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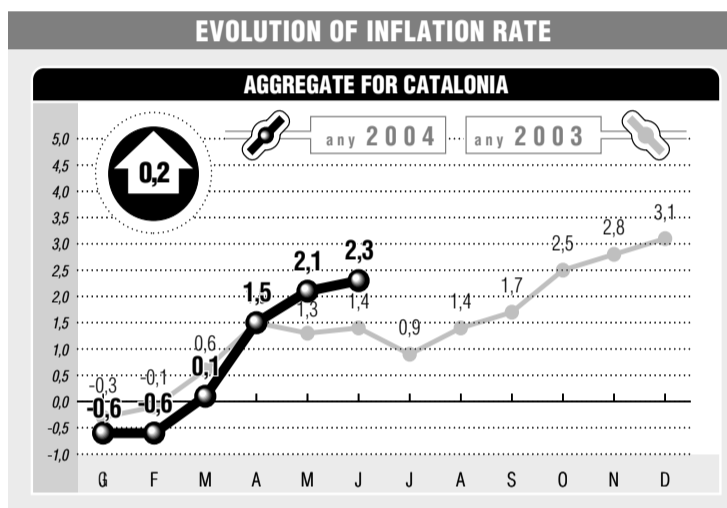
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Inflation sees steady rise and climbs to 3.5%

According to the latest figures for Spain and Catalonia, the inflation rate is steadily creeping up. The overall rate increased by two decimal points during June in both countries. Prices in Catalonia in

June went up by 0.4 per cent, meaning that over the past six months the Catalan figures are slightly above the national average at 2.3 per cent. The annual rate of 3.9 per cent is above the national average of 3.5 per cent.



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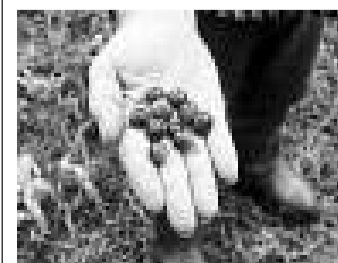
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Olive growers take protest to parliament



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Natural decaff plant sparks war over coffee



Maragall vows to "breathe new life" into EU trade agreement

President of the Catalan government Pascual Maragall, speaking in Madrid at the Med2003 conference, claimed that the EU trade agreement the Procès de Barcelona was "really working", and vowed to "breathe new life" into the nine-year-old agreement between the EU and the countries of the Southern Mediterranean. However, he admitted that so far this had only been expressed as a formal request to the EU by Spain's Foreign Minister Moratinos. However, Maragall went on to say that he had a meeting scheduled with President Zapatero on 21 July to discuss the matter.



Excellent flamenco guitarists are among the many regular performers to be found around the cathedral / VICTOR PARREÑO VIDIELLA

Buskers from around the world make Barri Gòtic a musical mecca

Talented musicians from all over the world are winning over the Barcelona public, but they are not doing it at the Forum but in the street. While the Ciutadella bongo players may be seen as a nuisance and the in-

ept recorder players a pain in Plaça del Pi, around the cathedral it is possible to hear music of the highest standard, played on a variety of instruments and in many styles. The majority come from Eastern Eu-

rope, often conservatory-trained, or from Latin America. Among the regular attractions are Los Cocodrilos, a jazz band made up of Russians, English and Catalans who perform most days in the Portal de l'Àngel.

Maragall vows to "breathe new life" into trade agreement with EU

Maragall wants to push forward the 9 year-old process to improve southern Mediterranean

NÚRIA RIBAS/NEIL STOKES

"Ten years have passed and I now believe the Procés de Barcelona is really working." With these words, the president of the Catalan government, Pascual Maragall expressed the political will felt by his government, the city council and the central government to breathe new life into the nine-year-old agreements between the EU and the countries of the southern Mediterranean.

Next year will see the tenth anniversary of the Procés, which covers everything from trade to culture, and speaking in Madrid at Med2003, Maragall showed his keenness for Barcelona to once more host the conference and get the Procés moving definitively. Maragall claimed that now is the moment, "for various reasons. First, because disappointment often precedes success. Secondly, because Germany has now completed the integration of the east of Europe. And thirdly, because North Africa is awakening economically."

The importance of the Mediterranean was emphasised in the conclusions of Med2003, organised by the European Institute of the Mediterranean (IEMED). In the extensive geographical area as the Mediterranean can be found some of the most destabilising conflicts in the world, such as that between Israel and Palestine. Maragall assured the conference that, "Catalonia is prepared to offer its resources, its capital and, of course, its government to



Maragall, with Spanish secretary of foreign affairs Narcis Serra, is keen for progress in the Mediterranean

drive forward definitively the Procés de Barcelona begun almost ten years ago." So far, however, action on this front has been limited to a formal request to the EU by the Spanish Foreign Minister, Miguel Ángel Moratinos to make Barcelona

the location for what would be known as *Barcelona +10*.

Maragall also has a meeting with José Luis Zapatero planned for 21 July at the prime minister's residence, the Moncloa. The meeting is part of a round of talks that Zapatero

is conducting with all the presidents of the autonomous regions. While Maragall did not reveal which subjects would be discussed at the meeting, he did confirm that discussions of Catalonia's finances would definitely be on the agenda.

Sikh spiritual leader declares Barcelona to be a "holy city" at inter-religious Forum event

ALEX LEFF

"Barcelona has become a holy city," declared Sikh spiritual leader Bhai Mohinder Singh at a plenary session in celebration of the international inter-religious movement. Surrounded by identical followers, Singh stood on stage at the Forum building auditorium, barefoot, a dagger by his side, the characteristic turbine and long greying beard. "If each and every hair on my body could say thank you", he said, "I would go ahead and say thank you Barcelona, we salute you." A roar of applause followed Singh's praise from the faithful melange seated before him. Is that so? Is this place truly a holy city? Locals are just now get-

ting used to the idea of Barcelona as a new business and leisure capital, but now this.

If holiness is measured by the degree to which different religions interact, in the eyes of these humble interfaith dialogists, then Catalonia set off towards sanctity years ago. If word of this gets out, one might envision a new breed of visitor. Much like Sedona in Arizona, which has been known for years as a vortex among new age types in the US for the land's wealth of natural and spiritual energies, Barcelona may also begin to attract those in search of the fresh springs of life. Imagine a rainbow gathering in the middle of Plaça Catalunya, a Deadhead con-

vention in the Mare Magnum, a new network of spiritual gurus filling up the yellow pages and classifieds. The possibilities are endless. And to think, it all started at our very own Forum site down by the stinky Besòs River. Mayor Joan Clos must have jumped for joy when he heard the news. If Barcelona's holiness is due in part to its hosting the interfaith conference at the Forum, that makes him a prophet, which might explain his incomprehensible speech patterns.

Actually, Clos won over the affections of Forum goers at the Parliament of the World's Religions (PWR) with his opening speech. He spoke first in Catalan, but it seemed

that nobody had figured out how to find their languages on the headsets. He then broke into English, translating his prophetic words into a language that the vast majority of parliamentarians could understand. "War is not God's affair," Clos said, and the crowd erupted louder than it had for any speakers before him. The mayor glowed as never before, and his voice grew with intensity. For a moment I thought the cheering came because of his sudden change to English. But then it dawned on me that for these out-of-towners it was a sign of an accepting society. Their cause was heard and spoken by the city's leader. This must be a holy city.

NURSERY

Fewer teachers

A federation of parents' groups have lodged a complaint with the city council over reductions in the number of teachers for nursery schools which take care of children from 0-3 years of age. The reduction brings the number of teachers per group from two to one, with additional help available only at meal times. Some parents have announced that they will refuse to make payments to the nursery schools in September if their demands are not met.

ANIMAL PROTECTION

Expansion of pound sought

The decision of the city not to renew a private foundation's contract for running a Barcelona animal pound will not result in animals being put down. The current *Centre d'Acollida d'Animals de Companyia* will be expanded, and its operation will no longer be handled by the Altarriba foundation. Imma Mayol, president of the Agency of Public Health, said failure of the city to renew the Altarriba's contract was due to repeated complaints about conditions at the centre, which has space for 110 dogs and 200 cats.

CRIME

Falsified goods confiscated

The Guàrdia Civil has confiscated 473 articles of falsified merchandise in Reus, Salou and Cambrils. The items seized include handbags, belts and t-shirts, and are valued at approximately 125,000 euros. Police have also arrested a 50-year-old Argentinian national who lives in Cambrils and owns three boutiques. Police suspect that the merchandise, which contained internationally-known brand name labels such as Gucci, Ralph Lauren, Chanel, Christian Dior, Louis Vuitton, Versace, Dolce Gabbana and Tod's was meant to be sold illegally by a group of boutiques in the towns where they seized the merchandise. Investigation by authorities stems from a complaint by merchants on the Costa Daurada who sell legal versions of the same merchandise. So far this year, the Guàrdia Civil has arrested a total of 47 people for violations of intellectual and industrial property rights, mostly for the sale of pirated CDs and DVDs and some for the sale of falsified clothing.

SALOU

Sexual assault during massage

The Guàrdia Civil has arrested a 42-year-old resident of Salou for "improperly touching" a female tourist during a massage session last weekend. The woman, a 33-year-old tourist, paid for a massage session at a Salou hotel when, she alleges, the suspect touched her in a way that constituted sexual assault. She subsequently complained to the police and the suspect was arrested and charged with sexual assault.

Barri Gòtic a musical mecca

The diversity and professionalism of cathedral buskers give them a loyal following

If you thought that the Forum had cornered the market on cultural diversity, take a stroll past Barcelona's cathedral, a veritable forum of musical diversity

FERRAN SÁNCHEZ / NEIL STOKES

Talented musicians from all over the world are captivating the Barcelona public. No, not at the Forum, and not least because listening only costs as much as the change in your pocket. Buskers of every type surround the cathedral each day performing different musical styles with a variety of instruments. Their performances barely skirt round the busking laws but their cultural contribution often leads the authorities to look the other way. Unlike the Parc Ciutadella drummers, which neighbours consider a nuisance, the cathedral buskers have won the hearts of locals. What's more, the cathedral buskers have diverse origins, which puts the Forum's efforts to represent the multicultural life of the city into sharp perspective.

Piotr Khandogui from Belorussia is a good example. This is Piotr's third summer in Barcelona playing the cymbal in one of the side streets near the cathedral. As with many cathedral buskers, don't expect to hear "The Streets of London" strummed out on an old guitar over and over again. Many of these buskers are consummate musicians and Piotr studied music for 13 years back in his homeland and was a member of the National Orchestra of Belorussia. Despite coming from a multitude of places - the majority hail from South America and Eastern Europe - one thing these musicians have in common is the quality of their performers which is some cases borders on extraordinary talent. Violinist Josep Maria has been coming to listen to the cathedral buskers for years and claims that some truly great musicians have busked in these streets. Among the best of them he picks out the Dúo Gótico who included one of the most celebrated guitarists of the moment, José Ignacio López.

There are many examples of such multicultural talent among the buskers. Los Cocodrilos led by the Russian Miha are made up of Russians, English and Catalans. For the last five years they've been performing their jazzy numbers at the crossroads of Portal de l'Angel and Plaça Cathedral. Antoine is from Paris and his guitar accompanies the vocals of the American, Melody. They prefer the melodic repetitive



A Chilean musician performing on the streets of the Barri Gòtic / VÍCTOR PARREÑO

City police willing to give buskers a wide berth

Since 1999 the law for musical performances in streets and public spaces has prohibited the playing of amplified music or percussion instruments. Performances with other types of instrument are allowed from ten in the morning until ten at night, but limits the maximum continuous period of play to an hour before performers are required to move on elsewhere. Nor can musicians perform in any city street as buskers

are not allowed to perform in streets of less than seven metres in width. Not all musicians in the Casc Antic respect these conditions and in 2002, the Guàrdia Urbana confiscated 206 instruments. However, very often the police are prepared to turn a blind eye. The Guàrdia Urbana itself admits that it is not always possible to strictly enforce the law because "each situation is different."

Neighbours tolerant of Casc Antic street performers

The president of the neighbour's body, Associació de Veïns del Casc Antic, Maria Mas, reports that local residents are "fed up" with the drummers who meet every Sunday in Parc Ciutadella. However, she also reveals that there have been no complaints from neighbours about the musicians in the Casc Antic. Meanwhile, secretary of the buskers' association, L'Associació de Músics de Carrer, Fèlix Garcia, has a

message for the authorities in rejecting, "any type of institutional intimidation of musicians who, because of the technical specifications of their instruments, need to use an amplifier," and he believes that the current law, "completely ignores the reality that affects buskers." As far as Garcia is concerned, the law merely creates conflicts with the city council.

rhythms of reggae. Musical styles are as diverse as nationalities, and while the classical guitar is by far the most popular instrument, everything from the ever-present classical music, through experimental styles to movie soundtracks can be heard.

One thing that all these styles have in common, however, is that they are all soft and gentle and entirely in keeping with the dignified surroundings of the cathedral. Percussion has been banned in public spaces since 1999, as has the use of

amplifiers. To the disgust of the buskers' association, L'Associació de Músics al Carrer, every year the Guàrdia Urbana confiscate more than 200 instruments and while the police body recognises that, "it isn't always possible to strictly enforce the law," buskers who need amplifiers try to reduce the risk to their equipment with ingenious disguises. Whatever the police may think, the public have given the buskers a sympathetic welcome. By only performing during the day, the buskers

avoid criticism like the recent outcry against the Parc Ciutadella drummers. As these musicians can earn up to 200 euros in only two hours on a good day, provoking controversy is the last thing they want.

Yet, despite their popularity and the sympathy they command, the buskers rarely seem to sell many of their own CDs laid out in front of them. Passers-by may peruse what's on offer but they usually settle for leaving a few coins. Mind you, at 100 euros an hour, they can't complain.

HOTELS

Costa Brava hotels trade slump

Hotels in the Costa Brava claim that June saw a fall in the number of visitors booking rooms. During the month room occupation fell by 11%, compared to the same time last year. But in Maresme it was only an 8% fall and in the Costa Daurada 2%. According to Martí Sabrià, the manager of the Costa Brava Hotel Association, the fall in visitor numbers is the result of cheaper holidays in places like the Balearic Islands and the Canaries, which were offering "incredible offers". Sabrià said that people were spending more money on holidays throughout the year, which left them with less money to spend during the summer. The vice-president of the Gremi hotels in Maresme, Santiago García Nieto, confirmed that June had also been a "bad" for hotels in the region with an 8% fall.

SOLIDARITY

Barcelona funds Gaza peace park

Barcelona city council has financed the construction of a peace park in Gaza city. It follows an agreement of cooperation between the two cities. The new 1.2 hectre park is based in the neighbourhood of Tal-al-hawa. The city council has invested 300,000 euros into the park, which includes sport and leisure areas for the youths of the city. Following a meeting between the mayor of Barcelona, Joan Clos, and delegates from Gaza last week, the two sides are studying the possibility of further collaboration on more projects. Experts from Barcelona have passed information to the Palestians about provision of services such as housing, water and roads.

TOURISM

Tourist bus cruises Lleida streets

A tourist bus to help visitors view the many attractions in Lleida has started its summer season and will operate until 12 September. The service will run for seven days a week and travel throughout the city during each 50min journey. It attracts on average 5,000 users each year and the town hall is confident that this figure will increase by 2% this year. "This service is vital for the increasing tourism to our city," said the mayor of Lleida, Àngel Ros. A ticket costs 3 euros which is valid all day and will also enable user access the city's museums.

