollar reward, search operations by thousands of troops and hours of questioning prisoners.

The Pentagon is hoping to get new hints following the airing of the audiotape that threatens America and its allies.

Though bin Laden tops the Pentagon's wanted list, defense officials said the war has never been about one person.

Tens of thousands of U.S., British, Canadian, Australian, Danish and other forces have worked in the region around Afghanistan over the past year — searching by land, air and sea for al-Qaida and former Taliban rulers who scattered in the first few months after the Afghan bombing campaign began in the fall of 2001.

Across patches of Afghanistan, special operations forces from several nations have secretly spied in villages and mountain passes that could be possible hideouts.

Troops have collected and analyzed heaps of documents, computer disks and other evidence left by enemy fighters in caves and underground bunkers. They have monitored satellite images and intercepted radio, telephone and e-mail communications.

Unmanned spy planes equipped with cameras and Predator drones fitted with Hellfire missiles have been used by CIA operatives. In one instance, they killed a tall man gathered with others under a tree. DNA analysis of his remains later showed that it was not the 6-foot-4 bin Laden.

And an international naval task force has monitored thousands of seafaring vessels in hopes of catching al-Qaida fleeing by water.

In Afghanistan, officials have been saying for months that bin Laden is hiding in neighboring Pakistan's tribal border region, accessible by hundreds of foot paths that wind through the area's rugged peaks.

U.S. Special Forces joined Pakistani troops more than six months ago in an attempt to flush out al-Qaida and Taliban fugitives, angering the tribesmen who continue to back the Taliban and bin Laden's organization despite the Pakistani government's joining Washington's side in the war.

Anyone who might know where bin Laden is apparently isn't saying, despite promises of big money. The United States has offered a \$25 million reward for information to help capture him.

Environmentalists join ranchers in conflict over natural gas faces protest

BY RICHARD BENKE
Associated Press Writer

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. — Environmentalists joined ranchers Thursday as they locked gates to keep oil-and-gas drillers from using the ranchers' roads to access natural gas wells.

Ranchers blame the drillers for a string of environmental problems to the ranchland in the San Juan Basin, including erosion, water contamination, livestock deaths and a decline in range quality.

"They haven't done no reseeding and the roads are all eroded," Chris Velasquez, a third-generation rancher, said at the gate to one of his ranching allotments about 10 miles northeast of Aztec. It was one of at least three that protesters had locked.

The ranchers said they have vainly sought help from the U.S. Bureau of Land Management and the state congressional delegation.

"This is a David and Goliath issue, and as long as Washington is not behind getting the problem fixed, it will not be fixed," said rancher Tweeti Blancett.

The San Juan Basin covers 7,800 square miles in northwestern New Mexico and southwestern Colorado. It produced \$2.4 billion in oil and gas income last year, bringing in \$325 million in federal royalties. The basin produces 10 percent of U.S. natural gas.

Tod Bryant, a spokesman for the Interstate Oil and Gas Compact Commission in Oklahoma City, said Thursday the oil and gas sites are properly permitted and "anybody who tries to deny access to that has got to be breaking the law."

"Oil and gas companies are playing by the rules, and these people should to," he said.

Blancett said the lockout won't keep drillers off their wells, since there are alternate routes to the sites.

"They just can't come through and destroy our private land in the process," she said.

Velasquez, however, said the gate that he locked provided the only access to about 25 gas wells.

Bob Gallagher, president of the New Mexico Oil and Gas Association, said Blancett and her fellow protesters are a vocal minority

who refuse to meet with oil and gas producers to iron out solutions.

"The law is very clear and it has been upheld that the mineral rights take precedence over surface rights," he said.

Linn Blancett, Tweeti Blancett's husband, said he locked an access gate to his private ranch land north of Aztec "so that I can control the damage being done on my property, but also to the rest of the surface on the BLM grazing permit that I hold." The Blancetts are sixth-generation New Mexico ranchers.

Velasquez had a confrontation a few years ago with drillers who had left a cattle gate open.

