

Santa Monica Daily Press

A newspaper with issues

LOTTO

SUPER LOTTO PLUS

17, 34, 12, 14, 47

Megamount: 24

Jackpot: \$61 million

FANTASY 5

28, 33, 7, 32, 4

DAILY 3

Afternoon picks: 3, 1, 6

Evening picks: 0, 2, 8

DAILY DERBY

1st Place: 10, Solid Gold

2nd Place: 01, Gold Rush

3rd Place: 02, Lucky Star

Race Time: 1:47.81



NEWS OF THE WEIRD

by Chuck Shepard

Waiting for a rush-hour bus in East St. Louis, Ill., Emanuel Fleming tried to use a pay phone but received a busy signal, then stuck his right middle finger into the coin-return slot but couldn't get it out. With his free hand, he called 911, and ambulance personnel had to take both Fleming and the telephone to the hospital, where, three hours after he got stuck, doctors numbed the finger and worked it out of the slot.



QUOTE OF THE DAY

"The history of saints is mainly the history of insane people."

— Benito Mussolini



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Building from the ground up

After a decade, hospitals finally see light at end of the tunnel

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON
Daily Press Staff Writer

With two massive hospital projects going on within blocks of each other, nearly \$600 million in new health care facilities are being invested into Santa Monica.

Since the Northridge Earthquake in 1994, both Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center and Saint John's Health Care Center have been in the planning and construction stages to replace their facilities. And while both projects, which began construction in 1999, won't be fully completed for another five years, the progress made thus far is getting noticed.

Both hospitals were severely damaged from the earthquake, shutting down operations for as long as

nine months. According to state law, the hospitals were mandated to have their facilities meet seismic standards by 2008. Officials from both facilities realized that rebuilding was more cost effective than trying to repair the damage that had been done.

The result is that Santa Monica and the surrounding area will have state-of-the-art healthcare facilities by the end of the decade. Saint John's, which just cut 200 jobs from its workforce earlier this month because of budget problems, plans to spend \$314 million on its facilities. The project is funded completely separate from the hospital's operating budget and comes from FEMA money and a capital fundraising campaign, said Terry Muldoon, vice president of engineering services at Saint John's and construction manager.

"We couldn't use those monies to offset the (operating) costs even if we



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

A critical care room in Saint John's new inpatient building, which will be done in May.

wanted to because 100 percent of the funding is designated for (construction) only," Muldoon said.

The funding for UCLA Santa Monica's \$275 million overhaul also comes from FEMA money, fundraising and a loan from the state, which will be paid back, said Ted Braun, a hospital spokesman.

Residents and hospital

users already are utilizing the new facilities at both hospitals — UCLA Santa Monica opened its 520-space parking garage on the corner of 16th Street and Arizona Avenue in May of 2001, and Saint John's recently completed its 503-space garage off of Santa Monica Boulevard.

Rebuilding hospital facilities is done in phases and will require hundreds

of individual moves. The first building to come on line for Saint John's is its inpatient hospital, which is scheduled to be done in May. The first facility for Santa Monica-UCLA is its southwest wing, which will house a new emergency facility and is scheduled to be done at the end of 2005.

The rest of the construc-

See ST. JOHN'S, page 6

Jay Fiondella: 'Live fast and leave a good-looking corpse'

Community profiles is a weekly series that will appear each Monday and delves into the people who live, work and play in Santa Monica.



Chez Jay's has been a favorite downtown since 1959



BY JOHN WOOD
Daily Press Staff Writer

It was more than 50 years ago when Jay Fiondella first came to Santa Monica. A Seabee stationed in Port Hueneme, he was hitchhiking to Hollywood in search of acting gigs and pretty girls.

Today, Fiondella still runs the seaside restaurant and bar "Chez Jay's" — long a favorite for celebrities, athletes, locals and tourists alike. Housed in a narrow but deep,

rectangular building, Chez Jay's sits on Ocean Avenue across from the Hotel California, on property owned by City Hall.

A lot has happened in the last 50 years. Fiondella worked at the local airplane factories and as a commercial fisherman in San Diego. He played roles in several movies and film shorts. And, in 1959, he opened Chez Jay's, a successful outfit that has attracted national attention.

Fiondella has made the most of his success. He's gone on expeditions in Saudi Arabia and Greenland. He's flown hot air balloons in Hawaii, Aspen, Sun Valley and elsewhere. He's built a 100-foot boat.

But with a proposed Civic Center Plan to redevelop downtown, con-

necting City Hall to the courthouse and the Promenade with a lot of open space and parks, Fiondella has been left wondering what the future of his little restaurant will be. Regulars are sure to go to bat to keep it.

As for Fiondella, he said leaving Chez Jay's would be sacrilegious. The 77-year-old son of an Italian father and an Irish mother already suffered a major loss earlier this year.

In January, his wife of 22 years, Lucy, 42, died of a kidney infection. "I've been keeping a low profile since the loss of my Lucy," Fiondella said. "I miss her terribly, (as does) my son and my friends. She was a beautiful lady, outside

See PROFILE, 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



ARIES (March 21-April 19)

★★★★ Step right up to the plate. Confusion surrounds work. Your fiery ways take you, as well as others, in a new direction. Don't think someone won't balk on the way! You stay in line with those in your immediate circle. Tonight: It's your call.



TAURUS (April 20-May 20)

★★★★ Use the a.m. to achieve whatever you want. Success will come naturally at that time. Later in the day, you might want to retreat to your office if you are to get anything done at all. Expect to want more peace and quiet in the p.m. Tonight: Early to bed.



GEMINI (May 21-June 20)

★★★★ Stay on top of work, and you'll gain. Don't worry about having to assume the helm of the ship. You get results, and faster than most. In the p.m., share with others what you believe your goals are. Brainstorm together. Tonight: Where people are.



CANCER (June 21-July 22)

★★★★ Reach out and make calls in the a.m. Do research in the morning, as well. It seems as if you have a presentation or something significant in the afternoon. Yes, others will look to you for help and solutions. Tonight: Work late.



LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)

★★★★ Take your time expressing your ideas with that one special person you need to go along with. Investigate some of this person's ideas in the afternoon. You could jump to the conclusion that an idea might not work when it really can. Tonight: Relax your mind.



VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)

★★★★ Others seek you out. You might think you have a lot on your plate, but you find that others will chip in. Delegate as much as you need to. Be realistic about what you can and cannot do. Teamwork might be needed in order to clear out work by the New Year. Tonight: Togetherness feels good.



LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)

★★★★ Establish better work patterns, as you might have a lot to do in very little time. Others seek you out in the afternoon, making it somewhat difficult to get anything done. Confusion surrounds the home front. Tonight: Certainly not alone.



SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)

★★★★ See a problem for what it is and dig into your creativity for an answer. Co-workers readily chip in, understanding that it is a short workweek. Accept all help, and you'll clear out a lot faster than you think. Share news, but be as clear as possible. Tonight: Work late if need be.



SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)

★★★★ Getting going this morning might be your biggest problem, but once you start moving, your creativity and ingenuity emerge. Dig into any problem, and you will find the solution. Trust in your abilities. Tonight: Still in the holiday mood?



CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)

★★★★ Handle someone directly. Make calls in the morning, when you might be slightly more chatty than later in the day. You buckle down in the p.m., be it work or a personal project. You won't want to be disturbed. Tonight: Put your feet up and relax.



AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)

★★★★ You might not always want to talk with others about financial matters or personal thoughts. Teach others to respect your limits. It is OK to ask someone to step back; just do it nicely. Others will respond. Promise. Tonight: At a favorite spot.



PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)

★★★★ The Moon, still in your sign in the morning, energizes you. By the afternoon, you might need to take a hard look at a money matter. You can and will juggle the budget as you need to. You also have many talents to help you make money. Tonight: Pay bills.

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PUBLISHER

Ross Furukawa ross@smdp.com

EDITOR

Carolyn Sackarison sack@smdp.com

STAFF WRITER

John Wood wood@smdp.com

ADVERTISING SALES MANAGER

Rob Piuheni rob@smdp.com

ADVERTISING ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

Steve Averill steve@smdp.com

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Del Pastrana del@smdp.com

PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

Alejandro Cesar Cantarero II alex@smdp.com

ADMINISTRATIVE TRAFFIC MANAGER

Elise De Ford elise@smdp.com

CLASSIFIED REPRESENTATIVE

Mitch Troy mitch@smdp.com

CIRCULATION MANAGER

Robert DeAmicis Rob@smdp.com

CIRCULATION

Keith Wyatt keith@smdp.com

SPECIAL PROJECTS

Dave Danforth dave@smdp.com

MASCOT

Maya Furukawa maya@smdp.com

LOCAL



COMMUNITY BRIEFS

SM Family YMCA offers new lecture series

By Daily Press staff

The Santa Monica Family YMCA presents a new series of free lectures about staying healthy.

On Jan. 22, a lecture will be given inform the public about ways to maintain and improve memory. Participants will find out from a professional speaker from the Alzheimer's Association how health is related to memory, what the difference is between normal forgetting and abnormal memory loss and what evidence studies have shown about memory enhancement. The lecture will be held from 12 p.m. to 1 p.m. in the YMCA Community Room on the second floor.

On Jan. 24, a lecture called, "Feng Shui," will be presented by Charlene Sato, a certified Feng Shui consultant. The audience will learn what Feng Shui is, how it can improve health and energy levels and how it can improve professional and personal relationships with others. The lecture will be held from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in the DeWind Room on the second floor of the YMCA Senior Center.

The last lecture of the series will be held on Jan. 31 and is called, "Strategies and Perspective on How to Manage Our Stress." Dr. Kathryn Deal, relationship counselor, will lead an interactive workshop to teach techniques and understanding on how to deal with the stresses of daily life. This event will be held from 11 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the DeWind Room on the second floor of the YMCA Senior Center.

Registration for all lectures will be at the Member Service Desk and the Santa Monica Family YMCA is located at 1332 Sixth St. For more information, call Lidia Magarian, Senior Physical Director, at (310) 393-2721, ext. 109.

Boys & Girls Clubs to receive \$1K

By Daily Press staff

Betsy Burton, CEO of the Santa Monica-based BB Capital, Inc. and a member of the board of directors for Staples, Inc. will be joined by staff from the Boys & Girls Club of Santa Monica, business leaders and members of the public for a Staples store dedication event Jan. 7 at the Staples at 1610 Wilshire Blvd.

John Mahoney, CFO of Staples, Inc. will honor Burton and present the staff from the Boys & Girls Clubs of Santa Monica with a \$1,000 donation. The event will also include remarks from Kathy Dodson, president and CEO of the Santa Monica Chamber of Commerce and an official grand-opening celebration.

The dedication is in honor of Burton's long-standing commitment to Staples, the Santa Monica community and her business successes. As part of the Staples community relations program, Staples dedicates new and remodeled stores to people who have had an impact on the company, share their value of entrepreneurship, have a special tie to the region or have contributed to community life.

Burton provides retail consulting and advise to a variety of leading retailers. She is a veteran CEO with over 25 years of retail experience and has served as a CEO of a number of companies that include Supercuts, Inc., PIP Printing, Inc., and Cosmetic Center, Inc. as well as interim CEO to companies that have included Tower Records, Toysrus.com and iFlourish.



A new WNW/storm swell mix builds today. Wind and rain is also expected — along with a round of short-medium period NW swell by this afternoon and into Tuesday.

OUTLOOK: Look for smaller surf on Sunday, with a new WNW/storm swell mix building on Monday. Forecast charts show a deepening low approaching the coast on Sunday afternoon that could bring wind and rain by Monday and a round of short-medium period NW swell by Monday afternoon and into Tuesday.

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

Today the
water is:

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Sunrise: 7:05 a.m.
Sunset: 5:01 p.m.

