

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

LOTTO

SUPER LOTTO PLUS

42, 17, 18, 39, 22
Meganumber: 1
Jackpot: \$10 million

FANTASY 5

34, 15, 10, 13, 8

DAILY 3

Afternoon picks: 2, 1, 6
Evening picks: 8, 8, 2

DAILY DERBY

1st Place: 11, Money Bags
2nd Place: 1, Gold Rush
3rd Place: 8, Gorgeous George
Race Time: 1:47.93



NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

Among the 15 "worst" actual jobs in science (from the October issue of *Popular Science*): (15) counting fish (one by one, for hours) that swim by dams in the Pacific Northwest; (11) the only two government bureaucrats whose job is to convince Americans of the merits of the metric system; (7) researchers who reach into a cow's rumen to pull out and analyze the stomach contents; (4) mosquito catchers who endure up to 15 bites a minute on three-hour shifts and hope not to get malaria; (3) researchers who extract sperm from animals for study or artificial insemination (and extracting from a pig is much preferable to extracting from a bull); and (1) "flatus odor judges" working for gastroenterologist Michael Levitt, who feeds subjects pinto beans, then gathers gases in plastic collection tubes direct from the source, and then has judges sniff as many as 100 samples, rating them for strength.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"You teach a child to read, and he or her will be able to pass a literacy test."

— George W. Bush

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RAND offers answers to SM gun violence

Study details dramatic improvements in Los Angeles neighborhood

BY JOHN WOOD

Daily Press Staff Writer

RAND CORP. — To help quell gun violence in neighborhoods riddled with gang activity, police need to step up law enforcement and work more closely with prosecutors, probation workers and community leaders, according to a report released last month.

"This kind of cross-agency collaboration can have a positive impact on the trajectory of gun violence," said Jack Riley, director of the public safety and justice division of RAND Corp., a nonprofit research organization based in Santa Monica.

The RAND report covered a six-month "intervention" in Hollenbeck, a 15-square-mile area east of downtown Los Angeles with a population of 200,000. Gun crimes were down by 33 percent during the intervention's six-month period, while gang crimes dropped by 32 percent and violent crimes by 28 percent.

Locally, gun violence has been a persistent issue in the Pico neighborhood in eastside Santa Monica, where Jalannie Carter, 19, was shot dead on Sept. 2 near his home on 20th Street and where numerous shootings have occurred in the past several months.

Riley said that, although Santa Monica has a minute level of violence compared to Hollenbeck, working collaboratively is the solution to ending gun violence. He added that parents, young adults and children living in violence-plagued neighborhoods have a role to play.

"They have to keep pressure on the policy makers," he said, adding that pressure needs to be applied both individually and through various community groups.

See RAND, page 5

New policy would distribute wealth

By Daily Press staff

SCHOOL DIST. HDQRTS. — A \$50,000 donation by VHI and Adelphia cable intended for two local elementary schools could end up benefiting the entire district if a new policy designed to distribute the wealth is adopted by officials.

Santa Monica Malibu Unified School District Superintendent John Deasy has proposed that all donations be distributed equally — instead of allowing a specific school to reap all the benefits through one contribution.

See POLICY, page 6

Woman walks from wreck



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

Emergency crews assess the scene after a driver of an SUV walked away from a traffic accident Saturday night that could have resulted in serious injuries. The unidentified driver rolled her vehicle when she was traveling north on 12th Street and swerved to miss a car heading west on Idaho Avenue. At about 9 p.m., dozens of emergency workers, including the Santa Monica Fire and Police departments, and paramedics were on scene. They cleaned up the wreckage and treated those involved for minor injuries.

No more cigs at the sea?

Proposed law might outlaw smoking on beaches, pier

By Daily Press staff

CITY HALL — Smoking is already a crime in Santa Monica parks. And if some officials have their way, it also will be illegal to light up on the pier or at the beach.

The cost of a ticket? \$750.

At the request of Mayor Richard Bloom, the City Council last week voted 6-1 to have staffers draft two new ordinances outlawing smoking and return the laws to be voted on by council members at an upcoming meeting.

Councilwoman Pam O'Connor cast the lone vote against drafting the proposed ordinances.

"It just gets down to it's a legal entity, smoking, and I still think it's a free country," she said. "And it's a big enough open space that it should be able to accommo-

date people who smoke, in some areas, and people who don't smoke."

O'Connor added that it would be difficult to educate people about the law. But the bottom line, she said, is banning smoking everywhere isn't right.

"At what point do you say people don't drive SUVs because they're polluting my air? When do we stop regulating?" she said. "If it's legal, people are making their own decisions about it."

The two laws are expected to be modeled after a February law that made it illegal to light up in area parks. Deputy City Attorney Adam Radinsky said violators of that law pay \$750, once all court fees and penalties are totaled.

Bloom said the reasoning behind the laws was clear.

"I'm not going to belabor the importance of this as a health issue in our community, because we have debated the subject a number of times before," he said.

— John Wood



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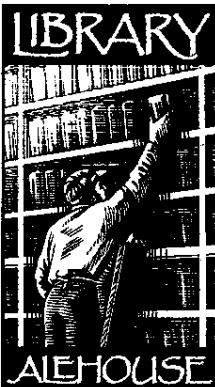
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★★★★★-Dynamic ★★★★★-Positive ★★★-Average
★★-So-so ★-Difficult

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Monday, Dec. 1, 2003

You express your willfulness, finding that others seem to play into your plans, especially your family, a roommate or a loved one. Realize your limits. You can control yourself, but not necessarily others. Although this might be a hard lesson to learn, it is an important one. You might make a move or add to your home. Look toward something you have always wanted, and make it real. Your career will bloom naturally if you flow with the trends at work. In fact, a pay raise or promotion is likely. If single, your social life will pick up fall 2004. You could meet Mr. or Ms. Right, if you're looking for that type of relationship. If you are attached, you'll have to agree to disagree, or you could have problems. Focus on the quality of your life. You won't always agree with PISCES.



ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★ Take your time, or else you easily could make a mistake. News and information that come forward must be investigated before taking any action. Call in the troops. Have a brainstorming session. Tonight: Relax in your favorite manner.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Aim for more of what you want, even if a partner disagrees with you. Don't push so hard to have things your way. Understand more of the power that lies within groups. Your perspective could change considerably. Tonight: Be where the crowds are.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★ Touch base with a boss before giving away your power or before dealing with someone you would prefer not to. Associates on the same level as you, as well as friends, could be testy. Learn to bypass a problem by being optimistic. Tonight: Burn the candle at both ends.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★★ A trip or seminar might need to be put on the back burner right now because of a work- or health-related matter. Know when to say you have had enough. Seek out information. Solutions are available. Tonight: Rent a movie on the way home.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★★ Work with others despite the fact that you could be let down by one of your major support systems or by friends. Give people the room to change and to be more of themselves. A partner lets you know what he or she expects. Tonight: Togetherness.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Others have control and let you know it in no uncertain terms. You might want to think through a personal issue, as someone shows his or her true colors. The side of this associate you are seeing does exist; be aware of that. Perhaps it is time to take off your rose-colored glasses. Tonight: Go along with another's suggestion — not that you have much choice!



