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WEDNESDAY MAY 7, 2008

RIVERSIDE AND MORENO VALLEY EDITION

THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE

TODAY: MOSTLY SUNNY 70/50 FORECAST: B14

INLAND SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA'S NEWSPAPER

PE.COM

Feds: Fraternities ran large drug networks

BY ALLISON HOFFMAN
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SAN DIEGO — When a 19-year-old freshman sorority member died a year ago from a cocaine overdose at San Diego State, campus investigators set out to find out who was dealing drugs to their 34,000 students. It turned out their targets were on Fraternity Row, where authorities say unassuming facades of houses emblazoned with Greek symbols concealed thriving networks that may

have used profits to finance fraternity operations. Undercover agents arrested 96 people, including 75 San Diego State students, during a five-month investigation into drug dealing on campus. Students at three fraternities were arrested.

Twenty-nine people were arrested early Tuesday in raids at nine locations including the Theta Chi fraternity, where agents found cocaine, ecstasy

SEE DRUGS/A9



THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Authorities seized drugs and guns and arrested 96 people amid a San Diego State probe.

Developer again gives to supervisors it sued

BY DUANE W. GANG
THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE

Colonies Partners, the Rancho Cucamonga-based developer that received a \$102 million settlement from San Bernardino County in late 2006, is in the midst of a political spending spree.

The company once again is donating money to its former adversaries after having avoided contributions to county supervisors during the height of a

nearly five-year legal battle.

Colonies Partners, its co-managing partner Jeff Burum and other related entities have contributed more than \$680,000 to state and county campaigns and political action committees since the start of 2007.

The donations have included direct donations to candidates and nearly \$500,000 to five local political action committees, campaign finance records show.

Those committees, in turn, are backing campaigns across the county — from the Board of Supervisors and the state Assembly to city councils and school boards.

“We obviously want to support people who are economic-development-friendly, housing-friendly,” Burum said in an interview. “We believe in supporting candidates who believe in our philosophy of taxing as

SEE GIVING/A9

AVOIDING EXPOSURE: Bisphenol A (BPA), a man-made plastics component, is found in everyday items and studies have linked it to breast cancer, prostate cancer and early puberty.

- BPA mimics estrogen in the body
- One study found it in the urine of 93 percent of the population over 6 years of age
- Heating can cause BPA to leach out of containers



Plastics that contain BPA are sometimes indicated by a number 7 on the bottom of the container*

COMMON USES FOR BPA:

Plastic bottles commonly used by hikers contain BPA. Some are now made without BPA and are labeled BPA free.



Non-disposable water bottles
BPA makes bottles nearly shatterproof

Baby bottles may contain BPA in the bottle but not the liner and nipple that contact food. Some baby bottles, such as the one on the left, are now made without BPA.



Baby bottles
BPA makes bottles nearly shatterproof

Many metal cans contain BPA as part of the interior lining.



Canned food lining
Plastic lining prevents corrosion or food contamination

HOW TO LIMIT EXPOSURE:

- Do not wash in dishwasher
- Use glass bottles or plastic bag inserts
- Choose food packaged in cardboard cartons
- Do not use for hot liquids
- Use BPA-free bottles
- Eat fresh produce

*New bio-based or combination plastics also marked with 7
SOURCE: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, GREEN GUIDE, BPA GLOBAL GROUP, U.S. CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION, AMERICAN DENTAL ASSOCIATION

PHOTO BY PAUL ALVAREZ/THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE; MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE

THE BATTLE OVER BPA

Critics want chemical restricted; advocates say it's safe

BY SEAN NEALON
THE PRESS-ENTERPRISE

Before visiting Babies R Us in Ontario last week, Jessica Davila had heard that a chemical found in baby bottles used by her 4½-month-old son could have harmful health effects. Davila, 18, said it made her “nervous and scared.”

She looked at bottles at Babies R Us but didn't buy any. She isn't convinced that the chemical, bisphenol A, or BPA, is harmful but would like to see more research before she buys new bottles.

Davila soon may have no choice but bottles without BPA.

BPA has been around for about 50 years. It's used in linings of food and beverage cans to prevent corrosion and to nearly shatterproof baby bottles and other containers commonly used by hikers. One report said 95 percent of baby bottles are made with BPA. It's also found in dental sealants and CDs.

Some health and environment groups and lawmakers want BPA banned. They say it can cause prostate and breast

cancer, miscarriages and a lowered sperm count. Some people, including a UC Riverside professor, are calling for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to change the way it regulates chemicals such as BPA.

Retailers including Babies R Us and Wal-Mart recently announced they will phase out baby bottles with BPA. Nalgene, a leading manufacturer of bottles commonly used by hikers, announced last month it was phasing out production

SEE BPA/A9

Obama puts rival on ropes

He wins big in N. Carolina, loses squeaker in Indiana

BY DAVID ESPO AND LIZ SIDOTI
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS — Barack Obama swept to a convincing victory in the North Carolina primary Tuesday night and declared he was closing in on the Democratic presidential nomination. Hillary Clinton eked out a win in Indiana as she struggled to halt her rival's march into history.

“Tonight we stand less than 200 delegates away from securing the Democratic nomination for president of the United States,” Obama told a raucous rally in Raleigh, N.C. — and left no doubt he intended to claim the prize.

Clinton stepped before her own supporters not long afterward in Indianapolis. “Thanks to you, it's full speed on to the White House,” she said, signaling her determination to fight on in a campaign already waged across more than 16 months and nearly all 50 states.

Returns from 99 percent of North Carolina precincts showed Obama winning 56 percent of the vote to 42 percent for Clinton, a triumph that mirrored his earlier wins in Southern states with large black

SEE DEMOCRATS/A8

ANALYSIS

Clinton's options dwindle

BY ADAM NAGOURNEY
NEW YORK TIMES NEWS SERVICE

In this case, even a split is not a draw.

Sen. Hillary Clinton's loss in North Carolina on Tuesday night, combined with a narrow victory in Indiana, did nothing to improve her chances of securing the Democratic presidential nomination. If anything, Clinton's options for overtaking Sen. Barack Obama may have shrunk further.

For Obama, the outcome came after a brutal period in which he was on the defensive over the inflammatory comments of his former pastor. That he was able, at a minimum, to hold his own under those circumstances should allow him to make a case that he has proved his resilience in the face of questions about race, values and patriotism — the very kinds of issues that the Clinton campaign has suggested would leave him vulnerable in the general election.

When paired with Obama's comfortable victory in North Carolina, a bigger state, Clinton's

SEE ANALYSIS/A8

DEMOCRATS

WON SO FAR: (including pledged superdelegates)

- Barack Obama.....1,840.5
- Hillary Clinton.....1,684

STILL TO BE ALLOCATED:

- North Carolina.....16
- Indiana.....2

NEEDED TO WIN:

- 2,025 delegates

IN MAIN NEWS

- McCain tries to reassure conservatives on judicial picks. **A8**
- Indiana nuns lacking photo ID rebuffed at polling place. **A8**

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Egg farm targeted

A2 A group releases undercover video showing abuse of chickens, purportedly at a major California egg farm.



Deaths soar from cyclone

A6 As aid begins to arrive in Myanmar, the nation's rice-producing area where 22,000 people perished and twice as many are missing remains cut off from the world.



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