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	Morning	Height	Evening	Height	Morning	Height	Evening	Height
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SUNDAY	6:54	2.7	7:46	0.2	1:57	4.2	12:32	4.7
MONDAY	8:31	2.6	8:38	0.7	2:54	4.4	1:46	4.0
TUESDAY	10:08	2.1	9:30	1.2	3:46	4.6	3:19	3.4
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OPINION

Fears must not block scientific advances like human cloning

The U.N. General Assembly is unanimous on the need to ban human cloning. Unanimous. This alone should give serious pause to those who want to ban such cloning.

The United Nations is an organization that is perpetually split (at best) on such clear issues as who are the aggressors, the Israelis or the Palestinians. The United Nations is an organization that can condemn Saddam Hussein as a threat to the world in 17 separate resolutions — then balk at approving our doing anything about it.

Yet an organization that cannot distinguish dictatorship from freedom, nor rights from the violation of rights, finds no difficulty in determining the threat posed by the peaceful act of human cloning.

Threat to whom? Whose rights would be violated by human cloning?

In reproductive cloning, the result is a baby who exactly resembles, physically, someone else. Just whose rights would that violate? Not the baby's rights. And not the parents'.

Once we put aside the emotionalism, it becomes apparent that there is no rational or moral basis for banning human cloning.

If you were cloned today, nine months from now a woman would give birth to a baby with your genetic endowment. The cloned baby would be your identical

twin, delayed a generation. Twins of the same age do not frighten us, so why should a twin separated by a generation?

Some raise the specter of the mass cloning of one individual, especially cloning of sadistic monsters, as in "The Boys from Brazil," Ira Levin's nightmarish projection of cadres of young Hitlers spawned from the dictator's genes.

The error here is philosophical: Equating a person with his body. A per-

son's essential self is his mind — that in him which thinks, values and chooses. It is one's mind, not one's genes, that governs who one is. Man is the rational animal. One's basic choice is to think or not to think, in Ayn Rand's phrase, the conclusions, values, and character of individuals depend upon the extent and rationality of their thinking.

Genes provide the capacity to reason, but the exercise and guidance of that capacity is up to each individual, from the birth of his reasoning mind in infancy through the rest of his life.

Neither genes nor environment can implant ideas in a child's mind and make him accept them. Only his own self-generated thinking — or his default on that responsibility — will shape his soul.

Cloning the body will not clone the

mind. A mind is inescapably under the individual's own volitional control. "The Boys from Brazil?" It was not Hitler's body but his choices that made him a monster.

The worry about this kind of problem cannot account for the virtual panic over human cloning, nor for the fact that the cloning ban advocates oppose human cloning across the board, in any quantity, for any reason.

The actual opposition to human cloning springs from something primordial, the fear of the unknown, the fear captured in the catch-phrase: "We can't play God." But

why can't we? We can and we must.

A surgeon "plays God" whenever he removes a cancer or an infected appendix rather than letting the patient die. We "play God" any time we use our intelligence to improve the "natural" course of events. Natural? It is man's nature to "play God" by reshaping matter to produce the food, shelter, tools, cars, and power stations that sustain and enhance our existence. Not to "play God" in this way means to abandon the struggle for human life and submit abjectly to whatever happens.

Cloning technology is tied in with stem-cell research. The United Nations

has put off for a year any decision regarding cloning to produce stem cells, but the Bush administration is already curtailing it. In this research, the entity that is being legally "protected" is a single cell or a small ball of cells — not anything that remotely resembles a human being. One can argue about the status of a fetus in the late stages of pregnancy, but there are no rational grounds for ascribing rights to a clump of cells in a Petri dish. It is irrelevant that those cells may have the potential, if implanted in a womb, to produce a baby. A potentiality is not an actuality.

Stem-cell research holds the promise of major breakthroughs in saving actual human lives — yours and mine. The idea of banning such research to sacrifice actual lives to potential ones is obscenely wrong — wrong morally and politically.

At the threshold of a wide range of earth-shaking biomedical advances, we must not let irrational fears of the new slow our progress in the battle to enhance and extend human life.

(Dr. Harry Binswanger, author of *The Biological Basis of Teleological Concepts*, is a member of the board of directors of the Ayn Rand Institute (www.aynrand.org) and teaches philosophy at ARI's Objectivist Graduate Center. The Institute promotes the philosophy of Ayn Rand, author of *Atlas Shrugged* and *The Fountainhead*.)

Guest Commentary

By Harry Binswanger

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LOCAL



Community Profile

PROFILE, from page 1

and inside. Forty-two-years old was too young to die. But one thing about death — it doesn't give you a second chance."

What's more, Fiondella's roots in the area run deep. So deep that a conversation with Fiondella is sure to include the names of the rich and famous, and tales of living fast in Los Angeles.

Here, the Daily Press asked Fiondella to share some of his past.

How did you get into the business of running a restaurant?

"I was working as the bartender at Sinbad's on the (Santa Monica) Pier. It was 1959. ... I went in to the Dawn Cafe — where Chez Jay's is now — for breakfast and my friend, the owner, said, 'I got problems. The bookies are after me. I have to get out of town. Jay,' he said, 'you still want this place?' I said, 'Sure, but I don't have any money.' He said, 'I'll sell it to you for a dollar.'"

"So I took (former partner) Francis Weinberg, who ran All-Metal Fabricators, to lunch at the Dawn Cafe the next day and he wrote me a check — sitting in his car out front — for \$5,000. We got a beer and wine license and it took me a couple of months to decorate the place the way I wanted it.

"I wanted a place that athletes and movie stars could hang out and not be bothered. A place where there wouldn't be cameras or people asking for signatures. I just enclosed the place completely so the only way you could look in the front door was to look through a small porthole.

"I had a friend, living in Malibu, Hugh French, he was the agent for Richard Burton, Elizabeth Taylor. He said, 'I'll send in all my English friends' ... Peter Finch, Vanessa Redgrave, Stephen Boyd, and then the American acting crowd followed them. Chez Jay's became an in spot, a Hollywood hangout."

Over the years you've had a lot of different groups make Chez Jay's their regular spot. Does any one group stick out in your mind?

"Well, when I opened in '59, NASA had its headquarters on Pico, in an office building there. So all the astronauts adopted Chez Jay's and I became very good friends with Alan Shepard (and other astronauts) — and all those guys used to hangout at Chez Jay's.

