

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

LOTTO

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Meganumber: 5

Jackpot: \$7 million

FANTASY 5

10, 30, 13, 25, 15

DAILY 3

Afternoon picks: 8, 7, 7

Evening picks: 3, 5, 8

DAILY DERBY

1st Place: 11, Money Bags

2nd Place: 02, Lucky Star

3rd Place: 01, Gold Rush

Race Time: 1:49.97



NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

In September, a committee of Milwaukee's city council approved the application of a strip joint (Club Paradise Gentlemen's Club) to also become a "center for visual and performing arts" (the same designation as the Milwaukee Art Museum) by the simple act of placing several pieces of upscale artwork on its walls. Such a classification would allow liberalization of the club's alcohol permit. (However, by the time the matter came to the full council, the public had heard about it, and the club withdrew the application.)



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"I don't jog. If I die I want to be sick."

— Abe Lemons



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SMPD's community policing goes beyond Santa Monica limits

A direct and constant relationship with parole officers keeps would-be criminals at bay

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON
AND JOHN WOOD

Daily Press Staff Writers

SMPD HDQRTS. — The September arrest of a parolee in connection with Santa Monica's only homicide this year is part of an ongoing effort by local police who work with the Department of Corrections to reduce crime and keep criminals out of the community.

Santa Monica Police arrested 21-year-old Arthur Archuleta for second-degree murder three days after 19-year-old Jalonnice Carter was gunned down in an alley near 20th Street on Sept. 2. Archuleta also was picked up for violating his parole by either participating or associating with gang members, said Bill Sessa, spokesman for the state's board of prison terms.

Archuleta has yet to be charged by the Los Angeles District Attorney's Office because currently there is insufficient evidence to bring a conviction in court. Archuleta remained in jail for a

few weeks after his arrest while the board of prison terms and his parole officer determined his fate. Because of a lack of evidence, he was released and was living with his family in Santa Monica.

That was until Nov. 22, when officers found a firearm in the car he was riding in. Archuleta, a convicted felon, was charged with being an ex-felon in possession of a firearm and a parole violation. He remains in jail, awaiting a hearing by the state board of prison terms, which is expected to occur this month. He could face up to a year in jail if a hearing officer decides to revoke his parole, Sessa said.

"The burden of proof is lower for a parole violation than it is to convict them of a new crime," Sessa said.

Meanwhile, SMPD is waiting for results to come back from a crime lab to determine if the firearm found in the car Archuleta was riding in is related to any other crimes in the Los Angeles or Santa Monica areas.

Archuleta had been free for only for about two months before he became the focus of police. Archuleta, who was first convicted in Marin County in 2002 for attempting to smuggle a controlled

See POLICE, page 7

A maddening challenge



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

Sports enthusiasts match themselves up against the machine Sunday afternoon on the Third Street Promenade as part of the 'Madden Challenge,' a nationwide video game tournament. After 10 regional tournaments in 10 cities across the nation, the Madden Challenge finals will be held at Beaches Boscobel in Jamaica on Jan. 11.

Alternative high school eyed for Santa Monica

A non-traditional text book model of education making its way into the local community

BY JAMIE WETHERBE

Special to the Daily Press

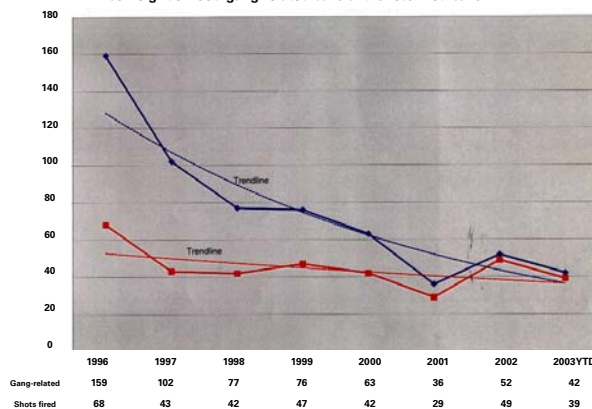
Organizers of a charter school have their eyes on Santa Monica with the hopes of bringing unconventional secondary education to a new level here.

The idea is to open an alternative Santa Monica high school by 2005. Called "Green Dot Public Schools," founded in 1999 by Steve Barr, who helped launch "Rock The Vote," the system is intended to change the face of education in Los Angeles.

Barr and a handful of Santa Monicans met last month to discuss the possibilities of opening a high school locally and design an outreach

See GREEN DOT, page 6

Pico neighborhood gang-related calls and shots fired calls



The top line indicates gang-related crimes and the bottom line indicates reports of shots fired.



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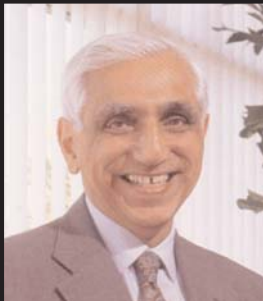
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- ★★★★★-Dynamic
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- ★★★-Average
- ★★-So-so
- ★-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ The Full Moon could put words in your mouth that you wish you'd never said. Passions runs high; just don't be the one who puts a match to the gasoline tank. Try as hard as you can to look at something from another's point of view. Tonight: Swap war stories with the gang.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★ A partner makes life even more difficult than you'd anticipated. As you try to handle a money matter, you could be challenged to come to a positive conclusion. Others want to be extravagant, as they are infused with the holiday spirit. Tonight: Show another how to have fun inexpensively.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ You smile, and others respond. New beginnings become possible if you're willing to follow through on a family member's suggestion. In fact, you could be downright delighted. Refuse to get into a power play, if possible. Tonight: Keep on smiling.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★ Take your time with a loved one you really care about. This person might screw up badly but not mean it. Your understanding could make all the difference in how this person feels. Review a recent decision. Tonight: Get a good night's sleep.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Aim for more of what you want. Extremes mark your interactions, especially financially. You're just a generous sign; there is no way around it. Laughter helps an intense loved one deal with a problem. Don't get tied up in another's problem. Tonight: Where the crowds are.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★ Others take the lead. You might be in a position where you must say "yes" and only "yes." While this might be aggravating for some, you need to just do it. Commotion surrounds the home front. Consider indulging in a stress-buster. Tonight: Do something just for yourself.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Your ability to detach might keep you out of a difficult and angry situation, where words are exchanged that you would prefer to have never heard. Understand that as fun as the season is, many will experience tension. Put your feet up and play the role of the wise one. Tonight: Finish up your holiday cards.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ A partner has opinions contrary to yours. No matter what you do, you cannot see eye to eye. Under the circumstances, allow this person to run with the ball. Let him or her see the results of his or her actions. Tonight: Balance your checkbook.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22- Dec. 21)

★★★ You might be triggering more of your problems than you realize. Understand where someone is coming from, and you might be able to change your position. For your own sake, don't take on the boss. Tonight: Go along with another's plans.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★ You might not be "in the mood" to deal with others, but put on your good face and flow with the moment. Go in to work or get into a project without questioning too much. Gain insight into a co-worker. Tonight: Do some shopping on the way home.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ A friend might disappoint you with his or her attitude, but you can skip right over the problem if you are willing. You have the ingenuity and wherewithal to make the impossible possible. A partner pitches in. Tonight: Go on an old-fashioned date.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ Opulence seems to be the tone of the day, with the exception of a cranky boss. Know when to back down and just do your job. Remember, work isn't the only thing in your life. Look at the positives of a relationship. This person often chips in. Tonight: Be happy.

CLARIFICATION — In an article in the Dec. 6 issue, a quote by Santa Monica Police Department Lt. P.J. Guido, was not given proper context. Lt. Guido said violence prevention extends beyond the borders of the Pico neighborhood.

