



SING ALONG WITH 'WIZARD OF OZ'

Munchkin, Garland impersonator make cameos in S.F. **PREVIEW**

IT'S ONE AND OUT FOR CAL

Bears lose to Oregon in Pac-10 basketball tournament **SPORTS**



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Court quiets gay wedding bells

State justices to decide whether S.F. had authority to issue licenses

FROM STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

The California Supreme Court ordered an immediate halt to same-sex weddings in San Francisco on Thursday as Massachusetts lawmakers gave preliminary approval to a constitutional amendment to ban gay marriages in the only state where they have been ruled legal.

The court said it would focus on whether city officials acted outside their authority in

issuing the marriage licenses to gay couples. But it said a separate action questioning the constitutionality of the state's gay-marriage ban could be heard in Superior Court.

San Francisco City Attorney Dennis Herrera filed just such a suit after the high court's decision.

"While we're disappointed with the interim stay of marriages between same-sex couples here in San Francisco, we must recognize that our overriding purpose is to ensure equality for all Californians seeking to marry," Herrera said.

Teary-eyed couples were turned away at

San Francisco's City Hall, where more than 3,700 gay couples have tied the knot in the last month.

"We were filling out the application and they told us to stop," said Art Adams, who was the first to be denied as he and partner Devin Baker sought a license. "It's heart-breaking. I don't understand why two people in love should be prevented from expressing it."

The high court's unanimous decision Thursday marked a victory for conservatives who have been fighting for a month to block

Please see **GAYS**, News 11



JEANNE RIZZO of Corte Madera consoles Stuart Sanders (left) and Ross Ladouceur (right) of Boulder Creek, who were denied a marriage license Thursday.

SEAN CONNELLEY — Staff

"An act of barbaric terrorism has engulfed Spain with profound pain, repulsion and anger."

King Juan Carlos

Terror blasts kill more than 190 in Madrid

Officials think Basque group to blame, but have not ruled out al-Qaida

By Mar Roman
ASSOCIATED PRESS

MADRID, Spain — A series of bombs hidden in backpacks exploded in quick succession Thursday, blowing apart four commuter trains and killing at least 192 people and wounding more than 1,400. Spain at first blamed Basque separatists, but a shadowy group claimed responsibility in the name of al-Qaida for the worst terrorist attack in Spanish history.

Panicked rush-hour commuters trampled on each other, abandoning their bags and shoes, after two of the bombs went off in one train in the Atocha station in the heart of Madrid. Train cars were turned into twisted wrecks and platforms were strewn with corpses. Cell phones rang unanswered on the bodies of the dead as frantic relatives tried to call them.

"March 11, 2004, now holds its place in the history of infamy," Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar said.

The bombing came three days ahead of Spain's general election on Sunday. A major campaign issue was how to deal with ETA, the Basque militant group that is seeking greater autonomy.

Campaigning for the election was called off and three days of mourning were declared.

The bombings occurred exactly 2 1/2 years after the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks in the United States and were Eu-

Please see **SPAIN**, News 10



EMILIO NARANJO (above) and **MARCELO HERNANDEZ** (top) — Associated Press photos
POLICE (above) carry the bodies out of a passenger train Thursday after a number of bombs rocked railway stations in Madrid, killing more than 170 rush-hour commuters and injuring hundreds more. Demonstrators (top) hold a banner that reads 'No More Terror' in front of the Spanish Embassy, during a protest against the Basque separatist group ETA in Montevideo, Uruguay.

SCHOOLS

Oakland district now in the black

Tenured teachers relieved to hear layoff warnings won't be sent

By Alex Katz and Robert Gammon
STAFF WRITERS

OAKLAND — State Administrator Randolph Ward is projecting the once-bankrupt Oakland schools will have a balanced budget for the first time in almost two years, and announced Thursday the district won't have to send any layoff warnings to tenured teachers this year.

Just three months after Ward and his staff predicted a \$20 million deficit, projections now show the district will actually have a \$2.5 million surplus this year.

The decision not to send "March 15" layoff warnings to veteran instructors represents a stark contrast to the situation

"Instead of worrying this weekend whether they'll receive a March 15 letter, (teachers) will get a thank you instead. I think that's phenomenal."

Sheila Quintana
TEACHERS UNION

one year ago, when the district's previous leaders issued 1,160 such letters, prompting widespread protests and anxiety. The district "is working to avoid the deep cuts of last year," Ward said. "This will become a district with schools of which we can all be proud."

Ward and his staff credited at least part of the budget turn-

Please see **WARD**, News 11

ESPIONAGE

Iraqi spy suspect has Bay Area ties

Susan Lindauer, 41, may have aided post-war resistance groups

By Josh Richman
STAFF WRITER

A South Bay congressman's former aide and key White House official's cousin was arrested Thursday on charges that she gave information to and took money from the Iraqi spy service before and since last year's U.S. invasion.

Susan Lindauer, 41, of Takoma Park, Md., allegedly met with Iraqi Intelligence Service members during visits from October 1999 through March 2002 to the Iraqi Mission to the



LINDAUER

United Nations in New York City; met with Iraqi officials in Baghdad in February or March 2002; and passed documents to an undercover FBI agent with whom she'd talked about helping post-war Iraqi resistance groups.

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Forecast

Mostly sunny
Highs: lower 70s
Lows: lower 50s



Details on Living 8



CRIME

Suspect in I-580 shootings arrested

27-year-old Stockton man booked on eight counts of attempted homicide

By Ivan Delventhal
STAFF WRITER

DUBLIN — An intensive two-week manhunt for a freeway gunman came to a sudden close Thursday as California Highway Patrol investigators arrested a Stockton man in connection with the shooting spree that damaged eight vehicles on Interstate 580 last month.

Authorities identified the man arrested as 27-year-old Christopher Charles Gaffard. He was booked into Santa Rita jail on Thursday on eight counts of attempted homicide. The CHP said he was expected to be arraigned as early as this afternoon.

CHP Golden Gate Division Chief Tom Noble announced

Please see **ARREST**, News 11



MICHAEL LUCIA — Staff

TOM NOBLE, chief of the CHP's Golden Gate Division, is flanked by CHP Lt. Rob Patrick and Special Agent John Torres of the ATF on Thursday in Dublin as he announces the arrest of a suspect in the I-580 shootings.

INSIDE

LeapFrog takes jump backward

Emeryville educational toy-maker's shares drop by 25 percent after announcing its first-quarter loss is greater than expected.

Business inside Sports

Traveling by the book

Local publishing houses offer broad spectrum of travel guides to help plan vacations and weekend getaways.

Living