"My friend Alan Shepard was going to the moon. We were having dinner with some friends and he said he was going to take some golf balls and a gold club to the moon, and he said, 'Don't tell anybody.' There was a basket of peanuts on the table so I said, 'Take the peanuts to the moon.' ... Everyone laughed.

"Well he went off and went into training and went to the moon on Apollo 14. I watched his exploits on TV, read about him in the paper. A month or so later he calls me and says, 'Fiondella, Alan Shepard here.' He said, 'Congratulations.' He said, 'I have your peanuts. I took them to the moon.' I couldn't believe it. ...

"So I called the local fish wrapper and the photographer from the Outlook came out and took a photo. ... I had the peanuts on the dating game, NBC came down and did a bit on it. I was named the 'Cosmopolitan' bachelor of the month in 1970."

Speaking of the Outlook, I understand workers there also made Chez Jay's a regular hangout. What was that like?

"All those guys came by, the linotype guys, the reporters, editors. ... We had a mixture. The Green Bay Packers hung out at Chez Jay's. They called it 'chez lays' instead of Chez Jay's because they met so many girls there."

You've been involved in a lot of different activities — from the military and law school to acting, exploring and running a restaurant. What's your philosophy on life?

"Live fast, die young and leave a good-looking corpse. Or my other one, the famous one, the one that got Clinton in trouble — when in doubt, whip it out.

"You've got to take a chance on life. You name it and I've lost money doing it. My real name is Jay Pigeon. ... In the old days, if you were part of the pigeon club you were an easy mark.

What's it like doing business in Santa Monica?

"Well it's been an interesting 43 years. They told me 43 years ago that Ocean Avenue was going to be another Miami Beach with all the high-rise hotels and it never did happen, because of our City Council and the zoning people made it tough on people. And I'm glad it didn't. I'm glad it stayed the way it is. The street maintained its charm, we got a couple hotels but a lot less than they predicted 40 years ago, and our City Council is an interesting bunch of people.

How so?

"Well we've got the Green Party and the business parties. It's good theater watching them on television. You know all the players and it's interesting."

If you could change two things about Santa Monica, what would they be?

"We've got to do something about the homeless again, they're getting to be a problem. When I first opened up, friends of mine — older people that lived north of Wilshire — used to walk from their homes, have a leisurely dinner and walk back through the parks. ...

See PROFILE, page 8

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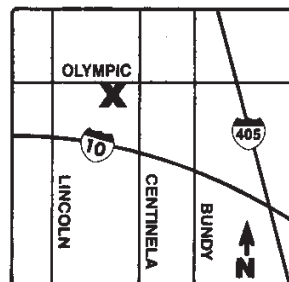
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LOCAL

New buildings will blend in with surrounding neighborhoods

ST. JOHN'S, from page 1

tion at both hospitals will occur in various stages, and should be completed in 2008 and 2009.

"It's like a chess or domino game," said John Frost, project director for UCLA's health sciences capital projects who is overseeing the construction at Santa Monica-UCLA. "Everything has to be done in phases. We are coordinating over 250 moves to keep it operational."

SANTA MONICA-UCLA A BREAKDOWN OF PHASES

Designed by prominent New York architect Robert Stern and the firm of Anshen + Allen Los Angeles, the new facility features a Northern Italian style similar to original buildings on the UCLA campus. Hospital officials say it was designed specifically to blend into the residential neighborhood surrounding the area.

"You won't see this monolith structure in the middle of the neighborhood," Braun said,

adding that the tallest building is six stories.

The new hospital will replace all but the Merle Norman Pavillion on the existing campus between Wilshire Boulevard and Arizona Avenue. Under what's been described as a unique alliance with UCLA Healthcare, Orthopaedic Hospital's inpatient services will relocate to Santa Monica from downtown Los Angeles when the new 271-bed hospital is completed on 15th and 16th streets.

Almost 90 percent of the inpatient beds in the new hospital will be private rooms and 52 of them will be designated for inpatient orthopaedic care.

Construction of the 315,000-square-foot portion of the facility is expected to be completed in 2007. Plans for the refurbishment of the Merle Norman Pavillion will coincide with the construction of the hospital and removal of the hospital's existing nine-story tower building on 15th Street. The tower will be torn down after the new hospital is completed and ready for occupancy in 2007.

Phase two of the construction was the hospital's central plant on Arizona Avenue to power both the existing and replacement hospitals. It has more reliable equipment than the old one, which was between 35 and 40 years old, Frost said.

"Its life expectancy was reaching its end," he said, adding it's more seismically sound, more energy efficient and produces less emissions.

The third phase involves a 13,000-square-foot emergency center on 15th Street, north of Arizona Avenue. The four-story facility, which will be done at the end of 2005, will house a new ER, clinical labs, a 16-bassinnet neo-natal intensive care unit, labor and delivery rooms, as well as surgical pathology and acute care, Frost said. There will be seven labor and delivery rooms, 14 ER positions and six inpatient imaging rooms.

"The ER is a much better design and will make it much easier to serve the 25,000 patients they get each year," Braun said.

The fourth phase, which overlaps the current construction, will be the new main hospital and the Orthopaedic Hospital Institute at 15th Street and Wilshire Boulevard. Scheduled to open in December of 2006, the facility will house the main lobby for the orthopaedic hospital, administrative offices and an outpatient orthopaedic clinic.

"It's part of a strategic alliance with UCLA and Orthopaedic Hospital that will bring world-class doctors on the westside to serve more of the community," Braun said. "The downtown facility will still offer its outpatient services."

The north wing, which will be six floors, will have more orthopaedic services, and will house an indoor and outdoor cafeteria, a library, pediatrics and acute care nursing.

Santa Monica-UCLA's central wing will be the last building to go up and will house the main lobby for the hospital, an auditorium, conference center space, new operating rooms and a new critical care unit. There will be six new operating



Bill Rodgers/Special to the Daily Press
Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center's new central plant allows the hospital to operate on its own with less energy.

rooms, which give the entire hospital a total of 15 operating rooms, Frost said.