Santa Monica Daily Press

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

PUBLISHER

Ross Furukawaross@smdp.com

EDITOR

Carolyn Sackariasonsack@smdp.com

STAFF WRITER

John Woodwood@smdp.com

ADVERTISING SALES MANAGER

Rob Piubenirob@smdp.com

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Steve Averillsteve@smdp.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Del Pastranadel@smdp.com

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

Alejandro Cesar Cantarero IIalex@smdp.com

ADMINISTRATIVE TRAFFIC MANAGER

Elise De Fordelise@smdp.com

CLASSIFIED REPRESENTATIVE

Mitch Troymitch@smdp.com

CIRCULATION MANAGER

Robert DeAmicisRob@smdp.com

CIRCULATION

Keith Wyattkeith@smdp.com

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Dave Danforthdave@smdp.com

MASCOT

Maya Furukawamaya@smdp.com

LOCAL



'The Nutcracker' returns for 30th year on westside

BY LEE RAJSICH

Special to the Daily Press

The holiday season wouldn't be complete without a classic Christmas ballet by Tchaikovsky.

Santa Monica's Westside Ballet school has brought "The Nutcracker" back to the stage for the 30th year in a row.

Featuring young and upcoming ballet students from 8- to 18 years old and under the artistic direction of internationally renowned ballerina and co-founder of Westside Ballet Yvonne Mounsey, this year's production makes for a holiday outing for both families and ballet enthusiasts, officials say.

The ballet already has been performed at the Smothers Theatre in Malibu and now prepares for its last leg on Dec. 13 and 14 at the Wadsworth Theatre in West Los Angeles. Both theaters have been home to the production for the last four years.

With eight performances each year — four at each theater — the production typically draws an audience of



Photo courtesy

'The Nutcracker' will be performed in West Los Angeles this week and features nearly 50 performers from Santa Monica and Venice.

See NUTCRACKER, page 9

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Christmas shopping with a cause

By Daily Press staff

Christmas comes early for Santa Monica shoppers attending "Divine Design," a charity-shopping event with 100 percent of the proceeds benefiting Project Angel Food.

Project Angel Food is a daily meal delivery program for men, women and children disabled by HIV/AIDS and other critical illnesses.

Shoppers will be treated to a vast array of merchandise, all starting at 50 percent off of the retail price with progressively deeper discounts of up to 90 percent as the event goes on.

Attendees will find a selection of fashion merchandise from Polo Ralph Lauren, Tommy Bahama, Nautica, Frederick's of Hollywood, BCBG, John Varvatos, Richard Tyler, Carolina Herrera, Lucky Jeans, DKNY, Kenneth Cole and more. Also featured are beauty boutique items from American Crew, BeneFit, Bumble & Bumble, Colorlab Cosmetics, Sebastian International, Calvin Klein, Hard Candy, Smashbox; gourmet products include Calphalon, Fudge Fatale, Le Creuset and Pfaltzgraff; home marketplace items from Bed, Bath & Beyond, Mattel, Matteo, Surfias, Warner Bros. Looney Toons, MGM DVD library and Mortise & Tenonfurniture.

More than 1,200 meals are prepared by professional chefs and volunteer assistants daily. Volunteers and staff deliver the free meals to client's homes throughout L.A. County. Those interested in volunteering for Project Angel Food can call (323) 845-1816.

Divine Design, now in its 11th year, has raised more than \$10 million for Project Angel Food. The event runs through today and is located at Santa Monica's Barker Hangar on Airport Road just past the Santa Monica Airport. Admission is \$20 through Ticketmaster, (213) 480-3232 or \$25 at the door.



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surf report

Although we'll see some reinforcements out of the NW and WNW today, the overall trend of fading surf will continue. Best breaks will still have head-high sets through the day on and into Tuesday.

The swell will slowly fade over the next couple of days. New WNW swell will likely build as early as Wednesday afternoon but looks strongest on Thursday. Steep NW swell is expected for next weekend.

Today, expect three to five foot waves — waist- to head-high, occasionally seven feet with fair to good conditions.

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

Today the
water is:

59°

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

The local school board is contemplating a new "gift policy" to make cash donations more equitable for all schools in the district. The proposal would no longer allow vast inequities like McKinley Elementary, which raised \$30,000 last year and Pt. Dume Elementary in Malibu, which raised \$300,000, to continue.

One side of the debate argues contributors to the wealthier schools may stop giving if 15 percent of the cash donation is put into a central pot to be distributed to less affluent schools, as the proposal suggests.

Others laud the proposal, saying the less affluent schools will finally get to reap the benefits of all contributions within the district.

This week, Q-Line wants to know, "Is it fair that 15 percent of cash donations be distributed throughout all schools in the district?"

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

Police chief responds to critic, sets record straight

I read with interest "RAND offers answers to SM gun violence" (SMDP, Dec. 1, page 1) and felt compelled to respond not only to the implied premise of the article (that the RAND study offers revolutionary ideas for the police department), but also to the extended commentary provided by school board member Oscar de la Torre, the founder and director of the Pico Youth and Family Center. Of concern is the manner in which you consistently present him as the authoritative voice on all things Pico. I believe his sentiments are far from this community's mainstream in the area of police enforcement practices.

First, the RAND study. As you correctly noted in a single line of your article, "Riley said Santa Monica has a minute level of violence compared to Hollenbeck ..." Later, your article states, "As part of the study, police officers met regularly and worked with probation officers, parole workers, housing officials, prosecutors from the local, state and federal levels, and representatives from local schools, churches and social service agencies."

Every major premise espoused in the quoted study was implemented or pioneered by the Santa Monica Police Department over seven years ago. In 1998 for example, members of the Mar Vista based gang became engaged in a gang war with Santa Monica gang members in retaliation for the murder of a paroled Mar Vista gang member killed in our city. Three gang-related homicides resulted from the retribution.

During this event, the SMPD brought together over 50 agencies representing law enforcement, schools, prosecutors, parole, probation, and family services from multiple jurisdictions. We identified the major and most violent players from these gangs and armed with parole, probation and arrest warrants, systematically located and arrested these individuals. During one such follow-up investigation, Santa Monica officers intercepted a

drive-by shooting in progress. As a result, arrests were made and assault rifles were recovered. Specialized units and augmented patrols were deployed to the area. Community engagement was heightened during this time of crisis. In subsequent years since this enforcement and community intervention, we have significantly decreased gang violence in our city. We will continue to work with the community in our collective efforts to make our city violence-free.

The SMPD years ago in conjunction with Los Angeles County Probation were co-applicants for a grant that pays for a full-time probation officer assigned to Santa Monica. We have for at least seven years developed close ties with the parole officer whose jurisdiction includes our city and those ties have resulted in numerous re-incarcerations of parolees in violation of the terms and conditions of their parole. Equally important, it has sent a clear message to many others to abide by the terms of their conditional release from prison. In summation, every strategy described in your article has years ago been used by the SMPD in attacking gang violence.

Further, I am disappointed in your and other local publications' reporting of "shootings" in Santa Monica. In law enforcement, the term "shooting" refers to an act where someone is injured or killed as a result of gunfire, or when an occupied residence or vehicle is struck by gunfire. This does not frequently happen in Santa Monica, although any such acts at all are abhorrent and cannot be tolerated in civilized society. What does occur in Pico to almost the virtual exclusion of any other neighborhood in Santa Monica are calls of "shots fired" or "shots heard."

The SMPD, unlike virtually any other law enforcement agency, performs inves-

tigative follow-up on these "shots fired" situations that are normally impossible to solve. We work with residents and witnesses, develop information and when possible, charge involved individuals. Those charges may be directly related to the "shots fired" incident, or due to ancillary reasons, such as violation of parole or probation, or illegal possession of a firearm, drugs or drug paraphernalia. Sometimes the directly related charges are not filed by the Los Angeles District Attorney due to insufficiency of the ability to provide proof beyond a reasonable doubt. However, the swift apprehension and filing parole/probation violation or other ancillary charges sends a strong message to those involved and removes offenders temporarily from the community.

Perhaps the most disturbing issue I take with your article and many others over the time of your publication is your use of unchallenged and many times, false in relation to fact, quotations provided for you by Oscar de la Torre. You mention our response to the shots fired calls from the summer and the shooting into an occupied dwelling. Your editor was invited to witness our tactics used when we conducted a parole warrant search and arrest (one of the articulated strategies of the RAND report).

Your paper reported the names and criminal charges filed on the individuals arrested and charged in these investigations.