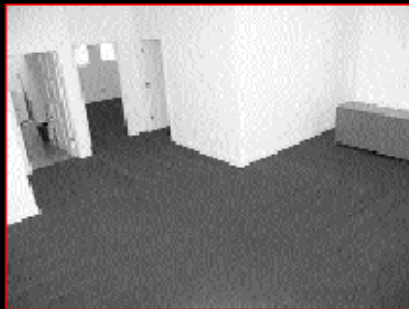
"I'd had enough," Velasquez said after that incident. "So I parked my pickup and my horse trailer across the road and wouldn't let them (drillers) out. They called the state cops."

That incident ended amicably, and Blancett said ranchers have no intention of letting their protest get out of control.

"We do not intend to break the peace. We have been here since the 1870s, and we're not going anywhere," she said.

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INTERNATIONAL



Military action in Israel



Nasser Istayeh/Associated Press

An Israeli soldier atop an armored personnel carrier uses his radio to navigate the vehicle's driver as they patrol in the northern West Bank town of Nablus Thursday. Israeli forces backed by dozens of tanks and armored personnel carriers continued their operation into the largest West Bank town for a second day Thursday in an apparent hunt for Palestinian militants.

Powell tries to soothe hard feelings over border arrests

BY SONYA ROSS
Associated Press Writer

OTTAWA — Secretary of State Colin Powell sought on Thursday to assuage sore feelings to the north, saying stricter security measures at U.S. borders "are not directed at Canada."

Powell paid a four-hour visit to Ottawa to meet with Foreign Minister Bill Graham and other Canadian officials. The session was described as a general consultation about Iraq and other matters ahead of the NATO summit next week in Prague.

But Powell also had to deal with growing concerns in Canada about treatment by its powerful neighbor. Officials here were so unhappy over the way the United States handled two Canadian citizens at border crossings that they issued a special travel advisory.

That advisory was lifted after the United States promised Canadian citizens would not be singled out for special scrutiny. Powell offered further assurances, saying U.S. and Canadian officials would work together to resolve the cases of the two affected Canadians.

"We're doing everything we can to respect Canadian citizenship," Powell said. "I don't expect it to be a problem in the future."

Powell and Graham also discussed Iraq and international efforts to ensure that Saddam Hussein complies with U.N. weapons inspections. Powell said Iraq's reaction to enforcement of no-fly zones over part of its territory would be looked at "with great seriousness" and that Iraq must understand the threat of military action is real.

"The United States has demonstrated considerable patience over the last two months," Powell said. "That patience will continue. But at the same time, there should be absolutely no confusion or misunderstanding."

Graham said he anticipates that Iraq will not resist. "While there may be anxiety in the world about avoiding what is

called hidden triggers" within the U.N. resolution, Graham said, "I think what will happen is that Iraq will conform."

There also are fresh concerns for Canada in the tape purportedly from terror mastermind Osama bin Laden that named Canada as a potential target. Deputy Prime Minister John Manley said that such threats, while taken seriously, "merely strengthen our resolve."

"We will continue to implement Canada's anti-terrorist plan, and to work with our partners around the world ... to end this global scourge," Manley said.

U.S. officials made much of the border security arrangements it struck with Canada in the months following the Sept. 11 attacks. But Canada now is a critic of the U.S. National Security Entry Exit Registration System, which authorizes taking fingerprints and photographs of people born or holding citizenship in any of five countries the United States says sponsor terrorism: Iran, Iraq, Libya, Sudan and Syria.

Canadian officials said the policy is discriminatory. At the height of Canada's pique, Graham issued a travel advisory warning people from those five countries to avoid going into the United States.

The two Canadians detained at border crossings are Michel Jalbert, 32, of Quebec, and Maher Arar of Montreal, who holds dual citizenship with Syria.

Jalbert was arrested Oct. 11 when he journeyed into Maine to buy gas at a station a few yards from the border. An American policeman spotted a shotgun in Jalbert's vehicle, and a background check found he had been convicted 13 years ago of vandalism and possessing stolen property.

Jalbert was arrested and charged with entering the United States illegally. If convicted, he could face six months in jail. He was released Thursday and permitted to return home until his trial.

Arar was detained Sept. 26 while switching planes at John F. Kennedy airport in New York while returning home from Tunisia. He was deported to Syria.

