

Los Angeles Times

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CALDERON ON CAPITOL HILL

Mexican President Felipe Calderon is greeted by members of Congress before his address to a joint session of the House and Senate. Calderon urged lawmakers to reinstate a ban on assault weapons, saying that tens of thousands of guns purchased in the United States are turning up in Mexico. **WORLD, A3**

COLUMN ONE

Political novice sees his moment

Running for Congress from Tennessee, Donn Janes aligns with the 'tea party' and hopes voters don't want a 'polished politician.'

KATHLEEN HENNESSEY REPORTING FROM PARIS, TENN.

The candidate is prepping for the biggest night of his campaign. In 24 hours, he'll line up next to his competitors to address the voters. It's his chance to make his case, to expose rivals' hypocrisy, to prove he belongs in this race.

But tonight, huddled with advisors in a borrowed conference room on the outskirts of Memphis, Donn Janes, independent candidate for Congress, cannot quite figure out what to do with his hands.

Your gestures aren't working, his campaign manager tells him. You're fidgeting with your notes, says his speech coach.

At the moment, Janes' hands are holding a slice of pepperoni pizza and a can of Bud Light. With his rumpled button-down shirt and gold tie clip, he looks every bit the middle-aged suburban dad and computer geek that he is, and not a whole lot like the next congressman from west Tennessee.

Janes is hoping that's a good thing this election year. Like many others, he thinks a surge of anti-Washington sentiment could create an opening for an outsider. A year ago, the "tea party" movement helped shake him awake, he says. He'd been living his life — a happy marriage, a stint in the Navy, three kids — while others were making decisions he didn't like. He decided this was the time to change that.

[See Candidate, A14]

Cell is step to artificial life

Scientists create a bacterium controlled by DNA made in a lab. The research is called a major feat.

THOMAS H. MAUGH II AND SHARI ROAN

In a major step toward the creation of artificial life, researchers announced Thursday that they had created the first cell controlled entirely by DNA assembled

from laboratory chemicals. Molecular biologist J. Craig Venter, the primary author of the report detailing the findings, described the converted cell as "the first self-replicating species we've had on the planet whose parent is a computer."

The achievement is notable both from a scientific standpoint and from a practical one, said microbiologist Clyde Hutchison of the J. Craig Venter Institute in La Jolla, a coauthor of the paper. "From a practical aspect, this should enable

building cells that have things added that will help with a variety of social needs."

The institute is already working with funding from BP and Exxon to create bio-fuels that would reduce our dependence on petroleum. It is also trying to develop bacteria that could gobble up oil spills like that in the Gulf of Mexico. The process could also be applied to the development of vaccines and pharmaceuticals, among other things.

Other researchers have [See Genome, A18]



ROBERT GAUTHIER Los Angeles Times

GOP: Chuck DeVore argues that his military experience gives him an edge over his primary rivals.

CALIFORNIA ELECTIONS: U.S. Senate race

DeVore pushes outsider status

Long active in politics, conservative professes a scorn for politicians.

PHIL WILLON

Republican U.S. Senate candidate Chuck DeVore made sure that the June 8 ballot described him as "Assemblyman/Military Reservist" because, the Irvine lawmaker said, he didn't want to be mistaken for just another politician.

The remark reflected his effort to portray himself as an outsider in California politics — albeit one in sync with both the Republican faithful and the "tea party" protesters who have fanned voter disdain for officials in Washington and Sacramento.

"What I have is a solid public record of conservative credentials, whether in office, in the community, or in the uniform of the United States Army," DeVore, 48, said during a recent debate with his opponents for the GOP nomination to challenge incumbent Democrat Barbara Boxer in the fall.

Throughout the campaign, DeVore has emphasized his service as a military officer and a young Reagan White [See DeVore, A17]

Rapper's lyrics go on trial

The musician's admitted shooter uses them as his defense.

JACK LEONARD

As an up-and-coming rapper, Dolla glorified the gang lifestyle, bragging about carrying a pistol and his ability to use it.

"You be running when I shoot, I be shooting where you running," he sang in his debut single released in 2008.

A year later, the rapper,

whose real name is Roderick Anthony Burton II, was shot as he allegedly ran from a gunman inside the Beverly Center's parking garage. He was struck four times, three in the back.

With the murder trial of his admitted shooter wrapping up this week, the work of the 21-year-old musician is center stage as jurors wrestle with two conflicting portraits of Burton: thug or en-

tertainer. The defense attorney has drawn, in part, on the rapper's lyrics and Internet videos with alleged gang members to portray Burton as a violent gang member who was attacking his client. But prosecutors argue that Burton's gang ties are irrelevant and that his music was simply entertainment in a culture in which violence sells.

[See Rapper, A16]

Armstrong denies doping allegations

The cyclist crashes out of the Tour of California on a day that began with him rejecting charges by former teammate Floyd Landis. **SPORTS, C1**

Director of spy agencies to resign

Dennis Blair's tenure has been marked by intelligence failures and turf wars. **LATEXTRA, AA1**

World.....A3
Nation.....A11
California.....AA3
Weather.....AA8

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Reuters

A \$100-million heist

Five paintings, including "La Femme a l'Eventail" (Woman With Fan) by Modigliani and "Le Pigeon aux Petit Pois" (Dove With Green Peas) by Picasso, have been stolen from Paris' Museum of Modern Art. Management is under fire because the museum's alarm system had been broken since March 30. **WORLD, A4**

MODEL YEAR END SALES EVENT

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