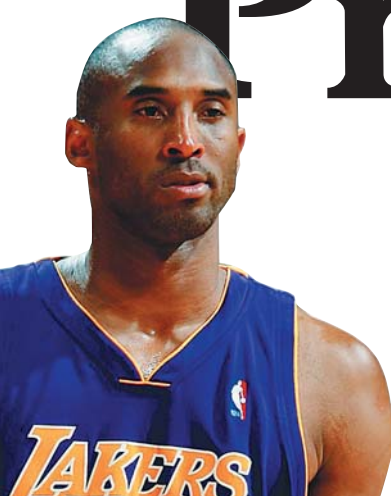


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LONG BEACH



Lakers gear up for playoff run

SPORTS B1

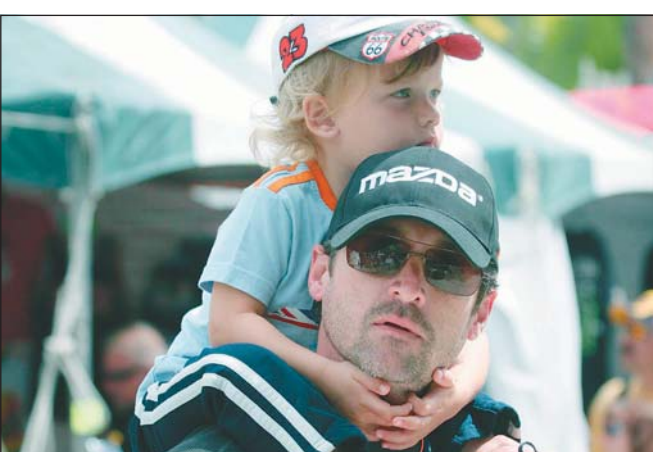
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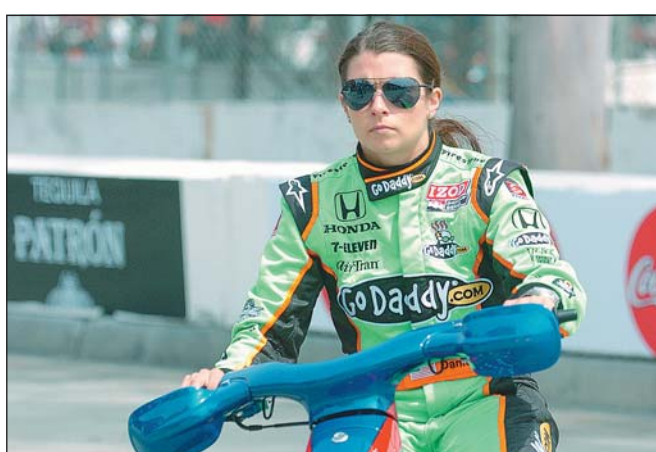


PRESSTELEGRAM.COM UPDATES FROM THE GRAND PRIX THROUGHOUT THE DAY.



Tracy Roman For the Press-Telegram

Patrick Dempsey makes his way through the Grand Prix crowd Saturday afternoon.



Diandra Jay Staff Photographer

IZOD IndyCar Series driver Danica Patrick arrives on a scooter for the final qualifying round on Saturday.



Steven Georges Staff Photographer

IndyCar driver Will Power holds his award during a ceremony after qualifying rounds Saturday.

Grand Prix running on star power

Pro racers and celebrities take to the streets; Le Mans series runs on cleaner fuels



Jeff Gritchen Staff Photographer

Celebrity Brian Austin Green and pro Jimmy Vasser celebrate their win in the Pro/Celebrity race by spraying Nikko Gonzalez with champagne during Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach. Nikko is the son of Tony Gonzalez, tight end for the Atlanta Falcons and this year's Pro/Celebrity grand marshal.

By Kelly Puente Staff Writer

LONG BEACH — Under partly cloudy skies and cool weather, the second day of 36th annual Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach kicked off on Saturday with thousands crowding the streets and grandstands.

The day's lineup featured the Toyota Pro/Celebrity Race, the Tequila Patrón American Le Mans Series, the Team Drifting Challenge and qualifying races for IndyCar and Firestone Indy Lights. The evening featured a Tecate Light Rock-N-Roar Concert with Cheap Trick.

In the Pro/Celebrity race, Jimmy Vasser, an ex-Champ Car champion, won by .645 seconds over fellow pro driver Tanner Foust, a two-time Formula Drift champion.

Actor Brian Austin Green finished first in the celebrity race and came in third overall. Pro driver Marty Nothstein came in fourth, followed by celebrity drivers Adrien Brody and Zachary Levi.

Keanu Reeves, who won the celebrity race last year, raced with the pros this year and finished 11th overall.

Today's events will include the Firestone Indy Lights Race, Team Drifting Challenge, the SCCA Pro World Challenge Championships Race, and the Toyota Grand Prix of Long Beach, which starts at 1:15 p.m.

Simon Pagenaud and co-driver David Brabham won

PRIX A8

More inside

• **PHOTOS:** Fun, food and a good view of the course are all a fan needs. **A3, A9**

• **DOUG KRIKORIAN:** Bruce Flanders has been the voice of the Grand Prix for 33 years. **B1**

• **SPORTS:** Saturday race results

and what's on tap for today. **B1**

• High-tech van keeps racegoers safer. **A8**

• Fun at the LifeStyle Expo. **A8**

On the Web

• Video of the Celebrity Race press conference, photo galleries and more at presstelegram.com.

Nursing home aid backfiring?

STATE: Probe finds staffing at some facilities declined even as funding increased.

By Christina Jewett and Agustin Armendariz California Watch

California's nursing homes have received \$880 million in additional funding from a 2004 state law designed to help hire more caregivers and boost wages.

But 232 homes did just the opposite. They either cut staff,

paid lower wages or let caregiver levels slip below a state-mandated minimum, a California Watch investigation has found.

The homes that made these cuts collected about \$236 million through 2008, the last year of available data. That's more than a quarter of the total Medi-Cal funding increase shared by the state's nursing homes. But the law that made the extra money possible included few safeguards to ensure that patient care improved.

Many nursing homes appeared to use the cash infu-

sion to help bolster their bottom lines, according to a California Watch analysis of state nursing home data. Among the 131 homes that cut staff by 2008, the median profit was 35 percent more than other homes in the analysis.

At the same time, the analysis shows, about two dozen homes that made the deepest caregiver cuts had about one-third more deficiencies than other state facilities. State inspectors noted a litany of violations that included neglecting bedsores and giving patients the wrong drugs.

NURSING A18



Patricia Miller cries thinking about her father, T.J. Jackson, in photo. His family alleges in a suit he died of inadequate care at Covenant Care's Santa Ana home. The chain, which also owns a Long Beach facility, has 13 homes that cut staff even as they got \$15 million more in funding.

Cindy Yamanaka The Orange County Register