

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

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DAILY 3

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD BY CHUCK SHEPARD

Notorious performance artist Zhang Huan gave a live show of his books-themed photo installation "My Boston" at the city's Museum of Fine Arts in September, including burying himself under a pile of volumes, eating pages, and shimmying up a flagpole while weighted down with books. Zhang's previous notable works include "Seeds of Hamburg," in which he coated himself with birdseed and honey and sat in a cage with 28 doves. According to a Boston Globe reporter, some people "outside" the performance-art world might call Zhang a "crackpot."

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 320th day of 2005.
There are 45 days left in the year.

On Nov. 16, 1864, Union Gen. William T. Sherman and his troops began their "March to the Sea" during the Civil War.

In 1776, British troops captured Fort Washington during the American Revolution.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"No matter how dull, or how mean, or how wise a man is, he feels that happiness is his indisputable right."

HELEN KELLER

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City Hall looks to outside for leadership

BY RYAN HYATT

Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL — It appears that the new City Manager won't come from within the local government as the three current city employees who applied have been passed up for the position.

Sources said on Tuesday that Gordon Anderson, assistant city manager; James T. Butts Jr., police chief; and Craig Perkins, director of environmental and public works, applied for the position but the City Council has decided to pursue other applicants.

Anderson, Butts and Perkins declined to comment on their applications, the contents of which are confidential. Some environmental leaders were disappointed with the City Council's decision not to further consider Perkins (see page 4).

The City Council, which met behind closed doors on Monday, has screened 61 applicants for the

See **CITY MANAGER**, page 5



Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

HURRY UP AND WAIT: The lines have been long and steady at the Cove skatepark on Olympic Boulevard ever since it opened in June, when many pro skaters, pictured here, dropped in for some fun on the concrete.

Skaters say new park is in the dark

BY RYAN HYATT

Daily Press Staff Writer

MEMORIAL PARK — Santa Monicans say they are stoked about the city's new skatepark, if only they could use it more.

Some residents are frustrated

because the Cove skatepark — which cost more than \$550,000 to design and build — is only open for two hours on weekdays.

Due to the skatepark's popularity, users say they often have to wait in a long line only to be told they must leave once they're

inside.

"I'd say the pro is that we have a skatepark in Santa Monica, but the con is definitely the hours," said Bart Saric, a 30-year Santa Monica resident and skating film-

See **SKATEPARK**, page 5

Local children get shopping salvation at Sears



Derek Goes/Special to the Daily Press

Itzel Romero on Tuesday takes a break from her \$100 shopping spree at Sears to talk to Santa.

By Daily Press staff

COLORADO AVE. — Local children on Tuesday got a jump start on their holiday shopping, compliments of Sears and a host of service organizations.

Not only did the 75 kids beat the rush, they beat the crowds; they were free to wander both floors of Sears on Colorado Avenue and Fourth Street before the store opened its doors to the public. The children, also treated to an early visit from Santa Claus, cruised the aisles with the holiday sounds of the Santa Monica High School Madrigal singers in the background.

The Salvation Army Santa Monica Corps Community Center sponsored the holiday shopping spree for 75 pre-selected needy

children, ages 5 to 7.

Each child received \$100 to spend on new clothes. Volunteers from the community center's advisory board, service clubs, businesses and nearby schools assisted the children as they made their selections.

The Salvation Army expects to serve more than 350,000 people in the Southern California area this holiday season. Many of them will be families in crisis, homeless women and children, older adults, transients and unemployed individuals. In order to serve the needs of each person, the Salvation Army Southern California will be serving dinner, handing out toys, distributing food baskets and raising money to help support the work of the Army.

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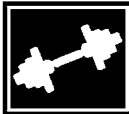
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VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) ★★★ You might need to take charge, whether you want to or not. You can only do what you are capable of — giving 100 percent. You will find that asking for help could bring surprising alternative views. Tonight: Late.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ You are an unpredictable force in what could be a calm, sedate day. Did we say that? As far as you are concerned, you are already ready for the weekend. Please use some self-discipline and handle key matters first. Tonight: At home.



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LOCAL



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Sidewalk book sale this weekend

By Daily Press staff

Having difficulty finding the perfect gift? Maybe a book is your answer. The Will Rogers Learning Community will host a sidewalk book sale on Nov. 19 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. A wide assortment of Scholastic books will be for sale. Children's books, a selection of adult titles and holiday gift ideas will be available. The PTA-sponsored event will be open to the community, and all net proceeds will go toward enrichment activities and programs. Coffee will be provided for attendees. The Will Rogers Learning Community is located at 2402 14th St.

December concerts at SMC

By Daily Press staff

In the mood for jazz this December? The Santa Monica College Music Department will present a holiday concert, jazz and more in December. All concerts are in the SMC Concert Hall, 1900 Pico Blvd., unless otherwise noted. The lineup is:

- Friday, Dec. 2, at 7 p.m.: Latin Jazz: Banda Brothers Quintet's "Tribute to Cal Tjader." The Banda brothers, Tony and Ramon, played with Grammy Award-winning Pancho Sanchez for 24 years and are winning acclaim for their own style of music. Tickets are \$10.
- Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 3 and 4, at 7:30 p.m.: "Christmas Celebration," with the Santa Monica Methodist Church Chancel Choir joining SMC Concert Chorale, both under the direction of SMC music professor James Smith. The program, narrated by actor Peter Graves, will be held at the First United Methodist Church, 11th Street and Washington Avenue. Tickets are \$15 general admission and \$10 for students and senior citizens.
- Sunday, Dec. 4, at 4 p.m.: SMC Jazz Band, under the direction of Keith Fiddmont, with special guest Bijon Watson on trumpet. Tickets are \$10.
- Thursday, Dec. 8, at 11:15 a.m.: SMC Percussion Ensemble, under the direction of Matthew Altmire. Free.
- Friday, Dec. 9, at 8 p.m.: SMC Jazz Vocal Ensemble, under the direction of Cindy Bourquin. Tickets are \$10.
- Sunday, Dec. 11, at 4 p.m.: SMC Concert Band, under the direction of Kevin McKeown. Tickets are \$10.

For tickets and information, call (310) 434-3000 or (310) 434-4323. For tickets to "Christmas Celebration," call (310) 393-8258.

Unique handmade crafts for sale

By Daily Press staff

Daybreak Shelter is offering shoppers an opportunity to purchase exclusive crafts and collectibles during its annual holiday sale. Daybreak Designs, a project-based business started in 1999 as an extension of Daybreak Shelter, will hold its holiday sale on Friday, Dec. 9, from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 10, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. The sale will take place on the corner Seventh Street and Colorado Boulevard.. Items for sale will include a variety of specially designed arts and crafts including hand-painted greeting and holiday cards, one-of-a-kind jewelry items and other collectibles. Daybreak Designs is run by the women of Daybreak Shelter who are working to overcome mental illness. The annual holiday sale provides the opportunity for the artists and craftswomen to increase their limited income and learn important self-supporting skills. The sale also includes the raffle of a handmade quilt. Daybreak Shelter, a transitional housing program, provides six months of structured, group living for up to 15 mentally ill women. Daybreak Shelter is a project of Ocean Park Community Center.



SURF REPORT

Overall, NW periods are averaging 10 seconds from 300 degrees. In SoCal, most west-facing breaks are seeing waist-high+ sets when the tide is right. South-facing breaks are running waist high. Today, expect knee to waist high almost everywhere as the Santa Ana continues to blow NE winds along the coast.

Today the water is:

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	LOW TIDES				HIGH TIDES			
	Morning	Height	Evening	Height	Morning	Height	Evening	Height
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TUESDAY	1:37	1.6	2:59	-0.8	7:54	6.7	9:21	4.1
WEDNESDAY	2:08	2.0	3:40	-0.8	8:25	6.6	10:12	3.9
THURSDAY	2:38	2.4	4:23	-0.7	8:57	6.4	11:07	3.6
FRIDAY	2:52	2.1	5:03	-0.2	9:24	6.0	12:01	3.0

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The Q Line

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Last week, Californians soundly defeated all propositions attached to the state's special election, which included initiatives on topics ranging from state budget reform to political redistricting. The 'no' votes have been characterized largely as a personal defeat for Gov. Schwarzenegger, who backed many of the propositions as steps in reforming California's government.

So this week, Q-Line wants to know, "Where should Gov. Schwarzenegger focus his efforts now?"

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your responses in the weekend edition. Please try to limit your comments to a minute or less. It might help to think first about the wording of your response.