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Put your feet up and relax more. What you see and what might be happening with someone could upset you. Understand your limitations, not getting into World War III with this person. Concentrate on your work, not the people so much. Tonight: Go as late as you can.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ A financial matter could have you feeling upset. Act on it with determination and the desire to turn it around. Avoid risking, despite someone cheering you in that direction. You know what works. Tonight: Be naughty and nice.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★★ Let others come to you. You might not have a choice, as so much is going on. Prepare to change your schedule accordingly. Your fiery style certainly stops someone in his or her tracks. Recognize that you don't want to push him or her away. Tonight: Happy at home.



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★★ Speak your mind to someone who can understand what you are saying. Why waste your energy and words? You might need to revise your thinking about certain people in your day-to-day life. Energize others. Make calls. Tonight: Meet friends and catch up on your weekends.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★★ Once more, you might need to spend more than you would like. Question what would work and would still allow you to do what you want. Remember, you are the innovative sign, Aquarius. Solutions are your specialty, not problems. Tonight: Take a hard look at your budget.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★★ The Moon in your sign adds to your allure, but don't think that someone won't stand up to you — like a boss. Not everything is as it seems. Be more observant, especially with a boss. You'll learn a lot. Tonight: Whatever makes the Fish happy.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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LOCAL



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Find out about future business climate

By Daily Press staff

How will your business do next year?

Come find out at the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce luncheon on Tuesday at the Four Points Sheraton. You will learn what's in store for the local, state and national economy from one of the region's economists, Dr. Christopher Thornberg, senior economist with UCLA's Anderson Forecast.

He authors the Anderson Forecast for Los Angeles and East Bay regions. He also has been involved in a number of special studies measuring the impact of important events on the local and state economy, including the healthcare cost crisis, the California power crisis, southern California water-transfer policies, runaway production, the causes of the state budget problems and the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks. He has appeared on CNBC, CNN and Fox News, as well as on various radio programs. He received his Ph.D. in business economics from the Anderson School and his B.S. in business administration from the State University of New York at Buffalo. He also specializes in international and labor economics.

Holiday shopping also can be done at the Dec. 2 luncheon, from 11:30 p.m. to 12 p.m., and after the program at 1 p.m. There will be expo tables from local businesses. For more information, visit www.uclaforecast.com.



Thornberg

Pets to make wish on Santa's lap

By Daily Press staff

It will be a pet and Christmas lover's dream today.

On Wednesday, Dec. 3, pets can get on Santa's Lap, get their photo taken with the old guy, paw over some of the gifts and leave a donation for the SPCA LA, at Santa Monica Place.

Since its inception in 1996, Pet Night at Santa Monica Place has grown to attract more than 700 animals of all types to the event — dogs, cats, birds, snakes, lizards and even mice.

The event is for owners and shoppers. Any and all pets are welcome. They not only get to sit in the big chair on Santa's lap, but also get a photo with the big guy, all while making a donation to the SPCA. Packages range from \$10.99 to \$21.99. Pet costumes are encouraged.

The rendezvous with Santa will be held from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. Santa Monica Place is located two blocks from the beach in downtown Santa Monica, between Second and Third streets, on Broadway. Free parking is available. For information call (310) 394-5451.

SM passes test with flying colors

By Daily Press staff

The Los Angeles Conservancy recently released the Los Angeles County Preservation Report card, and Santa Monica was near the top of the class. The conservancy reviewed the preservation policies of 89 jurisdictions in the county and found only six worthy of an "A" grade. But Santa Monica got an "A—" because the city's landmarking fees were considered too high. City Hall also lacked a full-time staff member to handle preservation matters.

"Santa Monica has a tremendous architectural history to safeguard," said Santa Monica Conservancy President Tom Cleys. "Recognizing this, the city government has done a stellar job of laying the framework for preserving Santa Monica's unique identity. However, the top grade is only for the city's preservation policies. The report didn't review how well it is doing in actually saving its architectural treasures."

He added that preserving Santa Monica's distinctive identity is a struggle that is coming to a head as the city begins to create new downtown development guidelines, and to institute more incentives to encourage preservation of historic homes and commercial buildings.

The full L.A. Conservancy report is available online at www.laconservancy.org.

surf report

The surf picked up quite a bit on Sunday off a mixture of NW and W swells. Most breaks had waves in the 3 to 4 foot range by the early afternoon, while top spots saw sets running a foot or two overhead. This swell mix will fade today, with a new W wind and ground swell mix picking up as early as late this afternoon, but best on Tuesday. More NW swell is due for the second half of the week and into the weekend.

Look for a fading trend of both W (260-270) and NW swell (290-300) as we move through the day. Many of the better exposed WNW spots see waist-shoulder high surf in the morning, while standout breaks see 6 foot sets. Look for smaller surf in the afternoon.

Tuesday surf will be dependent on how a small low off the coast behaves overnight.

Write us at wood@smdp.com and tell us what the surf is doing today at your local break.

Today the water is:

57°

Sunrise: 6:34 a.m.
Sunset: 4:46 p.m.

	LOW TIDE				HIGH TIDE			
	Morning	Height	Evening	Height	Morning	Height	Evening	Height
SATURDAY	12:57	1.1	2:08	-0.9	7:15	6.7	8:23	4.5
SUNDAY	1:34	1.4	2:55	-1.4	7:51	7.0	9:18	4.4
MONDAY	2:12	1.7	3:44	-1.5	8:30	7.2	10:15	4.1
TUESDAY	2:53	2.1	4:36	-1.5	9:13	7.1	11:17	3.9
WEDNESDAY	3:38	2.4	5:33	-1.2	9:59	6.8	N/A	N/A
THURSDAY	4:31	2.8	6:34	-0.8	12:28	3.8	(10:50	6.2)
FRIDAY	5:43	3.1	7:40	-0.4	1:48	3.8	(11:51	5.6)

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The Q Line

To the relief of Santa Monica merchants, the City Council last week rejected a proposed law that would have restricted businesses on how much noise they can generate at certain times of the day.

While politicians said the law as proposed couldn't be passed because too little research was done, a new ordinance will come back to them after staffers do some more work.

Some question whether it's businesses making all of the noise in Santa Monica, or if it's just a fact of living in a con-

densed, high-traffic city. Others suggest that the current noise ordinance isn't even enforced adequately.

So this week, Q-Line wants to know, "Is Santa Monica too loud? Who's making all the noise?"

