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- >> Jon Carroll: Burning Man gets bubbly in dispute with Champagne maker. **E1**

# San Francisco Chronicle

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# Teen's abduction 'purely random'

Sheriff says Sierra LaMar slain, DNA links suspect

By Justin Berton, Henry K. Lee and Will Kane

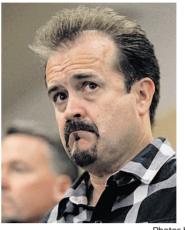
The apparent slaying of a 15-year-old South Bay girl was a "purely random" crime committed by a man who did not know the teenager, the Santa

Clara County sheriff said Tuesday.

DNA found on discarded clothes belonging to Sierra LaMar linked 21-year-old Antolin Garcia-Torres to the girl's March disappearance and apparent slaying, Sheriff Laurie Smith said at a news conference. The clothes were found near where the girl would have caught a bus to

Smith would not specify the nature of the DNA, but said it

Sierra continues on A9



Sierra's father, Steve LaMar, holds back tears as he listens to the sheriff's comments.

Laura Torres, mother of the suspect, says her son told her, "I have never seen that lady."

#### **SCHOOLS**



Chris Chatmon, executive director of the Oakland schools Office of African American Male Achievement, greets a student who attends the New Generations program at Edna Brewer Middle School.

# Keeping these kids on track

High suspension, absentee rates make black Oakland males high dropout risks

**By Jill Tucker** 

By the time they reach middle school, more than half of the African American males in Oakland show signs they'll miss high school

graduation day, with suspensions and chronic absenteeism topping the list of common characteristics among them, according to a study released Tuesday.

The Urban Strategies Council

report identified several risk factors facing black males and urged Oakland education officials to monitor those students closely and intervene to keep them in class and

on track to graduate. "This report demonstrates the critical importance of Oakland Unified School District's decision

Oakland continues on A8

## State shortfall could shorten school year

By Wyatt Buchanan

SACRAMENTO — California's public schools could see as much as a month of classroom time slashed from the calendar if voters reject a plan to raise taxes in November. Gov. Jerry Brown has proposed

giving school districts the option of cutting up to 15 days from the school year if voters reject his proposed income and sales tax initiative. The significantly shortened year would help offset a multibillion-dollar automatic midyear cut that would be implemented upon rejection of the

Districts statewide already have the option of cutting five days from the 180-day school calendar in order to reduce costs, and the proposal for three more weeks would be in addition to that. Public schools would

**Budget continues on A9** 

S.F. ARENA

# Warriors face tough process, potential foes

By Heather Knight and John Coté

The man who produced such edge-of-your-seat movies as "Batman" and "Midnight Express" cautioned Tuesday that his efforts to build a new Golden State Warriors basketball arena atop San Francisco's Piers 30-32 are in the very earliest stages.

"This is the beginning of the beginning of the beginning," said Peter Guber, co-owner of the Warriors and CEO of Mandalay Entertainment. "We're at the opening credits."

It's yet to be seen whether this particular production will be a feel-good story, as the Warriors and city officials pledge, or a heartbreaker like

Inside

→ Arena: Translating the move into

a winning team. → Bruce Jenkins: A few things to keep in mind before

this deal is done. **→** Ron Kroichick: Wherever Warriors play, team's

change. → Matier & Ross: Ellison's lemon is the Warriors' lem-

onade.

name needs to

CAMPAIGN 2012

Warriors continues on A8

### **Politicians stop** by state for cash — and little else

By Joe Garofoli

The Bay Area will host an unprecedented conga line of political fundraising events starting Wednesday, as President Obama, Mitt Romney, House Speaker John Boehner and Republican budget architect Rep. Paul Ryan pass through the region to haul away what fundraisers say will be a record amount of campaign contributions in such a short period.

Yet none of the star attractions is scheduled to spend any time in the Bay Area with people who are not writing them a check. No commencement addresses are scheduled. No honorary doctorates are to be received. Some events are being

Obama continues on A7



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#### Weather

Clear Highs: 59-81 Lows: 45-52





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