LITERATURE

Crime writer with Catalan links

Scottish crime writer Quintin Jardine, has just published a new book. The prolific writer spends half the year living in Catalonia. He has just returned from the country to launch his latest crime thriller Stay of Execution.

HEALTH

Minister questions new charge

The Catalan minister for health, Marina Geli, has "ideological doubts" about charging one euro each time people visit a health centre. She wants the charge to reflect what people can afford.

Medical copayment proposal overshadows debate over budget

Catalan government considers charging one euro copayment for medical visits

AGENCIES

The Catalan Parliament yesterday approved the budget for the current year with an eye towards overall budget reduction and finding ways to boost funding for the financially-strapped public health system, including a controversial proposal to add a one euro copayment for medical visits.

The budget for the current year is set for 22.5 billion euros, a figure which includes a 2.75% reduction over last year's budget. The 2004 budget puts the deficit at 0.58 percent of Catalonia's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

To reduce the public health deficit, several ideas were batted around in addition to the copayment scheme, including a proposed surcharge on petrol as well as raising taxi fares. According to Health Minister Marina Geli, such measures are not designed to be a primary source of financing but are needed to make needed improvements to the health system. She also said that asking patients to make copayments for visits will not limit access to health care but will "make people value a health system that is paid for by everyone".

Geli also admitted that she had an "ideological doubt" as to whether charging for medical visits to doctors was an appropriate measure, but added that copayments are already being used in the "majority of European Union countries" and that working-age citizens already pay for a part of their prescription drug costs.

She stressed the overall importance of securing more funding for the health system one way or another, and said that the preferred method of doing so was through direct taxation. Meanwhile, the president of the Spanish Society of Rural and General Medicine (SEMERGEN) Julio Zarco yesterday rejected the Catalan proposal to study the copayment proposal, saying that "it



Protesting olive farmers say they have not been awarded the full amount of subsidies they were promised / ANDREU PUIG

Olive farmers protest at Parliament over subsidies

Catalan Parliament members were greeted yesterday by protests from 300-500 farmers in the olive sector, who were demanding full payment of subsidies that were approved in December 2001. An organisation representing the olive producers protested the government's announcement of a 600-700 euro per hectare reduction in subsidy money.

Some were calling for the resignation of the agricultural

minister Antoni Siurana as well as Generalitat president Pascual Maragall. A small group of protesters managed to have a meeting with Parliament president Ernest Benach. According to Benach, it was not normal to give out subsidies all at once, while a representative of the growers maintained that too many growers are being left out of the government's current subsidy distribution scheme.

was not feasible in a public health system" and that it violates the principles of social equality. He said to a Europa press journalist "I firmly believe that this proposal will not be

implimented."

The trade unions CCOO and UGT have also come out steadfastly against the medical copayment system. "We will reject any attempt to

establish a payment system for medical services," said Manuel García Biel, spokesman for the CCOO in Catalonia. "The preferential use of indirect taxes is highly unfair."

Fira de Calella to feature debates and handicrafts with Scottish presence

TERESA MÁRQUEZ/NEIL STOKES

Parallels are often made between Scotland and Catalonia and in this year's *Fira de Calella* Scottish representatives have been invited to take part. From 22 to 26 September, Calella will celebrate the 24th Fira with a series of debates. Councillor Miquel Pérez (ERC) singles out discussions on the first Fira del Motor, "to provide dynamism to a sector important for the local economy." As

the self-proclaimed capital of the Costa Brava, the future of the tourism industry, to which the Scots have long been Major contributors, will also be debated.

These round table sessions are a departure for the fair which will take place on the Passeig de Manuel Puigvert. Mayor Josep Basart points out, "We wanted a unique meeting place and a fair in constant evolution." Another innovation at this

year's celebration will be an exhibition of pottery by over a hundred craftsmen, along with two more exhibitions by the Centre Català d'Artesania. For the first time, fair organisers also offered the design of the publicity poster in a competition worth 500 euros.

The winner, designer Anna Vivancos, has created a classical design combining traditional features of Calella with a call to attend. With a

budget of 105,300 euros, this year's fair is the most expensive ever and Miquel Pérez is confident that more participants can be attracted to the seaside town, beating the 60,000 who visited last year's event. In January it became part of the Federation of Fairs of Catalonia and has since adopted a new logo. More information can be found at the fair's website at www.calella.org, which began operation yesterday.

EUROPEAN

Borrell chosen as next president

The Spanish MEP, Josep Borrell, has been chosen as the next president of the European parliament, after an agreement between the socialists and the popular party to share the presidency in the next session, which starts on 20 July. The agreement did not have the support of the Portuguese socialists. Josep Borrell will be the third Spaniard to serve in this role following Enrique Barón (1989-1992) and Jose Maria Gil-Robles (1997-1999). The president of the European popular party, Hans-Gert Poettering, said they had made an agreement so that Borrell could serve as the next president over the course of the next two and half years, followed by a candidate from the popular party, probably Poettering, starting in January 2007.

ENVIRONMENT

Ecologists' anger at sea dumping

The centre for mediterranean ecology has hit out at the alleged dumping of construction waste into the port of Tarragona. The centre has complained to the police department responsible for protecting the environment about the issue. The ecologists claim that the waste is coming from the works for new car terminals that are being constructed along the coast. They say that the waste includes mud, metal, plastic and rubber. "This waste being dumped in the sea has not been treated and could lead to contamination of the sea," said a spokesperson for the centre. They claim the alleged dumping breaks 1972 regulations agreed to prevent dumping of waste material in the sea, which was ratified by the Spanish government in 1974.

HEALTH

New treatment for eye defect

A hospital in Sabadell is the first public health centre in Catalonia to use a new technique in the treatment of cataracts, which involves little discomfort for the patient but a speedy recovery. The treatment is being pioneered at the Parc Taulí hospital in the city and involves making a very small cut in the eye of only 1.5 millimeters and then a contact lens is implanted as a substitute for the lens that taken out. Using conventional surgery surgeons have to make an incision of 3 millimeters. The reduction in the incision provides less risk of infection. The new technique also means the patient spends less time in the hospital. Eye experts are set to meet later this year in Spain and they have invited doctors from the hospital to explain their new surgical advances.

JUSTICE

Freedom for terror suspect

A judge in the Spanish High Court has said a suspected Al Qaeda member can be released from prison if he pays 3000 euros bail. Hamed Abdelrahman Ahmed was being held by the Americans in Guantánamo Bay, Cuba, until his transfer to a Spanish prison in February this year. Judge Garzón said he will impose restrictions on Ahmed's liberty once he has been freed.

US urged to fight Aids epidemic "like terrorism"

Annan: "Aids is a weapon of mass destruction"

REUTERS, BANGKOK

The United States must lead the fight against Aids with the same commitment it shows in the battle against terrorism, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan said on Tuesday. "We hear a lot about weapons of mass destruction. We hear a lot about terrorism, and we are worried about weapons of mass destruction because of their potential to kill thousands of people," Annan said in an interview with the BBC. "Here we have an epidemic that is killing millions. What is the response?" Annan said. "We really do need leadership.

America has the natural leadership capacity because of its resources, because of its size." Annan was speaking on the sidelines of an international Aids conference in Bangkok where Washington's low-key presence, moral agenda and funding policies on Aids have come under attack. But a top US government scientist defended President Bush's \$15 billion plan to fight the Aids epidemic that has killed 20 million people worldwide and infected 38 million. "There is absolutely no diminished commitment in interacting internationally. Look at the presi-



Actor Richard Gere attending the Aids conference in Bangkok / EPA PHOTO

dent's programs. It's \$15 billion," Dr. Tony Fauci, head of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, told reporters. The conference - the biggest gathering of scientists, activists, drug company bosses

and Aids sufferers - has seen daily protests by activists shouting "Shame, Shame" against Bush and other rich country leaders accused of failing to support a UN-backed global Aids fund.

CHURCH

Priests accused of abuse

An average of one Roman Catholic priest every week was accused of sexual abuse in England and Wales last year but none has been prosecuted and all but two are still in their jobs, a report said Tuesday. A further 10 allegations were made of physical, emotional or other abuse by priests, volunteers and employees of the church, bringing total complaints for the year to 62, according to the report by the Catholic Office for the Protection of Children (COPCA). There were also 51 reports of "inappropriate behavior" toward children which were dealt with internally by the church after consultation with police and social services.

POP MUSIC

Beatles songs found in suitcase

Unpublished songs recorded by the world famous pop group the Beatles, have been discovered in an Australian market, according to The Times. Other items found in a suitcase at the flea market included documents and photographs of the fab four.

Appeal Court rules that Stansted hijackers can stay and should not be deported to Afghanistan

AGENCIES

Nine Afghan men arrested after a hijacking incident at Stansted Airport will not face deportation to Afghanistan. They were sent to a UK prison in 2001 for hijacking an Afghan Ariana Boeing 727. But the convictions were overturned by the Court of Appeal in June 2003, because a mistake was made in directing the jury. Now an Immigration Appellate Authority hearing has ruled that the men have the right to stay in the UK because they would be in danger of attack from members of the Taliban if they were deported.

The Home Office is disappointed with the decision which it would be appealing against. "It said to return them would be contrary to the European Convention on Human Rights," a spokeswoman for the Home Office said. Under the Home Office's own rules, failed asylum



The Home Office is set to appeal / EPA

seekers from Afghanistan can only be returned if they are from the region of the capital, Kabul. Government assessors accept that the rest of the country remains dangerous.

Iraqi minister asks Philippines not to bow to hostage-takers and keep their troops in Iraq

REUTERS, BAGHDAD

An Iraqi official on Tuesday warned against bowing to kidnappers amid deepening confusion on whether Manila intended to bring its troops home early from Iraq to save the life of a Filipino hostage. Any Philippine decision to advance the scheduled departure date of August 20 of the 51-strong humanitarian force would be unwelcome to the United States and to Iraq's interim government. Mowaffaq Abboud, an adviser to Foreign Minister Hoshiyar Ze-

bari, declined comment on Manila's stance, but told Reuters the government opposed concessions to kidnappers. "We think it is not a wise idea to give in to the demands of hostage-takers," he said. "This would encourage the terrorists to continue these practices."

The government, trying to enhance its authority after taking over from US-led occupiers on June 28, remains dependent on a 160,000-strong, mostly American, multinational force.

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PLATFORM

XAVIER DIEZ

Coming to terms with the past and the present

Last year saw the fiftieth anniversary of one of the bestselling novels of Spanish literature written in Catalonia pass almost unnoticed. *Los Cipreses crecen en Dios* by Josep Maria Gironella (1917-2003) was the first of an extensive trilogy about the time of the Second Republic, the Civil War and the Postwar era. The book describes, from a biased but interesting point of view, the social, political and ideological contradictions of a microcosm that attempts to reflect the complex reality of Spain which led to the rebellion of 1936 and the war that followed. While Gironella makes an intelligent effort at analysing the imaginary differences between the opposing social groups in conflict, when the moment arrives for him to really explain the causes and mechanisms that carry the characters to the final showdown, he fails to satisfactorily resolve the plot.

He includes unlikely scenes in which the masons conspire against the "natural order", he caricatures unconvincing communists or invents behind the scenes foreign meddling, although at times lucid, he ends up drifting into peurile Manichaeism. To sum up, he attributes the civil war to a judeo-masonic conspiracy. Such a naive formula for reading reality is in fact quite significant. In common with many conservative intellectuals signed up to Francoism, Gironella shares the inability of the victors to understand their own responsibilities or experience any feelings of guilt.

Nowadays, those that follow the political

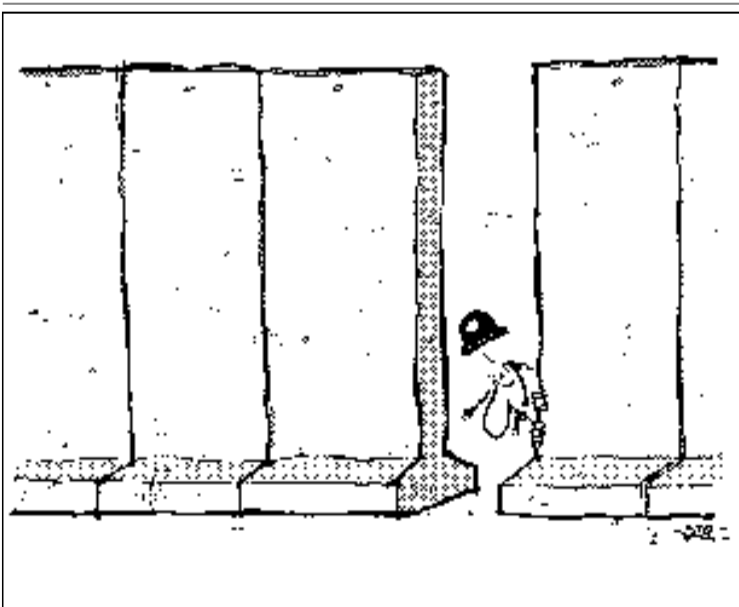


discourse of postfranco, rightwing think tanks, basically their traditional means of communication, can grasp similar sentiments to those expressed by Gironella, albeit without his literary qualities. Beliefs in social relations based on profound inequality and an almost feudal paternalism bring an inability to understand a country that is evolving outside of their mental schemes and their frustrated aspirations to restore a lost imperial order.

Consequently, the electoral defeat of 14 March or the popular demonstrations against Aznar have not been rationally assimilated. Rather, a type of collective mental alienation sees a conspiracy involving nationalists, journalists, dark anti-clerical forces or the treacherous France. Anyone who reads *Abc* or listens to COPE would believe that the country is under siege by conspirators bent on putting an end to an idealised Spain that no longer exists.

Intellectuals venting merciless criticisms of the recent royal marriage are a sickening reaffirmation of the class system by disguised as republicanism. Ordinary citizens have expressed with much more clarity a potent underlying feeling of francoism in a Spanish society that has proven incapable of assimilating the past and therefore unable to understand the present. Such rigid and contradictory rhetoric within a precarious social structure always ends up revealing the indestructible faith in the myths of a faded Spanish nationalism that stirs up irrational hatred of the adversary, or shows a profound inability to assume guilt for the civil war which in a way is still not over. Obviously the country cannot live with the right in this state. The threat of a return to the "essence of fatherland" is like a slab impeding progress as happened in the period 1996-2004, which deepened the divisions within a state where co-existence is difficult. What is needed is a catharsis to help Spanish conservatism distance itself from authoritarian, classist and intolerant temptations which have fed its thinking and political organisations. This has to begin with the withdrawal of the amnesty law of 1977 and the opening up of a judicial process which could bring penal those responsible for the violence and repression of the Franco regime to justice and help rid Spain of the symbolic elements that keep the dictatorship alive, and the necessary rehabilitation of the republican Spain. Only by coming to terms with the past is it possible to confront the future.

THE STING BY JAP



NUDE BEACH FOR NUDISTS

When the government designated Mar Bella as a nudist beach it demonstrated how Barcelona offers its inhabitants and visitors a diversity of facilities and attractions. The recent establishment of a chiringuito on Mar Bella has significantly changed the appearance and the tone of the beach, with more rubbish in the sand as well as noise pollution in the form of loud music. Second, by flying a gay pride flag above the chiringuito, the proprietors are announcing that this is a gay chiringuito and ipso facto, this is a gay beach. It is not. It is a nudist beach. Third, there has been a clear increase in an unwanted sexual

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

tone at the beach, the worst evidence of which is the increase in the number of questionable men simply hanging around the toilet facility. Since its establishment, the chiringuito has obviously become a gay meeting point. Many gay men, who clearly have no interest in nudity other than to stare at it now gather at the chiringuito. The beach which always had a very welcome gay element is now becoming overwhelmingly gay. Naturists enjoy simplicity. We prefer a beach without clothes, without rubbish, without loud music and without a chiringuito. Leave the nude beach to the nudists.

