

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

LOTTO

FANTASY 5

13, 35, 22, 30, 33

DAILY 3

Afternoon picks: 5, 4, 8

Evening picks: 7, 8, 7

DAILY DERBY

1st Place: 9, Winning Spirit

2nd Place: 4, Big Ben

3rd Place: 1, Gold Rush

Race Time: 1:44.54



NEWS OF THE WEIRD
by Chuck Shepard

The unsuccessful explanation Michael Schoop, 53, gave the judge for having child pornography on his computer was that he inadvertently downloaded the images while searching the Internet for asparagus recipes (Oakland, Calif., October). And the explanation of the mother of a Brainerd (Minn.) High School cheerleader (who was suspended for allegedly offering \$50 to have another cheerleader beaten up): "They don't like each other. (The other girl) is a snot, and my daughter can be a snot, too" (October).



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"Somebody left the cork out of my lunch."

— W.C. Fields



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Local woman allegedly poses as lawyer, takes clients for \$60K

The accused, Anita Laureen Clark, is free on \$150,000 bond

BY JOHN WOOD

Daily Press Staff Writer

CITY HALL — Thirty-seven criminal charges have been filed against a Santa Monica woman who allegedly posed as an attorney, took more than \$60,000 from clients and, in many cases, never performed any legal work.

Anita Laureen Clark, 43, who worked out of an office at 204 Bicknell St., turned herself in to police late Monday and was freed on a \$150,000 bond. She is accused of bilking 31 clients out of a total of \$60,152, according to a criminal complaint filed last month by the City Attorney's Office.

"I think it's more than a way to make good money. I think, in some of these cases, there is some visceral excitement in appearing in court."

— JEAN ROSENBLUTH

Former federal prosecutor and assistant law professor at USC

Officials were tracking Clark for more than a year. But Deputy City Attorney Adam Radinsky said they didn't realize the extent of Clark's illegal activities until August, when investigators seized her home and office records.

Clark faces 15 counts of grand theft by fraud for allegedly lying to her clients in order to gain their business, 21 counts of practicing law without a license — as a lawyer and as a paralegal — and one count of illegally acting as an immigration consultant. She is scheduled to be arraigned on Jan. 6 in Santa Monica Municipal Court.

"The 31 victims came to her with a wide variety of legal complaints. There was a wide variety of victims as well as a wide variety of legal areas in which she was practicing," said Radinsky, who declined to pinpoint the types of law.

If convicted on all counts, Clark could face up to 37 years in prison and tens of thousands of dollars in fines.

Neither Clark nor Richard DeBro, her Santa Monica-based attorney, could be reached for comment Tuesday. Each of four numbers listed online for Clark's legal operation, which went by three different names — "Clark & Clark Associates," "A. Clark & Associates" and "A.C. &

See CHARGES, page 5

Christmas trees with a cause



Del Pastrana/Daily Press

Abbey Arnold, along with family members and friends, takes time to choose her Christmas tree at the Delancey Street lot on Main Street Tuesday. Celebrating its 30th anniversary this past March, Delancey Street sells Christmas trees and uses the money to provide food, clothing, housing, education and emotional support to those affected by drug and alcohol abuse.

Fundraiser pleads guilty to criminal fraud charges

Local school still waiting for funds to be paid back

By Daily Press staff

Celebrity fundraiser Aaron Tonken, 37, pleaded guilty in a federal court Tuesday to mail and wire fraud, in which he set up elaborate charity fundraisers and then kept profits for himself.

Tonken, who faces a separate civil lawsuit with similar charges, faces a maximum of 10 years in federal prison when he is sentenced Feb. 23.

"It's really hard to say (exactly how long his sentence will be), because it's a function of the loss to the victims, his acceptance of responsibility and a whole host of other factors," said Joseph Zwicker, the assistant U.S. attorney who worked out the plea with Tonken's attorney last month. Zwicker added that, ultimately, the sentence is in the judge's hands.

The fact that Tonken pleaded guilty to the criminal charges should help expedite the civil lawsuit, Zwicker said. That's exactly what officials at the Westside Waldorf

See GUILTY, page 5

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JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

The stars show the kind of day you'll have:

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

HAPPY BIRTHDAY for Wednesday, December 10, 2003:

You cannot be clear enough with partners. Often confusion sets in when it need not happen. Quiet discussions on a one-on-one level draw a new set of reactions. You often find others rigid and inflexible. You will learn to either bypass them or ignore their behavior. Many opportunities drop on you professionally. Don't say no to possibilities. Let your career grow and develop to a new level. Pay raises and promotions become possible before October. If single, next fall you will meet someone significant with whom you might want to warm up your winter. If attached, you will need to work on your interpersonal discussions, as often you come from very different points of view. CANCER helps you financially.

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Express your commitment to building more solid foundations in your life. You could be pushed by a boss to produce more and put in overtime. Know when enough is enough, though how you say it is a whole different matter. Tonight: Pace yourself.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★ Reach out for others. Conversations remain key to your well-being. Stay anchored in what you want, but you don't need to be defensive. You're very serious about what you are saying. Convey your opinion with gentleness. Return calls. Carefully listen to messages. Tonight: Out and about.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★ Carefully examine expenses that revolve around the holidays and your long-term wishes. Your desires do count, even if it means taking a strong stand. Think before you take a strong action. Tonight: Work on Santa duties.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ Though the Moon in your sign certainly gives you the edge, you might need to do a better job of listening. Someone close might challenge you and not want to hear your opinion. The only way through this is to listen, and then do your thing! Tonight: Whatever makes you smile.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★ Take your time making decisions that involve work. You could be so unnerved by someone close that you might not be sure what you want to do. Do nothing for now; you could be a little out of sorts. Tonight: Relax.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★ You might want to rethink what is going on within a special relationship. Your ability to understand others needs to come out rather than having a major disagreement. You cannot change others' minds, but you can express yourself. You can also illuminate the other point of view. Tonight: Follow your pals.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ You might want to re-evaluate a decision involving your family or your domestic life. If a particular person continues to cause the level of uproar in your life that he or she is causing, you might need to distance yourself considerably. Tonight: Keep your eye on your needs.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Take an overview rather than getting involved in a personal situation. Laughter makes a difference, though another might not see it the same way. Keep the chuckles to yourself, but do try to explain where you are coming from. Tonight: Adjust plans if need be.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22- Dec. 21)
★★★★ Expressing your opinions could cause an associate to stonewall you. This behavior might make you uncomfortable, but you see no way around it. Right now, work within the immediate realm with others. Your thoughts do count, as someone lets you know. Tonight: Indulge a loved one.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ You have other opinions, and associates are likely to take a counterstand. You might not be ready for what someone shares. For the moment, don't express your thoughts, knowing that your time will come soon enough. In fact, your perspective will transform. Tonight: Go along with plans.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★ Not everyone agrees with your ideas. Avoid causing yourself unusual stress about what might be going on. Instead, consider more carefully options that surround you personally. Focus on getting the job done. Tonight: Bring extra work home if necessary.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★ Your laughter and light-hearted manner might cause friction where you least expect it. Be somewhat easygoing in how you handle a loved one or a friend. Please note: Not everyone is in the mood you're in. Others might be very tense. Tonight: Go off and enjoy.