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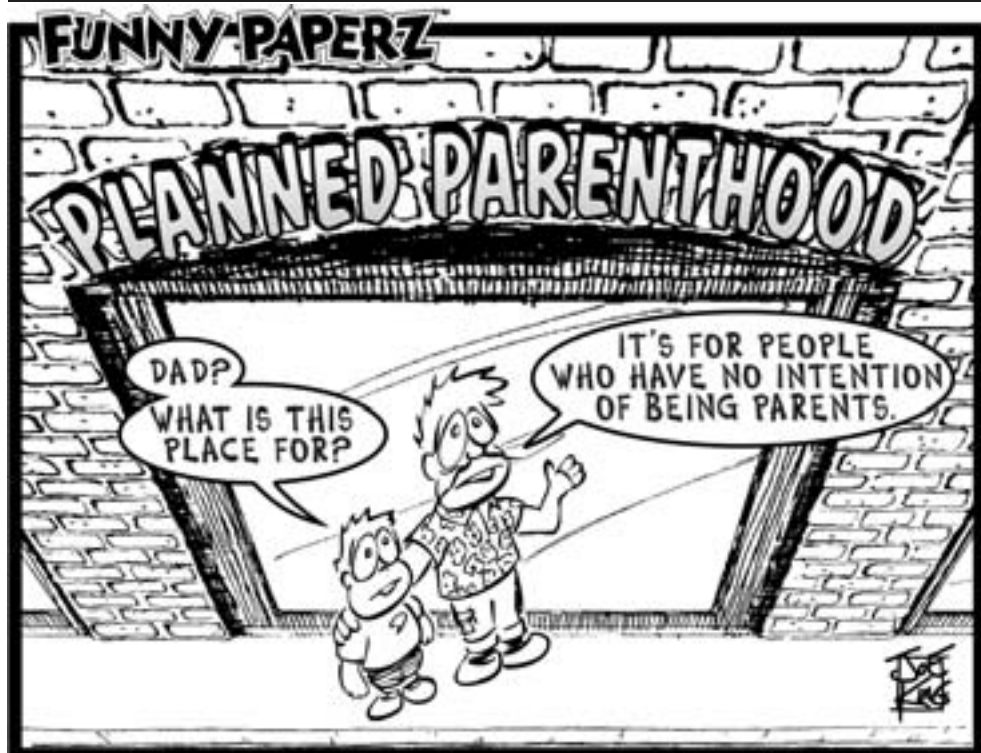
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OPINION



ASK ABOUT THEIR BACK-TO-SCHOOL SPECIAL!

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Council missing the boat with City Manager applicant

Editor:

(This letter was originally addressed to the Santa Monica City Council.)

As long-time environmental leaders and activists in the Santa Monica community, we are writing to express our disappointment with the City Council's decision to not interview Craig Perkins as a final candidate for the City Manager position. We are sending this letter over the explicit objections of Mr. Perkins. As a dedicated, long-term employee of the city, Craig explicitly let us know that he did not want to rock the boat by interfering with the council's City Manager search. Despite Craig's request, we feel this correspondence is critical because Mr. Perkins has demonstrated uncommon leadership, financial management skills, and progressive vision for Santa Monica for over 20 years. Also, we write this letter because hiring a City Manager is the most important decision that a City Council can make.

Without Mr. Perkins, there would be no Sustainable City plan and Santa Monica would not be a municipal environmental leader of global reputation. Mr. Perkins is highly respected by his staff and the staff throughout the city. He is a leader in both the public works and environmental communities. Mr. Perkins is extremely bright, thoughtful, tireless, diplomatic, objective, a team player, and dedicated to the ideals that make Santa Monica one of the most amazing cities in the country. The City Council has an opportunity to make a statement by interviewing and potentially hiring an internal candidate with all of the qualifications advertised for the City Manager position. Not only would this make a statement that the council truly believes in the Sustainable City vision, but it would make a statement to city staff that the council truly believes that they do excellent work.

Please reconsider your decision to drop Mr. Perkins as a candidate for City Manager. If you choose not to interview him, please provide a meaningful explanation for why the council made that choice. All of us have poured our hearts and souls into this community. We feel that this request is more than reasonable. We look forward to hearing from you soon.

Mark Gold*Chair, Environmental Task Force***Susan Cloke***Chair, Recreation and Parks Commission***David Beckman***Senior attorney, National Resources Defense Counsel***Sandy Grant***Chair, Sustainable City Task Force***Professor William Selby***Environmental Task Force***Professor Jennifer Wolch***Recreation and Parks Commission***Eric Neandross***Environmental Task Force***David Hertz***Environmental Task Force***Matt Petersen***Environmental Task Force***Professor Robert Gottlieb***Co-founder, Environmental Task Force*

Terrorism: The war anticipated by Orwell?



THE WITNESS STAND

BY CLIFF NICHOLS

If something is not done soon, does anyone doubt that deadly acts of anarchy called terrorism will resurface again in this country, notwithstanding all of the precautions we have set in place since 9-11 to avoid it? Perhaps now would be a good time to reevaluate the problem — to reconsider the wisdom of miring ourselves in this quagmire of violence. One may well conclude we are engaged in a war that cannot be won, much like the war depicted by George Orwell in 1984.

People sometimes underestimate their opposition and sometimes not just to their detriment. Terrorists have taught us it can be fatal. With overconfidence, we tend to view terrorists with condescension, smugly reassuring ourselves that they are undermanned and underfinanced — a pathetic group of hostile people without the resources to take us on. Nevertheless, they have. Bombs continue to explode daily in Iraq that kill or maim dozens of our people with each blast. But, we say, "Isn't that to be expected? After all, we are at war in that country." Yes, but the trouble is that's not the extent of it. Elsewhere, the same is occurring in places as diverse as Spain, Bali, England, Jordan, Belgium, Saudi Arabia and Germany. At the time of this writing, riots are progressing in towns across France, and Germany is reported to be preparing for the same after the torching of only a single car, only to be followed by several more being torched in Belgium the next day. The only unknowns seem to be where it will happen next and if it can be stopped.

One factor that makes a terrorist threat unique is that we have engaged an enemy that neither wears a uniform nor originates from any single nation. That happens, of course, when you take it upon yourself to declare war upon a philosophy — particularly one that has been embraced by a billion people spread throughout the world. The only good thing about that is that it leaves our enemy without any dependable lines of supply for funds and resources needed to effectively fight a war. However, that advantage is only a minimal benefit to us if one considers that it has driven our enemies to fall back upon a battle strategy that requires them to have only periodic access to relatively minimal amounts of explosives and a few foolhardy souls willing to deliver these random payloads to public locations of the terrorists' choosing.

That, in turn, highlights another important facet of a war fought against terrorists that corners us in a quandary. Targets available to us are comparatively few and far between when compared to the unlimited number available to our enemy. They can attack anywhere and anytime our people congregate: trains, planes, buses, the stations and ports they

emanate from, shops, stores, malls, public streets, highways, hotels, motels, convention centers, military bases, offices or tourist attractions. The list goes on and on. All our enemy needs is an occasional explosion to occur anywhere in the world and they can consider it a victory. Not only will they experience the satisfaction of killing or injuring at least a few of us, but their greater goal also will have been achieved — the further erosion of our comfort, confidence and security as we are instantaneously informed of these incidents via the global media's satellite networks.

That brings us to the third major problem associated with a war on terror. We live in an increasingly transient world. On the one hand, business, trade and economic conditions today encourage hordes of people to migrate from their homelands to a multitude of other countries. However, as these millions of people come and go, we can be assured with virtual certainty that among them will be a percentage who hold to the philosophy we have unwittingly declared war upon — a lesson France has now learned under the tutelage of their sizable Muslim community — a community France and others in Europe have encouraged as a source of cheap labor, only to find that in reality it is a Trojan Horse infused with people who hate the cultures of the West. Like land mines that remain hidden and dormant until detonated, these people, who seem to have no desire to assimilate into their host's culture, remain embedded until it is too late to avoid the havoc they seem predisposed to inflict upon that host.

And now for the bad news. I am not aware of anyone who has yet presented the world with a practical way of de-escalating, much less defusing, this war. Yes, I am aware of the call being made in France to deport those who participated in the riots. But really, given the huge migrations western countries have encouraged for the last several decades, is that a solution that has any hope of succeeding? Probably not. If it is even feasible to accurately identify all those who should be deported, it's only likely to exacerbate the problem by giving birth to additional hostilities in the future from those not deported having experienced the tearing apart of their families. Yet, if that is not practical, I ask you, short of finding some way to give all would-be terrorists a desire to join us in a chorus of Kumbaya, what remedy is available? Realistically, there may be none. If doubts remain, however, I would suggest you consider the history of Israel. They have been seeking a solution to terrorism for decades, if not longer, without success. Can there possibly exist any reason for us to think that we are capable of doing better? It almost makes one want to reread 1984.

(Cliff Nichols is an attorney practicing criminal defense/entertainment law in Santa Monica. He may be contacted at either 310-917-1083, cliff@cliffnicholslaw.com or www.cliffnicholslaw.com. You may join his blog at www.thedailystand.com.)

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LOCAL



Skaters: Cove needs to lighten up

SKATEPARK, from page 1

maker. "The hours don't cater to anybody — neither the school kids, nor the adults who are just getting out from work to use it."

The Cove skatepark opened at Memorial Park in June. It's located near the corner of 14th Street and Olympic Boulevard and offers both skating and biking.

In July, the skatepark was open every day of the month from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. This time was broken into three sessions, with 15-minute breaks in between each during which the park was closed.

Now that school is in session, the hours have changed. The skatepark is currently open from about 3 p.m. until 5 p.m. on week-days, with longer hours on weekends.

Because the skatepark lacks lighting, users can only bike or skate until the sun goes down. Meanwhile, other Santa Monica parks have well-lit softball, basketball and tennis courts, many of which are open until well after dark, parkgoers said.

"They let baseball players be baseball players until 10 o'clock at night, why not let skaters be skaters?" Saric said. "If Santa Monica wants to keep the young out of trouble, what better way than to turn the lights on and let them skate until later?"

City Hall officials say they understand the skaters' frustrations, but there's nothing they can do until the City Council steps in.

Kathy LePrevost, community programs manager, said City Hall has budgeted to staff the skatepark on a limited basis that won't allow for extended hours. Until there's staffing available to extend the hours, City Hall won't be adding any lighting, she said.

"The skatepark's budget is issued through the council," LePrevost said. "We will be able to add lighting if the money comes, but we don't want to put in lights without having money to (increase staffing)."

LePrevost said the Cove has the capacity to handle 66 occupants at a time. When the park is open, there is one staff member and one park ranger on hand to operate it.

Skaters have to be 6 or older to use the

park. They also must register with the city, obtain an identification card, sign a waiver and pay for a membership or day pass.