The last phase, which will begin in 2008 after the new hospital is completed, includes demolishing the nine-story tower and various improvements to the entire site, of which 26 percent is dedicated to open space. The work should take about a year, Frost said.

The renovation also includes an expanded outpatient treatment center to provide greater capacity for surgeries and procedures that do not require overnight hospitalization.

The main entrance to the medical center will remain on 16th Street and will be accessed by a one-way drop-off area. The entrance to the Orthopaedic Hospital facility will be on 15th Street and also will

See ST. JOHN'S, page 7

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LOCAL



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ST. JOHN'S, from page 6

be accessible by a one-way drop-off area. Both the walk-in and ambulance entrances to the emergency center will be off of 15th Street.

SAINT JOHN'S HEALTH CARE CENTER

Saint John's inpatient hospital, which will house 182 new beds, is scheduled to open for occupancy in September of 2004.

It's the largest of the buildings on site at 225,000 square feet, Muldoon said. Crews began constructing it in 1999 and it was supposed to be done two years ago but the general contractor went bankrupt, which left hospital officials scrambling to find another one.

The new inpatient facility is completely base isolated, which allows the building to be able to withstand massive force — much more than the Northridge earthquake. Saint John's was closed for nine months after the 1994 earthquake and as a result, hospital officials have taken extra precautions to ensure it's self-sufficient in case another quake hits.

During the first few days after the quake, Saint John's didn't have water for domestic use.

"We were out of business for nine months, we learned a lot," Muldoon said. "You have to have your own infrastructure."

There are 175,000 gallons of water stored underneath the building, as well as 185,000 gallons of sanitary sewer water, 40,000 gallons of fuel and a third of the hospital's power is generated on site.

"If there was any type of event, we are now self-sufficient," Muldoon said.

Designed by HOK, a national firm and the Smith Group, which specializes in healthcare facilities, the inpatient building, which stands 85 feet tall and 600 feet long, is curved and faces 23rd Street off of Santa Monica Boulevard.

All rooms will have flat screen televisions and Internet access, Muldoon said. Thirty-two patient rooms are semi-private and the rest are private. But that could change. The hospital is licensed for 233 beds.

"We are looking at capacity considerations," Muldoon said, adding the private rooms could be made into semi-private if the hospital needs to bring in more patients.

Saint John's current facility is almost entirely semi-private rooms, but more patients want rooms to themselves these days.

"It's not really what people expect at a hospital anymore," Muldoon said.

The fourth floor houses paranatal services, including 12 labor delivery rooms and two cesarean delivery rooms. The nursery will have the capability of accommodating 18 babies and the neo-natal intensive care unit can accommodate six infants. Across from the ICU, Saint John's has built a hotel room of sorts for families whose child is receiving critical care.

The third floor will have 64 beds for general and orthopaedic surgeries. The second floor, which has patient 32 rooms, is dedicated to critical care and is designed specifically for patients who need around-the-clock attention — a lot of glass windows so nurses can keep their eyes on patients at all times and the doors are designed to break away in case of an emergency. Also on the second floor is a pharmacy.

"We realized that critical care patients are high users of pharmaceuticals and we had extra room so we put the pharmacy here and were able to do with a satellite pharmacy," Muldoon said.

The first floor, which has 64 beds, is dedicated to oncology and general medical surgery. There also is a temporary bridge that connects the new building to the old one, which will allow for the fourth-month move, Muldoon said.

Saint John's has completed its 30,000-square-foot central plant underground, which allows the hospital to operate self-sufficiently.

The hospital's main entrance, which is currently located at 22nd Street and Arizona Avenue, will be moved to Santa Monica Boulevard when the construction is complete.

The original hospital, which was built in 1942, is scheduled to be demolished in September of 2004. In its place will be a 255,000-square-foot diagnostic and treatment facility, which is scheduled to be open in 2009.



Carolyn Sackariason/Daily Press

Terry Muldoon, who is overseeing construction at Saint John's Health Care Center, stands in the new neo-natal intensive care unit.

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LOCAL



PROFILE, from page 5

"Then came the homeless people 20 years ago or whatever it was. And they seemed to get a handle on it 20 years ago but it seems to have become a major problem again. People north of Wilshire can't walk downtown and walk to the mall without getting accosted. There's got to be a solution. ...

"I also think we need better crosswalks, cross streets for civilians. My mother got killed, she was in a crosswalk (crossing Ocean Avenue in front of the Loews Beach Hotel). We need more crosswalks and we need to educate the people who don't know the laws in California. ...

"It's not fair to the people who are walking and it's not fair to the people who are driving. My mother — there

were 50 feet of skid marks and she still got hit."

What does the future hold for Jay and Chez Jay's?

"Well, it depends on the City Council and the Civic Center Plan. I'm hoping to stay as long as possible. I want to be the Tavern on the Green in Santa Monica.

If you can't stay, what might you do?

"Well, I don't know. That's a question I don't even want to consider. It's sacrilegious."

What's your favorite restaurant in Santa Monica, other than Chez Jay's?

"Next to Chez Jay's? Oh, they really just closed it. It was on Santa Monica Boulevard. It was Bobby Moyni's restaurant ... Dee's Diner. Dee's and Bobby and his wife — that place was my first love. It reminds me of the beginning with Chez Jay's. The public's really going to miss it. ...

"You know, restaurants come and restaurants go. It's really the highest level

of mortality there is. ... It's a tough business but it's a fun business. You've got to love people. ...

"(The closing of Dee's is) going to be loss to Santa Monica. It was an institution. You couldn't ask for nicer people than Bobby and his wife — kindhearted, fed you if you were hungry and had no money. It was one of the old mom and pop joints that's gone."

If you weren't running Chez Jay's, what would you do?

"Oh, doing more adventures. I have two books out now about me. Documentaries — there's a new documentary coming out. ... I'd like to do more exploration and more adventures, and see more exotic places.

The man behind Chez Jay's

Jay Fiondella owns Chez Jay's, a popular seaside restaurant and bar in downtown Santa Monica.

Born: August 6, 1926 in East Haven, Connecticut.

Residence: Ninth Street apartment.

