

Santa Monica Daily Press

Have a Happy Thanksgiving

Turkey on her mind



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

Jessica Chaby, of Pacific Palisades, picks up her 11th turkey at Vons grocery store at the corner of Lincoln Boulevard and Broadway Avenue on Wednesday. Chaby is giving turkeys away to the mission in Los Angeles because as a native of Indonesia, "sharing is happiness and you have to give back what America gave you," she said. A Vons employee said the grocery store has probably sold 300 turkeys in bulk, with one man buying 90 of the birds to give away. Many hotels purchase 15-pound birds for their employees so they are easy to carry home on the bus, the grocery store employee said.

It's the end of the road for Mayor Feinstein

Council will elect new mayor in less than two weeks

BY ANDREW H. FIXMER
Daily Press Staff Writer

It is only a matter of days before Santa Monica has a new mayor. Santa Monica Mayor Mike Feinstein will relinquish his post on Dec. 10 when the city council votes in a new leader.

Feinstein, who will serve as a city council member until his term expires in 2004, conducted his last city council meeting as mayor this week.

On Dec. 10, three city council members who won re-election will be sworn in and the seven-member council will pick a new mayor.

Feinstein, 43, said it has been an honor and a privilege for him to serve as the city's mayor — a job that he enjoyed thoroughly.

"That being said, (Tuesday) night felt like the beginning of summer vacation

when you're in grade school," he said. "When I got back into the council office after the meeting was over, I let out several deep therapeutic yells, as I felt the extra responsibilities slide off my back like water off a duck's back."

When the council meets on Dec. 10,

Feinstein will call the meeting to order and City Clerk Maria Stewart will present the results of the Nov. 5 election for ratification by the city council.

After the results are certified, the council will adjourn and Stewart will begin administering the oath of office to the winners of the election for the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified school board, the Santa Monica College Board, the Rent Control Board and the city council.

Since all the victors of this year's city council election are incumbents, Stewart will ask them to be seated and conduct a roll call of the members.

Once that's complete, the new council

See MAYOR, page 5



Mayor Mike Feinstein

Man attempts to rob Washington Mutual Bank

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON
Daily Press Staff Writer

A man attempted to rob Washington Mutual Bank on Wilshire Boulevard Wednesday, but he ran away before he could get any cash.

The Santa Monica Police Department responded to the bank located at 2701 Wilshire Boulevard at 5:42 p.m., police

said. A Washington Mutual employee said a man entered bank, approached a teller, displayed a handgun and demanded money.

But apparently the suspect got anxious and fled through the rear of the bank before the teller could give him the cash. He was last seen running north on Princeton Avenue. No vehicle was seen or heard leaving the area, police said.

The suspect, who is white, is described as 38 to 48 years old, 5'6" to 5'8" tall, wearing a brown flannel shirt, a white T-shirt, brown pants and a light colored hat. Witnesses said he also was wearing a cell phone piece in his ear.

Six SMPD units were called to the scene, who arrived in less than five minutes. The Federal Bureau of Investigation also was called, as standard procedure in bank robberies.

"Our detectives will work with the FBI in regards to this bank robbery," said SMPD Lt. Frank Fabrega.

Additional units from Santa Monica were called to interview several witnesses who were in the bank when the attempted armed robbery occurred. SMPD forensic investigators and detectives also were on scene Wednesday night.

Anyone with information regarding this crime, call the SMPD Robbery Homicide unit at (310) 458-8451.

The only other bank robbery that occurred in Santa Monica this year was in September when two men held up First Federal Bank on Montana Avenue, stealing an undisclosed amount of cash.

Wild turkey stakes out bank

By The Associated Press

PLAINFIELD, Conn. — A wild turkey gave some bankers and townspeople a run for their money two days before Thanksgiving.

The hen turkey, weighing 15-20 pounds, staked out some turf at the Jewett City Savings Bank Tuesday and cornered customers as they tried to enter.

The bird first charged Dianne Beaulac, a customer service representative at the bank. "I got out of my car and he just came after me. I threw my keys at it, my hair clip," she said. "It chased me around my car. It was hysterical. Then the police came."

It took hours before town employees, crawling along the building's roof and chasing the bird around the parking lot, cornered it.

Donald Tetreault, a highway employee who raises geese and chickens, finally caught the bird.

"I just grabbed hold of her wings and when she tried to fly away I got a better grip." Animal control officials took the turkey to a state forest.

An animal rights Thanksgiving

BY DAVID CRARY
AP National Writer

GARDINER, N.Y. — Dismayed by the practices of large commercial turkey farms, animal-welfare groups are intensifying their appeals to consumers to reconsider their Thanksgiving menus.

Options can range from vegetarian meals to free-range turkeys that roam pastures of small, family run operations like Four Winds Farm in the Catskills town of Gardiner.

See TURKEY RIGHTS, page 8

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

♈ ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ You take a major role in the festivities, whether it is popping in the turkey or helping in some other way. Pressure builds with in-laws or someone at a distance. Learn to adjust to strong personalities that surround your life. Tonight: Now for the football games.

♉ TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Ever playful, you seem in prime shape for a favorite institution: Thanksgiving. Whether you're just enjoying yourself, or you're a major pillar in the events of the day, you'll be grinning from ear to ear. Take time to catch up on someone else's news. Tonight: More frivolous fun.

♊ GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ You might want to reach out to a family member who tends to close down on the holidays. Laughter helps this person smile and relax. Realize more of what you want and expect from others — then ask. If you can, keep plans low-key. Tonight: At home.

♋ CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Realize more of what you would like from those around you. Sometimes being neighborly counts as much as extending yourself toward family. Invite someone who might be alone to join your Thanksgiving. Share more of what you feel with those around you. Tonight: Keep on smiling.

♌ LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ Extend yourself. Perhaps participate in a soup kitchen or treat a family to a turkey dinner. Look at what you have to be thankful for and the many opportunities that head your way. Use your creativity and dynamic energy for others. Tonight: Put your feet up.

♍ VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ Your personality shines. You love traditions, and you have one here. Make an effort toward someone close who might not feel the same way about Turkey Day as you do. Your efforts do count. Bring others together. Tonight: In the limelight.

♎ LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★ Lay back. You might not be up for all the festivities. Enjoy yourself with a loved one you care about. Don't feel like you need to force your hand or do something you don't want to do. Though usually conventional, right now you go your own way. Tonight: Vanish while you can.

♏ SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ Follow your friends. You might not expect every twist and turn right now. Join your friends, making the most of the moment and celebration. Consider options that involve spending. Don't take on more than you can handle. Tonight: Cheer on the football games.

♐ SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★ All the responsibilities fall on you. Think in terms of making a difference to an older relative who might be leaning on you emotionally. You might not see what's happening as clearly as you would like to. Tonight: A must appearance.

♑ CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ Reach out for someone at a distance. Let this person know that you're thinking of him or her. If possible, visit with those you don't always have time to chat and share with. Your caring makes a big difference. Express your feelings. Tonight: Check in with those you care about.

♒ AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ A partner goes out of his or her way to let you know just how much you're cared about. Share more of yourself. Others seek you out and need to hear your opinions. You might decide that a friend has a backward way of asking for what he or she wants. Tonight: A must show.

♓ PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ Others seek you out. All you need to do is pick and choose from all the invitations. You could be pressured by someone you put on a pedestal. Don't push too hard to have something go your way. Realize your limits. Tonight: Where your friends are.

QUOTE of the DAY

“There is only one word for aid that is genuinely without strings, and that word is blackmail.”

— Colm Brogan

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LOCAL



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

A 'Heartfelt' thanks

By Daily Press staff

Volunteers from the Santa Monica-based Heartfelt Foundation held their annual Thanksgiving Fair last Saturday at St. Joseph Center in Venice, providing donations of food, games, face-painting, clowns and a petting zoo for low-income families on the westside.

Children jumped on a giant pillow and rode Shetland ponies, while their parents received turkeys and food baskets contributed by volunteers like Victoria Block, who has been helping out at the foundation for 15 years.

"At Heartfelt we believe that every choice to respond when help is needed, every act of kindness extended to another, every moment of service, is to be celebrated," she said.

"This is their fourth Thanksgiving at St. Joseph Center," said Maria Alderete, SJC volunteer coordinator. "They believe that giving thanks means giving back."

St. Joseph Center, which provides services for homeless and low-income individuals and families on seven sites in Venice, Santa Monica and West Los Angeles, will hold 11 holiday events and parties in December, one for each of its programs. Volunteers will be providing decorations and party supplies, serving meals and donating food, clothing and holiday gifts.

For more information, call (310) 396-6468, ext. 325.

Food being collected for the holidays

By Daily Press staff

The Westside Food Bank is holding its annual holiday food drive to combat hunger in the neighborhoods it serves.

Until Dec. 27, the public can drop off canned goods at the Food Bank's warehouse, at 1710 22nd St., Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. or at the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce at 501 Colorado Ave. Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to noon, or 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Also large barrels for food collection are being distributed to schools, religious congregations and businesses throughout the westside.

