Dan Walters: Tax-hike bid touches off lobbying war

Frustrated by the death penalty

Re "California on track to stop killing its own" (Comment, April 14):

Tim Rutten's column damning California for continuing to allow the death penalty failed to mention that every time the issue has been put to a popular vote, it's been passed by a majority of California voters, who I assume like me are frustrated that the sentence often takes 20 to 30 years to carry out, if ever. As a 30-year career police officer, I saw the aftermath of the heinous acts these killers committed. I'm curious to know Mr. Rutten's views on abortion. Many liberals are pro-abortion, anti-death penalty. In other words, kill babies, not killers.

- John Knapp, Long Beach

Boston marathon bombing senseless, appalling act

Re "Two bombs rock Boston Marathon" (April 16):

About the bombings in Boston: Hideous. Senseless. Tragic. We are all residents of Boston now.

- Denny Freidenrich, Laguna Beach

Bullet train an answer to a non-existent problem

Re "Reason Foundation claims bullet train would cost taxpayers millions" (April 11):

Needing a high-speed rail connecting our major metropolitan areas is poppycock. Nothing but a boondoggle. We're throwing money at a problem that doesn't exist. It's like delivering mail, electricity and phone service to Podunk, Wyo., or Cornpone, Ala. Who cares. We should all live in just two cities, one liberal and one conservative. We'd be just like our government.

- George Parmer, Long Beach

These passengers didn't follow the dress code

Re "Brothers sue US Airways for forcing them to change clothes" (April 15):

Good Grief! Miles and Mack Warren were not dressed appropriately on the US Airways flight and therefore not allowed to sit in first class. There are airline rules and they did not follow them. Get over it. They have no case. Their allegations of racism are baseless and absurd.

- Rosie Bauman, Lakewood

Plan B pill falsely promoted as contraception

Plan B, the morning-after pill is falsely promoted as "contraception" after the fact. These types of mega-dose powerful steroids contain up to 50 times the amount of steroids found in the oral contraceptive
pill. Numerous studies support the notion that the high dose, high powered steroids found in emergency abortion drugs including Plan B are abortifacient 75 to 89 percent of the time, as reported from FDA data. Rarely will a drug like Plan B work to suppress ovulation and prevent the meeting of the male and female gametes prior to conception. These pills have contra-implantation properties that clearly refute the propaganda campaign cloaked in false science by abortion advocates. Is this something a teenage girl should be taking without a prescription and without her parent’s consent?

- David McCaughey, Long Beach

Praying for Kobe's complete recovery

Re "Bryant is hurt late in victory" (April 13):

Kobe Bryant is an unselfish player who gave his all in the pursuit of success for the Lakers. I'm sure he has often bit his tongue after challenging circumstances knowing that acerbic comments would not benefit the team as a whole. He is a leader amongst leaders and we wish him well during his recovery. I hope we get Dwight Howard and Steve Nash back to help Kobe get another ring in the twilight of his career. We love you, Kobe and we're praying for a full recovery.

- Joseph and Zhenie Gutierrez, Wilmington