Santa Monica Daily Press

Published Monday through Saturday
Phone: 310.458.PRESS(7737) • Fax: 310.576.9913
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LOCAL



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

St. Joseph: A model for human services

By Daily Press staff

VENICE — Representatives from President George W. Bush's Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives in Washington, D.C., and Los Angeles County's Department of Health Services last month visited St. Joseph Center, which was selected as a model of innovative and comprehensive human services provided by faith-based social-service agencies in Los Angeles County.

"The Faith-Based and Community Initiative program represent a fresh start and bold new approach to government's role in helping those in need," said Gunther Freehill, director of public affairs in Los Angeles County's Office of AIDS Programs and Policy. "The White House and the Center are working to support the essential work of faith-based and community organizations and to make sure that grassroots leaders can compete on an equal footing for federal dollars, receive greater private support, and face fewer bureaucratic barriers."

"What an honor it is to be recognized for our years of work on behalf of working, poor families and homeless persons," said Rhonda Meister, St. Joseph Center executive director. "Our programs will certainly benefit from the support of the Center for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives."

The Center's funding initiatives focus on at-risk youth, ex-offenders, the homeless, the hungry, substance abusers, people with HIV and AIDS, and welfare-to-work families.

St. Joseph Center is an interfaith human-services agency that provides emergency services, childcare, case management, employment training, and senior services to over 8,000 men, women, and children each year on eight sites in Venice, Santa Monica and West L.A.

For more information, call (310) 396-6468 ext. 328 or visit www.stjosephctr.org.

Unveiling of Valhalla mural before concert

By Daily Press staff

SAMOHİ — Thursday, Dec. 18, the Santa Monica High School Choral Studies Program will present its annual winter concert at 7 p.m. in Barnum Hall on the Santa Monica High School campus. The concert features the six Samohi choirs and other student groups performing a wide variety of music, including music of the season.

Before the concert, the fire-curtain mural by Stanton Macdonald-Wright, "Entry of the Gods into Valhalla," will be lowered so that people can see the results of its three-month cleaning and restoration that took place over the summer. The \$94,000 project was financed by funds collected by the Restore Barnum Hall committee, with a 50-percent matching grant from the Getty Foundation.

Admission to the concert is \$7 at the door, and free parking is available in Samohi's upper lot, which can be entered from the alley off Michigan Avenue between Lincoln and Seventh Street.

Other Samohi orchestra events this holiday season:

Dec. 13 — Chamber performance at the Santa Monica Promenade

Dec. 16 — Winter Concert, Barnum Hall, Samohi, 7:00 p.m.

Dec. 20 — Chamber performance, Santa Monica Pier, 2:00 p.m.

'Winter Faire' in the air

By Daily Press staff

DOWNTOWN — On Saturday, Dec. 13, the Westside Waldorf School will be celebrating its annual "Winter Faire and Festival of Lights," from 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. — a school party with seasonal music, crafts and food.

Admission is free, and the event is open to the public. The Westside Waldorf School is located at 1229 Fourth St. in Santa Monica, between Arizona and Wilshire. Contact the school office at (310) 576-0788 with questions.

surf report

A mix of fading WNW swell, small SW swell, and some steep reinforcing NW swell tapers off throughout the day.

Charts are showing a new storm forming off the California coast. These storms are tough to forecast, but at this point it looks like the storm could become fairly intense as it approaches and hit us later today.

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

Today the water is:

60°

Sunrise: 6:59 a.m.
Sunset: 4:53 p.m.

	LOW TIDE				HIGH TIDE			
	Morning	Height	Evening	Height	Morning	Height	Evening	Height
SATURDAY	12:53	1.9	2:19	-0.1	7:13	5.9	8:36	3.7
SUNDAY	1:19	2.1	2:50	-0.3	7:38	6.0	9:15	3.7
MONDAY	1:45	2.3	3:23	-0.4	8:03	6.0	9:55	3.6
TUESDAY	2:11	2.4	3:57	-0.4	8:31	6.0	10:36	3.5
WEDNESDAY	2:38	2.6	4:34	-0.4	9:00	5.9	11:22	3.4
THURSDAY	3:07	2.7	5:43	-0.2	9:32	5.8	N/A	N/A
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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 might 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?"

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—Anthony Dias Blue
Bon Appetit Lifestyle

LETTERS

Union rep dodged the issue

Editor:

In the Daily Press Dec. 5 article, "Hotel workers allege they were forced into union," a spokesman from the Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees Local 11 did a fine job of changing the subject from the serious allegations brought against the union hierarchy by Four Points Hotel workers. These workers are challenging an abusive HERE union organizing campaign in which they allege union officials used threats, coercion, and bribery to induce employees to sign union recognition cards.

First, the article included a sidebar entitled "What \$37 a month buys..." erroneously implying that certain employee benefits are only possible with the existence of the union. This sidebar was tantamount to a free union advertisement courtesy of the Daily Press.

The fact is that more than 90 percent of private-sector workers in the United States do not belong to a union, and many non-union workers receive benefits as good or better than those listed in the free advertisement authored by Mr. Kurt Petersen of the HERE union. What he didn't mention, of course, is that because the Sheraton management has granted the union the power to impose its "representation" on hotel employees — representation that evidence suggests a majority do not want — all unionized employees are barred from negotiating a better deal on their own behalf.

Nor did Peterson fess up to the millions of dollars in forced dues that the HERE union spends every year on its far-out political causes, pet projects, and the all-expenses-paid lifestyles of union officials.

Meanwhile, rather than respond to the unfair labor practice charges, Mr. Peterson instead smears the hotel's employees and the National Right to Work Foundation that is giving them free legal assistance.

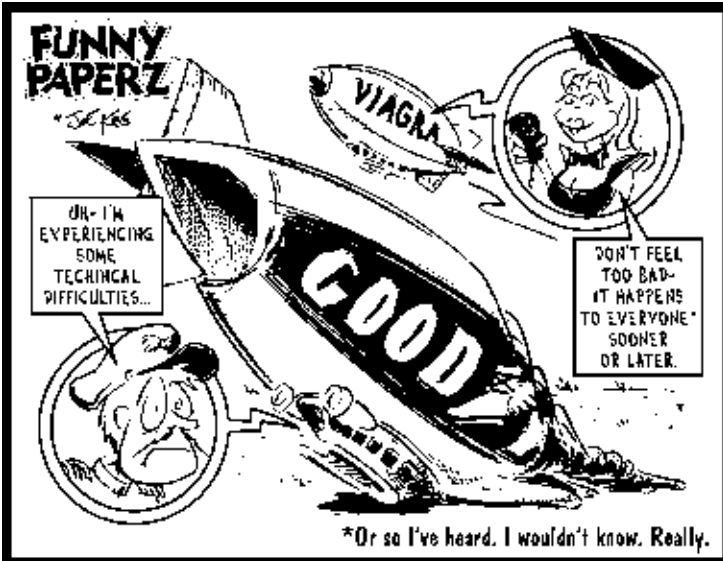
Lastly, the article misleadingly states that the HERE union was recognized as the employees' monopoly bargaining agent through a "card check election." On the contrary, card check organizing drives are anything but "elections." This coercive process is used by union officials specifically to bypass a secret ballot government-supervised election and to "grease the skids" for unionization by allowing union operatives to bully workers one-by-one into signing union recognition cards.

