



SHADY'S ON THE MEND
SEE PAGE 15

Since 2001: A news odyssey

THE RUBBING ELBOWS ISSUE

Santa Monica Daily Press

Gearing up for a ballot battle

Measure R would provide assistance to local public schools

BY MELODY HANATANI
Daily Press Staff Writer

MID-CITY As "Super Duper Tuesday" fast approaches and the \$10 million question hangs in the balance, public schools advocates are galvanizing a campaign to promote a measure that would continue funding what many parents call critical curricular programs.

What's at stake with the possible passage of Measure R on the Feb. 5 ballot is an estimated total of \$10 million annually to supplement the operating budget of the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District, a sum that retains at least 53 teachers, supplies the school's libraries with new materials and staff positions, and keeps the performing arts alive in the elementary school music program.

"Measure R provides vital local funding for our public schools and directly impacts our teachers, our classrooms and the students we serve," said Harry Keiley,



Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

BIG BOOST: Anthony Fuller, a teacher at Olympic High School, goes over a lesson with his students on Wednesday. If Measure R is approved by local voters, money will be spent on retaining classroom teachers. The Feb. 5 ballot measure could potentially add \$10 million to SMMUSD's budget.

SEE MEASURE R PAGE 12

It's bougie, not boozy in Ocean Park neighborhood

BY MELODY HANATANI | Daily Press Staff Writer

OCEAN PARK An upscale grocer specializing in artisan cheeses and boutique wines is set to take up residency on Main Street, despite complaints by area business owners and residents that contend another store selling alcohol would cause harm to the social welfare of the neighborhood.

The City Council gave Brandon Kim the green light to open Goudas & Vines at 2000 Main St. on Tuesday night, rejecting an appeal filed last year by several Ocean Park residents and a liquor store owner that there is already an overabundance of businesses that sell liquor in the vicinity. The appeal was in response to a Planning Commission decision last September to grant a permit to Goudas & Vines.

The store — which will be housed in one of the ground-level retail spaces in the new Archstone complex on the corner of Main and Bay streets — will be the second for Kim, who opened his flagship location in Montrose in July 2005.

Kim estimates the second store will open in May. "We just need more stuff in the area that we don't already have," said Santa Monica resident Sean Kehoe. "There are



Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

COMING SOON: The future site of Goudas and Vines on Main Street will sell artisan cheese, boutique wines and other high-end perishable products. Some locals oppose the market.

already stores that sell liquor and cheese."

Ramon Gastelumiribe, the owner of Star Liquors, which

is located across the street from the future site of Goudas & Vines, filed the appeal in October, saying he is concerned about the added possibility of public intoxication since the new business would be open from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m. On Wednesday, Gastelumiribe added that he was also concerned with the competition from the new business, since he too sells high-end wine. He also expressed concerns about the wine-tasting room that will accompany the new business, which he believes could lead to drinking and driving.

City Councilmember Ken Genser said it is out of the council's jurisdiction to decide on matters that have to do with competitive issues and that it should instead focus on whether another business selling alcohol would have an impact on the community. Genser added that the proposed business is at the same site of the old Pioneer Boulangerie Bakery, which he said sold wine.

Kim, who runs the business with his father, explained the reason why the store would open early is to accommodate early morning customers that might want to grab a coffee or

SEE SPIRITS PAGE 10

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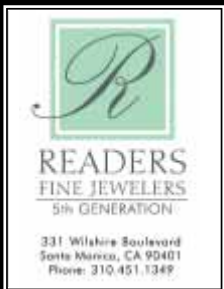
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Calendar

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 10, 2008

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WHAT'S UP WESTSIDE

OUT AND ABOUT IN SANTA MONICA AND SURROUNDS



What's New This Week

2101 Ocean Park Blvd., 1 p.m. — 2:30 p.m.

A free-wheeling review and discussion of the week's key
news stories at home and abroad.

Cool School revisited

1611 Electric Ave., Venice, by appointment only

The “Cool School” exhibit, named for the film which features
Ferus Gallery artists, will be on display through January 11. A
portion of the proceeds from sold paintings will go to the
“Films for Schools” outreach program. For more information,
visit www.VeniceTrust.com.

Friday, Jan. 11, 2008

Lunchtime melting pot anyone?

Noon

The Rotary Club of Santa Monica has long enjoyed a
reputation as being the hub for Westside men and women
dedicated to improving their local and worldwide
communities. It is a melting pot for cultural ideas from the
diverse ethnic makeup of members. Those interested in
attending their regular lunch should contact June M. Doy
at (310) 922-6274 or (310) 917-3313.

Getting back to their roots

1432 4th St., 9 p.m. — 1:30 a.m.

Key Francis, joined by Mark Sims on bass guitar and Michael
Turner on drums, takes to the stage at Harvelle's in
downtown Santa Monica. Together, the trio creates “Hot
Rootsy Rhythm & Blues Guitar,” according to The Austin
Gazette. For more information, log on to
www.keyfrances.com.

Cool School revisited

1611 Electric Ave., Venice, by appointment only

The “Cool School” exhibit, named for the film which features
Ferus Gallery artists, wraps up today. A portion of the
proceeds from sold paintings will go to the “Films for
Schools” outreach program. For more information, visit
www.VeniceTrust.com.

For more information on any of the events listed, log on to smdp.com and click the “Events” tab for the given day's calendar.



CORRECTION:

In an article by Simon Salloom (“Comparing markets coast to coast,” Jan. 9, page 10) it
should have stated that Santa Monica's population is 84,084.

Moving up in the world

Martinez to serve as vice chancellor for L.A. College District

BY DAILY PRESS STAFF

SMC Marvin Martinez, Santa Monica College's vice president of planning and development, will be leaving after 11 years to serve as the first vice chancellor of economic and workforce development for the Los Angeles Community College District.

"Martinez's extensive administrative experience in economic and resource

development will move our district forward in developing a capable and job-ready workforce," said LACCD Chancellor Marshall E. Drummond.

"A recent report revealed that one-third of Los Angeles County residents live below the federal poverty level and we import nearly 40 percent of all construction workers from outside the country," Martinez. "It is important that we place our basic skills education and our academic tracks into context with career ladders."

Prior to serving as vice president of planning and development at SMC, Martinez, 44, was provost at the college, where he was responsible for planning and supervising a new off-campus site. In

addition, he served as associate vice-president of planning and development, and dean of business and industry.

He has also worked at Cerritos Community College District as director of economic development — contract education.

"I look forward to working with all nine colleges in LACCD to improve current programs and develop new ones, in order to prepare our students to succeed in the workforce," Martinez said. "Our goal, as we work together, will be to put all nine colleges at the forefront of economic development activity taking place in Los Angeles."

Looking back at his career at SMC, Martinez, who has a master's degree in urban planning from UCLA, said he is

most proud of helping to enhance vocational programs after the college was forced to cut popular programs such as automotive because of budget constraints. Now the automotive program is back and better than ever, providing students the latest information on new technologies driving the auto industry.

In the spring, SMC will be offering classes in logistics, which is the movement of goods. This is crucial, Martinez said, given that Los Angeles County is home to two of the largest ports in the nation, as well as Los Angeles International Airport.

SEE MARTINEZ PAGE 11

Woman claims distress

By The Associated Press

LOS ANGELES A woman who was in the car that Lindsay Lohan chased before being arrested in Santa Monica says the incident caused emotional trauma and cost her thousands of dollars in doctors' bills and a well-paying job.

Tracie Rice was in a car driven by Michele Peck, the mother of Lohan's assistant who had recently quit, when Lohan trailed them to the Santa Monica Police Department headquarters during a pre-dawn July chase. Peck told police she was being chased by a sport utility vehicle, and police later determined Lohan was the driver.

In August, Rice filed a lawsuit against Lohan for emotional distress. The lawsuit seeks unspecified damages and payment of medical and other expenses related to emotional distress.

According to papers filed in Los Angeles Superior Court in late December, Rice spent about \$7,000 on medical bills, including a therapist who charges \$175 per visit, and lost her \$60,000 per year job because of the incident.

Rice said she thought she was being car-jacked when an SUV, driven by Lohan, pursued them at high speed, putting her and Peck "at extreme risk of death or injury," until they arrived at the police station and



LOHAN

were met by officers with guns drawn.

Calls to Lohan's attorneys after business hours Tuesday were not immediately returned.

Lohan served 84 minutes in jail on Nov. 15 as part of a plea deal on misdemeanor drunken-driving and cocaine possession charges.

Lohan is facing another lawsuit because of an October 2005 accident that injured a busboy, Raymundo Ortega, who is seeking \$200,000 in damages for negligence from Lohan and The Ivy, the trendy Beverly Hills restaurant where she ate before the June crash.

In September, Ortega's attorney, Robert G. Klein, asked the court to amend the lawsuit to include Lohan's company, Crossheart Productions Inc., because it owns the vehicle she was driving. But in papers filed last month in Los Angeles Superior Court, Klein dropped that part of the lawsuit.

