



CATALONIA TODAY

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**AN IRISHMAN'S
SECONDHAND
DREAM COMES TRUE**

NEWS, 4



**LAPORTA REVEALS
DEVELOPMENT PLAN
FOR CAMP NOU**

NEWS, 2

INSIDE

NEWS	2
OPINION	6
BUSINESS	7
CULTURE	11
CATALAN COURSE.....	11
WHAT'S ON	13



Cheaper fares and high equity boost market in holiday and retirement homes

Britons snap up summer homes

Report says 40% of houses built on coast in 2003 were bought by Britons

British buyers are distorting the property market and buying up new homes on the Spanish coast in huge numbers, according to a report. Pressure on the market from British home-buyers in areas such as the Balears has pushed up prices by 21 per cent, triple the average rate.

OPINION, 6

A city is only as good as its architecture

STEPHEN BURGEN

NEWS, 5

Spain creeps up UN index of development

UN REPORT

CULTURE, 11

Arbúcies music festival expects 30,000 fans this weekend



Health minister defends pay-per-visit medical scheme

Marina Geli, the Catalan health minister, defended proposals to follow the French model of charging patients one euro for each visit to a doctor. "What should be criticised is a government unwilling to resolve the problem of the health service," she said. "Only a government that values the public system is capable of any substantial reform." Marina Geli refuted suggestions that the proposal had been given a public airing simply to test reaction and insisted that it was merely one of a number of ideas under consideration. A committee met yesterday to consider possible reforms and Geli claimed that the one-euro scheme "will be one more point of discussion for the committee."



Elena Salgado, Spanish health minister, Pasqual Maragall, Catalan president, and Juan Carlos Izpisúa, who will head the centre

Barcelona gets green light and funds to set up stem cell research centre

Generalitat and Madrid government agree 18m-euro package

Ballet flamenco Juan de Juan

TORERO

coreography by **Antonio Canales**



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Laporta's Les Corts plan gets positive reaction from neighbours

With this plan, president Laporta will have achieved what predecessor Nuñez never managed

MICHAEL BUNN

Last month, Joan Laporta, the president of Barcelona FC, achieved something that his predecessor Josep Lluís Nuñez never managed - to get a positive reaction from a neighbours' committee for his urban development plan for Les Corts district.

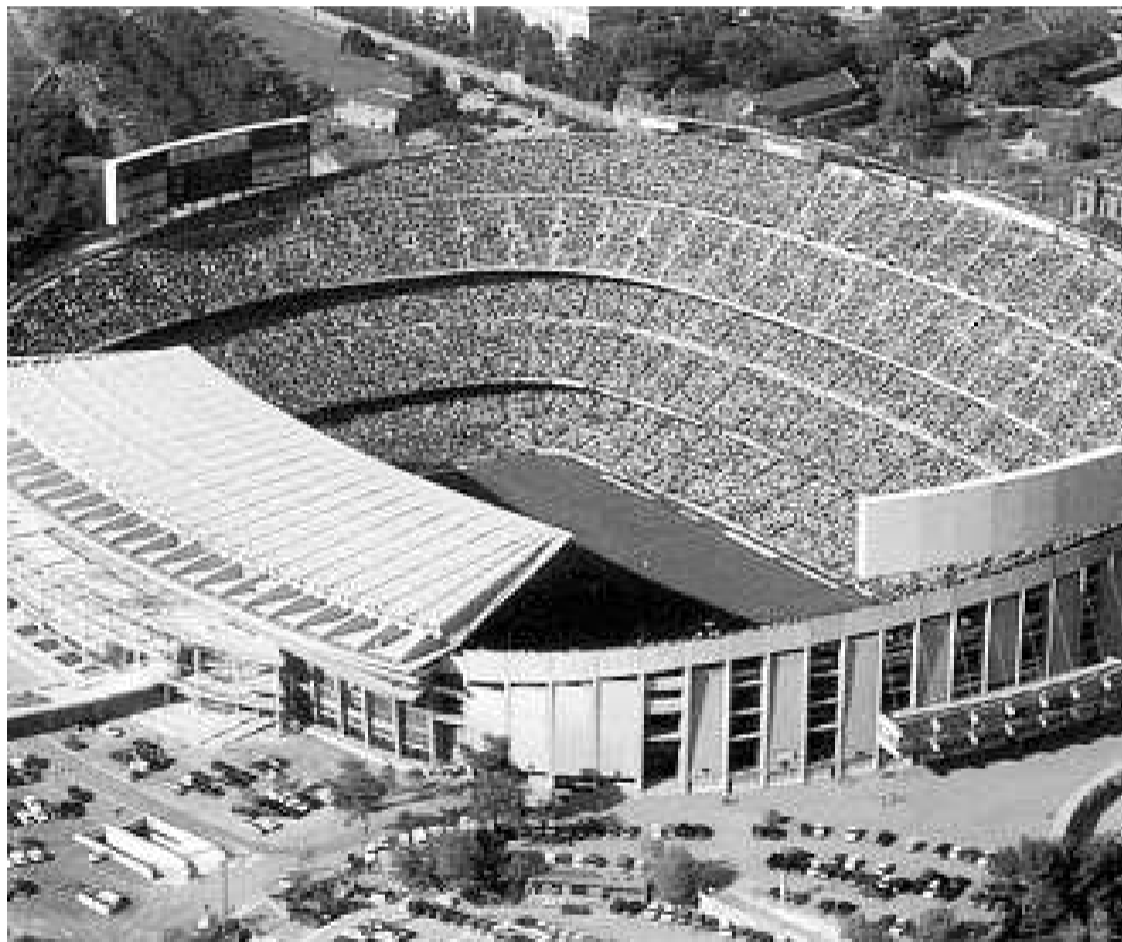
The plan, which is still very much in the embryonic stage, involves the construction of a leisure centre on the site of the Palau Blaugrana as well as a new covered pavilion at the Miniestadi. In addition, the plan will include building new residential dwellings in the area around the Miniestadi, and which will serve to finance the whole operation. A hotel will also be built on the site where the Picador building currently stands.

The newspaper La Vanguardia has reported that the management of Barça FC want to reach an agreement with the local people of Les Corts on the project by the end of the year. In the late nineties, the inhabitants of Les Corts voted against the much larger-scale project *Barça 2000* put forward by the ex-president Josep Lluís Nuñez.

The club is also seeking an agreement with Barcelona city council by which the necessary permits and modifications of the Pla General Metropolità would enable the Les Corts project to begin in as early as 2006.

The most important changes in the district will take place in and around the Miniestadi: the football fields around the structure will be developed into residential apartment blocks, while the Miniestadi itself will be either demolished or transformed into an American-style covered pavilion which will seat between eight and ten thousand people and will contain a range of restaurants and shops.

Laporta also assured neighbours that the structure would not be used for concerts or other noisy activities which would disturb the neighbourhood. Another of the proposals mooted was to turn the Palau Blaugrana into a cinema, an idea that was greeted with particular enthusiasm by the neighbours' committee. Meanwhile, the existing Picador building is to be turned into a 3- or 4- star hotel with a maximum number of 30 rooms. The neighbours' committee gave its initial agreement to the plan, though they stipulated that they would be against any proposal to build a large car park for vehicles coming to Nou Camp on match days.



Les Corts district around Barcelona's Nou Camp stadium will be the object of a wide-ranging development plan



Laporta unveils language campaign

MICHAEL BUNN

Barcelona FC president Joan Laporta has declared open the club's campaign to press for Catalan to become an official European union language. The club's campaign slogan, *Fent País* (Making the Country) will be displayed at all the club's meetings and events being held over the next few days. In addition, the slogan will be decorating the team coach and will be broadcast repeatedly over the public address system at the club's next few games. LaPorta said "We are not trying to be political. Our aim is to simply to make a country, to stand up for the country's rights, hence the slogan".

Barça to play three friendly matches

MICHAEL BUNN

As part of the new campaign put forward by Barcelona FC to promote the Catalan language, Barcelona FC will be playing three friendly matches against Figueres, Palamós and Banyoles, tomorrow, on Saturday and next Tuesday, respectively. Laporta has declared that Barcelona FC will only be appearing on advertising hoardings these games, as main purpose of the matches was to "boost the image of Catalonia and to help other Catalan teams. These three friendlies will all free to watch at the stadiums, as well as being broadcast live by TV 3 and Canal Barça. Meanwhile, Barça will also be playing three further friendlies - against Alicante (to be confirmed), Cardiff and Geneva - before the next season begins.