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

LETTERS

More thanks for school funding

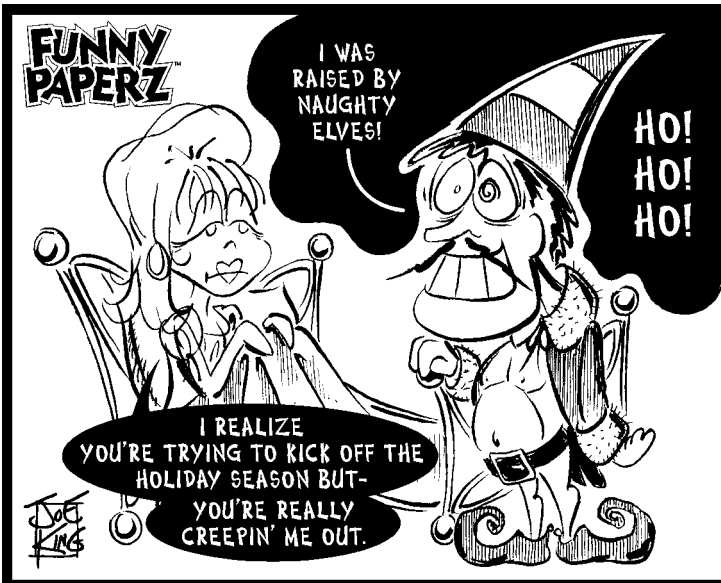
Editor:

Thanksgiving is one of my favorite holidays of the year. As a society, we have collectively decided to take the time to express gratitude for what we have. It's an opportunity to give thanks for some of the things that we hold dear: Our family, our health, our community.

As a parent I am grateful that I live in a community that believes that creating a better future for our children is important and where education is the No. 1 priority. Last year at this time, our school district was contemplating the layoffs of teachers and other staff, increasing class size and reducing valuable programs. I want to thank the citizens of Santa Monica and Malibu for not allowing this to happen. Our communities spoke with one voice and passed Measure S. This measure brought critical funding to our schools. The councils of Santa Monica and Malibu also increased their contributions. These actions ensured that our children continue to receive the excellent education they deserve.

Thank you all for continuing to lay the foundation and taking the steps necessary that will improve the lives of our children. An educated society is a strong one.

Maria Rodriguez
Santa Monica-Malibu
PTA Council President



Member: AAEC, NCS, SCCS

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You want people off the street? Give 'em a job



How many more lives have to be lost due to murders, rapes, drug and alcohol overdoses and exposure before the homeless issue is truly addressed?

How long will it take before the homeless are truly considered human beings and not the dregs of society? From what I understand, the homeless population could not even vote until within the last few decades. I thought the "Jim Crow" attitude toward anyone died in the '60s with the civil-rights movement. I guess I was wrong.

Since I have been homeless, there has been an attitude that we are invisible as long as nothing like last week's death among us happens. Some of you do not

even acknowledge our existence, yet you claim to know all about homelessness and make all kinds of stereotypical comments and references to homelessness. I hate to say this, but the face of homelessness has changed in the past two decades and if the white-collar jobs leave as fast as I think they will, the face of homelessness will change yet again.

Two weeks ago I had requested a summit with representatives from all walks of life in Santa Monica to solve this problem of homelessness once and for all. I had hoped that this 10-year plan to do something about homelessness was true and not just some more political lip service that we, as Americans, have heard for as long as I have been alive. With the tragic death of my street "big brother" and dear friend Bobby Capps last week and the deaths of many other homeless American human beings across the nation on a daily basis, I bring this to the table again.

I have received many letters about what could be done to stop this cycle from the homeless themselves. One letter sticks out in my mind, and I have mulled over it

for the past few weeks. One homeless man wrote about the problems of illegal immigrants being hired for jobs that, supposedly, no one else wants to do. These jobs of which I speak are mostly in the construction industry as laborers. And there has been a lot of construction going on in this city. I feel that if anyone wants to work, he or she should be able to show up and ask for work. I have sent many people to these job sites to ask for day labor only to have them turned down. They then go by a few days later and see many illegals working a job that any American citizen would do if given a chance. These day-labor jobs would keep many of us from panhandling to support ourselves and might even result in some of us getting off the streets.

The most upside-down thing is the "day laborers" who stand between 11th Street and Colorado, and 11th Street and Olympic Boulevard have earned a portable toilet, meanwhile the American homeless can't even get a job or a decent place to go to the bathroom. Maybe the street homeless who want to work should

go and share the corner with these "day laborers" and see if they can get hired. I wonder how many of you would hire someone who wants to work if they were American and stood on this corner? And how about this new construction project in which the City Council will give jobs to the at-risk youth in the Pico neighborhood over the homeless? How about constructing this to include those who really need the jobs who want to work?

The point I am hoping to make is that this whole situation of homelessness is always an issue for this city. And the major complaint is that the city is doing the same thing and it's not working. I have been giving suggestions since I have been writing this column for the past year. Some abstract, some not, but at least I am giving my input. At least I am not afraid to suggest anything new that is against the status quo — which we know isn't working.

(Charles Springer is a homeless freelance writer and artist living and working in Santa Monica. He can be reached at Chaz_59@yahoo.com).

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

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LOCAL



Coalition to address Pico violence scheduled

RAND, from page 1

"Make sure that people know that they're concerned about violent crime issues."

Oscar de la Torre, founder and director of the Pico Youth and Family Center, said his group is doing exactly that. But de la Torre pointed to what he views as ineffective leadership at City Hall and said some changes need to be made.

"The leadership has to come from the top," he said. "The city manager has to involve her staff — meaning the police chief and also the City Council — in a dialogue around what community-based policing is and how it applies to the Pico neighborhood. Right now, there's a difference of opinion between the leadership of the SMPD and the leaders of the Pico neighborhood about what community-based policing is and should be."

However, politics appears to be keeping the residents and City Hall officials from coming up with a solution together. After Carter's murder, de la Torre organized a series of community gatherings but the SMPD was never informed of or invited to the meetings, police said.

The SMPD prides itself on community-based policing and has been working closely with probation and parole officers for years, said SMPD Lt. Frank Fabrega. The SMPD, which already has more officers assigned to the Pico neighborhood than anywhere else in the city, also has stepped up enforcement there in the past. When an increase in shootings occurred last year, the SMPD worked with the Hawthorne Police Department to patrol the area via Hawthorne's helicopter.

But de la Torre said police responded to a spate of shootings earlier this summer by clamping down on the entire neighborhood rather than specifically targeting suspected gang members, as was done in the RAND study. He added that some residents have complained that police are out of touch with the neighborhood's residents.

"Essentially, what we end up doing is criminalizing the low-income sector of the city," de la Torre said. "And not only is that not effective policing, it's disempowering."

The Pico neighborhood has for years been an area riddled with drug dealing and gang activity. The majority of the population are minorities with low incomes. In the past decade, many more middle-class families have moved into the area because it has relatively lower home prices.

Hollenbeck was chosen as the site of the RAND program, called "Operation Ceasefire," after the death of 10-year-old Stephanie Raygoza, who was caught in gang crossfire while riding her scooter in front of her Boyle Heights home in October of 2000.

As part of the study, police officers met regularly and worked with probation officers, parole workers, housing officials, pros-

"People need to get to church and get God in their lives, instead of the guns in their pockets."

— SHIRLEY JOSEPH
Mother of homicide victim

ecutors from the local, state and federal levels, and representatives from local schools, churches and social service agencies.

One strategy was to use police records and give gang members top priority for probation, parole and warrant enforcement after a violent act was committed. The idea, Riley said, was to give immediate consequences for violent actions.