You then quote de la Torre, unchallenged who says, "Essentially, what we end up doing is criminalizing the low-income sector of the city ... and not only is that not effective policing, it's disempowering." Since your staff was acutely aware that the arrests were limited and surgical, I fail to understand your presentation of his statement without reference

to your actual knowledge.

This mirrors a quote from de la Torre to the "Lookout" (Report Concludes Community Unity Can End Violence, Nov. 16, 2003). "There's no trust ... There's a whole culture of punishment that's supported 12 times more than preventive behavior. It's a symptom of the culture of punishment." The Lookout (Shooting Arrests Still Pending, Oct. 12, 2003), "That's usually the mode of operation — they arrest a lot of people to look like they are doing their job ... It's like George Bush's preemptive strikes"

Crime has fallen 57 percent since 1993 and juvenile arrests have fallen in correlative pattern, if not in the same magnitude. The actual numbers of arrest versus declining crime belie such statements.

I ordinarily remain silent and choose not to acknowledge Mr. de la Torre's consistent anti-police rhetoric under the belief that your staff and the Lookout staff would finally get it that he has never had a positive thing to say about this police department or any city staff involved in serving the community. Our officers are widely respected in our community and deserve fair representation in your paper. I would be disappointed if you continue to allow this unopposed rhetoric.

de la Torre has a long-standing methodology of verbally and publicly denigrating by insult city staff and others. He does this as a means to obtain what he wants, whether that be city funding resources or the appearance of influence and power. The following quotes from news publications are illustrative of his thinking.

The first is found in the "LA City Beat" (Gangster's Paradise Lost, Nov. 6-12, 2001). Oscar is quoted as saying, "The enemy of any gang on the westside is the loss of affordable housing, greedy landlords, abusive police practices and lack of city support for people of color. The gang members are fighting the

See COMMENTARY, page 5

Guest Commentary

By James. T. Butts Jr.

It's a lonely place on the streets, especially when you're stood up



It is February 1991. My ex-wife had divorced me behind my back, telling the courts that I had abandoned her. The truth was that I had been living platonically with her friend and taking the kids every weekend. I was almost one and half years sober at the time, working for Douglas Aircraft, and hoping to be able to work through our differences so that we could be a family again. My mother and father never divorced, working through their differences and remaining together until my father died in 1996. So divorce was not in my vocabulary. I have not seen my children since then and my father died without seeing his first born granddaughter. My son is now 17 and my daughter is 14. I have missed all the growing years with

them. But I saw my ex-wife in 1998 when I was at the Ocean Park Community Center. She was probably there to get signed up for food as we had done some times when we went through tough times.

There are many people — both male and female — who are divorced on the streets. Some, like myself, have had their children ripped from them never to see them again. This is one of the most emotionally devastating traumas a person can go through on the streets. It undermines my trust of the opposite sex and tears the heart right out of me every time I think of it. The feelings of inadequacy and remorse, which are only multiplied a thousand fold by living on the streets, infect every scar this divorce left in my heart. The loneliness of being used to having someone in my corner during hard times has never left, even after all these years. This is the pain I carry with me when I meet a woman. This is the pain most of us who are divorced carry around with us on the streets, which causes many of us to be emotionally and mentally unstable. It's also why drug and alcohol addiction is so prevalent on the streets.

And being stood up makes it even worse.

Last summer I had been asked out by a very attractive woman. I was elated and very anxious. I waited and waited and waited. The time for her to show up was about 10 minutes past and I figured I would wait as I know some women have a habit of being "fashionably late."

But when an hour went by I realized, broken heartedly, I had been stood up. I saw her again and asked what had happened. She said that she had something to do and could not get hold of me because I did not have my phone hooked up at the time. So we made another date, but again the same thing. I was really devastated. The next two times this happened to me were with two separate Japanese girls with whom I go to Santa Monica College. I thought they were my friends and this really hurt me because I had known them for a few years.

The last two times this happened to me was with someone who I had known for some time and had just recently got to know better. I thought she was the best thing since sliced bread and I had grown to really become attracted to her. I asked

her out two times, but my job that weekend had left me too exhausted to go to her house. I apologized, asked her out again and she agreed. I went to her house to pick her up to see a movie, showing up around noonish. Her aunt told me that she was refusing to get up and that she had been out until very late the night before. So I went to the movie by myself. When I asked her about it, she said she had forgotten. I was really hurt, but let it go and did a free tattoo design for her to show her there were no hard feelings.

I asked her to the movies again and she agreed again. We were supposed to go after she got off work. But later when I asked her if I should get the tickets, she told me she had something to do. This really hurt me and bought up all the feelings I had earlier described.

This just showed me how unfeeling people can be towards the homeless, without knowing how bad things are with those of us who are carrying these feelings.

(Charles Springer is a freelance writer and artist living on the streets of Santa Monica. He can be reached at Chaz_059@yahoo.com)

OPINION



SM police chief questions motives behind comments

COMMENTARY, from page 4

wrong fight, killing each other and pushing themselves out of the westside."

The second is from the Los Angeles Times Metro section (Santa Monica Stung by Gang Program Failure April 23, 2001), "Santa Monica is a liberal bastion, but it's all 'save the whales' and let the blacks and Latinos die."

What did he say this in response to? He said it in response to the city being forced to withdraw \$300,000 in city-provided grant funding due in part to poor documentation and accounting practices of a gang violence intervention partnership collaborative of which he was a member.

Another example of the tendency of Mr. de la Torre's failure to accept responsibility for his actions or failure to act follows. The same "Times" article quotes his response to the discontinuation of funding, "... there were racial issues ... the leaders of the city said the blacks and Mexicans have to work together, not realizing there has been ... years of violence between these two communities."

The city after being disparaged as a thank-you for their efforts, proceeded to later grant Mr. de la Torre \$289,000 to fund his Pico Youth and Family Center, which as executive director, pays him approximately \$60,000 per year. The city required a pass through for the grant in recognition of his prior difficulty in handling nonprofit grants. The Woodcraft Rangers was paid approximately \$58,000 a year to serve as the pass through agency and at the end of a year, declined to continue working with Mr. de la Torre. It is my understanding that during that year, Oscar was expected to complete paperwork necessary to file and receive non-profit status for the PYFC, which he failed to do. The Woodcraft Rangers agreed to extend their stewardship until the Public Health Foundation could take over and "help PYFC achieve its non-profit status and continue to offer its much needed services to Santa Monica's young adults," (Kathy Pinckert The Lookout, Sept. 1, 2003). What was the school board member's response? "... glad that Woodcraft Rangers had a change of heart, (but added that) ... I don't think it's honorable to threaten much needed services for the community ... I don't think it's honorable and fair. Why wait for the last minute? Why threaten closure? To put a gun to our head and threaten closure, to me that's unethical."

It speaks volumes to me that an agency would turn down funding to be disassociated with a pass through recipient.

I have other examples but due to time and space, I will leave for later. My point is, Oscar de la Torre has a pattern of using insult and denigration to get his way. He seeks to position himself and a small group of followers as the leadership of the Pico neighborhood, when in fact, Pico, like all our neighborhoods is populated by a diverse, and not monolithic, group of thoughts, orientations and perspectives. He has referred to himself to city staff as "the mayor of Pico." He is not, and I ask that future reporting be more balanced in portraying community sentiment regarding the efforts of the city staff and police department as we help to facilitate the residents' collective vision for life in their neighborhood. The SMPD will continue its decade-long history of community outreach and engagement.

(James T. Butts Jr. is the chief of police in Santa Monica).

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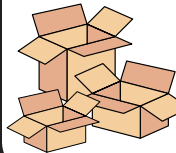
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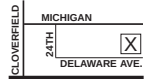


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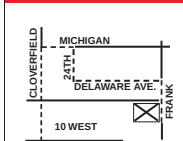


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LOCAL

Green Dot to graduate its first class next year

GREEN DOT, from page 1

program to educate the public on what Green Dot's mission is.

Barr's plan is to open 100 public schools — with less than 500 students each — in LA during the next decade in areas where there are under-performing, overcrowded schools.