The Westside Food Bank supplies food to 65 social services agencies in Santa Monica, Venice, Culver City, West Los Angeles, Inglewood and West Hollywood. The Food Bank's food now reaches more than 80,000 people each year, half of whom are children.

For further information, or to receive a holiday food drive barrel, call (310) 828-6016, ext. 11.

Shot for tots offered again

By Daily Press staff

Saint John's Health Center and the Santa Monica Rotary Club is offering free immunizations and TB skin tests to all infants, adolescents and teen-agers under 18 years old.

On Dec. 7, from 10 a.m. to noon, children and teen-agers can come to the hospital's cafeteria located at Arizona Avenue and 22nd Street for free shots.

California law requires that all children must have up-to-date shot records to attend school or child care centers. The immunizations will protect against diphtheria, hepatitis B, measles, rubella, hemophilus, influenza, mumps, polio, tetanus and whooping cough — diseases known to infect small children, as well as teen-agers.

Since its inception 10 years ago, Shots For Tots & Teens has immunized more than 2,000 children for free.

Free valet parking is available in front of the hospital off of Santa Monica Boulevard.

For more information, call (310) 829-8234.

surf report

Information compiled by Jesse Haley

It promises to be a rippable Thanksgiving as we start to see more South Bay waves today thanks to a pumping west-northwest swell.

Increased size is expected today as swell fills in and peaks. Surf will gain a foot or so over today's heights.

We expect decent size in at Venice despite some water pollution, and better shape and conditions at El Porto.

Surfrider is improving slightly, but it's still a mess, so stay out of the water anywhere near Malibu Pier.



Today's Tides:

High-	4:24 a.m.	3.98'
Low-	9:28 a.m.	2.95'
High-	2:33 p.m.	4.18'
Low-	9:58 p.m.	0.34'

Location	Thursday	Friday	Water Quality
County Line	2-3'/Fair	2-3'/Fair	A
Zuma	2-3'/Fair	2-3'/Fair	A
Surfrider	1-2'/Poor	1-3'/Fair	C
Topanga	2-3'/Fair	2-3'/Fair	B
Breakwater	2-4'/Fair	3-4'/Fair	B
El Porto	2-4'/Fair	3-4'/Fair	B

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The Q Line

Over the weekend, a Christmas winterland was unveiled at the Third Street Promenade, with hopes that the decorations would lure gift-seeking consumers into the various shops. Just like everywhere else in this country, merchants are hoping for a big holiday season to top off an unsettling economic year.

So this week, Q-line wants to know: "To give local merchants a much-

needed shot in the arm, will you make a point of shopping in Santa Monica? Why or why not?"

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

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OPINION

Hatred, terror are in the eyes of the beholder



TITTINGER'S TAKE

By Michael J. Tittinger

*People are strange
When you're a stranger.
Faces look ugly when you're alone.*

— Jim Morrison,
"People are Strange," 1967

The three of them sat at the end of the bar on Wilshire Boulevard, taking in their surroundings with both wide eyes and wary gate. They were very far from home, but excited, nonetheless, to be in Santa Monica.

Given their nationalities and homelands, that much could be expected.

"Where are you from?" I asked the lone female in the group.

"Lebanon," she replied. "But there was a war going on so my parents moved us to Southern Africa ... Nigeria."

Talk about one bad situation after another. Nigeria is currently in the throes of a self-inflicted Holy War between Muslims and Christians following a flap about the Miss World pageant and sparked by a seemingly innocuous newspaper story. The story in question suggested the Prophet Mohammad would probably have married one of the Miss World contestants had he been alive today. The fallout has left close to 200 people dead in and around the mostly-Muslim city of Kaduna.

Christine was a long way from home indeed, and the USC student appeared all the happier for it. Her two friends and fel-

low students hailed from Kuwait and Saudi Arabia, respectively. But a funny thing happened on the way to talking about all of the obvious problems between our home nations and all the foreign policy issues plastered across our front pages each day. We talked about Michael Jordan, the alcohol content of "Star" beer in Nigeria and the hidden wonders of canned tuna fish.

In the end, foreign policy wasn't even discussed. The four of us, an unlikely grouping, but one that is thankfully not unheard of in the Santa Monica melting pot, connected as fellow people. Borders be damned! The trio even returned to the bar momentarily just to shake hands and say good-bye.

It's not easy being a stranger in a strange land, and being of Middle Eastern descent in the United States at this time in history must be downright scary. Even being of similar appearance can be a harrowing ordeal.

Archit Patel, a 19-year-old school of pharmacy major at Santa Monica College, came to the United States with his parents in 1990 at the age of 7.

"Coming from India, a completely separate nation having nothing to do with the Middle Eastern situation, we are still discriminated because we look alike in some ways," Patel said this week. "Yet, Americans do not know that India has been battling terror long before America has, and against a country considered a U.S. ally — Pakistan. But we ourselves are terrorists just simply because we look like them. It's kind of sad, a country like the United States, so diverse, can't tell the difference between the good guy and the bad guy."

Last Tuesday at the Skirball Center on Sepulveda Boulevard, just north of Santa Monica along the 405, local filmmakers staged a free premiere for their documentary entitled "Why U.S.?" a film in which 24-year-old director Daniel Lindsey and company combed the United States, Europe and the Middle East in search of answers as to why Americans were so loathed abroad as to warrant the 9/11 hijackings and other attacks. The answers were neither simple nor completely clear. Yet, seemingly everyone had an opinion.

Following the premiere, the filmmakers staged an open forum whereby audience members were free to discuss the film, the subjects therein or terrorism and perceptions in general. One of the panelists made an insightful remark about perceptions and to the degree they are warped in translation. Just as Americans are not the characters portrayed in Hollywood and viewed the world over — totting guns, crashing cars and loving supermodels — all Middle Easterners are not religious fanatics, anti-social and devoid of enjoyment in life. We are all people, all the same deep down, whether we appear to be on the outside or not.

Perceptions can be a dangerous thing. When we make caricatures of other cultures and peoples, it leads to greater misunderstanding down the line.

Frederic Thenault is an aspiring actor who came to the United States via France a few years back. His accent is still thick.

"So why do the French hate Americans?" I asked, tongue-in-cheek.

"We don't. I never understood that stereotype," he replied thoughtfully. "You know, if you look back at history the French always have sided with the

Americans in terms of foreign policy."

Thenault went on to explain that the perception of American-hating people populating France likely stems from the overflow of tourism in Paris, the most popular tourist destination in the world. It's really more resentment towards tourists in general overrunning their prized City of Lights. We then laughed while rattling off the American-abroad stereotypes — boorish, braggarts, obnoxious, loud, cocky, penchant for violence, etc., etc., none of which the transplanted Frenchman subscribed to after living in New York, and now Southern California.

On the week that President Bush signed into effect the sweeping Homeland Security bill, an ambitious attempt to better protect the American people from the threat of domestic terror attacks, we find that we have work to do with ourselves. We all need to view people as people, regardless of race, appearance, and what-have-you. We need to not buy into stereotypes, even as they gather momentum in times of crisis like the one right now involving our nation and the Middle East.

"To change one's view is very hard," reasoned Patel. "Americans will change their view when the government changes its view ... The average American has to think with their own individual mind and not simply what everyone agrees with."

"A group of people can agree upon something, but it doesn't make it right."

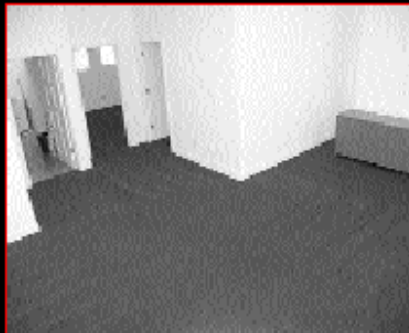
People are strangest, when they are strangers.

(Mike Tittinger is a freelance writer living in Santa Monica. To reach him, e-mail him at TooRoam@aol.com)

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LOCAL □ STATE

Council to choose Santa Monica's new mayor

MAYOR, from page 1

will begin deliberations on which of them should serve as mayor for the next two years. Council members can nominate themselves or other members for the position, which is mostly ceremonial.

Besides attending formal functions, the mayor in Santa Monica is in charge of helping set the agenda and regulate and moderate the city council meetings.

The nominations will be narrowed down to two candidates, and the council will vote on who they want as mayor.

"The process of electing the mayor, there is no ... it's quite simple actually," said city spokeswoman Judy Rambeau. "There's nominations and then a vote."

After the mayor is selected, the city council will then go through the same process selecting a mayor pro tem, a position that fills in when the mayor is absent.

Another choice available to council members is to divide the job of mayor and mayor pro tem into one-year terms. For example, council members Richard Bloom and Kevin McKeown split the current two-year term of mayor pro tem.

If council members are ready, they also have the option of switching which boards and commissions they are assigned as liaisons.

Feinstein asked council members Tuesday to start thinking about which

boards and commissions they would like to serve on because even though the council make-up has not changed, boards and commission assignments could.

"When I got back into the council office after the meeting was over, I let out several deep therapeutic yells, as I felt the extra responsibilities slide off my back like water off a duck's back."