Mark Macallum
Poblenou, Barcelona

ISOLATIONIST BRITAIN?

Oh dear, Stephen Burgen is so muddled in his political thinking. Firstly, those of us who voted for UKIP last month, voted to leave the European Union (not Europe). Secondly, how can he justifiably call Britain isolationist when it is one of the foremost international trading nations? Thirdly, if Britain ever leaves the EU, trade with the EU would continue much as it does now. Norway (not in the EU) has a much higher proportion of its trade with the EU than Britain has. Fourthly, France voted for the Maastricht treaty by the narrowest of margins.

RB Tubb
England



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BUSINESS

Wednesday 14 July 2004

7

Spanish rate of inflation creeping upwards at start of summer

Prices rose faster in Catalonia over the past twelve months than national average

REBECCA WARDEN

The rate of inflation is creeping up, according to the latest figures for Spain and Catalonia. The overall rate increased by two decimal points during the month of June and by a similar rate in Catalonia, according to the National Institute of Statistics (INE).

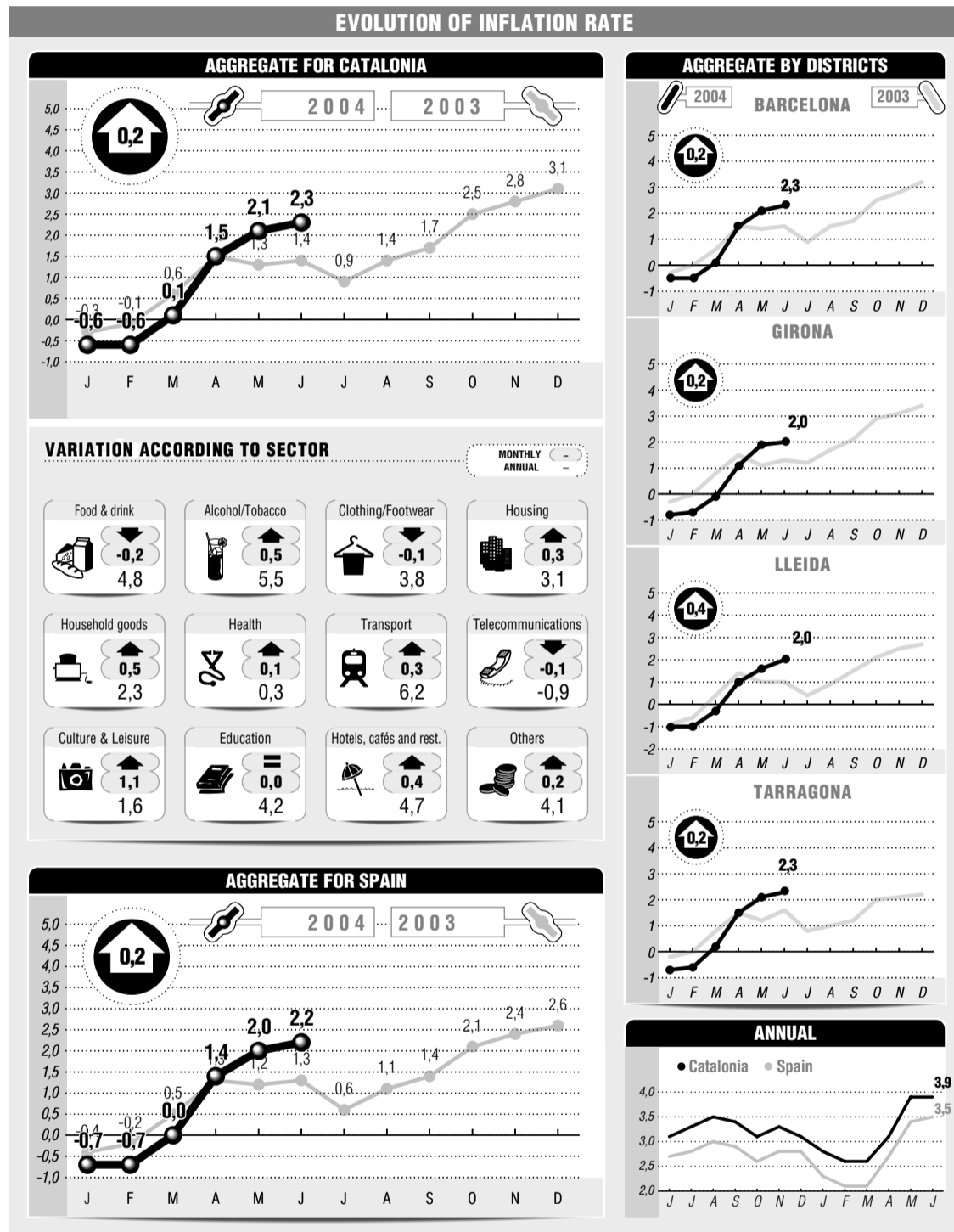
While price rises in Catalonia in June are in line with the national average, in the province of Lleida prices rose by 0.4 per cent. Seen over the last six months, the Catalan total is slightly above the national average at 2.3 per cent. The yearly rate, at 3.9 per cent, is markedly higher than the national average of 3.5 per cent.

The latest figures bring the accumulated inflation rate for Spain for the first six months of the year up to 2.2 per cent - higher than the government's official forecast for the whole of the year - and for the last 12 months up to 3.5 per cent. When the price increases of fresh produce and energy are excluded, the rate of underlying inflation went up by one decimal point in June 2004.

Three factors are behind the rise in overall inflation; the rise in tobacco prices in June, the fact that the drop in fuel prices this year has not been as big as last year and the rise in the cost of package holidays at the beginning of the tourist season.

Leisure and cultural activities registered the biggest increase in prices in June (0.8 per cent), due to the start of the holiday season. This was closely followed by drinks and tobacco (0.7% per cent), caused by the hike in tobacco prices. Prices in hotels, bars and restaurants rose by 0.4 per cent.

Consumers can take slight comfort from the fact that some products did actually get cheaper in June; clothing and footwear (down 0.5 per cent) and telecommunications (down 0.1 per cent.)



EU to approve Alitalia loan, shares rise in anticipation

The European Commission is set to approve Italy's plan to rescue struggling national airline Alitalia, according to EU transport commissioner Loyola de Palacio. This move boosted the carrier's shares but provoked the anger of its competitors. The Italian government has proposed guaranteeing an emergency 400 million euro loan to Alitalia. This is the third time that Rome has backed the bail-out of the airline which is currently losing more than one million euros a day. Commission spokesman Amador Sanchez said the loan could not be used by the carrier for investment or to expand its activities. He later told reporters that Italy had committed itself to reducing its stake in Alitalia to 49 per cent or less within the next 12 months.

Accord reached on Levi's plant closure

The official labour body of Levi's arrived at an agreement with the company's management for settlements for workers who will lose their jobs as a result of the closure of the company's plant in Girona.

Only five workers voted against the plan because, according to one union official, they did not agree with the established limit of 100,000 euros to be paid out in severance payments.

It had been hoped that an agreement could be reached that only result in around 30 workers losing their jobs. An additional meeting was scheduled to discuss the cases of those employees who would be eligible for early-retirement settlements.

Two companies win awards for export business

Relats SA, a textile company based in Montbui, and Linear Chemicals based in Montgat have both won the "Economic Internationalisation Prize" awarded by the Catalan government. The prize is designated to award excellence in international trade for young business people in the exportation business. Relats exports its products to Italy, Germany and France, and Linear Chemicals exports to more than 50 countries in Europe, Asia and Latin America.

220 million euros to prepare Sants for the AVE

AGENCIES

The high speed train came a step closer to Barcelona yesterday with the announcement that 220 million euros will be spent on adapting Sants station for the arrival of the AVE in 2007. Spanish minister of public works Magdalena Álvarez said that the call for tender will be published before the end of July. She was in Barcelona yesterday for a meeting with mayor Joan Clos

which she described as "very useful for both parties."

The funding will be channelled through state-owned railway RENFE. The work will involve doubling the size of the main hall of Sants and building another 90,000 square metres of space above the hall which will be used for offices, hotel accommodation and leisure purposes. Álvarez stressed that the work will be complete by 2007 in time for

the arrival of the high speed train. The AVE project has been plagued by repeated delays.

Clos and Álvarez also reached agreement on five related projects yesterday. These include the green light for setting up the Barcelona High Speed Consortium and a sister company to manage the building of the Sant Andreu-la Sagrera AVE terminal. A study on road and rail links to the port of Barcelona was also giv-

en the go-ahead; the result will be published before the end of 2004.

A second study on AVE-airport link will begin immediately. Clos also got a pledge from the minister to look into ways that autonomous governments and local councils can help manage airports. Barcelona's mayor said he was confident more money will be made available for infrastructures in Barcelona with the change in central government.

STOCK MARKET

INVESTMENT FUNDS

Fund	NAV	M.Yld%	YTD%
AHORRO CORPORACIÓN			
AC Acciones	15,21	-0,45	5,00
AC Australasia	3,91	-6,94	7,32
AC Cuenta FT	1.311,58	0,18	0,50
AC Deuda FT	13,77	0,08	0,55
AC Divisa	7,04	-3,60	0,87
AC Euroacciones	4,30	0,29	0,45
AC Largo FT	11,26	0,16	0,84
Ahorrofondo	40,05	-0,11	3,13
Fonmix Laietana	4,58	0,85	1,71

Fund	NAV	M.Yld%	YTD%
BANCO POPULAR			
Eurovalor Bolsa	184,43	-1,82	4,67
Eurovalor Bolsa Europea	46,01	-1,30	1,13
Eurovalor Bolsa Internac.	38,69	-2,82	0,42
Eurovalor Dinero	1.577,19	0,20	0,58
Eurovalor Mixto 15	73,52	-0,16	1,22
Eurovalor Mixto 30	69,48	-0,52	2,06
Eurovalor mixto 70	2,62	-1,18	0,39
Eurovalor Renta Fija	6,17	0,08	0,76
Eurovalor RF Corto	77,25	0,23	0,85
Eurovalor Sector Inmobil.	87,01	3,59	12,51
Eurovalor Tesoreria	809,95	0,18	0,52

Fund	NAV	M.Yld%	YTD%
BANCO SABADELL			
Inversabadell 25	15,74	0,19	1,03
Inversabadell 50	4,93	0,11	0,93
Invertecnocredit	5,97	0,21	1,09
MB Divisas 1	7,33	0,81	6,01
MB Fondo 2	15,45	-0,04	2,44
Sabadell Bonos Euro	14,12	0,59	1,76
Sabadell Dinero	9,79	0,20	0,56
Sabadell Dolar Bolsa	6,32	-1,68	-4,57
Sabadell Europa Bolsa	7,48	-1,57	0,30
Sabadell Global	3,74	0,34	1,99
Sabadell Interes Euro 1	17,81	0,05	0,56
Sabadell Interes Euro 3	15,84	0,19	0,96
Sabadell Interes Euro 4	7,99	0,09	0,69
Solbank Dinero	8,18	0,19	0,55
Solbank Interes Euro	12,66	0,03	0,50

Fund	NAV	M.Yld%	YTD%
BANKINTER			
BK Bolsa Euribex	1.684,07	-0,73	2,00
BK Bolsa Internacional	581,83	0,06	0,46
BK Dinero	1.215,62	0,19	0,59
BK Fondo Fijo	22,02	-0,54	0,57
BK Mixto Espa a 50	1.165,61	-0,45	1,88
BK Mixto Europa 20	68,18	-0,02	0,81
BK Renta V. Europea	48,55	-2,07	-0,92
Fondo Telefonico CP	981,91	0,25	0,74

Fund	NAV	M.Yld%	YTD%
BANKPYME			
Bankpyme Comunicaciones	5,70	-4,07	-1,38
Bankpyme Eurovalor	5,34	0,87	3,20
Bankpyme Multifix 25 RV	13,60	0,96	2,23
Bankpyme Swiss	19,74	2,29	5,04
Bankpyme Top Class 75 RV	9,59	-1,00	3,12

Fund	NAV	M.Yld%	YTD%
BBVA			
BBVA Biofarma	512,83	-3,89	2,71
BBVA Bolsa Europa	61,74	-1,17	1,76
BBVA Bolsa Internacional	11,68	-2,54	2,42
BBVA Bolsa Japon	3,71	-4,97	6,73
BBVA Bono 2000 A	1.081,62	0,64	0,85
BBVA Bonos USA	10,61	-1,85	2,51
BBVA Crecimiento Europa	6,96	0,24	1,86
BBVA Dinero	1.903,00	0,18	0,52
BBVA Fonbolsa Int.G	11,38	0,00	0,09
BBVA Mix 80 A	535,22	-0,26	1,97
BBVA Multifondo Dinamic.	519,58	-2,70	5,09
BBVA Plan Renta	1.045,10	0,15	1,41
BBVA RF Largo	13,83	0,30	1,06
BBVA Small Caps Europa	7,06	1,69	17,86

Fund	NAV	M.Yld%	YTD%
CAIXA CATALUNYA			
Caixa Cat. Borsas 5	5,88	0,29	1,50
Caixa Cat. Borsas Europea	4,06	1,73	1,76
Caixa Cat. Borsas Usa	3,28	-0,39	2,78
Caixa Cat. Dinero	1.811,25	0,10	0,60
Caixa Cat. Global	11,81	0,37	0,83
Caixa Cat. Index	8,14	1,81	5,61
Caixa Cat. Inversio 2	4,48	0,01	-0,26
Caixa Cat. Patrimoni	7,80	0,10	0,50
Caixa Cat. Patrimoni Plus	7,52	0,13	0,66
Caixa Cat. Plus	7,83	0,11	0,67
Caixa Cat. Previsio	18,01	0,43	1,41
Caixa Cat. Sanitat	4,66	-2,24	-0,75
Caixa Cat. Telecomunic.	2,02	-1,36	-1,54

Fund	NAV	M.Yld%	YTD%
CAIXA GIRONA			
Caixagirona Global	6,18	-0,48	4,39
Fonsgirona	2,05	0,01	0,10
Fonsgirona II	10,29	0,10	0,33
Giroborsa	3,67	0,33	1,92
Girofons	8,18	0,21	1,68

Fund	NAV	M.Yld%	YTD%
CAIXA LAIETANA			
Fonlaietana	16,53	-0,07	1,68
Fonlaietana 30	1.369,39	-0,28	0,82
Laidiner	1.673,57	0,70	1,35
Laietana Bolsa	3,73	-1,46	0,32

Fund	NAV	M.Yld%	YTD%
CAIXA PENEDES			
Fonpenedes	9,15	-0,18	0,16
Fonpenedes Borsa	5,67	-0,10	4,27
Fonpenedes Borsa Japo	6,49	3,82	7,42
Fonpenedes Borsa USA	5,19	-2,40	0,12
Fonpenedes Diner	8,54	0,18	0,52
Fonpenedes Euroborsa 100	3,71	-0,30	2,73
Fonpenedes Inversio	7,47	-0,14	0,30
Fonpenedes Mixt Euroem.	12,31	0,83	5,01
Fonpenedes Tecnologia	4,58	-0,38	0,19
Fonpenedes Variable Mixt	4,68	0,15	2,37