Lohan spent about two months at a drug and alcohol treatment program in Utah last year.

She was videotaped taking a swig from a bottle of champagne at a New Year's Eve party in Capri, Italy.

Her attorney later said the 21-year-old called her sponsor immediately and recommitted herself to staying sober.



ROAD REVERSAL

Ross Furukawa ross@smdp.com

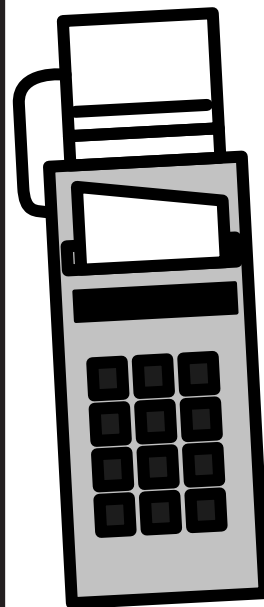
An elderly driver tries to turn around on the I-10 Freeway onramp in downtown on Wednesday afternoon. The driver eventually was able to turn around and drive east on Olympic Drive, but not before giving some drivers a serious scare during the midday commute.

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

Down and dirty shopping

Editor:

A few days ago, I went shopping on the (Third Street) Promenade, and to my dismay, it was awash with homeless persons loitering and sitting on prime benches. I can imagine what tourists would think seeing these filthy homeless persons talking to themselves and asking for spare change. This experience certainly ruined my shopping spree; I have no intentions of returning to the promenade to shop again.

Why is it when I shop at other centers, such as The Grove or the Westside Pavilion, there are no homeless? Could it be due to our City Council members' pro-homeless stance. Perhaps they should change the city's logo to a homeless shopping cart; they can also promote Santa Monica as the city that caters to the homeless.

If the homeless trend gets any worse, I believe you will see numerous empty retail spaces. Perhaps that is what is needed to move the City Council to action. Of course, their response may be to build more shelters and apartment buildings for the homeless. Have you seen the apartment building for the homeless at 5th and Colorado?

Your tax dollars at work – encouraging the homeless to live, drink, steal and panhandle in Santa Monica.

Fred Alexander

Santa Monica

Peering a bit deeper into the polls

Editor:

The major news outlets have devoted time to the candidates they think are the leading candidates. We see a CNN Poll of 377 people that still use land lines and they announce (Mike) Huckabee has taken the lead for Republicans, but has only \$2 million in the bank. (Hillary) Clinton is said to lead the polls, but the number of unique donors is higher for (Barack) Obama.

If the media says you are a front-runner, are you? Is this a self-fulfilling prophecy? Not for long.

A change is happening that is important. For the first time, the Internet is changing the way elections are going to be run. For the first time, we can impact a candidate and research all of the candidates ourselves. The big media of FOX, ABC, CBS, NBC and CNN are about to have their power called into question and it's happening right now. Look around, lots of real people is what is important now.

Hillary, Obama and Paul are leading in fundraising, with about \$20 million each for Q4 2007, with all of the other candidates notably quiet and not reporting their numbers. Obama reported 472,630 unique donors, while Paul had 144,231 total donors, leading the Democrat and Republican fields. It seems that Barack Obama and Ron Paul have more individual donors than any other candidates, yet they are not being called the leading candidate. What is more disturbing is the fact that Ron Paul has the most individual donors out of the Republicans, but only has 30 percent of the number that Obama has. You would think that it is a big story, but if it were, that would mean the media polls would stop being important, influencing the election process.

As a long-time Republican conservative, the message the party is saying is not making me or other Republicans donate real money. Democrats are out-fundraising Republicans three-to-one and no one is talking about it.

Lots of people, giving real money, might win the election now. We the People are starting to figure out the game. Pay attention, America, your vote does count and 200,000 people with \$100 donations will outspend the corporations. Vote for the best candidate. Give \$100 to your favorite candidate in the primaries and stop having to pick from the better of two evils. It's cheaper than having the dollars in your savings accounts drop by 40 percent.

David Alsabery

Santa Monica



Meredith Pro Tem

Meredith C. Carroll

Send comments to editor@smdp.com

A card for every special occasion

I ASKED MY HUSBAND THE OTHER day how he wanted to celebrate the upcoming fourth anniversary of our first date and the second anniversary of our engagement, which are a day apart later this month.

He looked at me warily. "Am I supposed to get you a card for that?"

Poor thing. He had no way of knowing when we met that I remember every occasion and memorialize it with a card. He's still reeling from our first year of marriage when I marked each month after the wedding with a Hallmark greeting. While I never expected him to also care enough to send the very best, I think he still felt a little guilty every time he woke up on the 10th of each month for 12 straight months to find a pastel-colored envelope next to his toothbrush or wallet and he had nothing to share in return.

To be fair, I don't commemorate nearly as many events as I used to. There was a time when I counted anniversaries not in years and months, but in weeks and seconds. In ninth grade, when my first serious boyfriend, Ted Burdick, failed to remember 30 glorious days had passed since we first went out to a movie and then for ice cream, I burst into tears. He apologized profusely in a note he left in my locker the next morning, assuring me that it was a simple, albeit callous, oversight on his part and not a reflection of his true feelings. Thereafter Ted always expressed his undying love and absolute devotion once a month for the 211,680 minutes we were together.

The premise of the '80s classic teen flick "Sixteen Candles" has always been preposterous to me. It's not that I don't understand the gorgeousness of Jake Ryan, the pee-in-your-pants hilarity of Long Duk Dong or the romantic notion of slow dancing to Spandau Ballet in the high school gym — because who doesn't? But a family forgetting their daughter's birthday? That's just absurd.

In my family, anniversaries and birthdays are national holiday-type celebrations. When I was a kid, my parents and sister would gather in my bedroom on birthday mornings and wake me up by singing. My dad would make chocolate chip pancakes for breakfast and my mom would cook a special request-only dinner followed by a chocolate cake from Chatsworth Bakery. No birthday was complete if the stationery store-bought yellow crepe paper 3-D birthday bear didn't adorn the center of the dining room table. And my mom always picked out (and still

does) the most poignant card to mark the day her favorite daughter was born.

Add to all that tradition the fact that my sister's birthday is two days before mine, and no one in my immediate and extended family could ever possibly overlook the anniversary of my birth (except for my father, although he never can remember what he had for lunch an hour after eating it either) or fail to produce a card.

It's not just my birthday that's unforgettable. I remind others about their birthdays and anniversaries. And I send cards. Real ones, not those e-card things (perish the thought).

GOT OP-ED?

Say it loud, say it proud, but keep your guest commentary to 800 words or less. Send submissions to EDITOR@SMDP.COM.

I'll concede that I don't send as many cards as I used to, but the card-worthy moments of friends and family keep multiplying between the birthdays, spouses' birthdays, kids' birthdays, weddings and wedding anniversaries. It's just so hard to keep up. I try to call and/or send e-mails when the card just doesn't happen. Those who've dropped off my card/phone/e-mail list entirely tend to be those I either think of infrequently or those who never, ever remember my birthday (I can do unto others for just so long.)

When I was a kid I used to make my own cards. Glitter, stickers, magazine cutouts, paint, magic markers, crayons, glue and colored construction paper were supplies that I always had at the ready. In rare circumstances, I still make cards from scratch, but unless your name is Mom or Dad, chances are you won't be receiving one of them.

For everyone else, I card shop and I do it early — at least a month in advance of all occasions. I tend to group birthdays and anniversaries by the month and buy them all at once. Then I fill in the cards, address and stamp them and leave them, in date order, by the front door until which time they're ready to be mailed. I find card shopping as relaxing and satisfying as getting a really good massage.

But, getting back to my husband's question. No, he doesn't have to get me a card. No big deal.

E-mail questions or comments to meredithc-carroll@hotmail.com.

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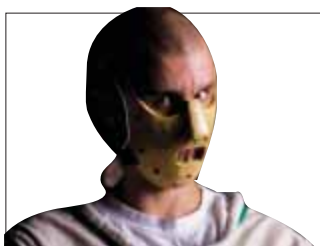


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Some speech is just more equal

IF YOU'RE READING THIS COMMENTARY in your favorite publication, consider yourself fortunate, because it means that the resident Opinion Editor is one of just a very few fair-minded individuals willing to let all opinions be heard, even the ones that might be critical of the industry that provides them with their creature comforts.

That's because it reveals a dirty little secret you might not otherwise realize: Most media outlets have an agenda. Naturally, most will deny it, claiming they are always fair and accurate, but that is very seldom the case, and has been for quite some time.