ECOLOGY

Birds of prey set free

Three peregrine falcons were released in Lleida yesterday as part of a project to reintroduce the bird of prey in the city and surrounding areas. Two females and a male were let free from the bell tower of the old cathedral in the centre of town. The birds had been reared from chicks at a local centre in Vallcalent. One aim of the project is to reduce the population of pigeons and to help conserve historic buildings.

SCIENCE

New breakthrough on genetics

The first server which allows you to analyse variation in the genome on a big scale has been developed by researchers at the University of Barcelona. This means scientists will be able to process tiny variations in the genomes of different people and animals using information stored on the public genome database. The server, called the Pipeline Diversity Analysis, has been developed by researchers from the university's department of genetics and microbiology.

HEAT

Reus promotes heat awareness

The social services department of the town hall of Reus has launched a campaign to inform the elderly on how to protect themselves against the summer sun and heat. The project addresses over 14,000 citizens above the age of 65. A public service telephone number — 061. The campaign will also reach out to Reus residents through television and radio commercials and will make diptychs available with simple recommendations on protection from the heat.

TRADE FAIR

Vilanova digitises in September

Vilanova i la Geltrú will play host this September to the First Digital Media Fair in Catalonia. It will be an opportunity to exchange ideas, product strategies, business models, technological solutions and services. The trade fair is part of the International Week for Digital Media that will be celebrated in the capital of Garraf and Tarragona late September.

MODERNISM

Casa Golferichs opens its doors

Jordi Portabella, president of the municipal institute for Urban Landscape and Quality of Life, is set to hand over the key of *Modernisme* to director of *Restaura*, Xavier Solano tomorrow to acknowledge the important modernist legacy in Barcelona that Solano's firm has helped to recover. The inauguration for the restoration firm's latest work — Casa Golferichs, on Gran Via de les Corts Catalanes, 491 — will be held on 17 July at 6 pm.

Health minister defends proposal to charge co-payments to patients

"What should be criticised is a government unwilling to resolve the problem of funding"

NEIL STOKES

"We are a left-wing government interested in finding solutions to the problem of health funding," said Marina Geli, health minister of the Catalan government in a recent interview with *La Vanguardia*. Geli was commenting on her proposal to study the French model of charging one euro for every doctor's visit. Whether the measure has any merits has largely been lost among the criticisms of a socialist government willing to consider a proposal more likely to come from the right. "What should be criticised is a government unwilling to resolve the problem of funding the health service," said Geli, "Only a government that values the public system is capable of any substantial reform."

Still, there are those who have not forgotten that when eight years ago the CiU government of the time suggested charging 100 pesetas (60 cents) for every prescription, the socialist reaction was far from favourable. That was back in 1996 and the current government are now able to argue that after eight years without any reform of the system, the deficit in investment creates a need to find ways of easing the financial pressure on health provision. However, even those with no interest in political point scoring are dubious of a scheme asking patients for one euro every time they visit the doctor. Joaquim Nadal, minister and spokesman for the Catalan government has called the proposal "burnt out" by all the recent debate and the so-



Marina Geli insists that the copayment plan is only one of the proposals under consideration / ANDREU PUIG

cialist health minister of the central government, Elena Salgado, has called the idea, "limited and insufficient," and that, "it would create more problems than it solves."

Apart from refuting suggestions that the proposal was only made public to sound out reactions, Geli's

response has been to attempt to dampen the hysteria by insisting that far from government policy, it is merely one of many ideas worthy of study. In fact a commission of government experts met yesterday to evaluate the feasibility of a range of measures that could be adopted

as policy in the autumn. The one euro scheme, "forms part of a package of questions that will be just one more point of discussion for the commission of experts," said Geli. It now remains to be seen if questions about how the scheme would be implemented are ever to be answered.

Ecobus project in Valencia gets 800,000 euros from Europe

ALEX LEFF

The European Commission has invested a total of 800,000 euros in the Ecobus project, a series of 120 city buses that are circulating around the city of Valencia with motors that run on used vegetable oil from restaurants, bars, schools and hospitals. The mayor of Valencia, Alfonso Novo, presented yesterday the results of this initiative that has cost a total of 1,676 million euros, including the European funds. He called the project a "pioneer" in protecting the environment and preventing health problems.

Ecobus is piloted by Valencia's municipal transport company and city council, and manages to utilise a waste product and convert it into ecological fuel for city buses. The establishments that are participating

by donating the used oil have special drums that they fill, and send away to a plant to be processed into a sort of organic diesel. Around 80 per cent of the oil is collected by bars and restaurants, while the rest comes from hotels, schools and hospitals in the city, Novo says. It is a way to protect people's health, as it prevents this oil from being used in manufacturing animal feed, according to Novo. In addition, cutting back on the amount of vegetable oil poured down the drain helps reduce the number of rats at city sewers and the amount of jellyfish on Valencian shores. These ecological buses also help preserve the city's historic monuments, the mayor says, because the organic fuel reduces air pollution. The Ecobus may soon be introduced to other Spanish cities.

British gobbling up 40 per cent of Spanish coastal homes

ALEX LEFF

All along the Spanish coastlines, property agencies are happily exclaiming, "The British are coming, the British are coming!" Four out of ten new homes that were built along Spanish shores in 2003 were bought up by British people. Almost two thirds of those properties were bought as holiday or retirement homes, according to a study by Barclays. The thousands of Brits looking for sunny beaches in Spain have helped to push the price of property in the Costas and the Balearic Islands, which are up by 21 per cent — three times the traditional house price growth in the area.

France is also growing accustomed to a new presence of British second-homeowners. The Languedoc-Roussillon region has experi-



An Englishman's castle is now in Spain

enced particular inflation where property prices have increased by up to 28 per cent, compared with the national average house price growth of 11.3 per cent.

PROTECTED SPECIES

Illegal articles seized

The Guàrdia Civil confiscated in the Port of Barcelona yesterday 26 articles made with the hides of protected species of animals. The items seized included 15 coin purses made from the skin of a python sebae, 2 coin purses made from the skin of a rare lizard (*Varanus Exathematicus*), 7 coin purses made from the hides of a Nile Crocodile, and 2 pairs of slippers made from the skin of a python sebae. The articles were discovered in a shipping container which had arrived from Cameroon. The species are protected under an international agreement.

MEDICAL RESEARCH

Treatment for prostate cancer

Researchers at the Hospital del Mar published a study yesterday that they say could be significant in improving the survival rate for prostate cancer patients. They found that certain genes only show up on tests when the cancer has spread, and by testing for the presence of such genes it was easier to predict the state of the cancer and thus the most adequate treatment.

TARRAGONA

Increased walking space

Around 50 streets and roadway going in districts of Tarragona such as Portal del Roser and Sant Antoni will have more limited vehicular access starting 3 August as part of a plan to maximise pedestrian walking space. Modifications will involve restrictions access to emergency and maintenance vehicles until the roads are eventually made into full pedestrian streets.

LANGUAGE

Royal family's habits studied

The Organisation for Multilingualism announced yesterday that it would periodically monitor and evaluate the linguistic habits of the Spanish royal family. The organisation believes that recent changes in the Spanish constitution about the rights of women to inherit the crown should be used as a springboard to insist that the royals be more respectful of the languages of the autonomous communities. The group also plans to send letters to members of the royal family to announce its intentions.

EDUCATION

New advertising degree slated

The Blanquerna Communication Department of the Ramon Llull University in Barcelona announced yesterday that starting in October it will offer a Master's degree program in "Management of Art in Advertising", which will be the first degree of its kind in Catalonia and Spain. Until now, explained directors of studies for the new program Mònica Mestanza and Toni Díaz, art managers have had to learn their profession on the job, in the advertising agencies where they work. Art management for advertising is a cross-disciplinary profession which requires knowledge of graphic design and advertising. The new course will involve extensive use of in-service training in addition to classes.