Fund	NAV	M.Yld%	YTD%
CAIXA TARRAGONA			
Tarragonafons 1	711,61	0,19	0,54
Tarragonafons 10	7,43	0,27	0,68
Tarragonafons 2	6,02	0,33	0,84
Tarragonafons 3	7,93	0,38	1,15
Tarragonafons 4	6,06	0,50	0,50
Tarragonafons 5	7,59	0,26	0,66
Tarragonafons Global	6,18	-0,48	0,82

Fund	NAV	M.Yld%	YTD%
CAIXA TERRASA			
CT Diner	10,61	0,21	0,61
CT EUROFIX FIM	10,42	0,09	0,73
CT Eurofix 25	9,78	0,05	0,87
CT EUROMIXT 50	10,01	0,43	2,06
CT Eurofix 75	8,50	0,20	2,30
CT Global 100	6,80	-3,04	3,60

Fund	NAV	M.Yld%	YTD%
CAJA MADRID			
Fondmadrid	1.537,44	0,17	0,53
Invermadrid FT	14,19	0,06	0,73
Madrid Bolsa 100	10,32	-0,78	-0,71
Madrid Bolsa Activa	6,67	0,08	0,53
Madrid Bolsa Europea	5,28	-0,66	1,97
Madrid Deuda Ft	10,62	0,16	1,17
Madrid Premiere	12,71	0,27	1,42
Plusmadrid 25	6,44	0,21	1,39
Plusmadrid 50	5,68	0,32	1,56
Plusmadrid Int.50	7,86	-1,58	0,81

Fund	NAV	M.Yld%	YTD%
CAJA MANRESA			
Caixa Manresa Mundiborsa	21,35	-1,48	1,27
Caixamanresa Op.Globals	22,37	0,00	2,38
Cem Tesoreria	7,41	0,35	1,07
Eurocem	6,42	-1,76	1,20
Fonmanresa	1.555,11	0,24	0,74
Invermanresa	16,00	0,01	1,53
Invermanresa 2	9,46	0,62	2,58

Fund	NAV	M.Yld%	YTD%
CAM (CAJA DEL MEDITERRANEO)			
CAM Bolsa Indice	5,76	-0,36	4,88
CAM Dinero 1	1.177,26	0,19	0,56
CAM Dinero Plus	925,38	0,32	0,64
CAM High Yield	7,01	-0,89	0,69
CAM Mixto 25	559,26	-0,16	1,44
CAM Mixto Variable Europa	8,37	-2,65	0,68

Fund	NAV	M.Yld%	YTD%
DEUTSCHE BANK			
DB Acciones	17,93	-0,58	5,12
DB Capital 1	7,46	0,00	0,59
DB Capital 2	7,42	-0,11	0,60
DB Diner	1.178,01	0,20	0,61
DB Diner II	861,94	0,20	0,61
DB Europa bolsa	7,28	-0,75	1,80
DB Mixta	17,63	0,12	2,46
DB Norteamerica Bolsa	5,13	0,24	1,41

Fund	NAV	M.Yld%	YTD%
GAESCO			
Cahispa Multifondo	58,00	-4,01	4,73
Catalunya Fons	13,56	0,39	9,46
Eurofondo	11,84	-0,19	5,28
Gaesco Fondo de Fondos	5,89	-3,61	5,01
Gaesco Multinacional	43,98	-3,53	-2,97
Gaescoquant	3,29	-2,53	0,16

Fund	NAV	M.Yld%	YTD%
IBERCAJA			
Ibercaja Ahorro	16,15	0,18	0,60
Ibercaja Bolsa Europa	4,68	-2,14	1,68
Ibercaja Bolsa Internac.	6,01	-3,00	0,03
Ibercaja Euro	6,89	0,48	2,42
Ibercaja Renta Internac.	5,03	-1,14	2,29
Ibercaja Sec.Inmobiliario	10,32	-0,19	10,50

Fund	NAV	M.Yld%	YTD%
«LA CAIXA»			
Fonc. 17 Mixto Internacional	9,34	-0,41	1,25
Fonc. 18 RV Mixto Internacional	8,20	-0,42	1,24
Fonc.64 Pat.Bol.Ind.Euro	4,70	0,61	2,73
Fonc.65 Bol.Indice.Esp	4,54	-0,28	3,59
Foncaixa 56 Patr.50 RV	5,89	-0,35	1,46

EURO STOXX 50 Close: 2.763,20 Chg: 0,11%

Stock	Euros	Chg.%
Abn Amro	17,26	0,12
Aegon	9,45	0,00
Air Liquide	134,20	0,22
Alcatel Altshom	11,56	1,40
Allianz AG	83,96	-0,23
Aventis	64,20	-0,16
Axa	17,28	-0,46
Basf	44,00	0,34
Bayer AG	22,60	-0,22
BBVA	11,00	0,82
BNP-Paribas	49,14	0,37
Carrefour	39,30	0,03
DaimlerChrysler	36,69	1,44
Danone	69,00	0,15
Deutsche Bank	60,33	-0,31
Deutsche Telekom	14,07	0,21
E.ON-AG	60,43	-0,03
Endesa	15,48	0,58
Enel SPA	6,65	-0,02
ENI ITL	16,65	0,07
Fortis NV	18,06	1,01
France Telecom	20,47	0,05
Generali Assic	22,05	0,18
Iberdrola	17,25	0,12
Ing Groep	18,73	0,11

Fund	NAV	M.Yld%	YTD%
MAPFRE			
Fondmapfre Bolsa	18,63	-0,06	3,17
Fondmapfre Bolsa Europa	4,31	-1,66	0,13
Fondmapfre Diversificac.	9,85	-0,39	2,55
Fondmapfre Internacional	969,28	-0,24	3,36
Fondmapfre Rta. Mixto	7,25	-0,10	1,41

Fund	NAV	M.Yld%	YTD%
MORGAN STANLEY			
MS Ahorro	18,29	0,18	0,97
MS Bolsa	21,29	0,15	4,15
MS Bolsa Internacional	7,29	-3,90	-0,47
MS Bolsaplus	16,47	-1,77	3,25
MS Dinerplus	1.406,69	0,03	0,53
MS Divisa	8,48	-0,43	0,60
MS Euro Acciones	6,35	-1,65	3,69
MS Euro Deuda	7,85	0,54	1,75
MS Euro Global	7,39	-0,40	1,89
MS Euro Seleccion	7,38	-1,18	5,69
MS Fondo	23,58	0,19	1,15
MS Fondo 19	16,96	-0,89	1,74
MS Fondo 25	878,56	0,04	0,72
MS Fondos Agresivo	8,02	-2,02	3,71
MS Fondos Conservador	9,75	-0,62	2,13
MS Fondos Moderado	8,75	-1,41	2,97
MSS Asian Equity A	14,52	-2,1	

EU court annuls past decision on member state budget deficits

France and Germany could be punished for repeatedly breaking Stability and Growth Pact

AGENCIES

The European Court of Justice has annulled a decision by EU finance ministers to suspend action against Germany and France over budget deficits. Giving its verdict on a case brought by the European Commission, the court said the ministers' decision was not compatible with EU law. According to the BBC, before the ministers got involved, the commission had been planning to penalise or even fine the two nations. This is because France and Germany keep breaking the Stability and Growth Pact. The pact is meant to keep the deficits of eurozone states below 3% of GDP, but several - most notably France and Germany - have breached it.

The pair are on track to breach the deficit ceiling for the third year running. In its ruling the European Court of Justice said the council of finance ministers "cannot depart from the rules laid down by the treaty or those which it set for itself in regulation no 1467/97 (which spec-

ifies the terms of the pact)". The German and French finance ministries declined to comment individually following the court decision. Instead EU finance ministers said in a joint statement that they welcomed the clarification from the court. "The council (of finance ministers), in cooperation with the Commission, will closely examine the implications of the court's decision for the application of the pact's provisions and proposals for strengthening and clarifying the implementation of the pact," they said.

In November 2003 the EU finance ministers, led by the German and French representatives, voted to suspend action against Germany and France, arguing that the 3% rule was too severe. In an effective fight for power between the European Commission and the finance ministers - who come from the member states - the commission quickly followed with its lawsuit. And while the commission has since agreed that the 3% rule does in fact need to be



Chairman of the European Commission, Romano Prodi, who will study decision

relaxed, it has continued to object to the intervention of the finance ministers and the lawsuit remained. The 3% rule and the subsequent penalties were formulated to prevent bad budgetary policies in one member state having an effect across the eurozone. The pact has been controversial, with critics saying its focus

on fighting inflation means it is ill-equipped to deal with slow growth. But smaller countries, including the Netherlands, have insisted that all 12 eurozone members should stay in line. And Portugal has worked strenuously to remove its own deficit. Yet other eurozone countries have been struggling with deficits.

Marcos victims closer to compensation

REUTERS, HONOLULU

Thousands of plaintiffs alleging human rights abuses moved closer to receiving \$40 million from the assets of late Philippines president Ferdinand Marcos after a US federal judge ruled in their favor on Monday. District Judge Manuel Real denied a motion from Arelma Corp a Panamanian company created by Marcos in 1972 to control some of his money - that sought to freeze assets suspected of belonging to Marcos, according to court papers filed on Monday.

The class action of 9,539 Filipinos who successfully sued the Marcos estate in US federal court was awarded \$2 billion in 1995. This includes people who claim to have been imprisoned and tortured by the Marcos government and survivors of those who were executed. To date, the plaintiffs have not received any money as the courts still had not decided who should receive it.

Real ruled "it would be unjust" to deny the plaintiffs the money from the Arelma account. "This is our first major collection," said Sherry Broder, the Honolulu attorney representing the plaintiffs. "We want to collect more."

Broder did not know when any of the plaintiffs or their heirs would receive the money because Arelma's



Former Philippines president Marcos

attorneys have said they would appeal the decision.

Marcos was president of the Philippines from 1965 to 1986 and wielded absolute control of the country, ruling under martial law. During that time, he ordered tens of thousands of people arrested or detained without charge, court papers stated. Thousands were subject to "hideous" tortures and "thousands more were summarily executed and others simply disappeared," the court papers said. The lawsuit was filed under the Alien Tort Claims Act, which allows human rights victims to sue if a U.S. court has jurisdiction over the defendant.

Low caffeine coffee plant sparks row

REUTERS, LONDON

The discovery of a coffee plant with naturally low caffeine and high sales potential to coffee lovers around the world has sparked an international tug of war over its ownership, legal and agricultural experts said. In an industry which the International Coffee Organization (ICO) estimated in 2002 generated some \$70 billion in global retail sales, the stakes are high as Brazil and Ethiopia spar over the ownership of the plant found growing in Ethiopian forests by a Brazilian scientist.

International conventions regulating the ownership of indigenous plants seem to favor Ethiopia, one expert said, but the plant samples were collected before the rules came into force. "The Convention is not retroactive, so the Brazilian may not be bound by it," the legal source said late on Monday. Paulo Mazzafera of the Universidade Estadual de Campinas in Brazil announced his discovery of the first naturally decaffeinated arabica plant in the prestigious science journal Nature last month.

Ethiopian officials reacted angrily, saying they had not been consulted and urging Mazzafera to explain under what conditions he was able to take 6,000 coffee specimens from Ethiopia in the 1980s. Ethiopia

is hoping for a mutually agreeable solution. "We feel that it is possible for us to come up with a win-win solution that would benefit both Ethiopia and Brazil," Ethiopian Prime Minister Meles Zenawi told Reuters in Addis Ababa earlier this month. A spokesman for the ICO, the largest inter-governmental group representing producing and consuming countries, declined comment. Mazzafera was not immediately available but experts say his find could have a significant impact on the world coffee market.

"Naturally occurring decaffeinated coffee, rather than something occurring through a chemical process, could provide an important boost to coffee consumption," David Hallam, chief of the tropical and horticultural products service of the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), told Reuters. Roger Cook, director of the UK-based Coffee Science Information Center, told Reuters that based on Mazzafera's data, it seems that any commercially viable plant would not be produced for some time, as a normal coffee bush takes five years to bear fruit. Mazzafera said that the decaf arabica plant has not been grown commercially so he did not know how productive it will be.

TEXTILES

Sales boost for Levi Strauss

Levi Strauss registered a quarterly profit, helped by growth in Asia and increased sales of the jeans maker's lower priced Signature line that offset declines in its core Dockers and Levi's brands. The San Francisco company posted a net profit of \$5.6million for the second quarter ended May 30, compared with a year-earlier net loss of \$41.8million. sales climbed 3% to \$958.8million as high-margin products such as the Type 1 and Red Loop line of Levi's jeans helped fuel growth in Asia, the company said. The quarter marked the second consecutive one with a sales increase. "We still have a lot of work to do but I'm encouraged by the progress we are making in all our businesses," said chief executive officer Phil Marineau. The company said sales of Dockers and Levi's fell as wholesale prices for both brands declined and it reduced shipments to warehouse and other off-price retail channels this year.

IMMIGRATION

Malaysia to expel illegal workers

The Malaysian government says it plans to expel more than a million illegal migrant workers. The country's home minister says 400,000 members of the Malaysia's volunteer corps will be mobilised and special squads are already being trained to enforce their removal. No official reason has been given but many people are unhappy about rising levels of crime. The government estimates that there are around 2.5 million foreign workers in Malaysia, forming around 10% of the population and half of them are illegal. Home minister Azmi Khalid warned businesses that employ the illegal immigrants not to protest when their workers are rounded up. "We are serious," he said. Two years ago there was a similar operation, which witnessed huge crowds at the airports and ports as hundreds of thousands of migrants, mostly from Indonesia and the Indian sub-continent, were forced to leave.

EMPLOYMENT

Jobs threat at Daimler-Chrysler

German-US giant Daimler-Chrysler may cut 6,000 jobs and shift production of its C-class models outside of Germany, it warned. It said that the workers at the Sindelfingen factory must achieve 500ml euro cost savings. The firm said that labour costs must be brought in line with factories in Bremen, Germany and East London, South Africa. "The Sindelfingen factory is not the most productive plant by a long way," said Mercedes-Benz chief Juegen Hubbert.

AIR TRAVEL

Air passengers stranded in Peru

Hundreds of passengers were stranded after Peru's authorities grounded its largest airline because it could not get insurance. The airline was last month put on a US government blacklist of firms with suspected links with drug traffickers. The airline has strongly denied any such links, but this measure means no company will insure them.

La Fundació La Caixa announces new 2004-2005 exhibition season

La Fundació La Caixa is to put on 30 exhibitions between September 2004 and August 2005

MICHAEL BUNN

At a special press conference yesterday, a spokesman from la Fundació la Caixa announced that during the coming year, the organization will be presenting over 20 exhibitions which have not previously been seen in Spain. These include collections such as the paintings that the English artist Turner made of Venice, a study of the influence of Auguste Rodin, the "passions" of the installation artist Bill Viola, 20 years of the contemporary art collection of la Fundació la Caixa, Rineke Dijkstra's video installations, European modernist jewelry, French painting from the 19th and 20th centuries, the Pre-Raphaelites, the Japanese photographer Shoji Ueda and, last but not least, the FotoPres'05 competition.

As part of the new 2004-2005 exhibition season, the organization will be opening a total of 30 exhibitions between September 2004 and August 2005, some 20 of which have never been seen before in Spain. These exhibitions will be put on at Barcelona's CaixaForum, as well as other venues in Madrid, Girona, Tarragona, Lleida and Palma de Mallorca.