— MIKE FEINSTEIN
Santa Monica Mayor

In past years after the council chooses its new leadership, the meeting is over. However, this year council members have a full agenda to conduct.

"They are trying not to have another meeting so close to Christmas and they are trying to get things done," Stewart said. "And there is just a lot of things that need to get done."

Davis seeks federal help to aid LA County health system

BY ALEXA H. BLUTH
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO — Gov. Gray Davis and Los Angeles County officials are asking for waivers of federal rules to help ease a fiscal crisis that forced the closure of 11 clinics in the nation's second-largest public health system.

Davis and county leaders submitted a plan to the Bush administration Wednesday that health officials said would preserve emergency and inpatient services at two major hospitals and could stabilize Los Angeles County's beleaguered health care system for five years.

The state-county plan asks the federal government to ease regulations that penalize hospitals for using less-costly outpatient care, and urges the renewal of a federal waiver that allows the state to accept competitive bids to serve patients on Medi-Cal, the state's version of Medicaid.

The plan submitted Wednesday does not ask the federal government for more money, but rather would "allow us to use the moneys already allocated in a creative fashion that solves problems up and down the state," Davis said.

The Los Angeles County Department of Health Services faces a major deficit, even with voter approval earlier this month of a property tax measure that will generate some \$168 million annually for emergency rooms, trauma centers and bioterrorism preparedness.

Around the state, county health departments faced with budget problems are slowing or cutting spending, blaming the state budget crisis, a rise in uninsured patients, reduced medical reimbursements and reduced state and federal spending.

Before the passage of Measure B, the health care deficit was projected to reach \$1.4 billion over five years, threatening to force the county into bankruptcy. The tax measure is expected to provide a total \$6 to \$7 million and the proposed federal waivers would provide another estimated total of \$7 to \$8 million over the next five years, said Tom Garthwaite, director of Los Angeles County Health Services Department.

County supervisors voted in August to shutter 11 of 18 public health clinics and cut \$56.8 million from its health care budget. Proposals are on the table to close emergency rooms and inpatient services at Harbor UCLA and Olive View medical centers, in addition to scrapping a programs that gives money to privately run health clinics.

The county previously asked for a \$1.4 billion bailout from the federal government, but federal officials indicated they were opposed. Now, officials are asking the federal government to:

■ Change financial incentives for hospitals to hospitalize Medi-Cal patients instead of promoting treatment in more efficient outpatient settings.

■ Renew a waiver for the state's Selective Provider Contracting Program, in which hospitals bid for the state's inpatient Medi-Cal business leading to lower rates for Medi-Cal. The state distributes some of the saved money to about 80 safety-net hospitals and it is used mainly for trauma care. California has encountered resistance from the Bush administration in its latest request to renew the waiver.

Davis said state and county officials will meet next month to discuss the plan.

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STATE

LAX maxed



Damian Dovarganes/Associated Press

Passengers line up outside the SouhtWest Airlines terminal waiting for a security check at the Los Angeles International airport on Wednesday in Los Angeles. One year after post-Sept.-11 jitters kept many Thanksgiving travelers away from airports, California airline employees are bracing for one of the busiest travel weekends of the year.

Web sites make money by helping shoppers save money

BY MICHAEL LIEDTKE
AP Business Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — It's a holiday tradition for many people: opening the newspaper over the Thanksgiving weekend to digest all the ads stuffed with bargains.

But all those post-Thanksgiving sales already are old news to the thousands of consumers who frequent bargain-hunting Web sites that help people save money online and off.

In fact, some of these sites pass along sensitive sales information in advance, rankling store chains.

That's what happened earlier this month when a few deal-sharing sites infuriated Wal-Mart, Target and other retail giants by posting confidential information about the stores' post-Thanksgiving sales.

After the retailers threatened to prosecute for alleged violations of digital copyright laws, two things happened: The sites removed the sales lists, and news coverage of the breach drove even more consumers there.

Traffic at FatWallet.com is up by about 20 percent since the merchants issued their Nov. 20 legal threats, said Tim Storm, owner of the Roscoe, Ill.-based service.

The retailers "ended up doing us a favor by bringing more attention to us," Storm said. "If people hear about an opportunity where they might save more money, they are going to want to find out more about it."

This being the holiday shopping season, the timing couldn't have been better for the bargain-hunting sites.

The sites make money by collecting customer referral fees and sales commissions. In some cases, merchants even pay to have their coupons and other deals displayed prominently.

But the sites also rely heavily on a community of frugal shoppers who post

information about coupons and other deals. Special software enables the sites to collect their referral fees when visitors click on a deal.

The crackdown on the Thanksgiving leaks prompted an outcry on online message boards. Many consumers noted that the postings amounted to free advertising for merchants, and some even urged a boycott of the stores that demanded the removals.

Merchants, though, believe they have the right to control when information is released.

"It's a question of fairness for us," said Wal-Mart spokesman Bill Wertz. "We don't think it's fair for some consumers to have information like this ahead of others."

In other instances, the bargain-hunting sites have antagonized retailers by pointing out mistakes at e-commerce sites so people can capitalize on them before merchants fix them.

The sites "are all about trying to take advantage of the system," said Pamela Swartwood, a spokeswoman for PriceGrabber.com, one of several popular online price-comparison sites that work closely with retailers.

Other popular bargain-hunting sites include DealCatcher, FlamingoWorld, MyCoupons, DealoftheDay, AmazingBargains and CleverMoms.

Their audiences are relatively small. FatWallet, for instance, has 45,000 registered users.

The relentless pursuit of bargains has helped turn FatWallet and other such Web sites into profitable businesses, according to their owners.

"We have been profitable from the first day," Dan Baxter said of 3-year-old Dealcatcher.com. The site has grown from an experiment that the 25-year-old Baxter once ran from his bedroom in his parents' Wilmington, Del., home to a four-employee business with its own office.

NATIONAL



Living wage bill approved for health care workers

By The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Mayor Michael Bloomberg signed into law Wednesday a bill that guarantees at least \$8.10 an hour plus health benefits for some 50,000 health care workers employed by companies with city contracts.

The law covers teachers who care for cerebral palsy patients, day care workers and home care attendants.

The wages will start at a minimum of \$8.10 per hour this year and increase annually until the pay rate reaches \$10 per hour in July 2006. The state minimum wage is \$5.15 an hour.

An earlier version of the legislation would have required some companies to provide wage subsidies to 2,700 janitors, security guards and other personnel. The mayor objected, fearing the provision would chase businesses out of the city.

Ninety percent of the wage increases will be covered by the state under a health package negotiated by Gov. George Pataki in January. The city is responsible for 10 percent.

Police investigating whether radical environmental group wrecking SUVs in Virginia

BY BILL BASKERVILL

Associated Press Writer

RICHMOND, Va. — More than 30 gas-guzzling sport utility vehicles have been vandalized in the Richmond area over the past few months, many with an acid-like chemical, and authorities are investigating whether a radical environmental group is responsible.

Police and the FBI want to know whether the attacks are the work of the shadowy Earth Liberation Front, an international underground organization that uses economic sabotage.

While the culprits left behind notes saying the vandalism was the work of the ELF, Sgt. Tom Shumate, spokesman for the Henrico County police, said authorities have not definitively linked the group to the vandalism.

The ELF "press office" did not immediately respond to an e-mail seeking comment on the vandalism.

Twenty-five SUVs were damaged at a car dealership in late September. "Vandals put some type of glass-etching spray on the windows, an acid-type chemical that tints the glass where you can't see through

it," Shumate said.

They used the same type of chemical to etch "ELF" into the plate-glass windows at three fast-food restaurants.

In early October, vandals again struck two SUVs. It appeared one was hacked with a hatchet, and the other was smashed with a sharp object, police said.

Vandals also have slashed tires on SUVs, the most recent attack coming Nov. 16, when five vehicles were damaged. There was also a spate of SUV tire slashings in July in the city's fashionable Fan District.

Lawrence Barry, spokesman for the FBI in Richmond, declined to say Monday what the investigation has found.

ELF and its companion group, the Animal Liberation Front, are responsible for more than 600 cases of ecoterrorism around the country, ranging from spray-painting buildings and breaking windows to firebombing fur farms and research centers, according to the FBI.

The groups have caused an estimated \$43 million in damage. The most destructive attack was a \$12 million blaze at a Vail, Colo., ski resort in 1998.

Woman captured after episode of 'America's Most Wanted'

By The Associated Press

PATERSON, N.J. — A woman accused of seriously wounding her husband's mistress was caught after an anonymous tipster called "America's Most Wanted."

Kristina Eaddy, 31, who had been wanted for more than three years on attempted murder charges, was arrested Monday as she left her home in Woodlawn, Md. On Wednesday, she waived her right to challenge her extradition.

The caller to the television show recognized Eaddy from the day-care center where Eaddy brought her children.

Police say Eaddy fired five shots at Shakessa Sturdivant with a 9 mm handgun in July 1999 in Paterson. Wounded in the side, Sturdivant, 32, lost half her blood and underwent several operations. She has since moved out of state and has recovered from her physical injuries.