Gang members also were subjected to heightened police patrols following violent outbreaks and stricter standards in applying for public housing — including stepped-up patrolling for drugs, firearms and other contraband, according to the report. At the same time, volunteers and others from Hollenbeck churches, schools and other social-service organizations provided support services, including job training and development, tattoo removal, and treatment for addictions.

While the study showed a dramatic decrease in crime, Riley said the intervention did have its limitations. In order to work effectively, key players have to have the authority and the confidence to act without getting mired in bureaucracy. And organizations have to participate on an ongoing basis, without distraction or partial participation.

City Councilman Herb Katz said the study provides a useful roadmap for stopping gun violence in Santa Monica.

"It's, in essence, what really has to happen," he said. "Education along with working very carefully with the community."

De la Torre said he thinks there's hope. The second meeting of the Youth Violence Prevention Coalition, formed to address this very issue, was scheduled for last week at the Pico Youth Center.

"If they can get it together, I'm certain, with the right leadership at the table, we can get it together," he said.

Asked what suggestions she had for helping to put an end to gun violence, Shirley Joseph — Jalonnie Carter's mother — said, "Right now, I really don't have the answers. I can't speak for other people."

"But, for me, they need to spend more time with their kids and families, and teach them more morals and get them into church. People need to get to church and get God in their lives, instead of the guns

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HOROSCOPE'S ... PAGE 2

Santa Monica Daily Press

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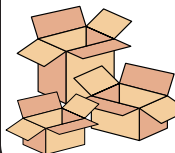
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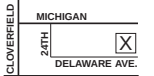
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School donations would be shared by all

POLICY, from page 1

Because the communities of Santa Monica and Malibu have such dramatic economic disparities, many students are more fortunate than others because well-to-do parents donate to their kids' schools while others don't. The result, for example, is kids from Roosevelt Elementary, which is located in the affluent area off of Montana Avenue, receive better educational tools than kids who go to Edison Elementary, a school located on the city's eastside that has a much lower income class.

Under the proposed "gift policy," the \$50,000 in musical instruments that will be donated today to Will Rogers Elementary and Edison Elementary would be distributed to all schools in the district.

Deasy has proposed that 15 percent of all cash gifts to individual schools or the district be deposited into an "equity fund," administered by an external organization. In addition, 15 percent of the cash value of a non-monetary gift will be

donated to the equity fund. Contributions to the equity fund will be distributed annually to district schools in the form of block grants to be used for specific goals. The amount of each grant will be determined through a weighted formula.

"The purpose of the equity-fund grants will be to improve the achievement of all students while simultaneously closing the achievement gap and mitigate the effects of unequalized enrichment of schools," Deasy wrote to the board of education. "The mechanism proposed would provide support to all schools, but more to schools that have greater needs."

VH1 and Adelphia will hold a press conference today at Will Rogers Elementary to donate the musical instruments. The donation is part of "Save the Music Foundation," which is dedicated to restoring instrumental-music programs throughout the Los Angeles area by providing more than \$150,000 worth of instruments. The two companies have worked together since 1998.

Supermarket strike short-changes Salvation Army

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — The Salvation Army is the latest group to feel the economic pinch from Southern California's lingering supermarket strike.

With potential donors declining to cross picket lines, officials say their annual holiday red kettle campaign could come up short by as much as \$500,000 this year.

The organization began putting its bell ringers and red kettles in front of grocery stores across Southern California last weekend. Soon afterward, they noticed contributions were way off at hundreds of supermarkets where grocery clerks have been picketing since Oct. 11.

"When we add up the donations normally solicited from these stores ... we are looking at a shortfall of possibly close to half of a million dollars," Lt. Col. Alfred Van Cleef, commander for the Salvation Army's Southern California Division, said in a prepared statement.

Meanwhile, representatives for the grocery clerks and supermarkets say they will resume talks on Tuesday.

"We're ready to go around the clock to resolve this dispute," said union spokeswoman Barbara Maynard.

The dispute began Oct. 11 when some 70,000 grocery workers struck or were locked out of nearly 860 Vons, Ralphs, Albertsons and Pavilions stores. Its lingering impact has left many workers strapped for cash over the holidays and cost their employers tens of millions of dollars.

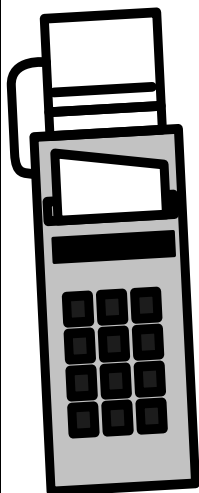
If it continues to affect the kettle campaign, Salvation Army officials say it could hurt the organization's year-round programs.

"It is a challenge for us to find sufficient resources in order for us to manage our programs," said Lt. Cmdr. Douglas O'Brien. "When we get hit with something like this, it really knocks our feet out from under us."

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STATE



Proposed cap would cut services to disabled

BY JENNIFER COLEMAN
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO — Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger's proposal to cap services for the disabled has critics charging that California would be abandoning a 35-year-old promise to its most vulnerable citizens, but supporters arguing that the cash-strapped state can no longer provide help to all.

As part of his proposal to trim \$3.8 billion from this and next years' budgets, Schwarzenegger has proposed suspending the Lanterman Act, a 35-year-old law that advocates call a civil rights guarantee for the disabled. The act was signed into law by Gov. Ronald Reagan, a Schwarzenegger hero.

"It was the first move to provide services in a community setting," said Marty Omoto, legislative director of the California Coalition of United Cerebral Palsy Associations. "Prior to that, the only services were provided through state hospitals."

If the act is suspended, instead of providing care to all disabled persons who ask for it, the state could cap enrollment at 21 regional centers that serve 190,000 people with autism, cerebral palsy, mental retardation and other disabilities. Waiting lists would be established for services at the centers, operated by the Department of Developmental Services.

The state budget for the centers has grown from \$600 million in 1998 to \$1.7 billion this year — a 166 percent increase in five years, said H.D. Palmer, a spokesman for Schwarzenegger's finance director, Donna Arduin. Palmer said the state is unsure precisely how much money would be saved by the enrollment cap.

"We need to be able to suspend the act to put a cap on the caseload," Palmer said. That will require the centers to "prioritize who are the people who need the care most immediately."

Other potential patients would be put on waiting lists and added to the caseload through "attrition," he said.

But the Senate's top Democrat called that a callous plan.

"That means when people die, someone else can get care," said Senate President Pro Tem John Burton, D-San Francisco. "Developmentally disabled people don't get a lot better and leave the rolls. ... What you're doing is shutting the door on a whole lot of people who need this program."

"It's picking on the most vulnerable in society," said Burton, who predicted the Legislature will reject Schwarzenegger's proposal.

But Palmer said Schwarzenegger's proposal "falls under the category of difficult but necessary decisions that we have to make."

Cliff Allenby, director of Developmental Services, said the department's costs have increased because the population is aging.