Ray at Hibernian Books, which has a wide-ranging stock of over 30,000 titles that he brought in earlier this year from his home town of Dublin / ANDREU PUIG

A secondhand dream come true

Irishman Ray Brock is in his element as he surrounds himself with mountains of books

Ray and his girlfriend Viky have set up their own secondhand English bookshop in the Gràcia district of Barcelona. Hibernian Books has a wide variety of fiction and non-fiction titles

RICHARD MCCRANN

For thousands of ordinary folk, work is just a means to earning a pay cheque at the end of the month. For the lucky few however, their job is their passion, a labour of love. Like 32-year-old Ray Brock, who has been lucky enough to set up a business based entirely on the love of his life - books. Last month he opened a shop in Gràcia - which he has called Hibernian Books - devoted to selling mainly second-hand English books. Browsing through the shop, it is hard to believe that only six months ago all 24,000 books were in a Dublin shop waiting for somebody to come along and snap them up. Fate has been very kind to Ray, as he himself admits. Twelve months ago he gave up his job teaching English with the aim of starting his own business. He has been living in Barcelona for nearly eight years since leaving his native Dublin.

Then a series of coincidences made him think of setting up his own bookshop, with girlfriend Viky



Ray is planning to expand his bookselling business over the Internet / ANDREU PUIG

Ferre Pigem. "At Christmas I got a phone call from my sister in Dublin who told me that my favourite bookshop was selling off its entire stock of 30,000 books. It was a marvellous opportunity to buy some stock." Ray had already seen a niche

in the English book market in Barcelona following the closure of Gràcia's second hand-book shop Bell Books last year. "I saw there was an opportunity to set up a book business, especially as there are so many English-speaking people living in

Barcelona." Ray went to Dublin in March and bought up the entire stock at the shop that was closing down. By then, Ray and Viky had found ideal premises at Carrer Pere Serafi in Gràcia where they duly set up shop. "It was a real headache having to sort all the books out and then ship them over to Barcelona. Viky dealt with the business side of moving the books, while I did all the lugging and carrying." The first shipment of 24,000 books - in 450 boxes weighing nearly seven tons arrived in May, to be put into storage while Ray and Viky refurbished their rented premises, to convert it into a shop. "The building needed a lot of work such as repairing the ceiling and rewiring, but it has been worth it," he added. A further six thousand books have yet to arrive.

Ray was raised in Dublin and books have been in his blood from a very early age. He says that he has always been an avid reader, encouraged by his parents who also loved literature. When he moved to Barcelona in 1997, he decided to live in Gràcia so he could be close to the second-hand English book shop, where he used to spend hours browsing the shelves.

However, in a bid to get his business idea off the ground, Ray approached Barcelona Activa a company that provides advice for start-up businesses. "They were very helpful in guiding us through the legal pitfalls and assisting us with the groundwork for setting up a new business." Amongst his collection he has a Rudyard Kipling edition valued at 400 euros, though his bread and butter is selling a wide variety of books for 3 or 4 euros.

CRIME

Synthetic drug arrests

Police in Madrid arrested 126 people in 31 Spanish provinces for activities revolving around the trafficking of synthetic drugs, steroids, anabolic steroids and hormones. As part of the same investigation, police have also searched four gymnasiums, one health food store. This latest wave of arrests are part of the second phase of "Operation Gamma" which began last June in as a joint investigation with police in Madrid, Catalonia, Valencia, Andlucia, Murcia, Galacia, Cantabria, Asturias, Aragon, Castilla y Leon and Extredura. Those arrested were connected with another organisation broken up last month in the first phase of the operation where the internet was used extensively as a distribution tool.

MADRID

Major fire brought under control

An enormous fire yesterday in the Atocha area of Madrid put a scare in to local residents who thought at first that it might have been a terrorist attack similar to that of March 11. The fire started in a Unión Fenosa electrical plant around 1.30 p.m. yesterday. There were no reports of injuries and the fire was brought under control by the late afternoon. The four-storey CaixaForum building also caught fire and some feared it was in danger of collapsing, but in the end did not. Residents of blocks of flats near the fire, as well as people in office buildings and restaurants were evacuated. Buildings that were evacuated included the Health Ministry, the Social and Economic Ministry, the Prado Museum. More than 8,000 people were left without electricity for a number of hours. The Atocha train station was not affected as it is equipped with its own electrical supply.

TOURISM

Hotel occupancy increases

Hotel occupancy for the second half of June was at 68 percent, a figure which is 0.8 percent higher than the same period last year, according to statistics provided by the Ministry of Commerce, Tourism and Consumption. "At this time we are seeing a definite increase in visitors", affirmed the director of the ministry Pere Esteve yesterday. Yet he added that the increase was actually due to an increase in the business of camping sites, and that hotel occupancy was in fact down. He attributed the decrease in hotel occupancy an increase in the supply of hotel beds. He insisted that it is difficult to jump to conclusions about how well the the hotel industry will fare for the rest of the summer because of the increasing number of last minute reservations, which are impossible to predict.

TARRAGONA

Money for church restoration

At least 40 towns in the Tarragona district will benefit from 130,000 euros granted by the city for the improvement of local churches and hermitages. The artistic, architectural and historic importance of the buildings will be taken into account.

Iraq forms new spy agency after car bomb in Baghdad kills ten

Prime minister vows to "bring down all the hurdles that stand in the way of our democracy"

REUTERS, BAGHDAD

Iraq's interim prime minister announced the formation of a new spy agency to tackle insurgents yesterday, hours after a car bomb killed 10 people including several policemen and two children northwest of Baghdad. Iyad Allawi said he was creating the General Security Directorate, a domestic intelligence agency, which he hoped would infiltrate and expose those behind an insurgency that has raged since US-led forces toppled Saddam Hussein last year. "We are determined to bring down all the hurdles that stand in the way of our democracy," Allawi told a news conference, a day after a suicide car bomb in Baghdad killed 11 people and a top regional official

was assassinated.

In the town of Haditha, officials said 10 people were killed and 40 wounded when a car bomb exploded near the main police station. The blast damaged a municipal building and a bank in the town, 125 miles northwest of Baghdad. "Some of the dead are police, some work in the Haditha bank, while two are children," Najim al-Din, a doctor at a Haditha hospital, told Reuters. Yesterday's car bombing in Baghdad was the first big guerrilla attack in the capital since an interim Iraqi government took over from U.S.-led occupiers on June 28. As another sign of the security headaches facing Allawi, gunmen killed the governor of the northern city of Mosul.



Iyad Allawi plans to create an agency to infiltrate the insurgency movement / REUTERS

LANGUAGE

Irish as a working language

The Irish government has announced its intention to turn the native language of Ireland - Irish - into one of the working languages within the European Union. With the addition of the new members, the list of working languages in the EU has reached twenty: German, Danish, Spanish, Finish, French, Greek, English, Dutch, Portuguese, Swedish, Polish, Czech, Slovic, Slovenian, Estonian, Hungarian, Latvian, Lithuanian and Maltese. Irish is considered an official language by the EU, that is to say, treaties are translated into it. However, it does not have a working status, something that would necessitate the support of interpreters and translators at official EU commission and parliamentary meetings, for example. Irish dates back to 600 bc. Apart from Luxembourg, it is the only official language of an EU-member country that does not have working recognition. A unanimous vote is required to include the language.

Water and wetlands are threatened by tourism

ROBERT KIMPLETON

Tourism is in the process of destroying wetlands and posing a threat to water supplies in the Mediterranean, according to a report published yesterday by the World Wildlife Fund.

The rapidly-increasing number of tourists, which is expected to reach 655 million by 2025, will put even more strain on an already tight water supply. Tourism, the WWF says, results in exceptionally high levels of water consumption, and to avoid problems it will be necessary to develop tourist industries in a way that halves current levels of water consumption.



Tourism is a threat to wetlands

Spain, Italy, Greece and France have already lost half of their original wetlands areas, and continued building of swimming pools, water parks, golf courses in these countries, both of which require massive

amounts of water once they are in use, will do extensive damage to remaining wetlands. Specific areas that have suffered include the Doñana National Park in Spain and the Moulouya estuary in Morocco.

Spain rises in Human Development Index

ALEXLEFF

Spain has gone up one place in the UN's Human Development Index (HDI) to number 20 out of 177 countries, according to the 2004 edition of the annual report which was released yesterday. Spain still trails behind most of the fifteen states that until this past May made up the EU, with the exception of Italy, Greece and Portugal.