A day pass for resident youths age 18 and younger costs \$3. Adults pay \$5 per day. Also available are quarterly passes, which are good for three months and cost \$20 for resident youths and \$35 for adults.

The facility was designed and built by Wally Hollyday and California Skateparks for \$550,000. The group is known for the skating facilities it has produced in Fontana and Lakewood, Calif., and Nashville, Tenn.

Designers said the Cove is the result of an extensive skatepark survey and included input from skaters and bikers of all ages.

Saric said there are hundreds of skateparks in California, many of which have lighting, don't charge and, aside from requiring helmets and padding, have few restrictions on use.

Saric said if a hall of fame for skating were ever erected, there would be several representatives from Santa Monica, since many residents in the '70s and '80s did much to contribute to the blossoming sport. However, Saric said that with the limited hours of operation and fees for use currently in place at the Cove, skaters coming to the park won't get the impression that Santa Monica is a city that respects the sport.

"If you restrict the skatepark's use, you're not going to get the type of people that would normally come here and make it an institution," Saric said. "They're going to go somewhere else."

City Councilman Ken Genser said he has not heard complaints from residents regarding their limited access to the skatepark. However, he said if the demand is appropriate, he would explore the option of providing more funding for extended hours.

"No one has contacted me about it, but if the park is well used and popular, I'd be willing to look into it and see what it would take to make (extended hours) happen," Genser said.

Council hopes to name new City Manager by Thanksgiving

CITY MANAGER, from page 1

City Manager position. Councilmembers have been meeting weekly in private for the past month and have interviewed several applicants.

It's expected that the City Council will name the new City Manager prior to the Thanksgiving holiday.

Susan McCarthy, the outgoing City Manager, said she will preside over the Nov. 22 council meeting, with her last day on the job slated for Dec. 8. McCarthy, who has held her position since 1999,

announced her year-end retirement plans this summer.

Of the applicants, City Councilman Bob Holbrook estimates that two-thirds have been residents of California. Most applicants are city managers or other high-ranking government administrators, although some also work in the private sector, Holbrook said.

The position carries a salary of between \$225,000 to \$250,000 per year, with perks that range from free health care to 12 holidays and one vacation day accrued per month.



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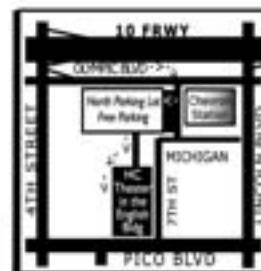
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BY LISA LEFF
Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — Supervisors were set to vote Tuesday on regulations that would govern medical marijuana clubs after allegations of abuse at several of the city's 35 facilities.

The proposed rules, crafted with input from Mayor Gavin Newsom and after months of debate, would require pot dispensary operators for the first time to apply for permits that include criminal and employment background checks. Club owners would have to pay \$6,610 for a permit in addition to the \$3,100 for a business license.

The regulations also would govern where and how the clubs could do business, prohibiting them from opening in industrial or residential areas. The zoning guidelines would prevent dispensaries from operating within 500 feet of schools or within 1,000 feet if pot-smoking is allowed on the premises.

The crackdown comes as elected officials in this liberal city grapple with how to balance their compassion for patients who smoke pot to ease pain with the logistical realities of an unregulated industry that deals in a federally illegal product.

Medical marijuana became legal in California after voters approved the Compassionate Use Act in 1996.

In June, however, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that medical marijuana

patients could be prosecuted for illegal pot possession under federal law, regardless of state ordinances.

The San Francisco permits would include a bold-faced disclaimer: "Issuance of this permit by the City and County of San Francisco is not intended to and does not authorize the violation of state or federal laws."

Even before the Supreme Court ruling, local officials here were wrestling with how to regulate the proliferating clubs. Mayor Newsom and Supervisor Ross Mirkarimi, a member of the Green Party, paired up to address the problem after it was revealed that a dispensary was about to open in a city-operated residential hotel for substance abusers.

At the time, San Francisco was home to an estimated 40 dispensaries, more by far than any other California city. Since the state's voters adopted the Compassionate Use Act of 1996, the San Francisco Department of Public Health has issued identification cards to nearly 8,000 people who claimed they needed the drug to ease symptoms for afflictions ranging from AIDS to arthritis.

Under the new rules, clubs that were operating as of April 1, when the city imposed a moratorium on new clubs, would have 18 months to obtain a permit. Their applications then would have to be approved by the city's planning director with input from the police on the adequacy of proposed security measures and the backgrounds of the people running the clubs.

Price dispute delays the kickoff of California's Dungeness crab season

BY TERENCE CHEA
Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — Central California's Dungeness crab season opened Tuesday, but the commercial harvest was expected to be delayed because fishermen and processors could not agree on prices.

The Central California fishery, which stretches from Santa Cruz to Bodega Bay, was the first on the West Coast to open to commercial fishing when the eight-month season started. Fishermen usually begin setting their traps, also known as pots, the day before the season opens and start harvesting the crabs just after midnight on opening day.

But no commercial traps were set Monday because the fishermen and the processors who buy their catch were still haggling over prices, Department of Fish and Game officials said. The largest processor, Portland-based Pacific Seafood, had offered to pay \$1.50 per pound, while the fishermen refused to fish for less than \$1.85 per pound. Other processors had yet to make offers.

The crabbers said they couldn't afford to fish at \$1.50 per pound, citing the rising cost of fuel and bait. Last year, they were paid \$1.75 per pound.

"We're not going to untie the boats until we get a reasonable price to go fishing," said Larry Collins, vice president of the San Francisco Boat Owners Association. "We love to fish, but you can't keep doing it if it's a losing proposition. We haven't been offered a price that's worth us going fishing for."

The fishermen planned to meet with processors to continue negotiating prices on Tuesday morning, Collins said.

Joe Cincotta, general manager of Pacific Seafood, said his company couldn't afford to purchase crabs at \$1.85 per pound because retailers weren't willing to pay higher prices.

Processors were also grappling with rising fuel prices, and there were too many Dungeness crabs on the market, Cincotta said. When Hurricane Katrina wiped out hotels and casinos along the Gulf Coast, the devastating storm also eliminated a major Dungeness market, he added.

"The market is not up this year. It's down," Cincotta said. "In the last few years, there have been so many crabs coming out of San Francisco. The market can no longer handle it. There's just way too much volume."

Officials with the state Department of Fish and Game planned to begin patrolling the Central California fishery on Tuesday, but didn't expect much activity. DFG officials said they would not get involved in the price dispute.

"The fishery will definitely open as of tomorrow," DFG spokeswoman Carrie Wilson said Monday. "At this point, it's between the fishermen and the processors."

The Northern California fishery, which runs from Point Arena to the Oregon border, is scheduled to open on Dec. 1, but the season start could be delayed until Dec. 15 if the crabs are not mature enough. State biologists were testing crabs there this week, and results were expected Friday.



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STATE BRIEFS

Council overturns decision to disband police department

By The Associated Press

RIALTO — The City Council’s decision to disband the Police Department in favor of less expensive sheriff’s protection was overturned by a judge who ruled the city should have met with the officers’ union before the vote.

Monday’s ruling by Superior Court Judge Bob N. Krug means the city must “meet and confer” with the Rialto Police Benefit Association union and vote again at a public meeting in order to transfer law enforcement services to the San Bernardino County Sheriff’s Department.

Based on its Memorandum of Understanding, the judge said the city was required to meet with the police union prior to the council’s 4-1 decision Sept. 13 to disband the Police Department. Both sides now have five days to appoint a mediator to oversee negotiations.

“The end result is everything we wanted,” officers’ union lawyer Michael Lackie said. “There’s no contract ... what the city has done so far means zip.”

Councilman Ed Scott said the Police Department’s lack of professionalism, poor response times and the city’s rising crime rates that prompted the vote have not changed.

In August, the council approved the sheriff’s proposed \$17 million contract, saving the city \$1.2 million a year. The department has been plagued with lawsuits, complaints about poor service and an officers’ union vote of no confidence in Chief Michael Meyers and Deputy Chief Arthur Burgess.

“I think (the ruling) just clearly delays what we need to do once again,” Scott said. “I’m still in favor of bringing the sheriff in and I intend to move in that direction.”

The department’s 100-plus officers serve Rialto’s nearly 100,000 residents.

Liquor vendors must buck up for enforcement

By The Associated Press

VENTURA — Bars, liquor stores and other businesses selling alcohol in the city must now pay an annual fee up to \$1,700 to fund enhanced police enforcement to deal with problem merchants.

The City Council voted 7-0 on Monday to require permits for merchants selling alcoholic beverages. The fees will range from \$250 to \$1,700.

Bars and entertainment venues that have proven to require a majority of police responses would pay more than grocery stores and daytime restaurants that sell limited amounts of alcohol, authorities said.

Ventura has more businesses licensed to sell alcohol than any other city in the county, and police said enforcement by the state Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control is virtually nonexistent.

The new fee is expected to generate \$180,000 a year, which will pay for a new police officer position and a squad car. The officer would educate alcohol vendors and monitor and enforce rules rather than rely on the state.

Residents turn out against Long Beach LNG terminal

By The Associated Press

LONG BEACH — A proposed liquefied natural gas terminal for the Port of Long Beach brought hundreds of residents to a public hearing where environmental and security concerns were the focus.

An environmental impact report recently released by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission examined the pros and cons of placing the 80 million gallon storage facility in the harbor. The FERC study called the project “environmentally acceptable.”

Some of the more than 300 people on hand hoisted anti-LNG signs and placards, but there were plenty of supporters.

“I am confident that (planners) are vitally interested in the health and welfare of the citizens of Long Beach, the safety and security of the Port of Long Beach and the economic viability of the city,” resident Alex Saenz said during Monday’s hearing at City Hall.