Pope makes historic visit, calls for peace, values and more babies

BY NICOLE WINFIELD
Associated Press Writer

ROME — Pope John Paul II made a historic speech to Italy's parliament Thursday, urging Italians to work for world peace, uphold their Christian values and have more babies.

The visit — the first time a pope has appeared before the Italian parliament — underscored the warmth that the country feels for the Polish-born John Paul, the first non-Italian pontiff in 455 years.

It also showed that Italy and the Roman Catholic Church have healed the wounds that a century ago prompted popes to call themselves "prisoners" of the Vatican rather than accept Italy's government as legitimate.

The pope referred to the once-strained relations but said the bonds were now strong. He said Italy's very identity "would be most difficult to understand without reference to Christianity, its lifeblood."

Lawmakers interrupted the speech about 20 times with applause and gave the pope a standing ovation, with some cheering "Viva il papa!" at the end of his speech.

However, the visit was not without opposition. A few deputies said they wouldn't attend to underscore that Italy remains a secular country, and a dozen or so gay activists protested at a nearby piazza.

The speech had an unexpected outcome: A fugitive Mafia boss turned himself in after being inspired by the pope's comments on family values, said his lawyer, Roberto Tricoli. In September, Benedetto Marcante was convicted in absentia and sentenced to 30 years in prison for homicide and Mafia association, Tricoli said.

The pope, 82, covered most of the general topics he has addressed in his 24-year pontificate, including respect for the dignity of man, democracy, peace and justice.

He decried the ongoing Israeli-Palestinian conflict and international terrorism "which has taken on a new and fearful dimension, involving in a completely distorted way the great religions. Christian countries, he said, should work for peace and not allow themselves "to be imprisoned by a 'logic' of conflict incapable of offering real solutions."

But his emphasis was on Italy — and particularly what he called "the crisis of the birth rate."

While Italy is largely Roman Catholic, the church teaching that couples should be open to having children is not enthusiastically followed: Italy has one of the lowest birth rates in the world — 9.3 births per 1,000 inhabitants — and one of the oldest populations.

Italian women on average have 1.23 children, a figure under the European Union average of about 1.48 and well under the American average of about 2.1.

The United Nations has warned that Italy's economic future is at risk because the shrinking work force won't be able to support its aging population without an influx of migrant workers.

The pope called the situation "another grave threat that bears upon the future of this country, one which is already conditioning its life and its capacity for devel-

opment."

"Above all, it encourages — indeed I would dare to say, forces — citizens to make a broad and responsible commitment to favor a clear-cut reversal of this tendency," he said.

Politicians, he said, should adopt initiatives that "can make the task of having children and bringing them up less burdensome both socially and economically." And parents should instill in their children strong moral values, while schools should develop in a "healthy climate of freedom."

"The pope is right in asking for more children.

We're well aware of it in Sardinia, where the older generations all come from large families and most of us are one or two."

— ANITA MARCHESI
University student

The pope urged Italian authorities to grant clemency to prisoners, saying a reduction in their sentences "would be clear evidence of a sensitivity" that would encourage their rehabilitation.

And he repeated his call for European leaders, who are drafting a new European Union constitution, to recognize the role Christianity has played on the continent.

The pope appeared in strong form, speaking clearly through the 45-minute speech and walking on his own, with a cane, to his car. The car was parked in a square outfitted with big-screen TVs that broadcast his speech live.

Anita Marchesi, a first-year university student from the Italian island of Sardinia, was among the throngs of people watching the speech, which she called historic and important for the country.

"The pope is right in asking for more children," she said. "We're well aware of it in Sardinia, where the older generations all come from large families and most of us are one or two."

The speech represented the latest step in improving relations between Italy and the church, which ruled a vast swath of the Italian peninsula until the mid-19th century.

When the new Italian army seized the territory when Italy was unified in 1861, the pope was only left with Rome and some coastal areas, which were finally taken in 1870.

At the time, the government guaranteed the pope independence within what is now the Vatican and offered to compensate the church for the lost lands. But Pope Pius IX refused to recognize the government and called himself a "prisoner" of the Vatican.

The so-called "Roman Question" was resolved in 1929, when the Vatican and Italy signed a treaty that recognized both as sovereign entities.