The HDI is the result of a study conducted each year by the United Nations Development Programme

(UNDP). It measures the overall advances of a country in terms of three basic criteria of human development: a long and healthy life, measured by a country's life expectancy; education, evaluated by the rate of literacy and the combined rate of enrolment in primary, secondary school and beyond; and quality of life measured by the GDP per capita. Topping the HDI list is Norway, followed by Sweden. Canada has dropped to fourth place while Australia has moved up to third.

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PLATFORM

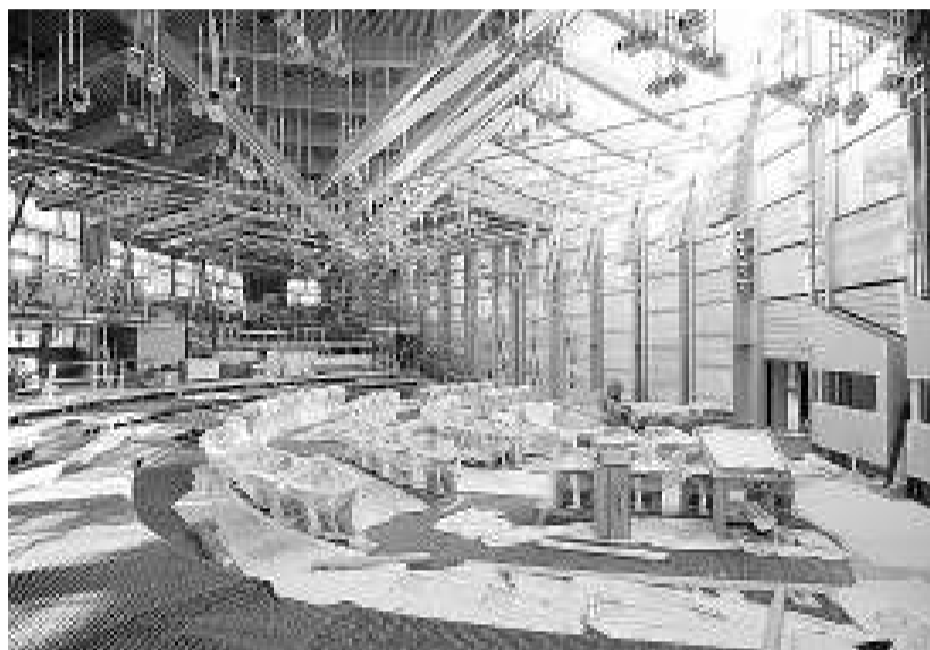
STEPHEN BURGEN

Money talks but architecture has the last word

There's a scene in the film *Chinatown* when John Huston remarks that politicians, whores and ugly buildings all become respectable with age, and only time will tell whether this dictum will apply to the late Enric Miralles' far from ugly but hugely expensive Scottish parliament building, which was described in these pages yesterday. The debate has run along familiar lines, both aesthetic (it jars with the environment) and economic (it's a waste of money). It is extraordinary how much more irate people become about the cost of erecting buildings than they do about the much greater expense of periodically razing them to the ground with bombs, missiles and artillery, although in Iraq the Americans have hit upon the clever wheeze of flattening the place and then using the oil revenues of the vanquished to pay the victors to rebuild it.

A city is only as good as its architecture and good architecture, as a rule, costs money. The Scottish parliament is not the first building to go way over budget; it happened on a similar scale with the British Library in London, a building maligned by everyone except those who actually use it. Every city needs its landmark, its aesthetic reference point, which is one reason why Los Angeles is such a let-down, because as hard as you look it's as though you never really find the place. Without a centre worthy of the name, no heart, it is a suburb without an urb.

Architecture is a city's calling card: imagine the London skyline without St Pauls, Paris



Work in progress on Enric Miralles' Scottish parliament building. / SCOTTISH PARLIAMENTARY CORPORATE BODY 2004

without the Eiffel Tower or the Arc de Triomphe, Sydney without the Opera House (also dismissed as a waste of money at the time), Washington without the White House or Barcelona without the Sagrada Família, a classic illustration of the truth of Huston's dictum as, until quite recently, Gaudí's masterpiece was widely regarded as a monstrous embarrassment. Buildings can have an immediate impact, just look at what Frank Gehry's Guggen-

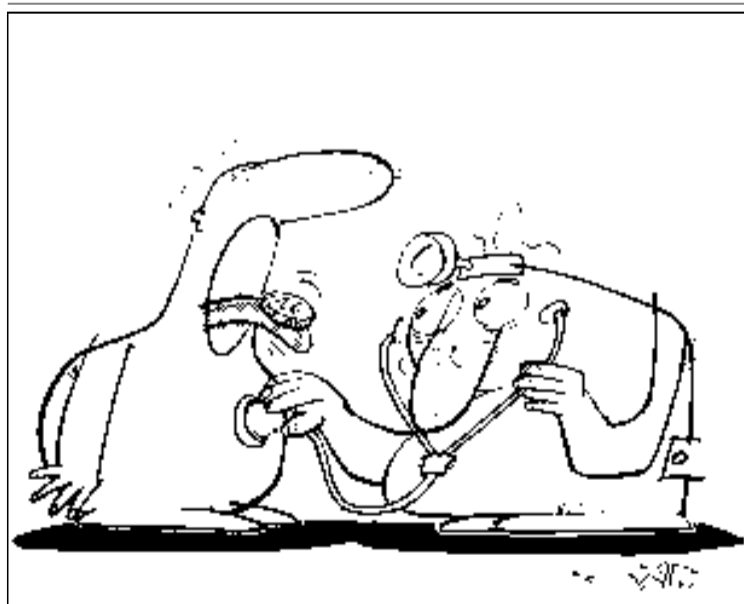
heim has done for the previously anonymous Bilbao. With the Guggenheim, what began as symbolic, a statement that Bilbao was not a backwater with a glorious industrial past but a thriving cultural centre, became a reality as the building itself drew people to the city. In marketing terms, if Bilbao is the product, the Guggenheim is its logo. Buildings have an enormous symbolic value (the Eiffel Tower is, in every other respect, completely useless) and

this was not lost on al-Qaeda when they chose to target the Twin Towers in Manhattan, an attack whose symbolism had as much impact as the devastation itself.

However, while it is the big buildings that get all the press, size isn't everything, which is the point the architects' congress made last week when it judged the Torre Agbar in the Glòries area of Barcelona to be out of place and out of scale. There is nothing wrong with the building itself, which any taxi driver will take you to if you ask for *el supositorio*, it just happens to be in the wrong city. Barcelona is fundamentally a six-storey city, as is Paris, whose true splendour lies not in its monuments but in its domestic architecture, although we tend to forget that the harmony Baron Hausmann imposed came at the expense of an enormous act of civic vandalism committed against the mediaeval city. No such destruction was necessary for Ildefons Cerdà to construct his version of Paris, the Eixample of Barcelona, whose very name (it means extension) evokes the city's overdue escape from the confines of the old walls.

Edinburgh is at heart a Georgian city, built during a period of ordered elegance that preceded Hausmann and Cerdà by a century. Architecturally, the city easily has the strength to stand up to Miralles' imagination. As for the money, after centuries under the thumb of London, the new parliament should be as assertive a statement as money can buy. Besides, surely the Scots are canny enough to ensure that some of the bill ends up in Westminster.

THE STING BY JAP



VIEWPOINT

MIQUEL PAIROLÍ

European at what price?

It was predictable that we were going to be exposed to a new round of pro-European rhetoric. The PSOE government has made the democratic gesture of submitting the constitution to a referendum, and we can only expect the government to run an intense campaign to seduce us to vote in favour of its ratification. In Catalonia, the issue becomes more complicated, as we find ourselves caught between the pro-European sentiments which are predominant in Catalonia and the fact that many

European institutions - and in particular the European constitution are less than sensitive and respectful to our singular nature.

In the next few months we will hear some strange arguments and statements, some of which will put some of us in a dilemma. We will see people torn between nationalist and pro-European sentiments. Some, like a patient about to undergo painful but necessary surgery, are preparing to numb their feelings and vote in favour of a new constitution which does not give any recognition

to the Catalan language.

