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Horses bucked from Will Rogers

Lawsuit seeks to stop state eviction

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON
Daily Press Staff Writer

A lawsuit filed Monday seeks to prevent the state from evicting horses at Will Rogers State Park in the Santa Monica Mountains.

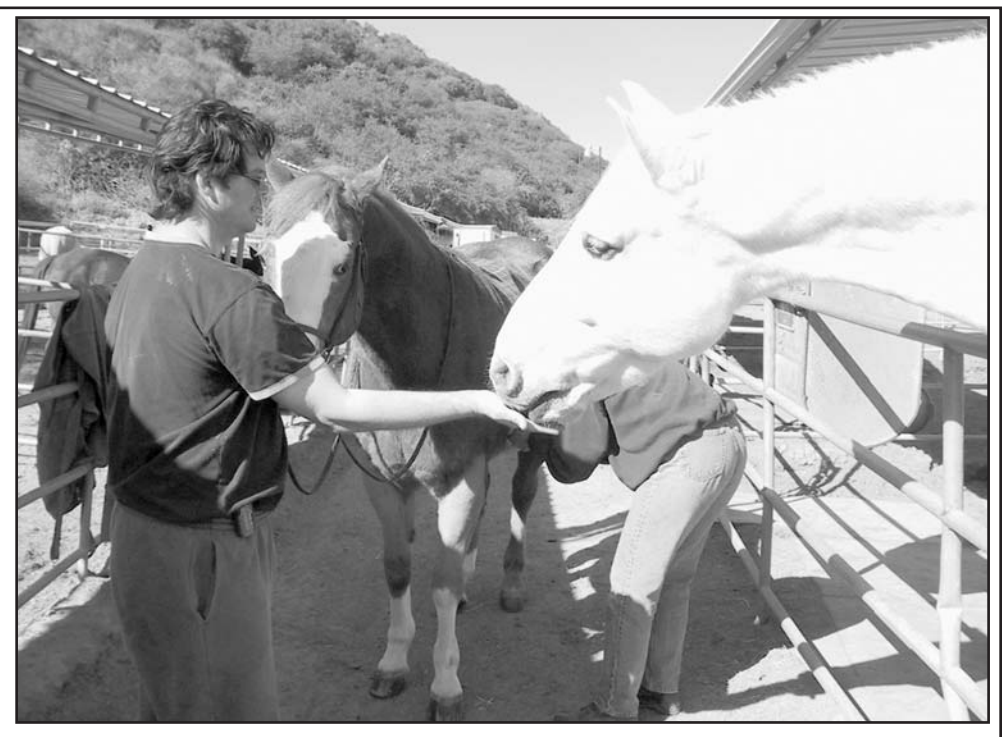
Genesses Rievera, an 8-year-old Los Angeles girl, along with 34 other plaintiffs and the support of 1,300 petition-signing members of the public, filed suit in the Santa Monica courthouse to enjoin California's Department of Parks and Recreation, as well as its director, Rusty Areias, from terminating horse boarding and other equestrian activity at the park. Rievera took horseback riding classes at the park this past summer.

The park, located in Pacific Palisades, is a popular destination for hikers of the Backbone trail, as well as recreationalists who come to watch polo matches, play soccer and other sports. It is also used for horse enthusiasts to board their horses, as well as a place where kids learn to ride.

"The park is not only a living testament of Will Rogers' love and admiration for horses, but a unique opportunity for the public to experience the joys of equestrian activities," said Kelly Harrison, a petitioner in the lawsuit and one of the horse boarders.

The department of parks and recre-

See HORSES, page 3



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

Greg Steensen, a caretaker at Will Rogers State Park, gets the horses ready for a ride Sunday afternoon, which may be one of their last since the department of parks and recreation have ordered that they be removed by Jan. 10

'Terminator' star breaks ribs in accident

By staff and wire reports

Arnold Schwarzenegger was hospitalized with several broken ribs after a weekend motorcycle accident, his publicist said Monday.

The 54-year-old star of the "Terminator" movies was resting at St. John's Health Center in Santa Monica after the Sunday afternoon crash, publicist Jill Eisenstadt said.

Schwarzenegger, who is negotiating to appear in a third "Terminator" film, was "in good spirits, feeling sore, but otherwise fine," she said. He was expected to be released from the hospital Monday afternoon.

"Don't worry," the actor said in a statement. "This won't affect my skiing with my family at Sun Valley (Idaho) this Christmas."

Details of the motorcycle accident, which occurred in Santa Monica, were not immediately available. However, neither Santa Monica Police or the fire department were called to the scene, leading authorities to believe the accident may have happened outside of the city limits.

Schwarzenegger underwent elective surgery to replace a heart valve in April 1997.

His new movie "Collateral Damage," which was postponed after the Sept. 11 attacks because it's about terrorism, now is scheduled to open in February.

