



IMAGE **It's a small world**
 Thoughts on fathers and sons, what's new with sex and the single parent, fashions for children — our annual special issue for kids (and grown-ups)



The new brats
 Teen heartthrobs of "Beverly Hills, 90210" put zip back into TV [C-1]

A day at the ballpark
 Go behind the scenes at the Oakland Coliseum [D-1]

Scientists hunt for 'father' of humanity

Quest may prove more difficult than discovery of 'Eve'

By Keay Davidson
 EXAMINER SCIENCE WRITER

Confident they've found the "mother" of humanity, some scientists are now looking for its "father."

But the quest for humanity's father — dubbed "Adam" — may be much tougher than, and at least as controversial as, the purported discovery of "Eve" in 1987.

And the quest will be all the tougher because of the death of Eve's champion — biochemist Allan Wilson of UC-Berkeley.

Whoever Adam was, he almost certainly wasn't Eve's sexual partner, the scientists caution. Rather, Adam may have lived thousands of years before or after Eve. But he's interesting because his genetic material might, like Eve's, exist in every human on Earth.

In 1987, Wilson and his colleagues concluded that every human on Earth is descended from a African female who lived perhaps 200,000 years ago.

She was christened "Eve," after the biblical Eve, and became the subject of headlines and talk shows. According to Wilson, her descendants supposedly swept over Earth in a mass migration, totally replacing other branches of the pre-human tree.

What did Eve look like? A 1988 Newsweek offered a contradictory answer, portraying Eve on its cover as a slender Donna Summer type while suggesting, inside, that she "was as muscular as Martina Navratilova, maybe stronger."

On July 21, Wilson, who was 56, died while undergoing treatment for leukemia at a Seattle medical institute. But the debate he started still rages through the halls of academe.

Some scientists called Wilson's find a revolution in the study of human origins. Others insisted it was contradicted by fossil evidence.

Wilson found evidence of Eve's genes in the human mitochondrion, the energy-generating part of the cell. The mitochondrion genes are transmitted only by women, so they can be used to trace human lineage through the female line.

In turn, Adam might be traced by examining genes related to men — the Y chromosome.

To be specific: Researchers will analyze Y chromosomes from around the world to see how they've "mutated" over time. As-

[See ADAM, A-13]

Venezuela's elite tarnished by drug trade

Cocaine rivals oil as top cash export

By Ana Arana
 SPECIAL TO THE EXAMINER

CARACAS, Venezuela — When Ronald Miguel Morett, and four other Venezuelans were detained in Canada in April carrying 39 kilos of pure cocaine, the high society of Caracas was shaken up.

ELECTRONIC COFFEE KLATCH



Joan Turner chats by computer to friends around town at Brain Wash, a Folsom Street coffeehouse.

Suicide movement growing

How-to book tops best-seller list

By Richard A. Knox
 BOSTON GLOBE

With a grass-roots vigor that surprises even some of its supporters, the movement toward physician-assisted suicide for patients with terminal illness is rapidly gaining ground.

Some of the signs:

► A slim, no-nonsense book that gives advice on how to end one's life, complete with charts showing fatal doses of prescription drugs, has rocketed to the top of the nonfiction best-seller list. The first printing of 41,000 is sold out and more than 50,000 copies of the how-to book, "Final Exit," are back-ordered.

► In polls from the West Coast and Pennsylvania, two-thirds of those surveyed think doctors should be allowed by law to help terminally ill patients end their lives painlessly.

► In Washington state, voters are expected to approve a petition this fall that would give doctors

[See SUICIDE, back page]

High-tech small talk offered at The City's cafes

Now it's espresso and conversation — via computer

By John Flinn
 OF THE EXAMINER STAFF

It's a bustling Monday night and the usual coffeehouse bull session is in full swing, careening from the pros and cons of anarchy to the wit and wisdom of Bart Simpson.

But there's one big twist: These latter-day William S. Burroughs aren't in the same cafe. They're sipping espresso in coffeehouses scattered around San Francisco, linked by a first-of-its-kind computer network that may one day connect them also to the cafes of Paris and Vienna.

From Cafe La Boheme in the Mission District to Ground Zero in the Haight, the spirit of Kerouac is meeting the spirit of Wozniak.

Since SF Net went on-line four weeks ago, members of the leather-and-Mohawk crowd at the Horse Shoe Coffee House in the Haight

have logged on to debate the Clarence Thomas nomination with young BMW drivers at South Beach Billiards.

At the same time, hipsters at Brain Wash in SOMA might be discussing cold fusion or the latest Schwarzenegger flick with nouveau bohemians at La Boheme.

"The person at the other end might have a spiked Mohawk or a business suit, or they might be a homeless person with a Ph.D. in English lit," said founder Wayne Gregori. "It doesn't matter. If they have ideas to share and are somewhat literate, that's all that counts."