More than a dilemma, it will be a demonstration of one's true priorities. We will see disguises disappear, and we will hear solemn declarations and marvel at their rhetorical brilliance. This issue will define what is important to us and demonstrate through deeds what one's true level of commitment. For a nationalist, isn't the fact that the new constitution ignores and thus slights the Catalan language reason enough to vote against it, or at least to abstain from voting?



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Research on stem cells starts in earnest

Central and autonomous government have pledged 18 million euros in funding

REBECCA WARDEN

Biomedicine in Barcelona took a big step forward with the creation of the Centre for Research in Regenerative Medicine (CIMR) yesterday. The new centre will carry out research on adult and embryonic stem cells, considered by many scientists to be one of the most promising areas of modern science due to its possible impact on human health. It was given the official seal of approval yesterday at a ceremony attended by the new director of the CIMR Juan Carlos Izpisua, the minister of health Elena Salgado and the president of the Catalan autonomous government Pasqual Maragall.

The confirmation yesterday that the centre will be led by Izpisua also augurs well for the project. Izpisua, until now employed at California's Salk Institute, is one of the world's leading developmental biologists. One of Izpisua's first tasks is to use his international connections to "set up an external committee of advisors made up of top international

scientists specialised in regenerative medicine," said Maragall.

Izpisua finally agreed to commit himself to the project on Wednesday evening after the Generalitat agreed to guarantee funding to the initiative for the next nine years. The CIMR has been promised 18 million euros for the next three years, to be paid to the tune of 9 million each by the central and autonomous government. The CIMR will start work in October in temporary quarters. By the end of 2005, it will move to its definitive location in the Biomedical Research Park, near the Olympic port in Barcelona.

Stem cells, and in particular, those from unwanted human embryos, have the capacity to transform themselves into the cells of any kind of organ. Scientists in the UK, Sweden, South Korea, and now Spain are investigating their potential to produce a cure for a whole range of diseases including Parkinson's, Alzheimers, diabetes and, possibly even cancer.



Research into the uses of stem cells will be in earnest this autumn in Barcelona

Making up for lost time

Spain has moved to the forefront of stem cell research in a relatively short space of time. Until last year, this research was illegal and top scientists such as diabetes researcher Bernat Soria had to go abroad to carry on their work. Today, centres are being set up in Andalusia, Catalonia and Va-

lencia and agreements to co-operate with top centres abroad such as the Karolinska Institute in Sweden are in the offing. Valencian scientist Carlos Simón this month was the first Spanish scientist to produce a line of stem cells to provide raw material for this important research.

Slot machines losing points to computer games

ALEX LEFF

From trains and metros to city pavements and flats, video games are becoming a primary source of entertainment. They are seen as a threat to an old Spanish recreation, the slot machine. "Games played online and on mobile phones are doing very well and present an unbearable competition for our sector, which is why we insist that the administration allow us to incorporate the new technologies," says the president of the video game machine companies association, Albert Sola. There are strict laws prohibiting advertising and braking any attempts at developing technology, which have not evolved in the last twenty years, Sola says. Also, the price of slot machines has been increased, something which is seen as a deterrent by traditional game users.

Growth rate set to slow down in building sector through 2004

The building sector will grow this year but at a slower rate than last, according to a report published yesterday by strategic analysis company DBK. The sector will grow by 8.8 percent in 2004, generating 142,900 million euros, but this represents an effective deceleration compared to the 2003 figure of 10.2 percent. The study considers that this trend towards deceleration will continue into 2005, when the company forecasts there will be a growth in activity of 6.5 percent, reaching a total production of 152,900 million euros.

With respect to 2004 and the subsectors concerned, the civil works sector will also be slowing down to a growth rate of 9.2 percent this year, which is one percentage point less than in 2003. With respect to this figure, DBK points out that "following the change of government, a deceleration process has



The building sector is slowing down

taken place during recent months in public works tender processes, and this has in turn affected the 2000-2007 infrastructures plan, which has been the main driving force behind

the sector in previous years".

As for construction of residential buildings, this sector will also drop by one percentage point to a growth rate of 10.3 percent, thanks to the continuation of works begun in 2003.

In the view of DBK analysts, the demand for second homes and the increase in the immigrant population will be the "main driving forces in the residential market". Concerning the sector supply, the DBK report points to the concentration process detected among firms in the sector in recent years, whereby 13.2 percent of total production is concentrated in the six main construction companies.

The analysis firm also points out that the "maturity" achieved by the domestic construction market is boosting the diversification process towards other businesses belonging to these same companies.

RETAIL TRADE

Trade head slams BBVA report

Miguel Angel Fraile, the head of the Catalonia trade confederation, responded to a report published on Wednesday by the BBVA bank by pointing out that though the retail trade creates one in four new jobs, the sector would create even more employment without the commissions that banks charge on their credit cards. Fraile was speaking in response to a BBVA report published on Wednesday which stated that the number of jobs created in the service sector in Catalonia had fallen by 2.5 percent owing to the restrictions in trade distribution. Speaking to Europa press, Fraile argued that the study "responds to a very specific model which favours real estate companies and promoters, to encourage them to build more shopping centres". He added pointedly that "BBVA is one of the shareholders" for the large construction companies. "Publishing such a misleading report is unfair", he added, before going on to say "what surprises me most about this report is that it should be published at this time. If the BBVA is really concerned about the Catalan and Spanish economies, then the first thing it should do is to reduce the commissions on credit cards, which are then transposed onto trade".

INDUSTRY

Levi's redundancies agreed

At midday yesterday, the workers' representatives for the Levi's factories at Bonmatí (in the Girona region) and Ólvega signed redundancy payment agreements in at the firm's head office in Barcelona. The agreements had been reached with the firm on Monday evening, after which they were duly ratified by the workers' assemblies at the two factories on Tuesday. The agreement stipulated that the workers will receive redundancy payments of 60 days for every year worked, with a maximum repayment limit of 100,000 euros, and with the sum of 6,000 euros to be paid to each employee in addition to the amount determined by longevity at the factory. However, Neus Ros, the president of the firm's workers committee, said that "the workers affected by the firm's pre-retirement regulation have still not accepted the agreement". On Tuesday this was the only point which could not be settled at the workers assembly. The document states that the 16 people affected by this measure must decide unanimously if they want to be considered within the preretirement program or be ruled by the general workers' conditions. Levi's plan to close their Bonmatí and Ólvega factories and move them to countries in the east. When this takes place on 13 September, 285 workers will be made redundant at Bonmatí and a further 168 at Ólvega. The Bonmatí factory has been open for 25 years.

GNP for Eurozone and EU-25 countries grows by a modest 0.6%

Spain's current GNP growth rate is one of the lowest in the European Union

MICHAEL BUNN

The gross national product (GNP) of the Eurozone and the enlarged European Union (EU-25) grew by 0.6% during the first quarter of 2004 compared with the previous three-month period, according to the second estimate that was published yesterday by Eurostat, the statistics office for the European Community.

During the last quarter of 2003, the growth rate in the Eurozone stood at 0.4%, while it reached 0.5% in the EU-25 region. In comparison with the first quarter of 2003, the GNP for the Eurozone grew by 1.3%, while the rate for the EU-region rose by 1.7%. In the last quarter of 2002, the GNP for the respective zones grew by 0.7% and 1.1%.

According to data released by Eurostat, during the first quarter of 2004, Greece was the country that achieved the sharpest growth rate (2.9%), followed by Lithuania (1.4%), Estonia (1.2%), France (0.8%) and Belgium, Holland, Finland and the United Kingdom (all at 0.7%). Meanwhile, Spain's growth rate for the same period stood at 0.6%; the only EU countries with a



The GNP growth rate is rising slightly, both for Eurozone countries and the EU-25

slower growth rate were those of Cyprus and Austria (both at 0.2%).

Eurostat has also published figures showing that during the first quarter of 2004, national spending grew by 0.6% in both the Eurozone

and the EU-25 region, after having recorded figures of 0.2% and 0.3% respectively in the last quarter of 2003. Meanwhile, investment increased by 0.2% and 0.3%, respectively, in the first quarter of 2004.

Commission aims to boost spending

The European commission plans to boost spending between 2007 and 2013, though this is a move that is likely to prove unpopular with some of the EU's biggest members. The EU's executive arm plans to raise spending over that period to over 900 billion euros.