The decision of whether or not to unionize is supposed to be left up to the employees themselves in an atmosphere free of coercion. However, since employees reject

unionization about half the time they have an opportunity to vote in a secret ballot election, the HERE union cut a deal with the Sheraton hotel to take that opportunity away.

Sincerely,
Justin Hakes

*Assistant Director of Legal Information
National Right to Work Foundation*



Member: ALEC, NCS, ACS, SCS --

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Prevent spread of evil — stop DirecTV purchase



INCITES

By Ed Silverstein

It is appalling, not to mention illegal, that our government will likely allow Newscorp to purchase DirecTV. It is not, however, the least bit surprising.

Along with the FCC's attempt to ease constraints on media ownership, this is one of several recent Bush Administration gambits to consolidate media ownership in the hands of a few supportive mega-conglomerates. But even among these media empires, Rupert Murdoch's Newscorp is Bush's No. 1 cheerleader.

Murdoch has transformed Fox News — featuring a lineup of right-wing pundits that often seem like nothing more than a horde of Bush press secretaries — into the Al Jazeera of the Republican Party. Their coverage of Republicans, in particular Bush, is as critical as my grandmother's review of my playing a major food group in my second-grade play. But just put a Democrat on the screen, and Fox suddenly mutates into something akin to Erin Brockovich critiquing toxic sludge.

But this is nothing new. Murdoch has a

long history of using his media-empire muscle to bolster politicians willing to further his aims. In England, he heavily endorsed both Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and John Major who, in turn, helped lift restrictions on media ownership. For their efforts, Thatcher and Major were both rewarded with seven-figure book contracts from Newscorp's HarperCollins Publishing, even though there was little chance that the money would be recouped. And Tony Blair is following right in their footsteps.

And here in America, Newt Gingrich, upon ushering legislation through Congress that eased ownership rules and gave Newscorp a \$400 million tax break, received an extremely generous \$4.5 million advance on his autobiography from HarperCollins. Though the outcry forced Newt to return most of the money, the ex-Speaker more than made up for the loss as an on-air commentator for Fox.

Murdoch controls a lion's share of the media in England and Australia, and now his sights are set on the United States. Newscorp already owns Fox Television Network, Fox News, Twentieth Century Fox, Fox Sports, the New York Post, TV Guide, HarperCollins Publishing and an assortment of television stations and magazines. And soon he hopes to add the country's leading deliverer of television

programming, DirecTV, to his portfolio.

Let's forget for a minute that it is illegal for a non-American company—Newscorp is Australian—to own a U.S. network or television station, a fact that has been conveniently overlooked by the Republican-controlled FCC. The larger issue is that Rupert Murdoch has the ethics of a Baghdad rug merchant and can not be trusted.

HarperCollins, for example, canceled a book by former Hong Kong governor Chris Patten that was critical of the Chinese leadership in order to get the Chinese government to allow him to provide satellite service.

When he wanted to expand those broadcasting ventures, he gave Deng Xiaoping's daughter a \$1 million-plus HarperCollins book bribe for a fawning and commercially nonviable propaganda piece on her father. Then he removed the BBC World Service from his satellite system in China because the authorities did not like a program that the BBC aired about Mao Tse-tung.

Murdoch further demonstrated the extremes to which he is willing to go with Fox's participation in the subversion of the 2000 presidential election. This supposedly fair-and-balanced station had its president and founder, Roger Ailes, coach Bush for the presidential debates. In a

shameless conflict of interest, "W's" cousin, working at Fox, called the election for Bush without any conclusive data. During the ensuing controversy, Fox News supported every draconian scheme by Republican operatives to prevent the recount while lambasting all of Gore's legitimate concerns.

But don't for a minute believe there is any loyalty to Bush or the United States. If it meant expanding his empire, Murdoch would sell out U.S. interests faster than you can say North Korea (or for that matter Syria, Iran or even Iraq).

This sale should not be permitted. With the FCC beholden to Bush, it is up to Congress to ensure that we maintain a free and independent media by stopping this purveyor of yellow journalism. The alternative could very well be 500 channels with nothing except Fox News and reruns of Skin.

Sources: Columbia Journalism Review, What Liberal Media, by Eric Alterman. For comprehensive information on Fox News bias go to: www.fair.org/extra/0108/fox-main.html

(Ed Silverstein is a free-lance writer living in Santa Monica. He would like to apologize to all Baghdad rug merchants for unfairly impeaching them through a comparison to Rupert Murdoch. Comments can be e-mailed to edsincites@aol.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



Woman accused of fraud to be arraigned in January

CHARGES, from page 1

Associates" — had been disconnected. A voice message left for DeBro was not immediately returned.

One of Clark's old offices at 204 Bicknell St. has since become the home of a post-production house called "7 Spirits Entertainment," run by actor Damian Chapa. Chapa said several groups of attorneys worked in the building before he moved in, but that he didn't know Clark and wasn't aware of any illegal activity.

Two men moving boxes into a rented U-Haul truck out front said Clark's husband, Paul, had just moved out of the building a month earlier. The men, who didn't give their names, said Paul Clark might have also been working with Clark & Clark.

Radinsky declined to say if Paul Clark was involved.

"He's not a defendant in this action," Radinsky said, adding, "There are some aspects of this case that are still being investigated."

John Pham, manager of Christina's Nails, located next door on Main Street, also said Paul Clark had recently moved out. Pham said he hadn't seen Anita Clark, once a regular customer at the nail shop, in over a year. He added the two might have been suffering from marital troubles and possibly even split up.

"They were friendly," said Pham, who said the couple moved next door several years earlier. "Anita, she came in and got a fill and a wax. She's so nice."

In addition to the Bicknell Street office, Radinsky said Anita Clark worked out of offices throughout the westside and the San Fernando Valley.

"The case is really a double red flag — consumers who think they can't afford a lawyer should be very careful about whom they hire. And would-be paralegals had better be working for an attorney," Radinsky said in a prepared statement



John Wood/Daily Press

204 Bicknell St. is one of the buildings out of which Clark ran her business.

issued to members of the media Tuesday.

Former federal prosecutor Jean Rosenbluth, an assistant law professor at the University of Southern California, said that even though consumers shouldn't have to check the backgrounds of their lawyers or paralegals, they should anyway. She added that this type of activity, though not rampant, isn't unheard of.

And, often, it's people who can't pass the state bar examination or are later disbarred that are guilty of practicing without a license, she added.

"At least a fair number of these people are relatively educated, sophisticated people that are able to pass themselves off as an attorney for a fair period of time before they are caught," Rosenbluth said. "I think it's more than a way to make good money. I think, in some of these cases, there is some visceral excitement in appearing in court."