Rape victims seek answers

Woman learns that she ID'd 'southside rapist' weeks after rape

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON
Daily Press Staff Writer

A local woman who was raped six years ago and feels let down by police will ask the Santa Monica City Council tonight what it has done to improve rape investigations within the city.

Karen Pomer's request to speak in front of city council was instigated by some startling news she learned recently — she had identified her rapist in a police line-up but investigators never followed up on it.

Six weeks after her Oct. 4, 1995 rape, Pomer identified Israel Hardin as a possible suspect but it wasn't until four years later that he was charged with her rape and several others, including that of an 82-year-old woman, which occurred just three months after Pomer's.

Pomer now realizes that perhaps the elderly woman's rape could have been prevented had the police followed up on her lead.

"That woman has now become my friend," Pomer said Monday. "Now I find out that it didn't have to happen."

In a letter addressed to council members dated October 19, 2001, Pomer said: "Just two weeks ago, my

See VICTIMS, page 3

bin Laden tape represents 'worst of civilization'

President Bush contemplates releasing tape to public

BY SANDRA SOBIERAJ
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Osama bin Laden claims he calculated in advance how many casualties "the enemy" would suffer on Sept. 11 and was delighted to see his estimate surpassed, according to a videotape President Bush wants the world to see.

The president said the tape "just reminds me of what a murderer he is."

Two senior administration officials said privately that Bush was leaning toward making public the tape seized in Afghanistan. They said he was holding off on a final decision while intelligence officials recheck their Arabic translation and anything that might betray intelligence-gathering methods. The tape could be released in the next two days, officials said.

Bush, during a White House event celebrating Hanukkah, did not address whether he would release the

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HOROSCOPE

Aquarius, do whatever you want

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS

The stars show the kind of day you'll have:
★★★★★-Dynamic ★★★★-Positive ★★★-Average ★★-So-so ★-Difficult

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★ Bright ideas mark your day. Think about being in charge. Empathize with a boss. Don't be so quick to make a judgment. Talk about finances, especially if you want to refinance your home or restructure your budget. Good news surrounds loans. Tonight: Work late.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★★★ Make inquiries as soon as possible. The more feedback you get, the better the decision you will make. Worry less about gossip. Stick with facts. Handle a legal or professional issue. Find an expert in the field. Strength comes when you understand your limits. Tonight: Rent a movie.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★ You whip out suggestions one after another. Your swift mind and natural ingenuity easily overwhelm others. Give someone the space to put in his two cents! Surprises surround finances and a partnership. Opt for spontaneity. Tonight: Respond to another's loving gesture.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★★ People seek you out this morning. In fact, you might have difficulty starting your work, as the phones ring overtime! Lighten up about another's request. You can always say "no" nicely. A meeting proves instrumental to your plans. Listen well. Tonight: Sort through invitations. Lucky you!

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★ All work and no play could make the Lion a bit sad. Stop. Think of the long weekend ahead. You prove to be a dynamic source for ideas; others tap into your resourcefulness. Co-workers support an important change in your schedule or procedures. Tonight: Work as late as you need to.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★★★ If you would like to extend your weekend or network more than usual, others will fill in for you. Return calls, as good news surrounds you. A loved one wants time. A flirtation could develop into a lot more if you let it. Tonight: So what if it is Monday?

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★ Realize that, as much as you would like to, you cannot escape a domestic matter. Your feedback remains key, at least financially. Check in on an older friend or relative. Make sure he feels up to snuff. Sometimes others get depressed before the holidays. Tonight: Extra work comes home.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★★ Others respond to your inquiries and suggestions. You encourage dialogue when others hit a dead end. Use your lunch break to get some important Thanksgiving errands done, even if it is simply buying chocolate or cookies for the office. Tonight: Visit with a friend over dinner.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★ You're great at checking out investments and are willing to jump on a good deal. Once more, you demonstrate unusual monetary insight as you review your budget. Don't be surprised if others often seek you out for feedback and advice, especially today! Tonight: Use your instincts with a purchase.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★ Reverse your path, if need be. Your strong direction helps those around you. Work as a team. Communicate with others. Put a plan into action. Use your mind, but don't hesitate to tap into your charisma, too! Tonight: Whatever the Goat wants.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★ Stand back. Use your intuition with those in charge. You're right on target and, as a result, you make the proper decisions. Presently your strength lies in working behind the scenes. Make calls. Clear out work. Tonight: Do whatever it is that you want.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★ Be sensitive to friends as well as associates. Discussions behind the scenes might not exactly be honest. Do a better job of listening and reading between the lines. Make calls and seek out experts. You come up with unusual ideas that impress many. Tonight: Hang out with a friend.

WEATHER

Today ... Sunny with a high of 59°F. Winds from the North Northwest at 10mph.