The EU's six largest members, including France, the UK and Germany, have all called for a cap on spending on spending. However, EC president Roman Prodi said more money was needed now that the trade bloc had admitted ten new members, including Poland, Hungary and the Czech Republic.

Under the new plan, the EU's 25 member states would each contribute an average of 1.14 per cent of gross national income to the budget. This exceeds the one per cent limit proposed by main EU's states last December.

MIDDLE EAST

Foreigners in Saudi Arabia

The rights of foreign workers in Saudi Arabia are being abused by employers and the country's legal system, according to Human Rights Watch. The advocacy group's report tells of workers who face torture, forced confessions and unfair trials when they are accused of crimes. However, Saudi embassy officials in Washington claim that the report "grossly exaggerates" a few instances of abuse. "The kingdom", the embassy told BBC, "takes the issue of human rights very seriously and we continue to make progress in that regard."

FRANCE

French economy looking up

A recent survey by the Bank of France indicates a 0.6 per cent growth in French GDP in the second and third quarters of this year. The increase is 0.1 percentage points higher in both quarters than expected, making growth over nine months of 2.3 per cent. In the first quarter of 2004, the French economy grew by 0.8 per cent. The business sentiment indicator showed a rise to 106 in June from 105 in May. The Bank of France surveys around 12,000 companies each month. The French economy is the second largest in the eurozone area.

UNITED KINGDOM

Bonus boost for tax revenues

UK government's tax revenues are receiving a boost from bonuses awarded to workers in London, chancellor Gordon Brown told a committee of MPs. The government also remains on target to meet its fiscal rules, which state that Brown may only borrow to invest over the current economic cycle. They also state that public debt must be kept below 40 per cent of GDP. The treasury currently had a 50 billion pound margin on meeting the 40 per cent of GDP rule, Brown said. Companies have shown that corporate tax revenues are also increasing. But the chancellor came under attack from Labour MPs over the 80,000 proposed job cuts in civil service, to which Brown replied, "We do understand that this is a very substantial figure."

Sony Ericsson announces net profits of 89 million euros for the second quarter of 2004

MICHAEL BUNN

According to the company's preliminary abbreviated balance published yesterday, the Swiss-Japanese mobile phone producer Sony Ericsson achieved net profits of 89 million euros in the second quarter of 2004, compared to losses of 88 million for the same period last year. In the report, Miles Flint, the president of Sony Ericsson, declared that he was highly satisfied with "a financial


report that shows profits for the fourth consecutive quarterly period, and in a highly competitive market". He added that "these results reflect the strong demand for our range, which is based on different styles of multimedia telephones and their image". The company's gross profits totalled 113 million euros in the second quarter of 2004, compared with losses of 102 million euros for the same period in 2003.

Enron to emerge after two and a half years of America's most expensive bankruptcy

ALEX LEFF

Enron, the failed energy group, has received court approval to come out of one of the most expensive bankruptcies in American corporate history. Creditors will receive 19 per cent of the \$63 billion they are seeking, around \$16 billion, the company estimates. Approval by US bankruptcy judge Arthur Gonzalez was expected as most of Enron's creditors have agreed with the plans to

give back some of their money. The Houston-based company collapsed more than two and half years ago. They declared bankruptcy in 2001 after information had surfaced charging that the company had hidden millions of dollars of debt, leaving around 24,000 creditors out of pocket. Some \$130 billion claims are still pending, which Enron says will be reduced to around \$63 million after negotiations.

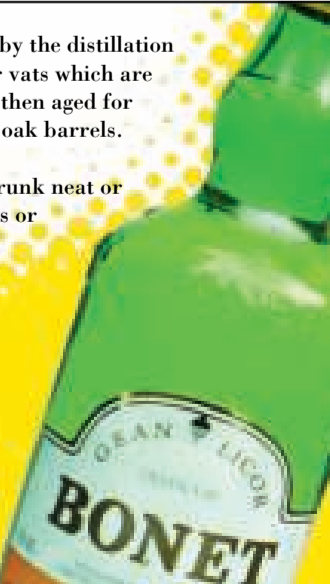


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Car workers strike in Germany

Over 60,000 DaimlerChrysler workers in Germany stopped work yesterday to protest against plans by the carmaker to make Mercedes staff work longer hours, employee representatives said. DaimlerChrysler is looking to save 500 million euros in annual staff costs at Mercedes, but employee representatives have agreed to measures yielding only 180 million.

CATALONIA

COUNTRY OF ENCOUNTERS

EXHIBITION: 14 MAY - 3 OCTOBER 2004. PALAU MOJA. RAMBLA / PORTAFERRISSA. BARCELONA

This exhibition aims at revealing the plural personality of Catalan society by presenting various ways of understanding, explaining and experiencing it. Catalonia, that has been capable of assimilating and synthesising all sorts of influences, also loves its own traditions and significant cultural heritage whilst being extremely attentive to universal trends.

Guided visits: 93 - 316 28 18

www.gencat.net/cat-trobada





The Arbúcies festival is expected to be a great success this year / LLUÍS SERRAT

Arbúcies music festival opens with Skatalites

Organisers expect a turnout of 30,000 people at Catalonia's largest music festival

NEIL STOKES

Els Pets, the Skatalites and Lax'nBusto are some of the artists performing at the largest musical festival in Catalonia, *L'Acampada Jove d'Arbúcies*. Last summer the festival attracted 25,000 people. This year ticket sales suggest even more will attend this year and the organisers are confident that they will reach their target of 30,000.

Of course not everyone attending stays the whole weekend. Many go to see a particular artist: "We know that the presence of Skatalites will bring many of their fans coming only to see them in concert," explained Anguita. On Thursday the festival opened with the likes of Ob-

rint Pas, Skatalities and Orishas. Today, Lax'nBusto, Roger Mas and Eduard Canimas will all be performing, while Saturday will be the turn of Els Pets, Cheb Balowski, Mesclat and Quim Vila.

As the key to success at such events is organisation, 500 political activists from the Esquerra Republicana party's youth section have been drafted in to take on responsibility for ensuring the event goes off well. "Our model of organisation is as good as anyone's," claims Anguita. Organising the festival has been taken seriously with the addition of a camping area called the Pol, which has a shuttle bus service running continuously to the festival site.

Summertime in Sitges is the setting for the music of Nat King Cole and Zarzuelas

ALEX LEFF

The combination of jazz music and Sitges is mouth-watering to any music lover who has paid a visit to the coastal village. Concert organisers Joventuts Musicals had that in mind when they put the summer jazz festival together. From 23 July to 6 August the Prado gardens will play host to the concert series, setting off with a jazz quartet featuring Alvin Queen on the drums, guitarist Peter Bernstein, alto sax player Jesse Davis and Pat Bianchi on keys. American jazz

singer Jennifer James, now residing in Sitges, will be performing on 30 July. The festival is set to close with a tribute to late jazz great Nat King Cole by the Jubilee Jazz Orchestra.

Hitting a different tune, Sundays in Sitges will be the setting for a classical music concert series. On the two last Sundays in July and the first two in August, *Racó de la Calma* presents the 28th year of summer concerts in honour of music made in Catalonia, opening with pianist Daniel Blanch and violinist Kalina Macuta.

Teach yourself Catalan

ANNA POCH



5. Parlo tres llengües

I speak three languages

Mark and a colleague from university are talking about their families.