SPORTS

Arizona is West's, and perhaps nation's, best team

BY BETH HARRIS

AP Sports Writer

Arizona coach Lute Olson had plenty of concerns a year ago. After losing four top players to the NBA, Olson was left with five freshmen to play a brutal schedule.

The Wildcats weren't intimidated. They beat eventual national champion Maryland, won the Pacific-10 Conference tournament title, advanced to the final 16 of the NCAA tournament and finished 24-10.

This season, Arizona expects nothing less than a national title.

"I feel much more comfortable than I did last year," said Olson, inducted into the Hall of Fame in September. "This year, the three seniors are doing a great job of leadership. Our sophomores had to play a lot last year, so we know what we have. The four freshmen are working very hard. From an athletic standpoint, we've never been this deep."

The Wildcats were No. 1 in The Associated Press preseason poll.

Oregon, featuring the talented backcourt of Luke Jackson and Luke Ridnour, was ranked 11th, and UCLA, bolstered by the return of sharpshooter Jason Kapono, was No. 14.

The Pac-10 got six teams into

"This year, the three seniors are doing a great job of leadership. Our sophomores had to play a lot last year, so we know what we have. The four freshmen are working very hard. From an athletic standpoint, we've never been this deep."

— LUTE OLSON
Arizona coach

the NCAA tournament last season, with Oregon, which won the league's regular-season title, making the final eight.

"The league is going to be tough from top to bottom," Olson said. "There are no gimmies, particularly on the road."

While the Wildcats have all their top players back, other teams had key losses. Stanford lost Casey Jacobsen, Southern California lost conference player of the year Sam Clancy, Oregon is missing Frederick Jones, and UCLA lost Matt Barnes and Dan Gadzuric.

"We're going to get everybody's best shot," Olson said.

Arizona guard Jason Gardner is among the top seniors in the country. His 20.4-point average led the conference last season. Senior Luke Walton averaged 15.7 points, 7.3 rebounds and 6.3

assists.

Gardner provided bulletin board material by saying the Wildcats could go undefeated in conference play.

"That's youthful exuberance," Olson said.

Insisting he didn't mean to create a controversy, Gardner said, "Most likely it won't happen. I wish it could happen."

Kapono will be the leader of a young UCLA team, and sophomores Cedric Bozeman and Ryan Walcott will be tested at point guard.

The Mountain West Conference enjoyed a resurgence last season, with San Diego State, Utah and Wyoming earning NCAA tournament berths. The Cowboys upset Gonzaga in the first round and challenged Arizona before losing 68-60.

Wyoming figures to lead the way among eight teams that comprise the strongest Mountain West lineup since the league began in 1999.

The Cowboys have depth on the frontline and in the backcourt. Senior center Uche Nsonwu-Amadi, a three-year starter from Nigeria, led the con-

ference in rebounding. Guard-forward Marcus Bailey, another three-year starter, averaged 14.6 points and shot 49 percent from the field.

UNLV is back in contention under coach Charlie Spoonhour, who led the Runnin' Rebels to a 21-11 record, an NIT berth and a spot in the conference tournament title game after coming out of retirement.

The cream of the West Coast Conference will be Gonzaga — again. Winners of four consecutive conference tournament titles, the Zags lost point guard Dan Dickau and Casey Calvary, but they do get back three starters from last season's top 10 team: Blake Stepp, Zach Gourde and Cory Violette.

Pepperdine returns its top five scorers to make a run at knocking off Gonzaga. Coach Paul Westphal guided the Waves to the NCAA tournament in his first season.

There's a change in the West Coast's tournament format this season that rewards teams for doing well in the regular season. The top two seeds will receive byes to the semifinals; the No. 3

and No. 4 seeds earn byes to the quarterfinals; while the fifth-through eighth-seeded teams have to play opening-round games.

The Western Athletic Conference lost its best-known personality when Jerry Tarkanian retired. Tarkanian, who coached Fresno State to postseason play in all seven seasons at his alma mater, was replaced by Oklahoma assistant Ray Lopes.

The Bulldogs are in a rebuilding mode after losing the conference's top two players in two-time WAC MVP Melvin Ely and forward Chris Jeffries, both first-round NBA draft picks.