Tonight ... Clear with a low of 43°F. Winds from the North at 6mph.

Tomorrow ... Sunny High—61°F Low—43°F

QUOTE of the DAY

"Keep it in the chicken ...
... I mean kitchen."
— Charles Barkley

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Committee to be formed for horse activity at park

HORSES, from page 1

ation determined in October that the horse operation was significantly degrading the environment in the park. State officials announced that it would suspend overnight horse boarding while a new management plan for the park is developed. As a result, all horses must be removed from the public property by Jan. 10.

"One can only wonder what Will Rogers, the ultimate horseman whose own horse sense made him suspicious of politicians, would have thought of the department's decision."

— ERIC M. GEORGE
Attorney

"The department's actions violate a public trust that has existed in this treasured park for more than 60 years," said the petitioner's attorney Eric M. George, of the law firm Browne & Woods. "This action seeks to remind the department that its obligations run not just to some Californians, but to all of them — including those who board and ride horses in the park."

There are about 45 privately owned horses being boarded at Will Rogers State Historic Park. Park officials want the horses removed while they evaluate the environmental damage they say is caused by the horses. The state claims that the horses generate about 4,500 pounds of nitrogen every year, 2,800 pounds of potassium and 765 pounds of phosphorous. Ecologists fear the chemicals are being carried by run-off into adjacent streams.

"We have a duty to maintain the park," said Steve Capps, the deputy director of communications for the state's department of parks and recreation. "They keep saying that all equestrian activity will be suspended forever. That's absolutely not true."

Also on Monday, the state said it is seeking members for a public advisory committee that will make recommendations for a new equestrian activity plan for the park, which will include a restoration plan for the historic ranch.

The committee will comprise of citizen members representing various parties, including equestrian groups, neighbors of the park, people who have boarded their horses in the past, the Will Rogers family, park visitors, historians and environmental groups.

The lawsuit alleges that the department's eviction notice is unlawful for a number of reasons. First, by evicting the horses, the department has flouted the state's promise in 1944 to Will Rogers' widow that the park will be used "as a memorial and historical monument to the memory of the late Will Rogers." The suit also claims that the department's actions violate its own 1992 plan governing the park's operations, which deemed an equestrian presence "essential to any realistic interpretation of Will Rogers' life."

"One can only wonder what Will Rogers, the ultimate horseman whose own horse sense made him suspicious of politicians, would have thought of the department's decision," said George.



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

A group of hikers enjoy the south facing view from the Backbone trail in the Topanga State Park on Sunday.

Victim wants review process for rape investigations

VICTIMS, from page 1

research turned up documentation that on November 14, 1995, the first time the SMPD allowed my request to look at 'six-packs' or photo line-ups, I identified Israel Hardin as a possible suspect. No police follow-up took place at the time. In fact, I was able to confirm that no one from SMPD questioned Israel Hardin about the 'Southside Rapes' until 1999."

The investigation of the rapes turned out to be one of the most expensive cases in the Santa Monica Police Department's history, Pomer said.

The Santa Monica Police Department was unavailable for comment Monday.

Three months ago, the district attorney's office asked Pomer and the elderly woman whether they wanted to go to trial against Hardin, who is currently serving life imprisonment on another case.

But they couldn't recognize Hardin because it had been six years and he had put on weight. Pomer asked Santa Monica police for a photo of Hardin that was near the time of the rape. Hardin had a long rap sheet with the department and Pomer figured a photo would be on file. But police declined the request, as well as the district attorney's office. Pomer went to Hardin's defense attorney, who showed her a 1995 photo of Hardin, which turned out to be in the line-up, Pomer said.

It didn't help that the investigator in charge of Pomer's case was Detective Linda Brown, who is now serving 11 years in state prison for assault with a deadly weapon. She attacked a fellow police officer that she was having an affair with a few years ago.

"If the SMPD had promptly re-examined the shoddy police work of Linda Brown in 1995, after I had made a formal written complaint to the chief and internal affairs citing her incompetence they would have discovered this lead and the case may have been closed long ago," she wrote in the letter to council.

But what really upset Pomer was the reaction she got from city officials when she expressed her disappointment in the police department and its investigation.

"... shortly after an 82-year-old woman was raped by the 'Southside Rapist' while her elderly husband was locked in the trunk of their car, I spoke before the (Santa Monica) city council pleading for changes in the SMPD handling of rape cases," Pomer's letter reads. "At that meeting, my concerns were mostly dismissed as 'hysterical' as council member after council member fell over each other (one in tears) to praise the SMPD's hard work and verbally attacked anyone who criticized the police. The immediate response by city government and the SMPD was to close ranks as opposed to seriously addressing the issues raised."

Now Pomer and the elderly rape victim are raising the issue again. They both are expected to speak in front of the council tonight to ask how much has changed within the police department in the past six years and how will the next Santa Monica citizen with complaints against the police department be received by the council.