- Amic** Els teus pares viuen a Alemanya?
Mark Sí. La meua germana, però, és a Itàlia enguany.
Amic Estudia allà?
Mark Sí, estudia arquitectura i italià.
Amic I tu, parles italià?
Mark No, jo parlo anglès, castellà i una mica de català.
Amic El meu cosí, l'Andreu, parla cinc llengües.
Mark Quants anys té?
Amic Té trenta-cinc anys. I tu, tens cosins?
Mark No, els meus oncles no tenen fills.

els teus	your
els pares/el pare/la mare	parents/father/mother
la meua/el meu/els meus	my
el germà/la germana	brother/sister
però	but
enguany	this year
(ella) estudia	she studies
allà	there
l'arquitectura (f)	architecture
(tu) parles	you speak
(jo) parlo	I speak
castellà	Castilian
una mica	a little
el cosí/la cosina	cousin
(ell) parla	he speaks
la llengua	language
quants anys té?	how old is he?
els oncles	uncle and aunt
el fill/la filla/els fills	son/daughter/children

números (21-99)

21 vint-i-u, 22 vint-i-dos, 23 vint-i-tres, 24 vint-i-quatre, 25 vint-i-cinc, 26 vint-i-sis, 30 trenta, 31 trenta-u, 32 trenta-dos, 37 trenta-set, 38 trenta-vuit, 39 trenta-nou, 40 quaranta, 41 quaranta-u, 42 quaranta-dos, 45 quaranta-cinc, 46 quaranta-sis, 50 cinquanta, 51 cinquanta-u, 58 cinquanta-vuit, 59 cinquanta-nou, 60 seixanta, 63 seixanta-tres, 70 setanta, 74 setanta-quatre, 80 vuitanta, 87 vuitanta-set, 90 noranta, 99 noranta-nou.

Key to last week's activities

1. 1-Hi ha estudiants aquí? Sí, n'hi ha catorze. 2-On és en Pere? (Ell) és a l'estació de trens. 3-Hi ha un telèfon es aquella casa? Sí, n'hi ha un. 4-Aquelles noies són alemanyes i aquest noi és anglès. 5-La Maria és aquesta senyora i viu en aquella ciutat.
 2. Uns empleats catalans - les veïnes espanyoles - l'amic francès/danès - el noi francès/danès - una senyora italiana

Grammar

A. Possessives

Catalan possessives are generally preceded by the definite article and agree with the object of possession. Like the demonstratives, they can function as both adjectives and pronouns.

el meu/la meua	els meus/les meves	my
el teu/la teua	els teus/les teves	your
el seu/la seva	els seus/les seves	his/her/its/your (vostè)
el nostre/la nostra	els nostres/les nostres	our
el vostre/la vostra	els vostres/les vostres	your
el seu/la seva	els seus/les seves	their/your (vostès)

B. Present tense verbs (First Conjugation regular)

In the dialogue there are two regular verbs in the simple present tense: **estudiar** and **parlar**. These two are from the large group of regular verbs from the first conjugation whose infinitive ends in **-ar**. Here are the forms of the two verbs, we have divided the stem from the ending.

	parlar (to speak, to talk)	estudiar (to study)
(jo)	parl-o	estudi-o
(tu)	parl-es	estudi-es
(ell/ella/vostè)	parl-a	estudi-a
(nosaltres)	parl-em	estudi-em
(vosaltres)	parl-eu	estudi-eu
(ells/elles/vostès)	parl-en	estudi-en

C. Questions

So far we have seen the uses of a few question words like **com?** *how?* **on?** *where?* and **quants/-es?** *how many?* But you have probably noticed another kind of question, the simple yes/no type. In Catalan, such questions do not entail change of word order or use of any auxiliary verb. In English we have *Is the police station nearby?* while in Catalan both **La comissaria és a prop d'aquí?** and **És prop d'aquí la comissaria?** are acceptable. Another example: *Do you speak French?* **Parles francès?** A sentence in Catalan can be made into a question by changing the intonation rather than the word order. More examples: **Menges carn?** *Do you eat meat?* **Menges carn.** *You eat meat.*

Activity

1. Answer these questions:

- 1- On viuen els teus pares? I els teus oncles?
- 2- Tens cosins? Quants? Com es diuen?
- 3- Quants anys té el teu germà/la teua germana? Com es diu?
- 4- I tu, quants anys tens?
- 5- Quantes llengües parles? Estudies francès o italià?

WHAT'S ON

Friday 16 July 2004

FRIDAY

16

Concerts

ARBÚCIES

► **Festival of Arbúcies.** Concert by Lax'n'bus-to.

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: 902 10 12 12

► **Jamboree.** Concert by Blas Rivera & Tito Cartechini - tango jazz. Plaça Reial, 17.

► **Jazz room- La Cova del Drac.** Jazz concert by Fly Band. Vallmajor, 33.

► **Jazz Sí Club.** Flamenco concert - "El Gaditano" (chant) and Jesús Arrendo (guitar). Requesens, 2.

► **L'Ambar.** Concert by Club decadence, sleazelectrotrashpop. At 11:30. Sant Pau, 77.

► **L'Apolo.** Concert by Daara J - rap and funk. At 9:30 pm. Nou de la Rambla, 113.

► **La Paloma.** Concert by DJ Sideral. At 1:30 am. C/del Tigre, 27.

► **London Bar.** Blues concert by Blues Bareau Band. At 12:30 am. Nou de la Rambla, 34.

► **Los Tarantos.** Flamenco concert by Carbón de Cañ. Pl. Reial, 17. At 8:30.

► **Razzmatazz.** Concert by Macy Gray. At 9 pm. Almogàvers, 122.

► **Razzmatazz Club.** Concert by Jefv Automàtic, Amable, Gato. At 1: am.

► **Razzmatazz Loft.** Concert by Felix Da Housecat. Pamplona, 88. At 1:00 am.

CALELLA DE PALAFRUGELL

► **Festival Jardins de Cap Roig.** *Jazzin' and Dancin'*, by Locomotora Negra. At 10:00 pm.

Theatre

BARCELONA

► **Tantarantana Theatre.** The play *Buits*, by the theatre company Teatre de Calaix. Directed by Lurdes Barba. Until June 27th. Tickets: 10-16 euros. Nou Tantarantana Teatre-C/ Flors, 22 - Ciutat Vella. Telephone: 93 441 70 22.

► **Antic Teatre.** *Les Criades*, by Jean Genet, by Yliades theatre company. At 9:00 pm. Verdaguier Callis, 12.

► **Artenbrut Teatre.** *La dona com a camp de batalla*, by Matéi Visniec. Thursday to Saturday 9 pm. Sundays 6 pm. Until July 25th. Perill 9. Tel. 93 457 65 16. Tickets: 16.

► **Club Capitol.** *Maca, per favor... els postres*, by Total Memos company. Wednesdays to Saturdays 9:30, Sundays 6:30. Until July 18th. Rambles 138. Tel. 934 122 038. Tickets: 18-20.

► **Espai Escènic Joan Brossa.** *Amor Matern*, by August Strindberg. Tuesday to Saturday 9 pm, Sunday 7 pm. Tickets: 9-16 euros. Dates: Until July 25th. Allada Vermell 13. Tel. 93 301 0164.

► **Jove Teatre Regina.** *El vestit nou de l'emperador*, after Hans Christian Andersen's tale. Thursday to Sunday 7 pm. Until July 18th. Sèneca 22. Tel. 93 218 15 12.

► **Sala Muntaner.** *Cançons dedicadas*, by Franz Xavier Kroetz. Wednesday to Saturday 9:30 pm, Sunday 7 pm. Check for tickets. Dates: until July 25th. Muntaner 4. Tel. 933 235 227.

► **Teatre Apolo.** *Amory fuego*, by Manolo Carrasco (pianist). Tuesdays 9:30 pm, Wednesdays 6 and 9:30 pm, Thursdays 9:30 pm, Fridays 10 pm, Saturdays 7:30 and 10:30 pm, Sunday 7 pm. Tickets: 18-24. Until August 1st. Paral·lel 59. Tel. 93 441 79 92.

► **Teatre Nou Tantarantana.** *Diktat*, by Enzo Corman. Wednesday to Saturday 9 pm, Sun-

Recommended | MARCELA TOPOR



I Claudius opens the Festival of Porta Ferrada

• The 42nd edition of the Porta Ferrada festival opens today in Sant Feliu de Guixols with the play *I Claudius* (Yo, Claudius) by Robert Graves. The show, to be performed for the first time in Catalonia, was received with great enthusiasm by critics and audience at the opening of The Classic Theatre Festival in Mérida and features the well-known actors Héctor Alterio and En-

carna Paso. *I Claudio* is directed by José Carlos Plaza and tells the story of Claudius in the Roman's Empire days of glory and decadence. On Saturday 17 July, Porta Ferrada will be featuring an exclusive concert by two of the world's leading guitarists Al Di Meola and Manuel Barrueco, who will create an unusual blend of jazz and classical music.