The organization already operates three schools in the LA area and plans to open four more during the next year. Green Dot is the only organization that has built more than one charter high school in the LA area.

Barr said when Green Dot first started, he talked with officials about opening a school in Santa Monica, but the city had its own public school woes. So he turned to more troubled areas in LA.

Barr said his model has been successful in the highest need and risk areas. Parents should have a choice between schools without having to spend \$20,000 for a private school, Barr said, adding that he believes in competition between public schools.

"Image what it would look like in Santa Monica," where drop-out and

absentee rates rank below Green Dot's targets, he said.

Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District Superintendent John Deasy said he welcomes any new proposals for consideration. He added that he's impressed with Barr's dedication, and while Green Dot might not be for every student, some could benefit from the program.

Barr said he was equally impressed with the progress Deasy has made with the once faltering Santa Monica High School. And while Barr went through "great public schools" growing up in Venice, he wants others to have the same experience.

The school model will greatly outperform the existing public schools in the area, Barr contends. Schools will be built in clusters of four and six in 20 target locations throughout LA to maximize operational efficiencies and allow students to receive a wider variety of courses and extracurricular activities than they would receive if the schools were isolated. The success of Green Dot's schools will prove that public schools in LA can do a far better job of educating students if

In June, Green Dot will graduate its first class, where it has retained and will graduate 93 percent of its students in an area with a 25 percent drop-out rate, according to officials.

those schools are managed and operated more effectively, Barr said.

Part of the school's plan is demanding college prep education for all students with curriculum aligned to the University of California's course requirements, as well as holding students and teachers more accountable and allowing students to influence how the schools are shaped, which includes letting them design extracurricular activities and helping with hiring administrators.

Green Dot's first school, Animo Leadership Charter High School, opened in the fall of 2000 and currently serves ninth through 12th grade students. Green Dot last year opened Animo Inglewood Charter High School, which serves ninth and 10th graders. Oscar De La Hoya Animo Charter High School opened in August 2003 — currently serving ninth graders. In about four years, the school will accommodate students through the 12th grade.

Animo Leadership and Animo Inglewood have a student population where about 80 percent of the students are eligible for free and reduced lunches, and about 30 percent are classified as

English language learners. Both schools promote their more than 95 percent student attendance rates. Animo Leadership is said to have a 90 percent student retention rate.

Animo Leadership students have outperformed their peers in Inglewood Unified School District, the Los Angeles Unified School District and Centinela Valley High School District — the district that most of the students would have attended — on all key school performance metrics, according to Green Dot officials.

In June, Green Dot will graduate its first class, where it has retained and will graduate 93 percent of its students in an area with a 25 percent drop-out rate, according to officials.

Barr in 1990 co-founded "Rock The Vote," a campaign designed to increase young voters' participation in elections. Barr also was a force behind the Motor Voter Bill, Americorps and Californians for Public School Excellence, which led the change of California's charter school laws. He also oversaw an after school program in South-Central and East Los Angeles that worked with transitional welfare mothers and mentoring groups.

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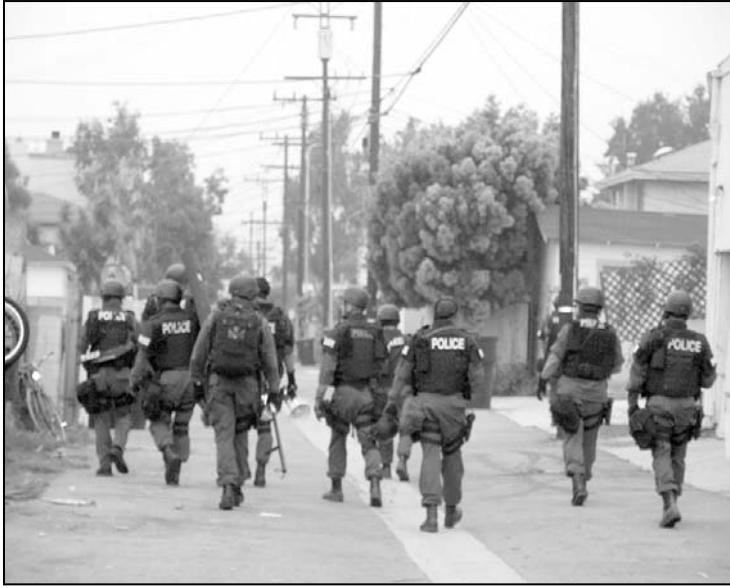
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LOCAL



Tactics used for punitive and rehabilitative measures



File photo

Santa Monica S.W.A.T. officers conducted searches of suspected parole violators earlier this summer in the Pico neighborhood as part of an ongoing effort to reduce crime.

POLICE, from page 1

substance into a jail, was paroled from a minimum security prison this past July, according to Russ Heimrich, spokesman for the Department of Corrections.

Heimrich pointed out that Archuleta may be in custody, but he hasn't been convicted of anything and is innocent until proven guilty.

"He has the right to due process," he said. "This is America."

It was up to Archuleta's parole agent, who works closely with the SMPD, to send him back to jail based on evidence provided by local police. It's up to the board of prison terms to determine if it's sufficient to keep him in jail on a parole violation.

Because of the constant communication between detectives and parole and probation officers, it makes it more effective to track criminals in the community, or in this case the Pico neighborhood, where there is gang activity, officials said.

"We can give (local police) a lot of information before they make a roll on a call or conduct sweeps," Heimrich said. "We work side by side with them."

That's what occurred this summer after shots were fired in five separate incidents within a month in the Pico neighborhood. Based on its own investigation and information provided by parole and probation officers, SMPD conducted several searches within the neighborhood that resulted in the arrests of six people for parole and probation violations. They were sent back into the prison system, and in some of the searches weapons were recovered.

While it's unknown if any of the suspects were formally charged with the gunshots, they were taken out of the community and forced to answer to their parole and probation officers, as well as to the board of prison terms. It's a tactic that the SMPD believes is effective and despite criticism from some in the community who say it's unjust or unfair, police defend their policies.

"The net effect is the same, they are out of the community and we don't consider that criminalizing anyone," said SMPD

Chief James T. Butts Jr.

The intent of working closely with the Department of Corrections is to target people involved in gang activity and to be punitive and rehabilitative in doing so, Chief Butts said.

Police recognize that a small sector of the Pico neighborhood is effectively terrorizing the community and holding the residents of the area hostage. And targeting those people suspected of engaging in acts of violence is guaranteed.

"If bad things happen, we expect them to stop," Chief Butts said. "We want the foolishness to stop."

MORE THAN A DECADE OF COMMUNITY-BASED POLICING

Police working with parole and probation officers is just one facet of an aggressive, community-based policing effort employed by the SMPD for more than a decade.

The approach is predicated on a multi-pronged approach that ties together various components of the community with the ultimate goal of deterring crime in Santa Monica.

"We are not, we the police, we're not the people who determine what a city or a neighborhood will be or aspire to be," Chief Butts said. "But we are facilitators of their aspirations and we are the protectors ... We work for them."

Probation and parole officers, prosecutors, community and religious groups, other City Hall leaders and police work together under the intertwined strategy, which has recently become more important due to a spate of gunshots in the Pico neighborhood.

Police said the blueprint for neighborhood-oriented policing, first introduced in 1990, was "tuned to an art form" in 1998, when two homicides took place in one day. One was a gang-related shooting in the Pico neighborhood. The other, unrelated homicide, was near the beach, when a tourist was fatally stabbed by two men attempting to rob him.

SMPD officers met monthly with nearly 80 participants from a wide variety of

See POLICE, page 8

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LOCAL

Ending violence means enforcement and prevention

POLICE, from page 7

law enforcement agencies, including the police departments in Los Angeles, Culver City, Inglewood, and Pasadena, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department, national agencies like the FBI, INS and the Department of Justice, as well as dozens of other agencies.

They also participated in a slate of religious and community meetings, and personally met with parole officers, aiming to open all possible lines of communication. The results proved to be effective, said SMPD Capt. Mark Smiley.

"It brought a different dynamic here. To say that we pulled out all the stops is an understatement," he said. "We weren't going to stand for it."