Here's one example of many. Most newspaper folks and historians know about Harrison Gray Otis, the publisher and editor of the LA Times at the beginning of the 20th Century. He and his son-in-law successor, Harry Chandler, invented stories of a drought to scare the voters of Los Angeles into passing a bond fund to build an aqueduct from which they and many of their cohorts benefited financially. The power of the media, in this case, was unmistakable, prompting Lord Acton's astute observation, "Power tends to corrupt; absolute power corrupts absolutely," to become part of the Western lexicon.

Since then, the media has learned even more about how to manipulate our interests and beliefs. With their constant polling, they can keep tabs on exactly what We the People are thinking, then cleverly present stories in such a way as to incrementally adjust that thinking until we finally come around to their point of view. Most of us are too busy to check numerous sources before we form an opinion about something, we just accept the first, or more accurately, most predominant thing that we see or hear.

That predominance is the key to another not-so-secret reality. Most media outlets, including broadcast, cable, radio, even Internet, are owned by large conglomerates that have been gobbling up smaller independent outlets for the last few decades. That has resulted in a great deal of power and influence being in the hands of a very few. In addition, these media empires also own film studios, TV

production companies and other fictionalizing media, allowing that agenda to infiltrate and influence us from every conceivable angle.

Clearly, just because our Constitution guarantees the freedom of speech to the people, and that same freedom to the press (and it's conglomerates), it doesn't guarantee that the people's voice can be heard over the press voice. The best we people can hope for is to be a momentary blip on the radar that might generate some discussion among other people. Trying to engage in a direct dialogue with the press is almost impossible.

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JEANETTE HENDERSON is co-author of the book "There's No Such Thing as Public Speaking. She can be contacted through www.podiummaster.com.

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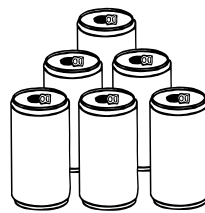
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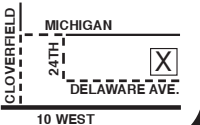


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The Q-Line

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Building Santa Monica

As the city transforms itself from a sleepy little beach town into a hustling and bustling metropolis there are some that believe that the brakes need to be put on commercial development.

So this week's Q-Line question asks:

Should City Hall continue on the path of overhauling the city or should something be done to limit development?

Call (310) 285-8106 before Friday at 5 p.m. and we'll print your answers in the weekend edition of the Daily Press. Please limit responses to a minute or less.



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Wildfires, winds and freezes batter state's current avocado crop

BY ALLISON HOFFMAN
Associated Press Writer

HIGHLAND VALLEY It's been the worst year in decades in the heart of the nation's avocado country.

Hundreds of growers have been left with only a fraction of their usual harvest after devastating wildfires and winds in October charred groves that had just started to recover from a severe freeze last winter.

Some of those growers are now wondering if they should stay in business or instead surrender their market share to mounting imports from Mexico and Chile.

"Mother Nature just seems to be against avocados this year," Carl Griffin, 64, said as he traipsed through his San Diego County grove, where the ground was littered with shriveled, leathery husks of charred or unripened fruit.

Griffin lost more than 600 trees in the wildfires that claimed 10 lives, destroyed nearly 2,200 homes and blackened about 800 square miles across Southern California.

Many of his surviving trees have been cut back to stumps and painted white to

prevent sunburn on the exposed wood.

Trees damaged by the fires will need three or four years to come back, and it could take as long as 10 years for production to return to 2006 levels, according to Mike Sanders, a veteran grove manager in San Diego.

Meanwhile, Americans' appetite for avocados is expected to grow beyond the billion pounds a year now consumed.

Farmers are now paid about a dollar a pound for the fruit, with each acre of trees yielding about \$3,768 in 2007 — the lowest figure in a decade.



MOTHER NATURE JUST SEEMS TO BE AGAINST AVOCADOS THIS YEAR."

Carl Griffin, Avocado grower

"People who thought they could pencil out a living at those prices are really struggling, and they're going to need to get out," said Guy Witney, a spokesman for the California Avocado Commission. "Once acreage is lost now, our thought is that it will be lost forever."

A comeback by growers will also be complicated by a 30 percent water cut imposed by officials because of drought and a court ruling that slashed supplies from the Sacramento River Delta.

Despite the problems, Americans probably won't see a significant impact on the price or supply of avocados as they snap up bags of the purple-black fruit at the

grocery store to make guacamole on Super Bowl Sunday.

Experts said the decline in California-grown avocados will be easily offset by imports from Mexico and Chile.

In past years, U.S. farmers have grown about half of the avocados consumed in this country.

Much of that fruit comes from small groves in San Diego County owned by individual growers such as Griffin, who are retired and live on their property, or by business owners who aren't completely dependent on avocados for their liveli-

hood but take risks sinking large sums of cash into each year's crop.

In San Diego County alone, the wildfires caused an estimated \$25 million in damage to avocados, according to the county farm bureau. Griffin expects to send just 25,000 pounds — a quarter of his usual harvest — to market.

Art Bliss, a grower in Ventura County, said wind losses there have been a big setback for farmers who didn't lose any trees to fires.

They were counting on the new crop to make up for losses suffered after a severe freeze in January 2007 iced avocados on the verge of being harvested.

The freeze cut the state's production to just 237 million pounds last year from 550 million pounds in 2006, according to the California Avocado Commission.

These days, growers are doing what they can to try to stay in business.

In San Diego County, Sanders said many have scrambled to get enough pipe to replace irrigation systems melted by the wildfires and tried to arrange additional financing from banks.

Griffin said he has applied for two federal grants but doesn't know yet if he will get the money.

Only \$6.6 million in aid has been set aside for California farmers hurt by the wildfires, according to the San Diego County farm bureau.

"I guess it's always something," Griffin said, recalling how nature had often wracked the Missouri corn farm where he grew up.

He said he felt paralyzed after the fires took his avocado grove, just months after his wife died.

"They said in grief counseling not the make any big decisions for the first year," he said, looking wistful behind his sunglasses. "So I'm just going to wait and see."

Sanders said growers may not have long to make a decision.

"If you can survive it financially, you'll be fine," he said. "But some of these guys will sit on the land until the bank takes it."

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STATE BRIEFS

LOS ANGELES
Toll lanes on fast-track

Transportation planners are moving quickly to take the “free” out of Los Angeles free-ways.

Toll lanes on three freeways during morning and evening commuter rush hours could become reality by spring 2009 if the Metropolitan Transportation Authority gets a \$648 million federal grant.

MTA chief Roger Snoble says something has to be done about congestion, adding, “It’s really pretty evident to us that things are getting worse.”

Toll lanes are planned on the Harbor Freeway between downtown and the Artesia Transit Center, the Foothill Freeway between Pasadena and the San Gabriel River Freeway, and Interstate 10 east from downtown to the San Gabriel River Freeway.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

RIVERSIDE
Voters will decide whether to limit roosters

How many cock-a-doodle-dos will do?

Voters in the city of Riverside decide next month how many roosters will be allowed in two rural areas.

Measure A on the Feb. 5 would limit to seven the number of crowing roosters people can keep in the “residential agricultural” and “residential conservation” zones.

Additionally, roosters would have to be confined to a sound-reducing enclosure no less than 100 feet from neighboring houses from sunset to sunrise.

The measure would pass if it gets a majority vote.

Measure A supporters of the measure say Riverside has become much more urban-ized and crowing roosters detract from the quality of life. It would also suppress illegal cockfighting activities.

AP

SANTA ANA
OC won’t prosecute teacher for threatening student

Orange County prosecutors say there’s not enough evidence to charge a Brea teacher for allegedly telling a disruptive student he’d kill the 12-year-old if the boy took his class again.

District attorney’s office spokeswoman Farrah Imami says prosecutors decided not to more forward with the case against Brian Christopher Wilcher.

The 38-year-old Brea Junior High School teacher was arrested on campus in November after the student told a counselor Wilcher threatened him. Investigators say Wilcher told officers he was being sarcastic.

The Brea Olinda Unified School District will decide if Wilcher, who has been on paid administrative leave, will return to the classroom.

AP

SANTA ANA
Relatives of convicted engineer to be deported

Federal immigration officials say they have arrested the sister-in-law and nephew of a Chinese-born engineer convicted of conspiring to export U.S. defense technology to China.

Fifty-year-old Fuk Li and her son, 27-year-old Billy Mak, both pleaded guilty to federal offenses as part of that case last year.

Because of their guilty pleas, they are eligible for deportation and will remain in cus-tody until a hearing before a federal immigration judge. Both came to the U.S. in 2001 from China.

Li pleaded guilty to helping her brother-in-law, engineer Chi Mak, violate export con-trol laws and was sentenced to probation. Her son pleaded guilty to the same thing and was sentenced to 11 months in prison.

AP

POMONA
Brothers of drivers will be jailed for cover up

The brothers of two young men charged with the El Monte street-race killings of a mother and her two children will be jailed for trying to cover up the traffic accident.