Eaddy fired the shots from the passenger seat of a car driven by her husband, Donald Williams, 32, said prosecutor Paul DeGroot.

Williams was convicted in May of attempted murder, aggravated assault and weapons offenses. During his trial, he said he didn't know his wife had a gun the night of the shooting.

According to the "America's Most Wanted" Web site, Eaddy is the 734th person found with its help.

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STATE

Groups say buy 'free-range'

TURKEY RIGHTS, from page 1

"Our turkeys have only one bad day," said Polly Armour, referring to the pre-Thanksgiving slaughter that she and her husband, Jay, perform with a razor-sharp knife at a barn on their 24-acre organic farm.

"The rest of the time, they're outdoors, doing what they want," she said. "They can eat the grass, eat the bugs. They can flap their wings."

Farms like the Armours' are what the Humane Society of the United States has in mind as it urges consumers to forego the supermarket turkeys grown indoors at so-called factory farms. At such a farm, the Humane Society says, turkeys can "express more natural behaviors and live better lives."

"We're not trying to rain on anyone's holiday," said Wayne Pacelle, the Humane Society's senior vice president. "But people must know these animals are terribly abused. ... Turkeys have been transformed from a sleek, adaptive wild animal into a Frankenstein monster, so obese it can barely stand."

The industry defends its mass-production techniques as necessary to provide plump turkeys at affordable prices. The National Turkey Federation denies any systematic cruelty by its member producers and says per capita turkey consumption is holding steady at 18 pounds annually despite escalating protests.

"We're an easy target at this time of the year, because everyone in the United States is focusing on Thanksgiving," said Sherrie Rosenblatt, the federation's spokeswoman. "It's un-American not to have turkey at Thanksgiving."

The holiday is vital to producers' livelihoods, accounting for about a sixth of the 270 million turkeys consumed annually in the United States.

Rosenblatt said large-scale producers are as committed as family farmers to turkeys' contentment because high stress affects the birds' ability to eat properly and gain weight.

"We always want to promote and protect our product," Rosenblatt said. "When some group goes out and creates misinformation that could change consumer behavior, it's something we need to be concerned about."

While the Humane Society tries to steer consumers away from factory-farm products, other groups want Americans to forsake turkey meat altogether. Among them:

■ People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals has staged protests in several cities featuring a turkey-costumed activist walking on crutches. The purpose, PETA says, is to draw attention to factory farm practices that hamper turkeys' ability to walk.

■ Farm Sanctuary, a nonprofit group dedicated to protecting farm animals, runs the Adopt-A-Turkey Project, encouraging families to adopt a bird instead of eating one. Participants can take two or more turkeys into their home — if zoning laws permit — or sponsor turkeys who live at shelters in New York or California.

PETA's Bruce Friedrich says vegetarians can spread their message effectively while gathered with family and friends for Thanksgiving.

"The dead turkey is a traditional centerpiece, and consequently declining to eat it is a perfect opportunity to talk about the fact that eating meat is animal cruelty," he said.

PETA's suggestion for meatless a Thanksgiving menu: soy-based roasts and a puff pastry stuffed with cranberries, chard, flavored wheat gluten, yams and onions.

At Four Winds, the Armours cater to vegetarians with their organic crops, but they also take pride in their lamb, pork, beef and poultry, including the 40 turkeys noisily scuttling across their grassy pasture last week.

The birds are fed a mix of grains tasty enough that Polly Armour eats it as a snack. They sell at \$3 a pound — two or three times more than a factory-farm bird at a supermarket. The couple say their customers rave about the turkeys' flavor; the entire batch was sold six months in advance.

Zinfandel wine outshines all the rest at Thanksgiving

BY LOUISE CHU
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO — A juicy turkey, savory stuffing and creamy mashed potatoes have long been staples of the Thanksgiving dinner table. And when it comes to wine, more Americans are making red Zinfandel another holiday tradition.

Zinfandel producers love the growing attention, especially since their wine is among the top sellers during the holiday season.

California red Zinfandel sales have had steady growth in recent years, particularly in the higher price categories. In 2001, \$518 million worth of red Zinfandel was sold, an increase of 36 percent over the previous year, according to the Wine Trends report by Motto Kryla & Fisher, a wine industry business-advisory firm.

In California's Amador County, east of Sacramento and tucked in the Sierra Nevada foothills, the increased interest in Zinfandel is something area winemakers are encouraging. Often sitting in the shadow of the more renowned Napa Valley,

about 100 miles to the west, Amador wineries make about a quarter of the state's Zinfandel.

Holiday wine sales have helped the area stay competitive with industry giants by the coast.

Zinfandel fans often take pride in its uniquely American character. Unlike Cabernet Sauvignon and Pinot Noir, which have obvious French roots, Americans have claimed Zinfandel as their own, although researchers at the University of California, Davis, have traced the grape's origins to the coast of Croatia in eastern Europe.

The wine's marketing angle has helped wineries and retailers pair "the quintessential American wine" with the quintessential American meal, fueling a revival of sorts for red Zinfandel in recent years.

The Zinfandel grape crushes into white and red wines. The white wine is more of a blush because the grape's skin is quickly separated from the juice during crushing, leaving a slightly sweet taste and rosy pink color. The red wine has a richer, spicier flavor.

NATIONAL

Seattle marks 60th anniversary of Hendrix's birth

BY GENE JOHNSON
Associated Press Writer

SEATTLE — Sixty years after his birth, one of the most important artists ever to emerge from Seattle is — at least officially — almost invisible here.

There's no Jimi Hendrix Boulevard, no Hendrix Arena, no Hendrix Elementary School.

The only thing the city has done to recognize the man many consider the world's greatest guitar player is to give him a rock — in the African Savanna exhibit at the Woodland Park Zoo.

Biographer Charles Cross of Seattle, who has spent years researching Hendrix for an upcoming book, called the oversight "almost criminal."

"The Seattle city government has never given any due to this man's cultural legacy," Cross said.

That's not to say the composer of "Purple Haze," born Nov. 27, 1942, isn't loved in his hometown, where he spent two-thirds of his life and cut his teeth in the music scene. He still has plenty of fans in Seattle — and around the world — who revere him as a genius for his unprecedented, searing acid rock-blues sound.

Microsoft co-founder Paul Allen first envisioned his \$240 million Experience Music Project as a temple to Hendrix, who remains the rock museum's focus. On Sunday, the EMP threw him a 60th birthday party, featuring blues legend Buddy Guy.

There are a few other markings around the city: A private company put a small bronze statue on a sidewalk in the Capital Hill neighborhood, and Garfield High School, which Hendrix attended, has a bust and mural of him.

But there's no high-profile memorial approved by city government.

Casey Corr, a spokesman for Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels, said that's not because of unwillingness from the city; it simply hasn't been an issue.

"Hendrix is the greatest innovator among rock guitarists. He's an icon," Corr said. "And the further we get away from his death, the more we can appreciate his innovation."

For years after his death, city officials refused to name anything after him because of his drug use.

Hendrix died Sept. 18, 1970, when he choked on his own vomit. After drinking wine earlier in the night, he'd taken eight sleeping pills, as he often did to get rest while touring. The pills were German, four times stronger than the American ones he was used to.

In 1981, radio station KZOK-FM accepted an invitation from the Woodland Park Zoo to place a memorial there and raised more than \$26,000 from listeners.

The design evokes three Hendrix songs: "Fire," for the reddish, flame-shaped tiles of the walkway; "Purple Haze," for the purple-leaf Japanese shrubs in the area; and "Third Stone from the Sun," for the Hendrix rock, embedded with a bronze, sun-shaped plaque.

"Third Stone" is written from the perspective of a space traveler who lands on Earth and remarks about the strange life here. Visitors stand on the Hendrix rock to get a better view of giraffes grazing in the nearby grassland.

"It's successful from the standpoint that it's got a lot of symbolism in it, but it isn't in your face," said Jim Maxwell, who was the zoo's project leader for the memorial. "If you're not looking for it or if you're not interested in it, you're not going to really notice it."

Maxwell said he didn't see how the memorial could seem inappropriate.

"He was not African. He was an American. He grew



Jimi Hendrix

up in Seattle," he said. "There's no connection to racism, so I don't have a political view of it."

But for many Hendrix fans, that's the point: If Hendrix wasn't African, why stick his memorial in the African section of a zoo, to be gazed at like an animal?

Hendrix grew up poor in Seattle, and his favorite local bands — the Dynamics and the Statics, among others — were of mixed race. He became one of the first major black artists with a predominantly white fan base, and when the Jimi Hendrix Experience formed in London in late 1966, it was the first major rock band featuring a black frontman backed by whites.

Hendrix was never comfortable being a poster boy for

political causes, said Jim Fricke, senior curator at the EMP, but "sometimes those subtle messages are the most important ones. The fact that people got used to seeing a black frontman with a white band may have had some effect on people's ideas about race."

Hendrix enjoyed living in Seattle, and planned to return to live on Mercer Island, said his half sister, Janie Hendrix.