Specifically, Pomer wants a review process set up that would have an outside entity evaluate the current process, including how the SMPD interacts with the Santa Monica Rape Treatment Center and other groups that have expertise in responding to assault victims.

"Don't people have a right to know that things have changed?" Pomer said. "We need to know that we can be safe in Santa Monica."

In her letter to city council members, Pomer indicates her reason for bringing the issue to light six years later.

"The city and the SMPD can go forward and do better in the future. To do that competently, they have to know where they failed in the past."

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STATE

Bank of the West comes to Southern California

BY MICHAEL LIEDTKE
AP Business Writer

SAN FRANCISCO — With a $2.4 billion takeover of the largest bank based in Los Angeles, Bank of the West will bring its irreverent, customer-friendly touch to Southern California for the first time.

The acquisition of the Japanese-owned United California Bank will give the Bank of the West its first significant presence south of Fresno. Two-thirds of United California's 117 branches are in Southern California.

Bank of the West, which is scheduled to sell its publicly held stock to the French-based BNP Paribas Dec. 20, has 118 Northern California branches, cobbled together largely through a series of takeovers made during the 1990s. Bank of the West runs 131 other branches in Hawaii, Oregon, Washington, Nevada, Idaho, New Mexico, Guam and Sapai.

The United California takeover will boost Bank of the West's California deposits to about $15 billion — ranking it seventh in the state among major banks and thrifts, based on June 30 data compiled by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp.

Bank of America, with $108.5 billion in California deposits, and Wells Fargo, with $68.5 billion in statewide deposits, control 36 percent of the market, according to the FDIC.

Although relatively small, Bank of the West has built a widely recognized brand in Northern California with an aggressive marketing campaign that regularly pokes fun at the array of fees and increasingly automated services at BofA and Wells.

Bank of the West will take the same satirical marketing approach when it assumes control of United California Bank early next year, said Don McGrath, Bank of the West's president and chief operating officer.

"We're not dealing with a cure for cancer here. We are going to continue to have some fun," McGrath said.

Besides aiming barbs at its biggest rivals, Bank of the West also frequently lures new customers with bargains. On several occasions in recent years, Bank of the West has promised new customers free checking, with no strings attached.

United California Bank recently completed a similar free checking account promotion to raise customer awareness of its new name, created in July after a merger between two Japanese banks, Sanwa and Tokai.

The United California name will disappear by next September when all the branches will be renamed Bank of the West.

Fewer than 20 branches in overlapping markets will close following the merger, McGrath said. Bank of the West will eliminate less than 10 percent of the 5,500 jobs involved in the deal, McGrath estimated.

Bank of the West employs about 2,500 California workers, while United California has 3,000 employees. Both banks imposed hiring freezes Monday in an effort to realize the job cuts through attrition instead of layoffs.

Even though it has only $11 billion in assets, United California ranks as the largest bank headquartered in Los Angeles.

Packard Foundation stays out of HP-Compaq deal

BY BRIAN BERGSTEIN
AP Business Writer

SAN JOSE — Shares of Hewlett-Packard Co. and Compaq Computer Corp. both fell Monday, their first day of trading after HP's largest shareholder said it would vote against the proposed $24.6 billion acquisition of Compaq.

HP and Compaq have vowed to press ahead with the deal despite the opposition of Hewlett and Packard family interests with 18 percent of HP stock. The David and Lucile Packard Foundation, which holds 10.4 percent of HP shares, said Friday its interests would be better served without the deal.

The foundation's president and chief executive, former Los Angeles Times publisher Richard T. Schlosberg III, said Monday the charitable organization would not play an active role in opposing the Compaq acquisition.

In contrast, HP board member Walter B. Hewlett is preparing for a proxy fight over the deal, filing several critical reports with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Schlosberg said the 12 trustees on the Packard Foundation's board were unanimous in opposing the merger, after a "deliberative and careful process."

Three daughters of HP co-founder David Packard and two of their husbands are on the board, as are Schlosberg, former HP chief executive Lew Platt and former HP chief operating officer Dean Morton. Packard's only son, David W. Packard, had already come out against the merger.

HP shares fell 52 cents, or 2 percent, to $23.00 in trading on the New York Stock Exchange, where Compaq shares were off $1.62, or 14 percent, to $9.70.

HP and Compaq say they will continue to talk up the benefits of the deal in hopes of ultimately winning shareholder support. If either company were to back out, it would owe the other $675 million.

HP spokeswoman Rebeca Robboy played down the importance of the families' opposition. She said investors are likely to look at the transaction differently than the Packards' charitable foundation did.

"They have to take a conservative, short-term approach, and we understand and respect their requirements, but a high-tech company competing in a rapidly changing environment has different requirements," she said.