Under terms of a plea deal reached Tuesday, Gil Canizalez and Eddie Morones will serve six months in county jail. They allegedly rolled the car away from the accident site.

Marvin Morones, who gave police false information, will serve four months.

AP

VENTURA
Man in jail for part in murder-for-hire plot

A Big Bear City man is in jail for allegedly trying to hire a hit man to kill his former boss and the Thousand Oaks employer’s family.

Ventura County sheriff’s detectives arrested Basil Leonard Dantine at the 62-year-old’s mountain home. He is in Ventura Jail with bail set at \$500,000.

Detective Allen Devers says the Thousand Oaks man had employed Dantine to do construction work, then laid him off six months later. Dantine believed he was owed \$100,000.

AP

LANCASTER
Jury convicts gang members in candy killing

Two gang members have been convicted of killing an Antelope Valley teenager who wouldn’t hand over his Milk Duds and bag of Fritos chips.

Prosecutors say Laquane Keith shot 18-year-old LeMarcus Spencer in the chest, then co-defendant Reno Williams shot him in the back as the teen ran away in August 2005.

AP



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Abbot's Habit 1401 Abbot Kinney Blvd (310) 399-1171
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Benice 1715 Pacific Ave. (310) 396-9938
Big Daddy and Sons 1425 Ocean Front Walk (310) 508-2793
The Brig 1515 Abbot Kinney Blvd. (310) 399-7537
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Siam Best Restaurant 2533 Lincoln Blvd. (310) 827-8977
Stroh's Gourmet 1239 Abbot Kinney Blvd. (310) 450-5119
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Uncle Darrow's 2560 S Lincoln Blvd. (310) 306-4862
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Brandon Wise brandonw@smdp.com

MAINSTAY: Star Liquor has been serving the Ocean Park neighborhood for over 50 years. The store's owner is among a group of locals who oppose the opening of a new wine store in the area.

Council approved market

FROM SPIRITS PAGE 1

a pastry on their way to work.

Among the product selection in the shop are artisan cheeses from around the world, gourmet meats and specialty olive oil that has been aged for more than 100 years. Though the sale of wine seems to be the biggest concern among residents, the grape alcohol will actually take up less than 30 percent of shelf space, Kim said. The business will not sell hard liquor.

"We have been referred to as a minia-

ture Bristol Farm or Dean & DeLuca," Kim said.

The business will be located in a mixed-use complex that finished construction last year in a 2,700-square-foot space between a beauty salon and a restaurant. The wine-tasting room will be situated in a 283-square-foot space with a dozen seats.

While residents are concerned about public intoxication by patrons that partake in the wine tasting, Kim assured that his staff will discontinue serving customers that are

visibly inebriated.

"We definitely won't have people urinating (outside)," Kim said.

The census tract that includes the proposed grocery store — bounded roughly by Pico Boulevard to the north, Ocean Park Boulevard to the south, Lincoln Boulevard to the east and the ocean — already exceeds its liquor license allotment, according to Joshua Kaplan, a Culver City attorney representing the appellant. While the California Department of Alcohol Beverage Control

allows only four liquor licenses in the census tract, there are eight currently in operation, according to Kaplan, who said he received a memo recently from the state agency confirming the data.

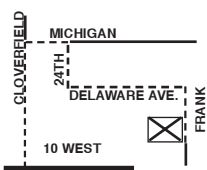
Kaplan added that it is unnecessary for the business to stay in operation for 15 hours a day.

"Who buys fine wines at 8 in the morning?" Kaplan asked. "Why not limit hours, if this is granted, to at least a reasonable amount of time?"

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Photo courtesy, Santa Monica College

NEW DIRECTION: Marvin Martinez, Santa Monica College's vice president of planning and development, will be leaving the college after 11 years to serve as the first vice chancellor of economic and workforce development for the Los Angeles Community College District.

SMC's Martinez accepts new job

FROM MARTINEZ PAGE 3

Martinez is also proud of the work he did with Big Blue Bus to create Mini Blue routes that serve the community and students, helping to reduce traffic congestion.

WE'VE DONE EVERYTHING WE CAN TO MAKE VOCATIONAL EDUCATION RELEVANT."

Marvin Martinez, Santa Monica College's vice president of planning and development.

"We've done everything we can to make vocational education relevant," Martinez said. "We've worked hard to build partnerships with the business community and because of that opened the Small Business Development Center, which provides resources for small business owners."

One of Martinez's duties was to find grant money for the college, helping to

keep programs afloat when other colleges had to make cuts.

"Since 2001, we've brought in nearly \$20 million worth of federal grants that have been essential in creating smaller sizes and new programs for our students," Martinez said.

During his tenure, Martinez has seen the college expand both physically and in the programs that it offers, which at times has caused some tension between SMC and residents living adjacent to the college. Martinez, who dealt with residents as provost of the Bundy Campus, said he understands residents' concerns with SMC's growth, but hopes their attitude will change.

"There is some concern about the number of students who are coming here who are not from Santa Monica," Martinez said. "As a public institution, we don't reject people from having access to an education. Students come here from all over because this is a great college, and the residents should be proud of that. Other communities would love to have a college like ours."

"We strive to be good neighbors."

Martinez will begin his new position on Jan. 14.

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Measure R is not without its detractors

FROM MEASURE R PAGE 1

the president of the Santa Monica-Malibu Classroom Teachers Association (SMMCTA).

Replaced by way of the voter's approval would be the existing Measures S and Y parcel taxes, both of which brought in a combined total of \$10.4 million a year for the 2007-08 school year. Measure S, which charges property owners a flat assessment of \$225 per parcel, is set to expire in 2009, while Measure Y, which charges roughly \$121 per parcel with an annual Consumer Price Index increase, is set to expire in 2011. The consolidated Measure R would supersede the two existing parcel taxes but would not have an expiration date, bringing in money to the district in perpetuity.

"It would keep our focus on the business of education rather than the business of getting these approved on a regular basis," said Jan Maez, the chief financial officer for the school district.

While the election next month is focused on the statewide presidential primary — coinciding with elections in at least 22 other states — determining which candidates should ultimately receive their party nominations seems far from the mind of public education advocates.

Long-time district supporters, teachers, parents and even students have been campaigning to continue public school funding through parcel taxes, handing out leaflets in front of schools and cold-calling voters almost every night of the week at a phone bank located at the SMMCTA

office on 18th Street.

Santa Monica parent Lisa Altman, who currently has two children in area public schools, has volunteered with the Measure R campaign for the past five weeks, enlisting the help of her three kids, one who graduated recently from Santa Monica High School and has tried to get her former high school peers involved.

"I have been in the Santa Monica [school district] for 14 years and I have eight more years to go," Altman said. "Although the quality of schools is outstanding and outstanding for my kids, there are budgetary constraints they feel in their classroom every day."



IT WOULD KEEP OUR FOCUS ON THE BUSINESS OF EDUCATION RATHER THAN THE BUSINESS OF GETTING THESE APPROVED ON A REGULAR BASIS."

Jan Maez, Chief financial officer, Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District

The recently formed Campaign to Protect Quality Public Schools — a collaborative including members from the teachers' union, Parent Teacher Association and the Community for Excellent Public Schools (CEPS) — has operated about 28 phone lines out of the phone bank every night, including eight landlines and 20 cell phones, reaching out to the registered voters of Santa Monica

and Malibu. The campaign is preparing to kick off its weekend precinct walks this weekend and intends to send out mailers in the weeks leading up to the election. The committee has raised about \$200,000 for its campaign chest thus far to fund its nearly two month-long campaign.

"Local support is the life blood of the Santa Monica and Malibu schools," said Rebecca Kennerly, PTA Council president.

While initial results from the phone bank seem to indicate that support is strong for the measure, not all residents are planning to throw in their support.

Mathew Millen, an attorney who lives in Santa Monica, said he intends to vote

expiration date, then how could this not be a tax increase?" Millen asked. "If it passes, all the money that I pay after the other ones will have expired to me is an increase because that money will not be in my pocket, it will be in the school district's bank account."

Instead of pushing forth a measure, City Hall, with its multi-million dollar budget, should allocate the \$10 million to the school district instead of supporting "social services for non-resident homeless," Millen added.

There were some questions as to the viability of the parcel tax measure passing after a group of Malibu residents expressed frustration over the allocation of Measure BB construction bond money in October, believing that Malibu High School was being shortchanged. During a Board of Education meeting in November, a visibly frustrated Malibu City Councilmember Andy Stern told the school board that he had heard from more than 100 parents who were no longer in favor of renewing the funding source. A two-thirds majority between the two municipalities is required for the measure to pass.

Shari Davis, the chair of the Campaign to Protect Quality Public Schools and president of CEPS, said there is a healthy level of support in both cities.