As for the memorial at the zoo, she said: "Well, you know. It's a marking for Jimi, and I don't want to say anything bad about it. Would we have done that? Probably not, but at the time that they did it, there was nothing in the city that recognized Jimi."

She added, "We'd love to have a street named for him."



briefs

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NATIONAL

Mississippi tries to shed reputation for eye-popping verdict

BY JACK ELLIOTT JR.

Associated Press Writer

JACKSON, Miss. — Mississippi is capping punitive damages in product-liability cases and slapping other restrictions on lawsuits to try to erase the state's reputation as the place where plaintiffs' lawyers go to hit the jackpot.

The legislation emerged from an 83-day special legislative session devoted entirely to legal reform.

Business groups from Mississippi and around the country had pressed for the protections, warning that Mississippi's role as a magnet for negligence lawsuits and its reputation for eye-popping verdicts are costing jobs and scaring away employers.

In early October, Democratic Gov. Ronnie Musgrove signed the first major piece of legislation to come out of the special session: a measure to limit jury awards against doctors, hospitals and nursing homes, which are facing rising medical malpractice premiums.

Then on Monday, the Legislature passed a tort reform bill dealing with punitive damages.

"It's fitting this legislation comes just before Thanksgiving Day. All along, I've said we needed civil justice reform that was fair and balanced, and I'm pleased legislation has been put together that meets these criteria," the governor said Tuesday. "I am pleased with a major portion and I will review the provisions."

Ron Aldridge, a lobbyist with the National Federation of Independent Business, said: "It's a great message for Mississippi to send to the world."

Trial lawyers were not happy with the bill.

"It's bad," said David Baria, president of the Mississippi Trial Lawyers Association. "Corporate America came to the Mississippi Legislature and said, 'Don't make us pay when we kill your people' and the Legislature bent to the pressure."

Mississippi has been the site of some multimillion-dollar verdicts and settlements in cases involving the tobacco industry, asbestos, health maintenance organiza-

tions and drug companies.

In 1998, a jury awarded 12 plaintiffs \$48.5 million in compensatory damages in a case against several asbestos manufacturers. A year later, a jury awarded \$150 million in compensatory damages to five Mississippians who claimed the diet drug fen-phen gave them heart and lung problems.

"Corporate America came to the Mississippi Legislature and said, 'Don't make us pay when we kill your people' and the Legislature bent to the pressure."

— DAVID BARIA

Mississippi Trial Lawyers Association, president

The reasons given for the big verdicts: Unlike other Southeastern states, Mississippi had no caps on jury verdicts. Also, plaintiffs' lawyers realized they could tap into the traditional Southern populist hostility toward Big Business. Many of the big verdicts were won in cases that were strategically filed in poor, rural areas such as Holmes County, in the Delta.

Before 1995, Mississippi's biggest punitive damage award was \$8 million; since then, at least seven verdicts have hit \$100 million or more.

Trial lawyers in Mississippi consistently have said that the state's legal system works fine and that a few big, expensive cases in recent years are no reason for major changes.

But the Mississippi State Medical Association said the legal climate has prompted many insurance companies to stop doing business in Mississippi. Earlier this year, the

U.S. Chamber of Commerce actually warned members about doing business in Mississippi — the first time in its 90-year history that the pro-business organization has singled out a state in such a way.

Also, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists identified Mississippi as one of nine states with a liability insurance crisis that threatens the availability of doctors to deliver babies.

The bill passed on Monday would cap punitive damages — those meant to punish wrongdoing — at \$20 million for the largest corporations, and less on a sliding scale for smaller companies. Businesses with a net worth of less than \$50 million could not be forced to pay out more than 4 percent of that total in punitive damages.

The legislation also extended protection to "innocent sellers" in product liability cases. Consumers suing out-of-state manufacturers often sue the Mississippi retailer as well to keep the case in state court. The new legislation would let a judge remove a seller from a case but keep the lawsuit in state court.

Other changes govern how financial responsibility is assigned among multiple defendants. Currently in Mississippi, if a defendant is found to be at fault at all, the defendant can be responsible for up to half of the damages awarded if the other defendants are bankrupt or broke.

Under the provision approved Monday, a defendant found to be less than 30 percent at fault would be responsible for a share of non-economic damages — damages for things such as pain and suffering — equal to his portion of the blame. Defendants found to be 30 percent or more at fault could be forced to pay no more than half of the non-economic damages.

The bill would also limit multiple lawsuits by cities and counties against gun manufacturers, discourage out-of-state plaintiffs from joining pending lawsuits, and limit some advertising by out-of-state lawyers.

"It balances the interest of business with the rights of consumers and citizens to have access to the courts," said Democratic state Rep. Percy Watson of Hattiesburg.

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INTERNATIONAL



U.N. inspectors complete surprise visits at two sites

BY CHARLES J. HANLEY

AP Special Correspondent

AMARIYAH, Iraq — International arms monitors searched a military missile-testing range and a state factory outside Baghdad Wednesday, starting a new round of inspections that could determine the future of peace in the Middle East.

Inspectors did not immediately disclose their findings but seemed pleased with Iraqi cooperation on the first day.

"We hope the Iraqi response today represents the future pattern of cooperation," said Jacques Baute, leader of the team of nuclear inspectors.

Adding a sense of drama, an air raid siren wailed in Baghdad hours after the inspections began, followed by an all-clear siren. An Iraqi Civil Defense official, who refused to give his name, reported a "hostile flight" over the capital. A spokesman for the U.S. Joint Task Force at the Prince Sultan air base outside Riyadh, Saudi Arabia refused comment.

The U.N. teams started what was expected to be months of difficult, detailed inspections of hundreds of sites after a four-year break. They are charged with assessing whether the Baghdad government is still committed to chemical, biological and nuclear weapons.

The United States has warned it will disarm Iraq by force if the inspections fail, with or without international help.

In one of Wednesday's two initial surprise inspections, six white U.N. vehicles pulled up to a military complex 25 miles west of Baghdad, trailed by scores of international journalists who pursued them from the capital and then waited outside as the inspectors entered.

The U.N. team was not interested in the industrial buildings up front but in the largely empty expanse out back, known as the al-Rafah testing station, empty except for a few skeletal steel structures.

On the basis of satellite photos, U.S. intelligence analysts have suggested that a new, square, steel-girder stand for holding and testing missile engines at al-Rafah might be used for missiles larger than allowed under U.N. resolutions. Iraq is forbidden to develop missiles over 90 miles in range.

The Iraqis say the structure can be used only for permitted shorter-range missile engines.

The inspectors spent five hours inside. Over the 7-foot-high walls surrounding the complex, they could be seen crisscrossing the open testing area, wearing U.N.-blue baseball caps and carrying backpacks and clipboards. They spent considerable time in a small concrete building that appeared to be a control center.



Ed Bailey/Associated Press

Chief United Nations Weapons Inspector Hans Blix leaves a meeting of the eleventh plenary session of the College of Commissioners of the U.N. Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission (UNMOVIC) held at the U.N. this week.

They also checked files and photographed documents, the center's director, military engineer Ali Jassam Hussein, told reporters who were allowed in afterward.

"They didn't find anything because we don't have anything illegal," he said.

The inspectors in the other three U.N. vehicles went to al-Tahadi, a factory six miles east of Baghdad that is run by the Ministry of Industry and said by Iraqi officials to produce motors for cement factories, refineries and water pumping stations.

About 10 inspectors spent about three hours inside the complex as a crowd of journalists waited outside, then headed back to their headquarters. No one was allowed in or out during the inspection.

The inspectors did not speak to journalists. After they left, factory officials told Associated Press Television News the inspectors were from the U.N. nuclear agency and the factory had been scrutinized by the agency in the 1990s.

Factory director Haitham Maamoud said the facility never was involved in Iraq's nuclear program.

He said the inspectors, who arrived unannounced, toured maintenance workshops and asked questions. The inspection went smoothly and factory officials answered all the questions put to them, Maamoud said without elaborating.

Iraqi security kept journalists out of the sites during the inspections, though Iraqi officials said earlier they wanted maximum media coverage to prove to the world they do not have weapons of mass destruction. The inspectors had said they needed privacy to do their jobs.

The monitors have a mandate from the U.N. Security Council to test Baghdad's contention that it has no arsenals of weapons of mass destruction, or programs to build them.

Iraqi cooperation "is the only way to avoid a military conflict in the region," U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan said on Europe 1 radio in Paris Wednesday.

Iraqi U.N. Ambassador Mohammed Al-Douri, in remarks broadcast on Radio Cairo Wednesday, said: "Iraq is not afraid of the inspectors' work because it has nothing to hide, but Iraq fears that some of the inspectors will misuse their authority and make trouble that the United States will use to strike Iraq." Earlier teams of U.N. experts, in seven years' work ending in 1998, destroyed large amounts of chemical and biological armaments and longer-range missiles forbidden to Iraq by U.N. resolutions after the Gulf War, in which an Iraqi invasion force was driven from Kuwait. The inspectors also dismantled Iraq's nuclear weapons program before it could build a bomb.

