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FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2003

LATE SPORTS FINAL

CHICAGO SUN-TIMES • FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 26, 2003

BUSINESS

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CASUAL FRIDAY

Arnold won't be there, but you can vote anyway



CHRIS WHITEHEAD

If you've got cable, time to kill and a persistent fascination with California's recall election, try to find the Game Show Network Wednesday evening when it broadcasts "Who Wants to Be Governor of California? The Debating Game."

Moderated by Kennedy — remind me to change my name to Casual, since Friday's already taken and he had a pretty tough time of things, as I recall — the show will bring together several of the candidates, including porn star Mary Carey, performance artist Trek Thunder Kelly and the youngest (20) and oldest (70) candidates.

Or try the outfit's Web site (www.gsn.com). Democracy in action. Sends chills up your spine, doesn't it?

Candle in wind, going once . . .

The night before the game show excitement, Elton John's stuff is being auctioned off at Sotheby's in London.

All the contents of his London home are for sale, and the auction house estimates it'll go for more than \$1.2 million. Want a leopard-print sofa? A double bed with matching wardrobes designed by the queen's nephew, David Linley? Maybe a bust of Napoleon? Now's your chance.

Elton wants to redecorate one of his homes in a more modern style, and decided to do the London one. Hence, everything must go.

Tunes for tots

There's been a belief around for several years that playing, say, Mozart to newborns will help make them smarter.

A new pair of CDs claims original, contemporary music does the same thing. Up till now they've been available only in San Francisco (figures, doesn't it?), but "Music for Infants" will be sold nationwide late next month.

I listen to a lot of music, and I'm still waiting for it to make me

smarter. If there's any sign of progress, I'll let you know.

And Fido, too

Maybe I should give this a try: "Who Really Loves You?" a CD by K9 Fusion that has 10 original dog tracks and bonus Quick Time video.

K9 Fusion says it's real music written and performed by dogs. And an outfit called Orca Communications calls it one of the best holiday gift presents for your pet. If you haven't started your list yet, now's the time.

Think they'll remember?

Forgot to tell you about Elephant Appreciation Day, which was Monday. You can still appreciate elephants, of course. It just won't be official. Sorry.

No thanks, the honor's enough

If you were a presenter at the Emmys last weekend, you already know the goody bag was pretty nice.

Organizers put the bags' value at about \$30,000 apiece.

The bags, described by the TV academy as a "generous thank you," had stuff like a private din-



Cleveland Institute of Art student Katie Addcox finishes up her duct tape porcupine earlier this month. The porcupine won first place in a contest sponsored by Duck Tape maker Henkel Consumer Adhesives when it was displayed last weekend at the Columbus, Ohio, zoo. —AP

ner party, resort and spa visits, a portable DVD player, chocolate, a year's worth of cosmetics, a watch and a cellular phone.

Presenters also got a mattress. And a good night's sleep, let's all hope, unless they were eating the chocolate and playing with the cosmetics.

Happy birthday

It was a busy week for anniversaries, what with Motorola turning 75 and the round thermostat hitting 50 (we can thank Honeywell for that).

But the ice cream cone turned 100, or at least the patent application did. And the application was granted Dec. 15, 1903, so mark your calendars for that celebration, too.

Let's roll the tape

If the game show thing and the California vote leave you cold, you can still vote for a new Duck Tape (or duct tape, if you'd rather) color.

Of the three the maker's testing — blue, gold and maroon — one will be sold next year. You've got till Nov. 20 to make your voice heard at www.ducktapeclub.com.

Henkel Consumer Adhesives even sponsored a contest in Ohio (that's where it's based) in which art students made animals out of Duck Tape that were displayed last weekend at the Columbus, Ohio, zoo. There were more than 50 of them.

Meow mix-up

A recent survey found that 23

percent of Britons believe that cats are pack animals. This in a survey conducted for a charity called Cats Protection.

And 69 percent think cats purr only when they're happy. Wrong, says Cats Protection. Sometimes they're feeling something else, and one of these days we'll know what it is.

There's a contest attached to this. Cats Protection is going to give a Rescue Cat of the Year Award to some deserving feline next March and is soliciting amazing cat stories.

You and I can't enter, though: The cat has to be a British resident. Oh well. Gives us till 2005 to get the cat to like tea.

Contributing: AP, Bloomberg News