Celebrity fundraiser Tonken still faces civil suit

GUILTY, from page 1

School on Fourth Street hope. Waldorf is one of the victims named in the March civil suit, which was levied by the State of California Attorney General's Office.

The local, 170-student private school was forced into an economic crisis nearly three years ago after Tonken arranged for a major donation from the Cynthia Gershman Foundation that never fully came through, officials said.

Tonken, who has offices in Beverly Hills, allegedly brought two donors to the school in January 2001 — Cynthia Gershman, a trustee of the Cynthia Gershman Foundation, who signed a pledge to Waldorf for \$650,000, and Loren Arbus, who agreed to put on four annual fundraisers.

After paying Tonken for arranging the donation and putting forward a good-faith deposit, the school says it was left hanging. Waldorf alleges that it ended up footing bills for vendors at one of the fundraisers that should have been covered by Arbus but weren't, officials said.

And shortly after the first event fell apart, Gershman allegedly withdrew her "irrevocable pledge," which sent the

school further into an economic tailspin. Gershman didn't provide any reason for the change of heart, school officials said.

The Waldorf School is just one of many organizations and individuals Tonken allegedly defrauded, prosecutors said. Among them are fundraisers with Diana Ross, Milton Berle and the cast of the television program "Ally McBeal." Those events are attached to the criminal case, to which Tonken pleaded guilty.

And in the state's civil suit, prosecutors allege Tonken took more than \$1.7 million from Waldorf, charities supported by former President Bill Clinton, comedian Whoopi Goldberg, and actors Michael J. Fox and Michelle Pfeiffer, among others.

The civil lawsuit, which seeks a permanent injunction barring Tonken and the other defendants from fundraising or disbursing donations, is for \$1.7 million in general damages, civil penalties of at least \$350,000 and unspecified punitive damages.

Trial is scheduled for September 2004.

In the meantime, Alan Rubin, one of Tonken's lawyers, said his client has been consumed entirely by his legal affairs and has not been doing any fundraisers.

— John Wood

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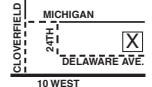
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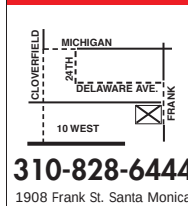
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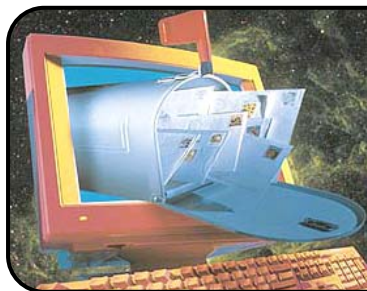


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STATE

CALIFORNIA BRIEFS

Kerry promotes program, attacks Bush

By The Associated Press

STANFORD — During what was originally billed as the introduction of his economic recovery program Monday, Democratic presidential candidate John Kerry kept up his attack on the Bush administration's handling of the Iraq invasion and occupation.

While he mentioned several proposals for promoting technological innovation, such as boosting federal investment in high tech startups and scientific research, Kerry devoted much of his speech to accuse Bush of using "hubris and swagger" in his handling of international affairs, which Kerry said had squandered the support of key allies in the wake of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks.

"Simply put, the Bush administration has pursued the most arrogant, inept, reckless and ideological foreign policy in modern history, and it has made the United States less safe," Kerry said before a packed audience at Stanford University.

Kerry, who has been dogged by questions throughout the campaign about his vote in favor of military intervention in Iraq, said Bush had conducted the war and subsequent occupation of Iraq in "the worst possible way, against all advice, and against his own promises."

Addressing a region hit by the growing exportation of high tech jobs to India and elsewhere, Kerry, a senator from Massachusetts since 1985, promised to "fight to keep our important industries here at home, invest in our people not in corporate tax giveaways, and create opportunities with the technologies of the future."

Clinton continues Newsom promotion

By The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — On the eve of this city's closer-than-expected mayoral contest, former President Bill Clinton made a last minute appearance to rally supporters of the Democratic standard bearer, Gavin Newsom, who is locked in a tight race with Green Party candidate Matt Gonzalez.

At Newsom campaign headquarters, Clinton was welcomed with thunderous applause and cheers from some 150 Newsom precinct captains, many of whom had waited in a stuffy room for several hours while Clinton's flight from New York was delayed.

"You need to calm down," Clinton joked. "You'll have me thinking I'm president again."

Onstage with Newsom and his wife, Kimberly Guilfoyle Newsom, Clinton urged the volunteers to "prove that a candidate who runs on ideas and unity can win."

Despite Clinton's popularity in heavily Democratic San Francisco, his visit on behalf of Newsom has been tagged by some critics as a heavy-handed intrusion in what is supposed to be a nonpartisan race. Last week, former Vice President Al Gore also stumped for Newsom.

Perhaps as a result of that criticism, Clinton sought to downplay his role as the Democratic party's biggest gun.

"The city means a lot to me," he said. "And I'm here tonight only partially because I'm a Democrat but because I believe in Gavin Newsom and his politics."

Schwarzenegger accuser files libel suit

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — A woman who alleged sexual harassment by Arnold Schwarzenegger filed a libel lawsuit Monday against the governor, saying his staff falsely suggested in an e-mail that she was a convicted felon.

Rhonda Miller, who alleges Schwarzenegger groped her when she was working as a stuntwoman, said she has never been arrested and that the false information about her was broadcast on national television reports.

Her suit seeks unspecified damages.

Miller made the groping allegations in a news conference on Oct. 7 — the day before the California gubernatorial recall election — with her attorney, Gloria Allred, by her side.

She said Schwarzenegger lifted her shirt to photograph her breasts and groped her twice when she worked as a stunt double on the film "Terminator 2: Judgment Day" in 1991 and in 1994 on the set of "True Lies."

Within hours, the Schwarzenegger campaign sent an e-mail to several reporters directing them to the Los Angeles Superior Court Web site and instructing them to type in the name "Rhonda Miller." That produced court records for another woman named Rhonda Miller, who had a long criminal record.

NASA craft to study icy Jupiter moons

By The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — NASA plans to dispatch a hulking nuclear-powered spacecraft to determine whether three of Jupiter's icy, planet-sized moons have the potential to harbor life.

The Jupiter Icy Moons Orbiter, or Jimo, would spend monthlong stints circling the moons Callisto, Europa and Ganymede, which are believed to have vast oceans tucked beneath thick covers of ice.

The unmanned craft, far larger and more powerful than any other sent to explore the outer solar system, would spend years studying the moons' makeup, geologic history and potential for sustaining life as well as Jupiter itself.

Besides water, the moons appear to contain two other ingredients necessary for life: energy and the right chemicals. Along with Mars, they are considered the most likely places to find extraterrestrial life within our solar system.

"It's not guaranteed to find life. We don't know if life is there. But this mission will allow to ask that question with some pretty sound tools," said Christopher McKay of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration's Ames Research Center.