The earlier inspections were suspended in 1998 amid disputes over U.N. access to Iraqi sites and Iraqi complaints of American spying via the U.N. operation.

A working group of 17 inspectors landed in Baghdad on Monday, first contingent of some 100 who will be operating in Iraq at any one time by year's end. More than 300 experts are available on the rosters of the two U.N. inspecting agencies — the Vienna-based International Atomic Energy Agency and chief inspector Hans Blix's New York-based U.N. Monitoring, Verification and Inspection Commission, known as UNMOVIC.

The U.N. inspectors are to report to the Security Council by late January on their initial round of inspections.

Iraq must submit a declaration by Dec. 8 detailing any such weapons programs, as well as nuclear, chemical or biological programs it claims have peaceful purposes. The Iraqis complain the requirements are too sweeping, encompassing even plastic slippers produced by its petrochemical industry.

Smugglers, politicians, spies move al-Qaida, Taliban fugitives

BY KATHY GANNON

Associated Press Writer

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan — A murky network of smugglers, politicians and spies is moving money to Taliban and al-Qaida fugitives, slipping their operatives out of the region and ferrying others in, according to intelligence officials and a former Taliban commander.

Several al-Qaida men have left Afghanistan for Algeria in recent days, Fazul Rabi Said Rahman, a former Taliban corps commander, told The Associated Press in an interview Tuesday. A European intelligence source says others are slipping quietly into the region, and the numbers are on the increase.

"If you have money you can go anywhere, without any problem," Said Rahman said.

Another former Taliban official who spoke on condition his name or rank not be used said several al-Qaida fugitives were smuggled out of Afghanistan in recent weeks. They were taken out through Pakistan's Tirah Valley, a remote region ringed by towering peaks.

The Tirah Valley neighbors Tora Bora in Afghanistan's eastern Nangarhar province, the scene of some of the fiercest bombing in the U.S.-led coalition's war on terror.

The man who is said to have helped them escape, an al-Qaida sympathizer named Anwarul Haq Mujahed, himself eluded capture this month.

American and Afghan special forces in search of Mujahed raided several places in eastern Afghanistan, including offices of the International Islamic Relief Organization, where he was believed to have contacts. They also raided his father's farm in Farmada, according to Haji Zaman Khan, an ally of the U.S.-led coalition during last December's assault on Tora Bora.

The farm, a well-known refuge for al-Qaida members during and after the Taliban rule, was bombed several times during the U.S.-led coalition's campaign.

Mujahed's father, Maulvi Yunus Khalis, was a U.S.-backed commander during the 1980s war against the Soviet occupiers in Afghanistan. He swore allegiance to the northern alliance government, but Taliban in hiding say he has remained close to his onetime al-Qaida friends.

"Mujahed helped at least 100 of the al-Qaida men who wanted to escape Afghanistan," Zaman told the AP on Tuesday. "Just in the last month I know he helped some escape."

Before U.S. Special Forces could locate him, Mujahed was spirited out of

Nangarhar province, through Dar-e-Nur in eastern Afghanistan, to Laghman province and then to Kabul. From there, he was flown aboard an Afghan Ariana flight to Pakistan's frontier city of Peshawar, assisted along the way by men loyal to Khalis.

Some of the people alleged to have helped him are members of the Afghan government, including the Nangarhar military chief Hazrat Ali and Nangarhar governor Din Mohammed.

Said Rahman, the former Taliban commander, said several al-Qaida men have left for Algeria in recent weeks.

It was unclear whether they were the same men spirited out by Mujahed.

While some al-Qaida men are moving out of the region, others are coming in, say European intelligence sources. They are bringing money with them, helped by smugglers and traders, according to the intelligence officials.

The network that allows the traffic to flow virtually unhindered allegedly includes Pakistani militant groups — like Lashkar-e-Tayyaba and Jaish-e-Mohammed — Pakistani intelligence and even the upper echelon of Jamiat-e-Ulema Islam, one of the key partners in a religious coalition that rules Pakistan's strategic North West Frontier Province and which holds considerable sway in south-

western Baluchistan province.

"We are happy that our brothers are in power here. We expect it will be even easier," said Said Rahman.

He said many top Taliban in hiding move particularly freely in Baluchistan province, of which Quetta is the capital. Among them is Maulvi Abdul Kabir, the No. 3 man in the Taliban, and Abdul Razzak, former Taliban interior minister.

The Taliban's former brigade commander at Spinboldak, Maulvi Jalaluddin, has close ties with Jamiat-e-Ulema Islam officials, like the group's general secretary, Ghafour Haideri, says Said Rahman. "He knows the border very well, how to move across without a problem, how to move others across, who will help and how to get their help," he said.

Jamiat-e-Ulema Islam loyalists and members of the Pakistani intelligence agency, an open ally of the Taliban before Sept. 11, have helped senior Taliban move freely and communicate with others about their whereabouts and planned meetings.

An active transit route is the Afghan town of Allah Jirga, which hugs the border with Pakistan and where Mullah Mohammed Omar, the Taliban's leader, has tribal links, said Said Rahman.

Haideri dismissed allegations that he protects Taliban, but said his loyalties are with the ousted movement.



SPORTS

Oakland's Coliseum not a 'Black Hole' to N.Y. Jets

BY BARRY WILNER
AP Football Writer

HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. — There is no fear of venturing into the "Black Hole" for the New York Jets, even though the home of the Oakland Raiders has the NFL's most outrageous fans.

Until the finale of the 2001 season, the Jets had never won there. Then they edged the Raiders 24-22 on John Hall's 53-yard field goal with 59 seconds remaining, securing a playoff spot.

"And they were still talking trash," defensive end John Abraham recalled Wednesday. "They talked more trash when we were walking off the field than all game."

"It's fun to play in front of that crowd. They're dogging you when you are down, but if you are winning, you pretty much have them in your pocket."

Although the Jets were beaten 38-24 in Oakland the next week in a playoff game, any trepidation about playing there has disappeared.

With the Jets (6-5) riding a four-game winning streak — and with a 10-4 road record under coach Herman

Edwards — they would be confident playing anywhere. Still, this is supposedly the most intimidating atmosphere in pro football, if not in all of sports.

"That's what a home venue should be like," Edwards said. "I don't believe in the language, but how they back their football team, I think that is what it is all about."

"It's an arena, but there's no lions in there, last time I checked. They put lions in there and they don't give me a stick, I am not going in there."

"It is fun, it has got to be fun. If that is not fun, you can't like football. I am crazy enough to look at it that way, and this team is crazy enough to look at it that way."

Several Jets admit they take note of what costumes the fans are wearing during pregame warmups. Guard Dave Szott, who spent the first 10 seasons of his NFL career in Kansas City, making annual trips to the Black Hole for five years, has some distinct memories of the place.

"The first time I played there, before the game we were getting pelted with things," said Szott, who hopes to make his Jets debut Monday night after undergoing reconstructive knee surgery in June. "I looked down and it was live ammunition — casings."

"Our center, Tim Grunhard, was a hunter. He picked up the pellets, put them in his socks and said he was going to use them for hunting season. He probably did."

Szott turned to a policeman standing nearby during the bombardment and asked what he was going to do about the fans.

"What do you want me to do?" the officer shrugged before walking away.

"I enjoy that kind of environment, as most of the guys do," Szott added.

Perhaps. But the high-scoring Raiders are a difficult opponent in a normal atmosphere. Their home stadium hardly is a normal atmosphere, even the Raiders are just 34-27 since moving back to Oakland from Los Angeles in 1995.

The Jets believe there is little to worry about from the crowd as long as they are outplaying the Raiders. So that's what they plan to do.

"You go into that type of environment, you want them cussing at you," cornerback Aaron Beasley said. "And at the end, you want them frustrated with you."

Notre Dame looks to solidify BCS berth with win over USC

BY RICHARD ROSENBLATT
AP Football Writer

Notre Dame-USC is important again.

For the first time since 1989, both teams enter the game ranked in the AP's top 10. And both are playing for berths in Bowl Championship Series games that carry payouts of as much as \$16.5 million per team.

The seventh-ranked Fighting Irish (10-1) need a win to all but clinch a BCS spot, probably the Orange or Sugar Bowl. But even a loss might not keep them out as long as they remain eligible with a top 12 finish in the final BCS standings Dec. 8.

The sixth-ranked Trojans (9-2) can win the Pac-10 title and earn a Rose Bowl berth if UCLA beats Washington State on Dec. 7. A victory over Notre Dame does not guarantee USC an at-large spot if the Cougars win the Pac-10.

USC coach Pete Carroll is more concerned with winning than wondering about BCS games.

"That's just the system, and I can't do anything about it," Carroll said. "That's someone else's job — to fix that thing if it's not right."

Notre Dame coach Tyrone Willingham won't get caught up in speculation, either.

"We have to take care of what we can take care of," Willingham said. "We have one regular-season game remaining against a team that is clearly thought to be one of the best and hottest teams in the country."

The Irish are coming off their best offensive game of the season, albeit against lowly Rutgers. Carlyle Holiday threw for 270 yards and tied a school record with four touchdown passes in the 42-0 win.