"When they're children, most of the cost of care is in education, they're in special education classes during the day," he said. "When they age, the costs needed to

"That means when people die, someone else can get care. Developmentally disabled people don't get a lot better and leave the rolls. ... What you're doing is shutting the door on a whole lot of people who need this program."

— JOHN BURTON
Senate President Pro Tem

provide appropriate care is entirely a cost to the resource centers."

A spike in autism diagnoses, which have doubled every three years, have also cost the state more money, Allenby said. And he predicted those costs will keep rising as autistic children grow into adulthood.

Schwarzenegger has also proposed saving \$250 million over two years by eliminating art and music therapy, equestrian therapy, camp experiences and respite care.

Respite care gives parents or caretakers of disabled people time away from home. Though it's generally only a few hours a week, that break can be vital to a family member who is the sole caretaker for a disabled person, said Shannon Kemp, respite manager for United Cerebral Palsy of Greater Sacramento.

Kemp used respite services herself when she was a single mother with two daughters, one of whom had Downs Syndrome and a heart condition. Kemp's daughter Christy died during heart surgery when she was 13 years old and Kemp then became a respite worker to help other families.

Giving families a break helps them retain a sense of normalcy and of their own identity, she said.

"Then we also have potential abusers — people who don't want to abuse their child, who would never under normal circumstances hurt them, but are so overwhelmed and have no place to go," she said. "They just need to break to get back on track and say 'OK, I can do this.'"

Kemp's group works with about 325 families referred by the Alta California regional center, which pays Kemp's group \$16.92 an hour for the care. The families get an average of 20 hours of respite care a month and can schedule it to fit their needs, Kemp said.

She's concerned that if the program is completely cut, abuse incidents will rise and that "a lot of parents might just put their kids into institutions, which is going to cost the state so much money. It's a heck of a lot cheaper to give them a break."

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NATIONAL

Popularity of obesity surgery makes dramatic gains

BY KAREN TESTA

Associated Press Writer

BOSTON — Ken Powers knew the potential dangers of having his stomach stapled, but to a man who had tipped the scales at 475 pounds, those risks didn't much matter.

"I had this thought: If I die on the operating table, having the surgery to try to better my life, I thought it was a better thing to do than to live the way I was living, which, in my opinion, I was kind of waiting to die anyway," he said.

By the tens of thousands, morbidly obese people who have failed at diets, support groups and exercise programs are turning to surgery to lose weight.

In 1998, there were 25,800 obesity-related operations, most of them gastric-bypass procedures commonly known as stomach stapling. This year, the American Society for Bariatric Surgery estimates 103,200 operations.

Questions about the risks and growing use of the procedures surfaced in recent weeks after two patients in New England died during stomach-stapling surgeries. However, obesity specialists say the procedure is safer than it has ever been — and that is contributing to the growing popularity.

And for most patients, the risk of not having the surgery is greater.

"It's an operation that helps cure people of this disease which is life-threatening. People see it as some type of cosmetic surgery, when it's not. More patients die waiting for surgery than die after surgery," said Dr. Janey Pratt, a surgeon at the Massachusetts General Hospital Weight Center in Boston, which does about 300 gastric bypasses a year.

The operation involves using staples or stitches to close off part of the stomach to form a small pouch about the size of an egg, which limits how much food the person can eat. A part of the small intestine also is bypassed to reduce nutrient absorption.

"It's an operation that helps cure people of this disease which is life-threatening. People see it as some type of cosmetic surgery, when it's not. More patients die waiting for surgery than die after surgery."

— DR. JANEY PRATT

Surgeon at the Massachusetts General Hospital Weight Center in Boston

Risks include wound infections, stomach leaks and occasionally life-threatening blood clots.

The International Bariatric Surgery Registry estimates one in 1,000 patients will die within four weeks of the surgery, and three in 1,000 will die within three months. Some surgeons in the field put the fatality rate as high as one in 100 who have the surgery.

Powers, 42, of Worcester, was lucky. Even carrying more than 400 pounds on his 5-foot-11 frame, he had not developed many of the common ailments associated with obesity. Still, sleep was fitful, and walking, particularly upstairs, was exhausting. And he lived in a fourth-floor apartment.

Powers underwent laparoscopic gastric bypass surgery in May 2001 and now weighs 280 pounds. He believes the surgery likely staved off the onset of diabetes, and he

has had no complications.

Surgery is not used to treat minor obesity. Candidates must be 100 pounds above their ideal body weight and have failed at other attempts at weight loss.

Still, an estimated 15 million people would qualify for the surgery, said Dr. Scott Shikora, head of bariatric surgery at Tufts-New England Medical Center in Boston. Tufts, which has the city's largest obesity surgery program, closed to new patients for nearly six months earlier this year to catch up with its backlog of patients. At one point, there was a waiting list of 500 patients, Shikora said.

"It's no longer considered snake oil or some out there treatment that doesn't work," Shikora said.

Many insurance carriers have started to cover the procedures, finding it cheaper to pay for the surgery than treating obesity-related health problems such as diabetes and high blood pressure. Companies continue to feel pressure to cover more obesity surgeries, but are cautious because of the risks, said Susan Pisano, spokeswoman for the combined American Association of Health Plans, Health Insurance Association of America.

"When we do read about people who do have complications, I think that only serves to reinforce the caution," she said.

Powers agrees. He worries that the growing popularity and the success of celebrities such as NBC "Today" weatherman Al Roker and singer Carrie Wilson may make it look like a simple, convenient option, especially for young people.

"I don't think you see all the pain involved. You see the finished product," he said. "Carrie Wilson looks great and Al Roker looks like a million bucks, but you don't see the post-op stuff. You eat half an English muffin and you throw up. There's certain foods it takes you a year to eat again. It's not a diet. You have to be ready to abandon the way that you've lived with food for the rest of your life."

Environmentalists oppose extended drilling in Wyoming

By The Associated Press

CASPER, Wyo. — Some environmental groups are upset by the number of extended drilling permits the U.S. Bureau of Land Management has granted in key winter range corridors for big game in Wyoming.

The BLM has approved 31 of 39 requests by energy companies to keep operating past a November cutoff in big game migration areas such as the Pinedale Resource Area about 70 miles south of Grand Teton National Park. Last year, BLM granted 286 of 311 requests.

Companies must ask the BLM for extensions to drill for oil and natural gas or perform other activities in restricted areas between Nov. 15 and April 30.

The restrictions are meant to protect elk, mule deer, antelope and moose habitat, but some environmentalists charge the BLM is threatening big game populations by granting too many exceptions in recent years.

"Only one of these 311 requests (in 2002-03) were denied," said Meredith Taylor, the Yellowstone program director for the Wyoming Outdoor Council.

Four requests were withdrawn in 2002-03, 16 were not required and four are still pending, she said.

"The increasing number of requests and the high percentage of exceptions to the wildlife stipulations granted makes a mockery of the whole public process and the decision to manage the land and resources for multiple use," Taylor said.

Peter Aengst of The Wilderness Society said the BLM's high extension approval rate demonstrates "the choke hold the oil and gas industry has over the Wyoming BLM."