Hobbies: He once made headlines flying hot air balloons, now enjoys traveling and exploring.

Family: Daughter Anita, 52. Son Chaz, 14.

Restaurant: Seats 71, including the bar. About 15 workers, most of them veteran employees. Fiondella declined to discuss sales numbers. "Just say, 'We're doing well,'" he said.

Background: Fiondella fought in WWII before going to law school at the University of Miami. Though he was at the head of his class, he dropped out to move to California and pursue acting in the early 1950s.

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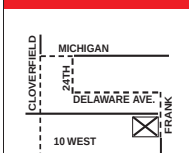
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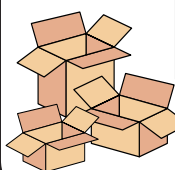


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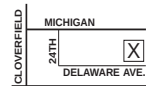


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NATIONAL



Schwarzenegger team still searching for political direction

BY TOM CHORNEAU
Associated Press Writer

SACRAMENTO — Whether it is political inexperience or simply a bumpy start to a new administration, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger continues to exasperate lawmakers and interest groups by his sudden and inexplicable flip-flops on major policy questions.

The new governor has already been criticized for breaking campaign promises to limit his fund-raising, to audit the state's books fully and to conduct an independent investigation into allegations of sexual harassment against him.

Now Schwarzenegger has added to the uncertainty with a series of highly publicized reversals on key budget positions including his funding commitments to schools, cuts proposed for the disabled and money due cities and counties.

Some say it is too soon to draw conclusions on such flip-flops since the administration's been in power slightly more than a month.

"The optimist in me wants to believe that they are going to get this under control," said Ann Crigler, director of the Jesse M. Unruh Institute of Politics at the University of Southern California. "But this is the kind of thing that can go on and become a real problem."

In an effort to give the new Republican governor the benefit of the doubt, many lawmakers and Capitol lobbyists who have felt the sting of Schwarzenegger's reversals are reluctant to criticize him in public.

But the flip-flops are hard to ignore.

The governor been saying for months that he would protect public schools from budget cuts. Then, in a national television interview, he suggested that the budget problems are so big that he might consider suspending Proposition 98, a voter-approved funding guarantee for schools. The remark sent a shock wave through the education community and forced the administration to back off from the proposal.

In a similar manner, Schwarzenegger proposed cutting

\$276 million from programs for the disabled — a move that generated a big rally at the Capitol two weeks ago and forced Schwarzenegger to admit last week that the plan was a mistake.

There was also a promise that local government officials claim the governor made to them to protect cities and counties from loss of funding due to Schwarzenegger's move to roll back car taxes. The governor came under intense criticism when he suggested that it was the Legislature's job to find the money and he had done all he could to help them.

In a surprise move, he declared the state to be in a fiscal emergency last week and order payments to cities and counties after lawmakers had left the Capitol for a holiday recess.

Administration officials down play the idea that Schwarzenegger has flip-flopped on issues. They argue that as a new governor, he's still learning about some issues and when he becomes better educated on a topic, he's not afraid to change course.

But Crigler and other observers note that part of the issue may not be the governor at all. Instead, they note he's assembled an eclectic mix of advisers who disagree on many topics to serve in his administration.

Members of the governor's cabinet and inner circle include officials with ties to both Democrats and Republicans; conservatives who have worked in the past for Senate Republican Leader Jim Brulte, R-Rancho Cucamonga; moderates that have come from former Gov. Pete Wilson's administration; and even some liberals with ties to the governor's wife and member of the Kennedy clan.

There is some sense that conflicts among advisers has led to some of the mixed messages. The governor's initial plan to suspend the Lanterman Act, a landmark civil rights law that guarantees care for disabled, was viewed as some as a reflection of some of the more of the conservative members of the administration — especially Donna Arduin, the governor's finance director and a former adviser to Florida Gov. Jeb Bush.

Schwarzenegger's decision only a week later to abandon the idea of cutting \$276 million from disabled services, appears to have had been influenced by his more liberal advisers especially Bonnie Reiss, a Democrat and entertainment attorney who has served in the past as president of the Inner-City Games Foundation and a founding director of Arnold's All-Stars.

Raphael Sonenshein, a political science professor at California State University Fullerton, said diversity in an administration is a good thing — but it can also cause problems.

"It doesn't make much sense to have a different coalition on every decision he makes," said Sonenshein. "Having an eclectic staff is a wonderful thing but it can lead to incoherence. You get the feeling that they are going from thing to thing, solving each one as unconnected problems."

Still, Sonenshein noted that Schwarzenegger's flamboyant actions have dominated the Capitol and his pattern of misdirection may be intentional as a means of keeping the opposition off balance. "The problem is that he hasn't moved the ball too much," Sonenshein said. "It's really only been the impression of action."

Dan Schnur, a Republican strategist who once worked for Wilson, said having a diverse core of advisers has both advantages and disadvantages.

"The best part of having a group that is diverse is that everyone in the political community feels there's someone in the governor's office that they can talk to," said Schnur, who also noted that having input from all areas can also prove a downside.

While many analysts believe the Schwarzenegger administration will eventually settle down and communicate with one voice, Schnur said the Schwarzenegger staff may always been a diverse mix.

"Even if he hadn't been a movie star, Gov. Schwarzenegger is a hard one to put into a box," Schnur said. "I think that Donna Arduin and Bonnie Reiss both represent legitimate parts of Arnold and what he believes."

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NATIONAL

Colorado resorts looking closer to home for employees

By The Associated Press

DENVER — Officials at Colorado ski resorts say fewer jobs are being filled by foreign workers this season because of new, stricter national security screening policies.

Vail Resorts typically requests permission to sponsor about 1,200 employees covered by H-2B visas. This year, the company asked the Labor Department for just 1,000.

Such visas require an employee sponsor. Valid for one year, the visas can be extended in one-year increments for up to three years.

Winter Park has hired 140 temporary foreign workers with H-2B visas, compared with 214 last season. Copper Mountain has employed 250 foreign employees with worker and student visas, down from 300 last season. Steamboat and Aspen both asked for fewer visas.

