

Insight: Special Budget Session / Prison Overcrowding / Dealing with Bullies



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As new California legislators are signed into office, what should be done about the budget deficit; U.S. Supreme Court hears cases on prison overcrowding in California; How to deal with bullies in the classroom; 90th birthday tribute to Dave Brubeck

Special Budget Session New legislators are getting signed in today and Gov. Schwarzenegger has called a special session to deal with the budget deficit. What should be done to rebalance the budget? Can anything really happen now? What steps should the government be taking to deal with the deficit? We'll talk about it with Jon Coupal of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association and Mike Herald with the Western Center on Law and Poverty.

Prison Overcrowding Two lawsuits - one filed in 1990, the other in 2001 - say overcrowding in California prisons is the core cause of what has become a domino effect of unsafe and unhealthy conditions for those on both sides of the iron bars. State legislators and corrections officials have admitted the prisons violate the ban on "cruel and unusual punishment" contained in the Constitution, and have organized more than 20 panels and commissions to address the crisis. The US Supreme Court has recently heard arguments on the cases. We'll get an update from McClatchy reporter Mike Doyle.

Dealing with Bullies Anti-bullying expert Michelle Molina will be in town today to discuss bullying prevention with new members of the California Legislature. Bullying is in the news a lot lately. There has been a rash of teen suicides, many of whom were bullied before they died. What can people do to stop bullying from happening?

Dave Brubeck's Birthday Today is Dave Brubeck's 90th birthday and over the past few weeks there has been a lot of attention focused on the famous Northern California native, including a radio documentary which airs tonight on Capital Public Radio and a brand new film documentary, executive produced by Clint Eastwood, which premieres today at 2 on the Turner Classic Movies channel. Capital Public Radio's Paul Conley has interviewed Dave Brubeck numerous times over the past decade and a half and he joins us for more on the famous graduate of University of the Pacific.

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