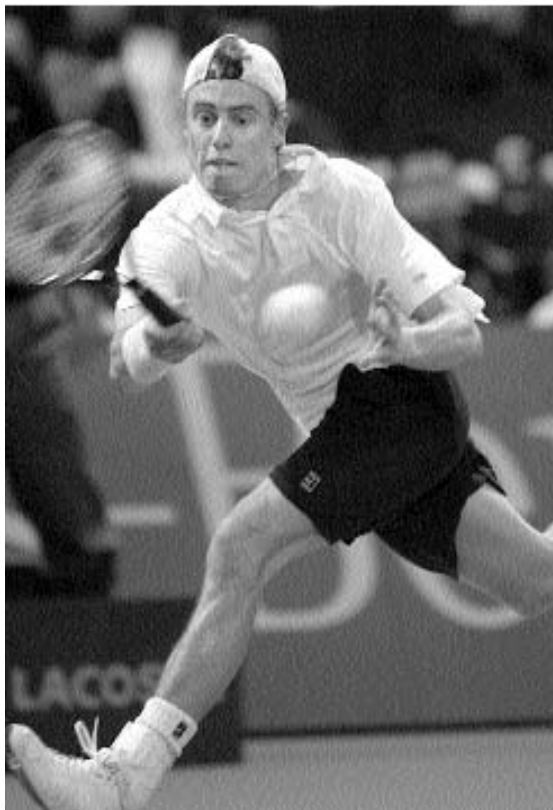
Hawaii and Tulsa tied for the conference title last season and the race figures to come down to the same teams. Hawaii seeks a third consecutive NCAA tournament berth under coach Riley Wallace.

Tulsa brings back seniors Kevin Johnson, Charlie Davis, Antonio Reed and Dante Swanson, who upset Marquette and scared Kentucky in the NCAA tournament.

UC Santa Barbara and Utah State could have breakout seasons in the Big West Conference. The Gauchos return four starters and several key reserves who won the school's first-ever tournament title last season. Utah State is seeking its fourth consecutive 20-win season and fourth straight postseason appearance under coach Stew Morrill.

In the Big Sky Conference, Eastern Washington should lead the way. The Eagles came within a victory of reaching the NCAA tournament the last two years.

Hewitt defeats Safin



Itsuo Inouye/Associated Press
Australia's Lleyton Hewitt returns the ball against Russia's Marat Safin during a match of the Tennis Masters Cup in Shanghai, China, Thursday. Hewitt defeated Safin 6-4, 2-6, 6-4.

Sacramento State players covered jerseys with nonstick cooking spray

BY AMY BETH HANSON

Associated Press Writer

HELENA, Mont. — Despite their best efforts, Sacramento State players have gotten themselves into a sticky situation.

Several of the Hornets greased their jerseys with nonstick cooking spray on the sideline during their 31-24 loss at Montana last weekend, the Big Sky Conference said Thursday.

Before determining a punishment, the league and Sacramento State are trying to figure out how many players used the spray and whether coaches knew.

Sacramento State athletic director Terry Wanless said he still is investigating but believes only three players were involved.

"We'll decide the penalty, depending upon who we find at the bottom of the pile," Big Sky commissioner Doug Fullerton said. He expected to announce his decision Friday.

"I think it's a serious ethical breach," Fullerton added.

Hornets coach John Volek

"We'll decide the penalty, depending upon who we find at the bottom of the pile ... I think it's a serious ethical breach."

— DOUG FULLERTON
Big Sky commissioner

said he didn't know anything about it, but he was not on the sideline during the game. He was serving a one-game suspension for complaining about officiating in his team's 31-30 loss to Montana State a week earlier.

The Grizzlies, No. 1 in Division I-AA and the defending national champion, rallied from a 21-14 deficit to beat Sacramento State and tie the division record with a 24-game winning streak.

Todd Goodrich, a University of Montana photographer, said he saw two Sacramento State players spraying each other near the end of the first half.

During the second half,

Goodrich saw two more players spraying each other with a can of PAM and snapped several photos.

"They were pretty blatant about it," Goodrich said. "Right there on the sidelines."

The photos were being turned over to the league. The University of Montana declined to provide copies to The Associated Press. The school said Grizzlies players also were told not to comment.

Montana athletic director Wayne Hogan said he was taking the pictures to Fullerton on Saturday in Spokane, Wash., where Montana is playing Eastern Washington.