BLM officials, however, say many of this year's extensions only give energy companies a few extra days to remove drilling equipment at the end of the season. They have denied at least two requests seeking longer extensions to drill on crucial winter range.

"There's a lot of factors that go into these (decisions)," said Keith Andrews of the BLM's Pinedale Field Office. "We have to look at each individual request to see what they want to do. We look at it case by case."

"You can't really say that we're bound to the industry because (the denials) are costing them a bunch of money," Andrews said. "If we weren't concerned about adverse impacts ... then you would see a lot more rig activity up there through the winter."

Prolonged drought and poor habitat conditions make seasonal drilling restrictions even more important this year on winter range near Pinedale and other areas, Wyoming Game and Fish officials said.

"Activities creating disturbances on crucial winter range this winter could have catastrophic results on big game," Game and Fish Deputy Director of External Operations Bill Wichers told BLM State Director Bob Bennett in a letter this fall about poor winter range conditions.



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NATIONAL



Marathons have become a goal for everyday runners

BY MARK BRYANT

Associated Press Writer

SEATTLE — At 34, Bill Brewster never considered himself a runner. But with some time to train and copious advice from his runner friends, he has the goal of running his first marathon in Seattle Sunday — and finishing.

He's not alone. The field of more than 3,000 runners will be dominated by recreational runners like Brewster, many of them first timers. Marathons, which once were races for elite runners built like gazelles, with iron constitutions and a taste for pain, have become long jogs for the masses.

"Once more and more people have done marathons, the average person looks at that and says, 'Maybe I can do one too,'" said Brewster, who lives in Seattle. "I'm totally excited about doing this."

Last year, a record-setting 450,000 people finished a marathon. Of those, 40 percent had never run one before, said Ryan Lamppa, a researcher at U.S.A. Track & Field.

"This growth in the marathon is a social phenomenon," he said.

There are at least 300 marathons in the United States, Lamppa said, though only a few are huge events. In the nation's three largest — New York, Chicago and Honolulu — more than 89,000 people completed the races last year.

The 26.2 miles provides enough misery to bring tears of joy and pain to anyone crossing the finish line. But over the years, experts have honed their advice, allowing everyday people to train efficiently and with confidence to finish a marathon.

People of all ages and shapes can get advice from books, the Web, even friends and co-workers who've run one.

"You are going to see any shape you can possibly imagine. You will see 300-pounders out there," said author and runner Jeff Galloway, who divides his time between Atlanta and Blue Mountain

"Once more and more people have done marathons, the average person looks at that and says, 'Maybe I can do one too. I'm totally excited about doing this.'"

— **BILL BREWSTER**
Runner

Beach, Fla. His writings include several popular running books, including "Marathon: You Can Do It!"

Mary Pat Gotschall of Seattle did her first marathon in April, signing up having never run more than four miles before. Along with her husband and two friends, she ran the Marathon International de Paris, an event in which wine was offered to runners in the last several miles.

"When I saw the finish line I started crying," she said. "I was so happy. I set this goal for myself and achieved it."

"I'm convinced now anybody can do it," said Gotschall, 32.

She's also part of a trend of more women running the event. A record 40 percent of 2002 marathon finishers in the United States were women, Lamppa said.

Forty years ago, marathons were a hardcore fringe event for men.

Galloway, 58, ran his first one in 1963 in Atlanta. Eleven people started, five finished.

"I was hurting for weeks," he said.

Since then, he's run 123 marathons and learned how to make it less painful and more enjoyable, sharing his ideas in books and in 30 years worth of marathon clinics.

With decades of feedback from runners, he said erasing the idea that people have to run every step of the way has boosted the number of participants. He

advocates frequent one-minute walk breaks during a marathon, saying they allow for faster recovery, even faster course times.

"The walk breaks are the single ingredient, over the past 45 years of my running experience, that has signaled to average people that they really could experience success in training for something like a marathon, and still have a life," Galloway said.

"Nowadays, it's so rampant," he said, "someone can start from scratch and six months later, finish a marathon."

Charities have added motivation and reaped the benefits.

People who run or walk marathons have raised more than \$300 million for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society through its Team In Training program, said Jeanine Smith, national director of the program, which has local offices nationwide, including one in Seattle.

Begun in 1988, Team In Training offers coaching, clinics and support for runners who get pledges for the charity, which goes toward research and patient services.

A more recent program, called Joints in Motion, has netted more than \$20 million for the Arthritis Foundation since 1997, said Sara Orrell, who oversees the program.

Runners can get pledges from friends

and co-workers toward their favorite charities that deal with cancer, AIDS, Alzheimer's, arthritis and many others.

In the New York City Marathon Nov. 2, hip-hop entrepreneur Sean "P. Diddy" Combs finished the event and raised \$2 million for children.

Marathon courses have improved, too, with plenty of water stops, portable toilets — even live bands — about every mile along the way.

"Any diversion helps when you're falling apart," said Tim Murphy, president of Elite Racing, which organizes the Rock 'n' Roll marathons in San Diego and Phoenix, and a Country Music Marathon in Nashville.

"It really has turned out to be a 26-mile party," he said. "And that really helps you get through it."

Smart training programs help, too.

Hal Higdon's self-named Web site offers 18-week training schedules for novices and veterans, honed by his experience running 111 marathons and writing books on running.

Higdon, 72, who lives near Chicago, recalled the early days when marathon training was rare enough that police in certain neighborhoods would pull over runners, when a pre-race meal was steak and when marathon courses offered no water.

Nowadays, he said, "everybody's got somebody in the office who's done it."

Those who finish a marathon have a memorable event etched in their brain, providing a sense of satisfaction and ready conversation fodder.

"It's kind of the Holy Grail of running, to be able to run a marathon," said Patty Conway, a 45-year-old Seattle resident and longtime runner who ran her first marathon this year, in New York City.

Along the way, she used her cell phone to call her sister, her parents and her friends for inspiration. When she crossed the finish line, Conway said, "I was bawling. I was so amazed I'd done it."

DID YOU KNOW?: The New York Marathon title holder is World record (men): 2:05:42, Khalid Khannouchi, United States, 1999.

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INTERNATIONAL

NATO control favored in Afghanistan's future

BY ROBERT BURNS
AP Military Writer

BRUSSELS, Belgium — The United States would like NATO eventually to take over the military mission in Afghanistan, where an American-dominated force is still hunting down remnants of the Taliban rule that collapsed two years ago, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld said Sunday.

In an interview on the eve of a NATO defense ministers conference, Rumsfeld said he had not proposed such a transition from U.S. control but that it was a goal "we certainly have favored."

Rumsfeld arrived in Brussels on Sunday for NATO talks on a range of defense and security issues, including the situation in Iraq and the outlook for a realignment of U.S. forces in Europe. The latter topic is focused mainly on ways of reducing or shifting U.S. troops in Europe to make the overall American military more suited to fighting terrorism and other nontraditional threats.

Defense ministers were meeting Monday and Tuesday, followed by talks among foreign ministers on Thursday and Friday.