Pre-Columbian Human Body by Robert Wilson

• The Barbier-Mueller Museum of Art Pre-columbí is hosting the exhibition *Images of the Body*, by multi-talented American artist Robert Wilson. The collection, which displays pre-Columbian Art in different shapes and materials, invites visitors to travel through more than seven thousand years of history. According to Robert Wilson, sometimes looking at the past will help us to understand the present. Until October 31st. C/Montcada, 12-14. Tel. 93 310 45 16.

Orpheus myth on flamenco and Hindu music

• Mercat de les Flors Theatre is staging today and tomorrow the play *Orfeu*, by Lanònima Imperial company, based on the mythological legend Orpheus seen as the greatest poet and musician of all times. The play, directed by Juan Carlos García, is a ritual of death and resurrection, performed by musicians and dancers from India flamenco artists, to a background of percussion and electronic music. C/ Lleida, 59. Tel. 93 426 18 75.

day 7 pm. Until August 22nd. Tickets: 13-16. C/de les Flors, 22. Tel. 93 441 70 22.

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

► **Teatre Tívoli.** *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.

Conferences

BARCELONA

► **Esade.** *Latinoamérica crece de nuevo: oportunidades i riesgos*, by Guillermo Perry. Av. Esplugues, 92-96.

Miscellaneous

BARCELONA

► **Sala Montjuïc.** *El Viaje de Chihiro*. At 10:00 pm. At Castell de Montjuïc.

Exhibitions

AMPOSTA

► **Museu del Montsià.** Exhibition *Pintura i compromís (Painting and compromise)* by Niebla. Until August 22nd.

BARCELONA

► **Centre d'Art Santa Mònica.** *16 factures*, by Maria Eichhom. Until September 26th. Rbla. Sta Mònica, 7.

► **Casa Batlló.** Exhibition and guided tour *The attics and the chimneys*. Passeig de Gràcia

43. For more details call tel. 93 216 0306.

► **Centre Cultural Caixa Catalunya.** *El Cos i el cosmos. Art escultòric del Mèxic precolombí*. Tickets: free. Dates: Until October 10th. Provença 261-265. Tel. 93 484 59 95.

► **Centre d'Art Centre Mònica.** *Apparent Phenomena*, by Joao Tabarra. Until September 26th. Rbla Santa Mònica, 7.

► **Institut Francès.** *Boyzone. Imatges del cos*, by Clarisse Hahn. Closed on Saturdays and Sundays. Dates: until September 22nd. Moia, 8. Free entrance. Tel. 93 542 7 1 71.

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

► **Palau de la Virreina.** Exhibition *El primer Eros. Àfrica, Amèrica i Oceania*. Free entrance. Until October 31st. La Rambla, 99. Tel. 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.

CALELLA DE PALAFRUGELL

► **Jardí botànic de Cap Roig** (Botanical garden of Cap Roig). Sculpture exhibition by Miquel Berrocal. Until September 13th.

GIRONA

► **Espai del Museu d'Art.** Temporary exhibition *Senyals*, directed by Marleen Kars. Until September 5th.

► **Museu d'Art.** *La llegada del Pop Art a Cat-*

alunya. Until September 12th.

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

SANT CUGAT DEL VALLÈS

► **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.

SANT FELIU DE BOADA

► **Galeria Cyprus Art.** Exhibition by Miquel Sacaya. Until August 12th.

SITGES

► **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.

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. Marqués de Comillas, 6-8. Tel. 93 476 86 00.

Sagrada família. www.sagradafamilia.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/Ciutatadans, 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

CT BACK

WEATHER

CROSSWORD

Summer heat

Higher temperatures with maximums of more than 30 degrees in many parts of the country, especially along the coast. Mainly sunny skies everywhere, with a few passing clouds over the Pyrenees, Pre-Pyrenees and Valencia, which could bring some scattered showers in the afternoon. Some light clouds will also cover southern areas of Valencia and some parts of the Balearic Islands. Light southerly winds.

Tomorrow

Mainly sunny and dry, with some passing clouds inland. A chance of rain in western Pyrenees and the mountains of Castelló. The temperatures will continue to rise.

The sea

Mainly light swells everywhere, with some calm areas. No changes tomorrow.

THE SUN
SUNRISE 6.30 h
SUNSET 21.23 h

THE MOON
WAXING 25 July
FULL 31 July
WANING 9 July
NEW 17 July

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www.meteocat.com

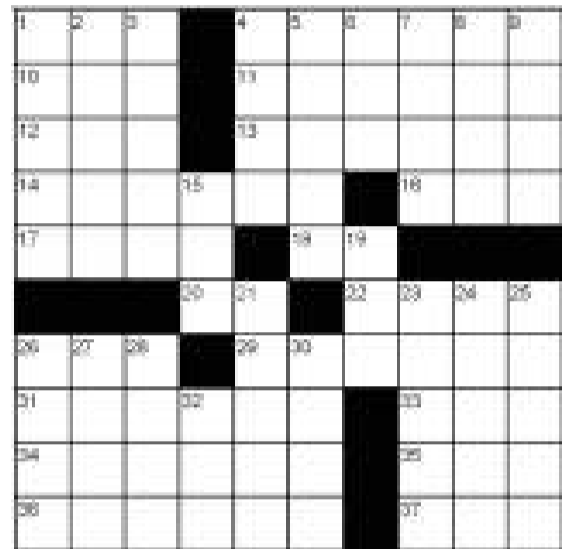
TEMPERATURES

STATION	Max.	Min.
Ampostà	-	-
Banyoles	30	15
Barcelona	30	15
Botarell	28	19
El Vendrell	26	16
El Perelló	26	17
Falset	30	17
Girona	32	15
Igualada	31	16
La Bisbal d'Empordà	-	-
La Seu d'Urgell	30	14
La Quar de Berguedà	28	12
Lleida	27	13
Manresa	35	16
Montmeló	32	16
Olot	30	15
Roses	29	14
Sant Pau Segúries	30	15
Sta. Coloma de F.	26	10
Tarragona	27	19
Tàrraga	30	15
Vallirana	30	16
Vic	30	14
Vielha	28	10
Vila-rodona	29	15
Vilassar de Mar	27	20
Alacant	22	21
Castelló de la Plana	27	18
Palma	22	21
Madrid	33	19
València	29	19
Andorra	29	11
Berlin	21	14
Brussels	20	17
London	23	17
Paris	22	18
Prague	21	13
Rome	28	16

CATALAN LANDS / TOMORROW

EUROPE / FORECAST FOR MIDDAY TOMORROW

WEATHER INFORMATION 24H
807 012 012
Maximum tariff: Fixed 0.41 euros/min. Mobile: 0.76 euros/min.



ACROSS

1. Lawman.
4. What dentists remove.
10. Copy.
11. Painted Georgia.
12. Limited (abbr.).
13. Outcast.
14. Inclined.
16. Negative.
17. American Civil Liberties Union (abbr.).
18. Missouri (abbr.).
20. South Dakota.
22. Heedless.
26. Supersonic transport.
29. Globe.
31. Plays harp.
33. Careless.
34. American songbird.
35. Stretch to make do.
36. Fingers.
37. Crimson.

DOWN

1. Lily-like plant.
2. Visual.
3. Cycle.
4. Fee.
5. BB Player Abdul Jabar.
6. Representative.
7. Adolescent.
8. Hairstyle.
9. Letup.
15. Public transportation.
19. Globe.
21. Lived.
23. More able.
24. Quell.
25. Jinxed.
26. Booted.
27. Dress.
28. Trigonometry.
30. Mined metals.
32. Luau dish.

ANSWERS

ACROSS

1. Cop.
4. Tartar.
10. Ape.
11. Okeefe.
12. LTD.
13. Lepers.
14. Liable.
16. Not.
17. Aclu.
18. Mo.
20. SD.
22. Rash.
26. SST.
29. Wobble.
31. Harper.
33. Lax.
34. Oriole.
35. Eke.
36. Digits.
37. Red.

DOWN

1. Calla.
2. Optic.
3. Pedal.
4. Toll.
5. Akeem.
6. Rep.
7. Teen.
8. Afro.
9. Rest.
15. Bus.
19. Orb.
21. Dwelt.
23. Abler.
24. Slake.
25. Hexed.
26. Shod.
27. Sari.
28. Trig.
30. Ores.
32. Poi.

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