Former coach cops to sex charges

Getting her second wind

A newspaper with issues

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(1) Judge Jeffrey K. Sprecher of Berks County, Pa., dismissed charges against a man in August for buying beer for his underage neighbor, ruling that the prosecutor hadn't proved all of the elements of the crime. Specifically, said Sprecher, there was Specifically, said Specificit, liefe was no evidence offered that Miller Genuine Draft is "beer." (Prosecutors usually submit a government-created listing of beers as proof but failed to do that.) (2) In August, police in London Ontario informed the mother of a college student murdered in 1990 that they had recently solved the case and were certain that the perp was a man on parole at the time and who died in 1994. However, said police, they cannot reveal his name because of "privacy laws.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Today is the 279th day of 2005. There are 86 days left in the year.

On Oct. 6, 1927, the era of talking pic tures arrived with the opening of "The Jazz Singer," a movie starring Al Jolson which featured both silent and sound-synchronized scenes.

QUOTE OF THE DAY

"A hat should be taken off when you greet a lady and left off for the rest of your life. Nothing looks more stupid than a hat.'

P. J. O'ROURKE

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MUSIO

BY RYAN HYATT Daily Press Staff Writer

LAX COURTHOUSE — A former Santa Monica High School coach pleaded guilty on Wednesday to nine felony charges related to sexual relationships he had with three teenage girls.

Mike Hearn, 38, was an assistant basketball and football coach at Samohi when he was arrested on June 2, 2004. He was subsequently freed on \$42,000 bond.

Hearn pleaded guilty to six counts of unlawful sex with a 17year-old girl, two counts for having oral sex and performing a lewd act

upon a 15-year-old girl, and one count for sharing pornographic materials with a third girl, also 15.

District Attorney spokeswoman Jane Robison said the court has indicated Hearn will face up to two years in prison, the low end of what may have been a maximum of eight years had he been tried

and found guilty by a jury. Superior Court Judge Stephanie

Sauther is expected to sentence Hearn on Oct. 11.

School district administrators maintained the 17-year-old girl wasn't a Samohi student, but said

See **HEARN**, page 11

District finds best laid plan can use a hand BY RYAN HYATT

Daily Press Staff Write

MALIBU — The local school district tonight will choose a consultant to develop a master plan for its facilities, which may lead to a new bond measure.

Several firms have been considered by the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District to develop a facilities master plan for area schools. On Thursday, board of education members will weigh in on what they expect of the finalist, Fields Devereaux Architects & Engineers (FDAE), a firm staff recommends for organizing the plan and directing future school structure improvements over the next 20 years.

See SCHOOLS, page 9

Drive-by shootings put pair in hospital

LOCAL

BY CAROLYN SACKARIASON Daily Press Staff Writer

16TH STREET - Two men are listed in stable condition at a local hospital after they were shot here on Tuesday night.

Monica Police responded to the alley west of 16th Street near Broadway after they received a call of shots fired. Officers found two gunshot victims at the scene. The first victim, a 16-year-old male black who lives in Los Angeles and is cur-See SHOOTINGS, page 10



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Fabian Lewkowicz/Daily Press

81-vear-old Liz Bevington, AKA 'Skateboard Mama,' wind skates along the Santa Monica Beach strand. The retired mother of one spends most of her time at the beach rollerblading, wind skating, skateboarding and bike riding. I can't just stay at home and be a coach potato,' she said.

w

LOCAL

District offers help to victims' families

$\ensuremath{\mathsf{HEARN}}\xspace$, from page 1

the other two victims were. The girls' identities were not released because they are minors who are victims of sex crimes.

Hearn, who is married and has children in local schools, had been placed on home assignment during the court proceedings.

Neither Hearn's attorney, James Brewer, nor the prosecutor, Kelly Read, would comment on the case.

John Deasy, superintendent of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District, said Hearn was a seasonal employee who was not rehired after the charges were filed against him. Deasy said the Santa Monica public

Deasy said the Santa Monica public schools will continue to offer its support in any way it can to the families who have been affected by Hearn's crimes.

"We will give them any kind of support

they need that we can provide," Deasy said.

Hearn's guilty plea comes just before his case was supposed to go to trial, although it had been pushed back for about two months. A status conference in the case was held at the end of August 2004. Hearn was ordered not to harass or assault the three victims and stay at least 100 yards away from the three girls and the Samohi campus.

The victims have been treated at the Stuart House in Santa Monica, which often deals with sexual abuse cases. The Stuart House is overseen by officials from the Rape Treatment Center, based at the Santa Monica-UCLA Medical Center.

Robison said Hearn made no plea agreement with the DA's office.

"He threw himself at the mercy of the court," Robison said.





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