Opponents of the LNG terminal have cited LNG’s combustibility and the possibility of a terrorist attack or natural disaster for not wanting the terminal.

Three more public hearings are planned.

The 25-acre LNG facility would be operated by the Mitsubishi-Conoco subsidiary Sound Energy Solutions. The \$450 million facility could produce as much as 10 percent of the state’s natural gas supply and about 20 percent of Southern California’s needs.

LNG would be delivered to the port, reheated and moved as natural gas along pre-existing pipelines statewide.

Metrolink expands service in OC

By The Associated Press

ORANGE — Metrolink commuter trains will expand in Orange County, going from 40 to 76 weekday trips by 2009.

Weekend service begins in spring and thousands of park-and-ride vehicle spaces will be added along the rail line as part of the \$383 million plan unanimously approved Monday by the Orange County Transportation Authority board.

Seven locomotives will be purchased along with more than 50 passenger cars for Metrolink, which has three lines through Orange County. There are an average 14,000 boardings per weekday in Orange County with that number expected to more than double by 2010.

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Otters defeat government in an epic battle of wits

BY TIM MOLLOY
 Associated Press Writer

SANTA BARBARA — Greg Sanders’ otter-catching days are over.

It’s been years since he last snatched the animals from Southern California waters and shipped them north under an ambitious federal program to preserve an endangered species while protecting shell-fish divers from natural competition.

Now, in an admission that the slick-furred creatures refuse to respect boundaries imposed by man, the federal government wants officially to abandon an otter-relocation policy it effectively dumped more than a decade ago.

If the government’s battle of wits is at its end, the otters have won.

“This concept of taking animals and putting them in one place and expecting them to stay where we want them ... wasn’t really working,” said Sanders, 44, a bright-eyed U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologist who exudes the kind of patience it takes to spend days waiting out elusive animals.

The agency is taking public comment through January in hopes of scuttling the program, which cost several million dollars before it tailed off in 1993. Fishermen want the existing policy enforced.

Environmentalists praise the idea of letting otters go where they want, saying it will aid the recovery of a species hunted almost to extinction. By the end of the 19th century, an otter population of 16,000 that had stretched from Mexico to Oregon had dwindled to 50 otters in a secluded cove off Big Sur. Today there about 2,700 southern otters off California’s coast, Fish and Wildlife estimates.

One of them, nicknamed Phoky, became Sanders’ chief nemesis. The name, pronounced “folky,” came from his habit of trying to mate with harbor seals, which are of the genus “phoca.”

Sanders stalked Phoky around Southern California’s Anacapa Island for 24 days in 1990. Finally, Sanders captured Phoky and sent him north to Monterey.

Within six months, Phoky was back in forbidden waters.

He was one of dozens of otters that surprised government biologists at almost every turn.

To appease fishermen, in 1987 the agency banned otters from California waters south of Point Conception near Santa Barbara — with one exception.

Fearful that an oil spill could wipe out otters elsewhere, Fish and Wildlife tried to create a reserve for 150 otters on San Nicholas Island, about 80 miles south of Santa Barbara.

Biologists had thought the otters would stay near San Nicholas, which has plenty of food and is surrounded by deep water that is hard to swim across. Even if the

otters wanted to leave, it seemed improbable that they had the navigation skills to do it — especially since they were taken to the island by plane.

“We flew ‘em out there,” Sanders said, “although we didn’t blindfold them.”

The otters didn’t play along. Some swam up to 200 miles to return to native habitat along the Central Coast.

Fishermen and seafood processors say federal officials never did enough — and complain that lobster and urchin fishing could be devastated if otters continue roaming Southern California waters.

“It comes down to a philosophy of, what do you believe in? Do you believe in animals or do you believe in human beings?” said Robert S. Juntz Jr., president of the Sea Urchin Processors Association and owner of a processing plant in Mendocino County that employs about 45 people.

“The otters are a very voracious animal,” Juntz said, adding they reduce shell-fish levels “to where you and I, if we went sport fishing, would have a really hard time finding enough to feed ourselves for a day.”

Otters are good at getting their prey — but getting otters was never so easy.

After waiting for an otter to fall asleep, wildlife crews would sneak up beneath it with a propeller-powered craft manned by a diver and snare it in a net. The otter then would be flown in a chartered plane or driven hundreds of miles to a Northern California beach for re-release. Some died from the stress.

Total cost: \$6,000 to \$12,000 per otter.

But before officials can catch an otter, they have to spot it. One recent Tuesday, as part of the agency’s fall otter survey, Sanders spent two hours near the University of California, Santa Barbara, peering through a telescope at a kelp bed where something resembling an otter had been seen the day before.

Sanders perked up when a potential otter bobbed near the surface, but it turned out to be a harbor seal. Or a log. Lots of things look like otters.

“You get these harbor seals that fake you out,” Sanders said.

Sometimes, though, Sanders catches a break — as in the incident he refers to as “the drive-by sighting.”

Years ago, Sanders got a call from a lifeguard who had been cruising along coastal Highway 101 near Ventura when he spotted what he thought was an otter. Sanders was incredulous, but decided to follow up.

It turned out to be Phoky.

A few weeks ago, Sanders and other wildlife officials marked the 15th anniversary of Phoky’s first capture near Anacapa.

Phoky didn’t make it to the celebration. Last Sanders heard, the otter was rumored to be in Mexico.

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NATIONAL



U.S. Senate refuses to press Bush for an Iraq timetable

BY LIZ SIDOTI
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The Republican-controlled Senate on Tuesday easily defeated a Democratic effort to pressure President Bush to outline a timetable for a phased withdrawal of U.S. troops from Iraq. It then overwhelmingly endorsed a weaker statement calling on the administration to explain its Iraq policy.

Senators also overwhelmingly voted to endorse the Bush administration's military tribunals for prosecuting suspected foreign terrorists held at the U.S. naval base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, but to allow detainees to appeal their status and punishments to a federal court.

On the question of a timetable for troop withdrawal, senators rejected the Democrats' measure by 58-40. Democratic leaders had advanced the timetable measure in the wake of declining public support for a conflict that has claimed more than 2,000 U.S. lives and cost more than \$200 billion.

Republicans countered with their own non-binding alternative. It urged that 2006 "should be a period of significant transition to full Iraqi sovereignty," with Iraqi forces taking the lead in providing security to create the conditions for the phased redeployment of United States forces.

On a 79-19 vote, the Senate approved that GOP-sponsored proposal, which did not call for the president to put forth a withdrawal timetable unlike the Democratic proposal.

"They want an exit strategy, a cut-and-run exit strategy. What we are for is a successful strategy," said Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist, R-Tenn.

Senate Democratic leader Harry Reid, D-Nev., said: "We want to change the course. We can't stay the course."

Tuesday's fast-paced developments underscored the political significance of the war as the U.S. death toll climbs, public support plummets, the insurgency continues and the price tag soars with no end in sight.

The Senate added the GOP Iraq policy to a defense bill the Senate was completing work on Tuesday.

The bill includes provisions that, taken together, mark an effort by the Senate to rein in some of the wide authority lawmakers gave the president following the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

The measure includes White House-opposed language that would prohibit the cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment of detainees and standardize interrogation procedures used by U.S. troops. The Bush administration has threatened to veto any bill that includes language about

the treatment of detainees, arguing it would limit the president's ability to prevent terrorist attacks.

Senators also added language Tuesday that would allow Guantanamo detainees to appeal their status as "enemy combatants" and the rulings of U.S. military tribunals to a federal appeals court in Washington, D.C. That avenue would take the place of the one tool the Supreme Court gave detainees in 2004 to fight the legality of their detentions.

Senators approved the measure on tribunals by an 84-14 vote.

Senators defeated a Democratic proposal that would have reinstated the right to file habeas corpus lawsuits, but limited the challenges to one court.

Reflecting senators' anger over recent leaks of classified information to the public, the bill also includes provisions requiring the Bush administration to provide Congress with details on purportedly secret CIA prisons overseas and stripping of security clearances of any federal government official who knowingly discloses national security secrets.

The House version of the defense bill doesn't include those provisions, nor does it include the language on the detention, interrogation or prosecution of detainees. As a result, it's unclear whether any of those provisions will survive House and Senate negotiations and actually end up in the final defense bill.

House GOP leaders will be under pressure to adopt parts of the Senate bill, particularly the statement of U.S. policy in Iraq. That's because public support for the war has fallen and lawmakers are feeling the heat from frustrated constituents heading into a congressional election year in which a third of the Senate and all House members are up for re-election.

The Senate-approved Iraq policy calls for the Bush administration to "explain to Congress and the American people its strategy for the successful completion of the mission in Iraq" and to provide reports on U.S. foreign policy and military operations in Iraq every three months until all U.S. combat brigades have been withdrawn.

The policy calls 2006 a transition year in which Iraqi forces take over security of their country from U.S. forces to a far greater extent so the Americans can begin returning home.

Republicans largely adopted the Democratic proposal as their own, but they omitted one paragraph calling for the president to offer a plan for a phased withdrawal of the roughly 160,000 U.S. troops now in Iraq. The administration has refused to set a timetable for withdrawal, saying insurgents simply would wait to strike until after U.S. forces departed.

Yellowstone grizzlies may lose protection as endangered species

BY MARY CLARE JALONICK
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Grizzly bears in and around Yellowstone National Park should be removed from protection of the endangered species list after 30 years of federal protection, the Department of the Interior said Tuesday.

The number of grizzlies in the Yellowstone area has grown at a rate of 4 percent to 7 percent a year since the bear was listed as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act in 1975, Interior Secretary Gale Norton said.