Joel Wagonfeld of Bank of America Securities determined that for the deal to win approval now, two-thirds of HP's institutional investors would have to vote yes, a prospect he considers unlikely.

Marines push Laden loyalists from valley

BY CHRIS TOMLINSON
Associated Press Writer

TORA BORA, Afghanistan — Afghan tribal fighters battled their way through mortar and machine-gun fire Monday and pushed Osama bin Laden loyalists from a strategic mountain valley leading to an underground complex where the terror suspect may be hiding.

B-52s and other American warplanes battered al-Qaida mortar positions on the mountaintops as the Afghan fighters — helped by U.S. special forces — seized caves in the Milawa valley in the White Mountains. A commander said forces loyal to bin Laden had been pushed back to the main complex at Tora Bora about a mile away.

U.S. Marines also intensified their hunt for Taliban leaders and members of the al-Qaida terror network around the southern city of Kandahar — the other region where Afghan and American officials think bin Laden may be hiding.

Marine "hunter-killer" teams in armored assault vehicles and backed by combat helicopters set up a staging ground at the foot of a jagged mountain about 12 miles outside Kandahar, from which officials said they could intercept fleeing fighters on the roads.

In Washington, Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz said that although the Taliban have fallen, the military faced the tough task of tracking down bin Laden and eliminating al-Qaida. "Large numbers of al-Qaida terrorists are still at large. It's going to be a very long and difficult job," he said.

Afghanistan's interim leader, Hamid Karzai, said getting rid of al-Qaida was a priority as the country tries to build a stable post-Taliban government.

"What Afghanistan needs is the full establishment of a national state, but first we must root out all the terrorists," he told journalists in the former house of Taliban supreme leader Mullah Mohammed Omar in Kandahar. "We must burn out all these roots."

Karzai promised there would be no amnesty for the cleric if he were caught. Omar has disappeared since the Taliban abandoned Kandahar, their birthplace and last major city, on Friday.

The Pentagon said it targeted a cave in the Tora Bora area with its largest conventional bomb, the 15,000-pound "daisy cutter," on Sunday on suspicion the cave might contain senior al-Qaida leaders, possibly including bin Laden. Spokesman Rear Adm. John Stufflebeem said damage from the strike was not known.

Vice President Dick Cheney said Sunday that intelligence reports indicate bin Laden is hiding in Tora Bora, a complex of caves and tunnels carved into the White Mountains near the Pakistani border.

Backed by U.S. bombing, troops of the anti-Taliban eastern alliance launched a fierce assault from three sides Monday against al-Qaida defenders in the Milawa valley leading to Tora Bora. Some 1,000 pro-bin Laden fighters are thought to be holed up in the area.



Associated Press

Shannon Spann, wife of CIA officer Johnny Michael "Mike" Spann, watches folding of the flag that covered his casket as he was honored at a burial ceremony at Arlington National Cemetery on Monday in Washington. Spann was remembered as an American hero as he was buried with full military honors amid the white grave markers.

'American hero' buried

BY JOHN J. LUMPKIN
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — CIA officer Johnny Micheal "Mike" Spann was remembered as an American hero Monday as he was buried with full military honors amid the white grave markers of Arlington National Cemetery.

"From his earliest days ... he worked to do what was right," CIA Director George J. Tenet told those gathered, including many members of the CIA. "It was in the quest for right that Mike at his country's call went to Afghanistan. To that place of danger and terror he sought to bring justice and freedom."

The only American to die fighting enemies inside Afghanistan is "an American hero," Tenet said.

Spann knew that "information saved lives, and that collection is a risk worth taking," Tenet said.

Spann's widow, Shannon, carried her infant son, wrapped in a white blanket against the chilly day, to the coffin, draped in an American flag. Spann's two young daughters and other family members stood nearby.

"I want to tell you my husband is a hero. Mike is a hero not because of the way he died, but because of the way he lived," she said.

Three soldiers killed in Afghanistan when a U.S. bomb missed its target were memorialized Monday at Fort Campbell, Ky. They were Master Sgt. Jefferson "Donnie" Davis, 39, of Watauga, Tenn.; Staff Sgt. Brian Cody Prosser, 28, of Frazier Park, Calif.; and Sgt. 1st Class Daniel Petithory, 32, of Cheshire, Mass.

"Children are able to laugh, play and sing because of what they did," Lt. Col. Frank Hudson told a crowd of mourners that overflowed Memorial Chapel.

Spann, a paramilitary officer with the CIA's Special Activities Division, was receiving full military honors from the Marine Corps, where he was a captain of artillery before joining the intelligence service 2 1/2 years ago.

He was shot and killed at the Taliban prison uprising at Mazar-e-Sharif on Nov. 25 by rioting prisoners. He had been interviewing Taliban and al-Qaida fighters, including American John Walker, captured after their surrender in the nearby city of Kunduz, a former stronghold for the Islamic fundamentalists.