"We have strong support in Malibu," said Davis. "The PTAs in Malibu have really come forward to work hard because they understand the impact of not having funding."

melodyh@smdp.com

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

CITY HALL

City offers landscaping assistance

The City of Santa Monica offers landscape grants up to \$20,000 to help property owners conserve water. The landscaping plan includes storm-water management systems, graywater systems and other modes of irrigation help. There have been up to \$400,000 allocated to schools, businesses and apartments in the last three years. Applications for the grant program are available at www.smepr.org. For more information, call (866) 728-3229. Research shows that planting Santa Monica-friendly plants and converting traditional, high-volume sprinkler irrigation systems to water-efficient systems can save up to 80 percent of water use and three-fifths of time on maintenance costs. The landscape grant program is just one of 15 programs the city offers to save water and reduce ocean pollution.

DAILY PRESS

LOS ANGELES

Welfare costs on the rise

New statistics from the Department of Public Social Services reveal that illegal aliens and their families in Los Angeles County collected over \$37 million in welfare and food stamp allocations in November 2007. That's up \$3 million dollars from September, according to a statement released by the office of Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich.

Up to 25 percent of all welfare and food stamp benefits go directly to the children of illegal aliens. Illegal immigrants collected over \$20 million in welfare assistance for November 2007 and over \$16 million in monthly food stamp allocations for a projected annual cost of \$444 million.

"This new information shows an alarming increase in the devastating impact Illegal immigration continues to have on Los Angeles County taxpayers," said Antonovich. "With \$220 million for public safety, \$400 million for healthcare, and \$444 million in welfare allocations, the total cost for illegal immigrants to county taxpayers far exceeds \$1 billion a year — not including the millions of dollars for education."

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Scouts learn new defense

Lessons also address cyberbullying issues

BY PAUL J. WEBER
Associated Press Writer

DALLAS As far as the Boy Scouts of America is concerned, knowing how to confront a bully is now as important as mastering a slip knot.

For the first time in the 97-year history of the nation's largest youth organization, newcomers must show they have learned Scout-approved ways to avoid being pushed around and called names, if they want to advance through the ranks.

Shaken down for your lunch money? Tell the bully how it hurts. Called a crater face? The 2008 Boy Scout Handbook recommends this comeback: "So what if I have a face full of zits. What's it to you?"

"We've always emphasized bullying — how to recognize it, how to prevent it," said Jim Terry, assistant chief executive of the Boy Scouts. "This is just a reinforcement of those principles."



WE'VE ALWAYS EMPHASIZED BULLYING — HOW TO RECOGNIZE IT, HOW TO PREVENT IT."

Jim Terry, Assistant chief executive of the Boy Scouts

The Scouts say the move isn't in response to increased bullying in their ranks. But some critics are already picking on the organization for its new curriculum.

"I don't see it as radically changing anything," said John Dandurand, executive director of Creating Caring Communities, a Denver-based non-profit that advises schools on ways to discourage bullying.

"It's just a set of things to memorize," said

Dandurand, who as a youth attained the rank of Eagle Scout. "Those of us who were adept at memorizing got more merit badges."

The 472-page Boy Scouts Handbook devotes a half-page to bullies, and Scouts

are required to discuss the material with a troop leader to reach the beginner rank of Tenderfoot.

Terry said the measures help reinforce personal safety lessons the Boy Scouts have taught all along. Bullying has long been the subject of informal troop leader talks, and the Boy Scouts have even published a comic book on the subject.

The handbook also now covers cyber-

bullying. Aspiring Scouts must demonstrate they know how to show restraint when taunted online.

Terry pointed to the suicide of a 13-year-old Missouri girl who hanged herself in October 2006 after falling victim to an online hoax in which she thought she was corresponding with a boy who didn't really exist.

"That was not a trigger, but it proves we're on the right track," Terry said. "Her death speaks specifically to what we're trying to prevent."

Dorothy Espelage, a professor of educational psychology at the University of Illinois, credited the Boy Scouts for mandating the lessons. But she had hoped the material would also have some advice for Scouts who might sometimes bully others.

"You know that some of these Boy Scouts are bullies, and that they're ring-leaders," Espelage said. "Why do we always put it on the victim to change their behavior?"

Judge won't inquire into CIA tapes case

BY MATT APUZZO | Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON A federal judge refused on Wednesday to delve into the destruction of CIA interrogation videos, saying there was no evidence the Bush administration violated a court order and the Justice Department deserved time to conduct its own investigation.

The decision by U.S. District Judge Henry H. Kennedy was a victory for the Bush administration, which had urged the courts not to wade into a politically charged issue already being investigated by the Justice Department, CIA and Congress.

The CIA has acknowledged last month that in 2005 it destroyed videos of officers using tough interrogation methods while questioning two al-Qaida suspects. Lawyers for other terrorism suspects quickly asked Kennedy to hold hearings, saying the executive branch had proved itself unreliable and could not be trusted to investigate its own potential wrongdoing.

Kennedy disagreed, ruling that attorneys hadn't "presented anything to cause this court to question whether the Department of Justice will follow the facts wherever they may lead and live up to the assurances it made to this court."

Attorney General Michael Mukasey recently appointed a prosecutor to conduct a criminal investigation into destruction of the tapes. John Durham, a career public corruption and organized crime prosecutor, has a reputation for being independent.

Kennedy, a former prosecutor who was appointed to the bench by President Clinton, said he had been assured that the Justice Department would report back if it found evidence that a court order had been violated.

"There is no reason to disregard the Department of Justice's assurances," Kennedy said.

Attorney David Remes had said a judicial inquiry might involve testimony from senior lawyers at the White House and Justice Department. Government attorneys, appearing in court Dec. 21, said such hearings would dis-

rupt and possibly derail the Justice Department inquiry.

Lawyers for other terrorism suspects have filed similar requests before other judges. While Kennedy's decision doesn't require those judges to follow suit, it will help bolster the Justice Department's argument that they should not wade into the investigation.

Kennedy had ordered the government not to destroy any evidence of mistreatment or abuse of detainees held at the U.S. naval base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. But the two suspects interrogated on video — Abu Zubaydah and Abd al-Rahim al-Nashiri — were not held at Guantanamo Bay. They were interrogated in secret CIA prisons overseas.

Kennedy said Wednesday he saw no evidence those tapes were covered by his court order.

Remes, who represents Yemeni detainees at Guantanamo Bay, argued that destruction of the tapes may have violated a more general rule prohibiting the government from destroying any evidence that could be relevant in a case, even if not directly noted in a court order.

Clinton, Obama prepare for tough fight

BY DAVID ESPO | AP Special Correspondent

WASHINGTON Hillary Rodham Clinton and Barack Obama dug in Wednesday for a prolonged struggle over the Democratic presidential nomination, a woman and a black man in a campaign unlike any other. John McCain claimed the role of resident underdog in the Republican race, despite his big win in the New Hampshire primary.

"Maybe I have liberated us to actually let women be human beings in public," said Clinton, the former first lady, reflecting on a memorable moment of emotion the day before she gained her own New Hampshire victory.

Obama saw it differently. "We have to make sure that we take it to them just like they take it to us," he said. Despite his defeat, he pocketed the support of two key Nevada unions in advance of that state's Jan. 19 caucuses, and predicted a win in the South Carolina primary a week later.

After a grueling, months-long slog through Iowa and New Hampshire, Clinton and Obama face a brief lull in the calendar, but collide in four weeks time in primaries and caucuses in 22 states in the equivalent of a nationwide primary.

McCain made simultaneous appeals to independents and Republicans alike as he campaigned in Michigan for a victory that could drive former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney from the race. "The Republican establishment has never embraced me in my entire life. But I think we just proved that we can get the support of enough to win an election," he told a rally in Grand Rapids. He added he would try and remind evangelical voters "that my social conservative record has been consistent and unchanging."

Romney withdrew television advertising in South Carolina and Florida, two states with primaries later this month, despite telling supporters the race was just getting started. "We feel the best strategy is to focus our paid messaging in Michigan," said his spokesman, Kevin Madden.

The former Massachusetts governor's sole victory to date was in last weekend's scarcely contested Wyoming caucuses. The candidate trying to become the nation's first Mormon president leads in the early competition for national convention delegates, but that is cold comfort for a man who spent millions of his own money in a failed attempt to sweep the early contests and establish himself as the man to beat in the race for the Republican nomination.

Former Arkansas Gov. Mike Huckabee's plan to campaign in Michigan complicated the McCain-Romney rematch and injected a new note of uncertainty in an already unpredictable campaign.

Huckabee, who won the Iowa caucuses, and McCain have been the equivalent of a tag-team against Romney. But in Michigan and South Carolina, they will be in direct competition. Even so, said Huckabee, "I don't see us going out there and taking the gloves off."

The question of nominees aside, the first contests of the election year produced far higher turnout among Democrats than Republicans, a possible sign of trouble for the GOP in the general election campaign this fall. In New Hampshire, nearly complete returns showed more than 284,000 votes cast in the Democratic race, to 233,000 on the Republican side.

