

96 HOURS: Retro dance troupe is Devil-Ette-ishly good fun



OUTDOORS: Antidote for a hot spell? Try woods, water or sand



STATE BAY AREA

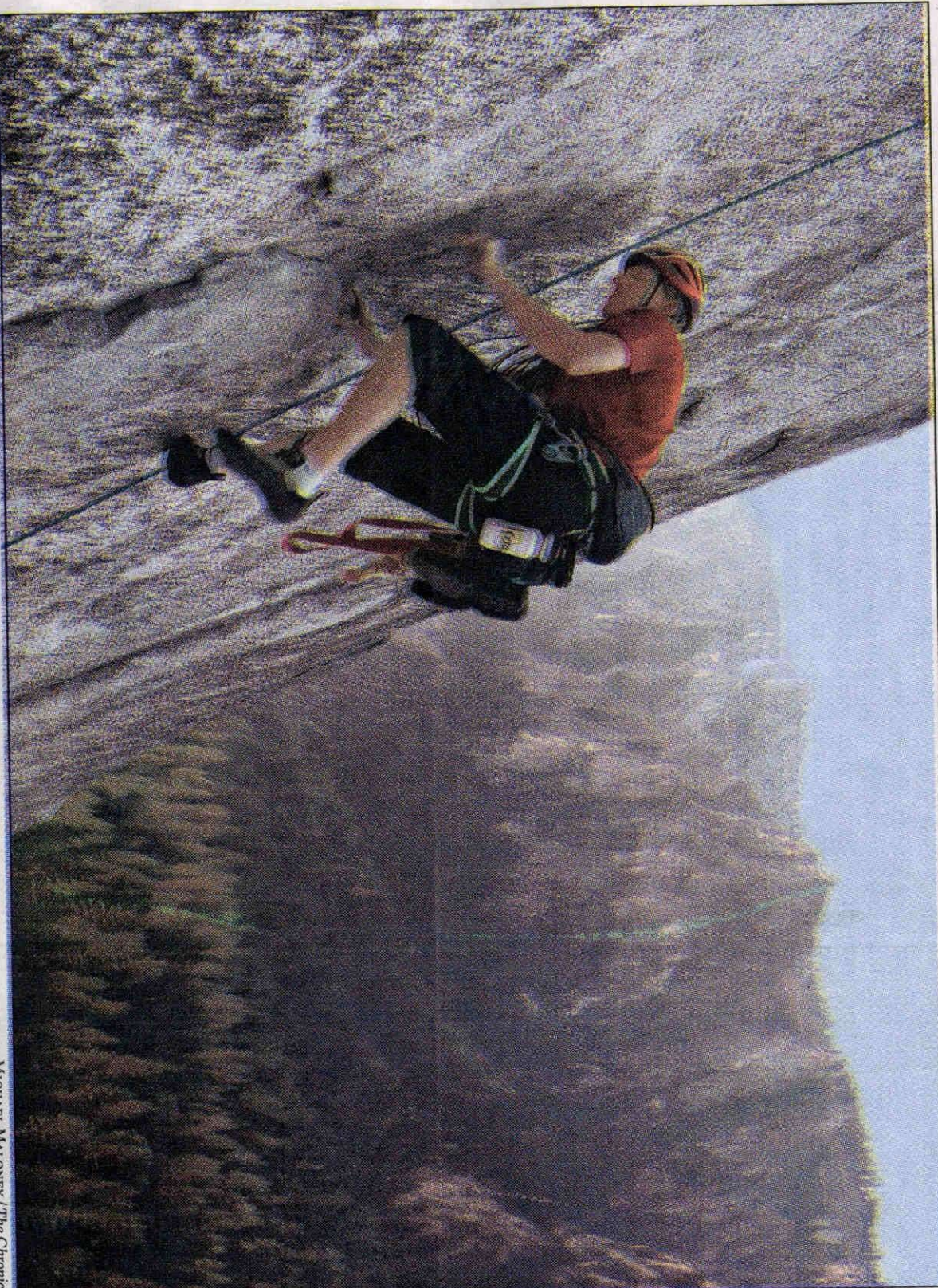
Sam Francisco Climbs

★★★★★

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Up for a climbing record

Pair wants to race to top of El Capitan, reclaim speed mark seized by Germans in '07



MICHAEL MALONEY / The Chronicle

Hans Florine heads up the face of Yosemite's El Capitan, where he and Yuji Hirayama will try for a record on The Nose route today.

By Peter Finnrite
CHRONICLE STAFF WRITER

If there ever was a dangerous rivalry, it is the one Hans Florine has with anyone who tries to beat him up the immense, 2,900-foot-high granite face of Yosemite's El Capitan.