Federal wildlife officials estimate that more than 600 grizzly bears now live in the region, which includes portions of Wyoming, Montana and Idaho.

Stripping the bears of protection could eventually clear the way for limited hunting of the massive bears. These three states would assume management responsibilities from federal wildlife officials and have greater flexibility in dealing with the animals.

The department's proposed removal of the bears from federal protections could go into effect as early as 2006, but litigation could delay any ultimate effort to remove federal protections.

Environmental groups are split on the move. The National Wildlife Federation supports delisting, saying it highlights the success of the endangered species law. The Natural Resources Defense Council, the Sierra Club and other groups say that too many threats still exist for the bears.

Three senators who attended the Interior Department news conference Tuesday used the delisting as an opportunity to call for reform of the endangered species law. The House passed a bill in September that would lessen the government's role in protecting plant and animal habitat.

Sen. Larry Craig, R-Idaho, called the recovery of the grizzly bears under the Endangered Species Act "the exception, not the rule."

Wyoming Sens. Mike Enzi and Craig Thomas, both Republicans, also called for reform of the law. Less than 20 species have been delisted since the law was signed by President Nixon in 1973.

Norton said grizzly bear recovery has been a success because of cooperation between state and federal governments, along with biologists and conservation groups. She said the administration would like to see the law more focused on recovery efforts than penalizing landowners who find species on their land.

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Confidence emerging as a trend in real estate

OFFICE

Occupancy is up and holding stable. Suburban office space is notorious for high vacancies. Where to buy is in the Sunbelt cities. Best bet? In Dallas, Atlanta, Denver and Phoenix, "it's time to buy cheap, capitalize cheap and figure out what to do with it later."

HOTELS

Leisure travel is up to pre-9-11 times, but some hotels are suffering from deferred maintenance. Where to buy: strong "fly-to" markets like San Francisco, Boston, New York, which offer the most solid opportunities in full-service categories. The survey says "hotels should outperform other property sectors with a two- or three-year run of advances in net operating income, before new supply starts competing."

APARTMENT BUILDINGS

The rise in mortgage rates is comforting to income property owners, as some potential homebuyers will continue to rent. It's good to note that baby boomers' kids are starting to graduate from college and marry later, giving a 10-year window of opportunity in the rental market. The best bet, according to those interviewed, is to enjoy multi-family acquisitions on class "B" and "C" apartments in high-cost housing markets with ample demand from permanent renters — namely Southern California, San Francisco, the Northeast and Chicago. Apartments will come back, "but not real fast," according to the report. For the longer term, "apartments make a good defensive play — demographics and interest rates provide a tailwind."

DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Commercial construction has been relatively dormant, "Until markets achieve better supply/demand balance, investors are more focused on buying land, gaining entitlements and planning projects rather than funding construction," the report states.

Housing development — particularly urban infill — loft-type spaces and in-town housing are crowning the survey development scorecards. "Master-planned and New-Urbanist communities tap into rising homeowner demand for neighborhoods featuring more integrated land uses and access to convenient amenities. People seem willing to pay premiums for better planning."

The big question is whether rising income streams from occupancy rates, lease rates, operating expenses, etc. will yield more than interest rates. "Can real estate supply/demand fundamentals improve enough to offset the potential negative impact of rising interest rates on property values and pricing? Make no mistake, the race is on," the report states. "It all comes back to interest rates, the economy and job growth."

According to the report, many interviewees are looking to health care and biotech to stimulate new job growth, particularly as baby boomers age. Additionally, "advances in high tech should bring the industry out of its bubble-triggered slump."

(Jodi Summers is director of the investment division at Boardwalk Realty Santa Monica. Contact her at jodis@boardwalkrealty.com, or call 310-309-4219. Visit her community history Web site at www.santamonicalandmarks.com.)

DAYS ON THE MARKET

BY JODI SUMMERS



Universities and institutions are fascinated by real estate trends, and they release some captivating studies. Today's study of interest is from the Urban Land Institute, which is a nonprofit education and research institute with a mission to provide responsible leadership in the use of land in order to enhance the total environment.

The report, the 26th annual "Emerging Trends in Real Estate," was released during the Urban Land Institute's fall meeting. Highlighting deductions drawn from surveys and interviews with 500 real estate industry experts, the report realized that "interviewees almost without exception are confident that U.S. real estate markets can avoid scenarios that would crater property values."

Those surveyed believe that real estate will continue to outperform stocks, and 96 percent feel that real estate would outperform bonds.

Speculators surveyed felt that privately owned real estate "has the best asset class investment potential, ahead of domestic stocks and public real estate." If a world crisis were to occur, they felt that property markets would not suffer a greater decline than stocks or bonds.

The study examines the outlook for real estate capital markets and contains a comprehensive annual forecast for all categories of the commercial real estate, and now, housing industry.

MARKETS TO WATCH

Washington, D.C., New York City, Southern California and South Florida were the choice investment markets. "Big money continues to go bicoastal," an interviewee noted. "Middle America is a hard sell ... Smaller markets must make do on local country club money."

The report mentions that the top markets are all international gateways with physical growth barriers, solid economic underpinnings and magnets for immigrant labor. Washington is a "government Mecca," perceived as being immune to economic downturns. New York is the nucleus of finance and culture. We in Southern California offer a powerful troika of entertainment, defense and the biotechnology industry; and Miami as well as South Florida is benefiting from both a baby boomer influx and proximity to South and Central America.

The report concludes that most attractive investment locations offer 24-hour market characteristics — upscale infill neighborhoods near commercial districts, convenient pedestrian-friendly retail, ample recreational and cultural amenities and convenient mass transit options.

INDUSTRIAL

Those interviewed liked warehouse investments, comparing them to long-term bonds with excellent risk-adjusted returns. They cited the weakness as being that significant portfolios tend to consist of lemons, as well as cherries. Vacancy rates for warehouses have edged below 10 percent. The conclusion? Now may be the time to shuffle through the tech-space remains.



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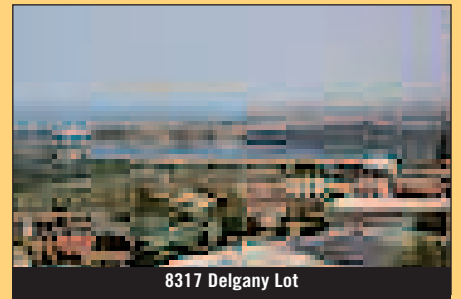
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Study: 800 species at risk in state from development and pollution

BY DON THOMPSON
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — More than 800 animal species in California are imperiled by development, pollution and recreational activities, a sobering assessment that should guide development throughout the nation's most populous state, according to a two-year government study.

"If done with thought and science, we can grow and still maintain a high quality of wildlife habitat in California," said report co-author David Bunn of the University of California, Davis. If not, "we're going to lose a lot of species and resources that we don't have to lose."

The report, prepared for the state Department of Fish and Game, was required under a 2001 federal law as a condition for states to receive federal wildlife conservation grants. California officials hadn't planned to make the nearly 500-page study public until January, but The Associated Press obtained a copy from the

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Of the 800 species in jeopardy, 481 of them are found nowhere else, ranging from the San Francisco fork-tail damselfly to the San Diego black-tailed jackrabbit.

The study catalogues the potential effects of development on wildlife on a region-by-region basis.

For example, the population of the desert tortoise has dropped dramatically in the last 25 years. The study found more than 20 causes, including loss of habitat by agricultural and residential development, capture for use as pets and being eaten by a flourishing population of crows.

In the Sierra, efforts to aid anglers by stocking high mountain lakes with trout are destroying populations of mountain yellow-legged frogs. Global warming, increased solar radiation, windblown pesticides, pollution and diseases also are believed to be having an effect on the environmentally sensitive amphibians.

In addition to housing and commercial development, threats to California's animal species include foreign species that invade and take over ecosystems, pollution, pesticides, grazing and logging.

"There are about a dozen major problems," said Bunn, a former state Department of Fish and Game deputy director now with UC Davis' Wildlife Health Center, which prepared the report.

The survey of California's wildlife was a condition of obtaining more than \$18 million in federal wildlife conservation grants. Its findings will help direct where California spends the money and illustrate the need for even more state and federal spending, said Dale Steele, who oversees the state's species conservation programs for the state Department of Fish and Game.

The federal government has given nearly \$400 million to states and Indian tribes under the grant program, with another \$68.5 million set for distribution next spring.