One of the most eagerly-awaited of these exhibitions is *Auguste Rodin*, which shows the development of the French sculptor's work and his influence on later artists such as Claudel, Maillol, Brancusi, Matisse and Giacometti. This impressive collection comprises some 110 artworks from 27 outstanding sculptures of the 19th and 20th centuries. The exhibition *Turner and Venice* is the first to deal with the artist's relationship with the Italian city. The collection includes over 100 works



One of the seventy works included in the collection by the Dutch photographer and video artist Rineke Dijkstra, one of the most well-known artists in his field in Europe

from the Tate Britain collection.

Pre-Raphaelites: vision of nature shows the early attempts made by the Pre-Raphaelites at landscape painting, and how they established certain guidelines which paved the way for modern art.

Meanwhile, *Rineke Dijkstra* takes a look at the work of this renowned Dutch photographer and video artist. The 2004-2005 season contains a wealth of art and knowledge, and will contain something to please everyone.

Caixa to open new science museum

MICHAEL BUNN

La Fundació la Caixa announced yesterday that it will be officially opening its new Barcelona Museu de la Ciència or Science Museum on 23 September, after the museum has spent the last year at the Caixa building on Paseo Sant Joan. To celebrate the opening, a number of events will be held at the museum, which stands at the foot of Collserola (the same place as where the old museum used to stand). The aim of the museum is to stimulate public interest in scientific knowledge and to become a public forum for discussion and debate on the most important contemporary scientific events.

The museum will feature exhibitions, workshops, conferences, courses and debates, all open to the public. It will also have two new spaces: the Geological Wall, which explains the geology of the planet, and the Flooded Forest, the first Amazonian forest to be installed in a science museum. The museum's season kicks off with an exhibition on sustainability: *The red line. How to produce wood without damaging the forest.*

JAZZ FESTIVAL

40 concerts at San Sebastian

Just like every year, the San Sebastian jazz festival - which will run from 23 to 28 July - features a dazzling array of performers from the world of jazz and elsewhere - names such as John McLaughlin, Jan Garbarek, Femi Kuti, Carlinhos Brown, the Spanish Harlem Orchestra with Rubén Blades, Rickie Lee Jones, Manhattan Transfer and Stevie Winwood and Miroslav Vitous. The festival is to be held at seven different venues around the city.

VIDEOART

Buried alive in foam

A controversial new video has just gone on show at London's Lisson gallery, entitled *Polyurethane Sprayed on the Backs of 10 Workers*. The artist, Santiago Sierra, took 10 Iraqis, covered them in insulating foam and then waited for it to harden. The video shows the process by which this was done, with the Iraqis standing in a line by a wall, after which a taller, white-clad man comes in and starts spraying them with a spray gun. When the foam sets, they climb out. The result is a structure that looks like a long snowdrift, though the abiding image of the video is a kind of human degradation which brings to mind the humiliating images that came out of Abu Ghraib jail in Iraq.

CINEMA

Film "smashes UK record"

Michael Moore's film *Fahrenheit 9/11* has broken UK record for a documentary, distributors have said, taking 1.3 million pounds on its opening weekend. The film has already taken 80 million dollars in the US and Canada, making it the first documentary to top the box office. The film, which attacks George Bush's war on Iraq and his election victory, has generated massive controversy in the United States. Its success in the UK makes it likely to break the record for a documentary set recently by the mountaineering film *Touching the Void*.

Mexico celebrates Frida Kahlo, the painter who succeeded in turning her pain into unique art

MICHAEL BUNN

This week, Mexico is celebrating the great Mexican painter Frida Kahlo, who died fifty years ago yesterday. The festival will include exhibitions, plays and a presentation of a collection of the painter's letters to her husband Diego Rivera as well as previously-unpublished manuscripts and sketches.

Frida Kahlo was born in 1907 in Coyocán, Mexico, though from the very start her life was dogged by serious problems that turned her into

an onlooker who viewed life from outside; from there it was a short step to becoming the archetypal alienated, tortured artist. As a child, she developed polio which left her with a withered right leg, and then when she was 18, the bus she was travelling in had an accident, leaving her seriously injured; she had a fractured pelvis, a dislocated shoulder, two broken ribs and a shattered right leg and foot. This accident left Kahlo suffering from painful physical ailments for the rest of her short

life. Only two things would provide her with solace: painting and the muralist Diego Rivera.

During her long recuperation period of she started painting, which led her to start a relationship with Rivera, who was 20 years old than her. It was by no means a blissful marriage, with both of them involved in many extramarital affairs. However, the combination of physical pain and the emotional torture of her stormy relationship with Rivera inspired her to produce her

unique primitivistic painting style. She was always the main character in her work, though the baby that appears in many of her paintings was the child she miscarried, and it became an obsession in later life.

Her husband called her art "agonised poetry", and even today the religious symbolism, the themes of death and surreal images, all portrayed in bright primary colors, still defy any easy categorisation. When she died at the age of 47 she had created a truly unique form of art.



Frida Kahlo's Self Portrait with Curly Hair

Raymond Doménech chosen to succeed Santini as French coach

Doménech's track record as coach includes eleven years with France's under-21 side

MICHAEL BUNN

The Euro 2004 championship was immediately followed by the deafening rumble of heads rolling all across Europe, as no less than nine international coaches (including Spain's Sáez, Italy's Trapattoni and Germany's Rudi Völler) resigned after their respective teams all went out in the early rounds. France's Jacques Santini was the last to go, and yesterday it was announced that he is to be replaced by Raymond Doménech.

Doménech has a sound track record as coach for France's under-21 side for eleven years, during which time he helped to develop the talent of players such as Zinedine Zidane, Thierry Henry, David Trezeguet and Louis Saha. As a player, Doménech was a hard-tackling midfielder who had a fearsome reputation after breaking an opponent's leg, in his first game for Lyon at the age 16. During his playing career, he won eight international caps, and won two league championships (Strasbourg and Bordeaux) and two French FA cups (Lyons and Paris Saint German).

Doménech's first press statement yesterday was to announce that he may well be picking Nicolas Anelka for the French team, a player



Doménech with soccer federation president Claude Simonet (left) and soccer league president Frederic Thiriez (right) / AP PHOTO

who Santini repeatedly snubbed after he turned down a late call-up for a friendly against Yugoslavia. As far as Doménech is concerned, Anelka is forgiven. "Why should I sideline talented players?" he said.

French FA chairman Claude Simonet said Doménech had been chosen from a shortlist of the three, the other two being Laurent Blanc and Jean Tigana. He did not reveal what position former England boss

Glenn Hoddle had come on the list. Doménech's first chance to show his coaching skills will be on August 18, when France play a friendly against Bosnia before their qualifying matches for the 2006 World Cup.

McEwen pips Basque at the post to win his second stage

REUTERS

Robbie McEwen won his second stage victory of the Tour de France in a nail-biting finale to the 99.7-mile ninth stage from St Leonard de Noblat to Guéret yesterday. The Basque rider Iñigo Landa led to within 20m of the finishing line before the pack caught up with him. McEwen, leader of the points classification and winner in Namur eight days ago, surged in the last few metres to narrowly beat Landa, the Norwegian Thor Hushovd and Australian Stuart O'Grady. The overall lead was retained by France's Thomas Voeckler who is nine minutes 35 seconds ahead of five-times champion Lance Armstrong in sixth place. Italian Filippo Simeoni and Landa attacked when only 23 miles into the race and at one point led by 10 minutes.



Iñigo Landa of the Euskaltel team, who led to within 20m of the finishing line / EPA

Chelsea coach José Mourinho hoping to sign Didier Drogba

MICHAEL BUNN

Chelsea's José Mourinho has embarked on a full-scale summer spending spree - no sooner had he snapped up Mateja Kezman from PSV Eindhoven on Monday than he hinted that he might increase his bid for another striker - Marseilles player Didier Drogba. Together with Kezman, Chelsea now have an impressive strike force featuring Gudjohnsen, Mutu and Hernan Crespo. However, a possible move by Drogba to Chelsea is dependent on Crespo's future at the club. The Portuguese coach made no secret of the fact that he was unimpressed by the Argentinian's late arrival for pre-season training, which he said showed a lack of commitment. Mourinho believes Drogba would be a worthy replacement if Crespo fails to shape up for next year.

ATHLETICS

Male athletes "anorexic"

Michael East, the Commonwealth 1500 m champion who will represent Great Britain in Athens next month, claimed yesterday that many male runners have a dangerous obsession with undereating that sometimes borders on anorexia. The 26-year-old from Portsmouth says that an increasing number of male athletes are cutting down on calories to the point of mere subsistence levels in the belief that the less they weigh, the faster they will run. Bruce Hamilton, the team doctor for the Olympics, agrees that this kind of distorted eating is common among male athletes, and warned that over time this kind of inadequate diet leaves athletes prone to stress fractures, infections and other problems.

BARCELONA FC

Edgar's wild demands

Sources at Barcelona football club have revealed president Joan Laporta's frustration while trying to negotiate a new contract with midfielder Edgar Davids. Apparently the Dutchman kept placing obstacles in the way of the agreement, coming up with outrageous demands which the club could not possibly agree to. He began by saying that he had to know what players the club was going to sign, so he could assess future competition in the squad. Laporta's patience finally snapped when Davids said the club should buy him a luxury car and include a clause stipulating that he would not have to speak to the press.

ATHENS OLYMPICS

Jones squeezes into finals

Olympic long jump champion Marion Jones moved marginally nearer to defending her title in Athens when she reached the US qualifying finals. Although she only finished seventh with three relatively poor jumps, she made it into Thursday's final stage. Jones, who is currently being investigated by the U.S. anti-doping agency, will not be defending her 100 m title after failing to qualify during Sunday's trials. However, she might also make the U.S. team for the 200 m, an event in which she's also Olympic champion.

FOOTBALL

Son of God given trial

Blackburn Rovers trainer Graeme Souness has confirmed that the son of the Argentinean ex-football player Diego Maradona will be given a trial to play next season in the premier league. Diego Jr., who is 17 years old and until now has been playing for minor teams in Naples, has been invited for a one-week trial at Blackburn. However, the midfielder has not yet arrived in Blackburn as he is currently injured.

WHAT'S ON

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Wednesday 14 July 2004

WEDNESDAY

14

Concerts

BARCELONA

- **La Pedrera. Fundació Caixa Catalunya.** Music from around the world, as part of the cycle of concerts *The Pedrera by Night*. Until August 28th. Telephone: 902400973
- **Apolo.** Concert by Mad Professor and Boc Guru Special. As part of Raggatack Soundsystem. At 8:30 pm. Nou de la Rambla, 113.
- **Apolo.** Concert by El Misterio del Gusano and Circo Latino-BCN. As part of Canibal Sound System. At 12:00 am. Nou de la Rambla, 113.
- **CaixaForum.** Vocal concert by I Fagiolini, singing Monteverdi. As part of *Musiques per a unes nits d'estiu (Music for summer nights)*. At 10:30 pm. Avda. Marquès de Comillas, 6-8.
- **Hivernacle de la Ciutadella.** Jazz concert by Juan Chamorro Quartet. As part of *Jazz a l'Hivernacle*. At 10:30 pm. Pg. Picasso, s/n.
- **Jamboree.** Jazz concert by Jordi Matas Quintet. At 11:00 pm. Plaça Reial, 17.
- **Jazz Sí Club.** Jam concert coordinated by Iván Rojas. Jazz and Latin jazz. At 7:30 pm. Requesens, 2.
- **La Boîte.** Blues concert by Corey Harris. At 12:00 am. Avda. Diagonal, 477.
- **La Cova del Drac - Jazz Room.** Jam concert coordinated by Toni Solà. At 11:00 pm. Vallmajor, 33.
- **La Paloma.** Concert by Hedwig. At 10:00 pm. Carrer del Tigre, 27.
- **London Bar.** Brazilian music concert by Banda Brasil. At 12:30 am. Nou de la Rambla, 34.
- **Los Tarantos.** Flamenco concert by Juan Cortés, Sara Flores and guest artists. At 8:30 pm. Plaça Reial, 17.
- **Los Tarantos.** Jazz concert by Llibert Fortuny Electronic Quartet. At 12:00 am. Plaça Reial, 17.
- **Pastís.** Rock concert by El Sobrino del Diablo. At 11:30. Santa Mònica, 4.
- **Rita Blue.** Concert by Free Jazz Live. At 10:30 pm. Plaça Sant Agustí, 3.
- **Sidecar.** Electronic rock concert by Neva. At 10:30 pm. Heures, 4-6.

GRANOLLERS

- **Concert by Hanta Yo.** As part of the cycle Miramecres. At 9:00 pm.

REUS

- **Plaça del Teatre.** Concert by Harry Manx. At 10:30 pm.

ROSES

- **Passeig Marítim.** Concert by Scotland Pipers. At 8:00 pm.

TARRAGONA

- **Auditori Caixa de Tarragona.** Concert by Anna Ibarra, soprano, and Francesc Poyato, piano. As part of *IV Curs Internacional de Música a Tarragona*. At 10:00 pm.

VIC

- **Plaça Santa Cecília.** Concert. As part of *IV Concurs de Música Moderna Ciutat de Vic*. At 10:00 pm.

Festivals

VILANOVA I LA GELTRÚ

- **Plaça de la Vila.** 24th International Festival of Popular Traditional Music. Concert by Mañungo y los Veteranos del Caribe. At 10:30 pm.

Children

GIRONA

- **Museu del Cinema.** Film screening *Animac mòbil 2004*. At 5:30 pm.

MATARÓ

- **Robafaves Jove bookstore.** Storytelling by Pep Duran. *Xoni i Xanu al cim del món* (Toot

Recommended | M. TOPOR



Exhibition displays ethnographic collection in Montjuïc

● The Museum of Ethnology is showing an exhibition of valuable ethnographic material from its private collection. The exhibition, which is open until 14 September in Montjuïc, is a trip through ten different cultures of the world, each one put together by an expert in the field. About 10,000 pieces are being displayed, showing how people lived in different periods of history.

Among the displayed material visitors can see a *burka* from Afghanistan, *mangas* from Japan, and various objects from the Pyrenees area, such as amulets and lucky charms against witches, baptism jugs and even a doll made of stone. Visitors shouldn't miss the area dedicated to the 12th century parchments - called *hamak*, and extensive vignettes from modern authors.

A design perspective of Barcelona

● Museu de les Arts Decoratives is hosting the exhibition *Objectes/Subjectes. Una visió desde la Barcelona que dissenya*, which focuses on design as a revitalizing process and expression of cultural diversity. More than 420 projects and works are structured around two large thematic areas, presenting the impact of sustainable design on quality on life. The exhibition will be opened until 31 December and tickets cost between 1,50 and 3,50 euros. Avda. Diagonal, 686.

Brazilian passion at Forum Grec with Verve company

● The Verve dance company was founded in Brazil in 1995 by Fernando Nunes, a successful designer, artist and photographer. The company is performing at Ovidi Montllor Teatre as part of Forum Grec in an outstanding show called *Trujeja Pra Nós Chorá*, which adapts the Brazilian cultural roots to contemporary dance. The structure of the production is based on characters and events to be found in Brazilian everyday urban and rural reality. At 9pm. 93 426 18 75.

& Puddle: *Top of the world*) by Holly Hobbie. At 6:00 pm.

Sardanes

PALAMÓS

- **Passeig del Mar.** Sardana dance gathering with Coblà Ciutat de Girona. At 10:00 pm.