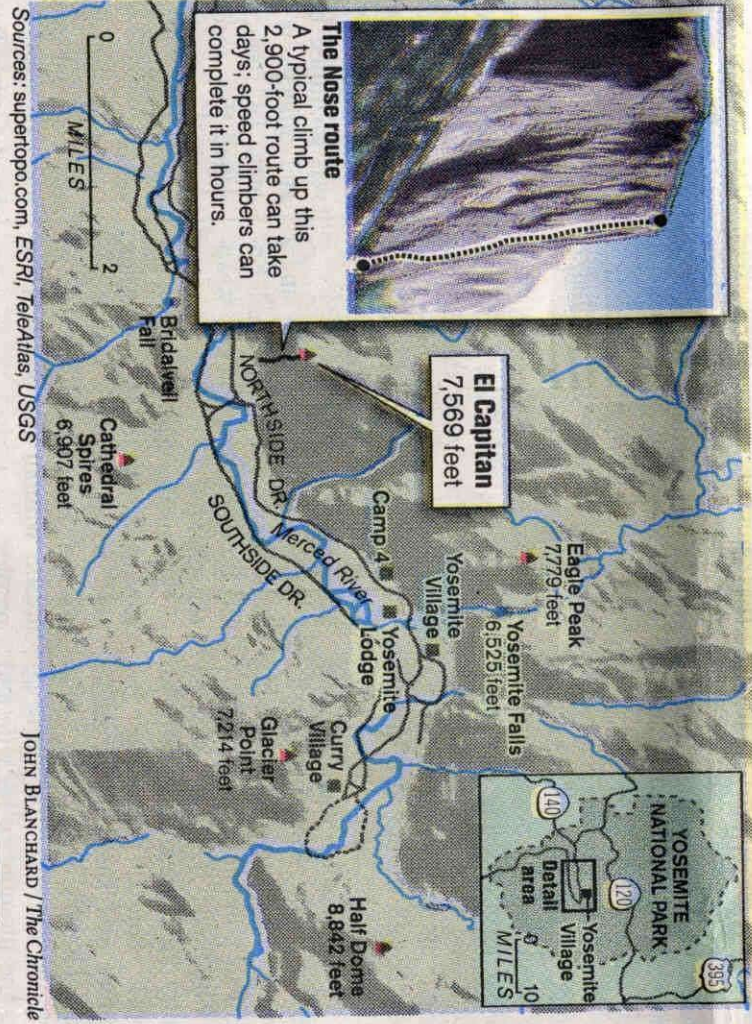
The 44-year-old Lafayette climber held the speed record up the frightening vertical route known as The Nose for much of the past 17 years. Then, in October, the dynamic German climbing duo of Thomas and Alexander Huber raced up the cliff in a death-defying two hours and 45 minutes, smashing Florine's record by three minutes. The battle for supremacy on one of the world's scariest rock climbs will continue today when Florine and his Japanese climbing partner, Yuji Hirayama, make their first attempt to reclaim the record.

"I kind of like to own the route, and until October I did," Florine said. The attempt at the record came about quickly. Florine knew he would try to

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The Nose route
A typical climb up this 2,900-foot route can take days; speed climbers can complete it in hours.



JOHN BLANCHARD / The Chronicle

Scaling El Capitan
Rising a total of 3,593 feet above Yosemite Valley, it is the world's largest single piece of granite.

► The first people to scale to the top were Warren J. Harding, Wayne Merry and George Whitmore in 1958. It took 47 days.

► If rock climbing isn't your thing, you can still see the view. It's an 8.5-mile trail hike from Tanarack Flat to the top of El Capitan.

► What else can you do in 2 hours, 45 minutes, the current record? Watch "The Patriot," Mel Gibson's 2000 Revolutionary War drama; jog 19 miles at 6.9 mph; roast an 8-pound, unstuffed turkey in an open pan.

UPDATE ROAD RAGE KILL ARREST SLAY DAD, 2

Alleged gang member from El Sobrante, h

By Jaxon Van Derbeken
and Henry K. Lee
CHRONICLE STAFF WRITERS

A member of a notoriously violent street gang was arrested and booked Wednesday on three counts of murder in the shooting of a San Francisco father and two sons in the city's Excelsior district that police believe stemmed from a minor traffic incident, authorities said.

Edwin Ramos, 21, of El Sobrante was arrested at 12:05 a.m. at his home on the 4300 block of Hilltop Drive in the Sunday slayings of Tony Bologna, 48, and his sons Michael, 20, and Matthew, 16, authorities said. At 5 p.m., he was booked on the murder charges.

Police recovered a machete, a assault pistol and knives at the time of the arrest, but they have n

Air board for war on

By Matthew
CHRONICLE SACRAMENTO

SACRAMENTO — The California Board today will consider a draft will fight global warming, an arm quite cleaner cars, more energy less-polluting fuels and more solar energy.

The agency's preliminary report include working with other Western provinces to develop a market der which heavy polluters such panies and oil refiners trade cing to a summary of the draft p released Wednesday.

A major step toward meeting slashing emissions by 30 percent mark legislation signed by Gov. ger, the plan also recommends i polluters in order to raise \$50 m