Summary Report					
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Search Criteria: Research Status: Published, Unpublished, Non-Arms Length: State: California; PropType: OFF, IND; SaleDate: 8/1/2005-11/14/2005; City: Santa Monica;					
Research Status	Published	County	Los Angeles	Camps No	LWC-78533-10-0520
Property Type	Office	Year Built	1981	Property Name	Courtyard on Wilshire
Sale Date	09/16/2005	Sale Price	\$35,550,000	Property Desc	Office Park
Square Footage	86,221	Price/SF	\$412.31	Address	1891 - 1831 Wilshire Blvd
Units		Price/Unit		City, State, Zip	Santa Monica, CA 90403-5609
Cap Rate		Cap Rate	6.4%	Map Code	631 - F / 7
Research Status	Published	County	Los Angeles	Camps No	LWC-93815-11-0520
Property Type	Office	Year Built	1946	Property Name	
Sale Date	09/30/2005	Sale Price	\$5,000,000	Property Desc	Multi Tenant Low Rise(1 - 3 sty)
Square Footage	13,862	Price/SF	\$360.79	Address	1231 - 1237 4th St
Units		Price/Unit		City, State, Zip	Santa Monica, CA 90401-1303
Cap Rate		Cap Rate		Map Code	671 - E / 2
Research Status	Published	County	Los Angeles	Camps No	LWC-54719-10-0520
Property Type	Office	Year Built	1990	Property Name	The David Gray Bldg
Sale Date	08/02/2005	Sale Price	\$4,350,000	Property Desc	Multi Tenant Low Rise(1 - 3 sty)
Square Footage	11,276	Price/SF	\$430.12	Address	1546 7th St
Units		Price/Unit		City, State, Zip	Santa Monica, CA 90401-2646
Cap Rate		Cap Rate		Map Code	671 - E / 2
Research Status	Published	County	Los Angeles	Camps No	LWC-59546-10-0520
Property Type	Office	Year Built	1959	Property Name	
Sale Date	08/10/2005	Sale Price	\$2,136,343	Property Desc	Single Tenant Low Rise
Square Footage	5,500	Price/SF	\$388.43	Address	1657 Euclid St
Units		Price/Unit		City, State, Zip	Santa Monica, CA 90404-3723
Cap Rate		Cap Rate		Map Code	671 - F / 2
Research Status	Published	County	Los Angeles	Camps No	LWC-46729-10-0520
Property Type	Office	Year Built	1948	Property Name	
Sale Date	08/25/2005	Sale Price	\$1,205,000	Property Desc	Single Tenant Low Rise
Square Footage	2,536	Price/SF	\$475.16	Address	1044 Pico Blvd
Units		Price/Unit		City, State, Zip	Santa Monica, CA 90405-1416
Cap Rate		Cap Rate	N/A	Map Code	671 - G / 2

COMMERCIAL REAL ESTATE PROPERTIES LEASED

Address	Type	City	Date	SF	Rmv'd	Space	Use	Occupancy	Term	Current
2700 Lincoln Blvd	Retail	Santa Monica	1/13/2005	Vacant	2,920	Retail	Direct	5-10 yrs	100%	\$2.23/nnn
3250 Ocean Park Blvd	Office	Santa Monica	1/13/2005	Vacant	2,280	Office	Sublet	Thru Sep 2005	93.1%	Negotiable*
3250 Ocean Park Blvd	Office	Santa Monica	1/13/2005	Vacant	300	Office	Sublet	Thru Sep 2005	93.1%	\$2.50/fs*
501 Santa Monica Blvd	Office	Santa Monica	1/14/2005	Vacant	643	Office	Direct	Negotiable	100%	\$2.45-\$2.55/fs
501 Santa Monica Blvd	Office	Santa Monica	1/14/2005	Vacant	988	Office	Direct	Negotiable	100%	\$2.45-\$2.55/fs
501 Santa Monica Blvd	Office	Santa Monica	1/14/2005	Vacant	1,408	Office	Direct	Negotiable	100%	\$2.45-\$2.55/fs
720 Wilshire Blvd	Office	Santa Monica	1/11/2005	Vacant	1,100	Office	Direct	3-5 yrs	89.4%	\$2.50/fs

7 Spaces totaling 9,639 SF Removed from Inventory from 1/11/2005 to 1/18/2005.

* Indicates space has been removed because of an error or correction. The above information is deemed reliable but not guaranteed. The rates quoted space that was for lease are the asking and not necessarily the actual lease rate.

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Arizona farm also a solar-powered research facility

BY CINDY BARKS
Associated Press Writer

PRESCOTT, Ariz. — The sun — that perennial friend of farmers the world over — does double-duty at Prescott College's Wolfberry Farm in Chino Valley.

Not only do the sun's rays serve the usual purpose of fueling the growth of plants at Wolfberry, they also provide the electrical power.

From the irrigation-well pump, to the lights and

computer in the caretaker's house, to the small fan that cools the greenhouse, the power for Wolfberry Farm comes from a series of photovoltaic solar panels.

According to Tim Crews, environmental studies faculty and program coordinator for Wolfberry Farm, the sun has been a reliable source of power for the farm for several years.

"Last year, we had lots and lots of overcast weather," Crews said, "but the generator backup has not been used. We haven't

needed it."

Indeed, on one recent chilly and partly cloudy morning, Wolfberry Farm was up and running. The ventilator fan was whirring in the greenhouse, the lights were on in the caretaker's house and the small food dryers were functional.

Even so, Crews noted that the caretaker who lives in the three-room, 500-square-foot farmhouse must keep a close eye on the electrical use. "Everything in there is very efficient," he said of

the house. "But the resident does need to pay attention" to the amount of power remaining in the batteries.

Fall caretaker Gretchen Hoffman noted that the straw-bale house, which a Prescott College student designed, stays relatively cool in the summers, despite a lack of air conditioning. The walls help to insulate the coolness in during the days, and the night air cools off the interior in the evenings.

Since 1996, when Prescott College leased the 30 acres of land from the Town of Chino Valley, Wolfberry Farm has been gradually developing as an experimental agroecology facility. Currently, the farm grows as many as 30 varieties of plants.

Although the farm gets some income from the sale of vegetables, Crews said the organizers of the farm never intended for it to be self-sustaining. "It is an education research demonstration project," he said. "College farms are inherently subsidized. It was not intended to be a break-even project."

Crews noted that the



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Small family farm keeps a patch of green

BY CHRISTINA ALMEIDA

Associated Press Writer

CITY OF INDUSTRY — The sun still sleeping in the east, a small unmarked truck navigated the crowded streets, blending in with the long line of big rigs headed to the interstate.

Behind the wheel, 31-year-old Edgar Jaime snacked on pan dulce, a traditional Mexican pastry, and sipped milk heated moments earlier on an outdoor stove. In the passenger seat sat his older brother, Jose Luis.

The Jaime brothers could be mistaken for any of the commercial truck drivers ushering cargo from the factories and warehouses that give this city its name. But inside the brothers' truck is a lively surprise — crate after crate of freshly picked tomatoes, lettuce and herbs.

Jaime Farms, their six-acre patch of green nestled in the City of Industry, is an unexpected link to a paved-over past — a working farm that yields produce straight-from-the-ground fresh just 22 miles east of downtown Los Angeles.

"The shorter amount of time between picking and eating, the better," said Stephanie Christopher, a longtime customer, summing up the philosophy that has made farmers markets and Jaime Farms a success. "You have more nutrients in your food, and it tastes better."

Less than 70 years ago, walnut groves and orchards covered the San Gabriel Valley, including what is now the City of Industry. With a population surge following World War II and the flight of inner

city dwellers to the suburbs, land in the valley became a precious commodity.

The freeways were coming, and a group of people looked to carve out a city dedicated solely to industrial use. Incorporated in 1957, the City of Industry is crisscrossed by railroads and hugged by two east-west freeways, making it a natural fit for a manufacturing hub.

The groves are long gone, replaced by massive industrial complexes. Among them are cheese-maker Cacique and a Teledyne Technologies facility. In the city that spans 14 square miles, trucks could outnumber the 834 residents.

"It's one of the most fertile areas in the United States, but you wouldn't know it because it's paved over," said Paul Spitzzeri with the city-owned Homestead Museum.

The six acres farmed by the Jaime family is the last of a large parcel owned by the family of Frances Maschio, who remembers the cabbage, alfalfa and black-eyed peas her father used to grow when she was a child many years ago.

Maschio owns the land with her husband, Chuck, a city planning commissioner. They have turned down repeated offers from developers seeking to buy the prime real estate.

"Our parents owned it, and we enjoy living here," she said. "We enjoy the area. We see no need to sell it."

The couple still lives near the farm, and Chuck Maschio picks vegetables whenever he wants. The couple's great-grandchildren love romping through the fields when they visit.

"It's one of the most fertile areas in the United States, but you wouldn't know it because it's paved over."

PAUL SPITZZERI
Homestead Museum

The Jaime family leases the land and works the farm.

Jose Luis Jaime, 54, began as a farmhand for Maschio's previous tenant and worked his way up to foreman. When the tenant vacated the plot, Jaime took over in 1997.

Together with his three sons, they went on to lease more land in Santa Maria and Chino and buy 25 acres in Yucca Valley.

The land in Industry, farmed for decades, still proves rich in minerals.

"Whatever we grow ends up being a really nice product," Edgar Jaime said, surveying the rows of arugula, dandelion, kale, Swiss chard, beets, turnips, carrots, red-leaf and green-leaf lettuce and every kind of heirloom tomato imaginable.

On a recent morning at the Santa Monica Farmers Market, Jaime Farms took its normal spot. Hundreds of customers passed by, pointing here and there to cucumbers and radishes, inspecting tomatoes and melons for ripeness.

Business has been brisk, with sales for a day in Santa Monica averaging \$3,000. Just a month ago, the Jaime Farms stand began taking credit cards. Chef Hideyo Mitsuno of 2117, a Los Angeles restaurant, said buying local ensures his customers

have a sensory and nutritious experience.

"That's the mission of a chef, to serve great food and take care of their health too," Mitsuno said as he purchased bags of baby eggplant, cauliflower and celery.

Jaime Farms is a rarity as the state loses on average 42,000 acres of farm and grazing land each year to urbanization.

Edgar Jaime notices his competition gets farther away each day. For them, the price of gas has made treks to farmers markets even more difficult, leaving local customers without many types of fresh produce.

"For them to come from far away, it's hard," Jaime said. "I know a lot of them do wholesale instead of farmers markets."

Losing fresh produce is not an option for Vivian Ono, a 48-year-old bookkeeper from Pacific Palisades who attends the Santa Monica market. "Rain or shine, I never miss," she said.

"I love everything local," Ono said. "My kids won't eat anything from the supermarket. You just can't beat fresh."

For the Jaimes, it's an easy sell.

"At first it's hard for them to believe we're in the City of Industry," Edgar Jaime said. "They like the idea of knowing there's a farm nearby to fulfill their needs."