Asked about deadly attacks in recent days against Spaniards, Japanese and South Koreans in Iraq, Rumsfeld said he did not expect the violence to lead any U.S. allies to abandon the mission.

"The countries who have forces there recognize that it's a dangerous place and there are terrorists who are killing people and wounding people — not just coalition forces but Iraqis, in increasing numbers," he said.

Commenting on an expanded NATO role in Afghanistan, Rumsfeld praised the alliance for taking a first, limited step: assuming control over the International Security Assistance Force that keeps the peace in Kabul, the Afghan capital, and trying to put together even more troops so the peacekeeping mission can be expanded beyond Kabul to as many as six provincial cities.

That security force has not been involved in the American-led combat missions against Taliban holdouts.

In advance of this week's NATO talks, alliance officials expressed confidence that plans will proceed for a German-led NATO security force to move into the northern

Afghan city of Kunduz within weeks.

That operation is supposed to be a pilot project for a broader NATO plan to provide protection for "provincial reconstruction teams" in other cities — if it can muster the troops.

"I think it's a good thing," Rumsfeld said. "And my guess is it will happen."

He added that NATO involvement eventually might expand even further.

"At some point the task may mature to the point where NATO would want to take on a still larger responsibility," he said. While the Pentagon chief did not foresee alliance troops replacing U.S. troops entirely, he would not rule out NATO eventually taking primary control of the military mission.

"I'm not predicting anything, but we certainly have favored that, over time," Rumsfeld said.

The United States has about 10,000 troops in Afghanistan, making it one of the most demanding missions the military is executing, along with the effort to stabilize Iraq with 130,000 troops.

Looking ahead to the NATO talks, the alliance's top civilian official said the peacekeeping mission in Afghanistan was a test of NATO's credibility.

"If we do not go to Afghanistan and deal with its problems, Afghanistan and those problems will come again to us," NATO Secretary General Lord Robertson said last week.

"Failure would not only be a disaster for Afghanistan. It would be a disaster for Europe and for North America as well," he said, warning that the country could again become a base for international terrorism.

During the meetings in Brussels, European allies will be eager to hear Rumsfeld's views on an agreement reached over the weekend by the European Union to boost its own defense capability.

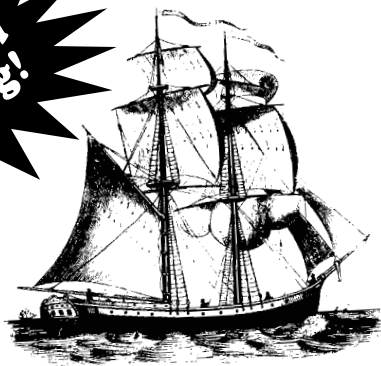
Washington has been wary that EU defense plans promoted by France and Germany could undermine NATO unity. Under pressure from Britain, EU members modified those plans. British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw insisted Saturday the new arrangements will not diminish NATO as Europe's primary security provider.

Rumsfeld told reporters Sunday he doubts the Europeans will do anything to undermine NATO.

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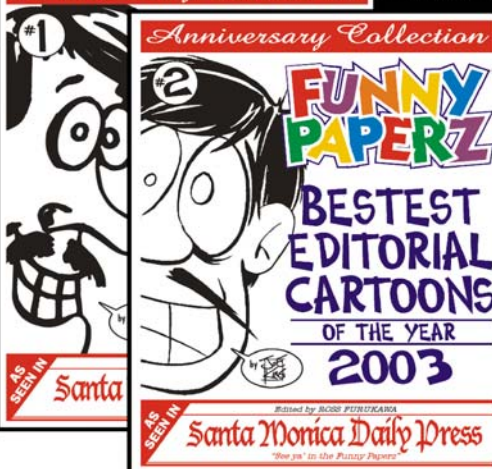
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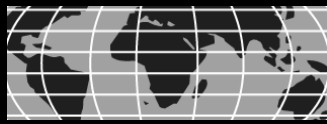
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WORLD BRIEFLY

Spanish U.S. allies attacked

By The Associated Press

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Assaultants waylaid a team of Spanish intelligence officers Saturday, killing seven agents in a bloody new attack on U.S. allies in Iraq. There were also reports that two Japanese diplomats were ambushed and killed.

One Spanish agent escaped the assault in Mahmudiyah, 18 miles south of Baghdad. Journalists who arrived on the scene said a small crowd chanted praise for ousted president Saddam Hussein and some even kicked at the bodies.

The attack came a little more than two weeks after 19 Italians were killed in a suicide bombing appeared aimed at undercutting the cohesion of the U.S.-led coalition, which includes more than 30 countries. The insurgents are also focusing on separating U.S. forces from Iraqi allies by attacking police and local officials.

Television footage of the aftermath of the ambush showed several bodies along a highway as cars, their headlights on, drove by at dusk. People milled around, and a youth — apparently aware he was being filmed — kicked his foot in the air over a body. An older youth rested his foot on a corpse, an arm raised in triumph.

Reagan movie finds faults

By The Associated Press

NEW YORK — If admirers of former President Reagan didn't like a television movie about him after reading leaked snippets of a script, their opinion isn't likely to change after seeing the final product.

"The Reagans," which premieres on Showtime on Sunday, depicts the former president as amiable but often confused, controlled to a large extent by his wife, Nancy, and presiding over a dysfunctional family.

The movie is being aired on Showtime after CBS refused to show it earlier this month, following a campaign by supporters of the Reagans.

Showtime made copies of the film available to journalists Saturday.

The Reagans' faults are familiar to those who followed his presidency. What's striking is how they dom-

inate this film compared to Reagan's successes; the Iran-Contra affair is given considerably more time than the Cold War defeat of the Soviet Union, and the economic boom of the 1980s is barely touched upon.

Graham approves Gibson's Christ

By The Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — The Rev. Billy Graham gave an enthusiastic thumbs-up to Mel Gibson's biblical epic, "The Passion of Christ," after a private screening with the movie star.

The film, which describes the hours before Jesus Christ's crucifixion, has generated complaints from some Jewish leaders, who say it suggests Jews were responsible for Christ's death. Conservative Catholics who have seen the film have called it powerful.

"The film is faithful to the Bible's teaching that we are all responsible for Jesus' death, because we all have sinned," the 85-year-old evangelist said. "It is our sins that caused his death, not any particular group."

In a statement released Tuesday by the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association, the Southern Baptist also said he "was moved to tears" by the film.

Gibson spent a reported \$30 million to produce the movie. Set for release Feb. 25, the movie's dialogue is in Latin, Hebrew and Aramaic with English subtitles.

Republic shipwreck promises riches

By The Associated Press

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. — Historical records indicate the side-wheel steamer SS Republic was carrying 20,000 gold coins — worth \$120 million to \$180 million today — when a hurricane sent it to the bottom of the Atlantic in 1865.

But there could be more. A lot more.

Based on early examination of the sunken wreck by the crew of the ship Odyssey Explorer, coin expert Donald Kagin thinks there could be close to 30,000 gold pieces down there, 1,700 feet beneath the surface.