Recent U.S. security requirements that all temporary visa workers apply in person at American consulates in their home countries are crimping international recruiting efforts.

"It's getting a lot harder now. There are a lot of people in Argentina who want to come here to work," said Ruben Kuratsu, a 23-year-old Copper Mountain cashier from Mar Del Plata, Argentina.

Kuratsu said traveling to an interview at the American consulate in Buenos Aires was worth the job: "If I take home \$1,000, it's like \$3,000 at home. That's good."

The number of H-2B visas issued by the Labor Department depends on the strength of responses to job advertisements. The agency monitors responses sent to local post office boxes.

For years, locals balked at ski resort jobs ranging generally from \$6.40 an hour

to \$9 or \$10 an hour. But after two years of a soft economy, resort companies are seeing increasing interest from U.S. citizens.

"There are more Americans out there looking for jobs, so we have adjusted the number of people we need to recruit," said Sarah Benjes, international staffing manager at Vail Resorts.

Rod Haratyk, 57, a disabled veteran from Leadville, said he is considering a cook job, or maybe a night desk job, in exchange for a ski pass, insurance and a more spending money.

"I'm probably the ideal ski area employee because I'm more concerned with the benefits than the money," he said. "It can be tough living up here."

Jim Laing, vice president of human resources for Aspen Skiing Co., said he noticed a lot of lifestyle and career changes after the Sept. 11 attacks. That's meant resorts don't have to look abroad for employees as much as they used to.

In 2000, Winter Park went to South America to recruit employees for the season.

"There were so many opportunities here, and we have so many entry-level jobs, people weren't biting," spokeswoman Joan Christensen said. "Now, it's another story."

Among those working on Christmas at Copper Mountain was Maxine Whittaker, a native Australian who was kept busy answering guests' questions.

"I miss my family," she said. "I rang them yesterday, and they were drinking cocktails and swimming in the pool."

"Being here, it's a totally different way to spend your Christmas. In Australia, it's boiling hot. No one sits inside and drinks hot chocolate. It's more like, 'Let's go to the beach and have a barbecue,'" she said.

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Oil and gas companies winning quick approval of drilling permits

Editor's note: Soaring demand for natural gas and a Bush administration push to speed production are creating a new energy boom in the Rocky Mountain West — an area the industry sees as "America's Middle East." In the third installment of a five-part series, an Associated Press review finds that oil and gas companies are winning faster approval of their drilling permits from the Bush administration.

BY ROBERT GEHRKE

Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — Oil and gas companies eager to drill in the Rocky Mountain West appear to have an ally in the Bush administration, which is approving wells at a pace well ahead of the Clinton administration and looking to get even faster.

An Associated Press review of thousands of applications to drill on Bureau of Land Management land since 1998 shows a 34 percent increase in the number of wells approved under Bush when compared with the last three years of the Clinton administration.

The vast majority of the permits, 94 percent since 2001, are clustered in five states: Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming — a key region in the administration's push to open more public land for energy development.

The BLM has received nearly 26,000 applications to drill wells and approved nearly 19,000 since 1998 — nearly three of every four. BLM land and other federal land managed by the Interior Department contain an estimated 68 percent of nation's gas reserves and 74 percent of oil resources. The AP review covered detailed BLM records over the last three years and summary information dating to 1998.

A flood of permits has strained the BLM's meager resources, creating a backlog of applications industry officials say is

leading to shortages and higher gas prices.

To answer the critics, the Interior Department is seeking to speed up the process.

"We are blessed with vast resources. We have a stewardship responsibility to produce it and I think the American public expects us to produce it," said Patricia Morrison, the agency's principal deputy assistant secretary for land and minerals.

The BLM controls 262 million acres of land and 700 million acres of subsurface rights, with an annual budget of about \$2 billion and 10,000 employees — but it isn't enough these days.

The BLM field office in Buffalo, Wyo., has been swamped by the oil and gas stampede. It handles permits for the frenzied coal-bed methane development of the Powder River Basin, where the agency expects to issue 3,000 permits in the coming year and methane is so shallow wells can be punched with rigs used to drill for water.

Four years ago, 23 people worked at the Buffalo office. The number has more than tripled to 76 to handle the demand, more than 4,000 permit applications in the last three years.

Dennis Stenger, field manager of the office, said his staff has been aggressive in trying to get faster, issuing permits to clusters of wells to avoid redundant environmental and cultural studies. That practice and others were adopted BLM-wide in a series of directives issued in April aimed at improving the permit process.

Without unforeseen delays, the office can generally get permits processed in 46 days, Stenger said. "You can't streamline much more" without changing the environmental laws, he said.

Federal regulations, however, say the BLM is supposed to process permits in 30 days or less. The industry notes that a state like Colorado can often process permits to drill on state lands in as little as 10 days.

The AP review found it takes the BLM much longer — an average of 89 days over the last three years, excepting applications still pending at the end of the 2003 budget year.

Morrison said the numbers don't reflect delays caused by companies amending or withdrawing an application. But she conceded that permits are taking too long to handle for the liking of industry — and government.

"That's exactly what we're trying to address," Morrison said.

The AP review found that, during the first 33 months of the Bush administration, the BLM approved 9,876 wells, or about 299 per month. In the final 40 months of the Clinton presidency, 8,934 wells were approved, or 223 per month.

The volume of permit applications has also grown fairly steadily, from 3,790 in 1998 to 4,715 in 2003. The number approved has fluctuated some, but has generally increased as well.

Oil and gas companies contributed nearly \$2 million to Bush's 2000 campaign and have already given nearly \$1 million to his re-election bid, according to campaign finance records compiled by the Center for Responsive Politics. The industry has contributed \$29 million to political campaigns since 1999, with roughly 80 percent going to Republicans.

Billions of dollars are at stake: A recent

industry study by IHS Energy estimated an additional 264 million cubic feet of natural gas per day could be in production by August 2004 if the BLM were able to wipe out its backlog in six months and begin consistently processing permits in 45 days. The Energy Department has estimated that, over the next two decades, gas consumption will grow by more than 50 percent, while production would grow by just 14 percent if it continues at its current rate.