U.N. Secretary-General accepts Nobel Peace Prize

BY KIM GAMEL
Associated Press Writer

OSLO, Norway — Saying "humanity is indivisible," U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan called for global cooperation in fighting poverty, ignorance and disease as he and the United Nations accepted the centennial Nobel Peace Prize on Monday.

Annan said the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in the United States showed that the world is divided less by borders than by the gap between the fortunate and the dispossessed. He said the cost of ignoring human dignity, fundamental freedoms, security, food and education was steep.

"Today, no walls can separate humanitarian or human rights crises in one part of the world from national security crises in another," he said. "What begins with the failure to uphold the dignity of one life, all too often ends with a calamity for entire nations."

The chairman of the Norwegian Nobel Committee presented the $950,000 prize, which includes diplomas and gold medals, to Annan and the president of the U.N. General Assembly, South Korean Foreign Minister Han Seung-soo, representing the world body.

Annan has given "the U.N. an external prestige and an internal morale" hardly before seen since the world body's founding in 1945, chairman Gunnar Berge said.

In honor of the 100th anniversary of the first prize, more than 20 peace laureates from previous years, including East Timorese freedom fighter Jose Ramos-Horta and South Africa's Desmond Tutu, joined them on the stage for the 90-minute ceremony at Oslo City Hall, amid tight security.

Norway's royal family and other dignitaries also attended, and a torchlight parade and a banquet were planned in the evening.

bin Laden tape not prepackaged, or full of propaganda

TAPE, from page 1

tape but said of bin Laden: "This man wants to destroy any semblance of civilization for his own power." The chilling nature of the tape stands in contrast to the spirit of the holiday season, Bush said.

"For those who see this tape, they realize that not only is he guilty of incredible murder, he has no conscience and no soul. He represents the worst of civilization," Bush said.

The tape, which was discovered about 10 days ago in an abandoned apartment in Jalalabad, Afghanistan, was described to reporters by the small circle of administration officials who have seen the video or read a translation of its contents. A date stamped on the tape suggests it was produced in November, one of the officials said.

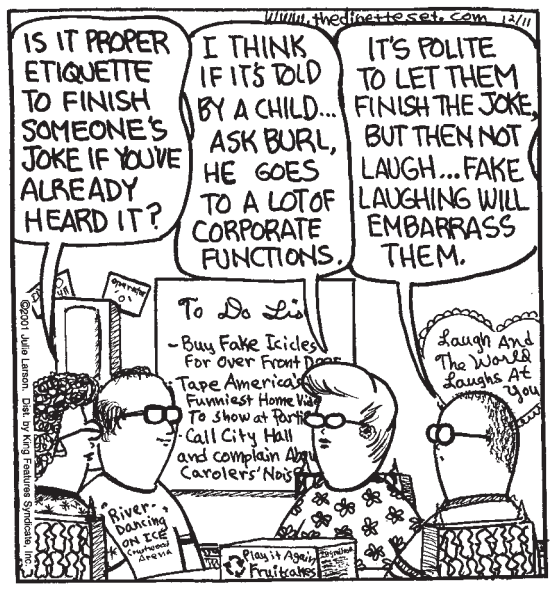
"The body language that I saw, really was just disgusting. I mean, that people would take delight in having killed innocent civilians is horrible," said Deputy Defense Secretary Paul Wolfowitz.

Apparently made by an amateur with a handheld camera, the videotape shows bin Laden being interviewed or meeting with a cleric about the suicide hijackings that killed thousands in New York, Washington and Pennsylvania. The suspected terrorist mastermind, speaking in Arabic, reportedly tells the story of how he tuned into news shows on the morning of Sept. 11, waited for reports of the first strikes on the World Trade Center, and then told companions there was more to come — evidently referring to planes that later crashed into the Pentagon and a Pennsylvania field. He says he had only expected New York's twin towers to collapse only down to the level of where the hijacked airliners struck.

Two intelligence officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said bin Laden also revealed that, in advance of Sept. 11, he tallied up how many Americans could be killed, a casualty estimate "for the enemy." Some 3,300 people died in the attacks.