At the time, more than a dozen searches were conducted and 12 arrests — all gang related — occurred. Eight firearms were seized, four of which were assault rifles, Smiley said.

INCREASED POLICE PRESENCE

To curb violence in the community, Chief Butts in 1990 expanded police presence in the Pico neighborhood by creating a substation in the area that has four full-time officers and a sergeant, all of whom are specially trained in gang culture, as well in prevention and enforcement.

In addition to the substation, regular patrols are done throughout the neighborhood by police. After violent crimes

occur, those patrols are increased. In 1998, Chief Butts ordered police officers to work overtime to ensure around-the-clock enforcement of the neighborhood. SMPD obtained a grant from the Department of Corrections that was the equivalent to half the salary of a probation officer so a full-time person could be in the neighborhood specifically to target gang members.

Last year, the SMPD used a helicopter provided by the Hawthorne Police Department to patrol the neighborhood from the sky in response to increased violence.

But Chief Butts and Lt. Guido, who has spent most of his career in the Pico neighborhood, said it goes beyond just cracking down on crime.

"Prevention and intervention are the main things we do when we look at our communities," Chief Butts said.

That's why the SMPD has three emissaries — Lt. Guido, Lt. Frank Fabrega and detective Ray Cooper — who are active in the Pico neighborhood and meet regularly with the families and the youth of the neighborhood. They attend community meetings and attempt to put a human face on the department.

ENFORCEMENT ISN'T ENOUGH

While enforcement is part of the multi-pronged approach, so too is prevention. That's why SMPD and City Hall have infused millions of dollars into the community — including the Virginia Avenue

Park expansion and the Police Activities League. The PAL center, at 1401 Olympic Blvd., which helps hundreds of at-risk youth, operates during the day and night.

Youth are given access to computers, and help with their homework from assistants and experts at the drop-in center. Two full-time officers work out of the center, interacting with youth and acting as mentors. Kids can learn how to balance checkbooks to help their families with the finances, play basketball or just hang out with their peers in the recreation room.

The idea, Chief Butts said, is to give youth an alternative to joining gangs or getting in trouble on the streets.

"We are here as an intervention," he said. "We focus on attempting to provide opportunities for those children."

In addition to PAL and regular meetings with community and religious groups, the police department reaches out to members of the community through a variety of 12-week courses.

Probably the most popular of the programs is the Citizen Police Academy, which provides an opportunity for citizens to experience what it's like to be on the force, how the SMPD operates and get a better understanding of what officers face each day.

As part of the program, participants are versed in almost every aspect of the job, including conducting their own mock arrests and doing a "ride-along" with police officers.

Because of the program's success, police extended it and created the Junior Police Academy, for youth, and the Spanish Citizen Academy, which is geared toward immigrants who might have a negative perception of, or a cultural bias, against police.

Once participants graduate, Lt. Guido said they are offered a slot on the Citizen Academy Alumni Association, which is where many of the police department's volunteers come from. Volunteers assist with everything from clerical work to organizing large events.

As a result of the outreach efforts, Chief Butts said not only is crime down — so are arrests. It's a different model than employed by some police departments, which choose to scare residents into obeying the law by simply increasing patrols.

"That is suppression. That is intimidation. And that is needlessly impacting lives," Chief Butts said.

COMMUNITY FEEDBACK

Efforts by local police to protect residents and bring criminals to justice have not gone unnoticed by local community members.

Peter Tigler, a member and former board member of the Pico Neighborhood Association, and a former board member of the Virginia Avenue Park Advisory Board, said police should be commended.

"The SMPD are the ones who are really doing their jobs," said Tigler, who has lived in the neighborhood 23 years and has a daughter who attends Santa Monica High School.

Tigler said to help quell the recent gun violence that has plagued his neighborhood, parents need to get in touch with their children and City Hall needs to re-examine its role in the neighborhood.

"My feeling is a lot of the Pico neighborhood are either asleep or very defensive," Tigler said, adding, "I don't blame the opportunities. If people want to work, there's plenty of work out there. It's not a matter of jobs — that's empty rhetoric."

Tigler said the Pico neighborhood shoulders an unfair amount of the low-income housing in Santa Monica and added that residents of those complexes should be subjected to background checks before they move in, and should be evicted if they break the law.

"If it doesn't work, use the ejection button," Tigler added. "In the end, doesn't it come down to personal responsibility? Society is not your mommy."

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Nutcracker production uses special effects this year

NUTCRACKER, from page 3

approximately 6,200, enough, when coupled with donations, to cover the \$100,000 production cost each year.

According to Westside Ballet spokesperson Lisa Bernfeld, the cost is relatively low in comparison to other Nutcracker productions, creating palpable ticket prices for all audiences — with a \$60-per-ticket margin in some cases.

The westside's "the Nutcracker," however, doesn't lose any gusto with lowered production costs, said Bernfeld. This year a number of special effects will be featured, including a growing mechanical Christmas tree, falling snowflakes and a walnut-shell boat which floats the ballet's young protagonist, Clara, off-stage at the finale.

All of the 111 dancers this year are students at the ballet school who live on the westside, including 47 from Santa Monica and Venice. In September, strict tryouts were held for each of the different roles, including the role of Clara.

Because the popularity of the lead character draws so many auditions, dancers switch-off each show, giving different dancers the chance to be Clara, Bernfeld said.

In October, rehearsals began and were all led by Mounsey, who is 84 years old.

Mounsey, an instructor who is regarded as having an extraordinary passion for ballet, not only provides lead

The Nutcracker's first American appearance was in 1940 at a New York theater and has since been a permanent fixture in holiday tradition.

instruction for "the Nutcracker" but also teaches at Westside Ballet every day. After a long and successful career as a ballerina, which took her from her birthplace in South Africa and the Royal Academy of Dancing in London to various theaters around the world, including the New York Ballet where she was a principal dancer for George Balanchine, Mounsey co-founded the

Hohannesburg City Ballet in 1960, now Pact Ballet. In 1967, after a recent move to Los Angeles, Mounsey co-founded the Westside School of Ballet, 1709 Stewart St., with Rosemary Valaire, formerly of England's Royal Ballet Company.

Set to music by Russia's P.I. Tchaikovsky and originally choreographed by Lev Ivanov in Dec. of 1892, the Nutcracker tells the tale of the young Clara and her toy Nutcracker, who magically comes to life to lead an army of nutcrackers in a battle against an army of life-sized mice, led by Mouse King. After the Nutcracker's victory, he is transformed into a handsome prince and takes Clara with him to a grand celebration in the Land of Sweets, hosted by the Sugarplum Fairy.

The Nutcracker's first American appearance was in 1940 at a New York theater and has since been a permanent fixture in holiday tradition.

Along with the bright holiday spirit found in the story, Bernfeld attributes the success of "the Nutcracker" to the school's high level of dance and instruction. "People go year after year — it's become such a tradition in the community."

For tickets and show times at the Wadsworth Theatre, 11301 Wilshire Blvd. at the Veteran's Administration Facility in Brentwood, call Ticketmaster at (213) 365-3500 or (714) 740-7878.

Young candidates fuel excitement in S.F. mayor's race

BY LISA LEFF
Associated Press Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — San Francisco voters are poised to elect the city's youngest mayor in over a century, a generational shake-up that in many ways mirrors the idealism and defiance that transformed the city during the 1960s and informs its alternative identity still.

The two 30-something candidates in Tuesday's runoff election weren't even born when the man they hope to replace, 69-year-old Willie Brown, began his storied political career. Brown has been term-limited twice, as mayor and before as California's longest-running Assembly Speaker.

But youth and inexperience are not exactly liabilities in a place as covetous of its cutting-edge image as San Francisco. In many ways, the race between two city supervisors, a Kennedy-esque Democrat and a Green Party outsider, has turned into a referendum on not only Brown's eight-year reign, but the city's capacity for change.

"For a lot of folks this election marks a turning of the page, and the page is blank," said Richard DeLeon, a political science professor at San Francisco State University. "The Willie Brown era is fading and him with it, so there is that sense of opportunity."