COMICS



The Dinette Set by Julie Larson



Natural Selection® By Russ Wallace



CROSSWORD By THOMAS JOSEPH

- ACROSS**
- 1 Removes
 - 6 Stately dance
 - 11 Cager
 - 12 Love, Italian-style
 - 13 Afloat
 - 14 Smidgens
 - 15 Timetable abbr.
 - 16 Diner's attire
 - 18 Cobbling tool
 - 19 Spot
 - 20 Cunning
 - 21 Lasso
 - 23 Film set worksite
 - 25 Alley —
 - 27 He show letters
 - 28 Useful skill
 - 30 Nile
 - 33 Greek letter
 - 34 'Far out'
 - 36 Dudgeon
 - 37 'Top Hat' star
 - 39 Breath mints buy
 - 40 Feeling sorry about
 - 41 Stellar ram
 - 43 Ham it up
 - 44 Unfeathered
 - 46 Tightly packed
- DOWN**
- 1 Maltoughil bookmark
 - 2 Boding combo
 - 3 Curled-up state
 - 4 Dieter's no-no
 - 5 Decelerates
 - 6 Biotro staff
 - 7 Writer Oz
 - 8 Cross-legged state
 - 9 Hiker's choice
 - 10 Piquant
 - 17 Brawl/wave chart
 - 22 Dawn goddess
 - 24 George's brother
 - 26 Orbital minimum
 - 28 Taps on
 - 29 Road goo
 - 31 Unwed father
 - 32 Detects
 - 33 Trimmed hands
 - 34 Picnic peaks
 - 42 Lobster eggs

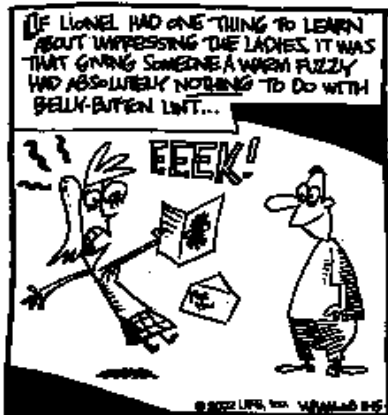


edge city

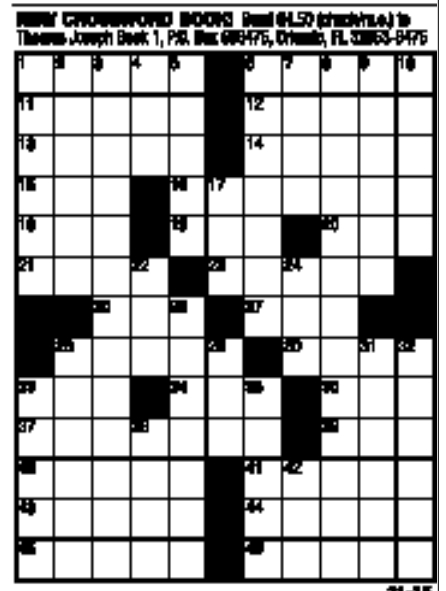
by TERRY & PATTY LEBAN



Reality Check® By Dave Whammond



Speed Bump® By Dave Coverly



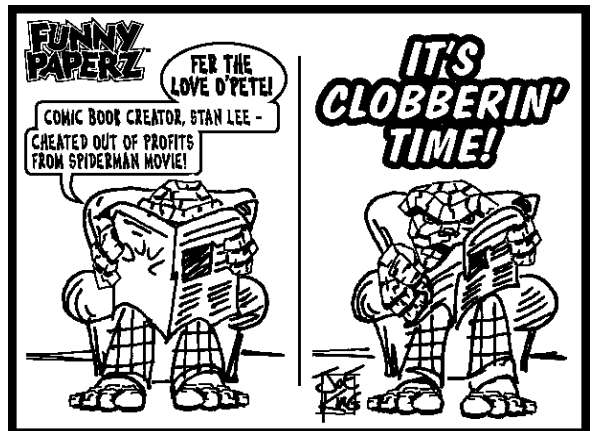
STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-288-0168 90¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only) A King Features service, NYC.