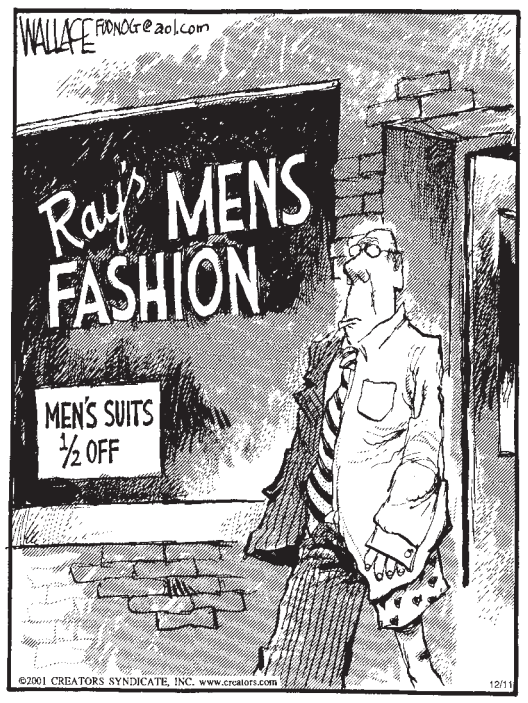
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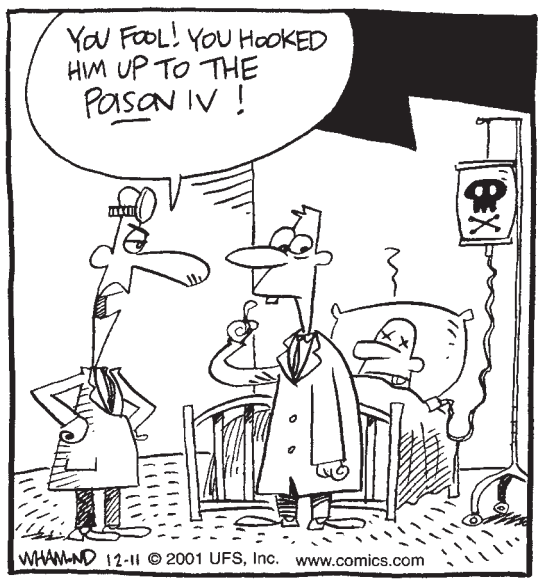
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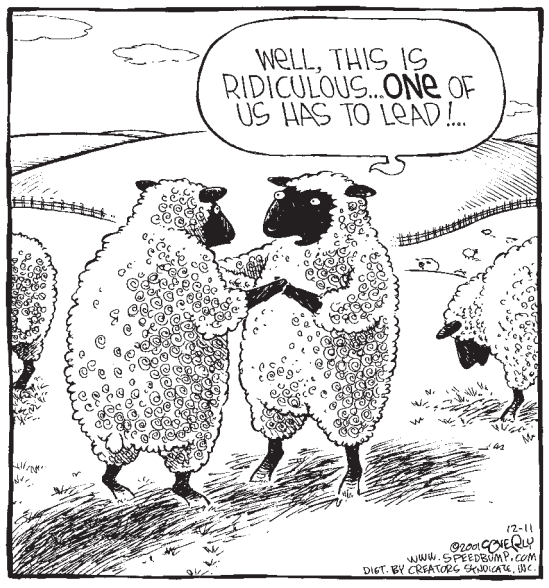
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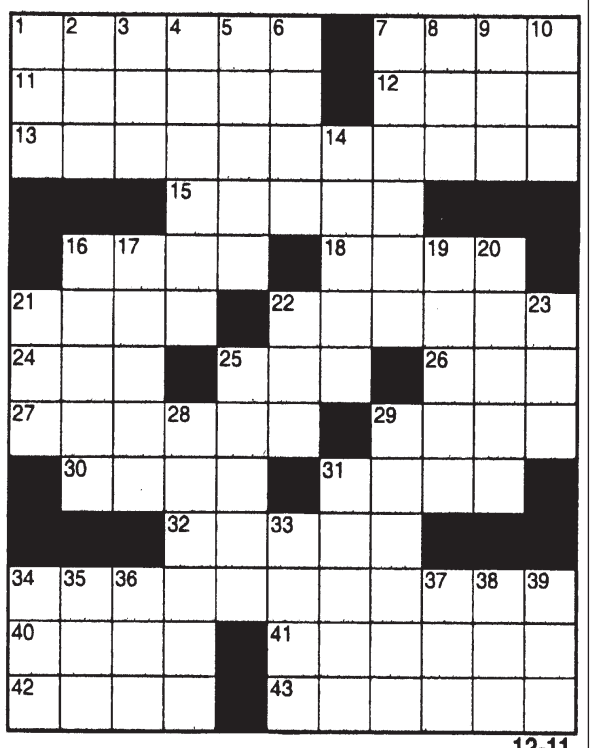
1 Flats' counterparts
7 Tibetan monk
11 In addition
12 Line of rotation
13 Some watches
15 Hazard
16 Jury member
18 Not as much as
21 Truck's haul
22 Did lab work
24 Museum contents
25 Distress call
26 Carnival city
27 Artist's place
29 Milk buy
30 Bridge
31 Hoodwink
32 Member of the choir
34 Some rattlers
40 Freshener target
41 Hardy's partner
42 Swamps
43 Unwavering