Dave Alberswerth, a public lands expert with The Wilderness Society, said the BLM simply doesn't have the funding and personnel to handle the increase in permit applications. He also said drilling in the West remains steady, despite the industry's grievances.

"Their theory seems to be that the obstructions and impediments are the environmental safeguards," he said. "From our perspective that's the wrong way to go. They should not be cutting corners on environmental protections to issue oil and gas drilling permits faster."

Krista Mutch, director of government affairs for the Denver-based Western Gas Resources company, said the industry has no plans to eliminate environmental safeguards.

"What we are suggesting is we all are seeking to increase the efficiency in the way we do our work," Mutch said. "The BLM is frankly not in the 21st century from a technological perspective."

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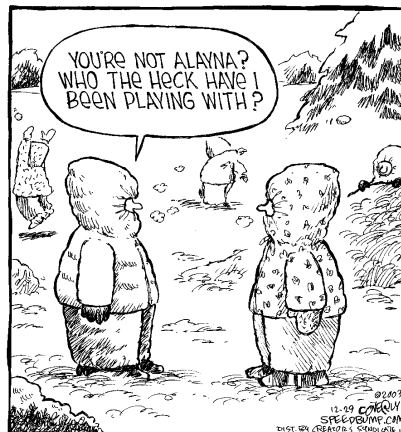
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PEOPLE IN THE NEWS

Kate Winslet and Sam Mendes parents of baby boy

The Associated Press

■ **LOS ANGELES** — Actress Kate Winslet and her husband, director Sam Mendes, are the parents of a baby boy. Joe Mendes was born on Dec. 22 in New York. He weighed 7 pounds, 13 ounces, Winslet publicist Jennifer Allen said Friday. No other details were released.

It is the first child for the couple, who were married in May.

"The couple is overjoyed," Allen said.

Winslet has a 3-year-old daughter, Mia, from her previous marriage to Jim Threapleton.

Winslet, 28, was nominated for Academy Awards for her roles in "Titanic," "Sense and Sensibility" and "Iris." Mendes, 38, won the best-director Oscar for 1999's "American Beauty."

■ **MOSCOW** — A plaque has been unveiled at the site of the filming of "The Irony of Fate," and one of its stars has received a national award at a Kremlin ceremony recognizing his contribution to the movie — a New Year's tradition in Russia.

Andrei Myagkov received the award from President Vladimir Putin with 48 other cultural, scientific and military leaders who were recognized Thursday for their contributions to Russian society.

Putin called Myagkov the man "with whom we celebrate the New Year for almost 30 years already," ITAR-Tass news agency reported.

Also on Thursday, a plaque was unveiled at the southwestern Moscow site of the 1975 movie's filming, ITAR-Tass reported.

"I am very happy to say that the film has turned into a relic admired by the whole nation," director Eldar Ryazanov said at the ceremony.

"The Irony of Fate" is a satire on the legions of identical, drab apartment buildings across the country. A Moscow man drinks himself to oblivion on New Year's Eve in steam baths with his friends and wakes up at an

airport in another city. Believing he's still in Moscow, he goes to an apartment complex identical to his own. The story ends with him and the woman who lives in the apartment falling in love.

The tradition of watching the movie has survived the Soviet collapse, and it's still widely viewed every year.

■ **BLOOMINGTON, Ind.** — One of Indiana University's key soccer recruits for 2004 has a name that's already familiar in Bloomington: John Mellencamp.

Mellencamp is a nephew of the 52-year-old rocker, who lives in Bloomington. He's made a verbal commitment to play at Indiana, where the soccer team holds indoor practice in the John Mellencamp Pavilion.

"I don't know what it'll be like to attend a school where they already have a building named after you," Joe Mellencamp, John's father, told The Herald-Times for a story Friday.

The younger Mellencamp, an all-Ohio player, already is familiar with the Indiana soccer program. He was MVP at its soccer camp in 2001 and 2003.

"It was always a dream of mine to play at Indiana, so when I got the chance, I wanted to pursue it," Mellencamp said.

John isn't the only Mellencamp to play soccer. His older brother, Ian, played two years of soccer at Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis.

"But Ian gave up soccer to play guitar, and has his own band, now. I wonder where that came from?" Joe Mellencamp said.

■ **PITTSBURGH** — Joanne Rogers, Mrs. of the famed and beloved Mister Rogers, still speaks of the children's television host in the present tense nearly a year after his death.

"I talk about 'our' this and 'our' that, and I talk about him in the present tense an awful lot," said Rogers, 75. "I haven't been able to get used to the past tense."

Fred Rogers, host of "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood," died Feb. 27 of stomach cancer.

Since her husband's death, Rogers has accepted awards on his behalf and talked to groups about his lifelong work helping children.

Last month, she spoke at a ceremony inducting Rogers into the Broadcasting & Cable Hall of Fame in New York, and was so unsettled by a film clip of her husband she forgot whom to thank.

"They showed the film and I was so undone by it, that I went up, I had the notes right in front of me but I couldn't remember," she told the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette. "It was like everything in my mind had been knocked out."

Rogers said she's learning to cope.

"Sometimes I'm surprised that he doesn't just show up at the door," she said. "But on the other hand, I also know that he's not here and I'm coming to the realization slowly that he's not coming back."

■ **DETROIT** — White Stripes lead singer Jack White has been booked on a misdemeanor aggravated assault charge from a fight with the lead singer of another band.

The 28-year-old was fingerprinted and had his mug shot snapped Tuesday, the Detroit Free Press reported. He posted a \$100 cash bond and will be arraigned next month.

Assistant Wayne County Prosecutor Marcus Connor said White was cooperative.

"He was a gentleman throughout the whole process," Connor said.

White's attorney, Wally Piszczatowski, said the booking was routine.

"Everything went smoothly," he said. "One step at a time."

The Dec. 13 fight between White and Von Bondies lead singer Jason Stollsteimer began shortly before midnight at the Majestic Theater Center, where both men were in the audience for another concert.

Stollsteimer, 25, told police White had punched him seven times in the face. Police said Stollsteimer's right eye was bruised and swollen and he was bleeding from his nose.

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