Jimo won't launch until at least 2011. On Monday, scientists at the fall meeting of the American Geophysical Union briefed reporters on the mission's progress.

STATE



Long-awaited museum reveals generational rifts

BY GILLIAN FLACCUS
Associated Press Writer

LOS ANGELES — A museum meant to honor Korean-American pioneers and the man some regard as the community's founding father has revealed deep fissures within the city's diverse Korean culture, a rift that threatens the museum's future.

The museum, scheduled to open Tuesday, was expected to unite the largest Korean community outside Korea but instead has divided it over differences of management, funding and ownership of priceless artifacts.

The conflict has complicated discussions of how the museum will operate and who will run it. Among questions various factions are feuding over are what to do with a trove of extremely fragile, recently discovered artifacts, whether to charge admission and who will claim any profits.

Some involved in the dispute said it is a symptom of a community divided between recent Korean immigrants and those whose families have been here for generations. It's a divide experts said is common in Korean-American communities, where large gaps separate waves of immigration.

"What I've noticed is we don't think alike even though we're all Korean," said Christine Lee, a deaconess at the Korean United Presbyterian Church of Los Angeles, one of the parties in the dispute. "We want to leave this beautiful legacy for the future, but we're not doing a good job because everybody is fighting over who will be leader."

The Korean National Association Memorial Hall is located in a modest, four-room house in West Los Angeles that is owned by the church. It tells the story of the first Korean immigrants to arrive in California in the early 1900s through pictures, newspapers and other documents.

The house was for decades the U.S. headquarters of the Korean National Association, an organization founded by Korean political hero Ahn Changho, who came to California in 1902.

The association, with Ahn at its helm, led an international independence movement against the Japanese occupation of Korea and sparked a nationalist fervor among overseas Koreans.

During the height of its influence, the group had 126 branches worldwide, funded an exiled Korean government in Shanghai and officially represented Koreans to the U.S. government. Nearly all Korean-Americans belonged to the association and gave 10 percent of their annual income to the group.

"Korean-Americans love Ahn Changho. They know he is the founding father and the earliest community organizer," said Jacqueline Pak, a professor of Korean studies at the University of Pennsylvania.

"If you look at his accomplishments and what he was all about, he's comparable to Gandhi or Sun Yat-sen. That's why they fought so much over how to preserve this building."

The Korean United Presbyterian Church holds the key to the dispute: ownership of the former KNA headquarters and current museum property. The church took over the headquarters when the association disbanded. A 1984 court settlement gives the church ownership until 2083.

Pastor Johnson Lee and church elders insist that ownership means they should be

able to choose who will manage the museum or perhaps even manage it themselves.

But several Korean-American groups with strong historical ties to Ahn and the early independence movement also want to manage the museum, as does the committee that restored the building.

The Korean Youth Academy, also founded by Ahn, will withhold a promised \$100,000 donation if it does not manage the museum, said Jae Seung Song, president of the academy's Los Angeles chapter.

Prominent Los Angeles-area businessmen John Suh, executive director of the restoration committee, countered that the academy demanded a majority stake in the museum and is now using the promised donation as leverage. He said the community should decide who should manage the museum.

Lee, the pastor, said committee leaders promised him more than a year ago they would back out after they restored the building and leave management decisions to the church.

Philip Cuddy, Ahn's grandson, said everyone wants to claim credit for the museum because his grandfather's legacy would mean added prestige in the Korean-American community.

But Cuddy and others also believe deep generational and cultural divisions underlie the power struggle.

The church once had close ties to the Korean National Association, but its congregation now consists mostly of recently arrived immigrants. Many of them have yet to learn fluent English or assimilate with mainstream culture.

That differs sharply from the descendants of the original "pioneer" immigrants. They are now in their third and fourth generation in America and have fond memories of childhood picnics and parties there.

Christine Lee, the church deaconess, said more established Korean-Americans seem to view the church as a bumbling outsider and resent its control over a museum dedicated to their history.

"This first generation (of immigrants) weren't here at the time. There must be a gap" in understanding, Lee said. "The bottom line is, everybody has the love to keep the memory (of Ahn), but their strategies are a little different."

Korean-Americans face a greater divide among immigrant generations than most groups, said Kyeyoung Park, an anthropology professor at the University of California, Los Angeles. The first immigrants arrived between 1902 and 1905. A second wave began in 1965 and peaked in the 1980s.

"I think the Korean-American community is really going through a transition," Park said, adding that the tensions are heightened in California because it was home to the very first Korean immigrants. "Within the family or community, you see generational differences, and it leads to tension."

Despite their differences, those involved with the museum are confident peace will prevail.

"The beauty is how we (will) integrate all those aspects into one vision. We've never been through this process before," said Suh, executive director of the restoration committee. "We want the younger generations to know what their ancestors and forefathers did for future generations, and we want them to continue that legacy."

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Third quarter productivity is unlikely to continue



DAYS ON THE MARKET

By Jodi Summers

The American economy had a great third quarter. The productivity of U.S. businesses climbed at its fastest pace in 20 years. Output soared to 10.3 percent, and workers put in 0.8 percent more hours. On the whole, labor costs dropped to 5.8 percent rate, the deepest drop since the second quarter of 1983. There are some more jobs, and payrolls grew for the fourth straight month.

There are all kinds of exciting economic indicators, but what do they mean for the home-buying public?

Lou Barnes, mortgage broker and nationally syndicated columnist calls the recent increase in jobs “peanuts.”

“We need to be running 250,000-300,000 monthly to begin to catch up to population growth and to recoup the 2000-2003 loss-

es,” he says. “Average hourly earnings rose one measly cent in November and grew only 2.1 percent in the whole year.”

Central bank Chairman Alan Greenspan declared, “Unless hiring picks up and layoffs ease, assuaging the latent job-security fears of many of those currently employed, the share of income spent could decline, a development that would hamper the vigor of the expansion.”

Economic theorists believe that the third quarter’s outstanding productivity performance is unlikely to be sustained. The quarter marked the close of one of the most protracted job slumps since the Great Depression. (According to the Labor Department, a mere 103,000 new positions were added in that period.) October saw a gain of 126,000 non-farm payrolls with growth predicted through the end of the year.

The last time the Fed was in this position of a “jobless recovery” was following the 1990-91 recession. The government waited until Feb. 4, 1994, to raise rates — by which time payrolls had grown by 4.2 million jobs.

Barnes offers some interesting statistics: “Consumer confidence is up from the low 80s to low 90s (on a scale where 110-120 reflects a healthy and happy economy), and surveyors attribute gains to a better job market. It is better, but only in that jobs are more secure. Unemployment claims are down to 360,000 monthly, roughly 20 percent below the prior two-year average.”

“The weak job market has kept a lid on wage growth and helped sink core consumer price inflation to its lowest level since 1966,” said Mark Gongloff, staff writer for CNN/Money. “Though there are plenty of signs of higher prices on the horizon — the dollar’s value has been sinking, while oil, gold and plenty of other commodity prices have been rising. Most economists believe the Fed won’t raise short-term rates, at least until it’s seen a few months of solid job growth.”