Democrat Gavin Newsom, 36, has the harder case to make in portraying himself as "a sign of changing times," the slogan of one of his recent campaign mailers.

A wealthy restaurant owner and son of a judge who was first appointed to the Board of Supervisors by Brown, Newsom has been endorsed by most of the Democratic Party establishment, which is nervous

about losing ground to the Greens in a city it could always count on for support.

Former Vice President Al Gore came to town to campaign for Newsom, and President Bill Clinton even accepted Brown's invitation to show up on Monday for a last-minute rally with Newsom volunteers, according to a source familiar with the plans.

But Newsom has tried to distance himself from Brown, his autocratic political mentor, insisting that his administration would be more cooperative and less political and patronage-driven than Brown's.

"I'm a different person. I'm my own person," he insisted during a recent debate.

Newsom's opponent, Board of Supervisors president Matt Gonzalez, 38, has made a career out of questioning authority. With degrees from Columbia and Stanford universities, he became a public defender and has campaigned hard as a working class hero. A native Texan who doesn't own a car or wear a watch, he counts actor Martin Sheen and Grateful Dead guitarist Bob Weir among his well-known backers.

"It's about decentralizing power," Gonzalez told supporters at a campaign rally. "The days of calling up a commissioner and telling them what to do are long gone."

In most any other city, both Gonzalez and Newsom would be lumped into the same liberal category. Both favor rent control, gay marriage, immigrant rights, a "living wage" and restrictions on gun ownership. Each has his own base of critical Chinese-American, Hispanic, gay and lesbian and labor union support.

Yet if the candidates' campaign rhetoric

is to be believed, it's a matchup no less stark than George Bush vs. Ralph Nader.

Newsom, for instance, has painted his rival as an ideologue with views that are "extreme by even extreme standards," who would infringe on property rights and tax businesses out of the city.

On Saturday, at an event with 18 black ministers who pledged to mobilize their congregations for him, Newsom said Gonzalez hadn't offered any solutions to city problems.

"I'm looking forward to hearing a new idea he's proposing," Newsom said. "You have to stop protesting and start governing."

For his part, Gonzalez casts Newsom as a cold-hearted conservative who wants to sweep homeless people off the streets and is beholden to legions of monied campaign donors. Gonzalez spent Saturday walking business districts, meeting voters and shop owners.

"I don't think people in the city are waiting to see what Al or Bill do in deciding how to vote," Gonzalez said. "It would mean something if Bill Clinton knew the two candidates, if he could weigh in one way or another — but he doesn't. He's just coming here to support the established Democrat."

Political parties aren't all that set Newsom and Gonzalez apart. Their lifestyles and physical appearances have made it easy for the candidates to play up their differences. The married Newsom is a buttoned-down, all-American type who subdues his hair with copious amounts of gel and lives in a \$3 million home. The single Gonzalez hangs out with poets and artists, shares an apartment with three roommates and looks as if he just rolled

out of bed.

The latest polls show many voters undecided, and neither candidate with the majority he needs to win, despite Newsom's 8-to-1 advantage in campaign cash. Gonzalez's stronger-than-expected challenge leaves some veteran election watchers scratching their heads.

"Some of it is support of a superficial level — Johnny Depp vs. Matthew Broderick, and I think Johnny Depp is more 'in' right now," said city Treasurer Susan Leal, who ran against both men in last month's general election and thinks Newsom has been unfairly "tarnished" with "anti-Willie Brown sentiment."

Newsom's advantage in campaign cash and Democratic Party support was evident during the final push toward election day, as both candidates called on their volunteers to get out the vote. But Gonzalez hit the airwaves with network television ads and commercials on Chinese language cable stations emphasizing the middle-class, immigrant upbringing that led him to two Ivy League universities.

San Francisco State's DeLeon observed, however, that it's unclear how traditional "get-out-the-vote" methods will play with an electorate "fed up with the old way of doing things."

"There is a sense that the Gonzalez campaign is really a neighborhood-based, grass-roots campaign, which almost validates this as an insurgent people's movement against the machine," DeLeon said. "A lot of folks, especially on the left in San Francisco, are always looking over their shoulder for the next thing, thinking they are the vanguard of the nation."

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NATIONAL

Congress finds more money for better voting systems

BY JIM ABRAMS

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Determined to avoid a repeat of the disputed 2000 presidential election, Congress has found another \$1 billion to help states prepare for what lawmakers hope will be a more orderly and fair vote next fall.

"I can't stress how critical this money is at this point in time," said Rep. Bob Ney, R-Ohio, one of the authors of the Help America Vote Act, which President Bush signed into law a year ago.

It was intended to make it easier to vote and harder to cheat by replacing outdated voting equipment, upgrading voter registration lists, training poll workers, assuring that no qualified voter is turned away without the opportunity of casting a provisional ballot and making polling places more accessible to the disabled.

The measure committed \$3.86 billion over three years to help states revamp voting systems. The goal was to replace punch card systems — made infamous in the chaotic Florida presidential count in 2000 — and lever systems in 2004, and have machines in place by 2006 that will allow voters to confirm the accuracy of their ballots.

But the soaring costs of the war on terrorism, the poor economy and the ballooning federal deficit have threatened to leave the states, once again, with orders from Washington but without enough money to carry them out.

Congress approved \$1.5 billion for election reform in the 2003 budget year, \$600 million below what was planned in the act. For 2004, the White House asked for \$500 million, half of what states were expecting under the law.

Also, some \$830 million that was supposed to go to the states as part of the 2003 money has been held up, pending Senate confirmation of the four nominees chosen to run a new Election Assistance Commission, which will act as a clearinghouse for information on good election management. A vote on the nominees has been delayed by unrelated partisan wrangling over other Bush nominees.

But it was bipartisanship that saved the day for the election reform money. In October, the two chief sponsors in the Senate, Mitch McConnell of Kentucky, the No. 2 Senate Republican, and Christopher Dodd, D-Conn., succeeded in adding \$1 billion for election reform to a 2004 spending bill.

In the House, Ney, chairman of the House Administration Committee, and Rep. Steny Hoyer of Maryland, the No. 2 House Democrat, appealed directly to House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., seeking his support for full funding.

"Money is tighter than a drum right now. But Hastert has talked with pretty great emotion that you have to have people believing in the voting system."

— REP. BOB NEY
R-Ohio

For all four, the money being spent in Iraq and Afghanistan was a selling point. "In a time when we are committing billions of dollars in federal resources to build democracies around the world, we simply cannot afford to shortchange our own," Dodd said in a Senate speech.

"Money is tighter than a drum right now," Ney said. But Hastert, he said, "has talked with pretty great emotion that you have to have people believing in the voting system."

The \$1 billion will be included in a massive \$373 billion spending bill, which will complete Congress' work on the 2004 budget. The House is likely to pass the bill next week; one Senate Democrat, Robert Byrd of West Virginia, has vowed to block immediate passage.

The \$1 billion is crucial for states that embarked on ambitious projects in anticipation of the 2004 elections.

"We don't look at this as extra money. To us it is vital, it's what the states are planning on," said Leslie Reynolds, executive director of the National Association of Secretaries of State. She said many states are having difficulty signing contracts with equipment vendors because no one wants to make a commitment until they know the money will be there.

Minnesota Secretary of State Mary Kiffmeyer, president of the association, said her state, which doesn't have punch card ballots to replace, used \$5.2 million in federal funds in the first year for voter education, poll worker training and voter registration systems. The money they hope to get in 2004 would cover replacing precinct election equipment.

Seven counties in Minnesota still use paper ballots and count by hand. "The \$1 billion puts us closer to the realm of what is possible," she said. "It's a really big thing to us in the states."