In Iowa, an estimated 220,000 voters attended Democratic caucuses.

Dad threw four kids off Alabama bridge

BY GARRY MITCHELL
Associated Press Writer

BAYOU LA BATRE, Ala. A day after reporting his four young children were missing, a shrimp fisherman broke down and confessed that he threw them off an 80-foot-high bridge to their deaths, authorities said Wednesday.

Lam Luong, 37, was charged with four counts of capital murder, and divers searched the murky waters for the bodies of the youngsters, who ranged in age from a few months to 3 years.

Luong had a drug habit and had argued with his wife, Ngoc Phan, before taking the children, said Phan's brother-in-law, Kam Phengisomboun.

Luong's girlfriend, who was living in a hotel in nearby Gulfport, Miss., was a factor in the couple's argument on Sunday and Monday morning, family members and police said.

Local authorities said they believe Luong then drove on Monday to the two-lane Dauphin Island bridge over the Intracoastal Waterway, stopped at the highest part of the span and threw the youngsters over the side.

Luong reported the children missing Monday, initially telling police that he had given the kids to his girlfriend, who was living in a hotel in Gulfport, Miss., and that she failed to return them.



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SURF REPORT

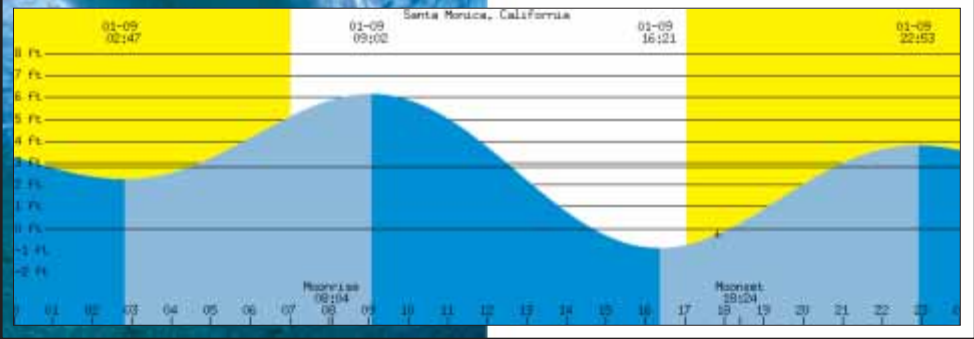


SURF CONDITIONS
WATER TEMP: 55°

SWELL FORECAST (1-2 FT)
Today should see some 290-degree NW swell coming in with long, 16+ second periods as the first in what looks like a train of NW swells throws surf our way. Size is expected to run up to head high around west facing breaks not affected by island blockage. South facing spots able to work the wrap should see waist to chest high sets, bigger at dual exposure spots.

LONG RANGE SYNOPSIS
MODERATE NW THURSDAY, FRIDAY...
BIGGER WNW SWELL THIS WEEKEND...

TIDE FORECAST FOR TODAY IN SANTA MONICA



BEACH REPORT CARD


NORTH LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Grades for this report are based on monitoring data from the previous four weeks up to the ending date of

January 1, 2008

HEAL THE BAY - 1444 9th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401 - www.healthebay.org - brc@healthebay.org - 800 HEAL BAY

QUICK STATS
(for the last 28 days)

Number of sewage spills -- 0
Number of beach closures due to a sewage spill -- 0
Number of wet days -- 11
Number of A grades for dry/wet weather -- 43 / 27
Number of (C,D,F) grades for dry/wet weather -- 4 / 19

The Beach Report Card is made possible by a grant from



Heal the Bay reminds you not to swim or surf within 100 yards of any flowing storm drain or for 3 days after a rainstorm. After a rain, indicator bacteria counts at beaches throughout California usually far exceed health criteria in the state's Beach Closure and Health Warning Protocol.

LOCATION	DRY	WET
Leo Carrillo Beach, at Arroyo Sequit Creek mouth (leocarrillo)	A+	A+
Nicholas Beach at San Nicholas Canyon Creek mouth	A+	A+
El Pescador State Beach, between Lachusa and Los Aliso creeks	A+	A+
Encinal Canyon at El Matador State Beach	A+	A+
Broad Beach at Trancas Creek mouth	A+	C
Zuma Beach at Zuma Creek mouth	A+	A+
Walnut Creek, projection of Wildlife Rd. (private)	A+	A+
Paradise Cove Pier at Ramirez Canyon Creek mouth	B	B
Escondido Creek, just east of Escondido State Beach	A+	A+
Latigo Canyon Creek mouth	A+	A+
Solstice Canyon at Dan Blocker County Beach	A+	A+
Puerco State Beach at creek mouth	A+	A+
Marie Canyon storm drain at Puerco Beach, at 24572 Malibu Rd.	A+	F
Surfrider Beach at Malibu Colony fence	A+	A+
Surfrider Beach (beach location)- daily	F	F
Malibu Pier - 50 yards east	A	A
Carbon Beach at Sweetwater Canyon	A	A+
Las Flores State Beach at Las Flores Creek (point zero)	A+	A+
Big Rock Beach at 19948 PCH stairs	A+	C
Pena Creek at Las Tunas County Beach	A+	A+
Tuna Canyon	A+	F
Topanga State Beach at creek mouth	A	D
Castlerock Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	F	F
Santa Ynez Storm Drain at Castle Rock Beach	F	C
Will Rogers State Beach at 17200 PCH (1/4 mile east of Sunset drain)	A+	A+

LEGEND

DRY -- each location is graded on an A – F scale based on bacterial pollution levels present in the surf zone
WET -- grades for days of recorded rainfall and the following 3 days
ns -- no sample taken



Heal the Bay is a non-profit environmental organization dedicated to making Santa Monica Bay and Southern California coastal waters safe and healthy for people and marine life.

Heal the Bay

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Heal the Bay's Beach Report Card™ is based on weekly water quality monitoring data provided by the City of Los Angeles' Environmental Monitoring Division and the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services. Data is analyzed as soon as it is made available to us by the public agencies. Beaches are graded on an A-F scale based on the risk of ocean users becoming ill. Samples are analyzed for bacteria—enterococcus, total and fecal coliforms—that indicate biological pollution. A fact sheet detailing the exact methodology used in determining grades for each location is available from the office or on our web site. The report is not designed to measure the amount of trash or toxins found at local beaches.
The Beach Report Card is an indication of past water quality and is not a warranty of the current safety of those areas surveyed. Our lawyers are happy.

NFL

Martz tapped as new Niner

BY GREG BEACHAM
AP Sports Writer

SAN FRANCISCO The San Francisco 49ers hired Mike Martz as their offensive coordinator Tuesday, landing one of the NFL's top offensive minds to fix a unit that floundered last season.

Martz tormented the 49ers for six years during his greatest success with their NFC West rival St. Louis Rams, but was fired by the Detroit Lions last week after two seasons as offensive coordinator.

He replaces Jim Hostler, who also was fired last week after the 49ers matched a franchise low and finished last in the NFL with 219 points. San Francisco's offense was derided as bland and conservative — something that shouldn't be a problem with Martz on board.

Hostler, who got the job on short notice after Norv Turner left to coach the Chargers, also produced the league's worst statistics in total yards (3,797), yards passing (2,320), offensive touchdowns (23), first downs (218), sacks allowed (55) and third-down conversions (31.4 percent).

Martz, who got a two-year contract, is San Francisco's sixth offensive coordinator in six years. The Rams' offensive coordinator in their last Super Bowl victory, he became a largely successful head coach in St. Louis from 2000-05, including a Super Bowl loss in 2001.

San Francisco coach Mike Nolan, who will return for a fourth season despite a

16-32 record, vowed to find a veteran NFL coach to take charge of his inept offense. Martz certainly fits the bill as an experienced game-planner known league-wide from his inventiveness. Nolan, a veteran defensive coordinator, is likely to give Martz more freedom to run the offense than he seemingly provided to Hostler.

“Our players are accustomed to and deserve strong leadership and competency,” Nolan said in a statement. “The addition of Mike Martz as offensive coordinator gives our offensive players both.”

Nolan and Martz were together on the Washington Redskins' coaching staff from 1997-98, with Martz coaching the quarterbacks while Nolan was the defensive coordinator. Both have earned reputations as confident, headstrong head coaches who were outstanding in preparing teams, but often criticized for clock management and play-calling.

But San Francisco fans still ruefully remember the Rams' Greatest Show on Turf, when Martz built an explosive vertical offense around Kurt Warner, Marshall Faulk, Isaac Bruce and Torry Holt. St. Louis won 10 of its 12 meetings with San Francisco from 1999-04, scoring at least 30 points five times.

Scot McCloughan, the 49ers' general manager with a nominal position of authority over Nolan, said last week Martz probably wouldn't be a serious candidate for the job.