Project giving students a new appreciation

SOLAR, from page 12

farm also does not use other accepted agricultural techniques, such as pesticides and herbicides.

With the goal of working toward greater ecological sustainability, he said, the farm is looking for effective, energy-efficient farming methods. "We spend so much fossil fuel to produce our food," Crews said.

He acknowledges, however, that the experimental techniques sometimes lead to frustration for the students. Just recently, for example, gophers decimated many of the farm's fruit trees. A student is now working on a project to come up with ways of controlling the damage.

"This is a very difficult place to grow, an amazingly challenging place," Crews said. "I think the students gain an appreciation of why farmers do what they do."

Because of the experimental nature of the farm, Crews said students sometimes take on projects that are long shots. "They will try things that have a high risk, knowing that many, if not most, will fail," he said. "In experiential education, that's how you learn."

Crews and a group of other solar-power advocates in the community are working on an experimental project of their own. He explained that the farm designed its array of

solar panels near the irrigation well to meet the peak water demands, which occur at about the end of June, during the hottest, driest time that the plants are growing.

Because the farm does not require that level of electricity year-around, Crews said the group has been looking for other uses for the power and began working on developing a prototype for a solar-powered tractor, which Crews said ultimately would be used in Africa.

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INTERNATIONAL

Israel and Palestine reach deal allowing for freer movement

BY ANNE GEARAN
AP Diplomatic Writer

JERUSALEM — Israel and the Palestinians agreed Tuesday on a detailed arrangement for opening the borders of the Gaza Strip and allowing freer movement for Palestinians elsewhere, a significant step toward an eventual peace deal between historic enemies.

It took all-night negotiations and a strong diplomatic shove from Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice to get a deal whose basic elements had been in the works for weeks.

"I have to say as a football fan, sometimes the last yard is the hardest, and I think we experienced that today," Rice told a news conference where she announced the agreement.

She praised the deal at a news conference as a "big step forward" in Israeli-Palestinian relations, bruised by nearly five years of bloody fighting.

"This agreement is intended to give Palestinian people the freedom to move, to trade, to live ordinary lives," Rice said.

While important in and of itself, the broader significance of the deal to free up Palestinian movement while satisfying Israeli concerns about terrorism is that it makes a statement of progress that goes beyond the technical details.

Rice oversaw the marathon negotiations in a Jerusalem hotel, huddling alternately with Israeli and Palestinian negotiators in her suite. She had postponed a planned departure for Asia by a day to shepherd the deal to a conclusion.

On Tuesday morning, she met with Israeli Defense Minister Shaul Mofaz to finalize the details.

The agreement gives the Palestinians control over a border for the first time and provides a much-needed boost to the shattered Gaza economy. The deal also strengthens Palestinian leader Mahmoud Abbas ahead of Jan. 25 parliament elections and could help him fend off a strong challenge by the Islamic militant group Hamas.

Rice and international Mideast envoy James Wolfensohn badly wanted Israel and the Palestinian leadership to use Israel's unilateral withdrawal from the Gaza Strip last summer as traction for tougher peace negotia-

tions down the road.

Cooperation flagged in recent weeks, and Rice's two days of meetings in Jerusalem and the West Bank were meant to push the two sides to settle nitty-gritty disputes over Palestinian movement in and out of the territory they now control. "Underneath what may seem like very small details there are hard issues," Rice told reporter.

She said she had about two hours of sleep.

Wolfensohn said the deal cleared the way for the international community to assist the Palestinians and help revive Gaza's economy. Donor countries have pledged hundreds of millions of dollars, but they money was held up by the lack of a border deal.

Under the agreement, the Gaza-Egypt border would tentatively open Nov. 25, under the supervision of European monitors. Israel had demanded veto powers, but in the end conceded on the issue, said Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat. Israel will receive live transmissions via closed circuit TV from the crossing there, and can raise objections concerning travelers, but the Palestinians have the final say.

The European group will be headed by an Italian general, said Palestinian Information Minister Nabil Shaath.

Construction of a Gaza seaport is to begin soon, and Palestinians will be able to travel between the West Bank and Gaza in bus convoys, starting Dec. 15.

The deal came amid political upheaval in Israel that could topple Prime Minister Ariel Sharon's shaky coalition government. Sharon's junior partner, the Labor Party, chose a new leader last week who said he would pull the party out of the coalition.

Sharon's Likud Party is still deeply divided following the Gaza pullout. Several lawmakers in the traditionally hard-line party are still furious over what they regard as a tactical mistake and an emotional blow. Without Labor's support, it will be difficult for Sharon to maintain a parliamentary majority.

The Knesset, Israel's parliament, is scheduled on Wednesday to vote on a bill to dissolve parliament and force new elections. That could force elections within three months. The scheduled vote is November 2006.

The Palestinians have elections scheduled for January that the United States views as a test of the new leadership's democratic resolve.

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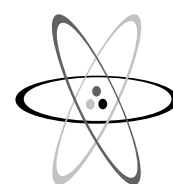
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Lawyer withdrawal could paralyze Saddam's trial

BY ANTHONY DEUTSCH

Associated Press Writer

THE HAGUE, NETHERLANDS — Saddam Hussein's lawyers face major challenges from the United States and Iraq to their demand to move his trial to another country after two of their colleagues were killed.

Saddam's attorneys have argued all along that the only fair trial would be one held in a special international court outside Iraq. Now about 1,100 lawyers have withdrawn from his defense team, citing inadequate protection for themselves and their families.

The boycott threatens to paralyze the trial and undermine its legitimacy, dealing a blow to the Bush administration and the government in Baghdad, which have insisted Saddam face justice in his homeland before his own people.

"There is no way you can have a trial in a country where there is absolutely no authority. That is the situation in Baghdad today," Abdel-Haq Alani, a London-based lawyer who is a leading member of the defense team, told The Associated Press by phone.

In their statement Sunday, the lawyers didn't say whether Saddam's chief Iraqi attorney, Khalil al-Dulaimi, was among those who withdrew. But they said other members of the team will continue their duties in Baghdad under "dangerous circumstances." Al-Dulaimi has suggested that defense lawyers would not show up for the next session of the special tribunal, set for later this month.

Raid Juh, one of the judges, said the withdrawals "will not affect the work of the court," adding that the Iraqi High Tribunal would appoint a new team if defense lawyers fail to appear. But he conceded that changing lawyers could result in delays because the new team would presumably need time to prepare its case.

Alani warned that Saddam would reject a court-appointed lawyer, in which case he said the trial would degenerate into a "total farce."

"The trial would proceed in the absence of the defendant because the defendant would refuse to cooperate. They might as well sentence them without a trial," he said.

Such a situation arose at the trial of former Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic, who is defending himself against war crimes charges before a U.N. tribunal at The Hague.

Last year the court appointed a lawyer to defend Milosevic but he refused to cooperate, as did most of his witnesses, and the trial ground to a halt. Ultimately the court-appointed lawyer quit, saying trying to defend a hostile client was impossible.

Saddam and seven co-defendants are on trial for the 1982 deaths of 148 Shiite Muslims. Proceedings began Oct. 19 and are set to resume Nov. 28. If convicted, they could be executed by hanging.

One day after the trial began, a defense lawyer was abducted from his office by 10 masked gunmen and his body was found the next day. A second defense lawyer was shot dead and another wounded in an ambush in Baghdad last Tuesday.

The attorneys who withdrew were among some 1,500 enlisted to defend Saddam, mostly researching legal precedents, preparing briefs and performing other tasks outside the courtroom, said Jordanian lawyer Ziad al-Khasawneh, who was once part of the defense team.

Laura Dickinson, an associate professor at the University of Connecticut School of Law, believes the trial ought to be moved. She suggested the United Arab Emirates as a possible venue because judges in Saddam's trial were trained there.

Kuwait and the Kurdish territory of northern Iraq also have been suggested as alternative locations.

But Iraqis feel strongly about trying Saddam at home and would almost certainly oppose a foreign court, where defendants may be spared a possible death sentence and witnesses and victims would be far removed from the process.

Riots sweeping France: Crisis for a country adrift

BY JOJI SAKURAI

Associated Press Writer

PARIS — France's iconic president, the late Gen. Charles de Gaulle, was fond of inspiring his nation by ending speeches with "Vive la Republique! Vive la France!"

Today France finds itself a nation wounded by successive crises that have stung the ego of a famously proud society and caused it to question its role in the world.

In spring, the rejection by French voters of a European Union constitution prompted a searing debate about whether the country can remain relevant in an age of globalization. In summer, Paris — once the favorite to win the 2012 Olympics — was humiliated when the games were awarded to archrival London.

Now comes an autumn of discontent: riots have engulfed poor immigrant neighborhoods, prompting soul-searching over the very principles of the Republic.

Many people are expressing nostalgia for France's glory days, even as they question whether the old formula of liberty, equality and fraternity remains relevant today.

"Rome had its downfall. France, too, was once a great nation — because of its intellectual and human radiance," said Daniel Robert, a 57-year-old director of an advertising agency. "But it is declining through a rhetoric of self-indulgence ... and through a lack of courage and lucidity."

The founding myth of the Republic that promises equality for all, says historian and sociologist Laurent Mucchielli, "is very beautiful — but it is abstract and today it blinds us and turns us into hypocrites."

The French have made a national pastime out of grousing about "la crise" — crisis — even in the best of times: There always seems to be one dilemma or another to dissect over a glass of wine, be it heating prices, the invasion of Hollywood movies, the plight of the homeless or government red tape.

But this time, the anxiety appears to be much deeper.