DOWN

1 Ave. crossers
2 All the rage
3 Honest leader
4 Frolicked
5 Outlet output
6 Agitate
7 Soup servers
8 Chopping tool
9 Soviet space station
10 Nincompoop
14 Frasier's brother
16 Docking spots
17 Believe unquestioningly
19 Disrobe
20 Paris river
21 — Vegas
22 In addition
23 Morse E
25 Tendon
28 Library stamps
29 Indiana school
31 Robert of "Goodbye, Mr. Chips"
33 Selma Lagerlöf character
34 Weep
35 Altar words
36 Pound occupant
37 Historic time
38 Blushing
39 Foxy

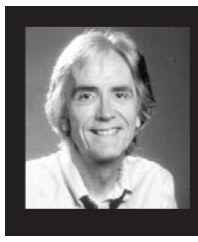
S	N	A	C	K	■	A	B	O	R	T
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A	T	O	P	■	P	R	O	N	T	O
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Yesterday's answer



12-11

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NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

Pranks will get you killed

• A man inadvertently shot and killed his 23-year-old son on a hunting trip while the son hid behind a log, holding up a dead squirrel and making barking sounds (even after the son had been warned by the family many times to cut out the pranks) (Galien, Mich., September).

• A 25-year-old man who had parked on railroad tracks to scare his girlfriend and then chased after her on foot was killed when he ran back to the car to move it (after hearing a horn) and was crushed by a passing train (Houston, July).

• A 19-year-old college student was killed when he slid down a library chute that he thought was for books but which was a garbage chute dumping straight into a compactor (Sewanee, Tenn., October).

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BACK PAGE

Man with 85 year career span claims he loves his job

BY NEDRA PICKLER
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — A 100-year-old architect advises this for those who want to work into old age: find a job you enjoy.

"When you have something you love to do, it keeps you alive," Harold Fisher said Monday after receiving Green Thumb Inc.'s annual "America's Oldest Worker" award. "I never had dying in my mind at all because I love my work and spent so much time at the office."

Fisher found his calling at 15, when he became an apprentice for an architect in Uniontown, Pa., for $2 a day. Eighty-five years later, he continues to work five days a week designing religious buildings at the firm he owns in the Detroit suburb of Harper Woods, Mich.

"Since it's my company, they can't fire me," Fisher said with a grin. "You might say I'm retired now and doing what I love to do, but I'm still working."

He established Harold H. Fisher & Associates in 1945 and was chosen to design Westminster Presbyterian Church in Detroit, which remains his favorite project. The church has a signature 10-ton limestone tower and a 300-square-foot, glass-and-gold leaf window depicting Jesus and the Last Supper.

Fisher has designed hundreds of churches around the country. Through his work, he says he has been able to combine his creative energy, faith and family — his nine children all have helped around the office.

Fisher is married to his second wife, Maria, who is 77. He has 22 grandchildren and six great-grandchildren.

He says he keeps his mind in shape by working six to eight hours a day. He also lifts weights and walks a half-mile three days a week.

"My body is hard as a rock," he said. "Two of my sons are doctors and they tell me what I can and cannot do. And they tell me I'll live to be 110."

Green Thumb is an Arlington, Va.-based nonprofit organization that provides job training and placement for senior citizens, and lobbies on their behalf.

Police officer sentenced for unleashing dog on man

BY STEPHEN MANNING
Associated Press Writer

GREENBELT, Md. — A former police officer was sentenced to 10 years in prison Monday for setting her police dog on an unarmed homeless man.

Stephanie C. Mohr, 31, a one-time member of the Prince George's County force in suburban Washington, received the maximum sentence.

Mohr was unrepentant, saying she was doing her duty when she allowed her dog to attack Ricardo G. Mendez outside a Takoma Park building in 1995. Mendez's leg was severely gouged.

Mendez and another homeless man were sleeping on the roof when police, suspecting them of trying to break in, made them come down. The two were then confronted by officers, including Mohr, who let her dog attack Mendez.

Mohr had two trials in the case. Last spring, she was cleared of conspiracy, but the jury could not reach a verdict on whether she had violated Mendez's civil rights.

This summer, another jury convicted her of the civil rights charge after prosecutors introduced witnesses who said the white officer used her dog improperly during other incidents and employed racial slurs.

"What the prosecution failed to accomplish in the first case, they accomplished in the second, not with the facts, but with racial implications," Mohr told U.S. District Judge Deborah K. Chasanow.

The civil rights charge was filed because Mohr used excessive force as a police officer, not because Mendez is Hispanic, said Virginia Evans, a spokeswoman for the U.S. attorney for Maryland.

Two other officers were charged along with Mohr but were acquitted.

Mohr's conviction was one of the few successful prosecutions of a Prince George's County officer, despite repeated complaints of brutality.

The U.S. Justice Department is investigating the police force. Since 1999, the FBI has opened more than 30 criminal investigations into allegations that Prince George's County officers violated civil rights laws.

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