NFL

Brady and four fellow Patriots voted to AP NFL All-Pro team

BY BARRY WILNER
AP Football Writer

NEW YORK LaDainian Tomlinson and Randy Moss were unanimous selections to The Associated Press 2007 NFL All-Pro team on Wednesday. So was Tom Brady — sort of.

The league's Most Valuable Player and Offensive Player of the Year was chosen on each of the ballots from 50 media members who regularly cover the NFL. One voter, however, split the vote at quarterback between Brady and Green Bay's Brett Favre.

Still, Brady was a runaway choice at the position, and was joined by four other unbeaten Patriots on the squad: Moss, tackle Matt Light, cornerback Asante Samuel and outside linebacker Mike Vrabel.

All but Moss made the All-Pro team for the first time; Moss was chosen as a Minnesota Viking in 1998, 2000 and 2003.

“Every week, we come in here on Monday and you win and everybody's excited, the plane flights home are great,” Brady said, referring to what has been a historic season so far for the 16-0 Patriots. “It's been a lot of fun. To see what we've accomplished thus far is great. At the same time we realize that, as coach put it, there's another mountain to climb.”

Easily scaling the All-Pro mountain were

Tomlinson for the third time, and Moss. Joining Tomlinson, the league's leading rusher, were fellow Chargers Lorenzo Neal, who clears many of L.T.'s paths from his fullback spot, and cornerback Antonio Cromartie.

Cromartie's breakthrough season saw him lead the NFL with 10 interceptions.

“I should have had 13,” he said. “This year, I think I proved a lot of people wrong, with everybody saying how my knee injury was going to affect me. I mean, I'm two years off of it. My biggest thing was proving everybody wrong.”

Also with three players on the team were Dallas and Seattle. The Cowboys had line-backer DeMarcus Ware, tight end Jason Witten and wide receiver Terrell Owens; Ware and Witten were first-timers, Owens also was selected in 2000, '01 and '02 with San Francisco, and 2004 with Philadelphia.

“Any time you can be the best in the entire league, that's always a special moment,” said Witten, who had 96 receptions and seven touchdowns this season. “There's a lot of great tight ends out there, so to be on the top of that list is nice.”

The Seahawks had tackle Walter Jones, defensive end Patrick Kerney and line-backer Lofa Tatupu. Jones previously made All-Pro in 2001, '04 and '05; the others Seahawks were first-timers.

Way too far Spears family says `Dr. Phil' crossed the line by talking

BRITNEY SPEARS' family says "Dr. Phil" McGraw crossed the line by not keeping his mouth shut after making a house call on the singer last week.

Lou Taylor, a business manager for Spears' mother, Lynne, and younger sister, Jamie Lynn, appeared on NBC's "Today" show Wednesday and said McGraw had betrayed the family's trust by talking to the media about Spears' mental health after

showing up at the 26-year-old pop star's hospital room on Saturday for a visit.

"The family basically extended an invitation of trust for him to come in as a resource to support them, not to go out and make public statements," Taylor said. "Any statement publicly that he made, because he was brought in under this cloak of trust, (is) just inappropriate."

Taylor said McGraw

was invited to the hospital by Spears' family, but "he was not invited to make this part of a public display or part of the media."

McGraw said earlier this week that he was shelving plans for a show on Spears' latest breakdown. He said Spears' predicament was "too intense" for him to go on with the show.

Taylor said the syndicated TV psychologist broached the idea of the

show to Spears' handlers, who eventually decided that such a show would be "detrimental" to the family.

McGraw representative Theresa Corigliano did not immediately respond to phone and e-mail messages by The Associated Press seeking comment.

Mental health professionals also criticized McGraw this week, saying he went too far by showing up at Spears' room at

Cedars-Sinai Medical Center in Los Angeles as she was about to be discharged.

McGraw fired back at his critics in an interview with "Entertainment Tonight" on Monday.

"Somebody needs to step up and get this young woman into some quality care – and I do not apologize one whit, not one second, for trying to make that happen," he said.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

EMINEM RECOVERING

EMINEM is recovering from a bout with pneumonia that sent him to the hospital. "Over the holidays, Marshall Mathers, aka Eminem, was under doctor's care at a Detroit-area hospital for complications due to pneumonia," the rapper's publicist, Dennis Dennehy, said Tuesday. "He has since been released and is doing well recovering at home."

Eminem's illness first was reported by celebrity Web site TMZ.com.

AP

Cash tribute concert planned for Folsom Prison gets nixed

A concert marking the 40th anniversary of **JOHNNY CASH'S** famous concert at Folsom State Prison has been scrapped, with the prison and the promoter blaming each other for the cancellation.

The tribute concert, scheduled for Sunday, was to have been staged in the same prison cafeteria where Cash per-

formed before inmates on Jan. 13, 1968. That breakthrough performance became a popular live album.

Prison officials called off the show late Monday, citing problems over filming rights, media access and security concerns.

Promoter Jonathan Holiff claims the cancellation was just another bro-

ken promise by prison officials. "I was in tears when I found out," Holiff said.

The show, which would have been streamed worldwide over the Internet, was to have been underwritten by four nonprofit groups that were to share the venture's profit.

The concert also was to have featured Cash's music and include drum-

mer W.S. "Fluke" Holland, one of his original backup musicians.

The executive director of Prison Fellowship Ministries, which had helped underwrite the event, said Cash fans and the inmates are the losers in this conflict.

"Johnny was wild at heart, just like these men," Joe Avila said.

AP

JACQUELINE BIGAR'S STARS
The stars show the kind of day you'll have:
★★★★★ Dynamic ★★★★★ Positive ★★★ Average ★★ So-So ★ Difficult

Live a daydream, Libra

Happy Birthday!

You do make a difference this year. You often have a strong sense of direction. Convincing others might be difficult. If you go out and do just that, you will love the results. If you are single, you might choose not to share with others many details of a new relationship. Be sure, however, that this person is available. If you are attached, spend more time far from the crowds. AQUARIUS helps you use your assets.



Born Today

Adviser to the czar Grigori Rasputin (1869)
Singer Rod Stewart (1945)
Singer Pat Benatar (1953)

ARIES (March 21-April 19)
★★★★★ Timing works. First, clear out any sore feelings or misunderstandings, then check out a project, action or situation. Zero in on a long-term desire. You might delight others along the way. Tonight: Revel in the moment.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20)
★★★ Assuming greater responsibility might be the only way to sort out a hassle and clear out another's angst. You know how to lead the parade. By doing just this, you'll discover a lot more about what makes a key person tick. Tonight: A must show.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20)
★★★★★ Take an overview. You might think everyone in your immediate environment is being myopic. If you are able to express some of what you are seeing, an associate can share more completely in your perspective. Tonight: Follow the music.

CANCER (June 21-July 22)
★★★ Remember that what works for you might not be right-on for another. Rather than react, do a better job of listening and understanding where a key person in your life is coming from. You might not always be in sync. Tonight: Follow another's lead.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22)
★★★★★ You might want to understand what is going on and might not be able to grasp where someone is coming from. Put less form or definition into a situation. The person you are eyeing easily could be more fluid. Tonight: Open your eyes to different styles.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22)
★★★ Focus, and you'll accomplish a lot. You might be delighted by what you can accomplish if you try. Listen to feedback with an eye to creating a more positive work environment. Curb a tendency to go overboard or to extremes. Tonight: Easy does it.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22)
★★★★★ You might not realize the impact you have on others, as frequently you choose to lie back and do little. A laissez-faire attitude might work most of the time. Sometimes, though, choose to take a stronger stand. Tonight: Live a daydream.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21)
★★★ What you think is going on might be a tad off. It appears you just bought a new pair of rose-colored glasses. Enjoy the illusions, but don't kid yourself. A touch of reality might infuse a situation with success. Tonight: Your home is your castle.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21)
★★★★★ Speak your mind in a fashion that others want to hear. Sometimes a softer voice works. Funnel your imagination into communication. Listen more often to other points of view. Tonight: Where there is music.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19)
★★★★★ You see what others might be missing. Communicating that fact might be done best in the form of a gesture rather than words. Though words are easier, setting an example will make a greater difference. Tonight: Your treat, should you choose.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18)
★★★★★ You are full of smiles and, as a result, make a strong impact wherever you go. In some sense you could be like the Pied Piper. You could delight many with your strength. Tonight: Go for what you might have thought was unattainable.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20)
★★★★★ Knowing when to pull back might be important. You have a vivid imagination, which might be happiest spinning a yarn or two. Recognize that many are looking at your leadership skills. Tonight: Get some extra R and R.