The overall economic thought seems to be that the Fed will need to see several months of payroll growth — at as much as 150,000 or 200,000 a month — before they’ll raise rates.

“There still is evidence that the most important sector of the economy, the labor market, is still only in the process of stabilizing,” observed former Fed economist Lara Rhame, now a senior economist with Brown Brothers Harriman. “It’s not in full-fledged recovery yet.”

At its most recent policy meeting, in late October, the Fed left its key short-term rate at the lowest level in more than 41 years and promised to keep rates low for a “considerable period.” This promise has helped keep treasury-bond prices stable and avoided a jump in long-term interest rates. (Bond yields and prices move in opposite directions).

“We will see some signs of toning down the term ‘considerable period.’ Holding to the same boiler plate will undercut their credibility,” said former Fed economist Wayne Ayers. Expect the economy to be in full swing by late next summer as we prepare for the 2004 presidential election.

(E-mail Jodi Summers at jodis@boardwalkrealty.com, or call at (310) 309-4219 with any questions or comments).

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12/04/2003	Lot Size: 6,747	Sold Price: \$1,535,000	Bath: 4.5	12/02/2003	HOD: \$870	Sold Price: \$1,000,000	Bath: 3	12/02/2003	HOD: \$180	Sold Price: \$481,812	Bath: 2.5
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12/02/2003	Lot Size: 4,870	Sold Price: \$770,000	Bath: 2	12/05/2003	HOD: \$325	Sold Price: \$735,000	Bath: 2.5	12/01/2003	HOD: \$175	Sold Price: \$440,000	Bath: 3
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Sold Date	SqFt: 1,418	List Price: \$749,000	Bed: 3	Sold Date	SqFt: 1,288	List Price: \$599,000	Bed: 2	Sold Date	SqFt: 682	List Price: \$379,000	Bed: 1
12/03/2003	Lot Size: 6,398	Sold Price: \$729,000	Bath: 2	12/03/2003	HOD: \$285	Sold Price: \$667,000	Bath: 2	12/04/2003	HOD: \$260	Sold Price: \$389,000	Bath: 1
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12/04/2003	Lot Size: 2,565	Sold Price: \$415,000	Bath: 1.75	12/05/2003	HOD: \$229	Sold Price: \$600,000	Bath: 2.5	12/04/2003	HOD: \$130	Sold Price: \$320,000	Bath: 1
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REAL ESTATE



Things to consider when negotiating real estate leases



IN YOUR SPACE

By Christina S. Porter

(Editor's note: This is the second installment in a series.)

There are many forms of leases that are used. The AIR Commercial Real Estate Association has constructed a generic version of practically every form you need for doing business in commercial real estate. These forms and leases are considered "boiler plate" and can be customized to fit your needs.

Smaller-building owners typically do not have leases written specifically for them; however, institutional landlords and owners who own several buildings usually do. As a potential lessee, you should read the lease very carefully because the terms and conditions almost always favor the landlord.

A lease is the clause that addresses compliance. The lessor is expected to warrant that the space, with its existing improvements, and the common areas (if applica-

ble) "comply with the building codes in effect at the time it was constructed and also with all applicable laws, ordinances, covenants, etc. in effect" at the start date of your lease. There is also a provision for a lack of compliance that puts the burden on the lessee to notify the lessor, in writing, within a certain amount of time, after which the responsibility to comply becomes the lessee's.

A lease goes on to say what will happen if the "applicable requirements" change during the term of the lease and who will be responsible to pay for any required changes to the premises. In most situations, the AIR leases have a fair way of dealing with this, which is a bit too complicated to explain now but generally splits the cost between lessor and lessee. The lessee's portion can be paid over time.

In the AIR lease, it states that the warranty does not apply to the specific use of the lessee and that the lessee is responsible for "determining whether or not the zoning is appropriate for [the] lessee's intended use." Just because the premises might have been used in the same way previously does not mean that it can still be used for that same purpose. How terrible would it

be (and it has happened) if, after you committed to a lease, when applying for your business license you discovered that the property is not zoned for your use? Most of the time the landlord knows what the property can be used for and will know if your use is appropriate, but don't count on it.

As our cities change and grow, and the demand for a certain type of property decreases, and the demand for another type of property increases, zones are adjusted to accommodate this change. A good example is the City of Santa Monica's relatively new zone called the LMSD or the Light Manufacturing and Studio District.

The following describes the "purpose" of the SMSD zoning as taken from the City of Santa Monica's Web site: "The Light Manufacturing and Studio District is intended to preserve existing light industrial uses, provide a location for studio-related uses such as film and music production and post-production facilities uses, and provide opportunities for artist studio live/work residential development. The Light Manufacturing and Studio District is also designed to accommodate visual and performing arts studios and to provide for the preservation and expansion of existing

schools. Allowable development intensity with this district is intended to be among the lowest in the city, consistent with the goals, objectives and policies of the general plan. (Added by Ord. No. 1800CCS B 1 (part), adopted 5/9/95.)"

It seems that this zone change is the city's answer to the many functionally obsolete industrial buildings in Santa Monica. The best thing to do is, prior to even looking at a space, call the Planning department, talk to the people in Zoning and find out what zones will accommodate your use to avoid any problems in this area.

The above-mentioned lease terms and conditions and zoning information should be explained in more depth prior to committing to a lease. They are just a few of the many things to think about when entering into a lease negotiation. As you can see, it can be a very complicated undertaking. Please see next week's column for an explanation of more points to consider when negotiating a lease.

(Christina S. Porter is a senior associate at NAI Capital Commercial Real Estate, where she specializes in leasing and selling office and industrial buildings.)



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WORLD BRIEFLY

North Korea nuclear negotiations

By The Associated Press

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea said Tuesday it will freeze its nuclear weapons program if the United States takes the communist country off its list of terrorism-sponsoring nations and provides fuel and economic aid, South Korea's Yonhap news agency reported.

If this demand is met, North Korea also said it will join a second round of six-nation talks aimed at persuading Pyongyang to dismantle its nuclear weapons programs.

"In return for the freezing of our nuclear activities, the United States must remove our country's name from the list of terrorism sponsoring countries; lift its political, economic, military sanctions and blockade; and give us heavy oil, electricity and other energy assistance from the United States and neighboring countries," North Korea's Foreign Ministry spokesman was quoted as saying by its official news agency, KCNA. KCNA was monitored by Yonhap.

Impoverished North Korea has often tried to use the nuclear confrontation with the United States and its allies as a means to win badly needed economic aid and diplomatic recognition.

America launches air assault

By The Associated Press

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — Hundreds of American soldiers launched an air assault in eastern Afghanistan on Tuesday, part of a new operation the U.S. military is calling its biggest since the fall of the headline Taliban regime two years ago.

Soldiers from the 501st Parachute Infantry Regiment stormed into an area east of Khost, a restive town along the border with Pakistan that has seen several recent attacks on coalition personnel, said Lt. Col. Bryan Hilferty, a U.S. military spokesman.

