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in the Big Dance



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# Daily News

**WEATHER**  
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Highs: 78-85  
Lows: 45-57  
Air quality:  
Moderate  
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FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 2004

50 Cents  
DESIGNATED AREAS HIGHER

## Court: Gays can't marry

By Michael Gougis  
and Harrison Sheppard  
Staff Writers

The California Supreme Court ordered San Francisco officials Thursday to immediately stop marrying gay couples until the justices can decide in the next few months whether the city has the power to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples.

San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom immediately complied with the order and teary-eyed gay couples at City Hall were turned away.

The court did not rule on whether Newsom had the authority, as he claims, to allow same-sex marriage licenses, nor did it void the 4,161 marriages the city has licensed since Feb. 12.

Justices also did not address whether the state constitution permits same-sex marriage, saying that issue should work its way

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## State big-time loser as landlord

By David M. Drucker  
Sacramento Bureau

SACRAMENTO — Saying California is losing billions of dollars in potential revenue, two Republican lawmakers on Thursday proposed requiring the state to determine how much property it owns, sell off any surplus and ensure it gets fair-market value on leases.

Despite owning thousands of properties — including the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum, 752 residential rental units in Sacramento and a university research facility in Tahiti — the state does not have a central database that lists its assets, which in many cases are sitting vacant or being leased to private and public sector entities at rates well below market value, the lawmakers said.

"It does not make sense to me that the state's taxpayers own the L.A. Coliseum and get about

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### KOBE VICTORY



health and sexual past.

**Sports**

# CARNAGE!

## Bombings in Spain kill more than 190



Pablo Torres Guerrero/El Pais, Reuters

Victims on the tracks just outside Madrid's Atocha station are tended to by rescue workers after a series of deadly explosions, above. Right, two injured people wait for aid. Both Basque separatists and al-Qaida are suspected in the explosions.

Jose Huesca/EFE



## Basques, al-Qaida are suspected

By Elaine Sciolino  
The New York Times

MADRID, Spain — Ten bombs ripped through four commuter trains in Madrid on Thursday, killing at least 192 people and wounding more than 1,400 in the deadliest terrorist attack on a European target since World War II.

Spanish authorities initially blamed the Basque separatist group ETA. But after finding a van with detonators and tape of Quranic verses near Madrid, they held open the possibility of militant Islamic terrorism.

A group claiming links to al-Qaida took responsibility in a letter delivered to an Arab

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newspaper. An American counterterrorism official said the claim should be viewed skeptically.

Spain, a U.S. ally in the war on Iraq that has 1,300 troops stationed there, was explicitly threatened as a target in an audiotape reportedly made by Osama bin Laden last October.

As the country struggled to absorb the devastation three days before general elections, Prime Minister Jose Maria Aznar said, "March 11 now has its place in the history of infamy."

The bombings came in coordinated explosions that went off within a 10-minute period shortly before 8 a.m. as people headed to work and school. The police found and detonated three other bombs.

At the main Atocha commuter station in the heart of Madrid just a block from the Prado Museum, an explosion cut a train in two, sending pieces of metal high into the air. Bloody victims crawled from mangled train cars and staggered into the streets. Other victims were found burned to death in their seats.

There, as at the nearby Santa Eugenia and El Pozo stations, broken bodies and body parts

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## Cadaver-parts trade lucrative, essential

The New York Times

About 10,000 Americans will their bodies to science each year, choosing a path that, in the popular imagination at least, leads to the clinical dignity of the medical school or teaching hospital, where the dead help to unveil the wonders of human anatomy or the mysteries of disease.

Few donors imagine the many other ways corpses give their all for science: mangled in automobile crash tests, blown to bits by land mines or cut up with power saws to be shipped in pieces around the country or even abroad. Few see themselves ending up in a row of trunks, limbless and headless, arrayed on gurneys in the ballroom of a resort hotel for

a surgical training seminar.

Nor do many people suspect that corpses are precious raw material in a little-known profit-making industry, and that once dead, they are worth far more cut up than whole.

A burgeoning scandal at the cadaver lab at the University of California, Los Angeles, has thrown back a heavy curtain that has kept this business largely hidden from public view.

The university this week suspended its Willard Body Program and arrested the program's director and an alleged middleman whom the university accuses of trafficking in as many as 800 cadavers in a six-year

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Fantasy Five numbers picked last night  
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## Perchlorate ruling fueling activist fight

By Kerry Cavanaugh  
Staff Writer

California health officials announced a new public health goal for perchlorate Thursday that critics charge would let polluters off the hook in the Simi Valley, the San Fernando Valley and Santa Clarita.

With the new goal, the California Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment said six parts per billion of perchlorate and less is safe in drinking water. That's the equivalent of six drops in an Olympic-size pool. The chemical is linked to thyroid dysfunction.

Highly concentrated plumes of perchlorate — a rocket-fuel ingredient — lie beneath local military contracting sites and

pollution has been discovered at single-digit levels in neighboring communities.

Environmental watchdogs have pushed for a standard far lower, one ppb as recommended by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, while industrial users have sought a 200 ppb standard.

"There are lots of surface water releases and groundwater releases in Simi Valley that became permissible overnight," said Dan Hirsch, an activist who has been following the perchlorate cleanup at the Santa Susana Field Lab rocket-testing facility.

Dan Beck, a spokesman for Boeing Co., which operates the lab, said the company is

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