USC enters the home game with a chance to close the season with wins over UCLA and Notre Dame for the first time since 1981. With Carson Palmer passing for 254 yards and four TDs last week, the Trojans routed crosstown rival UCLA 52-21 for their sixth straight win. Palmer is the Pac-10's career leading passer with 11,090 yards.

During the streak, USC has averaged 41.6 points while allowing 22.2. Notre Dame has won the teams' last three meetings, including a 27-16 victory last year.

The picks: No. 1 Miami (minus 20) at Syracuse
'Canes make it 33 in a row.

■ **MIAMI, 42-14.**

No. 3 Oklahoma (minus 14 1/2) at

Oklahoma State
Sooners won't get caught napping vs. Cowboys this year.

■ **OKLAHOMA, 31-14.**

Georgia Tech (plus 9) at No. 5 Georgia
'Dawgs have their day.

■ **GEORGIA, 24-17.**

No. 7 Notre Dame (plus 11) at No. 6 USC
Irish defense can't handle Trojans QB Palmer.

■ **USC, 31-21.**

No. 10 Texas (minus 13 1/2) at Texas A&M (Friday)
Could this be R.C. Slocum's final game as Aggies' coach?

■ **TEXAS, 35-24.**

No. 13 Colorado (minus 1 1/2) at Nebraska (Friday)
'Huskers out to avenge last year's 62-36 embarrassment.

■ **NEBRASKA, 33-27.**

No. 14 Alabama (minus 13) at Hawaii
'Bama's bowl game.

■ **ALABAMA, 42-27.**

No. 15 Florida (plus 4) at No. 23 Florida State.

'Noles have QB woes

■ **FLORIDA, 31-24.**

UNLV (plus 17) at No. 16 Colorado State
Rams looking for school record-tying 11th win.

■ **COLORADO STATE, 38-18.**

No. 24 West Virginia (plus 2 1/2) at No. 17 Pittsburgh
Backyard Brawl for second-place in Big East.

■ **PITTSBURGH, 26-20.**

No. 18 LSU (plus 5) at Arkansas (Friday)
Winner plays for SEC title against Georgia.

■ **ARKANSAS, 24-21.**

Virginia (plus 7) at No. 22 Virginia Tech
Hokies facing fourth straight loss, all vs. unranked teams.

■ **VIRGINIA, 27-24.**

Wake Forest (plus 13 1/2) at No. 25 Maryland
Terps on course for second straight 10-win season

■ **MARYLAND, 35-20.**

■ Last week: 9-6 (straight); 9-6 (vs. points)

■ Season: 182-64 (straight); 125-110 (vs. points)

Texas A&M player's death resulted from blood clot

By The Associated Press

COLLEGE STATION, Texas — Texas A&M football player Brandon Fails died from a blood clot that formed as a result of a leg injury, the Travis County medical examiner's office ruled.

"That's what the preliminary results show ... it was due to an injury to his right leg," said Sarah Williams, a spokeswoman with the medical examiner's office.

A full autopsy report won't be released until sometime next week, Williams said.

The 6-foot-1, 307-pound Fails hurt his right knee in practice and had knee surgery Oct. 22.

When a blood clot, or a portion of it, breaks free and circulates through the bloodstream to the lungs it can become trapped in the arteries there. If the clot restricts blood flow to a large section of the lungs, sudden death can result.

Like all freshman players at Texas A&M, Fails was given a complete physical before reporting for football practices Aug. 5.

Fails played in four games this season before undergoing surgery.

Fails was the Class 5A defensive player of the year by Associated Press Sports Editors last season. He was a first-team All-State selection by the APSE and the Texas Sports Writers Association.

In his senior season, Fails registered 36 tackles and five sacks and forced three fumbles. In limited playing time this season, Fails was in on two tackles against Louisiana Tech.

Texas A&M players will wear small patches with Fails' number, 89, on their helmets when they play at rival Texas on Friday.

A grand slam



Tiger Woods tees off on the seventh hole during the first round of the Grand Slam of Golf on the island of Kauai in Hawaii.

Mark J. Terrill/Associated Press

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 - 7 John Tyler, for one
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 - 18 Shoes parts
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 - 21 Concur
 - 22 Pigw pioneer
 - 24 Stink
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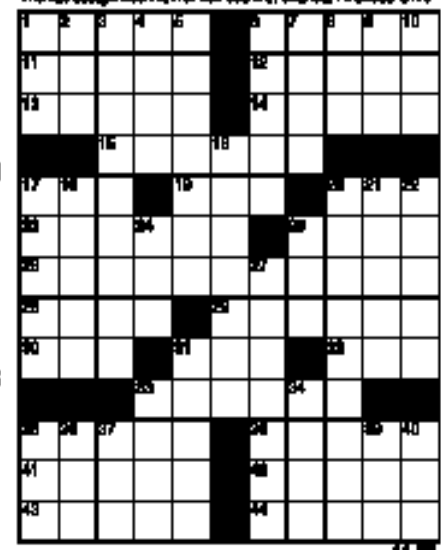
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NEWS OF THE WEIRD by Chuck Shepard

Artist paints on dog cadavers

Sculptor-painter Antonio Becerra's government-funded "Oils on Dogs" exhibition opened in Santiago, Chile, in August, consisting of the artist's paintings (e.g., Pope John Paul and a cross, blue and orange butterflies) on the embalmed cadavers of a dozen roadkill dogs Becerra had found on the city's streets. Becerra called the work a reflection of society's violence and cruelty, but animal rights activists were appalled at his lack of respect for the dogs.





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Classified Advertising Conditions: **REGULAR RATE:** \$2.50 a day. Ads over 15 words add 20¢ per word per day. Ad must run a minimum of twelve consecutive days. **PREMIUMS:** First two words caps no charge. Bold words, italics, centered lines, etc. cost extra. Please call for rates. **TYPOS:** Check your ad the first day of publication. Sorry, we do not issue credit after an ad has run more than once. **DEADLINES:** 4:00 p.m. prior the day of publication except for Monday's paper when the deadline is Friday at 4:00 p.m. **PAYMENT:** All private party ads must be pre-paid. We accept checks, credit cards, and of course cash. **CORRESPONDENCE:** To place your ad 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 directory or classified display ads, please call our office at (310)458-7737.

CLASSIFIEDS



Massage	Massage	Services	Computer Services	Health/Beauty	Personals
MASSAGE ENJOY a really great, amazing and wonderful full body massage. Swedish, deep-tissue and Tantra. (Platonic only!) No time limit. Will come to you. 24/7 Cute, slim, fit, petite mature chocolate. 14 years experience. Dolly's pager (310)358-6484. REVITALIZE & Rejuvenate. Body, Mind & Spirit with a therapeutic Swedish/Deep-tissue massage. Laura (310)394-2923 (310)569-0883.	THERAPEUTIC MASSAGE. Swedish, Accupressure, Deep-tissue, Sports Massage, Reflexology. For apt call Tracy at (310)435-0657.	HOUSE CLEANING - Available 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. Windows, laundry, general house cleaning. References available. Responsible. Reasonable prices. Call Lalo (310) 313-0848. HOUSE CLEANING Janet's at Your Service! House, yards, garage. Parties w/hot dog cart! (310)367-5436 / (818)545-8914	COMPUTER HELP: Your home or office. Tutoring Microsoft Word, Excel, Internet navigation. Please call (310)207-3366.	DIABETIC WEIGHT-LOSS Bath Shampoo. Free sample. Ralph Sahara, P.O. Box 62174, Honolulu, HI. EXPERIENCED MAKE-UP ARTIST! Weddings & Special Events. Local references available. (310)702-8778 / (323)559-9033. Nina & Alex.	FINANCIAL SECURE 70 seeking 50 plus, petite, secure lady for companion, travel, hiking, homelife. (310)452-3131. MY NAME is Robert. 50/yr. old caucasian male looking for a 50/yr. old cacausin gal for some real fun. Not a financial free ride! Don't be bashful. (310)394-1533.
	Services BOOKKEEPING SERVICES Personal, sole practitioner, small business. Accounts payable/recievable, bank reconciliations, payroll, financial statements. (818)512-4512		Attorney Services SPIRITUAL ATTORNEY Conscious caring help. 32 years experience. Low cost: Divorce, Support, Criminal, Business. (310)837-0801.		

WE ARE THE CLASSIEST GIG IN TOWN!

Call the Santa Monica Daily Press
310.458.7737 ext.101

Calendar

Thursday, November 28, 2002

movies

Loews Broadway Cinema
1441 Third St. at Broadway
Femme Fatale (R) 12:40, 3:40, 6:40, 9:40. Half Past Dead (PG-13) 12:10, 2:40, 5:10, 7:40, 10:10. The Emperor's Club (PG-13) 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:20. Ararat (R) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00.

Mann Criterion
1313 Third St.
The Ring (PG-13) 12:45, 4:00, 7:15, 10:20. Punch-Drunk Love (R) 11:45, 2:15, 4:50, 7:30, 10:15. Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets (PG) 9:30, 12:00, 1:00, 3:30, 4:30, 7:00, 8:00, 10:30. Extreme Ops 11:30, 2:00, 4:45, 7:35, 10:10. Friday After Next (R) 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:25.