Operation Avalanche, which Hilferty said began Dec. 2, involves some 2,000 soldiers in four battalions, and is being billed as the largest undertaken since the Afghan war

that ousted the Taliban ended in late 2001.

Hilferty also issued the military's bluntest-yet acknowledgment that it was responsible for a blundered air assault on Saturday that killed nine children as they were playing in a field in Hutaala village, 100 miles southwest of the capital.

"We admit that we were responsible," he said. Hilferty added the military could still not confirm whether it had killed the intended target, a Taliban official named Mullah Wazir.

Boston to buy Canadian drugs

By The Associated Press

BOSTON — Starting this summer, Boston will begin buying prescription drugs from Canada for thousands of city employees and retirees, a newspaper reported.

Boston would become only the second U.S. city — after Springfield, about 90 miles west — to turn to Canada for drugs.

Mayor Thomas Menino was expected deliver remarks about the pilot program at a City Council hearing on Tuesday.

"The pharmaceutical manufacturers should be more sensitive to consumers' needs," Menino wrote in his comments for the City Council, obtained in advance by the Boston Globe for a story in Tuesday editions.

The program, which is slated to begin in July, will cut about \$1 million each year from the city's \$61 million prescription drug bill, according to city estimates.

The practice is illegal, although Congress has told the Department of Health and Human services to review whether drugs can be safely imported from Canada. The FDA continues to express doubts about the practice, however.

Gore endorses Dean

By The Associated Press

NEW YORK — Former Vice President Al Gore is endorsing Howard Dean for the Democratic presidential nomination, adding momentum and political prestige to Dean's front-running campaign.

Five weeks before Iowa's kickoff caucuses, Gore is

appearing with his former party rival in New York City's Harlem neighborhood before flying with Dean to Cedar Rapids, Iowa, for a formal endorsement, several Democratic officials said Monday on condition of anonymity.

Dean will then fly to New Hampshire in time for the final Democratic debate of the year.

Dean told a crowd of several hundred supporters gathered Monday night at New York's Roseland Ballroom that he could "neither confirm nor deny" reports of Gore's endorsement.

"What this says is that all these Washington insiders who have been gnashing their teeth, wringing their hands and clinging to their cocktail cups can relax now. Dean's been knighted by the ultimate insider," said Democratic consultant Dean Strother of Washington. "It's game, set and match. It's over."

Other Democrats offered more cautious appraisals, but the overwhelming consensus was that Dean's coup makes him the overwhelming favorite to claim the nomination.

Janklow closes career with sentencing

By The Associated Press

FLANDREAU, S.D. — Rep. Bill Janklow planned the official close of his political career to coincide with his sentencing in the traffic death of a motorcyclist, a decision that also means the special election to fill his seat will be held during South Dakota's June 1 primary.

Janklow, a dominating force in South Dakota politics for 30 years, appeared stunned as the verdict was read Monday: guilty of second-degree manslaughter, reckless driving, running a stop sign and speeding for an Aug. 16 crash that killed Hardwick, Minn., motorcyclist Randy Scott, 55.

Within two hours, the Republican announced his resignation.

"I wish to inform you that because of present circumstances, I will be unable to perform the duties incumbent on me in representing the people of South Dakota as their U.S. representative," Janklow, 64, wrote in a letter to be delivered Tuesday to House Speaker Dennis Hastert.

"Therefore I wish to inform you that I will resign from the House of Representatives, effective Jan. 20, 2004."

That's the same day he's scheduled to be sentenced.

Second-degree manslaughter carries a maximum penalty of 10 years in prison and a \$10,000 fine. The conviction would have prompted an investigation from the U.S. House ethics committee without the resignation.

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INTERNATIONAL



U.S. soldier death toll reaches 448 since invasion in Iraq

BY BASSEM MROUE

Associated Press Writer

TALAFAR, Iraq — The U.S. military repulsed two suicide attacks on American bases Tuesday — one here in the far north and a second in Baghdad — thwarting bombers with stepped-up defenses after a series of deadly suicide attacks stretching back to August.

Only eight U.S. soldiers had to be evacuated for treatment in both attacks, the latest in the string of suicide missions that have hit mainly non-American targets.

Near Fallujah, 30 miles west of the capital, witnesses said guerrillas hit a U.S. reconnaissance helicopter with a rocket-propelled grenade, forcing it to make a hard landing. The two crew members walked away, the military said.

The attack on this base 30 miles north of Mosul occurred at 4:45 a.m. when an explosives-packed car drove to the base gate. Guards there and in a watchtower opened fire on the vehicle. Moments later it exploded, leaving a large crater just outside the base gate.

Col. Michael Linnington, commander of the 3rd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, which controls the Mosul region and the area west to the Syrian border, said the attacker's remains were "all over the compound."

Maj. Trey Cate, spokesman for the 101st Airborne Division, said 59 soldiers were injured.

"Eight soldiers were medically evacuated, of which four were sent to Baghdad," Cate said. The other 51 soldiers were slightly injured by debris and flying glass, he said.

Several Iraqis were injured, including a translator at the base. The blast damaged nearby homes. A 2-year-old girl was among many civilians hurt by flying glass.

The early morning blast occurred when most soldiers were still in their barracks, and there was no traffic around the gate.

Pieces of the attacker's car were scattered hundreds of yards away. A school across the street from the military compound was heavily damaged, but no pupils were injured. School was not yet in session.

Hazem Ismail, a 40-year-old school teacher, said several pieces of the car hit his house, shattering the window of room where his five children were sleeping.

"The kids woke up terrified from their beds, but thank God none of them were harmed," he said.

Later Tuesday, the second suicide attacker blew himself up outside a U.S. Army compound near Baghdad, slightly injuring two soldiers, the military said.

A man acting suspiciously walked toward the gates of the base in Husseinia, 15 miles northeast of Baghdad, said Maj. Josslyn Aberle, a U.S. military spokeswoman. When military police opened fire after the man refused to stop, he blew himself up.

"We are not going to war. The situation in Iraq is severe. We know it is not necessarily safe. But our Self-Defense Forces must still fulfill this mission."

— JUNICHIRO KOIZUMI
Japanese Prime Minister

Suicide attackers in Iraq have seldom, if ever, attempted attacks with explosives attached to their bodies. Vehicle bombs have been the norm.

Also Tuesday, the military reported three U.S. soldiers from the 2nd Infantry Division's 3rd Brigade died and one was injured in an accident when an embankment collapsed beneath their armored personnel carriers north of Baghdad.

The deaths bring to 448 the number of U.S. soldiers who have died in Iraq since the U.S.-led invasion on March 20. Of those, 308 have died as a result of hostile action.

In Baghdad, three people were killed and two were injured early Tuesday when a bomb exploded in the courtyard of a mosque in western Baghdad, police said. Firefighters said the bomb consisted of two or three rocket-propelled grenades that had been placed near the wall of the mosque.

"Those who carried out the attack have nothing to do with any religion," said Farouk Khamis, the mosque's

imam. "They are ordinary criminals who targeted believers doing their prayers."

Ahmed Hussein, the mosque's prayer leader, said the explosion occurred at 6:45 a.m. and that it damaged the building and several cars parked nearby.

