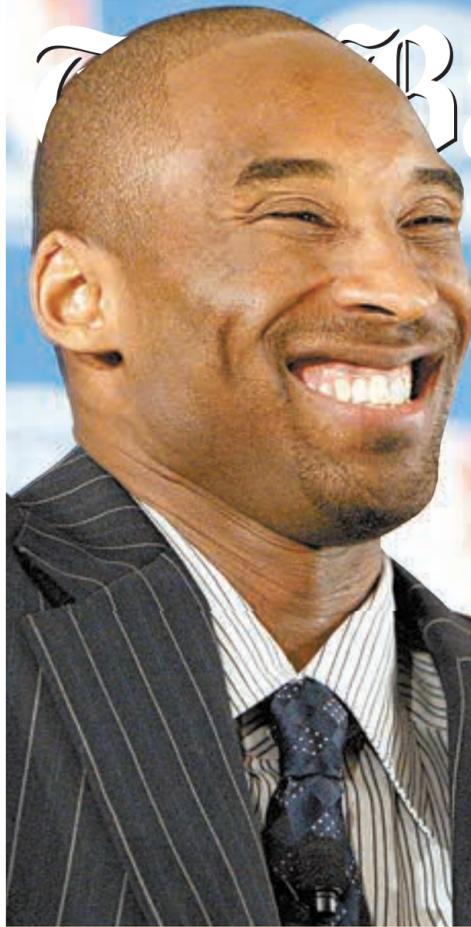


PAT TILLMAN'S MOTHER WRITES BOOK, E2

FILLY'S STEROID USE DENIED, D4



KOBE FINALLY WINS MVP, D1

DEVELOPMENT

Project to be delayed a month

Northwest Communities will be put on hold for at least a month, as developers of the controversial series of projects in Rosedale asked supervisors to give them a month to answer questions about how residents would get in and out of the developments.

Page B3



DRUGS

Fraternity Row at center of bust

Dozens of San Diego State University students were arrested after a sweeping drug investigation found that some fraternity members openly dealt drugs and one even sent a mass text message advertising cocaine, authorities said Tuesday.

Page A4

GAS PRICES

High prices cut into demand

Just weeks before the Memorial Day weekend and the beginning of summer, the government projected on Tuesday that domestic gasoline consumption would fall this year, an unmistakable sign that an economic slowdown and high oil prices were cutting into the driving habits of many Americans.

Bakersfield Californian



LOCAL TEACHERS HONORED, B1

'Some in wheelchairs and paralyzed have gone to prison.'

Terry Thornton, spokeswoman for the state prison system

A QUANDARY OVER JUST PUNISHMENT



COCO WALTERS / THE CALIFORNIAN

Danny's stepfather, Bill Kolkman, wheels him in after a visit to the doctor to check up on the MRSA Danny has been battling off and on for a few months.

Man paralyzed in wreck that killed local woman

BY FELIX DOLIGOSA JR. Californian staff writer

VENTURA — Danny Espinoza feels nothing below his chest. The 25-year-old former Bakersfield resident has been a quadriplegic for the past two years, after he caused an accident that shattered his spine.



Dorothy Anne Walter, in a family photograph submitted to the court.

Soon, his days could be spent in prison. Espinoza is set to be sentenced on vehicular manslaughter charges

today in connection with the wreck that killed a Bakersfield grandmother and left him paralyzed.

The crash

On March 5, 2006, family and friends celebrated an early birthday for Espinoza at his parents' Ventura home. He left for his home in Bakersfield about 8 p.m. The computer engineer had work the next day.

Please turn to ESPINOZA / A3

Big West expansion

Refinery wants to skip review

November deadline has officials hoping to go to supervisors next

BY STACEY SHEPARD Californian staff writer

As public controversy swirls over its proposed refinery expansion, Big West of California now faces another hurdle. A ticking clock.

Citing a November deadline to use its multi-million dollar air pollution credits, refinery officials have asked to bypass the county Planning Commission review of its project and go straight to county supervisors for approval.

'We've just asked the county to please understand the schedule,' said Big West Health, Safety and Environmental Director Bill Chadick.

Big West's project has been stalled for more than a year after county planning staff deemed an environmental impact report on the project insufficient. The approval process is expected to restart in June but will likely stretch into November under normal approval procedures.

Please turn to REFINERY / A3



CALIFORNIAN FILE PHOTO

Big West of California oil refinery.

Campaign '08 analysis

Split decision pushes Clinton to brink of defeat



JAE C. HONG / AP

Democratic presidential hopeful Sen. Barack Obama, D-Ill., greets supporters as he arrives at a primary election night rally Tuesday in Raleigh, N.C.

Regardless of Indiana victory, candidate's best chance gone

BY NEDRA PICKLER The Associated Press

WASHINGTON Hillary Rodham Clinton's deflating split decision Tuesday took away her last best chance at the White House.

A resounding loss in North Carolina combined with a narrow victory in Indiana dented if not doomed her hopes of convincing superdelegates to disregard Obama's lead in delegates, states won and popular vote and nominate her.

'Senator Clinton did not get out of the night what she needed,' said North Carolina Rep. Brad Miller, an undecided superdelegate. 'To use a basketball analogy, she traded baskets.'

Democratic primary

Denotes candidate receiving majority of votes

Table showing Clinton (51%), Obama (49%), and North Carolina\* (56%) with asterisks indicating partial results.

Source: Californian wire services

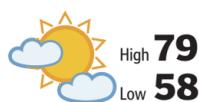
INSIDE

More campaign stories, Pages A3, A9

And she needed to do much better than that this late in the contest with her down 150 or 160 pledged delegates.'

Please turn to PRIMARY / A3

WEATHER



Air quality: Moderate, 72 Complete weather, B6

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COMING THURSDAY

Cal State Bakersfield's two-day, 22nd annual Bakersfield Jazz Festival kicks off Friday with one for the saddle-shoed swing kids, Chesterfield King and the Sultans of Swing.

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