Either way it will almost certainly be one of the richest shipwrecks ever salvaged. And because it is so far out in international water, salvage company Odyssey

Marine Exploration doesn't have to share the wealth with coastal state governments. The company also gained legal possession of the site in federal court under a principle known as "admiralty arrest" to bar anyone else from laying claim to the treasure.

November deadliest month in Iraq

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — November was the deadliest month yet for the American military in Iraq.

Seventy-seven U.S. servicemen and women have died — compared with 73 in the previous two months combined.

Including six Americans killed in Afghanistan, November was the most costly month for the military since February 1991, when 162 U.S. troops were killed in the climax of the first Gulf War.

Helicopter crashes on Nov. 2, 7 and 15 killed a total of 39 soldiers. Before last month, the insurgency had scant success in targeting U.S. helicopters or other aircraft.

Coincidentally, five of the six killed in Afghanistan in November also were in an aircraft crash — an Air Force MH-53 special operations helicopter that went down near Bagram on Nov. 23. That crash is under investigation and may not have been caused by hostile fire.

Black caucus represents most Americans

By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — When Democrats all but conceded President Bush would get the additional \$87 billion he wanted for Iraq and Afghanistan, the Congressional Black Caucus decided to oppose the bill anyway even though four of its members voted for it.

This was not a civil rights question or a matter of racial inequity — the issues that led to the caucus' creation more than three decades ago.

But these are changing times. Largely due to redistricting, some blacks are now elected from majority-white suburbs, Southern farmlands or thriving business hubs, forcing the caucus to refocus its mission. The agenda is still shaped by the liberal causes of urban black American, but no longer is limited to them.

"It just calls for the caucus to send a message out there that we have sent out in the past but maybe not as clearly: We not only represent African-Americans. We represent the vast majority of Americans," said the group's chairman, Rep. Elijah Cummings, D-Md.

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Saturday's answer

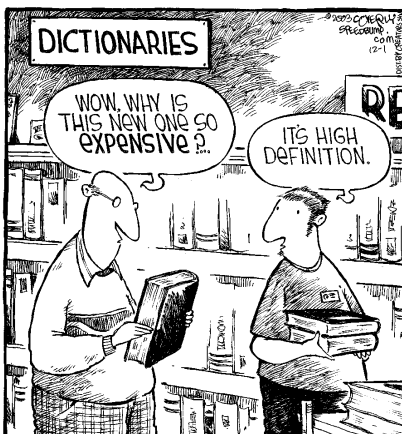
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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Actor John Amos reaches out to fire victims

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Actor John Amos had to do something when he heard about a man driven out of his home so quickly by last month's wildfires that he didn't have time to grab his shoes.

Dan Knight, his fiancée Tracy Barker and her 17-year-old son lost their home to the fire that burned across San Bernardino County. Flames raced down on them so quickly on Oct. 24 that they barely got out with the clothes on their backs.

Amos has given them \$500 for food and gas, sent them clothes and sent a limousine to take them to a taping of television's "All About the Andersons" in

which he co-stars.

"You know, I'm in a business where you have people complaining about the size of their trailers, complaining about the quality of the caviar," said Amos, who also has had a recurring role as an admiral on "The West Wing."

"Here are people who lost it all except their lives. I'm not out to save the world, but if I can help this one family, I will certainly try my best."

He has offered more help, but Knight, a 50-year-old carpenter, is reluctant to take it. "My pride, you know," he said.

Still, he's enjoyed getting to know the actor.

"John plays a lot of tough, macho

roles, but he's not like that at all," Knight said. "He's really a compassionate, caring person. He's been a lifesaver."

SHANGHAI, China — Michelle Yeoh, co-star of the 2001 film "Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon," took home actress of the year honors at the MTV Style Awards in Shanghai.

Awards were given out in 37 categories Saturday, ranging from fashion design to best female rocker, and nominees included entertainers and artists from mainland China, Hong Kong, Taiwan and South Korea.

Yeoh wowed Saturday's audience with her hair dyed violet and glittering jewelry.

"I know it's pretty funny, but I think it looks nice," said Yeoh, dressed in a pink fur coat and metallic mini skirt.

Yeoh promised "a breakthrough" in the coming year, but gave no details. She made a name for herself in Hong Kong kung fu action films, then gained attention elsewhere when she appeared with Pierce Brosnan in "Tomorrow Never Dies."

Other winners included Coco Lee for breakthrough international artist, Edison Chan for breakthrough actor of the year and director He Ping's kung fu epic "Warriors of Heaven and Earth" for Chinese film of the year.

Patriots win with goal-line stand in fourth quarter

Sports

BY STEPHEN SAUX

Special to the Daily Press

INDIANAPOLIS — The New England Patriots prevailed in a classic AFC battle that came down to a Willie McGinest stop of Edgerrin James on fourth and goal with only seconds remaining.

The Indianapolis Colts, led by quarterback Peyton Manning, looked as though they might once again run away with a come-from-behind win. Down 31-10 halfway through the third quarter, Manning completed touchdown passes to Reggie Wayne for 13 yards, Marvin Harrison for 26 yards and Troy Walters

for 6 yards to tie the game with 10:21 left.

Set up by Bethel Johnson's 67-yard kickoff return, the visiting Patriots quickly answered back with a four-play drive that ended with Tom Brady hitting Deion Branch in the corner of the end zone for a 13-yard touchdown strike.

Manning, who finished 29-48 passing for 278 yards and four touchdowns, again led the Colts, but the drive ended with a 29-yard field goal, bringing the score to 38-34. Hoping to get the ball back, the Colts defense needed one more stop with 3:27 to go.

Uncharacteristic of the Patriot's efficient offense, Brady wasted his opportunity to run the clock by passing the ball on

the next four plays. Ken Walter added to the ineffectiveness of the series with an 18-yard punt, which put the ball back in Manning's hands for one last drive.

In typical Manning fashion, Peyton drove his two-minute offense magnificently with clock management and accurate passing all the way to the 2-yard line. That's when McGinest and his defense stifled the drive and preserved the win, which takes the Patriots to 10-2 for the first time in their history.

The Colts fall to 9-3 and have dropped out of first place in the AFC south. The Tennessee Titans can hold on to their first-place standing with a win Monday night against the last-place New York Jets.

In Sunday's other games:

St. Louis 48, Minnesota 17
Cincinnati 24, Pittsburgh 20
Buffalo 24, N.Y. Giants 7
Houston 17, Atlanta 13
Chicago 28, Arizona 3
Philadelphia 25, Carolina 16
Baltimore 44, San Francisco 6
New Orleans 24, Washington 20
Seattle 34, Cleveland 7
Kansas City 28, San Diego 24
Denver 22, Oakland 8
Tampa Bay @ Jacksonville 5pm EST

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Detroit 22, Green Bay 14
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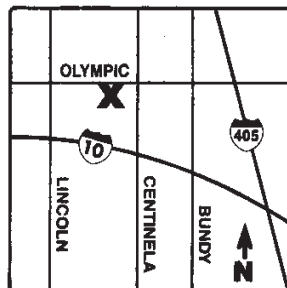


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