



CHIVALROUS SHAVING



ELORA GARIANO, 9, (above) has her head shaved Monday to show solidarity with her twin Ariel Gariano (back-ground), a cancer patient, at the St. Baldrick's head-shaving event at Children's Hospital Oakland. Katharyn Garcia-Rivera (top right) gets shorn during the event that raises money for children's cancer research.

D. ROSS CAMERON — Staff photos

No charges in collapse of the Maze

■ CHP won't recommend prosecution in crash that caused \$13M in damage

By Erik N. Nelson

STAFF WRITER

The California Highway Patrol will not recommend charges against James Mosqueda, who crashed a gasoline tanker truck on the MacArthur Maze in Oakland, setting off an inferno that collapsed a freeway ramp and caused more than \$13 million in damage, a CHP spokesman said Monday.

After a 10-month investigation, the agency announced Monday that it had submitted its results to the state transportation department, Caltrans, for review, and until it was reviewed by the Alameda County District Attorney's Office, the document would not be complete.

While Highway Patrol officials prohibited their spokesmen from addressing any of the details of the investigation Monday afternoon, a public affairs officer earlier confirmed a published report that investigators were not recommending

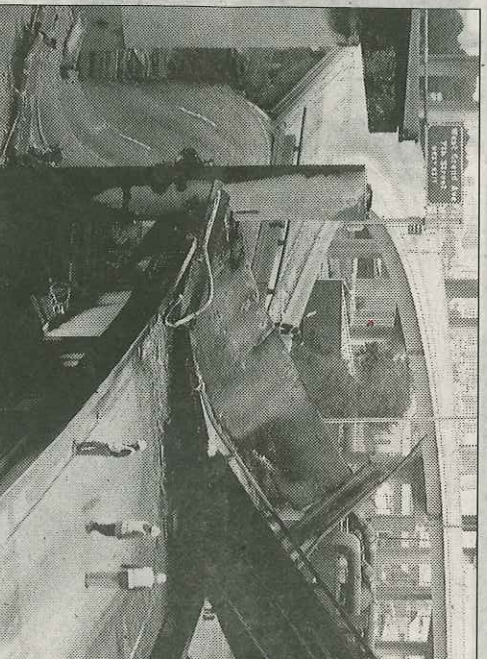
Mosqueda be charged with violations that led to the accident even though he had made a safe turn moments before he burned in the pre-dawn accident, but was able to walk away from the burning wreckage take a taxi to a hospital where he began nine days of treatment. Reached at his family home in Woodland, Mosqueda told MediaNews that he did not want to comment until his attorney has had a chance to review the findings.

While Highway Patrol investigators may not be asking for charges, the ultimate decision rests with the county prosecutors, CHP spokesman Sgt. T. Cross said.

Assistant Alameda County District Attorney Norbert Chiu said he received the investigation Monday and could not comment until he had a week or two to review it.

"He wasn't drunk; we knew that for sure," Chiu said, noting that the most that could count in the case would be a minor

Please see **TANKER**, News



NOAH BERGER — Staff photo
A SECTION of highway lies crumpled on April 29 in Emeryville after a tanker carrying gasoline exploded.

Perata talks tough on across-the-board cuts

■ Governor's plan challenged as budget battles continue

By Lisa Vorderstruenggen

STAFF WRITER

CONCORD — Senate President Pro Tem Don Perata again threw down a state budget challenge Monday morning.

Surrounded by about 50 parents, teachers and Democrats on the front lawn of Glenview Middle School, a modest school in a middle-class Concord neighborhood, Perata continued to pressure Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger to withdraw

\$4.4 billion in proposed education cuts from California's K-12 system.

"I'm taking off my (sun-)glasses so you can look in my eyes and see if I'm kidding," Perata told the crowd. He was referring to Republican assertions that Democrats are going through the motions in their budget protests. "Democrats never leave Sacramento as long as the governor intends to cut education by even one dime."

Perata is the face of a Democratic statewide public relation drive to drum up outcry over

Please see **PERATA**, News