AMC Theatre SM 7
1310 3rd Street
Santa Clause 2 (G) 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 9:55. 8 Mile (R) 2:25, 5:10, 8:00, 10:45. Treasure Planet (PG) 12:00, 1:45, 2:30, 4:10, 4:55, 6:40, 7:15, 9:00, 9:40. Die Another Day (PG-13) 1:10, 1:55, 4:15, 5:00, 7:25, 8:10, 10:30, 11:10. Adam Sandler's Eight Crazy Nights (PG-13) 12:10, 2:15, 4:30, 7:20, 9:45.

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

Laemmle Monica
1332 2nd St.
Real Women Have Curves (PG-13) 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00. The Fourth Tenor 1:15, 3:30, 5:45, 8:00, 10:15. The Quiet American (R) 1:45, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40. El Cimen del Padre Amaro (R) 1:30, 4:20, 7:15, 10:05.

Aero Theatre
1328 Montana Ave.
Femme Fatale 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

Today

Come practice at **SUNSET YOGA**, overlooking the Pacific! "Integral Hatha Yoga" every Thursday from 7:15-9pm. Mixed levels. Donations only. Please bring a mat and towel. Located at 1450 Ocean Ave. between Santa Monica Blvd. and Broadway. For more information contact skinnybuddahboy@hotmail.com

Ongoing support groups for people 55 and older. Current openings in Men's Group. Thursdays, 11:15 to 12:45. Center for Healthy Aging, 2125 Arizona Avenue. Sliding scale fee. Not drop-in groups. Phone interview required. Call Information and Referral. (310)576-2550.

Dharma at the Clubhouse. A weekly book and multi-media study group, no fee. Applying studies of Buddhism-Dharma into our daily lives. Every Thursday night at the Clubhouse at Douglas Park, 25th & Wilshire. 7:30 to 9pm. Dan (310) 451-4368 www.santa-monickksg.org

Dodd Art Gallery showing Dafne Nesti "Paintings" and Dodd Jolsapple "New Works". Nov. 17th through Dec. 16th, 5pm to 8pm, 1650 20th Street, Santa Monica. For more information please call (310) 828-5825.

O'Briens Irish Pub, 2941 Main St., Santa Monica, pours A Pint of Funny, every Thurs., 8 p.m. FREE! (310)396-4725.

Unurban Coffee House presents Komediy Crunch every Thursday evening. Showtime is 7pm. 3301 Pico Blvd. (310)315-0056

Gotham Hall presents Comedy Night! Featuring professional stand-ups. Every Thursday, 1431 3rd St. Promenade, 8pm. Admission is \$5 + 2 item minimum. 21 and over. (323)525-5254

Friday

Santa Monica High School Theater Arts

Department presents Romeo & Juliet. Friday and Saturday nights at 8:00pm. November 22nd through December 21st. \$10.00 for students, children, and seniors, \$15.00 for adults. Humanities Center Theater at Santa Monica High School, 601 Pico Blvd. For more information please call (310)458-5939.

Dodd Art Gallery showing Dafne Nesti "Paintings" and Dodd Jolsapple "New Works". Nov. 17th through Dec. 16th, 5pm to 8pm, 1650 20th Street, Santa Monica. For more information please call (310) 828-5825.

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.

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

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

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

Temperature key to keeping Thanksgiving feast safe

BY LAURIE KELLMAN
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Getting family together for a Thanksgiving feast can be stressful enough without worrying whether the meal will make anyone sick. That's why the government and consumer groups are talking turkey about how cooks can serve a safe meal.

People buying a bird at the grocery store should check out the "sell by," "Best if used by" or "Use by" dates stamped on the packaging to confirm freshness.

Then, double-bag the bird in plastic for its trip home and quickly get it into the refrigerator or freezer.

Those steps can reduce the risk of food-borne illness, such as salmonella, from developing on the turkey and rubbing off

on other food, hands or kitchen utensils before it is cooked. Infections occur when a person ingests live salmonella bacteria, which survive digestion and cause symptoms such as vomiting and diarrhea.

Even before a turkey arrives in a retail store, the government has tried to give consumers a head start on safety. All turkeys found in these stores are either inspected by the Agriculture Department or by states with the same standards.

Government testing has led many in the turkey industry to process birds more carefully and to get their salmonella infection rate below 2 percent, according to a federal test two years ago, the most recent of its kind, DeWaal said.

The rest of the trip to a safe turkey dinner includes good defrosting, refrigeration, handling and cooking procedures.

Some include:

■ **Storage and handling.** The grocery store should be the last stop before heading home, the government advises. Once home, immediately put the turkey into a refrigerator that maintains 40 degrees, or a freezer that stays at zero. In a such a refrigerator, whole raw turkey can stay fresh for up to two days or 12 months in a freezer.

■ **Defrosting.** The government recommends three options: in the refrigerator, in cold water and in the microwave. For refrigerating, allow one day for every five pounds of turkey to thaw. That means for Thanksgiving, a 20-pound turkey needs to start defrosting on Sunday. In water, submerge turkey in its airtight packaging, changing the water every half-hour. Turkey defrosted in a microwave should

immediately be cooked.

■ **Handling.** Make sure counters are clear. Keep turkey and juices separate from all other foods. Pay attention to everything that has touched the raw or partially cooked turkey, and later scrub them with warm soapy water. These include hands, thermometers or other implements.

■ **Cooking.** Use a meat thermometer, even if the turkey has a pop-up thermometer. Set the oven no lower than 325 F. Cook until the thick part of the thigh reads 180 degrees, the breast reads 170, and the center of the stuffing inside the bird reads 165, according to Smith DeWaal's group.

■ **Serving.** Do not leave turkey out for more than two hours.

President George Bush's Thanksgiving proclamation

By The Associated Press

President Bush's Thanksgiving proclamation:

In celebration of Thanksgiving Day 1902, President Theodore Roosevelt wrote, "Rarely has any people enjoyed greater prosperity than we are now enjoying. For this we render heartfelt and solemn thanks to the Giver of Good; and we seek to praise Him — not by words only — but by deeds, by the way in which we do our duty to ourselves and to our fellow men."

President Roosevelt's words gracefully remind us that, as citizens of this great nation, we have much for which to be thankful, and his timeless call inspires us to meet our responsibilities to help those in need and to promote greater understanding at home and abroad.

As the Pilgrims did almost four centuries ago, we gratefully give thanks this year for the beauty, abundance

and opportunity this great land offers. We also thank God for the blessings of freedom and prosperity; and, with gratitude and humility, we acknowledge the importance of faith in our lives.

Throughout the Thanksgiving holiday, let us renew our commitment to make our country and our world better. As we welcome new opportunities and face new challenges, we are thankful for the resolve and generosity of so many of our people who are touching countless hearts and souls through thoughtful acts of kindness. By answering the call to serve others, Americans are building a culture of service that strengthens our nation. We also honor and salute the selfless sacrifice of the brave men and women of our armed forces who are defending our lives and liberty at home and abroad with skill, honor and dedication.

This Thanksgiving, we recognize the ties of friendship

and respect that bind us together. And we renew our pledge to uphold the timeless principles of freedom, equality and opportunity that have made our country into a great nation. By working together, we will continue to build mutual trust, peace and hope for all across this land and around the world.

Now, therefore, I, George W. Bush, president of the United States of America, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, do hereby proclaim Thursday, Nov. 28, 2002, as a National Day of Thanksgiving. I encourage Americans to gather in their homes, places of worship and community centers to share the spirit of understanding and unity, and of prayer, as we express our thanks for the many blessings we enjoy. I also encourage Americans to reach out in friendship to the larger family of humankind.

Meet Wolfgang!

Holiday Dessert Party & Book Signing

When: Sunday, Dec. 15th

**Book Signing
and Holiday Dessert Party
2:00 pm - 5:00 pm**

Where: **WOLFGANG PUCK**

1323 Montana Avenue
Santa Monica, CA

Price: Book Signing - Open to public

Holiday Dessert Party
includes dessert buffet and
a copy of "Live, Love, Eat!"
\$30 per guest

Advance reservations are required.
Reservations for Holiday Dessert Party



"Live, Love, Eat!" is Wolfgang Puck's first cookbook. It is a collection of his favorite recipes, from simple to sophisticated, that he has used in his restaurants and at home. The book is a beautiful coffee table book as well as a practical cookbook. It includes over 100 recipes, from appetizers to main courses, and a section on entertaining. The book is available in paperback for \$19.95 and in hardcover for \$29.95.

**Special
Price!**

"Live, Love, Eat!" is a beautiful coffee table book as well as a practical cookbook. It includes over 100 recipes, from appetizers to main courses, and a section on entertaining. The book is available in paperback for \$19.95 and in hardcover for \$29.95.

For additional information, please call one of our toll-free numbers:

(310) 352-0290

Limited seating available. Reservations highly recommended.

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Santa Monica Daily Press