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City Council Expected To Approve Daytime Curfew

By Chris Sieroty

As the 2006-07 school year winds down, the Beverly Hills City Council is expected to approve changes to a curfew ordinance on Tuesday, that adds a new prohibition to daytime loitering by minors.

The council already made changes to the current curfew ordinance, pushing back the nighttime curfew by one hour to 11 p.m. and giving minors the opportunity to stay out later if they have written permission from

their parents.

"There were some serious concerns we had about the current evening curfew," said Vice Mayor Barry Brucker. "We added an amendment that allows students to be out later with a permission slip from their parents. We didn't want kids coming home from a move or a Dodger game fearing they would get stopped and cited."

The new daytime curfew allows police officers to cite

(see 'CURFEW,' page 27)



BIG SISTER AWARD – Lonnie Delshad, wife of Mayor Jimmy Delshad, was recently honored along with two other women, for her contributions to Jewish Big Brothers Big Sisters at a luncheon at the Beverly Hills Hotel. Mayor Jimmy Delshad presented his wife with the Community Impact Award. Founded in 1915, Jewish Big Brothers Big Sisters of Los Angeles specializes in mentoring children through its core matching program and school based monitoring. Pictured (from left): Honorees Hilary Ratner, Lonnie Delshad, Margy Feldman (Executive Director of JBBBS) and Leslie Kavanaugh.

Photo by Express Service Productions

School Board Approves Smoking Ban

By Chris Sieroty

Despite objections to the Beverly Hills Board of Education taking a position on an issue before it's approved by the City Council, the school board unanimously approved a resolution supporting the City Council's potential outdoor smoking ban.

In voicing support for the resolution, board members said it was important that the school district be committed to encouraging its students to embrace a healthy lifestyle and in providing a healthy and safe environment.

Rudy Cole, a spokesman with the Beverly Hills Restaurant

and Hotel Association, said the school board should have waited for the City Council to act before approving a resolution supporting the ordinance.

"There have been other controversial issues that we haven't weighed in on until the City Council had decided," said School Board Member Myra Lurie. "This is an appropriate issue for us to weigh in on. I have attended several PTA meetings and residents feel strongly about this ordinance."

During Tuesday's school board meeting, Lurie also praised

(see 'BAN,' page 27)

BHRA Seeks To Monitor Industrial Area Changes

By Kelly Hartog

With the City's recent renaming of the Beverly Hills industrial area the Entertainment Business District (Industrial Area), and its recent overview of upcoming projects, the recently-formed Beverly Hills Residents' Association (BHRA), is determined to be involved in any discussions and implementations that are set to take place in the area that currently includes both government, utility, and private office uses.

Of the 43 acres in the district, the City currently owns approximately 11.5 acres, bounded by Civic Center Drive, Santa

Monica and Beverly boulevards, Maple Drive and the alley north of Burton Way.

According to Deputy City Manager David Lightner, the name change does not reflect a change of status in the area, but rather was done to encourage both a mix of entertainment and city facilities in the area. Lightner said many people are unaware that AOL and Fox Interactive have offices in the area, and changing the name is a way for the City to encourage similar businesses to possibly set up shop in the district.

However, following a recent Request for Qualifications (RFQ) by the City to develop 5.4 acres of

City property on the east side of Foothill Road, the BHRA felt it was time to get involved.

At present, the City is suggesting approximately half of those 5.4 acres can be used for the still controversial community recreation center, while the rest can potentially be used as a ground-lease area, thereby providing a source of revenue for the City. Currently an EIR is being prepared for the area and is scheduled for release for public review sometime this summer.

BHRA President Alan Kaye told *The Courier* the organization has an interest in the potential

(see 'BHRA,' page 27)

Breitburn Energy Hopes To Change Council's Mind

By Kelly Hartog

With the City Council poised to officially reject Breitburn Energy's request to redrill oil wells, Breitburn has no intention of going down without a fight. This, according to Gregory C. Brown, executive vice president and general counsel for Breitburn.

Speaking with *The Courier*, Brown said he expects Breitburn won't be the only ones attending Tuesday night's meeting when a resolution will be passed not only on Breitburn's request but also on whether to halt any future drilling in the city.

"Given the discussion [during the May 1 Council Meeting],

to pass a resolution to ban future drilling, there are thousands of residents who will be potentially impacted by this decision," Brown said. "We're expecting some of our royalty owners to attend," he said.

Brown also noted that other oil companies will also be affected by the ban should it be passed, and he expects representatives from other companies and their local royalty holders to come forward at Tuesday's meeting.

Brown admitted to being "disappointed" by the council's decision despite his arguments that the work is completely safe.

"We were very aware of the litigation [with Venoco over the

oil well at Beverly High], but we are also aware that in the past many many wells have been drilled from our drill site [in Los Angeles] into Beverly Hills with not a single impact or incident."

Brown also said he thought because the findings from the Venoco case showed there were no adverse effects from the well at the high school, he "expected approval from the council. That's one of the ironies here," he said.

"As a result of that litigation and all that effort, it was definitively proved these operations aren't dangerous, and what we're proposing is so far removed from [the Venoco issue]."

(see 'BREITBURN,' page 27)

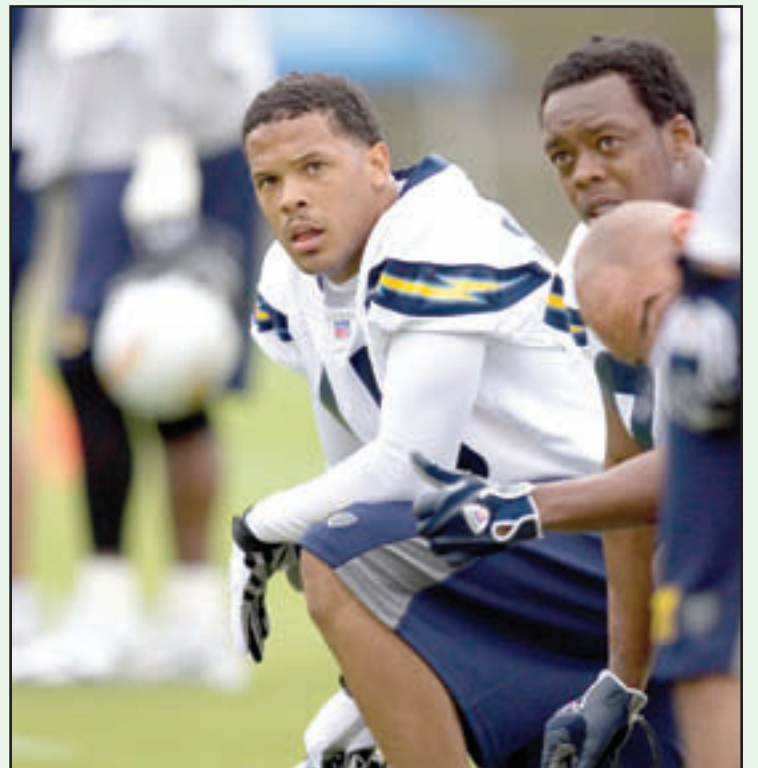
SHACKELFORD AND THE SAN DIEGO CHARGERS

Sonny Shackelford, a 2003 Beverly Hills High School graduate, spent the weekend in mini camp with the San Diego Chargers.

He was signed as a free agent on April 30 after being bypassed in the National Football League draft. Terms of the deal were not disclosed.

Shackelford received the University of Washington's Sports Radio 950 KRJ Most Outstanding Player award. As a senior at Washington, he led the Husky's with 50 catches for 666 yards and seven touchdowns.

Photo courtesy of the San Diego Chargers



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