Fundamental questions are being asked about whether it is possible to maintain an expensive social welfare system that immigrants in the burning suburbs say they don't benefit from and that blunts the nation's competitive edge in an age of an ascendant China.

By losing the Olympics to London, Parisians were suddenly faced with the possibility that the world viewed the English capital as the place of the future and their own city as a lovely jewel of the past.

And the failure of the constitutional referendum in a

country that was one of the main architects of the European project pointed toward a nation haunted by fears: of Polish plumbers snatching jobs away from the French, of a loss of autonomy to bureaucrats in Brussels, of a dilution of France's leadership role in an ever-expanding European Union.

"Suddenly confronted with all of these problems, France is a country that at the moment does not know how to create a vision for the future," said sociologist Michel Wieviorka.

As France combats internal problems it also finds its international image and status declining.

The violence in the suburbs and the government's response — using an emergency law established during the Algerian independence war and deciding to deport foreigners found guilty of rioting — have riled the Arab world.

The aura of moral rectitude France tried to project through its opposition to the Iraq war has been battered by revelations that French troops in Ivory Coast suffocated a prisoner and that their commanders covered it up.

And among new EU members like Poland and Slovakia, people are paying more heed to British Prime Minister Tony Blair's mantra of free-market reform than to French President Jacques Chirac's advocacy of a social Europe.

France has found itself in recent weeks where it always strives to be: At the center of the world's stage — but in a role it finds humiliating.

A cartoon in the newspaper Le Monde shows a car full of foreign reporters taking pictures of a burning Paris with scarred and bandaged figures of "Justice," "Health" and "Employment" trying to hitch a ride.

France's fortunes have closely mirrored those of Chirac.

A nation that appears adrift, full of doubt, and anxiety has a leader who looks increasingly weary and indecisive.

Some analysts see the riots as the ultimate indictment of a presidency that failed to achieve any of its main goals: bringing down unemployment, shepherding through the EU constitution, and fighting social marginalization.

Although he has two years left in his tenure, Chirac, who has suffered health problems recently, has increasingly retreated to the sidelines.

"It's the end of a presidency," Wieviorka said. "This man has failed, his policies are a failure ... It isn't a glorious exit."



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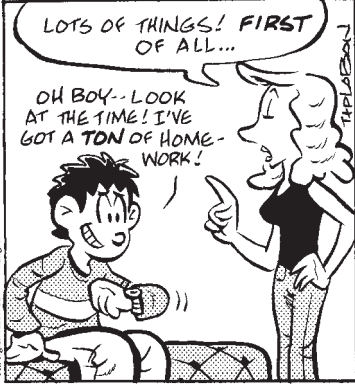
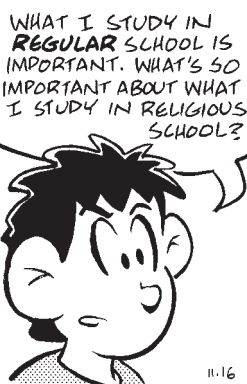
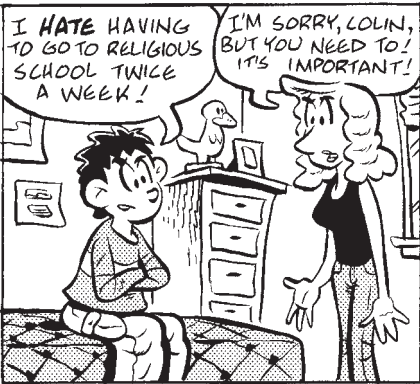


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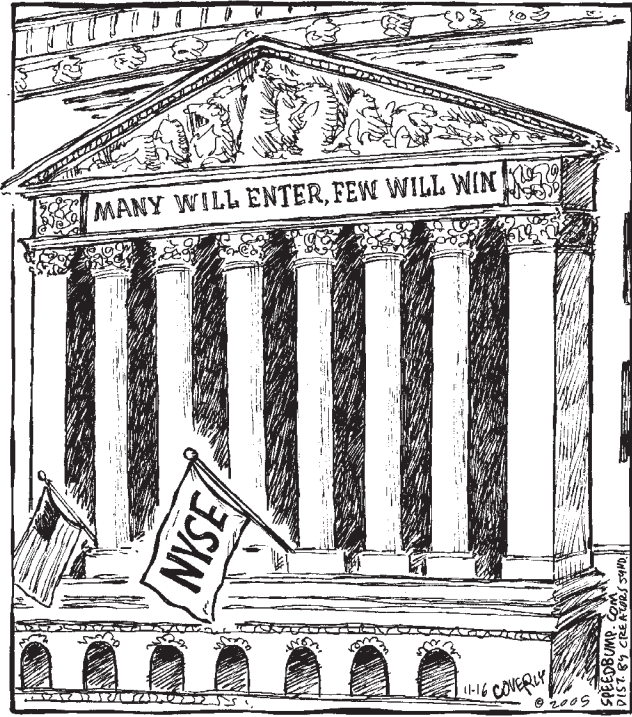
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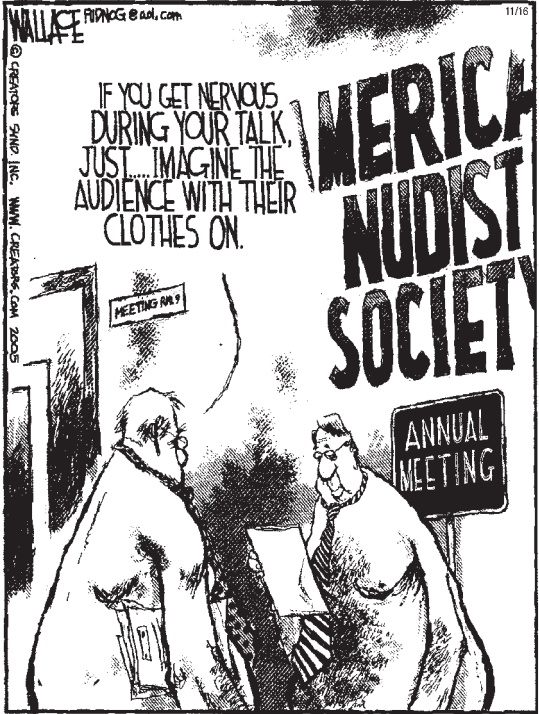


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- 28 Friend of Luke and Leia
- 29 Dove's position
- 31 Annoy
- 32 Get smart
- 33 Periods
- 34 Secant's reciprocal
- 37 Paul's collaborator
- 39 Response to a knock
- 43 War of 1812 port
- 44 Change over time
- 45 Walked over

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- 2 Groom's answer
- 3 Mornings, for short
- 4 Tale tellers
- 5 Longing
- 6 Hammer part
- 7 Rival of Athens
- 8 1940 Disney film
- 9 Hotel
- 10 Casual top
- 16 Less coarse
- 17 Said with a twang

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- 19 Cashew's cousin
- 21 Center
- 22 Rebs' foes
- 24 Half a chess set
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- 30 De-creased?
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 call our offices 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, (310)458-7737; send a check or money order with ad copy to The Santa Monica Daily Press, P.O. Box 1380, Santa Monica, CA 90406 or stop in at our office located at 1427 Third Street Promenade, Ste. 202. OTHER RATES: For information about the professional services direc-
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Notice of Hearing on Petition Notice is given that on November 29, 2005 at 8:30 a.m. or as soon after that time as the matter may be heard, petitioner Ross Furukawa, will move for an order pursuant to Government Code §6008 adjudicating The Santa Monica Daily Press as a newspaper of general circulation for the County of Los Angeles. The hearing will be held in Department 64 of the Los Angeles Superior Court, 111 N. Hill Street, Los Angeles, CA 90012. The Petition sets forth the following: 1. Petitioner, Ross Furukawa, is publisher of the newspaper known as The Santa Monica Daily Press, which is seeking adjudicated under Government Code §6008 as a newspaper of general circulation for the City of Santa Monica. 2. The Santa Monica Daily Press is published for the dissemination of local or telegraphic news and intelligence of a general character in the City of Santa Monica, California. The business address is 1427 Third St. Promenade, Suite 202, Santa Monica, CA 90401. 3. The Santa Monica Daily Press has a bona fide subscription list of paying subscribers, and substantial distribution to subscribers numbering 1023 in the City of Santa Monica and surrounding areas for a total weekly distribution of approximately 20,000. 4. For more than three years preceding the filing of the petition, the petitioning newspaper has been established under the name of The Santa Monica Daily Press, and has been so established and published, that is, issued and sold or distributed regularly each day in the City of Santa Monica and the surrounding areas. 5. During each of the three-year period preceding the filing of this petition, the newspaper has maintained a minimum coverage of local news and intelligence of a general character of not less than twenty-five percent of its total inches; it has a principal office of publication located in the City of Santa Monica, County of Los Angeles. WHEREFORE, petitioner prays that The Santa Monica Daily Press be adjudicated pursuant to Government Code §6008 as a newspaper of general circulation for the City of Santa Monica, Santa Monica Judicial District, County of Los Angeles, State of California. DATED: November 5, 2005 Lisa Grace-Kellogg Attorney for Petitioner

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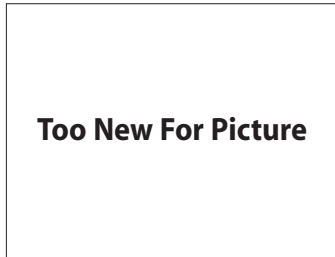
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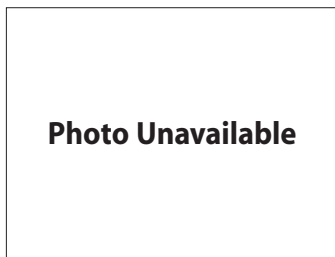


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