



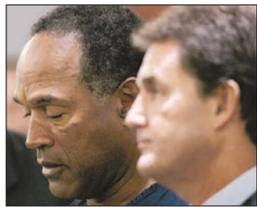
The Record

THURSDAY

STOCKTON LODI

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SEPTEMBER 20, 2007 50¢


SIMPSON OUT AS SAGA GETS ODDER BY THE DAY

Even as he makes bail, the already-bizarre O.J. Simpson circus that's been dominating the news out of Vegas takes a side trip into Crazytown. One victim's even been arrested for violating parole — for stalking. **PAGE A3**


PORTABLE GPS DEVICES POPULAR WITH THIEVES

Got one of these? You sure? GPS devices — portable satellite navigation units you can install on your dashboard — are the hottest new target for brazen thieves. **PAGE D1**

LOCAL

Outcry prompts call to dump plan

Won over by hundreds of protesters, a Stockton planner urges the city to abandon plans for a subdivision east of Highway 99. **PAGE B1**

FORECAST



Partly cloudy
Stockton: High 70, low 52.
Lodi: High 71, low 48.
 Complete weather, **PAGE A2.**

INSIDE

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Bush calls for more spy powers

Congress urged to back push to expand domestic wiretap laws

By David Nitkin
The Baltimore Sun

WASHINGTON — President Bush launched an effort Wednesday to preserve new spying powers for U.S. intel-

ligence agencies that critics worry could ensnare unwitting American citizens. Bush said restrictions being considered by Congress would leave the country less prepared to combat terrorism.

During a visit to the National Security Agency headquarters at Fort Meade, Md., the president said that workers who collect and interpret communications need provisions contained in the Protect America Act, adopted last month, to do their jobs.

"You don't have to worry about the motivation of the people out here," said Bush, speaking of the NSA's 35,000 employees, most of whom work in Maryland. "What we do have to worry about is to make sure that they have all the tools they need to do their jobs."

Under pressure from the Bush administration, Congress adopted changes last month to the 1978 Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act that are designed to make it easier

for government officials to intercept messages from people overseas without a warrant — even if a U.S. citizen is on the receiving end of the communication.

Some Democrats said the changes infringe on constitutional rights, and Congress put a six-month limit on the law, giving lawmakers a chance to revise it.

Bush rejected the need for revisions Wednesday and said the **SEE SPY, PAGE A6**

INSIDE



• **GOP blocks move to alter Bush's Iraq policy. PAGE A3**
 • **Bomb kills U.S.-backed lawmaker in Lebanon. PAGE A8**

Caught between two worlds



Born in California, speaking English comes naturally to Serena Keo, 15, center, sitting in her Stockton home last Thursday with her mother, Sineth Tiith, and her father, Chham Keo, who fled Cambodia 20 years ago and speak only Khmer. As the two generations struggle to bridge the gap between language and culture, they are not alone: Nearly 40 percent of San Joaquin County residents speak a language besides English at home.

By Jennifer Torres
Record Staff Writer

Language barriers don't just separate cultures — more families than ever struggle to bridge gap

Serena Keo is a 15-year-old student, mallgoer, native Californian and last-resort translator to parents who fled Cambodia as refugees more than 20 years ago.

Serena, her four siblings and their mom and dad are among the nearly 40 percent of San Joaquin County residents who speak a language besides English at home.

Many of those residents — including Serena and her brothers and sisters — use English comfortably at school and in the wider community.

But many others — including Serena's parents — do not. Increasingly, say local advocates,

language and cultural barriers occur not just across neighborhoods, but within households as well. Such gaps can add anxiety to the already exacting work of parenting and growing up.

"When you have kids who are in another world," Chham Keo, Serena's father, said through an interpreter, "they challenge you."

According to recently released Census Bureau data, 37.7 percent of the county's residents do not speak English at home. Of those, more than half — 52.4 percent — are nonetheless able to speak English "very well," according to the Census Bureau.

Among the county's 9,017 residents who speak Khmer, or Cambodian, nearly 60 percent also

Cambodian refugee Chham Keo, whose children are native Californians and fluent English speakers, while he and his wife speak Khmer: "When you have kids who are in another world, they challenge you."

SEE TWO WORLDS, PAGE A6

SUSD under fire over speaker program

Grants pay fees of friends of director

By Michelle Machado
Record Staff Writer

STOCKTON — A Stockton Unified School District plan to use federal grant money to bring in motivational speakers and mentors has sparked some criticism from faculty and students.

The district will spend up to \$307,000 in federal funds to bring the speakers and mentors to high schools this academic year. Included in the funds are a \$40,000 contingency for venue rental and \$20,000 for a program facilitator, but district officials said no one had yet been named to that position.

Students queried on Wednesday knew few of the individuals the district billed as "internationally known artists and business professionals" and none characterized as "well-known adult mentors," and some school board members and teacher representatives said the money could be better spent.

The purpose of the two programs is to increase student success, district administration officials said.

"The whole idea is to get students energized, especially in their freshman and sophomore years," said Dan Wright, director of elementary education and

SEE SUSD, PAGE A6

INSIDE

SUSD backs Franklin football team in probe. **PAGE C1**

When the lights go down in the city

S.F. to go dark — for an hour — to encourage conservation

By Terence Chea
The Associated Press

SAN FRANCISCO — Alcatraz, City Hall, the Golden Gate Bridge and other parts of the city will go almost completely dark for an hour next month as part of a campaign to conserve energy and fight global warming.

INSIDE

South San Joaquin service to help trim utility bills. **PAGE D1**



SAN FRANCISCO CHRONICLE

Modeled after Sydney, Australia's Earth Hour, the Golden Gate Bridge, seen in 1997, and other landmarks will go dark Oct. 20.

unnecessary lights from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 20. The goal is to save 15 percent of the electricity consumed on an

average Saturday night. Over the next month, the campaign will give away more **SEE LIGHTS, PAGE A6**

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