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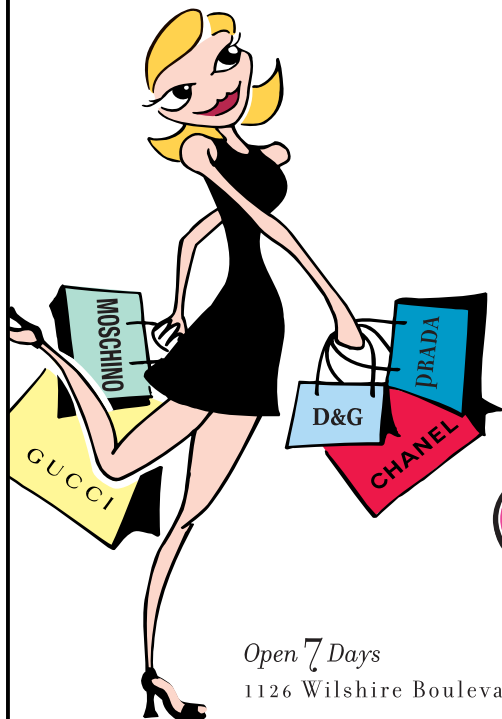
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NATIONAL



Growing Santa Fe Film Festival begins fourth annual run

BY RICHARD BENKE

Associated Press Writer

SANTA FE, N.M. — With Shirley MacLaine, Jane Fonda, Gene Hackman, Ali MacGraw, Marsha Mason, Val Kilmer and other neighbors, old Santa Fe already has evolved into a world-class film colony.

Now it's building an annual film festival to match.

With a movie presence complemented by the Greer Garson Studio complex at the College of Santa Fe and by a state government determined to grow the industry, New Mexico's 410-year-old capital city hopes to leap closer to national film prominence.

The Santa Fe Film Festival, which opened Wednesday, received more than 700 submissions, double last year's number, and winnowed them down to 211 features, shorts and documentaries from more than 30 countries. Only 80 were shown last year.

The festival expects to sell 20,000 tickets, one-third more than last year, festival executive director Jon Bowman said.

"We're one of the fastest growing film festivals in the United States," he said.

In its fourth year, Santa Fe, with a ready-made film community of resident stars, producers, directors, and writers, already approaches the size of the 14th annual Palm Springs International Film Festival which plans for 200-plus films and 70,000 patrons next month.

New Mexico Film Office director Frank Zuniga says Santa Fe soon will challenge the Toronto International Film Festival, which bills itself as No. 1 in North America and second in the world to Cannes. Toronto is a metroplex with a population of more than 3.8 million that annually seats 300,000 theatergoers at its film festival. The Santa Fe-Albuquerque corridor population is less

than 700,000.

The festival's emergence comes at a time that filmmaking's impact on New Mexico's economy is growing dramatically. Gov. Bill Richardson hopes that by the end of 2003, the state will have reaped more than \$80 million in economic benefit from film projects; that compares with \$8 million last year. For 2004, Richardson projects the figure will rise to \$160 million.

As part of a program to lure filmmakers, the state has begun offering some breaks, including interest-free loans of up to \$7.5 million if they're adequately bonded and funded.

As for the festival, this year's event includes notables from around the world, most notable among them British director Stephen Frears and actor Edward Norton.

Frears, New Mexico novelist-screenwriter Max Evans and actor Peter Boyle have been selected for one of the awards to be handed out: the 2003 Luminaria life achievement awards. Oscar-winning writer-producer-director Walon Green gets a special lifetime award, as well, during the festival that runs through Sunday.

Strong bonds link three of those four. Evans, Green and Frears worked together on "The Hi-Lo Country," one of this year's featured retrospective films. It's a modern-era Western based on Evans' homecoming from World War II.

Des Moines, N.M., heart of the Hi-Lo, where spokes of lightning chase tumbleweeds down U.S. 64, hides a dark secret. In the graveyard, two brothers lay quiet where bullets and alcohol planted them. Their mother, buried between them, keeps them at bay forever.

Frears, an Oscar nominee for "The Grifters" in 1990, accompanies his 2003 film, "Dirty Pretty Things," which is in the running for best film.

Others getting some buzz are "Indigo," a mystical look at the so-called Indigo children — young people with unusual psychological gifts; "The House of Sand and Fog" with Jennifer Connelly and Ben Kingsley; "21 Grams" with Sean Penn and Benicio del Toro; "Cold Mountain" with Nicole Kidman and Jude Law; "Girl With a Pearl Earring" with Colin Firth as Johannes Vermeer.

For Green, it's the fellowship that brings him back to Santa Fe for the first time since the December 1998 "Hi-Lo" premiere.

"I'm just grabbing an opportunity to visit with some old friends," said Green, who is based in Los Angeles.

Green also will take questions after a Sunday screening of "The Wild Bunch," for which he wrote the original screenplay. Green's TV work includes "Law and Order," "ER" and "The New Dragnet," among others.

Peter Boyle is best known for title roles in "Joe," playing an anti-anti-war fanatic, and "Young Frankenstein."

Workshops and panel discussions feature casting director Lynn Stalmaster on what the young performer needs to know and Emmy-winning writer-producer Kirk Ellis, who created the Judy Garland and Anne Frank miniseries for ABC. His panel will talk about the cable TV revolution and the creative freedom it affords.

The discussion, says Ellis, is especially timely coming on the weekend that "The Reagans" miniseries airs on Showtime — after CBS refused, amid political pressure, to broadcast it.

Ellis' current projects include a view from the seamy side of the Kennedy assassinations as filtered by "L.A. Confidential" author James Ellroy, called "American Tabloid," and a miniseries based on David McCullough's "John Adams."

Game wardens' work can be tense when confronting poachers

BY NICK GEVOCK

Associated Press Writer

ENNIS, Mont. — Not many police officers would be sent to singlehandedly arrest eight people known to be armed.

But that is the world of a game warden during hunting season — when, at any moment, a mundane day can turn into a flurry of activity.

That's exactly what happened to Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks game warden Marc Glines on a recent Friday. To Glines, it's just part of the job.

"I'm outnumbered, I'm outgunned, and sometimes I'm the only sober one there," Glines said during a morning patrol of the Madison Valley in southwest Montana. "You really have to evaluate the situation and make sure you don't get into something you can't get out of."

Even in more benign circumstances, game wardens have to break up tense situations. When a late-afternoon call came in reporting shots flying and elk down on a private ranch, Glines was fortunately only about 15 miles up the highway.

The caller, a ranch employee, said a group of horseback hunters were arguing with ranch hands over whether the elk were shot on public land. Glines arrived to find a half-dozen trucks lining the road with people gawking at the spectacle of the hunters gutting two bull elk. Two other bulls were down as well, one of which was never claimed.

Ranch manager Gene Holden approached Glines brandishing a satellite map of the ranch and proclaiming Glines should throw them all in jail.

Glines glassed the hillside with binoculars, marking the hunters by the color of

their cowboy hats, so they could be identified when they reached the parking lot. As the group came up, two of the men pulling bull elk behind their horses, Glines got out the ticket book and started confiscating game.

Until then, the day had been pretty boring. Glines got to shower, eat breakfast, drink some coffee — basic pleasures a game warden often has to skip during hunting season.

"It doesn't always work out that way," he said.

Some days Glines is out well before sunrise, patrolling popular hunting areas or dropping in on hunting camps to check tags. And he keeps extra food and a sleeping bag in his truck, just in case a call turns into an all-night affair.

But few hunters were out and the day was mostly taken up with busy work. After dropping off a trap used to catch a black bear marauding around Ennis, Glines made a trip to Restvedt and Sons Meat Market. The company volunteers its labor to cut up confiscated animals, which end up at the Madison Valley Food Bank, and Glines had an elk he'd earlier confiscated to pick up.

"We're just glad some people are going to eat it," Al Restvedt said. "We hate to see meat go to waste."

Then he paid a visit to a local farmer whose hay bales were being ravaged by deer. FWP has a program that gives fencing to landowners who allow public hunting, and the farmer needed just a few more posts to build the deer fence.

When it comes to game violations, Glines said they generally fall into two categories. The first are those hunters who make honest mistakes and take responsi-

bility for their actions.

The second type of violations, however, are the blatant killers. They're the people who just want to shoot something. They'll take more animals than they can use, or worse, slaughter animals and leave them to rot. Wardens don't call them hunters — they're killers and they're out there every year.

"It's despicable, and it gives hunters a bad name," Glines said. "They have no intention of obeying the law. They're out to get critics and nothing's going to stop them."