MOVIEGUIDE

AERO THEATRE
1328 Montana Avenue
(310) 260.1528

The Diving Bell and the Butterfly (Le Scaphandre et le papillon)
7:30

AMC LOEWS BROADWAY 4
1441 3rd Street
(310) 458-1506

Aliens vs. Predator - Requiem (R)
1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00
Atonement (R)
1:35, 4:30, 7:25, 10:15
The Great Debaters (PG-13)
1:20, 4:15, 7:10, 10:10
P.S. I Love You (PG-13)
1:10, 4:05, 7:00, 9:55

AMC 7 SANTA MONICA
1310 3rd Street
(310) 289-4262

Charlie Wilson's War (R)
1:20, 4:40, 7:15, 9:45
Enchanted (PG)
1:10, 4:10, 7:05, 9:40
The Kite Runner (PG-13)
1:45, 4:35, 7:25, 10:15
National Treasure: Book of Secrets (PG)
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:55
Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street (R)
1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 10:05
There Will Be Blood (R)
2:30, 6:20, 10:00
The Water Horse: Legend of the Deep (PG)
2:00, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20

LAEMMLE'S MONICA
FOURPLEX
1332 2nd Street
(310) 394-9741

Juno (PG-13)
12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
No Country for Old Men (R)
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:55
Persepolis (PG-13)
12:45, 3:00, 5:25, 7:50, 10:15
The Savages (R)
1:40, 4:25, 7:10, 9:55

MANN'S CRITERION
THEATRE
1313 3rd Street
(310) 395-1599

Alvin and the Chipmunks (PG)
11:40am, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:30
The Bucket List (PG-13)
12:00, 1:30, 2:30, 5:00, 6:30, 7:30, 10:00
I Am Legend (PG-13)
12:10, 2:50, 3:50, 5:20, 7:50, 9:00, 10:20
One Missed Call (PG-13)
12:20, 2:40, 5:10, 7:20, 10:10
Walk Hard: The Dewey Cox Story (R) DLP-Digital Projection
11:50am, 2:20

More information email news@smdp.com

Janric Classic Sudoku

Fill in the blank cells using numbers 1 to 9. Each number can appear only once in each row, column, and 3x3 block. Use logic and process of elimination to solve the puzzle. The difficulty level ranges from Bronze (easiest) to Silver to Gold (hardest).

Difficulty
BRONZE

5	7	3		2		8		6
			5		8			
	4			3				5
3	8				7	4		
		7	2	4	9	3		
		4	3				6	7
4				5			1	
			4		1			
7		1		9		5	4	2

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GETTING STARTED

There are many strategies to solving Sudoku. One way to begin is to examine each 3x3 grid and figure out which numbers are missing. Then, based on the other numbers in the row and column of each blank cell, find which of the missing numbers will work. Eliminating numbers will eventually lead you to the answer.

SOLUTIONS TO YESTERDAY'S PUZZLE

9	5	4	7	1	3	8	6	2
8	6	7	9	2	4	5	1	3
1	2	3	5	6	8	7	4	9
2	7	5	3	9	6	4	8	1
4	9	6	1	8	7	2	3	5
3	1	8	2	4	5	6	9	7
5	8	1	4	7	9	3	2	6
7	4	2	6	3	1	9	5	8
6	3	9	8	5	2	1	7	4

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Girls and Sports

By Justin Borus and Andrew Feinstein



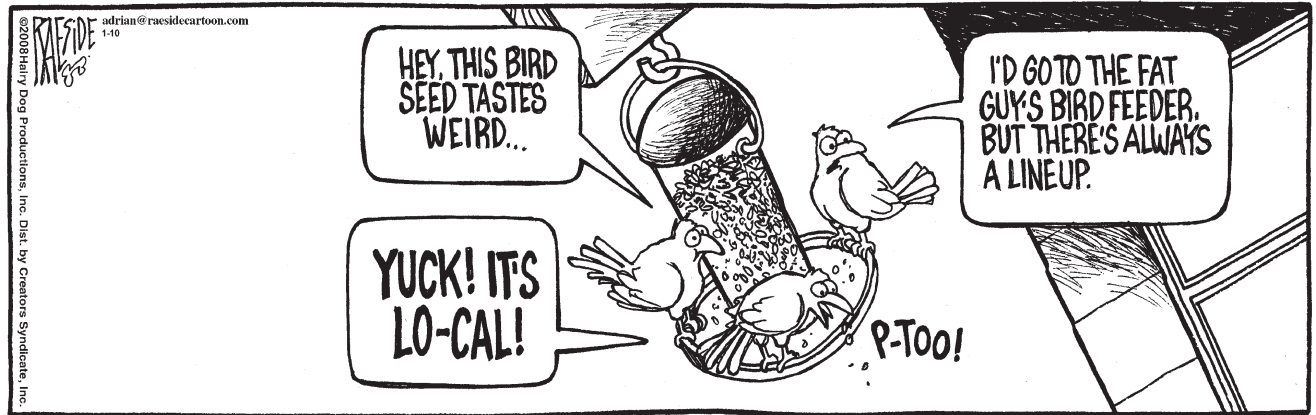
The Meaning of Lila

By John Forgetta & L.A. Rose



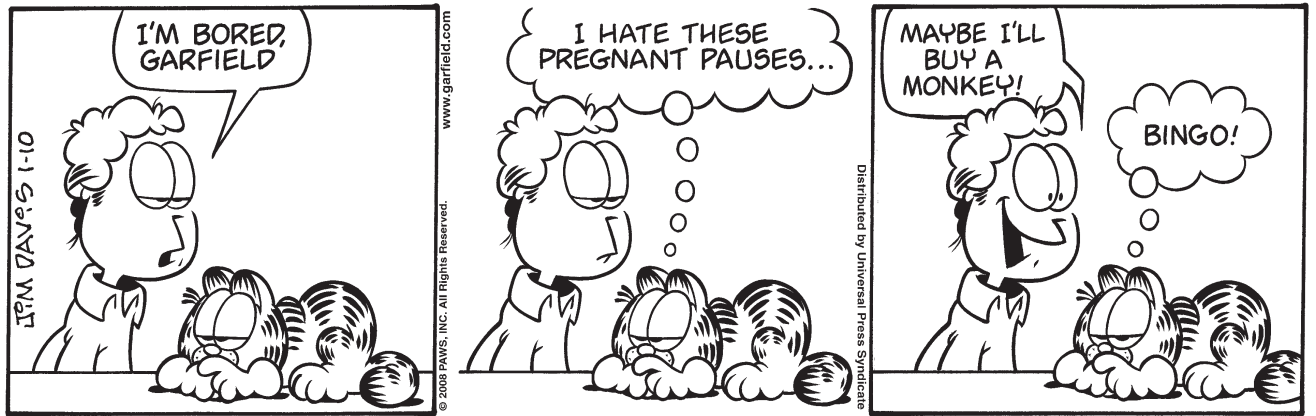
The Other Coast

By Adrian Raeside



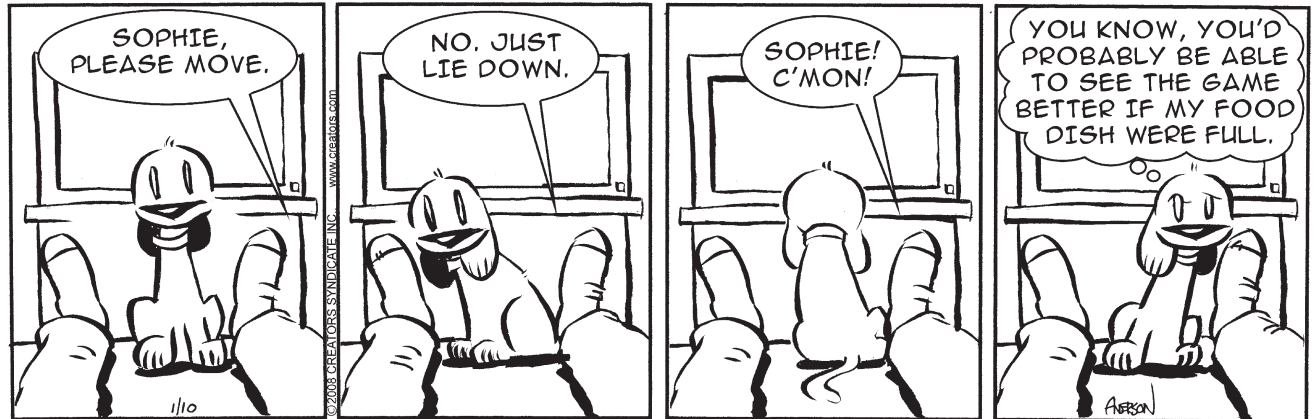
Garfield

By Jim Davis



Dog eat Doug

By Brian Anderson



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North of Montana	=	\$ 3,740,143	\$ 1,886,150
Between Wilshire & Montana	=	\$ 1,833,000	\$ 965,724
South of Wilshire	=	\$ 1,099,000	\$ 706,351
Sunset Park	=	\$ 1,290,188	\$ 656,000
Ocean Park	=	\$ 2,114,071	\$ 965,820

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