Giving a boost to the U.S.-led occupation, Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi's Cabinet on Tuesday approved a plan to send about 1,000 soldiers to help in Iraq's reconstruction in that nation's biggest overseas troop deployment since World War II.

The Japanese troops will go to southeastern Iraq, where they will restore water services, offer medical and other humanitarian assistance and help rebuild schools. The troops will involve elements of Japan's land, sea and air forces, and were to begin leaving within the month.

After the Cabinet meeting, Koizumi told the nation the troops were necessary. Opposition leaders say the move could draw the troops into combat and violate Japan's postwar pacifist constitution.

"We are not going to war," Koizumi said. "The situation in Iraq is severe. We know it is not necessarily safe. But our Self-Defense Forces must still fulfill this mission."

On Tuesday, guards at the embassy of Bangladesh in Baghdad said the ambassador and his four-member staff had left the country. There was no immediate explanation for the departure.

In Saddam Hussein's hometown of Tikrit, U.S. troops arrested eight suspects in pre-dawn raids Tuesday. Three of those captured were believed to have ties to guerrilla cells attacking American troops and Iraqi civilians, the U.S. military said.

"They were involved in bomb making and bomb placing activities ... and we have found evidence to suggest that is true," said Lt. Col. Steve Russell, commander of the 1st Battalion, 22nd Infantry Regiment of the 4th Infantry Division, which is based here. "We were after trigger-pullers this time."

U.S. soldiers have been battling guerrillas in Tikrit for months, raiding homes and villages in an attempt to round up those organizing and funding the ambushes, and those building and placing roadside bombs that have killed or wounded dozens of soldiers.

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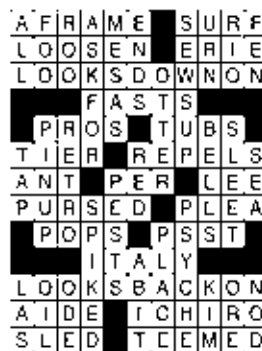
- 1 Job for a gumshoe
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- 22 Landlord's paper
- 24 Army sack
- 26 Gym closet contents
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- 39 Loses color
- 40 Flight component
- 41 Garden areas

DOWN

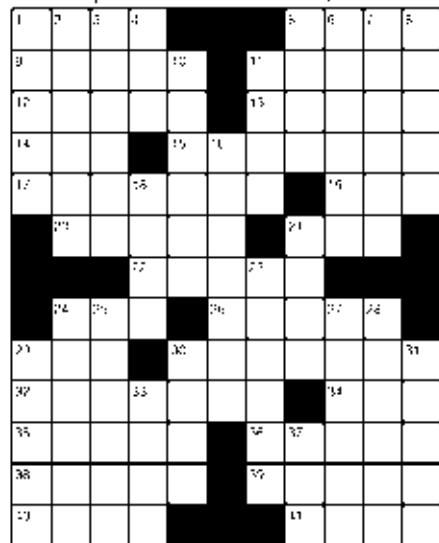
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- 23 Cuts into boards
- 24 "Settle place



Yesterday's answer

- 8 Minimum down!"
- 25 Prompt
- 27 Wee
- 28 Caught
- 29 Chases
- baseballs
- 30 Went up
- 31 Lawn
- 33 Highway
- exit
- 37 Chemist's place

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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Reality sets in as "Bachelor" sweethearts call it quits

By The Associated Press

■ **NEW YORK** — Reality has set in for yet another reality TV couple, as Andrew Firestone and Jen Schefft from "The Bachelor" have broken up.

The heir to the Firestone tire and wine fortune proposed to Schefft, a petite Marcia Brady look-alike, in May on the ABC dating show.

But the couple released a statement to the syndicated entertainment series "Extra" on Monday, saying they were no longer together.

"This is a decision we made together through long and thoughtful discussion," Firestone said. "It is totally amicable and, though we care for each other deeply, we have come to realize that our future goals are different."

Schefft added: "Our love for each other was genuine, but we confronted the same challenges as any other couple trying to make a relationship work day-to-day."

Both "Bachelor" bachelors before Firestone, Alex Michel and Aaron Buerge, have broken up with the women they chose. On the most recent season, Bob Guiney gave a ring to Estella Gardinier, then asked her to wear it on her right hand.

But Trista Rehn of "The Bachelorette" has made her made-for-TV romance last; she married firefighter Ryan Sutter on Saturday. The wedding is scheduled to air at 9 p.m. EST Wednesday on ABC.

■ **NEW YORK** — Vickie Winans' Thanksgiving was extra-special — the gospel singer married in a secret

ceremony just a few days before the holiday.

The gospel singer, who was nominated for a Grammy last week, wed Detroit businessman Joe McLemore on Nov. 24 in Las Vegas, her publicist, Bill Carpenter, said Tuesday. Only a few family members were in attendance.

The couple has put off their honeymoon in Aruba until December so Winans can finish her tour. They live in Detroit.

Winans, 50, was married to Marvin Winans of the Winans gospel family from 1977-94. They have two children, Mario and Marvin Jr., both music producers.

The singer was nominated for best contemporary gospel album for "Bringing It All Together," which includes the hit "Shake Yourself Loose."

■ **NEW YORK** — Photographers always pick the worst times to track down celebrities and snap their picture, Liv Tyler says.

"It's always the days when it's 8 in the morning and I'm going to walk the dog or I have a pimple or a thick white shirt that makes me look chubby — that's when they're there," the 26-year-old actress tells Seventeen magazine for its January issue.

But Tyler has found that going for a stroll with Neal, her Cavalier King Charles spaniel, also has some unexpected benefits.

"What's great is that since we moved into our new neighborhood, when I walk the dog, I'm Neal's mom. I'm not Liv Tyler at all," she says. "So everyone's like,

'Hi, Neal. How are you today?' Nobody knows my name. It's great. I'm totally anonymous. It's all about Neal."

Tyler plays the elf princess Arwen in "The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King," the last part of the film trilogy, which opens Dec. 17.

■ **NEW YORK** — After recording "Coverage," her album of classic hits by Carly Simon, Joni Mitchell and other veteran singer-songwriters, Mandy Moore is also maturing in terms of her personal style.

The 19-year-old pop singer, known for her wholesome image, says she's gained a fondness for clothes that show off her curvy, 5-foot-10-inch frame.

"By no means would I ever want to strip off my clothes or do anything extreme, but I'm beginning to gravitate toward more sophisticated looks," Moore says in the January issue of Cosmopolitan magazine, in which she's featured in a photo layout wearing a series of sexy, clingy dresses.

"My body is changing. I just got boobs, and now I have hips. I'm like a size 6 or 8 now, and I like the way I look; I'm proud of it."

Moore, whose boyfriend is tennis star Andy Roddick, says she likes to wear "fun little dresses" on a date.

"But on my first date with Andy, we went to an amusement park, so I wore little Juicy sweats that I had cut off to make into capris," she said. "I remember he was dressed up nicely ... and I've never seen him dressed up like that since."

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