As Gregori pecked away at the keyboard of the terminal at La Boheme, coffeehouse regulars eyed him curiously over the tops of their copies of the New York Times and Le Monde.

The terminals are built into what look like ordinary cafe tables, with plastic covers to shield keyboards from the inevitable cappuccino spills. Cafe customers buy \$1 tickets at the counter, good for 20

[See CAFE, A-14]

Scams grow as charity fund-raisers on upswing

Abuses increase with the rise of telemarketing; high-court ruling impedes regulators

By Larry D. Hatfield
 OF THE EXAMINER STAFF

You pay \$35 for \$5 worth of trash bags to help "wheelchair veterans." Of that, about \$10 goes to an organization that offers free weeklong vacations to wheelchair vets at a little, fenced-in motel-like complex in a seedy section of North Las Vegas. The rest goes to expenses and fund-raisers.

You spend \$24 for a "family ticket" to a show by a second-run nightclub act to benefit local firefighters and their charities. About \$6 goes to the firefighter group; they won't tell you how much they make or where it's spent, but it's enough to help buy a snazzy, revenue-producing office building in Novato.

You buy a circus ticket for the Knights of Columbus Foundation for \$25. You probably don't go to the circus, but a lot of needy kids do — for free — and some of the money goes to other good causes. Yet, in its best year, the foundation raised \$310,000 and gave away only \$90,000 to charity.

And those are reputed to be the good guys.

"The bad guys won't even talk to you," said Dick Maloney, who owns Arundel Associates in San Rafael, a legitimate fund-raiser who raises money for the Marin County Firefighters Association and San Rafael Police Officers Association. "And there are more of them than there are of us."

Charity scams have always been around but fund-raisers and government regulators generally agree

they are on the upswing, particularly with the increasing use of telephone soliciting, or telemarketing, by legitimate and non-legitimate fund-raisers alike.

There are almost 60,000 registered charities in California and they collected \$30 billion last year, both figures the highest in the country. "This is not a mom-and-pop business," said Carol Kornblum, the assistant attorney general in charge of protecting the public from charity fraud.

"Some groups are legitimate and some aren't," said the Knights of Columbus Foundation's George Carr of the burgeoning number of phone charity solicitors in the Bay Area and elsewhere. "I have no proof but I'd guess a third of them are phonies."

"It boils down to 'are the funds being spent for the purpose the donor intends?'" said Owen W. Proctor, San Francisco Area Better Business Bureau president. "In far too many cases, they are not."

And since the U.S. Supreme Court in 1988 barred the states from enforcing limits on fees paid to profit-making fund-raising companies or from requiring the disclosure of fund-raising costs to prospective donors, it has become harder and harder for the regulators to catch them.

The result has been that not

[See CHARITY, A-12]

Bush plans Medicaid grants cut

Massachusetts plan branded a 'scam'

By John W. Mashek
 BOSTON GLOBE

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration will issue a new regulation this month to prevent states' efforts to increase their Medicaid funds by collecting hospital donations and taxes that the federal government has been required to match, officials said Friday.

However, the new rule will have no effect on the approximately \$500 million already collected this year by Massachusetts as part of the program. "That's money already in the bank," said Joseph Landolphi, a spokesman for Massachusetts' Medicaid unit. Landolphi added that Massachusetts had asked the federal government for \$200 million more this fiscal year.

The new federal regulations are designed to prevent what Richard G. Darman, the budget director, has branded a Medicaid "scam." Darman's office, along with Louis Sullivan, the secretary of Health and Human Services, is preparing the new rules.

In Massachusetts, a part-time state employee, Kathy Betts, was credited with securing the \$500 million from Washington. Betts

[See MEDICAID, A-13]

INSIDE

Editor's Report

Hostage breakthrough: The diplomatic skill of President Bush and Secretary of State James Baker, combined with U.S. power and prestige in the wake of the Persian Gulf war, brings a resolution of the Lebanon hostage crisis much closer. [A-17]

Real Estate

Lofts in space: Most people think of loft spaces as wide open and minimalist. As lofts become increasingly popular in the Bay Area, however, designs have expanded to include compact, homier environments. [F-1]

Travel

Affordable Italy: How to get a good night's sleep in a \$20-a-night Italian bed, find good food at down-to-earth prices, and other tips for traveling solo on a tight budget. [T-3]

AIDSWEK B-3
 Business E-1
 Editorials A-16
 Bill Mandel B-2
 Rob Moroz A-3
 Obituaries B-5

Opinions A-17
 Scoreboard D-2
 Sports D-1
 Style C-1
 Weather B-2

127th Year, No. 33

[See VENEZUELA, A-15]