Those are the people that Glines said a game warden like busting. He's caught a few already this year.

For example, there was the man who had a mule deer with his son's tag on it, but his son lives in Iowa. The guy claimed he had all the tags laid out on the kitchen table and accidentally grabbed the wrong one. But he had several tags on him, including his daughter's, and each one was in a plastic bag labeled with the name.

Glines later discovered three elk that had been slaughtered at the same spot where he busted the hunter. So he set about investigating, trying to see if he had a good case.

Late in the afternoon Glines cut into the confiscated deer's shoulder, looking for a bullet that could be matched to the gun. He didn't find the bullet, but said the case can still be resolved with more investigation.

Game wardens also rely heavily on hunters to turn in poachers. Glines said he catches a few unlucky people and a few really dumb ones, but by and large most cases are cracked from a tip. a

"If it was up to me to catch them all red-handed, they wouldn't get caught," he said. "You have to rely on people."

Game wardens have to be competent in investigating crimes. But Glines said just as important is the ability to relate to people.

Despite Glines' imposing physical presence — he's 6-feet-4 and 220-something pounds — he said, like all game wardens, he has to use his head.

"If I go to a hunting camp at night where they have too many elk and they start mouthing off, I'll come back at 6 in the morning when they're sober," he said. "You turn that situation to your favor."

Another fact of life for a game warden, especially in a rural area, is that you sometimes have to ticket people you know. Glines has had to do that several times in his 13 years in Ennis.

"When I write a ticket, I want people to say thank you when I give it to them, because I treat them with dignity," he said.

Those afternoon words turned prophetic when the incident on the ranch erupted. After calming everyone down, Glines explained to the hunters that they were well across the property line and the landowner could have them all ticketed for multiple charges.

Shane Chatrind, a member of the group who was not cited with any violations, said he'd been told by a U.S. Forest Service employee that the hillside was public land. But Glines quickly quelled the back talk. And he got ranch manager Holden to agree to ticket only the two who had elk.

When the tickets were written, Glines got the group to help load the elk into his truck. And, indeed, they all thanked him.

"He seems like a pretty good guy," Chatrind said of Glines.



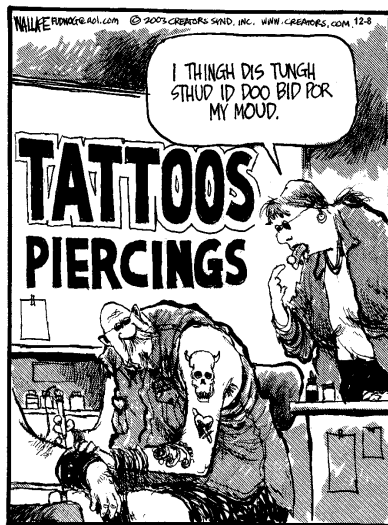
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BACK PAGE

Monroe pantsuit brings in thousands for Hollywood museum

By The Associated Press

BEVERLY HILLS — A sequined, strapless pantsuit and shawl worn by Marilyn Monroe in "The Seven Year Itch" sold for \$58,750 at a charity auction of Hollywood costumes.

Actress Debbie Reynolds auctioned off nearly 400 movie costumes and props to raise money for a permanent museum for the rest of her Hollywood collection. Saturday's auction was conducted at Le Meridien Hotel in Beverly Hills, with bids also taken online at eBay and by phone.

Monroe's outfit and its accompanying pink satin shawl were worn briefly in the 1955 film. The bidder, who purchased the item by phone, requested anonymity. The event raised more than \$500,000 for the planned Hollywood Motion Picture Museum, according to Darren Julien of Julien Entertainment.

Reynolds, 71, who starred in the 1952 musical "Singin' in the Rain," has been passionate about preserving Hollywood memorabilia since buying most of her collection in 1970 at an MGM Studio auction.

A dinner with Reynolds sold for \$5,875. Another costume worn by Monroe, a late 1800s-styled jacket and dress from her 1950 film "A Ticket to Tomahawk," sold for \$41,125.

Other items included an original 1939 poster for "Gone With The Wind," which sold at \$11,750; and, \$5,875 for the white denim uniform worn by Sigourney Weaver in the 1979 sci-fi horror film "Alien."

ATLANTA — Friends of Peabo Bryson stepped in to help the award-winning singer keep some of his prized possessions, including at least one of his two Grammys.

Bryson's Grammy Awards for "Beauty and the Beast" and "A Whole New World" were auctioned during the weekend to help pay his \$1.2 million tax debt. The Internal Revenue Service seized all of Bryson's property from his Atlanta home in August.

A woman who cast the winning \$9,400 bid for one of the Grammys identified herself and her associates only as "very close friends of the family."

"We're giving it back to him," she told The Atlanta

Journal-Constitution.

Bryson, 52, won a Grammy in 1992 for his recording of "Beauty and the Beast" with Celine Dion and another in 1993 for "A Whole New World (Aladdin's Theme)" with Regina Belle.

Bryson's 1992 Grammy sold for \$15,500 and one of his gold records went for \$3,000.

The IRS said it would not disclose the amount raised through the sale.

SCHUYLER, Va. — The two-story home of the family that inspired "The Waltons" television series was sold at auction for \$122,000.

"I didn't want to see it torn down," said Pam Rutherford, who was the highest bidder Saturday. "There are so many different things that can be done with it."

Rutherford grew up about five miles from the house, which she said had fallen into disrepair.

The 1,469-square-foot house became famous when Earl Hamner Jr. created "The Waltons," the folksy TV show portraying a close-knit family in Depression-era Virginia that was based on his family.

The house had been in the Hamner family for more than a century but Earl Hamner's youngest brother, James Hamner, has said he is too ill to maintain the house where he has spent most of his life. James Hamner, who inspired the Waltons character "Jim Bob," has emphysema and heart problems.

The house shown on "The Waltons," which ran from 1972 to 1981, resembled the Hamner house.

PALM DESERT — "The Bachelorette" lovebirds Trista Rehn and Ryan Sutter have tied the knot, but the event might not seem real until it airs on television.

They were married Saturday at the Lodge in Rancho Mirage, a resort near Palm Springs, according to the hotel's public relations firm, Solters & Digney. The hotel reopened Sunday after being closed to the public for four days to accommodate the large-scale production.

The wedding is scheduled to air Wednesday night on

ABC.

"The Bachelorette" was a spin-off of ABC's popular reality TV show "The Bachelor," in which Rehn was the runner-up a year ago.

Sutter, a firefighter from Vail, Colo., won the heart of Rehn, a physical therapist and former Miami Heat cheerleader, on the February finale.

ABC picked up the \$1 million tab for the wedding. The couple also were paid a fee, said to be another \$1 million.

The bride's gown was designed by Badgley Mischka, and Kenneth Cole made the men's tuxedos. Some 30,000 roses were brought from Ecuador.

LOS ANGELES — Oscar-winning composer Hans Zimmer is being sued by his longtime producer and engineer over the dissolution of their business partnership.

Jay Rifkin contends that he helped build their company, Media Ventures Entertainment, into a "well-oiled machine," with advanced facilities and numerous resident composers who wrote parts of scores for Zimmer.

But, now Zimmer "has secretly conspired with the current resident composers to take business for himself, to the exclusion of Rifkin," according to the lawsuit filed Thursday in Superior Court.

Zimmer's lawyer, Bonnie Eskenazi, said her client had been planning to end the 15-year business partnership with Rifkin for some time.

"We told Jay Rifkin that Hans was dissatisfied with Jay's management and that he was going to file for dissolution," she said.

Rifkin seeks damages in excess of \$10 million for the business that he has allegedly lost as a result. Zimmer plans to file a counterclaim, Eskenazi said.

Zimmer won an Oscar in 1995 for his score on the animated blockbuster, "The Lion King." Rifkin won a Grammy and two American Music Awards for his work as a producer on the soundtrack album for the film.

Other films featuring Zimmer's music include "Driving Miss Daisy," "The Road to El Dorado," and the new Tom Cruise epic, "The Last Samurai."

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