NEWS OF THE WEIRD by Chuck Shepard

Men march naked for gay parade

Decisions announced one day apart in September: Toronto prosecutors dropped the public nudity charges against seven men who marched naked in a Gay Pride parade, concluding that it would be impossible to convict them, in that they were wearing shoes. And the Washington state Supreme Court dismissed voyeurism charges against two men who had been convicted of shooting "upskirt" photos of women in public, concluding that the state peeping-tom statute applies only to victims who have an "expectation of privacy" because they are in secluded places.





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Calendar

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

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.
Secretary 5:00, 10:00. White Oleander 7:30

Today

Community

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

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.

Support Daybreak Designs, a grassroots business venture for women in transition. Quality handmade items perfect for the holidays. Daybreak Shelter, 12pm to 7pm. 1610 7th Street at Colorado. (310)450-0650

Pulse - Through kinesthesia, sight,

sound, touch, taste, and smell, pathways clear for your deeper embodiment and wider expression. Each session is supported by live music with **Christo Pellani** of Soundformation Music and/or by recorded music. Altars devoted to the senses, spirit and play enrich the environment and amplify your awareness. Third Friday of the month, 7:30 p.m. To 9:30 p.m., Continuum Studio, 1629 18th Street #7, (North of Olympic in Santa Monica) Cost \$12.00. For more information please call Kara Masters (310)455-2743.

It's Howdy Doody Time! Santa Monica Puppet & Magic Center celebrates it's 5th Anniversary with a special performance of **Puppetolio!** Followed by **Howdy Retrospective** with Burt Dubrow. Show starts at 7:30pm, all seats - \$9.50, 1255 2nd Street in Santa Monica. Reservations/Information (310)656-0483. www.puppetmagic.com

Saturday

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!

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

Puppetolio! presented by the Santa Monica Puppet & Magic Center. All ages, 3 and up. This musical revue features marionettes, ventriloquism, magic and more. Shows are always followed by a demonstration, Q & A, and a tour of the Puppet workshop and Museum. Saturdays and Sundays at 1pm and 3pm. Wednesdays and Holidays at 1pm. Seats are \$6.50. 1255 2nd Street in Santa Monica. Reservations/Information (310)656-0483. www.puppetmagic.com

Support Daybreak Designs, a grassroots business venture for women in transition. Quality handmade items perfect for the holidays. Daybreak Shelter, 12pm to 3pm, 1610 7th Street at Colorado. (310)450-0650

An Evening of Melody and Stars - a major event to benefit the American Academy for Dance and Kindred Arts will be held tonight at Arcadia, the nightclub on Santa Monica Pier right by the Carousel. Doors open at 7:15pm. Performance at 8pm. Silent Auction, wine and hors d'oeuvres. Tickets are \$125. Seating is limited,

so please call for reservations ASAP! (310)656-8899

The **Verdi Chorus** presents their Annual Fall Concert. Presenting excerpts from: Early Verdi, Opera Verismo, and French Opera. Tickets are \$20 (seniors \$15, students \$10), 7:30pm. First United Methodist Church, 1008 11th Street. Two blocks north of Wilshire Blvd. Info (310)828-5349, (310)826-8309, (310)394-1902.

The **Red Ribbon Squares**, Santa Monica's official square dance club, invites you to enjoy an evening of plus level square dancing, alternating with round dancing, with an A-1 tip during break time. We dance every Saturday at Marine Park from 7:45pm to 10:30pm. Admission is \$5.00 for dancers, including refreshments. Spectators are free. For more information, please call (310)395-3383.

The **Empty State Theater** at 2372 Veteran Ave. in W. Los Angeles proudly presents: "The Fortune Room Lounge Show" A musical improv show featuring the "Stella Ray Trio" and "The Lucky Players". Every Saturday night at 10:00 p.m. Admission is \$10.00, drinks included w/admission. Lots of parking! For information or reservations please call (310)470-3560.

Calendar items are printed free of charge as a service to our readers. Please submit your items to todaypaper@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

Study suggests targeted vaccination as good as mass shots

BY PAUL RECER

AP Science Writer

WASHINGTON — Vaccinating just the people in close contact with infected smallpox patients after a bioterrorist attack would be almost as effective as vaccinating the entire population, a study found.