Theatre

BARCELONA

- **Tantarantana Teatre.** The play *Buits*, by the theatre company Teatre de Calaix. Until June 27th. Tickets: 10-16 euros. Nou Tantarantana Teatre-C/ Flors, 22 - Ciutat Vella. Telephone: 93 441 7022.
- **Artenbrut Teatre.** *La dona com a camp de batalla*, by Matéi Visniec. Until July 25th. Perill 9. Tel. 93 457 65 16. Tickets: 16.
- **Club Capitol.** *Maca, per favor... els postres*, by Total Memos company. Until July 18th. Rambles 138. 934 122 038. Tickets: 18-20.
- **Espai Escènica Joan Brossa.** *Amor Matern*, by August Strindberg. Tickets: 9-16 euros. Until July 25th. Allada Vermell 13. Tel. 93 301 01 64.
- **Jove Teatre Regina.** *El vestit nou de l'emperador*, after Hans Christian Andersen's tale. Until July 18th. Sèneca 22. Tel. 93 218 15 12.
- **Sala Muntaner.** *Cançons dedicadas*, by Franz Xavier Kroetz. Check for tickets. Dates: until July 25th. Muntaner 4. Tel. 933 235 227.

- **Teatre Apolo.** *Amor y fuego*, by Manolo Carrasco (pianist). Until August 1st. Paral·lel 59. Tel. 93 441 79 92.

- **Teatre Novedades.** *Mientes + que parpadeas*. Tickets: 18-22. Dates: until July 25th. Casp, 1. Tel. 93 412 11 75.

- **Teatre Tivoli.** *Fama* El musical. Wednesdays to Fridays 9:30 pm, Sat 6:30 and 10 pm, Sun 6:30 pm. Tickets: 20-30. Check for dates. Casp 8. Tel. 93 412 20 63.

GIRONA

- **Plaça dels Jurats.** *Cascai* by Companyia Cascai Teatre. At 10:30 pm.

- **Plaça Lluís Companys.** *Al País de Xauxa és festa (A day off in Partyland)* by Companyia País de Xauxa. At 7:00 pm.

SABADELL

- **Amfiteatre Caixa Sabadell.** *Spot* by Albena Teatre. At 10:00 pm.

TARRAGONA

- **Teatre Auditori Camp de Mart.** *Imágenes andaluzas para Carmina Burana* by Salvador Tàvora. As part of *Festival d'Estiu de Tarragona*. At 10:30 pm.

TERRASSA

- **Casa Baumann - Pati.** *Tal com sóc* by Pere Hosta. At 10:00 pm.

Miscellaneous

BARCELONA

- **Opening of the gallery DART BCN,** dedicated to French contemporary artists. At 8 pm. Ample, 5.

CALELLA

- **Plaça Catalunya.** Calella Party with live music. Every Wednesday. 9:00 pm-12:00 am.

GIRONA

- **Museu del Cinema.** Screening of a selection of the best "making off" documentaries. From 10:00 am to 8:00 pm.

GRANOLLERS

- **Gra.** Fil screening *Waking life* by Richard Linklater. As part of *1r Cicle de cinema d'avantguarda*. At 10:30 pm.

SABADELL

- **El Corte Inglés.** Presentation of the album *Buena suerte* by Isabel Pantoja. At 7:30 pm.

- **Museu d'Art.** 5th Short film festival. At 10:30 pm.

SITGES

- **Sitgestiu Cultura.** Summer festival including various activities such as guided tours- *La Ruta Modernista* (every Mon until Sept 30th), concerts- *Concerts al Museu Cau Ferrat* (every Monday at 7:30 pm). 93 811 33 11.

Exhibitions

BARCELONA

- **Institut Francès.** *Boyzone. Imatges del cos*, by Clarisse Hahn. Closed on Saturdays and Sundays. Until September 22nd. Moià, 8. Free entrance. Tel. 93 542 7 171.

- **Museu Marítim.** *Titanic*. Until October 10th. Tickets: 7. Avda. Drassanes, 1. 933 429 920.

- **Palau de la Virreina.** Exhibition *El primer Eros. Àfrica, Amèrica i Oceania*. Until October

CULTURAL CENTRES

BARCELONA

Articket. www.articketbcn.es

MACBA (Museu d'Art Contemporani de Barcelona). Plaça dels Àngels. Tel. 93 412 08 10. www.macba.es

CCCB. (Centre de Cultura Contemporània de Barcelona). Montalegre 5. Tel. 93 306 41 00. www.cccb.es

Fundació Joan Miró. Parc de Montjuïc, s/n. Tel. 93 443 94 70. www.bcn.fimiro.es

Fundació Antoni Tàpies. Aragó 255. Tel. 934 870 315. www.fundaciotapies.org

Palau Robert (Catalan Information Centre) aims to provide all the information needed to enable residents and visitors alike to get to know Catalonia. Passeig de Gràcia, 107. Tel. 93 238 80 91. www10.gencat.net/probert/angles

Gran Teatre del Liceu (Opera House). La Rambla, 51-59. Tel. 93 485 99 00. www.liceubarcelona.com

L'Auditori. Lepant, 150. Tel. 93 247 93 00. L'Auditori, opened in 1999, is the city's new cultural complex in Barcelona and one of the most popular musical venues in the country. www.auditori.org

Museu Picasso. Montcada, 15-23. Tel. 933196310. www.museupicasso.bcn.es

La Pedrera (Casa Milà). Provença, 261. Tel. 902 400 973.

Museu d'Història de Catalunya. Pl. de Pau Vila, 3 (Palau de Mar). Tel. 93 225 47 00 | 93 225 47 26 | 93 225 47 32. www.mhcat.net

Museu Egipci de Barcelona (Egyptian Museum). Valencia, 284. Tel. 93 488 01 88. www.fundclos.com

MNAC (Museu Nacional d'Art de Catalunya). Palau Nacional, Parc de Montjuïc. 93 622 03 76. www.mnac.es

Museu Marítim. Av. de les Drassanes s/n. Tel. 933 429 920. www.diba.es/mmaritim/english/index.htm

Teatre Nacional de Catalunya. Pl. de les Arts, 1. Tel. 933 06 57 06. Ticket sales: 902 33 22 11 or www.servicaixa.com

Caixaforum. Avda. Marquès de Comillas, 6-8. Tel. 93 476 86 00.

Sagrada família. www.sagrafamiliaria.org

Museu del Ferrocarril (Railway Museum). Pl. Eduard Maristany, Vilanova i la Geltrú. 93 815 84 91. www.ffe.es/vilanova

GIRONA

Museu del Cinema. C/Sèquia, 1, 17001 Girona. Tel. 972 412 777. www.museudelcinema.org

Museu del Call. C/Força, 8, 17004 Girona. Tel. 972 21 67 61. callgirona@ajgirona.org

Centre Cultural Caixa de Girona. C/Ciutadans, 19 17004 Girona. Tel. 972 20 98 36. www.fundaciocaixadegirona.org/cultura

Museu Dalí. Opened in 1974, The Museu Dalí contains the broadest range of the artistic career of Salvador Dalí, from his earliest works and his creations within the Surrealist movement up to his last works. Tel. 972 677 500. www.salvador-dali.org

TARRAGONA

Museu Nacional Arqueològic de Tarragona. Plaça del Rei, 5 (Tarragona). Very important archaeological collection from Tarraco, the capital of Roman Spain. Tel. 977 23 62 09. www.mnat.es

31st. La Rambla, 99. 93 301 77 75.

► **Palau Robert.** Centre d'informació de Catalunya. *Mercats de la Mediterrània.* Until August 31st.

► **Palau Robert.** *La vitrina del fotògraf: Manuel Outumuro.* Until July 20th.

GIRONA

► **Patronat Municipal Call de Girona, Centre Bonastruc ça Porta.** *El secret dels llibres. Els documents amagats dels jueus a Girona.* 10 am-6 pm. Sunday and holidays 10 am-3 pm. Dates: until September 30th.

► **Fundació "La Caixa",** sala Girona. Exhibition *Matisse. Els llibres il·lustrats.* Until July 25th. Tel. 902 22 30 40.

► **Museu d'Art.** *Exposició de cartells.* Until September 19th.

► **Museu d'Art.** *La llegada del Pop Art a Catalunya.* Until September 12th.

► **Museu del Cinema.** Tomàs Mallol Collection. *Dali i les il·lusions (òptiques).* Tuesday to Friday, 10 am-6 pm. Until September 12th.

OLOT

► **Museu Comarcal de la Garrotxa,** Espai Zer01. Exhibition *Nueva Ola o Desacierto. A time to love and a time to die* by Joan Morey. Until August 22nd.

PERATALLADA

► **Galeria Guillem de Peratallada.** Exhibition *Roca Sans 2004.* Painting and graphic work. Until August 31st.

REUS

► **Central library Xavier Amorós.** Exhibition on *The Universal Forum of Cultures. Barcelona 2004.* Until September 26th.

► **Central library Xavier Amorós.** Exhibition on *The Universal Forum of Cultures. Barcelona 2004.* Until September 26th.

► **Central library Xavier Amorós.** Exhibition *Montserrat Roig: entre el retrat i la crònica (Montserrat Roig: portrait and chronicle)* by Pilar Aymerich.

► **Museu d'Arqueologia Salvador Vilaseca.** Permanent exhibition *Gaudi & Reus.*

► **Museu d'Art i Història.** Exhibition by Juli Garola. Until August 31st.

► **Museu d'Art i Història - Sala Quatre.** Exhibition *Costums tradicionals (Tradicional customs).* Until July 27th.

► **Museu d'Art i Història - Sala central.** Exhibition by Juli Garola. Until August 31st.

► **Palau Bofarull.** Exhibition *El modernisme a Terrassa.* Until July 3rd.

SABADELL

► **Alliance Française.** Exhibition *Gravats.* Works by Florence Gillet, Marjolaine Pigeon, Samuel Anciones and Alfred Trujillo. Until July 27th.

SALOU

► **Teatre Auditori - Foyer.** Photograph exhibition *Arquitectura del sol (Architecture of the sun).* Until July 28th.

SANTCUGAT DEL VALLES

► **Biblioteca del Mil·lenari.** Exhibition *Llibre gegant.* Until July 31st.

► **Canals Galeria d'Art.** Exhibition *Un món proper, un món diverse (A nearby world, a diverse world)* by Salvatore Garau (Italy), Anna Lentsch (Belgium), Fiona Morrison (Andorra) and Roger Voelker (USA). Weekdays, from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Saturdays, from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm and from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Until August 30th.

► **Museu de Sant Cugat-Monestir and Casa Aymat.** Exhibition Grau-Garriga. Until November 14th. As part of Grau-Garriga year.

SITES

► **Galeria d'Art Àgora 3.** Exhibition *Harem* by Royo. Until July 25th.

► **Galeria d'Art Gonzalo Olivan.** Exhibition by painter Carrillo. Until July 30th.

► **Galeria d'Art Ismes.** Exhibition by Gabriel Pérez Bolaño. Until July 22nd.

► **Galeria d'Art Rainbow.** Exhibition of paintings by Josep Cruañas. Until July 18th.

TARRAGONA

► Exhibition *Moonlight,* by Valentin Vallhonrat. At Museu Arqueològic. Until August 29th.

► Exhibition *Vita Romani. Vida dels Romans.* At Fòrum Provincial (Pretori romà). Pictures by Peter Connolly. Until September 30th.

► Exhibition *Els Dalí,* by Català-Roca. At Caixa Tarragona. Until July 25th.

► **Antiga Audiència.** *100 imatges del Delta.* Until July 31st.

► **Antiga Audiència.** Exhibition *100 imatges del Delta.* Until July 31st.



Mandala Kalachakra in Barcelona

● The word "Mandala" means "circle" in Sanskrit and is the symbolic and archetypal representation of the universe according to ancient Buddhist cosmological tradition. Six Buddhist monks from the monastery of Namgyal, India, have been creating the world's largest mandala on Barcelona's Rambla de Mònica. The Kalachakra Mandala, that is the "Wheel of Time", is made of coloured sand and describes three single circles of 4m diameter, depicting more than 72 divinities, human nature and finally the path to wisdom and universal peace, by means of reflection. The Kalachakra Mandala will be displayed on Rambla Sta Mònica until 15 July. • M. T.

► **Museu d'Art Modern de Tarragona.** Exhibition *Biennial d'Art 2004.* Until August 29th.

► **Museu d'Art Modern de la Diputació de Tarragona.** Exhibition *Biennial d'Art 2004.* Until August 29th.

► **Port de Tarragona - Refugi 1 del Moll de Costa.** Exhibition *Roderes en el temps (Ruts in time)* by Joan Rovira. Until August 28th.

► **Unió Galeria d'Art.** Painting exhibition by Judith Vidella. Until July 31st.

TERRASSA

► **Col·legi d'Arquitectes de Catalunya.** Exhibition *Muroff,* about the consequences of the Forum 2004. 9 am-4.45 pm. Until September 26th.

► **Esglésies de Sant Pere.** Exhibition of monumental work from Sant Pere churches. Until July 31st.

► **Galeria del CSC.** Exhibition *Batik, seda, patchwork* by Núria Cortell.

► **Museu de la Ciència i de la Tècnica de Catalunya.** Temporary exhibitions: *Homo videns. Davant la petita pantalla, Viva montesa* and *Tot és química.* Until July 31st.

TORTOSA

► **Galeria del Quadre.** Permanent contemporary art exhibition with works by Picasso, Miró, Dalí, Tàpies, Clavé, Todó, Guansé... Open Monday to Saturday.

VIC

► **Fundació La Caixa.** Exhibition *La vida de les formes (1892-1972),* by Dutch artist Escher. Tuesday to Friday 5 pm-9 pm, Saturday at 10 am, 2 pm, 5 pm and 9 pm, Sundays and holidays 11 am-2 pm. Until July 18th.

► **Col·legi d'Arquitectes.** Exhibition *Ampliació del CCCB. Concurs d'avantprojectes per a la remodelació de l'antic Teatre de la Casa Caritat.* Until July 25th.

► **Església de la Pietat.** Sculpture exhibition by Lourdes Fisa. Tues to Sat, from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm and from 4:30 pm to 7:30 pm. Sundays and bank holidays, from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm. Until October 17th.

► **Museu d'Art de la Pell.** Exhibition *Antoni Tàpies, cos i llenguatge.* Until September 12th.

► **Museu d'Art de la Pell.** Exhibition *Masvidal. Botànica il·lustrada (Masvidal. Illustrated botany).* Until August 29th.

VILAFRANCA DEL PENEDÈS

► **Galeria Go-ya.** Exhibition *Art cubà i contemporani espanyol,* by José Hernández. Until July 31st.

Guided tours

CASTELLÓ D'EMPÚRIES

► **Guided tours** to Parc Natural dels Aiguamolls de l'Empordà. Every day until August 31st, 6-8 pm. From Centre d'Informació El Cortalet. For more details call 972 45 38 13.

GIRONA

► **Punt de benvinguda.** Guided tour Old City. Tuesday to Sunday. At 11.00 am. In English and Spanish. C/Berenguer Carnicer, 1.

PALAMÓS

► **Guided tours** to the port and Museu de la Pesca. Every day, until August 31st. Mondays in English. Tuesdays in German. Thursday in French, Friday in Catalan. No previous booking required.

TARRAGONA

► **Guided tour.** Dramatised guided tour to Mr. Castellarnau's Palace. Every Tuesday until September 1st. At 10:00 pm.

Forum site

CIRCUS

► **Grottesco,** by Spanish company Monty & Cia. Site - Marina stage. Until July 18th.

KABARET

► **Elisa Lucinda.** Site: Cabaret (Port Area). Dates: until July 18th.

► **Esma Redzepova.** Site: Cabaret (Port Area). Dates: until July 18th.

► **Hildes Kappes.** Site: Cabaret (Port Area). Until July 18th.

► **Leslie Bee.** Site: Peace Port (Port Area). Dates: until July 18th.

MUSIC

► **Elliot Murphy.** One of the most extraordinary figures in the history of rock. At 10:30 pm. Site: Haima Stage.

► **Luis Eduardo Aute.** Spanish musician, writer and singer with a deep personal voice. At 10:00 pm. Site: Marina Stage.

► **PERMANENT PERFORMANCES**

► **Move the World (Omkarakala),** by Hansel

Cereza and Alfons Flores.

► **Fantòtems.** Until September 26th. Site - Pan-gea Island/Rompeolas (Auditorium Park).

► **Day Parade (Pasacalle de Dia) - Higroma.** Site Itinerant.

► **Night Parade (Passacalle de noche) - Summer Night's Dream,** by Sèmolà Teatre. It represents the conflicts of daily life by displaying high-impact scenographic installations throughout the port area. Site - Itinerant.

► **The Giant of the Seven Seas.** A show by La Machine and Escarlata Circus. The Giant of the 7 Seas emerges every day from the waters of the Large Auditorium to make us reflect upon the degradation of the sea. It is an unusual construction measuring 12 metres in height and made of fine materials - wood, leather, brass, etc. Site - Large Auditorium. Two to four performances daily.

► **The Memory Tree.** The Tree of Memory, a living manifesto of sustainability and environmentalism, is a project by Els Comediants, a company that pioneered in street theatre. Site - Auditorium Park Area.

STREET PERFORMANCES

► **El Bosco. Viaje al infierno.** By Discipulos de Morales company. Site: Haima (Esplanade Area). Dates: until July 18th.

► **El Teatro de Automatas.** Site: Talismans Plaza (Esplanade Area). Until July 18th.

► **Le Manège d'Andréa.** Built under the supervision of François Delarozzière, the Eureka carousel guarantees anyone who chooses to climb aboard an extraordinary journey. Up to 34 children can ride on it. A dizzy circular dance that will thrill children and fascinate adults. Dates: From June 15th to September 26th. Site - Convention Center Boulevard

► **Annibal.** Until September 29th.

► **Le Zaka.** (Port Area). Until July 22nd.

THEATRE

► **Libertas Libertatis.** Until July 22nd. Site: Theatre (Entrance Area).

► **Metamorphosis.** By Russian company *Tehb Teatre.* Site: Theatre. Until July 20th.

► **Paren de faltar mal da rotina.** By Elisa Lucinda. Site: Theatre. Until July 21st.

► **Forum in the city**

► **Ladies of the Nile. Women and Goddesses of Ancient Egypt.** Until September 26th. The Egyptian Museum of Barcelona.

► **The Exploding City.** Col·legi d'Arquitectes de Catalunya. Until September 29th.

► **KABARET**

► **Barcelona. Hedwig.** An original musical which has become a reference for rock opera. La Paloma. At 10:00 pm. Tickets: 18 euros.

► **Fòrum grec '04**

► **BARCELONA**

► **The Orpheo concert.** L'anònima imperial / Juan Carlos García. Until July 17th. At 9 pm. Tickets: 19. Mercat de les Flors. Lleida, 55.

► **Esthetic Paradise,** by Victoria Szpunberg. Until August 1st. Tuesday to Saturday 10:00 pm. Sundays 7:00 pm. Sala Beckett. Alegre de Dalt, 55. Tickets: 16.

► **Fortuna accidental,** at Villarroel Teatre. From July 1st to August 1st. Tuesday to Saturday at 10 pm. Sundays at 8 pm. Tickets: 17-21. Villarroel, 87.

► **Teatro de los sentidos. La memoria del vino.** Poble Espanyol. Until July 31st. Monday to Saturday 8 pm. Tickets: 20. Av. Marqués de Comillas s/n.

► **To you, the birdie! (Pèdre),** by the Wooster group. Until July 16th. At 9 pm. Tickets: 24. Teatre Lliure - Sala Fabià Puigserver. Plaça Santa Madrona, 40-46.

► **Trujeja Prá Nóis Chorá,** by Verve dance company. Teatre Ovidi Montllor. Pl. Margarida Xirgu, s/n.

USEFUL NUMBERS

National railway	902 240 202
Traffic	900 123 505
Directory Inquiries	11818
International Directory Inquiries	11825
Citizens Advice	012
Weather Forecast	935 676 090
Aids Helpline	900 21 22 22

EMERGENCIES

Emergencies (Fire, Ambulance, Police and all other emergencies)	112
Police (Mossos d'Esquadra)	088
Fire Brigade	080/085
Police (Guardia Urbana)	092

CONSULATES

Australia	93 490 90 13
Gran Via de Carles III, 98, 9è	
Austria	93 453 72 94
C/Mallorca 214, àtic 1º	
Belgium	93 467 70 80
C/Diputació, 303, 1r, barcelona@diplobel.org	
Canada	93 204 27 00
C/Elisenda de Pinós, 10, bcncon@setes.es	
China	93 254 11 99
Av. Tibidabo, 34, 08002	
Denmark	93 488 02 22
Rambla Catalunya 33, 3r 1º	
Finland	93 443 15 98
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France	93 270 30 00
Ronda Universitat, 22 B, 4t, info@consulfrence-barcelona.org	
Germany	93 292 10 00
Passeig de Gràcia, 111, 1r, consalem_bcn@inicia.es	
Holland	93 363 54 20
Av. Diagonal, 601, 4t, nlgovbar@intercom.es	
India	93 212 09 16
C/Teodor Roviralta, 21-23	
Ireland	93 491 50 21
Gran Via Carles III, 94, 10è 2º, cons.ir@webcat.es	
Italy	93 467 73 05
C/Mallorca, 270, 1r 1º, cgbarsegerreteria@infonegoci.com	
Japan	93 280 34 33
Av. Diagonal, 662-664, 3r (edifici Planeta)	
New Zealand	93 209 03 99
Travessera de Gràcia, 64, 2n 2º, avolta@bufetevolta.com	
Morocco	93 289 25 30
C/Bejar, 91, belkhalfi@hotmail.com	
Norway	93 237 54 45
C/Balmes, 184, 5è 2º, cons.gral.bcn@terra.es	
Pakistan	93 457 42 30
C/Còrsega, 366 àtic	
Russia	93 280 54 32
Av. Pearson, 34,	
Sweden	93 488 25 01
C/Mallorca, 279, 4t 3º, gkbarcelona@mail.com	
Switzerland	93 490 06 50
Gran Via de Carles III, 94, 7è, vertretung@bar.rep.admin.ch	
South Africa	93 506 91 00
Parc Empresarial Mas Blau II, C/Alta Ribagorça, 6	
UK	93 366 62 00
Av. Diagonal, 477, 13è, barcelonaconsulate@ukinispain.com	
US	93 280 22 27
Passeig Reina Elisenda, 23, consularbarcelona@state.gov	

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www.klm.com	902 222 747
www.iberia.com	902 400 500
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BARCELONA

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Euro Lines	902 405 040
Port	93 306 88 00
Bus Station	902 260 606
Trasmediterranea	93 295 91 05
Taxis	93 481 00 85
Duty Pharmacies	93 481 00 60
Electricity	900 77 00 77
Water	900 700 720
	93 265 11 11
Gas	900 750 750
Telefónica	1002
Lost/Stolen credit cards	91 581 18 11
Barcelona Tourist Office	906 301 282
Catalunya Tourist Office	93 238 40 00
Women's Helpline	93 290 36 99

GIRONA

Bus station	972 212 319
Girona-Costa Brava Airport	972 186 600
Ryanair	972 062 010
Taxi Girona	972 203 377
Tourist Office	972 22 65 75

TARRAGONA

Bus Station	977 22 91 26
Tourist Office	977 23 21 43
	977 24 52 03
Taxis	977 22 14 14
Reus Airport	977 77 98 00
Port	901 166 658
	977 259 462

LLEIDA

Taxis	972 20 30 50
Bus Station	973 268 500
High Speed Railway	902 24 02 02
Tourist office	902 25 00 50

Film | M. TOPOR

Spartan

● Political power and governmental intrigues are the main ingredients of *Spartan*, a first-rate thriller written and directed by David Mamet, a successful filmmaker and playwright. Like in *House of Games* (1991), *The Spanish Prisoner* (1997) and *Heist* (2001), Mamet builds up an intricate tense plot with subtle and unconventional dialogues. The title of the film evokes the old times when Sparta was the most important military power in the Mediterranean. If a neighbouring state



Scott is an agent who has to rescue the President's daughter

asked Sparta for military aid, the king would assign the task to his finest warrior. This hero is played in the film by Val Kilmer, who plays Robert Scott, a special agent hired by the government to find the the President's kidnapped daughter, Laura Newton - a first-year student who disappears from campus on a Friday afternoon. Scott has only three days to rescue her, as she disappears on Friday and the press will notice if she doesn't show up to class on Monday. Along the way, he will discover a more dangerous, sinister plot. The cast of the film includes other familiar faces such as Derek Luke and Tia Texada.

Films showing in original version in Barcelona

Capturing the Friedmans

USA, 2004. 107'. **Dir.:** Andrew Jarecki. The story of the Friedmans, an upper-middle class Jewish family from New York, whose happy life was suddenly destroyed when the father and son were charged with horrible crimes of child molestation.

Shrek 2

USA, 2004. 105'. **Dir.:** Andrew Adamson, Kelly Asbury, Conrad Vernon. Shrek and Princess Fiona return from their honeymoon. After battling a fire-breathing dragon and the evil Lord Farquaad to win Princess Fiona's hand, the ogre has to face now the most difficult challenge: his in-laws. Once at home, they find an invitation to visit Princess Fiona's parents, the King and Queen of the Kingdom of Far Far Away.

The wild one

USA, 1954. 79'. **Dir.:** Lazlo Benedek. **With:** Marlon Brando, Lee Marvin, Robert Keith, June Gable. Johnny, leader of Black Rebels Motorcycle Club, goes to the city with his buddies looking for trouble. Harry, the local police officer, can't control either them or the rival gang lead by Chino. Johnny, who is in love with Harry's daughter, Kathie, can't express his feelings while she can't accept his ways.

Das Testament des Dr. Mabuse

Germany, 1933. 80'. **Dir.:** Fritz Lang. Fritz Lang's masterpiece focuses on the terrifying atmosphere in Nazi Germany. Lang uses once again the character Dr. Mabuse (which he also used in 1922), a criminal following Nazi orders in post-war Berlin.

Janis et John

France, 2003. 105'. **Dir.:** Samuel Benchetrit. **With:** Sergi López, Marie Trintignant, François Cluzet. Pablo Sterni is an honest insurance salesman who is in deep financial trouble. If he cannot get his hands on half a million francs in two weeks, he could go to jail. He then learns his cousin has just inherited a million francs from his recently deceased father. This is the last film made by Marie Trintignant just a few months before she was murdered.

Kill Bill. Volume 1

USA, 2003. 111'. **Dir.:** Quentin Tarantino. **With:** Uma Thurman, Lucy Liu, Viveca A. Fox, Michael Madsen, Daryl Hannah, David Carradine. The body of a young pregnant woman lies on the floor in a rural church in El Paso. She is wearing a blood splattered wedding dress. Years later, when the Bride awakes from the coma, she realizes what happened to her and prepares for revenge...

La mala educación (Bad Education)

Spain, 2003. 115'. **Dir.:** Pedro Almodóvar. **With:** Fele Martínez, Gael García Bernal, Javier Cámara, Lluís Homar. A young boy is sexually violated by a priest and separated from his friend in a Catholic church. Years later, the two friends meet again. One of them is a transvestite wanting to become an actor while the other one is a successful film director. Together, they recall their childhood and the difficult times they went through at school.

The last kiss

Italy, 2003. 120'. **Dir.:** Gabrielle Muccino. **With:** Stefano Accorsi, Stefania Sandrelli. The young and handsome Carlo lives a happy life with his girlfriend, but when she gets pregnant, he panics picturing fatherhood as the end of freedom and youth. On the other hand, the prospect of being a grandmother reminds Anna of her vaguely unsatisfying marriage and her long-gone youth and beauty. Carlos has a bunch of friends who are all trying to escape responsibility and fight against age.

The Butterfly Effect

USA, 2004. 113'. **Dir.:** Eric Bress, J. Mackye Gruber. **With:** Ashton Kutcher, Melora Walters, Amy Smart, Elden Henson. Evan Treborn is a young man who tries to forget his horrible childhood memories. He devises a technique of travelling back in time in order to repair the damage. But every time he goes back into the past, he only makes things worse.

The Ladykillers

EUA, 2004. **Dir.:** Joel i Ethan Coen. **With:** Tom Hanks, Irma P. Hall, Marlon Wayans. An eccentric professor and his three accomplices plan to rob "Bandit Queen", a riverboat casino on Mississippi. They are staying in Mrs. Munson's house and are going to dig a tunnel to where the money is kept. But dealing with Mrs. Munson appears to be more difficult than they expect.

Troy

EUA, 2004. 160'. **Dir.:** Wolfgang Petersen. **With:** Brad Pitt, Eric Bana, Orlando Bloom, Sean Bean, Brendan Gleeson. In 1193 B.C., Prince Paris (Orlando Bloom), son of Priam, the king of Troy, seduces Menelaus's wife, Helen, the most beautiful woman in the world. He convinces her to follow him away from her husband, setting the two nations at war with each other. Menelaus and his brother, Agamemnon, go to war against Troy, partly because of Helen, but more because it is an excuse to conquer the Trojans. Achilles, the greatest warrior among the Greeks, helps Agamemnon to fight against Troy.

Un filme falado

Portugal-France, 2003. 96'. **Dir.:** Manoel de Oliveira. **With:** Leonor Silveira, John Malkovich. Rosa Maria, a young History teacher at University of Lisboa, goes on a Mediterranean cruise with her daughter, Maria Joana. As they travel from France to Turkey, Rosa Maria talks to her daughter about world history. She plans to meet her husband in Bombay, and then go on holiday together.

Wilbur Wants to Kill Himself

Dinamarca, 2004. 105'. **Dir.:** Lone Scherfig. **With:** Jamie Sives, Adrian Rawlins, Shirley Henderson. Wilbur is successful with women, he has a good job and a great brother, but he is not happy. Disappointed by life, he decides to commit suicide. But this is not as easy as he thinks...

Harry Potter and the prisoner of Askaban

USA 2004. 136'. **Dir.:** Daniel Radcliffe. **With:** Emma Watson, Rupert Grint, Robbie Coltrane. Potter and his friends find themselves at the Hogwarts school for their third year studies, where they try to find out about the mystery of Sirius Black - a dangerous magician and complice of Lord Voldemort, who wants to revenge against Harry Potter. At the same time, Harry will discover more secrets from his past.

Confessions of a dangerous mind

USA, 2004. 113'. **Dir.:** George Clooney. **With:** Sam Rockwell, George Clooney, Drew Barrymore, Julia Roberts. Chuck Baris was a successful showman who led a double life as he also worked as an assassin for the Cia. At the height of his career, the television star was recruited to be a spy.

The Inheritance

Denmark, 2002. 108'. **Dir.:** Per Fly. **With:** Ulrich Tomsen, Lisa Werliner. Christoffer, the heir of a vast industrial fortune, has decided to abandon the family steel business. He now owns a restaurant in Stockholm, where he is happily married to Maria, a Swedish stage actress. When his father commits suicide, his mother insists that Christoffer takes over the management of the family business.

Machuca

Chile, 2004. **Dir.:** Andrés Wood. **With:** Federico Lupi, Tamara Acosta. After the Pinochet coup d'état, little Pedro Machuco, child of a very poor family, starts classes in a private school. He makes friends with Gonzalo and together they will bear witness of the social changes in the country.