Emory University researchers constructed a math model to test which would be the most effective vaccination response of public health officials to a smallpox attack on a community of 2,000 people.

They found that targeted vaccinations — giving shots to those who had close contacts with infected patients — was about as effective in saved lives and reduced disease as inoculating the entire community, provided that some in the population had “pre-existing immunity” to smallpox.

Dr. M. Elizabeth Halloran, first author of the study appearing this week in *Science*, said pre-existing immunity in a community could be increased by vaccinating volunteers and hospital and medical workers before an attack.

The report comes as President Bush is believed close to deciding how many Americans will be offered smallpox vaccinations.

Halloran and her co-author, Ira M. Longini Jr., said mass inoculations before an attack would disarm smallpox bioterrorists because most of the public would be immune to their weapon. But smallpox vaccinations were abandoned in the United States in 1972 because the chances of becoming ill from the shot was greater than the chances of getting the disease.

It is estimated that the vaccines can cause serious illness in about one patient per 10,000 vaccinations, and one to two deaths per million shots.

Halloran said public health officials now must find the best balance between hurting too many people from the vaccine and halting the spread of smallpox after a bioterrorist attack.

The new study evaluated the effects if a few individuals infected with smallpox intentionally spread the disease by wandering among others in the community. It then mathematically calculated the effects of two responses — targeted inoculations or mass inoculations.

It found that if 80 percent of the people

in close contact with a smallpox case were inoculated in a community that had no pre-existing immunity then there would be a death rate of about 19.6 per 1,000. With some pre-existing immunity, however, the death rate per 1,000 would drop to about 1.8 per 1,000.

If a community used mass inoculations, however, it would take longer and 80 percent of the total population would not be inoculated until after the 15th smallpox case had occurred. The authors calculated that in a community with some pre-existing immunity under these conditions, the death rate would be about 2.4 per 1,000. With no pre-existing immunity, however, the mass inoculation method would have a

death toll of about 9.4 per 1,000, or about 10 per 1,000 better than targeted inoculations under the same circumstances.

Dr. Edward H. Kaplan, an epidemiologist at the Yale School of Medicine, said the Emory research was “a competently executed study,” but that it did not consider the logistics involved in a large and rapid vaccination effort. He said targeted vaccinations take time because the contacts must be found and then summoned for shots, and quarantine and isolation facilities must be organized. Also, he said, the Emory study based its estimate on a small community, 2,000 people, while an attack on a city could involve millions.

Government probes ProdiGene for crop-mixing

BY EMILY GERSEMA

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The government is investigating whether a biotechnology company broke federal rules by mixing genetically modified crops with soybeans in Iowa and Nebraska.

The Agriculture Department announced late Wednesday that ProdiGene Inc., of College Station, Texas, may have violated federal rules in September when it failed to completely remove corn kernels remaining from a biotech corn crop planted in Iowa last year. Federal officials had ordered the company to burn 155 acres of the corn.

ProdiGene is a company that produces plant-made pharmaceuticals and industrial products. The government has strict guidelines for planting and removing such

crops to make sure those products do not mix with the food supply or mingle with neighboring crops.

On Tuesday, the Food and Drug Administration said it was ordering ProdiGene to destroy 500,000 bushels of soybeans grown in Nebraska rather than sell them for food because the soybeans were contaminated with biotech corn. The bushels have been quarantined at an elevator in Aurora, Neb.

Cindy Smith, deputy administrator for USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, said inspectors told the company before it harvested the Nebraska crop that it needed to remove the leftover, or “volunteer,” corn.

“They did not follow those procedures well enough for us to be confident that there were no standing, volunteer corn,”

she said.

The government was able to block the contaminated crops from tainting the food supply, Smith said.

She said USDA and ProdiGene officials are holding meetings to determine the penalties the company would face for violating the Plant Protection Act, which regulates the transportation and planting of genetically engineered plants.

Under the act, the company can be fined up to \$250,000 per violation, or up to \$500,000 for one proceeding or lose its permit for planting genetically modified crops.

The department refused to disclose what was in the corn that officials feared could contaminate food, said Jim Rogers, a USDA spokesman. Officials said, though, that it was experimental corn, not yet approved to go on the market.

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