El abrazo partido

Argentina, 2004. **Dir.:** Daniel Burman. **With:** Daniel Hender, Adriana Aizemberg. Ariel is a young man from Buenos Aires whose world revolves around his mother's linen shop. The film takes place in the capital in crisis, which many people want to leave, hoping to find a better life in Europe. But when his father arrives, Ariel he finds his life is about to change.

Barcelona

■ CASABLANCA	
Swing (V.O.S.E)	16.00-18.00-20.00-22.15
Um filme falado (V.O.S.E)	16.00-18.00-20.00-22.15

■ FILMOTECA DE CATALUNYA	
Shadows (V.O.S.C)	17.30
Nachtgestalten	19.30
Gloria (V.O.S.C)	22.00

■ MÈLIES	
The wild One (V.O.S.E)	16.30
La Casita blanca	16.30
In a lonely place (V.O.S.E)	18.15
From here to eternity (V.O.S.E)	18.20
Sunset Boulevard (V.O.S.E)	20.15
Days of wine and roses (V.O.S.E)	20.35
Paths of glory (V.O.S.E)	22.30
American Graffiti (V.O.S.E)	22.45

■ RENOIR FLORIDABLANCA	
Incautos	16.00-18.15-20.30-22.45
Machuca	16.00-18.20-20.35-22.50
L'ultimo bacio (V.O.S.E)	16.00-18.25-20.40-22.55
Sur mes lèvres (V.O.S.E)	16.10-18.20-20.30-22.40
La mala educación	16.15-20.15
Shrek 2 (V.O.S.E)	16.15-18.10-20.05-22.05
Seres queridos	16.30-18.30-20.25-22.30
Und führe uns in Versuchung (V.O.S.E)	18.15-22.20

■ RENOIR LES CORTS	
Machuca	16.00-20.30
L'ultimo bacio (V.O.S.E)	16.10-18.15-20.30-22.45
Incautos	16.05-18.20-20.35-22.50
Casa de los Babys (V.O.S.E)	16.10-18.15-20.15-22.15
Seres queridos	16.10-18.25-20.35-22.50
Shrek 2 (V.O.S.E)	16.15-18.30-20.30-22.40
El abrazo partido	18.20-22.45

■ VERDI	
Confessions of a Dangerous Mind (V.O.S.E)	16.00-18.15-20.30-22.40
Spartan (V.O.S.E)	16.05-18.15-20.30-22.40
Baran (V.O.S.E)	16.10-18.10-20.20-22.35
Casa de los Babys (V.O.S.E)	16.10-18.15-20.30-22.40
La muerte de nadie	16.15-18.15-22.35
Das Testament des Dr. Mabuse (V.O.S.E)	20.10

■ VERDI PARK	
Aven (V.O.S.E)	16.00-18.15-20.30-22.45
Wilbur Wants to Kill Himself (V.O.S.E)	16.00-18.10-20.20-22.30
Camino de Santiago. El origen	16.10
Russian Ark (V.O.S.E)	16.15-18.15-20.20-22.35
Sur mes lèvres (V.O.S.E)	17.30-20.00-22.30

■ YELMO ICARIA	
Unconditional love (V.O.S.E)	11.15-13.30-15.45
The Ladykillers (V.O.S.E)	11.20-13.30-15.45-18.00-20.15-22.30
Casa de los Babys (V.O.S.E)	11.20-13.30-15.45-18.00-20.15-22.45
Wilbur Wants to Kill Himself (V.O.S.E)	11.20-13.30-15.45-18.00-20.35-22.50
Janis et John (V.O.S.E)	11.30-13.45-15.45-18.00-20.15-22.50
Confessions of a Dangerous Mind (V.O.S.E)	11.30-14.00-16.30-19.00-21.45
Shrek 2 (V.O.S.E)	11.30-13.45-16.00-18.15-20.30-22.45
Kill Bill. Volume 1 (V.O.S.E)	11.30-13.45-16.00-18.15-20.30-22.50
Incautos (V.O.S.E)	11.30-14.00-16.45-19.15-22.00
Um filme falado (V.O.S.E)	11.30-13.30-15.30-17.30-19.30-21.30
The day after tomorrow (V.O.S.E)	11.40-14.10-17.00-19.45-22.30
Sur mes lèvres (V.O.S.E)	11.40-14.10-17.00-19.45-22.30
Aven (V.O.S.C)	11.40-14.10-17.00-19.30-22.15
Harry Potter and the prisoner of Azkaban (V.O.S.E)	12.00-15.30-18.30-21.30
Troy (V.O.S.E)	12.00-15.30-18.50
Spiderman 2 (V.O.S.E)	-
The Butterfly Effect (V.O.S.E)	18.15-20.35-22.50
Capturing the Friedmans (V.O.S.E)	0.00

Girona

■ TRUFFAUT	
Les invasions barbares (V.O)	18.30-20.30-22.30

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The Russian Ark

Russia, 2002. **Dir.:** Alexander Sokurov. **With:** Sergei Dontsov, Maria Kuznetsova. Sokurov shot a 96 minute film in one take. The camera follows the steps of a 19th century French diplomat throughout the Hermitage Museum in St Petersburg. A long walk through the museum reveals a good part of Russian history and culture.

The day after tomorrow

USA, 2004. 125'. **Dir.:** Roland Emmerich. **With:** Dennis Quaid, Jake Gyllental. Sudden global warming has devastating consequences for the entire planet. In the middle of this catastrophe is Adrian Hall, a paleoclimatologist (a scientist who studies the ways weather patterns changed in the past), who struggles to save the world from the effects of global warming.

Unconditional love

USA, 2002. 121'. **Dir.:** P.J. Hogan. **With:** Kathy Bates, Ruppert Everett, Dan Aykroyd. Grace Beasley spent all her life taking care of her husband and children. When her husband leaves her, Grace travels to London for the funeral of her favourite singer.

Baran

Iran, 2004. 94'. **Dir.:** Majid Majidi. **With:** Hossein Abedini, Zahra Bahrami. A sacrifice and devotion story about Lateef, a seventeen-year boy from Teheran. One day he realises that one of the boys working with him is a girl who struggles to support her poor family. Lateef falls in love decides to help her.

In a lonely place

USA, 1950. 80'. **Dir.:** Nicholas Ray. **With:** Humphrey Bogart, Gloria Grahame, Frank Lovejoy, Pietro Morretti. Screenplayer Dixon Steele has to write the script of a bestseller. He asks a young woman to tell him the story the way she sees it, but the next day she is found murdered and Dix becomes the first suspect.

Paths of glory

USA, 1957. 81'. **Dir.:** Stanley Kubrock. **With:** Kirk Douglas, Ralph Meeker, Adolphe Menjou. During WWI a French general gave an impossible order to his troops. After their failure he decides to execute three men to teach the rest a lesson.

The Barbarian invasions

Canada, 2003. 99'. **Dir.:** Denis Arcand **With:** Marie-Josée Croze, Dorothy Beryman. A divorced man in his mid-fifties is seriously ill. From his death bed, he is visited by his son Sébastien, whom he hasn't seen for years. Despite their falling out, Sébastien wants to gather all his father's old friends and former lovers to make his final days more enjoyable.

Casa de los babys

USA, 2003, 115'. **Dir.:** John Sayles **With:** Daryl Hannah, Marcia Gay, Mary Steenburgen, Rita Moreno, Susan Lynch, Maggie Gyllenhaal, Lily Taylor. Six well-off American women have travelled to Mexico to adopt a child. The action takes place in a hotel owned by Madame Muñoz (played by the charismatic Rita Moreno), where the women rent suites and wait for the adoption to go through.

American Graffiti

USA, 1973. 107'. **Dir.:** George Lucas **With:** Richard Dreyfus, Ronny Howard. In a small town in Northern California a group of teenagers spend their last evening together after graduation, having fun for one last time before moving into adulthood. Before dawn they all have to decide what they will do in the future.

Days of wine and roses

USA, 1962. 112'. **Dir.:** Blake Edwards. **With:** Jack Lemmon, Lee Remick. Joe, public relations agent addicted to alcohol, meets Kristen, a secretary hooked on chocolate. They fall in love and get married. Joe introduces Kristen to the "pleasures" of drinking and soon both are confirmed alcoholics.

Sunset Boulevard

USA, 1950. 106'. **Dir.:** Billy Wilder **With:** William Holden, Gloria Swanson, Erich von Stroheim. Joe is a frustrated screenwriter who is hiding from his past. He hides in an old mansion on Sunset Blvd.

CT BACK

WEATHER

CROSSWORD

Warm again

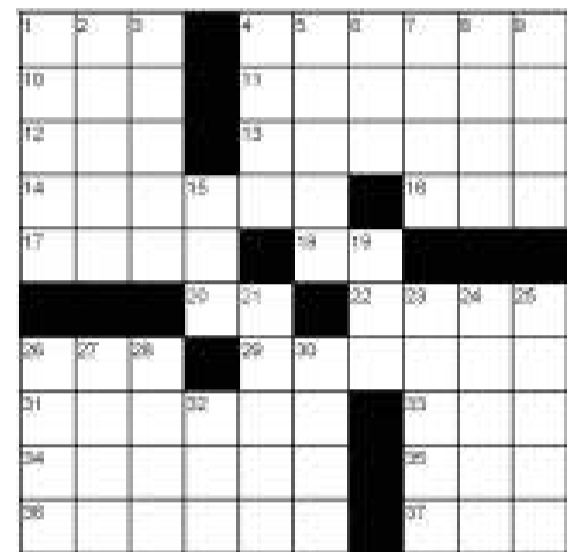
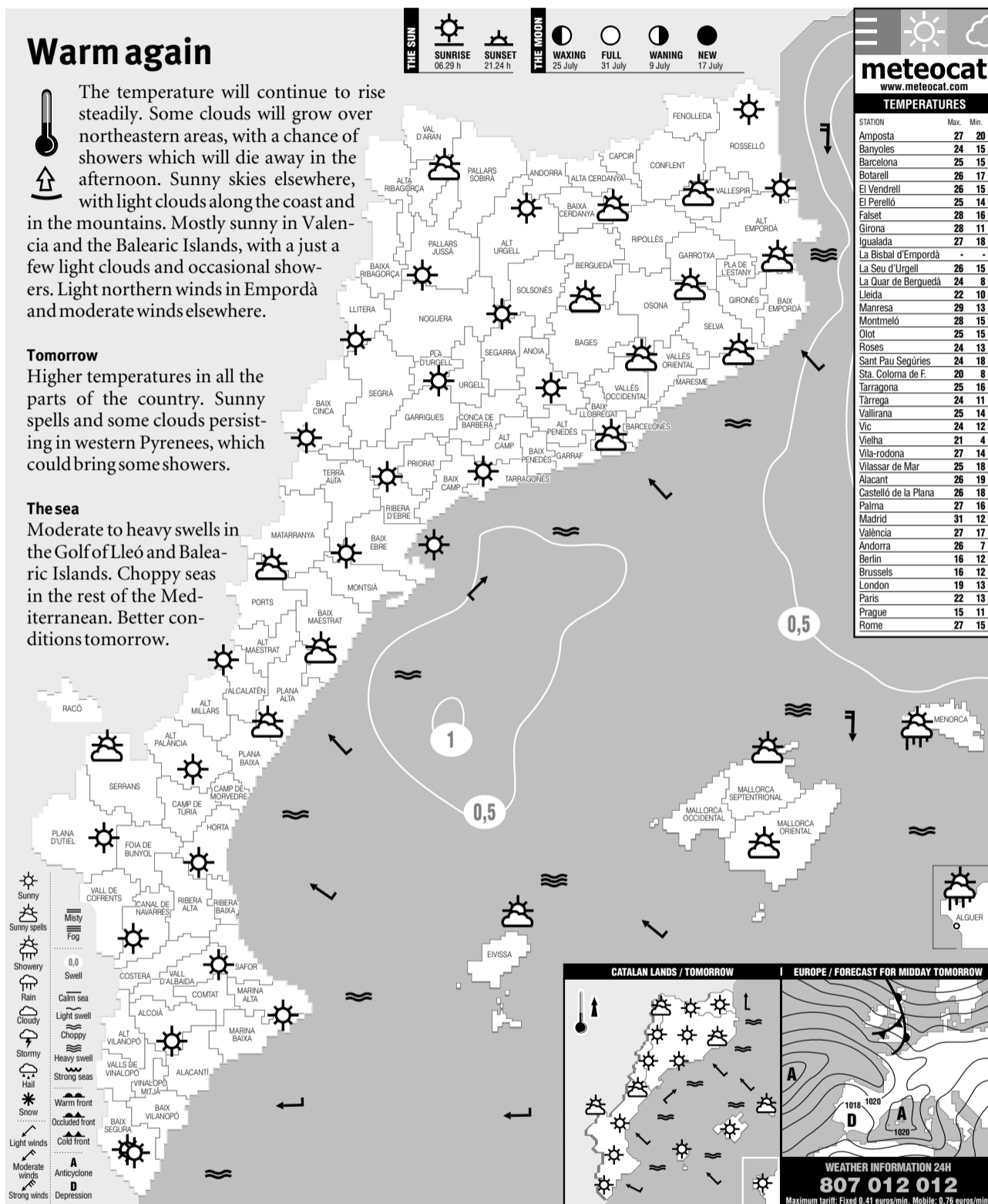
The temperature will continue to rise steadily. Some clouds will grow over northeastern areas, with a chance of showers which will die away in the afternoon. Sunny skies elsewhere, with light clouds along the coast and in the mountains. Mostly sunny in Valencia and the Balearic Islands, with a just a few light clouds and occasional showers. Light northern winds in Empordà and moderate winds elsewhere.

Tomorrow

Higher temperatures in all the parts of the country. Sunny spells and some clouds persisting in western Pyrenees, which could bring some showers.

The sea

Moderate to heavy swells in the Gulf of Lleó and Balearic Islands. Choppy seas in the rest of the Mediterranean. Better conditions tomorrow.



ACROSS

- Rodent.
- Pin.
- Be.
- Enigma.
- British drink.
- Interior.
- Units of measurement.
- Grain.
- Hawaiian island.
- Education (abbr.).
- Emergency room.
- Sweet potatoes.
- Discs.
- Wildcat.
- Rectify.
- School group.
- Entertains.
- Honey (abbr.).
- Kettle (2 words).
- Noah's boat.

DOWN

- Relationship.
- Playing field.
- Train.
- Soft cheese.
- Wash.
- Mismatched.
- Smell (Am. spelling).
- Disgust with excess.
- Not there.
- Colour.
- Tinct.
- Cowboy show.
- Omega's partner.
- Engine.
- Didn't smell good.
- Little Mermaid's Sebastian.
- Prefix for half.
- Self-righteous.
- Sacklike structures filled with fluid or diseased matter.
- Clairvoyance.

ANSWERS

ACROSS

- Rat.
- Brooch.
- Are.
- Riddle.
- Tea.
- Indoor.
- Inches.
- Rye.
- Oahu.
- Ed.
- Er.
- Yams.
- CDs.
- Ocelot.
- Remedy.
- Pta.
- Amuses.
- Hon.
- Bigpot.
- Ark.

DOWN

- Ratio.
- Arena.
- Teach.
- Brie.
- Rinse.
- Odd.
- Odor.
- Cloy.
- Here.
- Hue.
- Dye.
- Rodeo.
- Alpha.
- Motor.
- Stank.
- Crab.
- Demi.
- Smug.
- Cyst.
- Esp.

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